



SARAH
South Alamo Regional Alliance for the Homeless

1 Haven for Hope Way – San Antonio – Texas – 78207

Membership Council Minutes

Scott Ackerson, Committee Chair

Lift Fund
2007 W. Martin St.,
San Antonio, TX 78205

May 17, 2016
3:00-5:00 p.m.

The following agenda items may not necessarily be considered in the order they appear

1. Call to Order

*Membership Council Chair Mr. Scott Ackerson called to order the **May 17, 2016 Membership Council Meeting** of the South Alamo Regional Alliance for the Homeless at **3:03 p.m.***

2. Welcome and Introductions

All members below presented themselves and their associated agency.

Executive Committee: *Scott Ackerson, Robert Galan, Gay Lynn Schwenk and Tammi Woodard.*

SARAH Staff: *Bill Hubbard, Katie Vela, Luke Leppla and Audrey Rendon*

Members Present: *Philip Rigney, Christopher Vidaurre, Devon Maddox, Carlos Martinez, Maria Weseloh, Sam Samani, April Biasioli, Julie Dahlberg, Katie Herrera, Sabrina Bailey, Cruz Vallarta, Cecil King, Corey Weber, Sergio Dickerson, Andy Guerra, Yolanda Tarango, Trenton Clark, Chris Plauche, Laura Mata-Delgado, Jole Holt, Stephanie Smith, Valier Sullivan, Sean Hollins and Randy Pollock, Monica Martinez.*

3. Agency Roll Call

*American G.I. Forum – NVOP
BEAT AIDS
Bexar County
Catholic Worker House
Center for Healthcare Services
Center for Juvenile Management (REACH)
Family Endeavors
Family Violence Prevention Services
Family Service Association
Food Bank of San Antonio
Haven for Hope
Pay it Forward Ministries
SAMMinistries
Society of St. Vincent de Paul
The Salvation Army
Visitation House*

4. Public Comment

No public comment



5. Approve Prior Meeting Minutes

Membership Council Action: Moved by Tammi Woodard, seconded by Robert Galan to approve prior General Membership/Membership Council minutes. Motion carried – unanimous decision.

6. Group Discussion: Purpose and Expectations for Membership Council

The Executive Committee introduced themselves to the Membership Council.

Scott Ackerson—Chair & Board Member (At-Large Service Provider Director)

Robert Galan—Vice Chair

Gay Lynn Schwenk—Secretary

Tammi Woodard—Representative & Board Member (At-Large Service Provider Director)

Per the bylaws, all action items will be determined by Membership Council consensus. If a consensus cannot be met within the Membership Council, it will be presented as a motion item. All agencies will utilize their agency vote and the votes will be tallied to record a majority decision.

Currently the SARA Board of Directors has the sole authority to approve a final motion on action items. The Chair requested participation from members to help generate the meeting agendas. The board will discuss all Membership Council items presented by Scott Ackerson and Tammi Woodard during the board meetings. Send all agenda items to [Audrey Rendon](#).

In six months, it is expected the Membership Council will revisit the Bylaws previously approved. This notice allows opportunity for members to forward edits and suggestions they would like made to the current Bylaws. Send all remarks to [Audrey Rendon](#).

Attendance is filed and maintained for accountability and participation inquiries. Additionally, CoC participation is used for HUD Ranking and ESG funding applications. To maintain membership, a \$50 annual membership fee is required to be paid in full by March 31st of each year for Non-CoC funded agencies.

7. Executive Director Report – Bill Hubbard

- **Out of the Office: May 24, 2016 – June 7, 2016**

Mrs. Katie Vela will be the point of contact during Mr. Bill Hubbard’s vacation leave.

- **Collaborative Applicant/Primary Contact**

SARAH has officially been designated as the Collaborative Applicant and CoC Primary Contact by HUD. All interactions from HUD to the San Antonio/Bexar County CoC will be sent directly the CoC Programs Manager, Katie Vela.

- **Hiring a NOFA Consultant**

SARAH distributed an official NOFA RFP May 1st, 2016 that will be due no later than May 17, 2016. The RFP can be found posted on www.SARAHomeless.org.

8. CoC Operations Report – Katie Vela

- **Results of 2015 CoC Competition** (see attachment)

Overview: San Antonio/Bexar County’s CoC gained funding for Permanent Supportive Housing and Rapid Rehousing. We did not receive funding for any bonus projects. SARAH’s goal is to gain bonus project funds and gain new money through the next CoC Competition.

- **2016 CoC Registration Notice** (see attachment)



SARAH submitted the CoC registration for the upcoming NOFA. The Registration Announcement explains the rules, changes and priorities for the upcoming competition. If agencies want to gain more funding, they have the option to reallocate to new projects approved by HUD. The criteria for a high performing community is listed in the notice along with approved HUD projects.

- **2016 Project Ranking/Rating Tool** (see attachment)
The SARAH Performance Committee generated the Project Ranking/Rating Tool and then forwarded to a HUD TA provider for final review to give insight and ensure competitiveness. The SARAH Board will approve this Project Ranking/Rating tool at the next board meeting.

9. Coordinated Entry Report – Luke Leppla

SARAH is sponsoring a Homeless Diversion Training held June 30-July 1, 2016. The training will be led by a national expert who uses conflict resolution theory to prevent entering homelessness. This training is open to all agency outreach workers and to agencies expected to act as a Hub.

- **Implementation Update**
The Coordinated Entry Committee meets every other Monday, 1:30 pm at American G.I. Forum (206 San Pedro). All members are welcome to attend and give feedback. Mr. Luke Leppla intends to implement San Antonio/Bexar County's Coordinated Entry Program by Monday, June 13, 2016.

10. HMIS Report – Maria Weseloh

- **System Performance Measures**
The System Performance Measures were created for CoC performance accountability and to measure how well a CoC assists people experiencing homelessness. This system identifies CoC problem areas and gauges the progress of meeting HUD federal goals.

Performance Measure Reports:

1. Length of time people remain homeless
2. Number of people returning to homelessness
3. Number of people becoming homeless for the first time
4. Overall number of people experiencing homelessness.

➤ **October 1, 2014—September 30, 2015**

- During this time frame it was reported clients remained homeless a median of 112 days with an average of 228 days.
- 26% of total persons in Permanent Housing returned to homelessness within 2 years.
- 10% of those returned to homelessness within 0-100 days
- 5,781 overall unduplicated homeless people in San Antonio (includes Courtyard)
- 4,983 total homeless in emergency shelters

➤ **October 1, 2015—May 16, 2016**

- During this time frame it was reported clients remained homeless a median of 111 days with an average of 261 days.
- The comparison reflects a 10% increase from the previous time frame
- 25% of total persons in Permanent Housing returned to homelessness within 2 years.



High Performance Standards:

Total returns to homelessness is fewer than 5%, or a 20% reduction.

Clients are homeless no longer than 20 days, or a 10% total decrease each year.

Membership Council Response:

Q. *Is there a particular time in the year where there is a significant increase of homelessness?*

A. *Yes, typically during income tax return season, April through June, when homelessness declines.*

Q. *Is the increase of homeless numbers and homeless clients becoming homeless for the first time a direct result of the decrease of prevention funding from HUD?*

A. *The decrease in prevention funds may be the reason the number of people homeless increased – but more research is needed to say so definitively.*

Q. *Did HUD formally indicate why the CoC did not receive bonus dollars?*

A. *No, however, there will be a May HUD conference to discuss this topic and additional funding requirements. It has been previously mentioned that there is a need to reallocate low performing projects or project's that aren't within HUD's priority's and to look closely at system performance. HUD is expected to distribute the CoC Debrief to SARAH this month and it will be shared with the Membership Council.*

11. Feedback on CoC's Performance

The SARAH Board formally requested Membership Council feedback regarding CoC performance.

What is going well? Where can we improve?

Mr. Devon Maddox mentioned a concern regarding Rapid Rehousing dollars being restricted to Haven for Hope's Courtyard. Haven for Hope now offers long-term rental assistance, and is targeting the same clients that SVdP and SAMMinistries are serving. The agencies are requesting from the city that RRH dollars are no longer restricted to the courtyard, and instead include people living on the streets, since 18 out of 26 SVdP Rapid Rehousing enrollments from the Courtyard were closed out due to the clients switching to Haven for Hope's program. Mrs. Katie Vela offered to speak with the city to advocate on behalf of these RRH programs for the change.

It was decided SARAH would generate a survey through Survey Monkey and distribute it to all the agencies for their feedback. It was suggested for surveys to be sent to agencies as a whole, as opposed to individual membership response.

12. Group Discussion: Sustainability of Veteran Housing

There was discussion on the best method for veteran housing sustainability and how to avoid veterans being evicted and returning to homelessness. American G.I. Forum conducts focus groups with veterans to discuss improvements and needs. Additionally, it was requested all agencies participate in the Veterans Workgroup to continue this discussion and generate solutions.

13. 2016 Schedule for Membership Council Meetings

*It was agreed the Membership Council would meet **monthly on the 3rd Tuesday, 3:00-5:00 p.m.***

Next Membership Council Meeting



June's Membership Council meeting will be held at the Food Bank on June 21, 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Agency Board Presentations

The SARAH Board requested solicitation of agency board presentations to learn more about programs providing homeless services. Presentations should be ten minutes and include an overview of the organization's mission, objectives, client success stories and performance measures. Family Endeavors volunteered to present at June's Board Meeting.

Meeting Venues

Various agencies offered their facility as a venue space for upcoming membership meetings.

14. Committees and Upcoming Events

Meeting	Point of Contact	Event Details
HMIS Committee	Katie Vela, SARAH	May 19, 3:00-4:00 pm SAMMinistries 5922 Blanco Rd., 78228
Coordinated Entry Committee	Luke Leppla, SARAH	May 23, 1:30-3:30 pm AGIF-NVOP 206 San Pedro, 78207
Veteran Working Group	Marc Wonder, COSA	May 25, 1:00-3:00 pm Head Start 1227 Brady Blvd, 78207
Performance Review Committee	Katie Vela, SARAH	June 14, 9:00-10:00 am Salvation Army 521 W Elmira, 78216
Upcoming Events		
2016 CSH Summit	Attending: Luke Leppla June 7 – June 11, Chicago, Illinois	
2016 National Conference on Ending Homelessness	Attending: Bill Hubbard, Katie Vela and Luke Leppla July 26 – July 28, Washington, D.C.	
Diversion Training for Coordinated Entry	Luke Leppla	June 30/July 1, 9:00a-6:00p Venue: AGIF, 206 San Pedro
2017 Point-in-Time Count	Luke Leppla	January 26, 2017, All Day Venue: Citywide, PIT HQ: TBD

15. Announcements

- ❖ *Mr. Chris Vidaurre, Family Endeavors – Announced the opening of the Steven A. Cohen Military Family Clinic. 6363 De Zavala Rd., Ste. 300, San Antonio, Texas 78249. The Intake Coordinator can be reached at (210) 399-4VET or info@familyendeavors.org. The new military clinic is open to all veterans regardless of military discharge or time in service. The medical services given are free of charge for the veteran and their family. Clinical services range from counseling, medication management, case management, life skills and wellness groups to post traumatic disorder.*
- ❖ *Mr. Scott Ackerson announced the City of San Antonio is expecting a Supportive Housing Consultant RFP solicitation post on May 25, 2016.*
- ❖ *Mr. Philip Rigney, the Executive Director of R.E.A.C.H., announced the Center for Juvenile Management is expected to open their runaway youth shelter by June 1st, 2016. This shelter will provide homeless prevention services and outreach for runaway youth. He can be reached at prigney@outlook.com.*

16. Adjournment

*The SARAH Membership Council Meeting was adjourned at **4:32 p.m.***

