

GUAM HOMELESS COALITION

Regular Monthly Meeting

May 20, 2009

I. CALL TO ORDER

- Meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m.

II. ORGANIZATIONAL ROLL CALL

- Voting Members/Organizations: Amor Say (GHURA), Bernie Grajek (Guma Mami), AnnaMarie Kenny (Oasis), Greg Borja (Department of Veterans Affairs), Lou Hongyee (TSA); Reina Sanchez (DMHSA), Rob Zimmerman (Oasis), Sarah-Thomas Nededog (Sanctuary). Jesse Catahay (CSS) ,Ruth Leon Guerrero (DOL), Margarita Gay (PHSS),
-
- Non-Voting Members/Organizations: Simeon Palomo (Mental Health), Mark Martinez (CSS), Evelyn Cruz (CSS), Fred Gofigan (Veterans Affairs), Paula Perez (LRC), Juan Trinidad (TSA), Ken Roldan (TSA), Simeon Kihleng (TSA), Mary McEwen (TSA), Loisa Cabuhat (GAR Community Affairs), Doris Tolentino (Headstart), Ruth Leon Guerrero (DOL), Administering Agency (GHURA) Staff: Gina Cura, Alvina Castro and Kathy Taitano

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Bernie Grajek motioned to approve the April 20, 2009 minutes and was seconded by Amor Say. Motion carried.

IV. PRESENTATION: Early Intervention - Ms. Pat Mantonona

- Guam Early Intervention System is the lead agency within the Guam Public School System under the Special Education.
- The Early Intervention provides services based on IDEA, Individual with Disabilities Education Act. The Act that provides services to infants and toddlers and their families who may be eligible for early intervention services due to the delay of development, born with disabilities or may have some environmental or medical factors that may warrant the child to receive services.
- The agency work with the family as a whole in their natural setting by going out to the homes. They also provide settings in day care within the community.
- It is federal grant and apply for it yearly. The state must ensure that they provide services and tell the public who they are.
- Program is not mandatory. Service birth to 3 years of age. Handout shows who they are, services they provide and their contact number.
- The also provide services to infants and toddlers who need their service due to their environmental and mental factors. Such as teen moms, homeless situation, mom may have a mental impairment or cognitive impairment. Infants and toddlers who have been reported of being abuse.
- The agency also looks at parenting skills and educational skills.
- Staffing include a teacher, speech therapist, occupational therapist, vision and hearing consultant, social workers and a nurse. They have a nurse staffed at Guam Memorial Hospital.
- The families they need to reach are not being reached. If the COC members know of anyone that need these services, please refer them to Guam Early Intervention.

- Early Intervention office recently moved and will be informing the group of their new location.
- Pamphlets regarding their services were distributed to the members for further information.

V. DEBRIEFING OF THE COC: Brian Johnson – HUD Honolulu Field Office

- Expressed to the group that he was here to monitor ESG. Debriefing may be still in the webcast on Hud.gov.
- The debriefing used to be specifically CoC where you get a lot of information on what you did right and what you didn't do right. But for legal reasons HUD stop providing this information.
- Debriefing is now generic across the country and it tells you about the changes on scoring. This year was the first time that CoC funding was done through E-Snaps. They received comments on the E-Snaps and a group had a lot of input which would be taken into consideration. Next year we will see a lot of improvements in the application process.
- One of the problems they cited is when Exhibits 1 and 2 were not submitted correctly it would count against you.
- Biggest reason in a change of scores across the country is on homeless needs and data collection and CoC performance. They boosted the points up a lot.
- Previous CoC where the funding was done with 60 points they increased it to 100 points. When they did the increase, they boosted performance and homeless need and data collection. Even if you submitted the same application that you did last year where you had a good score, you could see a drop in your score. HMIS looks at chronically homeless whether or not they transitioning to permanent housing and are they stable.
- Participating in the AHAR and the housing inventory chart helps your score.
- Make sure that you are filling out the housing inventory chart correctly.
- Part 5 Emphasis on Housing Activities. Two of the CoC's balance of State of Hawaii and city and county of Honolulu. What they have been trying to do with their emphasis on housing activities and their supportive services and their relationship. They look at the funding as to what goes towards supportive services and what goes towards housing activities. The more money you put on housing activities could increase your score. Move more of the operations money into SHP and have supportive service side have another source of funding and, therefore, have more on the housing activities side. There are two agencies requesting for a budget change to do this.
- One of the most important change by HUD is in the drawdown. The drawdown has to be done quarterly. HUD headquarters is looking at this for performance. Sometimes grant goes up to the end of the year and the grantee hardly drawsdown anything. The agencies are lapsing money into the system. This is one step that HUD headquarters is trying to improve. If grantees don't spend down their money, funds will be de-obligated upon grant closure.
- CoC as a whole, control the Continuum of Care, and can make decision on the ranking. Agencies that are not performing well can be placed on the bottom where there is a chance they would not get funding or the CoC could decide not to fund them at all. This is risky because if you put a renewal project on the bottom and put a new project on the top and you don't get the funding for the new project, the renewal project on the bottom may also get cut.
- In reference to not using the funds and losing it, it was discussed that once the funding is de-obligated, it can not be reprogrammed to another program. The funds are lost. However, going into renewal you can change the agency you are contracting with. This is done through GHURA. Brian Johnson will check what can be done in the middle of the grant when funds are not being used how funds can be reprogrammed.
- Each year when CoC are going to the application process and through the ranking process, scoring is based on performance and past performance. You can include participation on the meetings itself. CoC in Honolulu makes it mandatory to attend the meetings.

- HUD also looks at the performance through the APR. Members discussed obtaining APR from the programs during the review process.
- Members discussed strategies in keeping monies with the grantee. Also, discussed diversifying and options. Discussed ways for better tracking of whether or not grantees are meeting their quarterly draw downs.

Amor indicated that we are now working on the 2008 funding and we are looking forward to the 2009 grant cycle. She asked Greg Borja, in charge of the planning committee for the NOFA Continuum of Care, to start meeting and planning on strategies of improving scores. Brian Johnson indicated that he will provide Honolulu and Balance of State and provide the CoC.

After the presentation of Brian Johnson, members discussed improving the application score. Emphasis on participation in the HMIS and its importance.

VI. REPORTS

- **LIHENG** - 30 units filled, 4 units not filled, one family approved for admission.
Caridad –2 units available for homeless and disabled, there is a wait list.
- **TSA Lighthouse Recovery Center** – Available beds residential – 4, Detox 3, Shelter Plus Care – 4 available housing. Changes in the program – still waiting to move in to the new building – problem with the water suppression that controls are water sprinkler system.
New projects – Director is working on revamping the policies and procedures and client handbook to fit the new building.
Accomplishments – moved 2 clients from SPC and moved to HUD Vash. Working real close with Greg Borja. Challenges – keeping up with the reporting process and funding.
Outreach - May 19; from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Far north from Swamp road and as far as Merizo. Saw alot of new camp sites.
- **One-Stop (TSA)** – Assisted 180 adults, 175 children = total 355; assisted 4 families with utilities, 8 families with rental and 5 with utilities, 36 households with food, clothing 15 which totaled to \$1, 256, fifteen families with shoes, 4 households with furniture \$255. Of those assisted, seventy nine attended money management . Two home visits, 7 transportation assistance, 300 information over the phone. Started a tutorial program (ESL) at Gil Baza on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.. 25 children attended last week. Funded by Citibank.
- **Oasis** – One available bed that 2 women are applying for. 22 outpatient program. Completing an application for Second Chance.

V. Old Business – table d

VI. New Business- HMIS Training from June 22-25, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Priority are for those receiving HPRP and receiving HUD funds.

VIII. Announcements


- Ruth (DOL) asked the group if their clients are job ready. If not, please refer them to One-Stop. There is adult funding coming in. Get in touch with with Karen Taitano.
- Doris Tolentino (Headstart) passed out flyers regarding registration for this coming school year. Inform families that registration will be at the Asan Community Center. They can also come to the agencies on specific days. Doris asked Paula to include her on the Outreach to help and inform homeless families about headstart.

- Bernie Grajek reminded everyone about the Guma Mami's Creative Spirits Art Exhibit next Friday at the Infinite Gallery. Lots of good food, prizes and art work. She also invited everyone to stop by the Sagan Mami Drop In and Enrichment Center for those interested. Bernie expressed interest in going out with Paula to do Outreach. Bernie also informed the group that she received more first aid kits for the supplier by mistake and does not want it back. These kits can be used during the outreach.
- Reina Sanchez (DMHSA) invited members as part of their Mental Awareness Week to the St. Dina on Friday. Mass at 10:00 o'clock than lunch.
- Congratulations to Simeon Palomo for his new job at Guam Museum.
- Sarah-Thomas Nededog (Sanctuary) asked about the economic stimulus money coming to Guam. She wanted to know what we can do to participate in helping GHURA respond to those so that Guam would not lose out in funding. Amor said that she will get back to the members.

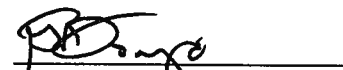
II. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Bernie Grajek and seconded by Amor Say. Meeting was adjourned 11:55 p.m.

MINUTES PREPARED BY:


 Lou Hongyee, GHC Secretary

MINUTES APPROVED BY:


 Greg Borja, GHC Vice- Chairperson