

# **Continuum of Care Equity and Inclusion Committee**

## **Meeting Minutes**

September 17, 2020, 11:00 AM via GoToMeeting

### **Opening**

The regular meeting of the Continuum of Care Equity and Inclusion Committee on September 17, 2020, 11:00 AM via GoToMeeting by Shamika Agbeviade.

### **Present**

Shamika Agbeviade, Chair  
Kathryn Firmin-Sellers, Co-Chair  
Giovanna Collins, Secretary  
Gregory Denlea, voting member  
Steven McQueen, voting member  
Khalil Salim, voting member  
Lisa Raymakeer, voting member  
Brandon Lewis, voting member  
Gabrielle Valentine, voting member  
Krystal Long, voting member  
Tchernavia Montgomery  
Shannon Farrar  
Hannah-Marie Warfle  
Judith Brown  
Jeanelle Perry

### **Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was unanimously approved as distributed.

### **Approval of Minutes**

An agenda for the first meeting was distributed prior to the meetings, thus no prior meeting minutes exist

### **Open Issues**

1. Introductions and Ice breaker – Participants stated their name, where they grew up and something they look forward to. Committee members discussed the roles and responsibilities of the EIC.
2. Discussion-Members decided the meeting schedule. The committee voted to hold meetings quarterly on the third Thursday of every month for 90 minutes from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM. Branden Lewis will make the schedule and send a calendar invitation as a recurring appointment. The committee also discussed the COC's current prioritization tool for providing services to persons experiencing homelessness, the VI-SPDAT, and the

need to examine the prioritization tool through an equitable lens. This will be a collaboration between the CE Oversight Committee, the Lived Experience Committee, and the Equity & Inclusion Committee, which will form a workgroup for this purpose. Members agreed to sign up for work groups, which include the following: 1) Review of the Prioritization Tool [to be named at a later date], 2) Training 3) Veterans 4) Chronically homeless 5) Homeless Families, 6) Homeless Youth and 7) Persons with Criminal Histories. In addition, each member will be responsible for regularly attending one of the following meetings: Coordinated Entry and Oversight Committee, Lived Experience Committee [not currently running], Data Advisory Committee, and the Nomination and Membership Committee. Braden Lewis noted that while anyone can attend these committee meetings, not all are voting members. Kathryn Firmin-Sellers suggested this committee use a tool for evaluate equity and inclusion at each committee meeting. Jeanelle Perry suggested using outreach to recruit members for the Lived Experience Committee. Khalil Salim suggested creating a working document in which members contribute notes regarding equity and inclusion standards of the CoC starting with policies and procedures that currently exist.

3. Goals of the Committee-Participants discussed improvements to the system the EIC can make [See PowerPoint Slide Page 7 for reference]. Shana Farrar suggested starting with the Homelessness System first. Branden Lewis shared that the purpose of the planning grant is working with C4Innovations, a consulting firm for social change, on assessing how and who we serve. Hannah-Marie Warfle shared a link in the chat of the final report evaluating implementation and outcomes of Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg: <https://275.2a4.myftpupload.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/HFCM-Final-Process-Evaluation-Report-2020-Final-9-2-20v2.pdfstudy>. Kathryn Firmin-Sellers stated the goal is to prioritize vulnerability in a way that reflects who is experiencing homelessness accurately. Participants also discussed data the committee needs to aid in this work. In addition to data on demographics, committee members stated they need data on Covid-19, housing and other services rendered, medical conditions, disabilities, length of stay in shelters and destination at exit from shelters, and a breakdown of the callers to 211 who are referred to Coordinated Entry.

#### 4. Summary and Next Steps

Introductions, discussion of meeting schedule, goals for the committee, assignments for each member and data needed to complete the work of this committee.

#### **Agenda for Next Meeting**

TBD

#### **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 12:00 PM by Shamika Agbeviade. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for 11:00 AM on December 17<sup>th</sup> via GoToMeeting.

Minutes submitted by: Giovanna G. Collins

Approved by: