

General Assembly Meeting

Date and Time

Thursday, August 19, 2021, 9:00AM-10:00AM

Location

Zoom Meeting

Attendees:

Erin Kelly, Ellie Huot, Stephanie Savard, Kelsey Sanborn, Jessica Vaughn-Martin, Angela Webber, Marie Poole, Mary Sliney, Sarah Mattson Dustin, Sonya Bellafant, Christina Shepard, Kendra Hickey, Cindy Bringhurst, Megan Spencer, Kelly McKenney, Shirley Tomlinson, Jocelyne Pinsonneault, Pattee Ardizzoni, Zanetta Barchi, Kristine Hall, Stephanie Dahlberg, Katie Tovar-Paciulan, Dee Santoso, Nicole St. Hilaire, Meghan Shea, Tyler Wands, Meghan Morrow Raftery, Jennifer Chisholm, Erin Segaloff, Stephanie Higgs, Robyn Malchanoff, Kylie Grenier Dennis, Alexandra Kirade, Sarah Urquhart, Keith Howard, Chertina Walker, Germano Martins, Mackenzie Baney, Larry Nice, Candace Cappio Gebhart, Todd Fleming, Nicole Hudson, Matthew Bouchie and Spencer Fournier

9:00 Meeting begins

603 Legal Aid Merger

Sarah Mattson Dustin and Sonya Bellafant gave a presentation on the merger that created 603 Legal Aid.

The Legal Advice and Referral Center & the Pro Bono Program of NH Bar Association merged to become 603 Legal Aid. The goal of this new entity is to be a single entry point for clients who are in need of legal assistance.

What to expect from 603 Legal Aid:

- Screening – financial eligibility and type of issue
- Information about legal rights and protections
- Access to advocates
- Referrals to volunteer attorneys
- Referrals to NHLA

Who should be referred to 603 Legal Aid:

- Financial eligibility
 - 200% of the poverty level
- Type of issue
 - Rental housing and homeownership
 - Domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and human trafficking
 - Family law
 - Public benefits
 - Utilities
 - Consumer issues
 - Issues impacting older adults and youth

How to connect to 603 Legal Aid

- Call center 1 (800) 639-5290
- Online website www.603legallaid.org

Hybrid Model

Chair Erin Kelly reached out to the Manchester Community Resource Center to host a General Assembly meeting in a hybrid model when COVID rates were lower. Currently, the room is booked for the October GA meeting and updates surrounding the set-up of the meeting will be sent out closer to October 21st (next GA meeting).

CoC Collaboration

Chair Erin Kelly discussed the collaboration that is occurring between the leaders of all 3 New Hampshire CoCs. The six leaders, Chairs and Vice Chairs, meet on a monthly basis and have committed to working together on a series of workshops. The first workshop that all 3 CoCs are working on together is “Collaborating Authentically with Individuals with Lived Experience”. The six leaders chose this workshop collectively so that all of New Hampshire was completing the same workshop. If you’re interested in joining this workshop, please reach out to Erin Kelly at KellyE@WaypointNH.org

Vice Chair Stephanie Savard discussed other trainings that are to be created and will be available to the CoC. There will be access to a CoC 101 training, State plan training and a Domestic Violence training presented by the YWCA. The DV training will be required to organizations in the CoC that have housing programs funded by HUD. The training will be highly suggested to everyone else!

Coordinated Entry Presentation

General Assembly Member Megan Spencer gave a presentation regarding the Coordinated Entry process. This is a formal partnership of agencies providing housing and social services to people experiencing homelessness. This will create a streamlined way for individuals/families to access housing from Manchester providers. This process will include a partnership agreement where organizations can be identified as Regional Access Points, Assessment Partners, Referral Partners, and Housing Providers (some organizations may fall into multiple categories). Manchester providers will be required to be a part of the Coordinated Entry process if they receive funding from:

- CoC funding
- Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG/ESG-CV)
- State Grant in Aid (SGIA)
- Housing Opportunities for Persons with Aids (HOPWA)
- Other New Hampshire Bureau of Housing Supports (BHS) funding

There will be new documents that will be distributed to engage in this process once everything has been finalized (October 2021). These documents will be:

- Partnership Agreement
- Coordinated Entry Policies and Procedures Manual
- HMIS Client Informed Consent & Release of Information

Please see the attached PowerPoint slides for more information regarding timeline of this project rollout. Please reach out to Megan Spencer at spencerm@mhcgm.org

MCoC October Elections

Chair Erin Kelly informed GA members that there will be an election at the October General Assembly meeting. Based on the MCoC Governance Structure, there is no term limit for Leadership positions as long as members are still voted in. Chair Erin Kelly encouraged GA members to reach out if they were interested in being put on the ballot.

Zero Suicide Presentation

General Assembly members Matthew Bouchie and Lexie Kirade from the Mental Health Center of Greater Manchester gave a presentation on the new grant that they were awarded. MHCGM was awarded the Zero Suicide Grant from SAMHSA in April of 2021. The grant is intended to improve suicide care within Manchester’s health and behavioral health systems. Catholic Medical Center and the VA Medical Center in Manchester are partnering with MHCGM. This

grant will support Manchester to further develop suicide specific healthcare workforce competencies through evidence-based training and enhance collaboration between partners. This grant is focusing on three coalitions:

- Older adults
- Active service members, veterans and their families
- Individuals experiencing homelessness

If you're interested in participating/getting involved in any of the coalitions, please contact Lexie or Matt at kiradeal@mhcgm.org or bouchiem@mhcgm.org

You can learn more about the grant at www.zerosuicide.edc.org

There will be updates on this grant moving forward at CoC meetings as the Homelessness Coalition will be viewed as a Subcommittee.

Subcommittee Updates

- Outreach – Collaboration with the Fire Department ended in July. There has been collaboration between outreach organizations in order to stay connected with individuals. Currently, there are 127 individuals actively engaged with outreach workers.
- Coordinated Entry – Megan Spencer provided update as GA agenda item.
- Veteran's - They did not hold a meeting in July. Please reach out to Katie Tovar-Paciulan at k.tovar@harbocarenh.org if you want to join the Veteran's subcommittee.
- Community Care Team – Please reach out to Matt Bouchie bouchiem@mhcgm.org if you want to join. Case conferences with the most vulnerable individuals.
- Youth – Applied for the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program Grant – waiting to hear back whether or not awarded funding until October. Applied for funding to complete a Community Needs Assessment (CNA). Awarded the funding and hired Matthew Aronson Consulting to complete the CNA.

Open Floor

-At the time of the meeting there are 4 spots on the MHRA Emergency Housing Vouchers waitlist. (All spots have been filled since the meeting ended)

-HUD announced CoC competitions for the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). The NOFO is due November 16th, 2021.

10:00 Meeting Concludes

Next Meeting: October 21, 2021

Minutes Prepared By:
Ellie Huot – Waypoint
MCoC Clerk