



Continuum of Care Annual Meeting

Wednesday, August 11, 2021, 9:00 a.m.

Via Zoom

Kevin Stiff, CoC Leadership Council Chair

Chris Johnson, Chief Executive Officer Suncoast Partnership

- I. **Welcome**
- II. **Introductions**
 - Please fill out the digital sign-in sheet
- III. **Approval of June 16, 2021 Minutes**
- IV. **Suncoast Partnership Board Chair - Phil Gorelick**
- V. **Governance Charter Review and Approval**
- VI. **Community Information Items**
 - CSIS Update
 - Suncoast Partnership Updates
 - Funding Updates
- VII. **Presentation: "Data to Dollars – What's Our Community's Star Rating?" - Chris Johnson**
- VIII. **Leadership Council Elections**
- IX. **General Announcements and Public Comments**
- X. **Adjourn**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

CoC Leadership Council Meeting

Thursday, September 9, 2021 (3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.)

TBD

Continuum of Care Meeting

Wednesday, October 20, 2021 (9 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.)

TBD

Go to suncoastpartnership.org for 2021 meeting schedules



Annual Continuum of Care General Members

Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, August 11th, 2021, 9:00 a.m.

Location: Via Zoom

Attendees: Andy Guyre, Turning Points; Renese Remy, Manatee County Government; Nickie Hartsock, SPARCC; Kayden Taylor, CAN Community Health; Shellie Legarsky, JFCS; Jessica Hays, SPARCC; James Clegg, Esq., Gulfcoast Legal Services, Inc.; Michael Richker, GRASP; Brittany Elkins, Centerstone; Debbie Robinson, Catholic Charities; Nancy DeLoach, Sarasota County Government; Lue Richardson, Department of Veterans Affairs; Antonia Quiros, Goodwill Manasota; Jennifer Johnston, Gulf Coast Community Foundation; Michelle Slawinski, FDOH-Manatee and Sarasota; Wendy Fitton, Selah Freedom; Paul Sutton, Sarasota Coalition on Substance Abuse & The Salvation Army; Breanna Knuth, Centerstone; Arthur & Marcella Levin, Advocate; Grace Zastrow, Operation PAR MAPS Sarasota; Sara Jones, Gulfcoast Legal Services; Jessica Hays, SPARCC; James Clegg, Gulfcoast Legal Services; Jume Valdez, Family Resources, Inc; Kayden Taylor, CAN Community Health; Carly Tolkacz, City of Sarasota Homeless Outreach Team; Pamela Fields, Legal Aid of Manasota & SPEH Board; Charlene Altenhain, The Glasser/Schoenbaum Human Services Center; Jessica Elwood, The Salvation Army Sarasota Command Kathleen Cramer, Turning Points; Renese Remy, Manatee County Government; Jordan Mayer, Harvest House; Caitlin Auers, Centerstone; Jennifer Johnston, Gulf Coast Community Foundation; Jim Doyle, Advocate; Megan Howell, Second Heart Homes, Inc.; Brittany Elkins, Centerstone; Athyna Smith, JFCS; Dede Jones, City of Sarasota, HOT; Jennifer Fagenbaum, Family Promise of South Sarasota County; Lue Richardson, Department of Veterans Affairs; Nicole Marquez, Gulfcoast South AHEC; Shellie Legarsky, JFCS of the Suncoast; Jamie Kahns, Bank of America; Lucy Dela Cruz, Centerstone; Rob Tabor, CFBHN; Jane Roseboro, Centerstone; Janet Carrillo, City of North Port Social Services; Amy E Jones, The Salvation Army of Sarasota County; William Russell, Sarasota Housing Authority; Andrew Brady, Salvation Army of Sarasota County; Michael Richker, GRASP; Gloria Romero, Catholic Charities Diocese of Venice; Richard McDaniel, JFCS of the Suncoast; Ginger Diegert-McLean, AlongSide U; Mariah McCurry, Schoolhouse Link; Grace Zastrow, Operation PAR Sarasota; Tamara Moore, Schoolhouse Link; Sara Olesen, Healthy Start Coalition of Sarasota County, Inc.; Ellen McLaughlin, SCC, Schoolhouse Link; Wendy Fitton, Selah Freedom; Lee Washington, Manatee County Veterans Services; Concepcion Rodriguez-Feliz, City of North Port-Social Services Division; Dawn Sakes, More Too Life, Inc.

Suncoast Partnership Staff: Lauren Bowen, Suncoast Partnership; Taylor Neighbors, Suncoast Partnership; Tara Booker, Suncoast Partnership; Wendy McNaughton, Suncoast Partnership to End Homeless; Brandon Bellows, Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness; Lauren Davis, Suncoast Partnership

I. Welcome

Chris Johnson welcomed the CoC general members to the meeting.

II. Introductions

Introductions were made via electronic sign-in sheet and verbal roll call.



III. Approval of June 16, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Meeting minutes were sent out electronically prior to the Annual CoC Meeting. Pamela Fields made a motion to accept the June 16, 2021 minutes, _____, provided a second on the motion, with no additional discussion, the meeting minutes from June 16, 2021 were approved.

IV. Suncoast Partnership Board Chair – Phil Gorelick

Suncoast Partnership Board Chair, Phil Gorelick, greeted the CoC general members sharing his appreciation of community members for continuing to work so tirelessly and diligently to meet the needs of the most vulnerable in our community, especially as the COVID-19 pandemic persist with numbers of infected raising due to the Delta variant. Phil encouraged organizations to continue to create out of the box funding solutions, and request each organization look to how they can contribute to the demise of the COVID-19 pandemic.

V. Governance Charter Review and Approval

Chris Johnson shared changes to the Governance Charter requested to be made by the Leadership Council; these changes require the approval of the general members of the CoC.

- 32 total members from 29 members,
- 23 elected members from 20 members,
- 3 added seats (LGBTQ+ seat, senior seat, disability seat),
- Vacancies in the leadership council can be filled if the Annual CoC Meeting is more than 180 days.

Amy E. Jones of The Salvation Army Sarasota commented she thinks 180 days is far too long to have a seat vacant at the Leadership Council.

With no other comments or discussion, a motion of approval was made by Arthur Levin, Advocate, and Julia Showers of The Salvation Army Manatee provided a second. Ellen McLaughlin of Schoolhouse Link stated she agreed with Amy E. Jones the timeframe should be amended to 90 days. With no additional discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

VI. Community Information Items

CSIS Update

Brandon Bellows shared the timeline for the merge of Pasco County and change of systems to Bitfocus. We are hoping for a “go-live” date of February 1, 2022 to launch of the new Bitfocus system. CSIS staff is going to the Bitfocs software conference in September, and the more tools Brandon sees the new system has, the more he knows this change will significantly benefit out community.

Kevin Stiff asked what the cost would be for the community, to which Brandon stated the total annual cost is \$166k/annually, which is split between the CoCs. Brandon stated we would be able to trim more from that, and direct costs will be shared with the providers when final numbers are available to us.

Suncoast Partnership Updates

Chris shared we are still awaiting the CoC NOFA Funding Announcement and will keep the community abreast as to next steps once the funding announcement is made.



Suncoast Partnership is sharing a CoC and Suncoast Partnership survey to provide feedback on our performance as Lead Agency of the CoC. Each of the survey takes about 2 minutes to complete and participation is appreciated.

Chris also shared an idea for funding availability survey to determine the total funding available in the CoC. Chris is hoping this survey will guide us in decision making in the future.

Chris shared Tara Booker is leaving Suncoast Partnership, and her last day is September 30, 2021.

Funding Updates

Chris requested any service provider share their available funding and how clients can access those funds.

With no community input, this topic was closed.

VII. Presentation- "Data to Dollars- What's Our Community's Star Rating?"

Chris shared the components of an effective housing crisis response system, and asked each agency continue to ask themselves, "Is what I am doing preventing and ending homelessness, or promoting and extending homelessness?"

Chris shared how our CoC is rated similarly to that of 5-star ratings based on our System Performance Measures. Chris gave a few examples of what a 5-star rating can do to a service or something to purchase. Chris compared these ratings to how our CoC is viewed by HUD and the federal government, and how important where we rank and what are star rating affects the amount of funding that comes into the community.

Chris shared how we must improve our 5-star rating and it is greatly affected by the early exits, closing out case management too soon, and clients not being intentionally engaged with during outreach. We have to err on the side of mercy and continue to catch them before they fall and stick it out with them, so they know case managers are going to support the client even when the client isn't ready to support themselves.

Chris shared an anecdote of continuing to reach out to a client and award themselves immense grace to not give up on a client when in self-sabotage mode. We must take a step back from client frustrations to see the bigger picture for the clients. Chris encouraged each agency to look at their data to ensure we are on track individually so we may be successful collaboratively.

Questions from the chat:

Mariah McCurry stated, "I struggle to think about how to obtain a good rating when I know that some of our objectives -such as placing families in affordable housing- are not obtainable with the lack of resources (housing). How is this taken into consideration to our community rating, what key questions would one be asking to alter client feedback for a better star rating?" To which Chris Johnson responded the lack of affordable housing is definitely a problem and affects our System Performance Measures as it relates to length of stay in programs from homelessness to housing. He stated our data supports at the local level we need affordable housing options, so this data gives us advocacy on behalf of this need.

Schoolhouse Link asked, "Who is responsible for taking this data and presenting to our local government to advocate for affordable housing?" Chris stated that Suncoast Partnership



Board of Directors have established an affordable housing subcommittee, and this committee is responsible for advocating on behalf of the Suncoast Partnership, but any person is able to go speak at city council meetings and county commission meetings.

Kevin Stiff asked if agencies are aware of any system performance issues with their data, to which Chris stated monthly data quality reports are sent out and quarterly performance reports are also emailed to supervisors and program directors.

Kevin Stiff asked if there are additional training resources are being offered from Suncoast Partnership, to which Chris stated we are reviewing options to bring additional training opportunities to case managers.

VIII. Leadership Council Elections

Those interested in serving on the Leadership Council were requested to send in a Leadership Council application identifying the seat they wish to fill.

The electronic election was taken place via Zoom poll with each agency with CoC Membership receiving only one vote for each seat.

The following are the results of the Leadership Council elections:

<u>Seat</u>	<u>Person elected</u>
Person with Lived Homelessness	Jennifer Faggenbaum, Family Promise of South Sarasota County
Emergency Shelter	Amy E. Jones, The Salvation Army Sarasota
Sarasota Law Enforcement	Dede Jones, City of Sarasota
Business Community Seat (Sarasota)	Jim Doyle, JDA Media
LGBTQ+ Community Representative	Kayden Taylor, CAN
Rapid Rehousing Provider	Richard McDaniel, Jewish Family and Children's Services
Veteran's Seat	Lue Richardson, Veteran Affairs
Senior Seat	Erin McLeod, Senior Friendship Center
At Large	Megan Howell, Second Heart Homes

There was confusion regarding the application of Richard McDaniel, to which he clarified he submitted an application for the Veteran seat, and his peer Shellie Legarsky for RRH seat, but with only one person per each agency, Richard McDaniel will be filling that RRH seat.

With no other questions or comments regarding the results of the election, the meeting moved to the next topic.



IX. General Announcements and Public Comments

Kevin Stiff asked if any provider had any information on available vaccine sites, to which Chris Johnson stated Sarasota County is at 18.5% infection rate with the Delta variant. Chris stated he has hope the spikes will decrease over time.

Kevin Stiff stated in Sarasota County at the Health Department anyone is able to walk-in without an appointment to get a choice of vaccine.

Marcella Levin asked with Kevin Stiff stepping down as Chairperson, who will be filling his seat and how are they elected, to which Chris stated the Chairperson is the elected Leadership Council Chairperson.

Kevin stated if anyone is in need of PPE to contact Jamie Kahns at jamie.kahns@bofa.com.

X. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.