

**DATE:** December 16, 2021

**TIME:** 10:30 am

**FACILITATOR:** Maria Morris

#### **Roll Call**

Members participated in roll call via Zoom.

# **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes for November's membership meeting were approved.

### **Guest Speaker**

Representative De'Keither Stamps - Melvin Stamps provided a brief biography on De'Keither Stamps. De'Keither Stamps expressed his appreciation for the CoC's work and emphasized its importance. He noted that the amount of homelessness will increase and that homelessness needs to be addressed by increasing the scope of the work. Rep. Stamps emphasized the need to make good use of resources and expressed his desire to assist in any way possible. Melvin Stamps invited Rep. De'Keither Stamps to participate in the 2022 PIT Count. From chat: De'Keither Stamps dekeitherstamps@gmail.com 1-646-671-2229

#### **RAMP Grant Status**

Bobby Pamplin informed members that they have been looking into providing more services to address clients' immediate needs and put the clients on a path to self-sufficiency. These services include job training, transportation, and permanent housing. Mr. Pamplin noted that he is looking forward to working with everyone present in order to provide more services to clients.

Melvin Stamps provided the membership with information from Mississippi Home Corporation (MHC): As of 11/30/2021, 38,818 have applied for assistance, 15,048 applications have been approved, 7,310 applications are in review, 3,583 applications have been denied, and 636 applicants have withdrawn. It was also noted that \$72.6 million have been obligated for rental assistance.

#### **HMIS Fees - Update**

Mary Elbert informed members that to-date the CoC has received \$6400 in HMIS fees. She noted that a detailed invoice was prepared and another reminder will be sent for unpaid fees.

# **HMIS Training & Training Dates**

Mary Elbert informed members that the first day of the training was held on 12/13/2021 with 48 attendees. She noted that there was a great presenter and expressed thanks for attendees. Ms. Elbert informed members that there were two additional days of training, 12/20-12/21, starting at 9 am on both days. She noted that Day 2 of training is project specific and Day 3 is for HMIS Administrators. Funded and non-funded agencies were encouraged to attend the HMIS training to improve data quality.

# **Updates from Standing Committees**

**Community Engagement** — Gwen Thompson reminded members that the Homeless Memorial will be held today at 12:45 pm in Stewpot's courtyard. She also noted that their next meeting will be in January.

# **2022 PIT Count Preparation**

Melvin Stamps reminded members that the 2022 PIT Count will be on January 25 (Hinds County) & 26 (surrounding counties). He emphasized that the PIT Count is required by HUD and determines funding. He encouraged members to share the information with everyone and noted that even if you can't volunteer, there are still donating opportunities. The PIT Count flyer was shared in the chat. Reggie Wiggins mentioned that an outreach worker will be assigned to each group.

# **Temporary Emergency Shelter - OYO Hotel - Update**

Reggie Wiggins informed members that the budget had been approved and that the City of Jackson is negotiating the contract with Stewpot. He noted that there is not an official start date yet, but it will be soon. Mr. Wiggins mentioned that they have been inviting participation by providing meals. He also noted that Coordinated Entry (CE) will be taking the lead to help clients get housing and supportive services and acquire needed documentation. Clients will have access to transportation and the ability to seek medical attention. He reminded the membership that this temporary shelter has been put into place in response to the needs at Union Station. Outreach workers will be working with law enforcement to shelter homeless individuals who wish to be housed. Mr. Wiggins also noted that there will be 2 staff members located on-site, including a case manager.

### **Voting on CoC Board of Directors Officer Positions**

Michelle Shelton explained the voting procedures and shared the link to the online ballot in the chat. Members were given until Open Forum to cast their votes. The results of the vote were shared in the chat. **From chat:** 9 responses: Dr. Mary Manogin - 1 abstain, 8 ayes; Maria Morris for Chair - 9 ayes; Chamon Williams for Vice Chair - 9 ayes; Jill Buckley for Secretary - 9 ayes; Gwen Thompson for Asst. Secretary - 9 ayes; Katina Pace for Treasurer - 9 ayes

#### **HMIS Participant Agreement Form**

Mary Elbert informed the membership that the HMIS Participant Agreement Form has been updated to reflect the new Collaborative Applicant, Mississippi Housing Partnership; the updated form has been



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approved by the Board. The form will be sent out to everyone, and the new agreement needs to be signed. Ms. Elbert expressed that she hoped the signed forms will be returned to her by the end of the month. Members were encouraged to contact Ms. Elbert if they had any questions or concerns.

# Special Edition CoC Newsletter | Request Bio/Pic of CoC-Funded Organizations

Melvin Stamps noted that the CoC newsletters help everyone to be informed about who we are and what we do. Mr. Stamps explained to the membership that a special edition of the newsletter will be published in January 2022. CoC-funded agencies were requested to provide a bio and staff photo by January 17th to be included in the newsletter. He also noted that he will include a message regarding his goals for 2022.

# **Planning Director's Report**

Melvin Stamps told members that the October newsletter was shared with the local HUD field office and received high remarks. He also shared statistics on who the CoC has served: from 11/1 to present - 478 persons have been entered into HMIS; year-to-date - 2,410 have been served, 26 of whom are Veterans. He expressed his desire to share information like this on a monthly basis with the membership and on the CoC website. The PD also explained that he has been preparing for the 2022 narrative questions based on what was asked in 2021. One question was related to the collaboration between the CoC and the homeless education liaisons. He noted that the CoC has had a relationship with Jackson Public Schools and that he is working to strengthen the relationships with the homeless education liaisons in our other counties. He noted that he has made contact with each liaison to let them know who we are and how we can assist them. Mr. Stamps emphasized that he wants to make sure that we're serving all of the subpopulations we said we would and addressing their needs. He thanked the members for their commitment and dedication this year.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

Maria Morris noted that Ben Washington will be stepping down as Treasurer. The Treasurer's Report was shared on screen. The ending balance for October 31, 2021 was \$9,211.06.

### **Open Forum Discussion**

Members made expressions on their thoughts on working with the CoC this year. The results of voting were shared (See Voting on CoC Board of Directors Officer Positions item). Tim Collins expressed his thanks for being entrusted with the Collaborative Applicant position and noted that he hopes to continue to gain more representation in all of our counties.

#### **Announcements**

Members were reminded that the Homeless Memorial is today at 12:45 pm.

#### Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 11:48 am.