

**Greater Bridgeport Area Continuum of Care
Housing Committee
May 9, 2007**

Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Jim Bombaci – Co-Chair, Judy Sklarz, Maxine Boykin, David Rich, Angie Staltano, Margaret Peabody and Tony Bonetti.

- I. Discussed DMHAS Supportive Services Funding
 - a. DMHAS is taking a new approach to supportive services currently funded.
 - b. DMHAS is asking providers to look at the clients they are currently serving. If certain clients are having limited or reduced services, then DMHAS is asking providers to take on another client.
 - c. No new service dollars, but rather redirects funds to other clients.
 - d. People served through supportive housing are intended to have a reduction in service needs over time.
 - e. There is a need to identify programs in Bridgeport who have these clients who need a lower level of care and use services elsewhere to create additional supportive housing units.
 - f. Tony will bring to the Wraparound Services Committee for action.
 - g. Recommended an agency be identified take lead in seeking housing subsidy dollars
- II. Steelpoint Update
 - a. David Rich indicated has had discussions with Bob Kantor and he is willing to introduce the Housing Committee to the Sr. Vice President regarding the project and possible investment
 - b. Discussed Committees actions moving forward
- III. Representative Ayala at June Meeting
 - a. Tony will follow up with Rose Christy to see if she has contacted Representative Ayala
 - b. Tony will also contact Carmen Colon to extend an invitation for the June Housing Committee Meeting
 - c. Purpose of meeting is to discuss how the committee can assist and make a difference in regards to housing policies and Steelpoint
- IV. David Boehlke and City Housing Policy Recommendations
 - a. General discussion concerning housing policy recommendations
 - b. Tony will call Kathy Hunter regarding David Boehlke's plan and when the best time would be for the CoC to make recommendations
 - c. Discussion of when the committee should act and whether to use the City Council as the avenue to move CoC agenda forward in city housing policies
- V. Discussed Funding Sources
 - a. Angie Staltano will have information from the Non-profit Resource Center for the next meeting.
 - b. Discussed GE Money that has targeted \$25 million to the Bridgeport area and gave to CHFA to distribute
 - i. Attach to housing tax credits to i.e. 4% to get affordable and supportive units
 - ii. Discussed funds could be used with Urban Green III or Park City
 - c. Discussed City of Bridgeport HOME Funding

- i. Committee is interested in learning the process for obtaining these funds and when they become available
 - ii. Sometimes HOME funds are complemented by CBDG funds
 - iii. Committee will ask Kathy Hunter if updates can be given to the committee on a regular (quarterly) basis of funding availability, how to apply, and balance
 - iv. HOME funds decided upon by Economic and Community Development Committee of the City Council
 - d. Discussed development of a quarterly funding availability update via e-mail with a calendar of when including bond money, service dollars, development dollars, consolidated in one location, and posted on website as well – Tony will begin work on such a document
- VI. Next Steps/Meeting
 - a. Meet with Representative Andres Ayala concerning Steelpoint and Housing Recommendations
 - b. Angie Staltano will bring information on non-traditional funding sources to next meeting.

Next meeting of the Housing Committee will be Wednesday, June 13, 2007 at 4 PM at the United Way of Eastern Fairfield County, 75 Washington Street, Bridgeport.