

WEBVTT

00:00:48.015 --> 00:00:56.015

All right, I am calling the Champaign County Mental Health Board meeting to order. Can I get a roll call, please?

00:00:56.693 --> 00:00:58.693

Lisa Liggins Chambers.

00:01:00.129 --> 00:01:02.129

Where is it?

00:01:01.749 --> 00:01:03.749

Chris Miner.

00:01:10.448 --> 00:01:12.448

He was here.

00:01:13.022 --> 00:01:17.022

We might need to vote him in cause he's on zoom.

00:01:17.705 --> 00:01:19.705

Molly McLay.

00:01:21.389 --> 00:01:23.389

Joe Omo Osagie.

00:01:23.576 --> 00:01:25.576

Yep.

00:01:24.389 --> 00:01:35.389

Elaine Palencia. Jen Straub Jane Sprandel. Jon Paul Youakim.

00:01:29.014 --> 00:01:34.014

Yes. Here.

00:01:33.202 --> 00:01:50.202

Here. All right. With that, I will move for a motion to allow other board members that are not able to be here in person and due to extenuating circumstances such as illness.

00:01:50.149 --> 00:02:02.149

I would do one person at a time. Oh, okay. So I'll move for a motion to allow Chris Miner, Chris Miner to attend the mental health board meeting virtually.

00:02:01.517 --> 00:02:11.517

Is there a second for that? I will second that. With that, all those in favor say aye.

00:02:05.582 --> 00:02:17.582

A motion passes. Say aye. Aye. All those against, same sign. The motion passes.

00:02:13.826 --> 00:02:22.826

So Chris is allowed to participate in the meeting today. The next item is approval for of the agenda.

00:02:17.702 --> 00:02:19.702

Thank you.

00:02:23.238 --> 00:02:28.238

Have a lot on there. Yes, there is.

00:02:25.335 --> 00:02:27.335

Okay.

00:02:33.419 --> 00:02:42.419

I make a motion to accept the agenda as presented. I second. With that, all those in favor say aye.

00:02:42.123 --> 00:02:44.123

Aye.

00:02:43.858 --> 00:02:45.858

Alright.

00:02:44.058 --> 00:02:52.058

Motion passes. Next item is the, time, the mental health board timeline on pages 3 through 7.

00:02:51.616 --> 00:02:58.616

No action is needed for this. So the next meeting will be next week, which will be a study session if

00:02:57.810 --> 00:03:11.810

Yeah, unless we want. Yeah, unless we want to cancel it. If there is nothing that - no presentations or anything that we have next week, then I - do we have to move a motion to cancel that?

00:03:10.314 --> 00:03:19.314

Then I will hereby cancel next week's meeting. So the next meeting will be on March twentieth.

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And hopefully be warm just like today. And then any questions about the timeline? So, looks like we have, you know, the opening of the applications was December 22nd.

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The applications were closed on February twelfth. The application submission deadline was February twelfth.

00:03:43.152 --> 00:03:50.152

So staff will be looking at those and presenting us those in the next coming - in the following months.

00:03:48.098 --> 00:04:00.098

So we'll have a lot of reviewing to do. Onto the next thing is the citizen input and public participation.

00:03:59.431 --> 00:04:14.431

We'll limit Public participation to 5 min a person at 20 min total. There's any. So any.

00:03:59.899 --> 00:04:07.899

You know, all are welcome to attend the board's meeting to observe and offer thoughts and input during this time.

00:04:13.926 --> 00:04:22.926

Participant that wants to come up and speak now is the time. Seeing none, we'll move on to the chairperson's comments.

00:04:17.987 --> 00:04:32.987

So and I'll just keep it short. Basically you know the next few months are going to be a lot of Discussion and reviewing of applications.

00:04:31.541 --> 00:04:45.541

So we'll have a lot of long discussions ahead. Hopefully, you know, we'll be able to make decisions that are not, not, not as tough as they were last year.

00:04:41.371 --> 00:04:53.371

But we'll see how things go. So with that, I'll move on to Lynn's comments.

00:04:53.142 --> 00:05:07.142

It's always tough. Decisions are tough. I decided to put my comments on a post-it note to try to keep them brief and then that didn't actually work this morning.

00:05:05.919 --> 00:05:17.919

Like I thought that will, that'll do it, but it doesn't. So I Just 2 - 2 categories of thing. I was at 6 consecutive days of conferences.

00:05:18.318 --> 00:05:30.318

Most of the time full days, most of the topics are like the stuff we talk about - overdose deaths and suicide and trauma, and I do not recommend 6 solid days of that.

00:05:29.323 --> 00:05:38.323

It took me a little Well, it actually took me a weekend to find the positives to share with you because I think you deserve the positives.

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The first positive is that a couple of years ago this administration directed all of the federal agencies across the federal departments to start talking to each other, like leave your office go down the hall,

00:05:54.339 --> 00:06:15.339

Just past the bathroom and talk to someone in a completely different department about all of the shared priorities in... all these federal agencies they have to have their little,, their separate funding streams but they're all pointing toward the same problems, and so that really, that is really obvious now

00:06:13.654 --> 00:06:27.654

2 years later that they've actually been talking to each other. It was great. It was so much collaboration across departments that all the federal agency leaders that usually come and talk to us during these meetings were kind of saying the same stuff.

00:06:26.529 --> 00:06:36.529

So yay for them, and I don't know that it it really like brings a immediate relief to Champaign County, which is what I'm there for,

00:06:36.035 --> 00:06:47.035

But, some other things that happened were really remarkable and that is... The main obligation that I have at the National Association of Counties is to the Health Steering Committee.

00:06:45.813 --> 00:07:09.813

And over the years I've watched this group of - primarily its elected county officials across the country - Go from getting excited only about nursing home regulations to a whole bunch of stuff that's important to all of us too like climate issues and mental health and substance use disorders and even DD, it's kind of wild.

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Like they don't know as much as some of the other people in the room, the appointed ones who've been at their jobs for 30 years, but they're pounding the table for all the right things.

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That was really heartening. And the fact that they're talking about DD at all is amazing.

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So then the second conference is the National Association of County Behavioral Health and DD Directors,

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And in the last 2 years they have decided - they've just kind of made the decision to include DD in every session somehow, even if it's a little bit of a stretch, but it's like,

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Just under the banner of like, this is how you include people with intellectual disabilities, you just talk about them

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Even if even if the program is like only sort of related. They did it, and that was amazing. And some of it's quite deep too, like a a

conference that's going to be held that's a joint effort of some of the national associations that work on mental health and DD

00:08:02.477 --> 00:08:26.477

People with dual diagnosis are pretty greatly underserved everywhere because our systems separate them. So there was some nice talk about training at HRSA, which is the main funder of federally qualifying health centers such as Promise Health Care, has developed some training programs, especially about working with people who have autism.

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These are training for health care providers and mental health care providers in the care of people with autism and the main trainers are the parents of those people with autism which is like

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Wow, how smart, right? So that was very, those sessions were super exciting, but one thing that was also really cool is we kicked off that second conference with a session

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Featuring, I think it was called Introducing New - the new workforce and it was 4 quite young people, 2 of them were still in college, talking about what inspired them to come into this field and what were the barriers that might make it difficult for them to stay in the field and it was almost all money.

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Like, you know, scholarship and loan repayment programs are great, but they still have licensure fees and certification, and those those are an issue even if they know they're moving into a fairly low paying profession.

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They didn't really care about that so much as they couldn't get there because of the licensure fees and then a little bit also about supervisors maybe not being prepared to support them.

00:09:30.491 --> 00:09:36.491

That was amazing. It's not, you know, it's stuff everybody here knows, but yay,

00:09:35.801 --> 00:09:50.801

Some broad recognition of that. Anyway, that was that's all on topic A, topic B is that we have done a little bit of work on the applications already, the applications for funding, and I can talk to you more about that as we get into the agenda.

00:09:49.616 --> 00:09:56.616

And like. I don't know. This I think this will be a really cool meeting. I know it's not

00:09:56.105 --> 00:10:03.105

The best attended, but we have a really important presentation. And so I will stop talking now so we can get to it.

00:10:03.361 --> 00:10:04.361
Okay.

00:10:05.248 --> 00:10:19.248
Thanks. Thanks, Lynn. So with that we'll move on to the approval of the mental health board meeting minutes on pages 21 through 27

00:10:21.722 --> 00:10:42.722
It's very minor, but, on page 22, for the meeting Minutes review it actually has 11-15 and 2024 instead of 23 which again No big deal.

00:10:43.727 --> 00:10:45.727
How I caught that's beyond me.

00:11:21.563 --> 00:11:31.563
Hmm. With that, is there a motion to approve the minutes from January seventeenth and 24.

00:11:29.243 --> 00:11:43.243
My motion to approve. Is there a second? With that, any discussion? Seeing none other than what Jane already stipulated, I'll move for a voice vote.

00:11:41.377 --> 00:11:48.377
All those in favor say aye. Aye. All those opposed, same sign. A motion passes.

00:11:49.314 --> 00:11:55.314
Next item is the vendor voice list on pages 28 through 38.

00:11:58.321 --> 00:12:02.321
I can move to accept the vendor voice list.

00:12:04.134 --> 00:12:10.134
Is there a second? For that. Any discussion?

00:12:10.877 --> 00:12:19.877
Although because this is already approved, we don't have to do a roll call. Okay.

00:12:19.876 --> 00:12:25.876
No worries. All those in favor? Say aye. Aye. All those opposed?

00:12:26.119 --> 00:12:33.119
Same sign. A motion passes. We'll move on to staff reports on pages 39 through 55.

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I think one of the questions I had looking through this was going through like Kim's report that the expo is being planned for October 26.

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And then they have contacted 3 ASL interpreters for the event. But do we have any like translators for like Spanish or French?

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On that. Okay, cause I saw that you have a flyer that's in Spanish. I just didn't know

00:13:19.590 --> 00:13:23.590

If we have translators for that. Okay.

00:13:24.990 --> 00:13:33.990

This is the first year in many years that we've known, that we've been able to set the date and start planning this early.

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So. Kim develops a lot of the consulting contracts and just got on it, like contacted the people who usually do the ASL interpretation, only one of them replied.

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So we don't have this all locked down, but we have contracts prepared. The Spanish language interpretation was provided

00:13:52.697 --> 00:14:01.697

For free by immigrant services at last year's expo so we haven't, we haven't made any call, I don't, maybe she has, but

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So there's still a lot to do in that area. Thank you for asking about that.

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And I just really like Leon's staff report where he talked about the reentry housing coalition meeting.

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So the first coalition meeting on January thirtieth and there was about 15 to 20 agencies. And they discussed starting a resource bank for shared information on housing, employment, legal matters, other necessities.

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So I think that's a great thing for agencies to be able to share. And have a resource list

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For information for all those people that come in from the county, for all those that come to those agencies for resources on all kinds of things including housing and it's very important.

00:15:07.053 --> 00:15:16.053

And then I guess the only other thing was did we get any updates on any of those like outstanding audits or anything like that?

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Since that one today. We're reported. Yeah. And the report.

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Yeah, we got one of them today. That's Stephanie's report. So we have

00:15:28.691 --> 00:15:35.691

All those quarterly reports I think are done. But audits. We've got

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Grow came in today.

00:15:37.820 --> 00:15:47.820

Yup, and we did - we did - we got family service a while ago. And then first followers, probably right after you wrote this.

00:15:47.189 --> 00:15:49.189

Yeah.

00:15:47.891 --> 00:16:01.891

So, and I've reviewed everything that's come in and followed up and I think You know, we're having conversation with first followers because they have another - they have to do another version of the audit even though this one was approved.

00:16:01.155 --> 00:16:11.155

So we are still waiting for promise. Women in need recovery, the refugee center, and Christian health and then.

00:16:12.233 --> 00:16:18.233

The 3 that are not funded this year which are MAYC, the well experience, and urbana neighborhood connections.

00:16:32.626 --> 00:16:34.626

Any other questions?

00:16:37.226 --> 00:16:54.226

Alright, thank you for that and the next item will be the new business. Which is the on pages 56 through 85 it's the csph strategic plan with Katie Harman.

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Thank you so much. Let me go ahead and pull up my presentation here.

00:17:23.497 --> 00:17:29.497

All right, we can all see that. We're good. Okay. Well, thank you so much for having me.

00:17:27.250 --> 00:17:37.250

I have my phone here so I can be mindful of my time. So I'm Katie Harmon.

00:17:35.558 --> 00:17:41.558

I'm the coordinator for the Champaign County Continuum of Service Providers to the Homeless,

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And I really wanted to share some information about the continuum of service providers to the homeless for those who don't know about our group.

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And then we recently approved - developed and approved a three-year strategic plan at the end of 2023.

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So we're really trying to get out there and share with the community some priority areas that we're going to be working on over the next 3 years.

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For those who don't know, the continuum of services, the continuum of service providers to the homeless is essentially the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Continuum of Care for Champaign County, and really in a nutshell what we are responsible for is coordinating and planning a response to homelessness in our county.

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So there's, you know, over 400 continuums across across the country. We're one of 19 in the state of Illinois.

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Some are multi-county continuums of care. We're just a one county covering Champaign County.

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And this is just - provides a little more context. We're really, we're really focused on providing outreach, engagement, and assessment to make sure that people experiencing homelessness and those at risk of homelessness have adequate services and supports here in Champaign County.

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So the continuum of service providers of the homeless or the CSPH, I know it's another acronym, but that's what we go by.

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We also responsible for essentially 3 different pools of funding that come directly through our continuum. So one of those pools of funding is for from the federal government through the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

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And then there's 2 sources of funding coming through the Illinois Department of Human Services. One of those sources of funding was new as of last year on the state of Illinois developed a separate office last year, the Illinois office to prevent and end homelessness.

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And with that office and initiative, there was increased funding coming into our community, which is, which is excellent.

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So we anticipate that being another continued source of funding for homeless services for our community.

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So who is participating in our group right now? I believe we have a total of 42 member organizations.

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So I'm really pleased with the participation and our collective efforts efforts. So we have homeless service providers, victim service providers, faith-based organizations, our local government, local municipalities, housing advocates, healthcare, other nonprofits, public housing, and then also individuals with lived experience of homelessness.

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So really, any organization or person who has an interest in working in our initiatives to address homelessness in Champaign County is welcomed to participate in our group.

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We meet monthly currently and we also have some subcommittees of our continuum of 2. This is our mission statement here.

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I kind of summarize what I've already shared with you all, but I wanted to have it on a slide here.

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And we recently updated our mission statement too last year.

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So as far as our strategic plan for about the last couple of years, we really wanted to have more focused efforts on what we want to be working on over the last over, excuse me, the next 3 years.

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So we had a strategic planning committee that met regularly to develop the plan. We also got input and buy in from our full membership.

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We had an in-person meeting in collaboration with the United Way to share a strategic plan as well when it was still in the draft stages and get some feedback.

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From, from the folks participating in that homeless services summit. So with that said, we officially voted on and approved our strategic plan and we really wanted to focus on narrowing down our focus area.

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So. I say that to say, you know, we've identified 5 priority areas that we're going to be focused on over the next 5 years.

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You know, this is obviously not an exhaustive list. There are so many areas that we could focus on in terms of addressing homelessness.

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The list is really never ending, but we really wanted to narrow it down to, you know, really put some effort into these areas that are collectively identified as kind of most pressing at the time.

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So those areas are permanent housing, data utilization and quality, equity, landlord engagement, and lived experience representation.

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So we developed those 5 priority areas and then under each of the priorities, we developed some strategic. Kind of goals, more measurable goals to, address some of these priority areas.

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So in your packet you have my slides which covers our strategic plan as well as the actual PDF version of the strategic plan.

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So when I'm going through some of the information here, I won't read every point. Cause I'm sure I'll ramble on forever, but you have it too in your packet.

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So just know that, you know, if you're looking at it after or have questions after today that don't come up, please feel free to reach out to me or you're also welcome to join and sit in on any of our meetings.

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So as far as permanent housing, access to permanent, affordable housing is a key component in our continuum of services to addressing homelessness.

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You know, people who are staying in an emergency shelter or transitional housing or who are unsheltered in those continuum of services is if there's not accessible, affordable housing, we're, we're going to run, we're running into some barriers with, moving people out of shelter or moving them from an unsheltered situation into permanent housing.

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And that's always the goal. So that was one of our focus areas. And then our first 2 points here in some of our strategies for how we're going to address this.

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There is a certain number of vouchers, permanent supportive housing vouchers that we have available here in Champaign County.

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So we want to look at housing vouchers that we have available here in Champaign County.

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So we want to look at additional funding streams to see if we can't increase some of those vouchers.

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So that's where those specific numbers are coming from. Every year, our continuum does a housing, what we call a housing inventory count.

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And so that is an annual count of how many emergency shelter beds we have in Champaign County, how many transitional housing beds we have in Champaign County,

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How many permanent supportive housing beds we have. And so we do that every year and can kind of see from year to year, are there increases?

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Are there decreases and where are the needs? Point 3 is just advocating for an increase in low-income housing credit developments through presentations to kind of share our strategic plan and the need for permanent supportive housing so that's what point 3 is addressing here So those were our main focus, focus areas and strategies for permanent housing.

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For data utilization and quality, we use several key pieces of data. One I already mentioned was the housing inventory count.

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We also do an annual point in time count. That is a count of all people - currently experiencing homelessness on a specific night.

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It has to be done the last 10 days in January. So we have a large collective effort of volunteers who go out in different to designated different geographic areas and try and identify people who are unsheltered and we collect some information from them if they're willing to participate and then we also for that same night work with all of our shelter providers to see how many people stayed in their shelters on that same night.

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So that's data we've been collecting for years and so we can also see, again, it's a snapshot, right?

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I mean, it's, we, there certainly are people we can't capture or don't capture, but it's a good tool and snapshot of what homelessness might look like in Champaign County and we can compare that from year to year.

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And then also, many of our organizations, our provider organizations for homeless services use a database called the homeless management information system or HMIS, and we're able to pull data and run reports on a very on a variety of different key points and kind of see, you know, where are their gaps and where the, where our needs are.

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And so with that in mind. We have some specific goals about increasing the number of organizations who use HMIS because that data really helps us to look at a bigger picture collectively and we can really use data to inform our decisions and funding, which is very important.

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We have some other items in here with relation to our coordinated entry system here in Champaign County.

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We also want to and we do do this but continue to use some system performance measures in HMIS.

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Some system performance measures in HMIS. When I say system performance measures in HMIS,

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When I say system performance measure, that's that's hard language, but really for an example of what that's hard language, but really for an example of what that means is we can look at how long people have experienced homelessness, but really for an example of what that means is, for an example of what that means is we can look at how long people have experienced homelessness.

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For example, we can look and see is this their first time experiencing homelessness. For example, we can look and see, is this their first time experiencing homelessness?

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And that's really helpful for us as a community to know, our people, you know, staying in a shelter for really long periods of time before they move into permanent housing.

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What is that timeline like? I mean, that's just one example. So we want to continue to

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Utilize that data to inform our funding decisions. And then I'll just since I, I want to be mindful of time.

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The other thing I just wanted to point out, we want to also get better about sharing data and getting our full membership to really engage and look at and understand the data

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That our executive committee looks at frequently, and we do share the data with the full membership, but really have more training and education about the data that we have.

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Available with our membership. Equity is a huge, is a huge part of our strategic plan.

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For example, in some of the statistics that I have here on this slide in Champaign County, Black people, for example, are overrepresented, over representative among individuals in household experiencing homelessness and the data that I referenced here in our 2,023 point in time count so that was January of last year.

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Black people made up 63% of those experiencing homelessness despite making up 14% of the population in Champaign County.

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So there's definite equity issues that we want to further look into and see how systemically we can address those.

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So some of the strategies that we're starting with here. Number one, this is already underway.

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We've started the initial stages of a racial equity analysis and that's actually where I did some comparison of our point in time count data.

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Broken down by race, for example, that I shared on the previous slide and seeing, hey, what do the statistics look like and what is our point in time count data showing?

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And there's several more steps of how we can use them the data from that HMIS database and look at performance measures to further break that down.

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So that's the next step we're going to be taking. We want to do some more coordinated annual trainings to our full membership.

00:29:53.373 --> 00:30:01.373

On different issues such as nondiscrimination and diversity, equity, and inclusion. Some of these are already underway as well.

00:30:01.464 --> 00:30:11.464

And then I think the other thing I just want to highlight, we want to look at we have an approved collective policy on the client

00:30:10.138 --> 00:30:33.138

Grievances, for example, but we're going to look at that, see if it might, you know, might need some improvement in tweaking to make sure that there's a collective policy for individuals who've been served in organizations who might have a grievance and that we're all on the same page as a continuum and how to address those.

00:30:32.609 --> 00:30:42.609

And then landlord engagement, obviously in many of our permanent supportive housing programs and housing voucher programs.

00:30:40.619 --> 00:30:49.619

We need to have, you know, buy-in and engagement and good relationships with landlords. So that's a huge piece.

00:30:48.816 --> 00:31:00.816

Many of our organizations of our membership, you know, have, work with landlords routinely for different housing, you know, have worked with landlords routinely for different housing programs, but we really like to work with landlords routinely for different housing programs.

00:30:59.720 --> 00:31:08.720

But we really like to at 1 point we had I think maybe one or 2 property management agencies participating as members on our continuum.

00:31:07.312 --> 00:31:25.312

I would love to see that too. And just really try and have more engagement there. Number one has already actually been funded through the regional planning commission, the landlord risk mitigation fund.

00:31:19.085 --> 00:31:44.085

We also wanted to do some focus group focus groups with landlords to see what concerns do they have, provide more education about our funded organizations, not just our funded organizations, but homeless services organizations and what kind of different rental assistance and voucher programs might look like.

00:31:42.707 --> 00:31:50.707

And then some of these, for example, number 5, I'll just touch on quickly.

00:31:44.539 --> 00:32:12.539

Last year we partnered with Housing Action Illinois and had a workshop which was which was great it was about source of income protections with in Illinois there was new legislation and last January of 2023 I believe, where you couldn't discriminate based on housing vouchers, for example.

00:32:11.597 --> 00:32:15.597

So if you can't say as a landlord, no, I don't take vouchers.

00:32:11.747 --> 00:32:27.747

That's now illegal in the state of Illinois. So we partnered with Housing Action Illinois and did 3 workshops, one for our membership, one for tenants or clients, and then we also did one for a landlord.

00:32:26.998 --> 00:32:35.998

So we want to continue with that sort of education and training. And then finally, lived experience representation. This is really huge.

00:32:30.269 --> 00:33:05.269

We want to make sure that we're elevating the voices of people with lived experience of homelessness and not just participating on our CSPH, but we have approved 2 seats on our executive committee specifically for people with lived experience of homelessness and we want to use their expertise and experience if they're willing to help inform local, our, you know, our policy and our strategies and our efforts and addressing homelessness.

00:33:04.948 --> 00:33:33.948

So we're working on some of these already. We recently developed kind of a position description, if you will, with some information about what participating on our executive committee would look like so we can get that information out to our agencies and see if they have any clients they've served or anybody that they know or themselves who've experienced homelessness, if they're interested in participating on our CSPH and our executive committee.

00:33:27.897 --> 00:33:46.897

We also recently - We're working on stipends also and compensation for people for their expertise. And participation and sharing their knowledge with us.

00:33:46.205 --> 00:33:57.205

So that's another one of our strategies. We hold, right now we're doing your, excuse me, bi annual focus groups for people with lived experience of homelessness.

00:33:52.588 --> 00:34:14.588

We've used that information from the focus groups to inform our strategic plan. And that's when really beneficial just learning what are people's experience what went well what didn't go well what you know what do they have recommendations for areas of improvement.

00:34:14.082 --> 00:34:20.082

And then also, we've talked about CSPH member satisfaction surveys.

00:34:14.578 --> 00:34:31.578

So we can continue to improve. So, my last slide, I promise. And these are just some of the kind of key upcoming priorities.

00:34:27.591 --> 00:34:39.591

The point in time count and the housing inventory count. The point in time count has already happened, but we're in the process of looking at the data, compiling all the data.

00:34:36.284 --> 00:34:54.284

Once that is all kind of put together, we always do a press release and share with the community and stakeholders about what the 2024 point in time count data looked like compared to last year too so stay tuned for that.

00:34:48.536 --> 00:35:02.536

We are participating in the last year too, so stay tuned for that. We are participating in a quality data collaborative, which fits in perfectly with our strategic plan. We are participating in a quality Data Collaborative, which fits in perfectly with our strategic plan.

00:35:01.172 --> 00:35:11.172

We're one of 5 continuums across the state of Illinois. Working with a company called Community Solutions with ideas to help improve our data quality.

00:35:09.827 --> 00:35:22.827

And then finally, we're incorporating the strategic plan priorities as key areas in our meetings. So it's not just a document that's been approved and we never look at ever again.

00:35:23.146 --> 00:35:29.146

That is all I have. Thank you so much. Any questions?

00:35:31.798 --> 00:35:40.798

It is to see how exciting it is to see all of this quantified in such a effective and tangible way.

00:35:40.058 --> 00:35:49.058

In my day job, I'm a housing case manager at Cunningham. We've been on Zooms together.

00:35:48.902 --> 00:35:59.902

And I just, I just wanna. I guess verbalize how much more cohesive all of the services in our community

00:35:58.587 --> 00:36:07.587

Aimed at this population than when I started there - or feel to me from my lens -

00:36:01.574 --> 00:36:12.574

And just how exciting that is and how many more people I think are being effectively served because of it.

00:36:11.511 --> 00:36:21.511

So thank you for your work. Thank you so much for sharing that. And I would agree, I just really quickly, I had originally been involved in different capacities.

00:36:20.768 --> 00:36:43.768

I worked in homeless services for about 15 years in Champaign County and had been involved with the continuum initially in 2010 and the level of collaboration between organizations yes there's always room for improvement but the level of collaboration that I've seen and what you were talking or speaking to is really been great comparatively.

00:36:43.768 --> 00:36:48.768

So that's been a huge positive and and then obviously beneficial to those we're serving.

00:36:49.204 --> 00:36:56.204

Hi, I have a question. Yeah, first thank you for being here. Sure. I like to presentation a lot.

00:36:55.209 --> 00:37:03.209

Now is this gear toward minorities only in particular African-americans or is this countywide?

00:37:03.269 --> 00:37:12.269

It doesn't matter. Yeah, no, the county wide, yeah, so we're really focused on people, any people who are experiencing homelessness.

00:37:04.739 --> 00:37:35.739

And as far as the equity component of our strategic plan. And as far as the equity, component of our strategic plan, we're really looking at black people, people I guess it we can be more broad and comprehensive, but that's kind of some of the areas we started to look at.

00:37:35.880 --> 00:37:45.880

There was going to be my next question. You know, it seemed as if it was geared toward minorities because African-americans were the only population that you brought up in your slides.

00:37:45.699 --> 00:37:58.699

Having said that because you just answered my question, can you just share? Why the population of African-americans is so high here in Champaign County for homelessness?

00:37:57.642 --> 00:38:05.642

Just for my personal education, but others may wanna know, cause that's a high percentage. It is, it is.

00:38:05.276 --> 00:38:24.276

And honestly, I don't, I don't know that I can answer that right now. I think through some of the analysis of data and this racial equity analysis that we're doing and really looking at our comprehensively about the different organizations and the data that we're serving.

00:38:22.231 --> 00:38:34.231

I think we'll be able to get a better handle on that. Cause I don't feel like I can give a tangible answer right now and that's kind of what his spearheaded some of this.

00:38:35.292 --> 00:38:39.292

I appreciate it. I really appreciate the question. Thank you. Thank you.

00:38:38.430 --> 00:38:55.430

Is that countywide? Oh, it's nationwide. Okay. Yep, so HUD requires that continuums of care do the point in time count.

00:38:39.293 --> 00:38:46.293

I had a question about the point in time count. Is that just in Champaign Urbana?

00:38:55.059 --> 00:39:10.059

Some at some point during the last 10 days in January. So it's also interesting to see, just for example, I participating, participate in the statewide call with other continuums in Illinois and just kind of anecdotally I'm like

00:39:09.523 --> 00:39:19.523

Looking at our unsheltered numbers so far I'm like hey what are you guys seeing so far from your point in time count so it's interesting to kind of compare that

00:39:13.134 --> 00:39:29.134

Community to community and we then submit all of our documentation and reports to HUD and then they publish them so you can run reports and see

00:39:30.398 --> 00:39:38.398

Any counties, any continuums of care point in time count data from the HUD website. You're welcome.

00:39:38.470 --> 00:39:45.470

I'm sorry, just one more question. I meant to ask you when I was on the roll a few minutes ago, but I didn't.

00:39:44.541 --> 00:39:52.541

Assessment, you brought up assessments and I wanted to find out which assessments are you guys using.

00:39:49.169 --> 00:40:01.169

I'm just curious, is that a part of your data and utilization? Yeah, so, and I'm not sure if this is what you're getting at, but this is what you're getting at, but this is what came to mind.

00:39:59.498 --> 00:40:31.498

We have a coordinated entry system and so we have partner organizations that provide emergency shelter, transitional housing, who can refer people to a program funded by RPC or funded through RPC called Centralized Intake, and the purpose of that is a kind of a no wrong door approach so people don't have to go and complete intakes, you know, with a million different organizations, and kind of streamlined access to services.

00:40:30.074 --> 00:40:39.074

Right now this assessment that we use for that is called the VI SPDAT. It's essentially kind of like a vulnerability index.

00:40:37.594 --> 00:40:59.594

So those who are the kind of most vulnerable are prioritized for services. For example, if somebody is unsheltered sleeping outside, they would get, there's other factors too, but this is just a kind of a snapshot if someone's unsheltered, they might get priority versus someone who's, you know, safe in an emergency shelter right now.

00:40:58.896 --> 00:41:08.896

But I, with that being said, there are, there are some concerns about the VI SPDAT.

00:41:07.281 --> 00:41:16.281

So continuums of care across the state, or excuse me, across the country, we're using this assessment tool and then researchers,

00:41:12.610 --> 00:41:30.610

I think in the last couple of years that there were racial inequity inequities and biases with the assessment tool.

00:41:18.609 --> 00:41:44.609

So, inequities and biases with the assessment tool. So, inequities and biases with the assessment tool. So, right now we have explored 2 different other assessment tools.

00:41:40.858 --> 00:42:03.858

And so actually next week I'll be presenting to our coordinated entry committee of our different organizations on the 2 tools that I think would be beneficial.

00:41:59.176 --> 00:42:18.176

That they are mostly tests are biased. And so I wondered how you were getting around that biases in your assessments to say that they qualify for homelessness or I'm sorry I'm freezing or that they are even homeless when the tests are actually biased that you're using toward African-americans.

00:42:17.226 --> 00:42:28.226

Yeah, no, it's a great point and I think, there's also, you know, even in replacement training and education of implementation of the, of the tools.

00:42:26.326 --> 00:42:38.326

And if you're looking at a tool that's focused on vulnerability, I think sometimes when you're asking questions of, you know, really personal detail questions.

00:42:31.213 --> 00:42:43.213

You know, people might not want to be forthcoming because they think it's going to negatively impact them versus the opposite of,

00:42:43.145 --> 00:42:49.145

Something might be available for you sooner. So I think there's also just that training and education piece of the staff

00:42:49.452 --> 00:42:53.452
Implementing the tools too. Thank you.

00:42:53.348 --> 00:43:02.348
I just wanted to thank you, Mrs. Harmon, for the presentation. Thank all the board members for your thorough questions.

00:43:00.403 --> 00:43:10.403
I really appreciate listening to all this information. I did have a few other questions. For permanent housing needs,

00:43:09.360 --> 00:43:32.360
What ballpark is the need for the whole county? Like we you know you say you have we increase I mean I love that we increase the permanent vouchers for kids from with families with kids from 44 to 60 which is a huge jump and from people without kids from 67 to 80 that's 140 vouchers in total but what's the total need for the county?

00:43:29.270 --> 00:43:37.270
Out of ballpark? Like is it like a thousand? Yeah, I don't decide under it.

00:43:34.277 --> 00:43:43.277
I can't, I don't feel like I can answer that adequately adequately right now, just those

00:43:42.646 --> 00:43:51.646
Increase of those vouchers will be very beneficial, but that's not nearly enough to address the need

00:43:50.536 --> 00:44:10.536
You know and just in general there's lots of different types of voucher programs. Some are timeline, some are time limited, a year or 2 years or maybe it's through the housing authority and it's a move to work voucher or, you know, there's lots of different types of vouchers, but I think still there's a large disparity between people's

00:44:10.021 --> 00:44:25.021
Income and the cost of housing. So I think that's a problem nationwide and it's just something we've been talking about and that obviously we're concerned about because people need to be able to pay fair market rent.

00:44:18.092 --> 00:44:34.092
So it's, it's going to be a challenge honestly. Just kind of generally speaking would you say this is not even half of what we need, right?

00:44:32.908 --> 00:44:44.908
Oh yeah, yes, yes. And then, you know, I just wanted to comment on, you know, for homelessness, especially for children - as a pediatrician -

00:44:43.726 --> 00:44:55.726

That not just has You know, a short-term effect on on an individual for a child that has an ad that's an adverse childhood experience that will have long term

00:44:54.415 --> 00:45:01.415

Ramifications on on their brain development and how they react with the rest of the world for the rest of their life.

00:45:00.170 --> 00:45:10.170

And so, you know, you know, being able to increase those vouchers is vitally important, especially for for our children

00:45:09.727 --> 00:45:14.727

And people with families. And so, you know, I'm really happy that we're able to do that.

00:45:13.795 --> 00:45:25.795

You know, I, I think obviously we all know nation - nationwide there's a huge shortage of housing, affordable housing.

00:45:24.034 --> 00:45:49.034

You know, we always talk about building more residential units and usually when counties or cities talk about it they talk about it as if they're There always think that all these you know, these big investors are going to come in and build these units and they're going to put some in there for people that are low income and even places like Chicago think, oh yeah, we'll do that.

00:45:47.664 --> 00:45:55.664

And even in places like Chicago, they, oh yeah, we'll do that. And then instead of doing that, they, oh, yeah, we'll do that

00:45:53.467 --> 00:46:02.467

And then instead of doing that, oh yeah, yeah, we'll do that. And then instead of doing that, those investors, they pay the fine for not building the low income housing within their units and instead just build all luxury homes or luxury housing units within that.

00:45:55.172 --> 00:46:17.172

And instead just build all luxury homes or luxury housing units within that. So I really hope that Champaign, Urbana, Rantoul, other places when they do give these, you know, whatever they do, whatever, if they want to go the route of low, you know, the low tax incentive.

00:46:15.729 --> 00:46:28.729

Or I think some places will do. I'm thinking - I'm forgetting what the name is where they no longer increase the tax for an area - a TIFF district.

00:46:26.556 --> 00:46:55.556

For an area that they don't make it so that those developers don't develop the low income housing that is required of the area because right you know we every city, every county is going to have a spectrum of classes of people with different wealth and poverty, and we need to be

able to live cohesively as a community, as a healthy community that has healthy housing for everybody of all social classes and so that's really

00:46:54.821 --> 00:47:14.821

important. And you know, just, like, Mrs. Liggins Chambers was saying about, the disparity in in why you know the black population in the county is experiencing homelessness at such a high rate, it would be nice to be able to get some of

00:47:14.826 --> 00:47:29.826

Get some kind of survey of like are they having you know sudden financial crisis are they having barriers because they do have the funding but their rental barriers because of racism within a landlord

00:47:28.464 --> 00:47:50.464

Landlords giving them the product of letting them rent in general or just loss of a job, loss of a previous home, you know, if they were, you know, had a fire in their home, they're a victim of domestic violence or they have some issues with recent incarceration and being able to find housing because of that, more discrimination based on race from that.

00:47:50.105 --> 00:48:05.105

And then of course there's the, you know, LGBTQ community, but. You know i don't know if that if for some reason they may have higher rates of homelessness, within that community for that subgroup as well.

00:48:04.188 --> 00:48:13.188

So I mean, that'd be interesting. It'd be good to know so that you can then find ways to mitigate those issues.

00:48:12.550 --> 00:48:23.550

Because if you know what the triggers are for the homelessness and you may be able to obviously intervene before they become homeless in the first place.

00:48:15.618 --> 00:48:24.618

And you may be able to obviously intervene before they become homeless in the first place. Absolutely. Thank you for that input.

00:48:22.313 --> 00:48:32.313

Is it that we actually have a homeless situation or is it that we don't use the resources that we have

00:48:31.497 --> 00:48:39.497

Adequately. I mean, I keep every time I drive by and we see this buildings down here, they used to be

00:48:38.648 --> 00:48:56.648

A nursing home. And we still have homeless population. Those buildings we have some I mean I don't about I think this county We do have some spaces available but we're not we We run on a scarcity model.

00:48:55.953 --> 00:49:04.953

And the scarcity model drives the homelessness. We have the space. I think we have the space, but we are actually not utilizing it.

00:49:04.977 --> 00:49:11.977

And I know we can't solve that issue because I think it's a much larger issue and it's a societal issue

00:49:11.535 --> 00:49:20.535

That we have to be willing to address. That's a society as opposed to - Say, well, not in my neighbourhood, not in my neighborhood.

00:49:21.905 --> 00:49:23.905

Whose neighborhood then? Right.

00:49:27.230 --> 00:49:40.230

And then the other thing in our county is sometimes we put people in areas that are in food deserts where if they don't have a car, they can't get to a place that has food.

00:49:38.445 --> 00:49:46.445

They can't get their kids to school, you know, and then You know, there's one area where they can get the bus, but then it's like

00:49:46.203 --> 00:49:53.203

You see those people then walking down a road that's going, has a speed limit of 45 miles an hour.

00:49:51.895 --> 00:49:57.895

And it's just very, very dangerous. It's just, you know, people are trying to

00:49:58.031 --> 00:50:05.031

Put people in our society in a place that's out of sight, out of mind, instead of making them part of the community and building

00:50:04.599 --> 00:50:16.599

Them up so that they become a strong part of the community as well. You know, we could talk about this all night, but I'm going to talk some more.

00:50:15.965 --> 00:50:27.965

You know, I love that you brought up the old nursing home. There's times, especially when it was so bitterly cold and I was driving down university and we have some huge open store fronts that are completely empty.

00:50:22.430 --> 00:50:34.430

I'm like. Oh my gosh. Why couldn't we open those doors and let people at least sleep in those buildings?

00:50:33.357 --> 00:50:42.357

You know, we we saw how the old - I want to call it cheddars, and that's not right - but the restaurant there by

00:50:42.565 --> 00:50:49.565

Target and so that. O'Charley's yes, how there were some individuals living in there.

00:50:47.188 --> 00:51:05.188

Shame on them, but good on ya at least you are sheltered from the cold and the wetness and and I too it breaks my heart when I see these storefronts, and we're not using them and I know it opens up all kinds of liability and where are they gonna bathe and things like that.

00:51:04.817 --> 00:51:12.817

But at least, you know, they're safe hopefully for the night. So I know that you're looking through all your data and stuff.

00:51:12.314 --> 00:51:23.314

You know, I, I feel like champagne or banana is a very and I'll say affluent, but you know, we're not a poor area.

00:51:23.068 --> 00:51:30.068

We have the University of Illinois. We have some of the smartest people in the in the world. Within this radius.

00:51:30.057 --> 00:51:39.057

Does it seem like more people are realizing we have a homelessness problem and that, you know, we all need to be part of the solution.

00:51:38.445 --> 00:51:44.445

You know, I've often talked about how, you know, I was very blessed. I was very fortunate.

00:51:39.102 --> 00:51:59.102

I grew up in a ton of 800 people, a rural Christian community. So like I'm sure there was a time when I came to Champaign, Urbana, and you know, saw homelessness and I'm like, oh my gosh, this is like Chicago.

00:51:57.190 --> 00:52:11.190

We won't even get into the fact that it was 800 white folks, but you know, I mean I just feel like I still feel like we have a lot of people who think, oh, not in my neighborhood.

00:52:10.991 --> 00:52:16.991

Oh, that's them. They're just, you know, abusers and users and they're not truly homeless.

00:52:15.433 --> 00:52:25.433

And, and I struggle with that, you know, I see every day in every community I travel into, you know, people who are homeless and just anything will help.

00:52:24.870 --> 00:52:30.870

Well. I work for General Mills, so a lot of times I have Nature Valley bars and stuff in my car and things like that.

00:52:30.684 --> 00:52:35.684

And I've been known to hand them out as I go. And it's very quick to find out.

00:52:32.340 --> 00:52:47.340

Who truly is hungry and needs help and who's just wanting a little cash. But I always feel like if they say they need help I have to do what's right and that is to try to give them

00:52:47.013 --> 00:53:00.013

A snack bar or something. So I just I think it's interesting to see. What the numbers are going to show, and I love to see there's so many, you know, you had church groups on here, other communities.

00:52:59.284 --> 00:53:06.284

I think we need to all rally around. This is a problem. We have to recognize it's happening right here.

00:53:06.031 --> 00:53:34.031

Absolutely. And if I could just quickly share too and just from my perspective, I do think we are fortunate in some ways that we've had, you know, support from the mental health board to fund some of the homeless service coordination efforts, which is greatly appreciated and also the the city of Champaign and Urbana funding the housing and homeless innovations

00:53:26.405 --> 00:53:43.405

Grant that they released. I believe it was the last year, the year before, which is I don't or maybe around 5 million dollars to fund different homeless programs.

00:53:38.263 --> 00:54:02.263

So I feel in a lot of ways that I think our community and our local municipalities and local government to to be aware of the issue and in funding programs to help address the issue is huge and funding programs to help address the issue is huge.

00:54:00.082 --> 00:54:06.082

And, and I, and that's not and funding programs to help address the issue is huge. And that's not certainly not the case in many counties.

00:54:04.391 --> 00:54:08.391

So I feel and just kind of talking with my colleagues and peers. I'm like, wow.

00:54:06.664 --> 00:54:12.664

And kind of, when I share this stuff, they're like, well, they fund that. That's so cool.

00:54:11.482 --> 00:54:18.482

That's I wish that would happen in our community. So I think that's definitely a step in the right direction.

00:54:18.191 --> 00:54:32.191

And also one of the things that we're trying to do is and I and I really do it think is part of our collective and our kind of our group as a continuum in doing more advocacy and awareness, even doing these presentations about our strategic plan.

00:54:26.850 --> 00:54:47.850

I presented to the Urbana City Council, the Champaign Neighborhood Services Advisory Board, reached out to the community coalition and just really just trying to increase that awareness.

00:54:43.278 --> 00:55:04.278

And encourage any sort of buy in and support and learn from other groups too. And share of the information but I yes I agree with you, Jane, there does need to be that awareness because it's it's there's still a lot of misconceptions about homelessness and what are the contributing factors.

00:55:04.555 --> 00:55:12.555

I think a lot of times it's seen as an individual issue rather than a human basic human rights issue.

00:55:14.735 --> 00:55:17.735

Thank you so much, Mrs. Harmon. Thank you.

00:55:19.735 --> 00:55:31.735

Alright, with that we'll move on to the next item on the agenda, which is the fiscal, the PY, applications for funding on pages 86 through 91.

00:55:43.859 --> 00:55:51.859

Well, that was a fun season. We, you might remember that we tried a couple things this year that we hadn't done before.

00:55:49.077 --> 00:56:00.077

First was to give the agencies a little bit over 7 weeks to work on applications as opposed to the normal 5.

00:55:58.518 --> 00:56:04.518

And I don't think that really helped anybody that much. It really, I mean, it's like.

00:56:03.641 --> 00:56:11.641

It was, it meant we could open it right before the holidays, which was apparently no one's cup of tea, but mine.

00:56:10.641 --> 00:56:19.641

So next time around we might not bother to hurry getting everything approved by November in order to stand it all up by

00:56:18.465 --> 00:56:30.465

Christmas time. I do want to continue starting a little bit earlier than we have done, but it might still just be in the middle of holidays and not very helpful to agencies.

00:56:29.781 --> 00:56:40.781

The thing that we did differently that seemed to make - to be really good was not have them due on a Friday, but on a Monday instead.

00:56:41.031 --> 00:56:50.031

Almost everyone got their stuff done early. There were just only a few who waited to the last minute. That's how I'm wired too.

00:56:48.786 --> 00:57:01.786

I'd be right in there at 3 30. Scrambling and freaking out - but we got a lot of stuff early, and I was able to start reading the applications and kind of putting together this

00:57:02.290 --> 00:57:15.290

Chart and the rest of the materials here. It was anyway, there were also a few small things that happened that made it difficult for a couple of applicants.

00:57:09.970 --> 00:57:20.970

It didn't, they didn't affect everybody. They were simple things that we have already requested to be

00:57:20.160 --> 00:57:35.160

Fixed or improved in the online system because we can and that's - every year we find something that needs to be done a little bit differently, made better, and sometimes the enhancements cause new problems.

00:57:27.924 --> 00:57:39.924

So we've asked for the enhancements now so that we can make sure they don't cause huge problems.

00:57:38.191 --> 00:57:59.191

There were - One agency was asking to do something differently that I felt was way too different from normal but we we will talk to them and try to figure out a good solution - they put, they raise some really interesting issues, important issues that point to

00:57:59.191 --> 00:58:09.191

Inadequacies in our current system. So we want to get back to that. There may be a couple of other big things like that that we didn't fix, but we know we need to talk about.

00:58:08.696 --> 00:58:15.696

So anyway, that's about the application experience and now you have a look at the work that's to come.

00:58:14.159 --> 00:58:26.159

So there, I think, I think it's 23 applications to review and then one application was submitted to the special initiatives fund.

00:58:25.490 --> 00:58:35.490

And so that's 24. Maybe I've got the count wrong. But anyway, that I think that's a little less than last year.

00:58:34.939 --> 00:58:49.939

There aren't, there's one brand new agency to us and a new application and that's from GCAP, which has been around a long, long time, so you all probably know them.

00:58:48.750 --> 00:58:57.750

To my knowledge, that's the only really new thing except for this special initiatives fund request that's also new.

00:58:56.750 --> 00:59:10.750

So you might have questions about the applications themselves. I don't know a lot yet, but I can, if you So I sent everybody their login and password to online system.

00:59:10.350 --> 00:59:20.350

I know it's not super easy to use so we can print applications for you. We also have created PDFs of the full applications.

00:59:18.334 --> 00:59:32.334

I can email those to you all. Just whatever you - However you want to look at these and if you don't want to look at them too... We, we created a memo about the process of review

00:59:31.655 --> 00:59:44.655

So that you all can decide how you want it to go this year and let me know. This is just kind of what we've done in the past and the timeline that we've published, but it is not written in stone.

00:59:44.160 --> 00:59:54.160

You can change any parts of this, and I have a couple questions for you with that, but anyway... Maybe you have questions for me or comments or something.

00:59:56.674 --> 01:00:05.674

I'll speak. So I've done these a few times and I have always appreciated

01:00:04.613 --> 01:00:23.613

The the Cliff Notes versions done by the staff. Just because, you know, I'm a busy person and sometimes reading lots of data I kind of like No, what's the line I score?

01:00:22.115 --> 01:00:35.115

So, so I kinda like. The you know the cliff notes so I really appreciate those and a lot of times I tend to use those when I'm like the first or second presenter.

01:00:34.482 --> 01:00:41.482

Occasionally if I have questions then I will reach out to Lynn or staff and say, hey, can you tell me more about this or something like that?

01:00:40.481 --> 01:00:59.481

So I always appreciate those. And then I guess another personal opinion I have and maybe I should have brought this up not in a public meeting but we do have a member, you know, on our board who's going through some personal things.

01:00:57.165 --> 01:01:09.165

You know, I don't know if maybe that person would prefer to be like a second reader where they don't feel pressured to have to be the main presenter.

01:01:08.316 --> 01:01:17.316

So if you all like that like you want to keep essentially the way we've done the staff program summaries That's fine.

01:01:15.770 --> 01:01:23.770

We can do that. We can make changes to the format, whatever you like for your own review.

01:01:23.635 --> 01:01:33.635

Have you liked the assignment of primary and secondary reviews? Does that work for you all? And You don't know yet.

01:01:34.635 --> 01:01:37.635

I was gonna say that.

01:01:38.022 --> 01:01:47.022

I mean, I personally like it. Just... I know. Cause I'm going to extra prepare on those specific ones. Right.

01:01:44.227 --> 01:02:01.227

You know, because it is a lot to go through, and if we're just reading on all of them all equally it's kind of... The first applications are the ones I'm going through the most and then I'm trying to really catch up on the ones at the end but then at the end you're kind of like speeding through as opposed to like really focusing on the one you're assigned.

01:02:00.724 --> 01:02:08.724

And then this way everyone is, we're having a set at least 2 people really looking at that those specific

01:02:08.240 --> 01:02:25.240

Ones and then everyone else getting more of a synopsis of everything which I like I like that. You know, when you read through all of them, everyone's going to read through them all anyways, but you know it's you may pick up on things here and there but if there's at least 2 people really focusing on that,

01:02:25.106 --> 01:02:27.106

I feel like it's gonna be more thorough.

01:02:26.887 --> 01:02:39.887

Do you like the assignment to be sort of random or do you want to share with me and possibly Leon Bryson what you might be most interested in or things you don't want to

01:02:41.453 --> 01:02:47.453

Touch and if you've done it before... Do you want to see things you looked at last year or something different?

01:02:49.460 --> 01:02:53.460

I mean, I have really no no preference. I don't mind random.

01:02:55.529 --> 01:03:20.529

I mean, I will take random, but you know, there are some that I am more like passionate about so maybe I'm gonna dig a little bit deeper or something like that so that might be an idea and I think that in the past you guys have done a great job of trying to make everybody's caseload equal, but you know you know, my word of the year this year is not grace, but

01:03:19.920 --> 01:03:27.920

I think, you know. If, if, you know, Dr. Jon knows, hey, it's going to be really, you know, hectic.

01:03:25.355 --> 01:03:35.355

Maybe he's like, you know, I don't need 9. If you give me 7, I'm not going to be offended, you know, so maybe if people know that that's a busy time.

01:03:34.557 --> 01:03:43.557

I mean, Jen, you're on the county board. I mean, you know, I don't know if if there's, you know, that time. Yeah.

01:03:41.559 --> 01:03:55.559

So I mean, I'm just trying to, you know, say I think that it's okay if people say, hey, I think that it's okay if people say, Hey, I'll take a few extra this year or you know, oh, okay, if people say, hey, I'll take a few extra this year or, you know, oh, wait, you're I will not.

01:03:57.639 --> 01:04:01.639

Okay, first when is this due? Yeah.

01:04:01.470 --> 01:04:16.470

Doing discussing the application. So. So while March the twentieth is just a regular board meeting, we can bring you back the spreadsheet, and it - and even who would be assigned to review,

01:04:15.783 --> 01:04:21.783

And it other information if you're interested, if there are things that you, I saw that you did some calculations.

01:04:22.297 --> 01:04:34.297

Like maybe that's stuff that people want to see. But I thought if you want to, you might have initial questions like, why is this one almost twice as expensive as last year?

01:04:33.189 --> 01:04:41.189

Things that we wouldn't be ready to answer that sometimes the agencies are right here and they could answer, you don't have to do that at all.

01:04:39.337 --> 01:04:48.337

For the formal discussion, it would be April, the tenth and 7. No, April the seventeenth and 24.

01:04:47.525 --> 01:04:56.525

And April 10 is the staff deadline to get you a written - It's a review of of the applications.

01:04:55.846 --> 01:05:01.846

But then you only have a week. So we try to share them with you as we get them done, which is earlier.

01:05:01.723 --> 01:05:12.723

But, April 17 and 24 are 2 different meetings during which you discuss these. So I prefer the kids

01:05:11.965 --> 01:05:22.965

Like Cunningham and early childhood and Rosecranse. The ones that I'm familiar with.

01:05:22.114 --> 01:05:39.114

They make me smile. Well, and also, you know, as your career, you know some of these different, you know, measurement things and so that where I'm like What's that ABCD?

01:05:37.800 --> 01:05:45.800

You know, I'm just, you know, but you know, looking for equality and you know, the UP center.

01:05:42.300 --> 01:05:49.300

Now I can do that, you know, but you're gonna be better at being like, okay, what are you using to measure things?

01:05:44.171 --> 01:05:58.171

So they should be scared. No, I'm just joking. Hmm. I'm just joking. Dr.

01:05:57.855 --> 01:06:06.855

Liggins Chambers, do you kind of understand? And I say this only because I was brand new to the board last year when we did this, and I did not do my homework.

01:06:04.806 --> 01:06:16.806

Like Jane saved me. Do you kind of understand the format now? Okay.

01:06:24.762 --> 01:06:39.762

Just kissing. Don't give me Cunningham! Let's see, you'll give us the information on the spreadsheet on the twentieth and then we have to April seventeenth.

01:06:39.648 --> 01:06:44.648

And to read and then there's a week where we have to make a decision, is that correct?

01:06:44.086 --> 01:07:01.086

It's a little, well, and also you can change it. So my plan is I can send you PDFs of all the applications, everybody can have all the applications later tonight because I already have them uploaded like that or downloaded like that.

01:07:00.135 --> 01:07:09.135

And that's that's just it might be easier for people to follow that than it is to make make it make your way around the online system.

01:07:08.267 --> 01:07:16.267

But you have access to the online system too. It's just, I know it's not super convenient.

01:07:11.021 --> 01:07:25.021

So you can have those as early as tonight. And then we can start talking individually about which ones you really want to work on.

01:07:24.523 --> 01:07:31.523

And it's really not, it's. It's not harder than me doing random. It's really not.

01:07:29.330 --> 01:07:34.330

But the trick is making sure that it's not out of balance. Like maybe I've just

01:07:33.517 --> 01:07:41.517

Keep assigning things to Joe because it just makes sense and then he has 16 applications to review and you have none.

01:07:41.449 --> 01:07:47.449

So I have to be, that's the hard part is keeping a balance, but you all can help me with that.

01:07:45.913 --> 01:07:54.913

So you can have that very soon. And then at the March twentieth meeting, there's nothing, you don't have to do anything.

01:07:53.754 --> 01:08:04.754

But if you have like general questions or if you're already thinking about some of the applications, we usually have a lot of agencies at these meetings who might be able to answer and if they couldn't.

01:08:04.784 --> 01:08:17.784

But you wanna know something? I could work with them afterwards to get an answer to you. Just if that helps because usually we don't do anything really with it until those April 17 and 24

01:08:18.787 --> 01:08:30.787

Meetings for which I really want to have things to you at least a week in advance. And those are just our staff reviews and to some extent opinions.

01:08:30.357 --> 01:08:45.357

Yeah, and then the first reader is going to be the one that presents pretty much the whole, the whole proposal, and then the second reader just will add anything that they may not have added or seen that they wanted to specifically state.

01:08:46.939 --> 01:08:54.939

But if the per - the first reviewer is not present because of illness or some other reason then the second reader is there to present the the proposal.

01:08:54.018 --> 01:09:05.018

Cut in real quick. It's odd, we awkward being on zoom here. I apologize. you say you can send out the PDF tonight because looking at this there's some stuff I'm really interested in.

01:09:02.228 --> 01:09:10.228

You could probably assume what that is. Yeah, I, I kind of wanna see these as quick as possible so I can really dissect them.

01:09:13.586 --> 01:09:15.586

Thank you.

01:09:14.074 --> 01:09:23.074

Alright, any other questions? With that, I will move on to the draft Revised travel policy.

01:09:21.831 --> 01:09:32.831

I know that we're all so excited to talk about. I mean, it looks great. I have no problems with it.

01:09:26.214 --> 01:09:44.214

So I am totally fine approving it. I'd move to approve that. Second.

01:09:38.293 --> 01:09:53.293

Is any discussion? Alright, yeah, and yeah, any discussion? I don't think I had anything that I marked on there when I read through it.

01:09:53.941 --> 01:09:59.941

It looks Great, very meticulous.

01:10:00.185 --> 01:10:14.185

So we need to roll call that. Yep, so with that we need a, so we had a motion to approve the attached revised travel and business expense policy for Champaign County Mental Health Board and Champion County Developmental Disabilities Board.

01:10:14.064 --> 01:10:22.064

I mean, have a second for that. So with that, we'll have a voice vote. All those in favor say aye. Aye.

01:10:22.131 --> 01:10:28.131

All those opposed? Same sign. A motion passes. So awesome.

01:10:27.070 --> 01:10:35.070

Thanks, Jen. We've had it for a week. We don't, you know, yeah, we did our homework. Yes.

01:10:33.501 --> 01:10:45.501

Now the next thing is old business, which is the evaluation capacity building project. Ah we have Dr. Jacinda there.

01:10:46.598 --> 01:10:51.598

Ah, Dariotis, Dariotis. Okay.

01:10:53.112 --> 01:11:02.112

Well good evening everyone. Yay, Hump day. Almost over. So we just have brief remarks this evening.

01:11:01.615 --> 01:11:10.615

So the evaluation project is underway and we gave the report in the last meeting so I answered questions then.

01:11:09.241 --> 01:11:21.241

We are providing technical assistance to 3 of the different agencies. It's currently ongoing. We're working on the micro learnings, so those should be forthcoming.

01:11:19.044 --> 01:11:31.044

Probably we're going to roll them out individually, but we also have started to invite agency representatives who were interested after the GLA session about being part of a working group.

01:11:25.060 --> 01:11:39.060

And so we have invited 11 of them to participate in a continuous ongoing working group that will help to inform

01:11:39.079 --> 01:11:47.079

The action plans that we're submitting and that we're underway so that we can have a continuous dialogue.

01:11:44.217 --> 01:12:03.217

Does this work? Is it still relevant? Is there something else you'd like to see, including testing out the micro learnings before they go completely live and giving information on that as well as a learning community that we're starting to build electronically.

01:12:01.329 --> 01:12:10.329

So the hope is that we will start a learning community with resources and so forth and one place that they can find it.

01:12:10.010 --> 01:12:22.010

And then, hopefully having that turn into a community of practice where they're actually sharing knowledge amongst themselves over time in person or at least in real time virtually.

01:12:21.137 --> 01:12:35.137

That's the format that they want. But we want the working group to help inform us too to make sure that the formats are consistent with what

agencies are needing and not overtaxing them, but being a resource and a value added.

01:12:36.514 --> 01:12:48.514

Exciting, yeah. Yay. Yes, I'm excited because I just invited them in and we at least have 3 who are very enthusiastic, and it was just this week.

01:12:47.148 --> 01:12:56.148

So I'm anticipating more to want to be part of that process. And we are compensating them for their time because this is added above and beyond.

01:12:53.950 --> 01:13:01.950

So, but we haven't told them how much because we want them to be invested in it for, you know, intrinsic motivation.

01:13:01.453 --> 01:13:11.453

But, but, we do wanna - We want to recognize that they that their time is valuable, and that we're making sure that we recognize that.

01:13:04.779 --> 01:13:22.779

So yeah, so yeah. The kids would say 'slay.' They say 'slay'? Yeah, I don't understand that either.

01:13:22.527 --> 01:13:31.527

So yeah, any questions or anything else? I think it's awesome. The type of thing you're doing is great.

01:13:31.229 --> 01:13:38.229

And so our report outs will probably be minimal the next couple of times, cause it seems like you have a lot to review and talk about.

01:13:37.401 --> 01:13:44.401

So, just, you know, we won't interfere with that process, but. Well, thank you very much.

01:13:43.101 --> 01:13:46.101

Thank you so much.

01:13:46.105 --> 01:13:56.105

Alright, with that we'll move on to the expo update. Hey. So it's not on Halloween.

01:13:55.553 --> 01:13:59.553

I guess is that? Is that going to be the trick or treating weekend? That will be the trick or treating weekend, right?

01:13:58.932 --> 01:14:07.932

Or is it the acting? Urbana always does Halloween as the tricker treating so. We have to have sugared up overtired kids that are stay at school.

01:14:08.752 --> 01:14:10.752

That's just necessary.

01:14:12.642 --> 01:14:14.642

Joe!

01:14:22.160 --> 01:14:28.160

I heard Joe volunteer to come to my house on November first.

01:14:40.660 --> 01:14:51.660

Yeah, I think we already kind of talked about it when the reports. So, we can move on to the, okay, did you have anything you wanted to say?

01:14:49.414 --> 01:15:00.414

Just that there's, so there are the save the dates, the save to date flyers in English and Spanish, but there's also that, that report that was created in Munis, that's the accounting system

01:15:00.047 --> 01:15:18.047

Was Chris Wilson created that it's an update of the update on last year's expenses. So it's it's just that expose stuff tends to kind of dribble in all year like payments and bills come whenever they come.

01:15:13.357 --> 01:15:26.357

So we might even have a another report on 2023 next month but I appreciate him doing that just because it does change.

01:15:24.518 --> 01:15:31.518

It's good to have an idea of what we're spending that money on. The only other thing I was randomly thinking about.

01:15:31.523 --> 01:15:39.523

The other weekend was, I wonder if you combine 2 expos together. You know, we had the Comic-con one a couple of weekends ago.

01:15:34.934 --> 01:15:44.934

You can get a Comic-con and disability expo together. I mean, it'd be a lot of fun, you know. I mean, it's Halloween.

01:15:44.271 --> 01:15:55.271

Everyone's dressing up anyways, you know. So, no, but yeah, I think, you know, last year I think you guys did an amazing job.

01:15:47.323 --> 01:15:59.323

I think we did - you guys did an amazing job. Hopefully this year will go very well. Hopefully we'll get more

01:15:59.080 --> 01:16:08.080

Funders as well this year as opposed to last year. It was a little tough on the economy so hopefully things will be getting better this year.

01:16:10.159 --> 01:16:18.159

So with that we'll go on to the next item, which is the PY2024 quarter 2 program service reports.

01:16:31.467 --> 01:16:41.467

I got a little bit of feedback from the DD board this morning about like some of these aren't really that helpful since you can't see the first quarter data.

01:16:41.930 --> 01:16:51.930

And you, and they don't tell you like the volume of service, but what I think is very helpful or when there are comments and

01:16:50.757 --> 01:17:02.757

Some take, you know, some have to provide comments because there's a requirement in their contract to tell us about collaboration, that type of thing.

01:17:04.943 --> 01:17:14.943

But some just do, like they're telling pretty interesting details of the programs. So I apologize for the numeric data not being like super helpful.

01:17:14.512 --> 01:17:27.512

Yeah, I mean, I think just like a few examples of just like first followers that you know, just hearing that they're one of the residents moved into their own home, a second one, the second alum.

01:17:26.452 --> 01:17:34.452

Became a homeowner on page 139. Yeah. And then.

01:17:33.576 --> 01:17:42.576

They had a - Just there's a lot of awesome stories that the group and the residents should be really proud of.

01:17:35.469 --> 01:17:50.469

So I just wanted to spotlight that. And so I just wanted to spotlight that. And so I just wanted to spotlight that and then I guess going back to page 1- and so I just wanted to spot like that and then I guess going back to page 113 with the Champaign County Healthcare Consumers,

01:17:49.673 --> 01:17:58.673

Getting parenting classes, parenting class as a female inmates at the jail. I think that's very awesome and amazing, you know, progress.

01:17:58.003 --> 01:18:04.003

And You know, they had an increase in the number of female inmates that they had been serving through the program.

01:18:03.514 --> 01:18:11.514

And so I think it just, it was just great to see. You know, the progress a lot of these agencies have made.

01:18:10.215 --> 01:18:16.215

And even some of the obstacles, some have overcome, like the Champaign County Health Care Consumers with,

01:18:15.276 --> 01:18:29.276

Just like all the paperwork for the disability application process, having it get lost when they had to send it to the mail and even having to deliver it in person and a lot of the barriers that they had to overcome.

01:18:28.385 --> 01:18:35.385

Just I just want to just highlight all the hard work all these agencies are doing and just how proud you know as a board we are of them.

01:18:34.515 --> 01:18:40.515

You know, I know the work they do is not easy, and they do it out of the goodness of their heart because they want to help.

01:18:41.637 --> 01:18:48.637

You know, the community, you know, that we live in and. Just run it, really just reiterate how proud I am of all of these agencies and how hard they're working.

01:18:49.273 --> 01:19:00.707

So.

01:19:00.707 --> 01:19:11.707

Any other questions, comments? Alright, would that move on to the 2 1 1 fourth quarter, 2024 reports on page 157 to 173.

01:19:21.999 --> 01:19:35.999

So I will admit Lynn and I had had a little talk and she was talking, we were talking about what all was going to be in the packet and she brought this up and so when I started flipping through my packet, I got to these pages.

01:19:34.341 --> 01:19:46.341

I'm like, what is this? So, so it was a little like overwhelming to me plus you know I'm at the age where I have to move my book to read so I was like so.

01:19:47.273 --> 01:19:54.273

Yeah, but there's a lot of data. If you take the time to go through it.

01:19:56.683 --> 01:20:07.683

It's been consistently, you know, this is like times of calls and who's calling and that is all interesting and language usage on this page.

01:20:06.935 --> 01:20:16.935

But, you know, like the big, the big data point - is for years it's been calls about housing

01:20:16.184 --> 01:20:28.184

And utilities are the second priority and mental health is sometimes competing as second, but housing. And mental health and housing.

01:20:26.255 --> 01:20:39.255

I mean, it's this. Yeah, I - to ask Mrs. Harmon, but with the resource bank, are they using 2 1 1?

01:20:37.496 --> 01:20:47.496

Are they coordinating with them? She's not she's not responsible for that resource bank. That's a different initiative that's coming through the reentry council.

01:20:45.574 --> 01:21:00.574

But I wondered about that too. Like Why not just use 2 1 1? But I think sometimes the discussions of what resources are available are more like, what is your experience when you actually call that?

01:20:59.885 --> 01:21:14.885

Does this provide a really? We're - am I right? At Cunningham Township, we have called 2 1 1 to say like, Hey, so we're getting calls, you know, about this and that doesn't seem right.

01:21:13.708 --> 01:21:25.708

What are you talking, you know, we kind of - We make the calls just to figure out, You know, if there's something wrong or if we need to correct something and then we do.

01:21:25.469 --> 01:21:39.469

I think that's your question, but I'm very tired. So it's more like, you know, like everybody wants to make a resource directory for the special population they're serving and the perspective of people who really

01:21:32.916 --> 01:21:48.916

Invest in 2 1 1 is you don't need that. You just need 2 1 1. But I think there is a need for having a conversation about like who actually comes through for your people.

01:21:48.421 --> 01:22:08.421

So if that's the spirit behind a resource bank, I'm all for it. Yeah. Absolutely, and you know that goes back to the whole idea of like if the same kind of resources are being tapped into more than 2 or 3 places.

01:22:07.438 --> 01:22:21.438

Are we making the best use of those resources? So both, I see both sides of that. Yeah, I mean I think for us like an example for me is like when we, a lot of us, pediatrician started, we called around areas.

01:22:21.084 --> 01:22:30.084

For like eye doctors, said, do you take Medicaid? Do you take medication? Do you take me like called Chittick Eye Center, the eye center called Bard optical, John Optical.

01:22:28.517 --> 01:22:38.517

It's like, okay, so then we made a list. It was like, okay, so when we give it to families like here, these places take Medicaid and tell me if they don't, tell me if they, I'm like, okay, this one doesn't take Molina now.

01:22:37.639 --> 01:22:41.639

Isn't it? Yeah. And so, yeah. And so then, and then you do that for the dentist too.

01:22:37.958 --> 01:22:58.958

And he's like, okay, you go familia dental, public health department and then, you know, Francis Nelson and then for kids you can go to 4 4 years and older, the Parkland dental hygiene program, and then for counselors it's like Hope Springs, Rosecrance, ABC counseling, and it's just like and then there's a few other places I'll see a

01:22:58.772 --> 01:23:06.772

few Medicaid populations and then Carle you can get sometimes it's gonna be like a six-month wait and it's gonna take a while.

01:23:05.387 --> 01:23:10.387

And so, and then, so you build these lists, but then they're, they change every once in a while.

01:23:08.955 --> 01:23:15.955

They always tell families, let me know if that's not true anymore. And then we'll change that update the list, but

01:23:15.172 --> 01:23:26.172

And it's usually like, like you said, they come in to you and then you have probably a list of places you've referred, people like, oh, you called this place, and if it turns out they don't, then you update your own list.

01:23:25.743 --> 01:23:37.743

Yeah, maybe one day, just one day. We would not separate eyes, mouth, mental health from health.

01:23:39.166 --> 01:23:41.166

Yeah, it's all health.

01:23:43.731 --> 01:24:11.731

I don't, I don't wanna keep you all here forever, and I'm gonna give you like 40 pages or more about my conference sessions, but there really was a Oh, huge emphasis on the collaborations between HUD and CMS where CMS is creating flexibilities for states to provide some housing supports through Medicaid, which is new, but it makes doesn't it make sense?

01:24:12.056 --> 01:24:19.056

But it's the federal government is really slow to create flexibility in Medicaid because that's federal dollars going out the door.

01:24:14.185 --> 01:24:24.185

So they're still time limited and they have to be budget neutral. So those are - That's great talk, but

01:24:23.935 --> 01:24:30.935

I don't believe it until we're able to access it here in Champaign County. HUD maybe a little different.

01:24:29.303 --> 01:24:44.303

There's like, you know, an acknowledgement of the relationship between housing and mental health and so some maybe opening up some new voucher programs like the shelter plus care type, you know, permanent supportive housing with services,

01:24:45.388 --> 01:24:52.388

More aligned with housing first so. But we'll see like as HUD ends up getting sort of constrained by

01:24:52.126 --> 01:25:01.126

Politics and and it's an election year so I don't really want to have really high expectations, but I think that's where the magic could be.

01:25:00.715 --> 01:25:16.715

It's just, right? So. So, and you know, just really broad alignment, and that was one of the gifts of this like asking all those different agencies to collaborate on the priorities that they do have in common that some of this guidance is coming out that

01:25:18.468 --> 01:25:22.468

States can already use some of these flexibilities. Yeah.

01:25:21.902 --> 01:25:31.902

Oh, you're good. That's good. Any other questions or comments? We'll go on to successes and other agency input.

01:25:31.779 --> 01:25:47.779

I'll reserve the, the authority to limit the individual participation to 5 min. If there's any agencies that want to speak now, You can raise your hand on the on the stream.

01:25:46.778 --> 01:25:50.778

Is there anybody that... have their hand down that wants to talk.

01:25:52.042 --> 01:25:55.042

Alright, with that we'll move on to board to board reports.

01:25:54.170 --> 01:26:03.170

We have any board to board. I would that move on to county board input? Anything from the county?

01:26:01.909 --> 01:26:15.909

The County appreciates you. Well, that is appreciated. We'll move on to the Champaign County developmental disabilities

01:26:15.667 --> 01:26:26.667

Yeah. You get a hundred percent raise right now. Yes. Yeah.

01:26:26.730 --> 01:26:32.730

And then we'll move on to Champaign County Developmental Disability Board input. Is there any input from them?

01:26:32.174 --> 01:26:44.174

They met this morning. They had 2 presentations and those 2 presentations were on 2 programs each. So it was a long meeting, but like really cool.

01:26:39.736 --> 01:26:49.736

Like. I mean, I don't - I shouldn't go into the details. Sorry, but it was really cool.

01:26:48.293 --> 01:26:56.293

So you can watch the video anytime you want or look at the board packet because the presentations are in there too.

01:26:50.547 --> 01:27:02.547

Anyway, they also approved the travel policy and I - and with no discussion. I think I shared it with y'all.

01:27:02.794 --> 01:27:10.794

Much earlier than I got a lot of input from the auditor's office, the states attorney civil division chief

01:27:10.549 --> 01:27:24.549

Like just kind of. We had developed that in 2018 or 19, and it was already outdated because of changes at the in the County's practice and policy and in IRS standards.

01:27:22.428 --> 01:27:34.428

There are some things that have to be different from other county units like - Because you all are volunteer board members, your expenses for certain things can be paid.

01:27:28.298 --> 01:27:41.298

It's the opposite for county board members. So. It's they're just a few things that are very, very different.

01:27:39.976 --> 01:27:51.976

Anyway, I really appreciate you all supporting us updating it so that we can be moving more in alignment with everybody else.

01:27:52.819 --> 01:27:55.819

And that's it. I think that's it.

01:27:55.392 --> 01:28:01.392

Any other announcements? No. All right.

01:28:01.452 --> 01:28:07.452

I will move to adjourn. See everybody on March twentieth.