

**St. Charles County
Community Assistance Board**

Microsoft Teams Meeting

Meeting Minutes

February 8, 2022

Meeting Facilitator: Melinda McAliney, Chair

Attendance: Christy Weber; David Bardgett; Melinda McAliney; John Glenn

Guests: Pinar Turker (St. Charles County); Dawn Tegeler (YIN); Lindsay Kyonka (Crisis Nursery); Kathy Henderson (J&A); Christi Tennyson (Guest); Kathleen Thompson (St. Charles City); Cindy Syberg (Guest); Michelle Woods (Guest); Mary Jones Bridgeway DV Program (Guest); Carissa Figgins (Guest); Kerri Gallagher (Guest); Jenna Conley (Tri-County Advisory Board); Michelle Ritter (Guest); Pat Leone (Guest)

I. **Call to order** at 7:00 p.m.

II. **Pledge of Allegiance**

III. **Public Comment –**

Dawn Tegeler provided an update regarding the Emergency Weather Response to the last snowstorm. She said they acted more like a hotel model than a warming center as many hotels were booked to keep individuals safe and out of the cold. Melinda asked about their funding and Dawn said last year's funds were depleted in three days because of that a "Go Fund Me Page" was created. This year started with a little over \$50,000. At the moment, another fundraiser is not being considered.

Christi Tennyson stated the renovated shelters at Turning Point should be finished soon. By the end of the month capacity will move from 10 back to plus 36.

Michelle Woods, Habitat for Humanity, stated she has been a part of coalition through St. Charles County Housing Team which is a taskforce, not a 501C3. She explained they strategize about affordable and accessible housing. Melinda asked what agency recently launched an effort to create affordable housing. Michelle Ritter said Sts. Joachim & Ann just got some funding for that. Kathy Henderson added a few big donors stepped up to help purchase a building on a property.

IV. **Approval of January 11, 2022 Minutes –** A motion was made by John and seconded by Pat to approve the minutes. Minutes were approved.

V. **New Business**

a. 2021 Public Services Urban County Community Services Grant Applications: Agency Presentations

Melinda said one of the three agencies here tonight will be awarded a \$10,000 grant for their agency. Melinda asked Pinar if the funds could be divvied up and Pinar answered in the negative.

Dave stated the Commission has never had to allocate CDBG public service program funding before and asked where is it coming from and if is it Covid19 related? Kathleen said in years past there were different pots of money for the City of St. Charles and St. Charles County. Since she has been in her position, she has combined many programs, and this is pot of funding has not been absorbed. It was opened to the CAB Board to reduce any possible conflict of interest between local city government and agencies where a relative may be involved. This also allows a broader spectrum of applicants. Dave asked if this happens annually, and Kathleen answered in the affirmative. Pinar said every year the Board selects an agency to allocate CDBG Homeless Prevention funding which goes under public services allocation that the CAB Board will do. She said everything will be combined in May and get applications by August.

i. Sts. Joachim & Ann – Michelle Ritter provided a presentation about what Sts. Joachim & Ann does to help individuals including case management, case services, connect clientele to resources and advocacy. She said a large mobile truck was recently purchased to serve as a food pantry and is expected to be ready by April 6. Dave asked if the mobile food pantry is intended more for rural areas. Michelle said a large part of it will be rural areas in Lincoln and Warren areas. The focus in St. Charles County will be the working poor in hotels. Dave said he is unaware of any CAB agency with a mobile food pantry then asked if it is unique to St. Charles County. Michelle explained that the truck was designed for Walmart with a freezer, refrigerator and 3 Ambient temperature sections. Deliveries will be client choice based which offers more dignity. Carissa asked if there are any plans for disease specific boxes for special populations such as for the homeless, diabetic, heart disease and renal. Michelle answered in the affirmative as there will be shelves at the food pantry that will provide a variety of foods for individuals with specific health conditions.

ii. Turning Point – Christi Tennyson provided a presentation about what Turning Point is and its mission. Christi said Turning Point provides a 24/7, 365 staff hotline which is where the shelter intake begins with a hotline phone call. The agency provides assistance to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking and stalking. She emphasized safety planning is done with all calls to ensure the safety of all callers. Services are available to anyone who is a victim of violence. Currently, clients are housed in an administrative building until the renovation of the shelter is completed. When the renovation is done, it will have an additional 36 beds. Counseling and court, life and substance abuse advocacy are provided to both residential and community clients. In the past fiscal year, Turning Point with reduced

capacity served 100 women and 30 children.

iii. Aging Ahead – Kerri Gallagher provided a presentation about Aging Ahead and the services it provides. Kerri said the mission of Aging Ahead is to support individuals their journey of aging and allow them to age with honor and dignity. The agency covers about 30% of Missouri’s total population of individuals 60 and above and operates in four counties. It is a member of Meals on Wheels of America and delivers approximately 3,500 meals each day, Monday – Friday to congregate and homebound adults. Before the Pandemic, hot meals were being delivered, but due to safety and supply chain issues cold meals are currently being delivered. Aging Ahead also provides community services to anyone over the age of 60 free of cost including care giver support, healthy living programs, and socialization benefit assistance. Kerri said the agency is applying for funding to support its Meals on Wheels effort. John asked if seniors asking for help are mean tested. Kerri answered in the affirmative and anyone who requests services can qualify if they are homebound to get delivered meals. She said proof of income is required for low- income seniors because the County requires it. Melinda asked if COVID has impacted their ability to recruit or retain volunteers that deliver meals. Kerri responded that with the Pandemic, the agency has scaled back to keep everyone safe. John suggested using UBER for assistance. Dave asked where the meals originate from that are delivered to St. Charles County. Kerri said Performance Foods is a supplier and all the meals in St. Charles County are delivered directly to the Centers, then staff delivers meals throughout their areas. Melinda asked if Performance Foods creates the meals and Kerri said before the Pandemic, staff prepared the hot meals, but due to safety issues related to COVID, frozen and cold meals are being provided that come from Performance Foods.

b. Voting on 2021 Public Services Urban County Community Services Grant Allocations

Melinda thanked all the presenters and for the services their agencies provide to help individuals. She asked Pinar if the CAB Board should vote now, then announce the results before the end of the meeting or vote now and announce the results tomorrow. Pinar said if the Board waits to announce the results, then the results would have to be approved at the next meeting. Melinda told the members to open the link and cast their vote.

Pinar said with 8 votes cast, Aging Ahead will be awarded the \$10,000 grant because it got the majority of votes (62%).

Melinda asked for a motion to award Aging Ahead \$10,000 to provide meals to older adults. Pat made such motion and Carissa seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous voice acclamation.

Melinda asked Pinar if there is anything significant that would require a meeting in April. Pinar answered in the negative. Melinda suggested to keep the second

Tuesday in April open in case a meeting is required.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Motion was approved.

VI. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Next Meeting Date if Needed: April 12, 2022

Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting (Remote)