

## NASHVILLE-DAVIDSON COUNTY CoC – TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

### Note from Steering Committee Meeting

January 12, 2017

MDHA Collaboration Center

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#### Attendance

- Steering Committee Members: Liz Allen Fey, Kirby Davis, Freddie O'Connell, Wendell Segroves, Rachel Hester, Catherine Knowles, Erik Cole, Angie Hubbard, Renee Pratt, Matt Preston
- Cloudburst TA Team: Judy Perlman, Darlene Mathews, TJ Winfield

#### Welcome and Introductions

Steering Committee members went around and introduced themselves and their roles. Issues and concerns that were articulated included:

- There is widespread agreement and urgency on the need for change and simplification and structural alignment for Nashville's CoC. This sentiment is shared at all levels, from the Mayor to the service providers.
- Going forward, it's important to frame up every discussion of Nashville's CoC with a clear statement that encapsulates the broad group of stakeholders involved, not only the CoC-funded organizations. Also helpful to clarify terms like CoC, Board, Collaborative Applicant and HMIS Lead. Older terms like "CoC Lead" are still in use.

#### Envision what is Possible – "Game Changer" Examples from Other US communities

- "Game Changer" Examples: Houston, TX and Salt Lake City, UT
- These "game changer" examples illustrated the impact that can be achieved in communities when services and funding is coordinated and used to attain clear strategic objectives such as, development of 2,500 housing units.
- Steering Committee members were surprised to hear the total figure for homelessness assistance funds within Nashville's CoC. Erik reported that between \$70-80 million was spent two years ago. [The following day he spoke more fully about the sources of these funds, which include significant VA investments.]
- Nashville has separated discussion of investment in homelessness from that of affordable housing. The Houston example shows the wisdom of a community addressing production needs across the spectrum, creating its "Capital Grant Fund" under this larger framework.
- The examples also brought home the critical need for data to guide CoC planning and allocation and in many communities, to support Coordinated Entry and service delivery. Current HMIS capacity is

limited due to a small staff, a closed data structure, and the absence of data from large local providers in the CoC's dataset.

### **Understand what is Required – The HEARTH Act and CoC governance**

- Deep dive into Governance
  - Governance requirements
  - Governance models
    - Seattle, WA
    - Chicago, IL
    - Houston, TX
- Nashville must prioritize working to strengthen its CoC governance charter. While this is a document that can be adapted over time, there are missing elements now that could hurt the CoC's score in the upcoming NOFA. Items to be added include Coordinated Entry and Written Standards. Additionally, clarifying membership and voting rights will be very useful as the community considers making significant structural changes.
- The Steering Committee felt that Nashville needs to clearly define the mission of the CoC in its governance charter, as does Chicago.
- Clarity among issues of leadership, management and accountability is needed in order for the Nashville CoC to move forward with governance and structural change.

### **Guiding Principles articulated for Nashville**

- |                        |                        |                |
|------------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| - Housing              | - Alignment/Aligned    | - Consistency  |
| - Awareness/ Education | - Leadership Structure | - Trust        |
| - Urgency              | - Person-Centered      | - Transparency |
| - Commitment/Buy-in    | - Access               | - STRATEGY     |
| - System Perspective   | - Data-driven/Data-    |                |
| - LEADERSHIP           | informed               |                |
| - Clarity              | - Rigor                |                |

### **Visioning Exercise**

The Steering Committee will return to this at a future date.

### **Next Steps**

The Steering Committee will meet again on Wednesday, February 1, from 1pm – 4pm, in the chapel at the Nashville Rescue Mission, 639 Lafayette Street, Nashville 37203. Cloudburst was asked to prepare and present a set of structural options for consideration.