

**St. Charles County
Community Assistance Board**

Sts. Joachim & Ann
4116 McClay Road St. Charles, MO 63304

Meeting Minutes

April 11, 2023

Meeting Facilitator: Melinda McAliney

Attendance: David Bardgett; Cindy Syberg; John Glenn

Guests: Pinar Turker (St. Charles County); Dottie Kastigar (Community Council); Kathy Thompson (LINC); Carrie Dina (NECAC); Brittany Morgan (Sts. J&A); Karen Ehlmann (Volunteers in Medicine); Michelle Woods (Habitat)

- I. **Call to order** at 7:00pm
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- III. **Public Comment** – Dottie shared that while our overall PIT count numbers were down slightly this year, our unsheltered numbers significantly increased. Primarily this is due to a loss of COVID funding and more chronic households living in motels. It was also shared that none of St. Charles County projects received ARRP funding from the state. However, Two agencies received preliminary notice of HOME-APR funds from the St. Louis HOME consortium, pending HUD approval. Two applications were submitted from St. Charles County. One was submitted for Habitat; Habitat for Humanity received 1.4 M. LINC received \$500,000 for their project for senior housing.
- IV. **Approval of March 7, 2023 Minutes** – A motion was made by David and seconded by Cynthia to approve the minutes. Minutes were approved.
- V. **New Business**
 - a. Strategic Planning Process –
 - i) **SWOT analysis & Priorities** –

Strengths- Attendees brainstormed some of the following strengths of our community homeless service system: Coordinated Entry; relationships and trust of providers; defined objectives, wrap-around services, & results; # of providers; experienced providers; experienced grant writers; scrappy (determined)providers; providers understanding of need and creativity with lots of strategies to help people; vested interests; public/private partnerships; faith community involvement; growing region; provider passion; efficiency of providers; lack of concentrated poverty.

Weaknesses – homeless services providers are overlooked for funding due to being an affluent community and a lack of community awareness around need; lack of affordable housing; housing is not included in overall community human service funding (needs/services tend to be siloed);” pull self-up by bootstraps” mentality; NIMBY mentality; need for longer case management for chronic households; lack of partnership with some sectors of the community (economic development, large companies, school leadership); lots of “unseen” homeless.

Opportunities- reframe what we do – we stabilize people; message that human capital development is economic development; shift to asset-based approach; increase community awareness & municipality awareness; develop more partnerships with larger companies – corporate support, i.e., NAPA; increase landlord partnerships; build on community heart and generosity (i.e., the way the community supports persons with developmental disabilities and children); increase the voices of leadership and decision makers in addressing housing issues; attract more funding to the area.

Threats- recession, inflation, unstable funding, community refuses to acknowledge the issues, needs increase if not addressed-increased crime, costs, quality of life. Aging population, increased housing costs, decreasing pool of affordable housing; burnout among direct service staff; we are not inclusive of minority population. Disproportionate number of entrepreneurs

ii) **May-Draft Strategic Plan-** What should CAB’s priorities be in the next 5 years? Priorities- increase funding from county council in increasing the \$3 fee; affordable housing, etc. **(See attached handout CAB_SWOT for full list of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats, and priorities)**

b. Agency Tour – A tour of Sts. Joachim & Ann was conducted after the meeting.

Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at approximately 8: 15pm

Next Meeting Date: **Tuesday, May 9, 2023, 7pm**

Location: **Turning Point**