**MINUTES**

Friday, May 17th, 2024, 10:00 a.m. – Noon

**VIRTUAL ONLY**

**Meeting Minutes & Other Resources:** [https://www.iowafinance.com/homelessness/homeless-service-agencies/iowa-council-on-homelessness/](about:blank)

Tim Wilson, chair, opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. A quorum of members was achieved.

**Attendance was reported through this link:** <https://tinyurl.com/May2024ICH>

* **Introductions** [**(member list)**](about:blank)
  + **Voting members:**
    - Ben Brustkern
    - Crissy Canganelli
    - Mariliegh Fisher
    - Rachel Geilenfeld
    - David Hagen
    - Mary Ingham
    - Dennis Lauterbach
    - Hope Metheny (vice-chair)
    - Ashley Schwalm
    - Tim Wilson (chair)
  + **Non-voting members (state agencies)**
    - Eugenia Kendall (DHHS)
    - James Pender (DHHS)
    - Karen Hyatt (DHHS)
    - Lori Miller (Attorney General)
    - Katrina Carter (Corrections)
    - Tyler Navin (Education)
    - Terri Rosonke (IFA)
    - John Ralls (Veterans Affairs)
    - William Berning (Workforce Development)
    - Vacant
* **Approval of Agenda** *(Action Item)*
  + Motion: Ben
  + Second: Mary
  + Unanimously approved
* **Approval of March 15, 2024 meeting minutes** *(Action Item)*
  + Motion: Hope
  + Second: Crissy
  + Unanimously approved
* **Public Comment Period:** A public comment period for the full meeting will be held at this time to accommodate visitors. This period is limited to 2 minutes per person and 10 minutes in total.
  + None
* **Moving On**
  + Update on discussions about future support for advocacy

Angela Arthur

Courtney reported that a planning group that has been meeting for the last several months to discuss the future of the council. Current members of the group are Angie, Crissy, Ben, Heath, J’nae, Brandy, and Julie. Courtney stated that there will be a proposed membership structure and a survey is being sent to stakeholders to start building the organization. Tim stated that other memberships have membership fees based on the size of the council.

* **Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Updates, Institute for Community Alliances** *(ICA)*
  + Suzie reported that the Point-In-Time and Housing Inventory Count have been submitted to HUD. The numbers have been present to the Balance of State and Homeward.
* **Continuum of Care (CoC) Updates**
  + Iowa Balance of State CoC (96 counties)
    - Courtney reported that they held their annual meeting yesterday with 70 people in attendance. She stated that they are currently preparing for the NOFO and applications open next week. She is waiting for HUD to release the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program NOFO and for a determination on the Youth Homelessness Systems Improvement grant they applied for with Homeward. Courtney reported they continue to work with Matt White on the statewide gap analysis. The BoS is working with lead agencies in each region to schedule focus groups. If interested in attending a focus group, contact the BoS.
  + Homeward (Polk County)
    - No updates reported.
  + Siouxland Coalition to End Homelessness (Woodbury County)
    - Clara reported that they are waiting for the NOFO for the next round of funding. She stated that they recently hosted a community meeting to discuss homelessness solutions. Attendants were business owners and public officials. They are waiting on information regarding the public awareness funding. She reports that they are planning to create public awareness videos to show the face of homelessness and share success stories. Clara stated that they are moving forward with two affordable housing units. Both will include 4 and 5 dedicated supportive housing units. Clara also reported that they recently had a groundbreaking for 11 affordable housing units.
  + Metro Area Continuum of Care for the Homeless (Pottawattamie County)
    - Jason reported that they have gone through a rebranding and are now Threshold CoC. Their website is thresholdcoc.org. He stated that the are awaiting the YDPH NOFO. He reports that they recently completed a gaps analysis and have a new strategic plan for the CoC.
* **State Agency Representative Updates** 
  + Department of Health & Human Services *(Eugenia Kendall,*

*James Pender, Karen Hyatt)*

Eugenia stated that they have been working on the IA SAIL Project (Iowa Solutions for Aging with Independence and Longevity). She reported that a press release should be coming in the next week. Eugenia asked the council to send county specific data of older persons served by shelter to her.

* + Office of the Attorney General *(Lori Miller)*
    - Lori reported that they are currently trying to figure out the Victim Assistance Funding and are hopeful they do not have to cut services. The Victim Assistance Funds were cut by 42%. She stated that they are working with Congress to restore funding and have been applying for other grants. Lori reported that they are hosting a crisis response with law enforcement training and a training with law enforcement on trauma informed responses.
  + Department of Corrections *(Katrina Carter)*
    - Not present
  + Department of Education *(Tyler Navin)*
    - Not present
  + Finance Authority *(Terri Rosonke)*
    - Not present
  + Department of Veterans Affairs *(John Ralls)*
    - John reported that they continue to work through the transition and staffing changes. He stated that the veteran’s home is doing well.
  + Workforce Development *(William Berning)*
    - Not present
* **Reflections** 
  + Historical and other observations from current or past ICH members
    - Reached out to long term council members for reflections
      1. Ben stated that he appreciates everyone for what they’ve done to move the council forward. David reported that it has been an honor to work with such a thoughtful and caring group. He hopes that the council will find a way to move forward. Mary stated that she’s enjoyed working with the group the last few years and hopes that they continue to do so. Hope reported that it’s been a wonderful opportunity for our organization to grow and to see what’s happening at the state level. Tim shared is gratitude to everyone past and current who has served on the council.
* **Old Business** 
  + None
* **New Business**
  + None
* **Adjourn**
  + Motion: Crissy
  + Second: David
  + Unanimously approved; the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:37 am

*Meeting minutes submitted by Mollie Brees*