Wake County CoC Membership Meeting		
MINUTES	**Date:** May 10, 2021	**Time:** 2:00 – 3:30 PM EST
Topic:	Defining System and Program Outcomes Targets	
Location:	https://abtassociates.webex.com/abtassociates/j.php?MTID=m12ca14e3f8529c88a404ad95e478ce73	
Facilitator:	Marni Cahil, CoC Board Chair	
Note taker:	Crystal Folmar, RWPEH	

	Agenda
1	Welcome and today's topics - Are you a CoC Member? Marni Cahill presents themselves as the Board Chair of Wake County's CoC and explains the purpose, role, and duties of a CoC - Whitney Patterson is introduced and presents today's meeting topic as Defining Outcomes and Targets. Its explained that this is necessary as a HUD requirement and that these outcomes are scored in the CoC Program NOFA, continuing to explain it also aid to identify areas in need of improvement and develop strategies to do so, and finally it's useful when rating and ranking priorities for projects that request funding
2	System Performance Map - A system Performance Map is displayed and explained by Whitney and Jasmin - It is first clarified that two groups are not included in the data for the map: those that were unsheltered during the entire year and DV victims (which are excluded from the database). - Some key findings to the data presented on the map: Only 6% went from being unsheltered to a RRH project and 2% from being unsheltered to a PSH project. The vast majority of people are served through ES first. For those that are in ES projects, 83% were not connected with neither a RRH nor PSH program. Lastly, 1,890 households remained in homelessness, demonstrating a lack of necessary housing resources in the system. - In summary, our system does not appear to have the necessary resources for people to exit homelessness or to prioritize housing as a human right - It is explained that this data comes from HMIS, highlighting the importance to enter accurate information into the database.
3	Wake County is Under-Resourced Compared to Comparable Sized CoCs - Whitney goes on to explain that Wake County's CoC is under-resourced in comparison with many other comparable CoCs. A chart is displayed with PIT counts for nearly 30 CoCs across the US with PIT counts similar to those in Wake County (974) in 2020 and a large difference in financial resources is observed. - The median 2020 GIW of these CoCs is about 6million and Wake County received 3.3 million. - A comparison is drawn between Wake County's CoC and Fairfield County's CoC in Connecticut, a suburb of NYC. Both counties have similar population sizes, 2020 1-bedroom FMRs, cost of living, but Fairfield received 13.2 million for their 2020 CoC Award in contrast with Wake County's 3.3million award - It is explained that the amount of money awarded to each CoC is based on outcomes reported each year, there are also bonus programs offered in each NOFA and Wake County's application last year for the bonus was not funded. - Some data differences highlighted: Between 2012 and 2020, Fairfield's funding grew by 62% and Wake County's grew by 27%. In 2012, Wake's PIT count was 1,116 and Fairfield's was 902; in 2020 Wake's PIT Count is 974 and Fairfield's 697. Fairfield placed great emphasis on ending chronic homelessness and say a significant decrease in their numbers of chronic homelessness while Wake experienced a 6% increase.

	• It is noted that these two counties are not perfect comparisons as Wake County also experienced overall population growth of 23% during this time.
2	Defining Outcomes and Targets • Jasmin begins to lead a dialogue on what the CoC should focus on to improve outcomes in the future. It is explained that the community's scores from the most recent year, 2019 were assessed along with historical date to identify which areas Wake has historically scored lower (compared to the national average), which CoC-funded projects have disparities in performance. Jasmin elaborates that this is the beginning of a conversation about system and project performance and the focus is housing projects considering the upcoming NOFA. Other system components (outreach, shelter, CA, etc. will be incorporated in the near future) • It is stressed that HUD funding is competitive, thus the importance to align goals and improve outcomes in the future in order to receive more funding. The three outcomes focused on today and the score they received most recently by HUD are: Length of Time Homeless (8/14, 57%), Returns to Homelessness (4/8, 50%), and Job income and growth (8/15, 53%). • <u>Length of Time People Experience Homelessness:</u> A graphic is shown displaying data from 2018, 2019, and 2020, it is explained that the data was captured in the LSA and includes the number of households or individuals that spent at least one day in shelter during those years. This number is 3,714 in 2018, 3,589 in 2019, and 2,696 in 2020. • <u>People who Obtained Housing and then Experienced Homelessness Again:</u> Two graphics are observed that show the percent of households that returned to the homeless system within six months of exiting to a permanent destination. The first includes information for those households that exited in the first 6 months of the Current Report Period. In this case, an overall return rate of 11% is observed. The second graphic includes information for those households that exited in the 12 months prior to the current report period. In this case, an overall return rate of 16% is observed. In both instances, much higher rates of return are observed among single adults in comparison to Adult & Child or Child only households. It is reminded that all data is collected from HMIS, for this reason it is important to include accurate data for every person served with correct move-in dates. • <u>People in CoC-</u>funded Housing's Experience with Increasing and Sustaining Income: It is explained that this outcome is measure 4: Employment and Income growth for Homeless Persons in CoC Program-funded projects and six tables are displayed to understand Wake County's current score on this metric comparing the differences observed from 2019 to 2020. The first table shows data regarding the change in earned income for adult system stayers during the reporting period and -1% change is observed when measuring the percentage of adults who increased earned income. The second table shows information regarding the changes in non-employment income for adult system stayers during the reporting period and a -4% change is observed for those who increased non-employment income. The third table shows a -5% change in the percentage of adult system-stayers who increased total income. The fourth table begins to show data for adult system leavers and observes a -6% change in adults who left the system and increased earned income. The fifth table displays a -5% change of adult system leavers who increased non-employment cash income. Lastly, the sixth table displays a -10% change of adult system leavers who increased total income. --Break-Out Groups are identified and meeting participants each join one to participate--
3	Wake Data Focus: Break-out Groups • <u>Length of Time Homeless:</u> No specific targets set, a discussion takes place regarding the importance of data quality and offering ongoing HMIS training to organizations to ensure accurate data input as well as clear understanding of specific terms/definition to ensure uniform reporting across the COC (i.e. What's the definition of a temporary destination vs. a permanent destination? What is the definition of a positive outcome?). Also identified as a key to reducing

		length of time homeless is the importance of having open conversations among organizations about policies and processes to identify which projects or households are experiencing success and why or why not. Additionally, the limited amount of affordable housing in the area is identified as a barrier and it was suggested that the CoC must dedicate more resources to RRH for singles since they are the largest group not obtaining housing and currently most of these resources are dedicated to assist families.
		• Returns to Homelessness: A goal of a 5% reduction is determined to be reasonable, and the importance of targeting those households that exited ES or SO into PH and returned is identified. It is noted that RRH returns are much higher than the average and this intervention must be prioritized for those with high needs. It was suggested that support could be expanded for those households that self-exit in the form of providing assistance to those who wish to self-resolve that includes a follow up process with after care supports. Targeted prevention is another intervention discussed since it is observed that people seeking prevention funds that have previously experienced homelessness are more likely to experience homelessness again, targeted prevention funding for this population could be useful. The group also discusses the importance of addressing co-morbidities and supporting the household to access employment and income benefits, making sure they are connected to main-stream resources as well as SOAR case workers.
• Increasing and Sustaining Income: A goal is set for 80% and both short-term and long-term solutions are discussed. Short-term solutions identified include immediately connecting clients to benefits and other resources that can increase their income, i.e. most clients should be applying for SNAP as soon as they enter a program. Long-term solutions include connections to SOAR, SSDI/SSI, employment and work-force development opportunities. Finally, the need to coordinate on a system-wide level is stressed; if one provider has a connection to a job force development resource, efforts should be made to make this resource available CoC-wide to all people experiencing homelessness.
4		Wrap up & Next Steps
• Thanks to everyone for their participation in today's conversation, moving forward this information will be included in a cohesive document that will be presented to the governance board so strategies may be implemented in order to achieve outlined goals. Again, today's conversation topics were prioritized due to the upcoming NOFA, within the CoC committees these goals will be discussed, and action steps identified.
6		Meetings & Announcements:
• CoC Digest: En lieu of the space provided on the previous 2pm CoC check-in calls to make announcements, please submit your event, announcement, or job posting in this form as Jenn will send updates to all CoC members as a digest: https://wakecoc.org/wake-coc-digest-submittal/
• CoC Governance Board Meetings are open to the public and held the 4th Thursday of each month 5:30-6:45 pm. The link to join these virtual meetings can be found on the Partnership Calendar at: https://partnershipwake.org/calendar/
• The next CoC Membership meeting will take place Monday, June 14, 2021 5:30 – 6:45pm
• Gratitude to: Marni for facilitating the meeting, Whitney and Twan for additional facilitation, Jasmin for data analysis and explanation, all members who attended and participated

Meeting Chat Messages (main session):
from Whitney Patterson to everyone: 2:01 PM

Welcome, everyone! We'll just give people a few more minutes to join. In the meantime, please feel free to put any questions you have about the system map in the chat :)

from Whitney Patterson to everyone: 2:03 PM |

https://wakecoc.org

from Rick Miller-Haraway to everyone: 2:12 PM

You said that unsheltered people for the entire year are not shown in the stats. Are we tracking the unsheltered people served at Oak City Cares?

from Jasmin Volkel to everyone: 2:13 PM

Yes - that information is in HMIS but doesn't pull into this system map generated by HUD

from Rick Miller-Haraway to everyone: 2:16 PM

Why are we getting so much less than the median award?

from Rick Miller-Haraway to everyone: 2:17 PM

Are we able to ask for more than we are asking for?

from Decorba White to everyone: 2:18 PM

I think we have to earn it through outcomes

from Rick Miller-Haraway to everyone: 2:20 PM

Isn't it hard to earn it thru outcomes when you don't have the funding to get better outcomes.

from MARNI CAHILL to everyone: 2:21 PM

Exactly! That's why we all have to work together to achieve outcomes. That's the way to get more funding.

from Jenn to everyone: 2:25 PM

Federal goals could really drive our local strategic plans

from Decorba White to everyone: 2:26 PM

Correct Marni

from natalie mabon to everyone: 2:26 PM

In the past has the strategic plans focused on Federal goals or more specifically our community needs?

from Rick Miller-Haraway to everyone: 2:26 PM

So are you saying that the way to earn more funding is to put the vast majority of our resources to chronic homelessness? If so, how do we help those who are in episodic homelessness with decreased resources going to those services?

from Frank Baldiga to everyone: 2:27 PM

Is the PIT count that important? It's a very imprecise measurement of homelessness. Depends on alot of factors including how well we find the unsheltered in the community

from Peter Morris to everyone: 2:27 PM

faIRFILED GREW BY 4% SINCE 2010 WHILE WAKE CO GREW BY 24%

from Whitney Patterson to everyone: 2:29 PM

@Frank, PIT count is one snapshot, but most of the questions in the NOFA that Jasmin is discussing right now look at System Performanc Measures, which looks at the full year's data rather than just the PIT count snapshot

from Whitney Patterson to everyone: 2:31 PM

Meant to say, the look at chronic homelessness that I showed is a bit of an over-simplification. Chronic homelessness is just one area of what you are scored on. But, it is an example of how a very targeted approach is directly tied to your scores

from Meredith Yuckman to everyone: 2:32 PM

What about street outreach and RRH beds? We got 0 points in both of those areas.

from Whitney Patterson to everyone: 2:32 PM

Yep, so the RRH question asked if you had more RRH beds in 2019 than 2018. You got 0 points because your RRH beds didn't increase

from Rick Miller-Haraway to everyone: 2:33 PM

Do we know how much $ Fairfield requested and what percentage of their request they received? Is it possible and better to request much higher levels of our traditional funding

from Whitney Patterson to everyone: 2:33 PM

The NOFA dictates how much money you're allowed to apply for (usually as a percentage of your current allocation)

from Decorba White to everyone: 2:33 PM

All outcomes matter.

from Rick Miller-Haraway to everyone: 2:33 PM

That certainly makes it harder to increase your funding regardless of your outcomes.

from Whitney Patterson to everyone: 2:35 PM

It is for sure a challenge and not necessarily the most equitable way to allocate funds

from Decorba White to everyone: 2:35 PM

It makes sense

from lisa to everyone: 2:36 PM

Are funding sources paying for support with improving income? If not, it seems hard to score high on that or have an expectation about increased income?

from Whitney Patterson to everyone: 2:37 PM

For encouragement--in Houston, we started in a very similar situation but as a result of using the resources we did have more effectively, Houston has more than doubled their CoC allocation in 10 years and has been consistently getting all of the bonus funds they can apply for

from Beth Bordeaux she/her to everyone: 2:37 PM

I wonder if the data were stronger in data quality, would that show our outcomes more accurately - if we actually are doing slightly better than it looks like? I'm thinking of low hanging fruit.

from Engine 9 A-Shift to everyone: 2:37 PM

Could this presentation be shared to the group for future referance? We would love to use this as a referance here at the Town of Cary. -Travis Hansen

from Engine 9 A-Shift to everyone: 2:39 PM

Okay, thank you. Is there PowerPoint for quick reference?

from Decorba White to everyone: 2:41 PM

So it is basically counterproductive to do an HMIS on someone in a SUD treatment program who is not homeless?

from Kim Crawford to everyone: 2:41 PM

recording and presentation will be posted.

from Whitney Patterson to everyone: 2:41 PM

SSI/SSDI

from Rick Miller-Haraway to everyone: 2:45 PM

Are you joining length of time homeless group

from Whitney Patterson to everyone: 2:46 PM

If anyone has trouble joining, you can ask here in the chat

from Rick Miller-Haraway to everyone: 2:46 PM

It doesn't show the breakout groups in the participants in the browser

from Rick Miller-Haraway to everyone: 2:48 PM

Next time, please be prepared to include all in the breakout rooms

from Whitney Patterson to everyone: 2:51 PM

Feel free to type here which breakout group you want to join and we can try to move you over :)

from Kayla Thompson to everyone: 3:01 PM

As a reminder if you would like for me to place you manually into a breakout session, please let me know and I would be happy to do so.

from Mark Swallow to everyone: 3:04 PM

please manually assign me

from Mark Swallow to everyone: 3:05 PM

no

from Whitney Patterson to everyone: 3:25 PM

good follow up to that point: looking at your rates of "exit to unknown" and improving that data if needed

from Rick Miller-Haraway to everyone: 3:31 PM

Great comments Kim. It is good to have a CoC governing board in place and that we are looking together as a CoC at outcomes and how we can improve