



Minutes

GKCCEH Board of Directors Meeting

📅 Fri February 5th, 2021

🕒 8:30am - 10:00am CST

📍 <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83948913646>

👤 In Attendance

1. Call to Order

Call to Order: 8:35am

Board Members: Matt Watkins, Cara Hoover, Simon Messmer, Precious Stargell-Cushman, Heather Bradley-Geary, Michael Barrett, Kimberley Henderson, Susila Jones, Jameson Auten, Christy McMurphy, Tiffany Buckley

Guests: Amy Copeland

2. Approval of Minutes

Matt Watkins- motion to approve minutes?

Christy- Motion

Michael- 2nd

Matt Watkins- Motion approved

3. Public Comment

Matt Watkins- open floor for public comment

4. Org and Staff Update

Marqueia- Point in Time went well

a. Cold Weather & Unsheltered Homelessness

KCMO Bartle Hall cold weather shelter has been topic of much intrigue. We have a few volunteer groups that have been in collaboration with KCMO on the project. Population at Bartel Hall is pretty significant. Average 150 people each night. No traditional service providers working on site. City wants more structure to the approach. Our team has been looking at various opportunities to connect folks to housing.

Safe Parking space parking for those living in their vehicles.

Amber- starting off- 15-20 parking spots, with hopes of expanding.

Marqueia- safe parking space, boxed dinners, sanitation, and security on site to help provide a safe place to sleep, Tricky situation for standard issue Case Management staff due to hours, so it would require a swing shift to work those hours. KCK Overnight shelter opportunity on 18th and Central. Individual tents inside. Congregate shelter for men, women, and gender non conforming individuals.

Noten GKCCEH is not taking leadership roles in these new endeavors.

Susila Jones- your organizational support has really mattered and has been really important in getting our spaces up and running.

Marqueia- Safe Parking is located at St. Mary's and marketing material will be distributed.

b. **Current GKCCEH Projects**

Advocacy- Marqueia

I will be serving on the KCMO Homeless Task Force that was passed through Council two weeks ago. Really good group of various service providers, City departments, and advocacy groups that have been working with the City on the cold weather shelters. Little buy in in the past for the previous Task Force, but there is new energy behind this one. First meeting will most likely be in the next 10 days.

We are working with Street Medicine KC- bringing in those who have been unsheltered in the pandemic to express their wants and needs. They are currently working on small focus groups, facilitated by someone experiencing homelessness to talk through their personal experiences. 3 cohorts of roughly 15 people to go through a month long advocacy programs to empower them to speak on their own behalf.

Working with youth providers on youth homelessness that hasn't been addressed in the community. Housing for those with higher behavioral health needs. A lot of people in this age category with trauma, substance use, etc., but need programs that are appropriate for them. There is a need for youth PIT count. We are missing our youth entirely during the January street count. There are increasing numbers of individuals living outdoors, but we are not seeing them when it's zero degrees. Youth are more resourceful when it's colder. Youth specific PIT in April and May when students are still in school system but weather is more favorable. Being able to quantify the problem is a challenge. We are presenting as a rural community in an urban setting.

KCMO/WYCO ESG Planning Session- Tough meeting with UG about reporting requirements. We need technical assistance for ESG.. Providers complaint is that ESG funders require too many documents, that their processes are not person centered, for both clients and service providers and that reimbursements take too long.

Increasing presence in counties through advocacy. That is why we are increasing communication with elected officials and developing a better website.

COC Governance- Marqueia

The 211 phone system needs refinement. A lot of people doing assessments but not a lot of people doing diversion. Competitive atmosphere as it pertains to finding housing in the community. Restructuring CE work group into a task oriented and a governing group. Governing group shifted its date to the third Tuesday to sync up with board meeting so there is not a 5 week delay.

March- Policy Preview

Inactive Policy for BNL. Want to take them out of priority consideration if we cannot locate people or suspect they move on.

How we prioritize the BNL- want to look at a percentage proportion of young people to make sure they aren't skipped on the BNL

Referral retention policy- finding that agencies are getting referrals and holding on to them for 4 to 5 months, and it is creating a log jam in the system and inhibiting our ability to move swiftly.

Michael Barrett- Why are they holding on to them for 4 of 5 months?

Marqueia- not willing to let people go of clients once they are assigned to a program, perhaps due to the notion that they are "giving up on them." Some degree of habituation to chasing people down that our providers have become accustomed to. Returning them to the list means someone else has an opportunity.

Kimberly- Have referred people to 211 and they have not heard back in months. How does the process work and how long should it take? How can CM follow up if they have not been contacted? How do they contact people on BNL? What method of reaching out are they using?

Marqueia- They have not done street outreach. This is the most street outreach we've ever done, and providers are used to working at our desk. Sometimes it requires going out to the people. Not all providers are doing their due diligence when it comes to meeting and locating people. People should not be waiting that long when they call 211

GKCCEH Team- Marqueia

Creating a project plan and tracking mechanism that will be available in boardable.

Website will be launching next week

Team working on training materials to reach larger audience. Means for people to do self service training, and live training in a virtual setting.

Funding strategies- micro-donor program. Cultivating a donor pool that wouldn't put us at competition with agencies but will give us more flexible dollars.

Looking for HMIS Staff Support

Still collecting HIC data.

It's still too early to tell but PIT numbers look consistent with last year. Not quite as high, but the environment is different. We were not required to do PIT this year. Larger cities did not do street count, and with those communities out of play the data will not reflect accurately. PIT was more beneficial for local purposes.

Increase in funding, just over 15 million dollars. HUD has done a 10% increase due to FMR increases. Planning funds were also increased by roughly 15%.

Still migrating CE into HMIS. Amber and team are training community members to migrate data.

Green light to survey those interested in COVID Vaccine. Freezers were delivered for vaccine and now gathering interest. If you are interested please email or text Marqueia.

Admin and Finance committee- working on RFP for NOFA 2021. Just started the planning, but we want to only fund projects that put a dent in our homeless numbers.

Defunct projects: Blue KC/Healthify,

HUD HMIS Capacity Building Grant. Those funds will not be available to us.

Our partners with Johnson County, it will be difficult for them to fund their HMIS ongoing. Potential conversation for data sharing.

Christy- what will happen to the grant?

Marqueia- Mostly around training and capacity building to operate HMIS. Really about giving them the chops to do what they do. From my perspective, we want to be good neighbors, but I don't want to assume the board shares that perspective. .

Matt- What kind of hole does that leave for us and our budget as it pertains to capacity? Is there a ripple effect?

Marqueia- we weren't counting on those funds, but we still need additional funds for HMIS. This grant is specifically for capacity building projects and not for HMIS itself. It's a "would be nice" kind of thing.

c. **Committee Updates**

GKCCEH Board Member and CoC Committee Member Nominations: Cara Hoover

Victoria Hardy- Director of Truman's Youth RRH Program. Very eager to participate. Has a lot of great ideas moving forward and goals ending homelessness. Truman is a big player in this space and we believe this will be a great addition to this board.

Matt- I was on call with Victoria and is excited to be a part of it and provide a different dynamic. She is eager to help. Thoughts on this? The nominating committee met and approved her. If you are open to taking this as a nomination we can take a second.

Kimberly- I am open to doing a second

Susila- I trust the nominating committee.

Simon- is Truman already represented. Does it make sense to add another provider to the board?

Heather Bradley Geary- It falls into the board matrix, and Truman is not represented on the board.

Jameson- I wont vote on something I haven't reviewed. Not a reflect of distrust, just a matter of principle.

Cara- Send the application out and vote at the end of the meeting.

5. **Finances**

FY21- waiting on reimbursements from KCMO and Health Forward Foundation. Received all of Cares Act reimbursement from Jackson County. Awarded an ESG grant in amount of \$33,000 from MHDC.

a. **December 2020 Financials**

Closing out a lot of Cares Act grant awards. Still awaiting reimbursements in January. This packet has an updated December report, in the process of updating January.

b. **FY22 Budget Planning Process & Priorities**

February- draft budget available for review. 4 budget categories in draft. That is an error. 3 categories- CE, HMIS, and all things Administrative are tucked into COC and NOFA. Fundraising is included in that. Rolling fundraising into administrative is allowable for our internal planning process. Anything coded orange in the budget is to be determined or aspirational.

Need more staff capacity for CE and HMIS personnel. Not all positions will be within GKCCCEH. We know we need more people.

Steep increase in marketing. Represents a little over 5% in our budget. This has been an area that we've struggled with in the past. Important to have high quality marketing materials and a website that is up to date, as well as printed materials.

Marketing budget for monthly maintenance, blog, social media, learning management system. Strongly believe it should be emphasized and prioritized.

Travel- line item back in play. Important to have representation at 2 national conferences. A lot of learning happens in those few days, and our ability to go to DC and speak to our elected officials is a really important exercise.

Identify matching funds for HMIS.

Planning grant has increased to almost 429,000. Looking into doing a fundraising event (art auction, bingo), something that can happen virtually. Wanting to raise our own unrestricted funds.

Will need to find \$60,000 in funds by August 2021. Essentially we have a zero in HMIS user fees where the committee has not yet determined what the membership fee should be.

Matt- Budget will be submitted next month for review.

Heather Bradley Geay- Mentioned NAEH. Very important for the team to be there.

Marqueia- if board members can attend, it's very instructive. Virtual conference in March.

i. **Finance Committee Update**

Simon is putting together a finance committee for board.

ii. **Preliminary FY22 Budget Review**

iii. **Review Budget Timeline and Action Items**

6. **Governance Structure Planning Update**

CoC Governance- Matt

Start pushing forward a structure in terms of governance and timeline. Still have the TA that is out there for several more hours of work to pull this together. The executive group will come together to work through bigger issues and priorities. Board list of tasks to push forward- probably in March after the Board meeting. Give us more time to understand where we need to go and what we need to prioritize.

Marqueia- February 19th or 26th for that meeting. Looking at a one hour window.

Matt- If you all have other questions or desires to be a part of that, let me or Marqueia know so we can coordinate schedules.

a. **Meeting dates, times, frequency**

7. **Public Comment**

Matt- open up for comment.

Amy- Open position for board members?

Matt- We have the ability to go up to 15 members. Currently at 12.

Amy- What specific niche other than youth piece that Truman brings? I want to see opportunities equally

Marqueia- RRH position is taken by Christy.

Amy- Is the spot for youth RRH or just RRH?

Marqueia- We asked Victoria based on her Youth RRH experience. We can send you the board matrix for review.

Matt- Cara sent out application for new Board member.

Marqueia- boardable walk through.

Matt- Anyone have comments or questions regarding Victoria Hardy? All in favor?

Unanimous ayes.

Matt- approved. That is the end of our agenda.

Adjourned 9:47am.

8. Next Meeting Date & Action Items

9. Executive Session (if applicable)