



Community Services Department

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HSBC Executive Board Meeting
March 8, 2019 8:00a.m.-10:00a.m.
2525 13th Street, Large Conference Room
Boulder

Welcome and Introductions	8:00
Discuss Year 1 Review Staff Recommendations	8:05-9:30
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Long-term system direction• System improvements• Call for vote on staff recommendations	
Year 1 Report Updates	9:30-9:45
Member Updates	9:45-9:55
Public Comment	9:55-10:00
Adjourn	10:00

HSBC Executive Board Meeting
March 8, 2019, 8:00-10:00am
2525 13th St, Boulder
Large Conference Room

In Attendance: Jim Adams-Berger, Frank Alexander, Robin Bohannon, Sarah Buss (via phone), Karen Kreutzberg, Joni Marsh, Karen Roney, Wendy Schwartz, Annie Scott, Jeff Zayach,
Guests: Tajshen Campbell, Robin Ryan, Mike Stratton

Public Comment

A community member shared some personal concerns about her experiences at the Boulder Shelter for the Homeless related to treatment by staff and perceived safety issues. The Board committed to reviewing these concerns with the Shelter by the following Monday and providing a response back to this individual.

Discuss Year 1 Review Staff Recommendations

The Board discussed the need to recommend a path forward for the HSBC system. It was noted that the HSBC Implementation Team has done extensive work to engage stakeholders and explore the best strategies to move forward. HSBC guiding principles were shared, as well as space/time considerations, especially regarding the expiration of the lease on the 30th Street site after May of 2020. It was noted that nearly \$2.6 million was spent on Housing-focused Shelter, Navigation Services and Boulder Severe Weather Shelter in Year 1, while \$652,000 was put towards housing investments. It was concluded that program spending should be brought into greater alignment with the values of HSBC moving forward. It was shared that approximately 15% of clients served in Year 1 were helped to solutions, but that the system cannot depend on this ratio of outflow. The Board was presented with four possible options:

- **Option A:** Continue to provide the current service array except that sheltering in Longmont would expand to year-round operations.
- **Option B:** Continue to provide the current service array, expand shelter in Longmont to year-round operations, and obtain and invest \$10 million dollars per year in rent assistance and services (estimate based on demand for housing resources among clients who have been in the County for at least one month).
- **Option C:** Provide diversion services to all clients; refer clients who have been in the county for at least six months to Housing-focused Shelter or Navigation services if diversion is not appropriate; consolidate Boulder Navigation sheltering Boulder Shelter for the Homeless; provide Severe Weather Sheltering at a to-be-determined location in the City of Boulder; continue Longmont Navigation Services year-round through faith community partnerships, reallocate some operating budget items towards known housing resource needs; and obtain and invest \$1.0 million of additional funding to support housing exits. Note with this option that clients in the County less than 6 months would have access to diversion services, excess bed capacity if available, and severe weather shelter - an exception would be made for domestic violence survivors.
- **Option D:** This Option is the same as Option C except that it excludes Severe Weather Sheltering.

The Board determined that Option B is not in line with the Boulder County Regional Affordable Housing plan and expressed concern over securing the estimated \$10 million dollars. Regarding Option C, Jennifer Biess clarified that diversion is a program model used to identify alternatives to shelter grounded in strengths-based conversations; there would need to be a flexible financial resource attached to the program and funding for two case managers, as well as policies and procedures for operationalizing the model. Other comments and concerns around Option C included verification of time in the County, differently handling domestic violence clients both in terms of documentation and coordination with the Family Resource Network services, the decrease in year-round beds by 50 beds and the possibility of having a greater number of unsheltered homeless clients. In the end, however, the Board agreed to recommend Option C.

Call for Vote on Staff Recommendations

Frank Alexander motioned that the Board approve Option C. Jeff Zayach seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously. Robin Bohannon noted that she and Jennifer Biess will have a meeting with the Board of County Commissioners to present this decision and related information and the decision will be made public at the City of Boulder level by Friday March 14th or earlier. The group discussed the importance of developing public support for this approach and in connecting efforts to the Boulder County Regional Housing Partnership. The need for a communications plan with clear talking points was discussed as well.

Year 1 Report Updates

Recommendations were taken from the last Board meeting, and the Year 1 report is nearing completion. The Board's decision about moving forward with Options C as well as language alignment with the Boulder County Regional Housing Plan will also be incorporated into the report; copies will likely be available next week.

Member Updates

It was noted that the Metro Denver Homeless Initiative has a new Executive Director, Matt Meyer, who will be taking part in upcoming Board meetings. The City of Boulder also has a new Homeless Initiatives Manager, Vicki Ebner. It was also noted that the City of Boulder Manager/Boulder County Leadership meeting has been analyzing the pros and cons of a County-wide ballot initiative for affordable housing in either 2019 or 2020 and have come to a consensus that 2019 would be most ideal. Regarding other initiatives towards affordable housing, the Boulder County Regional Housing Partnership is rolling out a "Home Wanted" campaign around the need for affordable housing and there is also a legislative stakeholder group working on affordable housing proposals at the Legislature.

Adjourn at 10:00am

Next Meeting:

Date: April 12, 2019

Time: 8-10am

Location: Longmont Hub, 515 Coffman St. Room 321