



Pre-Summit Meeting Results 4/5/2019

Mayor Robinson and Commissioner May:

The group unanimously applauds both of your efforts to push the community to doing something about the homeless crisis. Many communities across Florida lacks the support from their officials, so thank you. While there are many approaches to addressing homelessness, many of us have very good ideas about what should be done. Because we are so diverse in the populations that we serve, specific approaches vary. It is the desire of Opening Doors NWFL and our partners to provide you both with information you may want to consider.

Gathering homeless information about the programs and outcomes that have been effective over the years may move you to rethinking a CAYA. For example, at the end of 2018, we (Catholic Charities, Waterfront, Loaves & Fishes, Women with Clear Vision, Opening Doors, 90Works, and Lakeview Center) successfully housed 438 households. This data report is derived from HMIS and has resulted in a reduction in homelessness for the 2019 Point in Time count. We have seen consistent declines in our homeless population over the past 3 years because we chose to support existing programs that work. Reductions in the chronically homeless, homeless families, homeless individuals, and homeless veterans could not be achieved if it wasn't for coordination and trained clinical staff. You should know that partnerships, workgroups, and grant collaborations among service providers takes place throughout the year. A way the county and city could address homelessness is by supporting collaborations among service providers and fund those initiatives that directly reduce the appearance of homelessness. Listed below, are results from the discussion that took place on 4/4/2018. We look forward to working together to address homelessness in our community.



Define a “Come as You Are” (CAYA). Is it:

- Sub-stations (scattered sites serving 10-12 per site)
- ASU: Stabilize access and defer
- A controlled tent city
- Full or limited access for those that are drunk or high
- CAYA staffed with experienced clinicians or untrained personnel (glorified babysitters)

What is the goal, what are we trying to resolve? Is it:

- Panhandling issues
- Address homeless behaviors
- Blight to the community
- Early Homeless Prevention (Households with Children)
- Identify causes of homelessness
- Streamline collaboration among service providers
- Improve health and wellness for the homeless
- Develop a safe discharge plan for those with less than a \$100.00 bond
- Eliminate daily shelter costs for shelter admissions
- Improve awareness of where to send clients for help
- Address high utilizers of services
- Develop a homeless system of care

Concerns:

- Transportation barriers
- Organizations re-inventing the wheel instead of collaborating together
- Hospitals need a discharge option
- Law enforcement need a diversion option
- High Risk- High Cost Individuals “who are not being engaged”.



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- Those who want to remain homeless “No desire to come out of Career Homelessness”
- CAYA may increase the use of drugs and alcohol
- How would the CAYA be funded? One time? Reoccurring?
- CAYA would potentially draw the homeless from other communities
 - Risk of the homeless population increasing.
- The lack of safe community data sharing amongst agencies
- How to support those in place that don’t want to be helped
- Community awareness: alternative ways to give that does not contribute to panhandling
- Opioid crisis: drug usage

What is working?

- Case Management “for those who want it”.
- An HMIS assessment tools that provide levels of vulnerability
- Health care for the homeless provided by Community Health
- Implementation of Fed & State funding HVRP, HUD VASH, SSVF, ESG and Challenge Grant
- Opening Doors Low Barrier Housing Initiative
- Sean’s Outpost AKA Satoshi Forest
- 90Works SSVF to house veterans
- Waterfront Rescue Mission’s Employment Program
- Lakeview Center’s Baker Act reductions of 12%
- Referral process to other agencies
- Street Outreach to homeless individuals



Recommendations/Solutions

- Charter social service providers to work together
- Require that outside agency funding from the county or the city connect with the Coordinated Entry
- One Stop Shop and Shelter (multiple agencies under one roof)
- Pay for the cost to support the sharing of data
- Develop a safe way to discharge low bond homeless into the care of a service provider
 - Reallocate saved funds to support this initiative
- If plans are to implement a CAYA, insist on professional clinical staff
- Engender law enforcement for both city and county to sit on the CoC board
- Instead of funding a CAYA, fund multiple projects that have proven outcomes that reduce homelessness
- Before any steps are taken, be aware of programs that are already working
- Support scattered site projects that house 10-12 homeless at a time
- City and County Government could designate Project Based and Sec 8 vouchers to special needs (serve the homeless)



Opening Doors Planned Trainings for 2019 – 2020

1. Which trainings are important and relevant to you? (Mark X by topics of interest)

X	TOPIC
X	Coordinated Entry
X	Homeless-Specific Housing Interventions (ES, TH, RRH, PSH)
	Transitioning PSH Participants to Other Subsidized Housing
	Developing a Housing First System
X	CoC Strategies to Improve Collaboration with Managing Entities
	Documenting Homeless History
X	Case Management and Housing Retention
X	By-Name List Prioritization
X	Innovative Approaches to Address Homelessness
X	Housing First PSH Programs
X	Low Barrier Emergency Shelter
X	HUD NoFA
X	The Housing First Model
X	Engaging Tenants in Services
X	Eviction Prevention and Working with Landlords
X	Coordinating Property Management and Supportive Services
X	Harm Reduction in Practice
X	Trauma Informed Care and Motivational Interviewing