

## New Mexico Coalition to End Homelessness

### **Balance of State IRC Meeting Wednesday, May 19, 2021**

#### 1. Attendance and quorum

Hana Gosset (NMCEH), Eva St. John (Creative Consulting Solutions), Tristin Mahoney (CYFD), Nathan Fuhr (NMCEH), Anita Dunmar (Century Bank), Kate Cleaver (NMCEH), and Lisa Howley (BHSD)

A quorum was established and the meeting was called to order at 1:04 pm.

#### 2. Meeting Summary

The IRC committee met to discuss current evaluation methods and processes and identify ways to update processes for accuracy and efficiency.

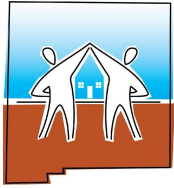
#### 3. Discussion of Evaluation Process and possible adoption of new structure for BoS

NMCEH convened a group of CoC providers to solicit feedback on the IRC process for BoS CoC based on concerns and feedback shared during the FY19 and FY20 evaluation process that NMCEH staff took part in. NMCEH shared this feedback with the IRC ahead of the meeting and discussed it with them at the meeting to provide context and elaborate on the issues that were brought up by the CoC recipients. Through this, NMCEH showed the BoS CoC recipients the Albuquerque documents and process for evaluation, which hold high transparency of the process, measures, and components of the score. NMCEH has received feedback from stakeholders that the process outlined for the Albuquerque CoC appears as though it works well and the document outlining the process is clearly structured and provides more insight to the IRC in their evaluation process.

NMCEH went on to elaborate the details of the Albuquerque process to ensure that the IRC was fully informed of the differences between the BoS process used and the current ABQ process. Albuquerque adopted the use of the threshold chart in 2019. It was figured that there are certain criteria that are considered core requirements of CoC funded programs and that it seemed likely HUD would not support the renewal of projects not meeting them.

The question was posed to the committee of whether or not this method would be feasible for the Balance of State. It was agreed by the members that the chart was useful as it provides more insight into the process for those who are less familiar with how projects are determined to be in compliance and improves general understanding of the process.

The question was raised by the committee of how the determinations were made between the three separate categories of “pass”, “fail”, and “pass with comment.” It was clarified that the “pass with comment” determination was made to allow agencies that did not fully meet the requirements but had room to come into full compliance by providing a written explanation outlining how they would. The IRC would then have the



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discretion to make the determination of whether or not to accept the explanation provided by the agency as qualifying them for the “pass with comment” status instead of “fail” for that measure.

This process only evaluates an agencies’ CES participation on whether or not they have at least one staff member who is trained in administering the VI-SPDAT. The reason for this being that the CES for the BoS is still in development and is not in a place where everyone can participate consistently, beyond this one measure. In ABQ, the CES is fully implemented, but the system operates differently than BoS in that the CES team is the one pulling from the CES list and providing referrals based on who is next on the prioritization list.

IRC members reviewed the measures in the scoring chart used by the Albuquerque IRC for program evaluation. It was noted that Albuquerque stopped using the cost effectiveness measure and in its place now looks at utilization, as it was found that the measure did not account for people with long length of program stays.

IRC members agreed that adopting the scoring chart for the BoS would be beneficial, as it has been successful in Albuquerque it would be reasonable to assume that it would be helpful elsewhere, as well as having more consistency between the CoC’s and providing more transparency for the BoS IRC and CoC providers.

A vote was taken on whether or not to adopt the reviewed documents for the BoS CoC IRC. Eva made a motion to approve, which was seconded by Tristin with none opposed. The motion passed unanimously. It was agreed that the CoC team would next craft drafts of the documents to be specific to BoS for review at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:03 pm.

*Minutes compiled by Kate Cleaver, CoC Program Officer*