Pinellas County Homeless Leadership Board

HLB Board Meeting
Friday, November 1, 2019 | 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Empath Health, 5771 Roosevelt Blvd., Clearwater

AGENDA

1. Welcome & Introductions – Amy Foster, Board Chair

2. Consent Agenda: Action
   i) October 4, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes
   ii) Board Member Attendance Through October 4, 2019
   iii) October 2019 Committee Reports
   iv) CEO Update October 2019

3. Public Comment

4. September 2019 Data Dashboard Information

5. Housing First / Low Barrier Questionnaire Action

6. Pinellas County CoC Board Membership Update Information

7. Racial Disparities Presentation Information

Adjourn

The Next HLB Board Meeting is Scheduled for December 6, 2019 at 10:00 AM
At Empath Health, 5771 Roosevelt Blvd., Clearwater
Homeless Leadership Board
HLB Board Meeting
Friday, October 4, 2019 | 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Empath Health, 5771 Roosevelt Blvd., Clearwater, FL 33760

Attendees

Butler, Rick
Carr, Nicole
Cundiff, Bob
Mollo, Sara (for Bob Dillinger)
Donovan, Connor
Forsythe, Lariana
McGillen, Sean (for Bob Gualtieri)
Holck, Donna
Jalazo, Michael
Johnson, Debbie
Lott, April
Picard, Samuel
Sabiel, Keith
Simmons, Shadai
Sousa, Thomas

HLB Staff

Myers, Susan
Finlaw-Dusseault, Susan
Kazawitch, Cindy
Slyker, Avery
Leapley, Brian
Streiter, Alex
Priddy, Margi
Price, Iris
Jackson, R. David (HLB attorney standing in for Regina Kardash)

1. Agenda Item: Welcome & Introductions

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM

2. Agenda Item: Consent Agenda

• Items to Remove from Consent Agenda: none.

• One good news item: Kevin Marrone of Boley Centers passed out an invitation to the Open House for the new Ranch on October 30 at 9625 66th Street North, Pinellas Park from 11 AM to 1:00 PM.

   MOTION: April Lott motioned for all consent agenda items to be approved, seconded by Bob Cundiff. Passed unanimously.

3. Agenda Item: Monthly Data Report

• November will be the next quarterly data presentation. Members asked that more context be provided behind the numbers. A column will be added to future reports to indicate whether numbers are trending up, down or have remained the same.
Discussion about the flux in numbers for Rapid Rehousing. It was noted that one provider had erroneous data entry that skewed the entire CoC. Phase II for the last HMIS transition is data quality and work is currently underway to collect quality data by working with the various providers.

**MOTION:** April Lott motioned that an additional column be added indicating trends to future Monthly Data Reports and presentations, seconded by Donna Holck. Passed unanimously.

4. **Agenda Item:** Articles of Incorporation

- The Chair reordered the agenda and moved this item to position 4.

- Included in the items for this part of the agenda were a Memorandum by the Board Attorney regarding the proposed revisions to the Articles of Incorporation; the revised Articles of Incorporation, and a Resolution for the Articles Amendment. The Resolution needs Board approval.

- During last Executive Committee, there was a motion to change the name of the Homeless Leadership Board to Homeless Leadership Alliance of Pinellas to help the community understand the difference between the CoC and the nonprofit.

- The purpose was changed on Article Three and now indicates that the Homeless Leadership Alliance will serve as the lead agency to the CoC, the Collaborative Applicant and HMIS lead agency. The Executive Committee believed the HLA also needed a broader purpose and ‘providing any and all services, coordination and funding management necessary to carry out the policy goals of the CoC’ was added.

*Shadai Simmons left the room at 10:27 AM and returned at 10:29 AM*

- The three founding members of the Board of Directors were added back into the document and the minimum number for Board members was changed to no less than three.

- For the CoC Board, the membership will vote and for the nonprofit, members will be brought in via a nominating committee if they choose this method.

- The Articles of Incorporation need to be updated with additional Board members and any change in the registered agent for the annual report.

**MOTION:** Debbie Johnson motion to approve the Articles of Incorporation and this was seconded by April Lott. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

5. **Revised HLB Bylaws**

- The Chair reordered the agenda and moved this item to position 5.

- The Bylaws were not being presented for a motion or vote but for feedback. The chair opened the item to questions. The first question raised was about potential conflicts of interest which is addressed on
page 12 of the Bylaws. It was suggested that the Bylaws add a disclosure statement and include specific language about receiving funding from the nonprofit.

- Discussion also took place regarding strategies the CoC had agreed on as priorities to end homelessness and creating a different definition of homelessness than HUD. Board members would like to ensure that this doesn’t get lost.

6. **Draft Memorandum of Understanding**

- The Chair reordered the agenda and moved this item to position 6.

- This item is not yet an action item until January 2020 for the new Board. This is also another item that was being presented for feedback and not a vote or motion.

- There was concern about the length of the agreement and not going out to bid but it was noted that there is a termination clause in the Memorandum as well as a renewal length of three years.

7. **CoC Membership Documents: Brochure, Application**

- The Chair reordered the agenda and moved this item to position 7.

- The brochure and application will be posted on the HLB Website shortly. Each member will be assigned a number for a ballot and that number will be on their ballot. Work will be underway shortly to change the logo and all affiliated documents. The logo will remain as it is with the only change being changing ‘Board’ to ‘Alliance of Pinellas’.

- Agencies are permitted two representatives. There was concern over agencies or providers with many different departments having overrepresentation and it was suggested that representatives are by area of expertise.

- A roadshow should take place to get more cities involved on the Board.

- The Tarpon Springs representative voiced concern about many of the current Board representatives are in locations from Clearwater and south and very few are out of the northern part of the county.

- The application should include a way for applicants to apply for a waiver of the fees.

8. **Housing First / Low Barrier Questionnaire**

- The Chair reordered the agenda and moved this item to position 8.

- Funders Council had reviewed the questionnaire and advised to remove the language about program participants acting in a threatening manner on question 18. If respondents answered yes on this question, Funders Council advised that they would like a follow up question asking why.
Lariana Forsythe left the room at 11:15 AM and returned at 11:17 AM
Bob Cundiff left the room at 11:14 AM and returned at 11:19 AM
Sean McGillen left the room at 11:14 AM and returned at 11:21 AM

- Some members believe the questionnaire needs to go back to Funders Council for further refinement.

**MOTION:** Sean King motioned that the questionnaire go back to Funders Council for review. Seconded by Bob Cundiff. All in favor. Passed unanimously.

9. Eviction Reduction Taskforce Presentation

- The Chair moved this presentation to the last item on the agenda.

- In April 2019, members of the Homeless Leadership Board and the community began meeting to examine the effects of private evictions on homelessness in Pinellas County in an effort to find ways to reduce these evictions and perhaps have fewer households entering the homeless crisis response system.

- The results were presented by Thomas Sousa, the Homeless Advocate HLB Board member.

- After reviewing the presentation, Board members requested a copy. This will be provided by HLB staff.

10. Comments

April Lott of Directions for Living read a letter sent to one of her staff from a formerly homeless man that a staff member had met in the St. Vincent soup kitchen. This gentleman was suicidal at the time and the staff member helped get him into Pinellas Hope while he waited to take his truck driving instruction. He is currently a licensed driver, sober, no longer suicidal, homeless or hopeless and expressed his gratitude toward the staff member for ‘basically saving my life’.

The meeting concluded at 11:53 AM.
# 2018-19 Homeless Leadership Board of Directors Attendance

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**N = NOTICED ABSENCE**

**TOTAL MEMBERSHIP = 24**  **VOTING MEMBERS = 24**  **QUORUM = 13**

**RESIGNED, REMOVED, UNABLE TO SERVE**

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**Resigned 8.2.19**

**can no longer serve 9.9.19**

[Click Here to Return to Agenda](#)
Data and System Performance Committee (DSP) – The committee continued work on establishing project-specific benchmarks and should complete the drafted benchmarks during the next meeting. Once benchmarks are completed, they will be sent to Provider’s Council for approval. The committee reached out to St. Petersburg Free Clinic and CASA for new members, one representing Transitional Housing and the other Domestic Violence. The committee reviewed and approved the monthly data, to include the VA trend report.

Data and System Performance Racial Disparities Subcommittee – The subcommittee finalized the presentation for the HLB Board on the 2019 Point-in-Time data. The committee reviewed raw data from system exits and requested HLB staff review the data and bring back to the committee any significant findings.

Youth Action Board (YAB) – The Board finalized presentation materials for their October 21, 2019 Listening Session. 2020 Point-in-Time marketing materials and YAB social media items were postponed to the November 2019 meeting.

Point-in-Time Planning Committee – The committee reviewed the 2019 Point-in-Time (PIT) deployment zone data from Pinellas HMIS. Pinellas HMIS requested for the 2020 PIT, the committee provide a list of volunteers per deployment zones and time frames. It was determined to maintain the same zones as the 2019 PIT. It was recommended that deployment sites, track volunteers that do not show up for their registered shift. There are currently 123 volunteers registered but only 24 team leads, the committee voted that there was a need for 100 team leads. The training committee stated it was in need for at least two additional trainers. The City of St. Petersburg volunteered, and VOA volunteered to teach a community training.

Rapid Re-Housing Providers Housing Specialists Meeting: The group met on October 15, 2019 and received a presentation from Matt Spence, Chief Programs Officer at Feeding Tampa Bay. He provided information on what Feeding Tampa Bay does and how to get involved. He also informed attendees about an upcoming partnership in the Lealman area. The group discussed future landlord event planning and the upcoming tour of the Foundation for a Healthy St. Petersburg’s Center for Health Equity. Information on training opportunities and upcoming events was given. Contact information for all attendees is provided so that valuable information can be shared with the individuals in the group between meetings. The group will continue to meet on a monthly basis at JWB, and the next meeting for the Rapid Re-Housing Providers Housing Specialists Meeting is scheduled for November 19, 2019.
1. The CEO and COO met with Chief Barrs of the Treasure Island Fire Rescue Department to discuss a growing homeless population in the City of Treasure Island. Discussion surrounded the role of the HLB in the community, current strategies to end homelessness, and available homeless resources in the community. Chief Barrs expressed compassionate concern for those experiencing homelessness and was invited to attend any of the HLB’s public meetings.

2. The CEO and two HLB staff attended the annual conference for the Florida Coalition for the Homeless. Workshops attended included those on HMIS, Legislative Advocacy, Youth Homelessness, Housing First, Community Partners, and other homeless related sessions. HUD representatives conducted a presentation and stated that what matters most are the following System Performance Measures - housing people faster, reducing annual PIT counts, reducing length of time homelessness, reducing recidivism, and increasing employment and income. HUD announced at the conference that the fourth round of the Youth Homeless Demonstration Project is scheduled to be released at the beginning of the year.

3. St. Petersburg City Councilmember Steve Kornell is advocating to the St. Petersburg City Council for an additional $250,000 to provide assistance to students who are precariously housed in the seven transformational schools in St. Petersburg. He has held several planning meetings which include staff from the HLB, the City, the School Board, PEMHS, and 211. His intent is to focus on those youth and families who “fall through the cracks” because they fall under the McKinney-Vento definition of homelessness and not HUD’s definition of literally homeless. The specifics of his proposed plan are not yet finalized.

4. The HLB’s Youth Action Board (YAB) held a youth listening session on 10/21. The purpose of this event was to invite adults to listen to youth as they shared their experiences with homelessness. Twenty adults attended this amazing opportunity to listen to the challenges and obstacles that homeless youth have had to navigate. It was a powerful session and hopefully the YAB will offer this opportunity again.
AGENDA ITEM DESCRIPTION FORM

Meeting Name: Homeless Leadership Board

Meeting Date: November 1, 2019

Item Title: September 2019 Data Dashboard and Veteran Trend Reports

Agenda Item Number: 4

Name of Staff Member Submitting: Avery Slyker

Background:
The data were extracted from PHMIS on October 7, 2019, and covers September 1 – 30, 2019.

The CoC’s Monthly Housing Placement Rate for September 2019 was at 22%. The average Housing Placement Rate for FY 2018/2019 is 24%.

The Housing Placement Rate is equal to the number of unduplicated individuals that exited to permanent housing, including RRH and PSH, during the month (253) divided by the total number of unduplicated individuals that entered the Homeless Crisis Response System (1,159).

Homeless Crisis Response System Data

Individuals that entered into the Homeless Crisis Response System (Unduplicated Data):

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Individuals that entered into the Homeless Crisis Response System by Project Type (Duplicated Data – e.g., Individual entered ES then RRH):

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**Monthly Exits from the Homeless Crisis Response System (Unduplicated Data):**

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Note-HUD has a new exit destination, “Homeless Destinations”. This new data element are individuals that exited the system to a literally homeless situation. Formally, HUD included these destinations under “Temporary Exit Destinations”.

**Returns to Homelessness**

The September 2019 overall total of individuals that exited to a permanent housing destination but returned to homelessness within a two-year period increased by 34 individuals from August 2019. Individuals that exited from ES, TH and RRH remain the highest numbers of returns to the Homeless Crisis Response System. The Data & System Performance Committee (DSP) is concerned about the data quality within this measure and believe the high percentage of returns is due to how individuals exiting a project are being coded in Pinellas HMIS. DSP is working with HLB staff to research exit destinations to make recommendations for Pinellas HMIS training.

**Veteran’s Dashboard**

The Veteran Trend Data report is a monthly count of the data within a 90-day reporting period, as required by the Veterans’ Administration. Except for the number of Veterans added to Pinellas HMIS (first chart), the numbers within this report are cumulative.

Benchmarks A, B and C were not met.

The Veteran’s Leadership Team established the local criteria for Benchmark D, establishing that the number of Veterans experiencing homelessness who enter service-intensive transitional housing is significantly less than the number of Veterans entering homelessness. For FL-502 the number of Veterans must be 50% or less, to meet the benchmark.

Benchmark D was met.

**Budget Impact (if any):** NA

**Staff Recommendation:** Approval of the September 2019 Data Dashboard and Veteran Trend Data.

**CEO Approval:** Susan Myers, CEO – Approved, 10/28/19
Monthly Housing Placement Rate: 22%

Housing Placement Rate = Total Unduplicated Positive Exits (253) / Total Unduplicated Number of Clients (1,159)

Unduplicated Individuals that Entered the Homeless Crisis Response System

Number of Individuals (Duplicated) by Project Type

- Emergency Shelter: 26
- Rapid Re-Housing: 54
- Safe Haven: 18
- Street Outreach: 22
- Transitional Housing: 50
- Single Adults: 922
- Adults in Households with Minor Children: 49
- Minor Children in Households: 103
- Unaccompanied Youth in Youth Homeless Projects: 13

There were an additional 1,931 active, unduplicated clients carried over from August 2019.

Exits

253 individuals (unduplicated) had positive exits
There were a total of 1,243 unduplicated exits

Unduplicated Individuals that Exited the Homeless Crisis Response System

Exit Destinations (Duplicated Data)

- Missed Curfew: 441
- Permanent Destinations: 253
- Unknown: 237
- Homeless Destinations: 221
- Institutional Settings: 139
- Other Destinations: 79

Exits

- Total Clients - Unduplicated
- Percentage of Clients

*Homeless Destinations include literally homeless destinations as defined by HUD. Formally, these destinations were included in Temporary Exit Destinations.
Individuals Who Returned to Homelessness

35% September 2019 Total Returns to Homelessness in Two Years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exit was from</th>
<th>Total # of Persons Who Exit to Permanent Housing Destination (2 Years Prior)</th>
<th>Returns to Homelessness in less than 6 Months (0-180 days)</th>
<th>ONLY Returns to Homelessness from 6 to 12 Months (0-365 days)</th>
<th>Cumulative: Returns to Homelessness from 0 to 24 Months (0-365 days)</th>
<th>ONLY Returns to Homelessness from 13 to 24 Months (0-730 days)</th>
<th>Cumulative: Returns to Homelessness from 0 to 24 Months (0-730 days)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SO</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0 (0.00%)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0 (0.00%)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0 (0.00%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ES</td>
<td>2260</td>
<td>582 (25.75%)</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>746 (33.01%)</td>
<td>159</td>
<td>905 (40.04%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TH</td>
<td>421</td>
<td>60 (14.25%)</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>96 (22.80%)</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>123 (29.22%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SH</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>7 (13.46%)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>16 (30.77%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSH</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>6 (8.82%)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>12 (17.65%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RRH</td>
<td>449</td>
<td>38 (8.46%)</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>86 (19.15%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OPH</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0 (0.00%)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0 (0.00%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL Returns to Homelessness</td>
<td>3257</td>
<td>693 (21.28%)</td>
<td>229</td>
<td>922 (28.31%)</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>1142 (35.06%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data obtained for this section is from the HUD Required, System Performance Measure, HMIS Report 0701, Measure 2a and 2b: The Extent to Which Persons Who Exit Homelessness to Permanent Housing Destinations Return to Homelessness within 24 months. OPH is only Catholic Charities' TIP project.. PH includes VASH, Shelter+Care and HOME Vouchers.

Pinellas HMIS Dashboard Report Definitions

- **Housing Placement Rate** - The number of individuals with positive exits during the month divided by total number of individuals that entered the Homeless Crisis Response System during the month.
- **Entries** - The point of entry into the Homeless Crisis Response System.
- **Individuals** - An unduplicated/duplicated (indicated) count of adults and children.
- **Project Type** - CoC program component (Permanent Supportive Housing, Rapid Re-Housing, Transitional Housing, Safe Haven, Emergency Shelter, and Prevention Services.)
- **System Performance Measures (SPMs)** - Seven System Performance Measures to help communities gauge their progress toward the goal of ending homelessness. Each Continuum of Care (CoC) is expected to use these measures to evaluate how well homeless systems are functioning and where improvements are necessary. These two System Performance Improvement briefs highlight different aspects to help CoCs better understand and improve their homeless system.
- **Carried Forward** - Individuals that were enrolled in the Homeless Crisis Response System the month prior to the reporting period and remain open.
- **Exits** - Represents the end of an individual's participation within a project.
- **Positive Exits** - Individuals that moved into permanent destinations.
- **Negative Exits** - Individuals that have ended participation within a project but have not moved into permanent destinations.
FL-502

Veteran Trend Data

September 2019

Veteran Trend Report is based on information provided within the Pinellas Homeless Management Information System (Pinellas HMIS), as of October 7, 2019.

Not Met - Benchmark A - Chronic and long-term homelessness among Veterans has been ended. PHMIS Data only. The community has no Veterans experiencing chronic or long-term homelessness, with the rare exceptions of:

1. Any Veteran who has been identified and offered an available permanent housing intervention, but who has not yet accepted;
2. Any Veteran who has been offered an available permanent housing intervention but has declined and instead chosen to enter a transitional housing program in order to appropriately address a clinical need, such as by providing, for example, treatment and services for homeless Veterans with substance use disorders or other mental health disorders, Safe Haven-like services for chronically homeless Veterans, or recuperative care for homeless Veterans post hospitalization; and,
3. Any Veteran that has accepted a permanent housing intervention but is still actively in the process of identifying, securing, or moving into a unit. It is important to note that this exemption expires 90 days after acceptance of the permanent housing intervention. The community continues to outreach to any Veterans experiencing long-term homelessness that has not yet accepted an offer of a permanent housing intervention, and continues to offer an available permanent housing intervention to those Veterans at least once every two weeks.

Note: Exempted groups one and two have not been applied to Benchmarks A or B:

Exempted Group 1: Those Veterans experiencing either chronic or long-term homelessness who have been identified and offered a permanent housing intervention within the last two weeks but who have not yet accepted. Communities are responsible for ensuring that these Veterans are continually engaged and receive a documented offer of permanent housing at least every 14 days.

Exempted Group 2: Those Veterans experiencing either chronic or long-term homelessness who have been offered an available permanent housing intervention but have declined and instead chosen to enter a transitional housing program in order to access generalized case management or job training are not included within this exempted group. (Note: Federal agencies will not be asking for detailed or personalized information regarding such exemptions, such as official confirmation of clinical needs.)
Not Met - Benchmark B - Veterans have quick access to permanent housing. PHMIS Data only. The community has a system in place to connect Veterans experiencing homelessness to permanent housing in an average of 90 days or less, measured from the day they are identified as experiencing homelessness to the day they enter permanent housing.

Not Met - Benchmark C - The community has sufficient permanent housing capacity. The number of Veterans exiting homelessness and moving into permanent housing is greater than or equal to the number of Veterans entering homelessness.

Met - Benchmark D - The community is committed to Housing First and provides service-intensive transitional housing to Veterans experiencing homelessness only in limited instances. PHMIS Data only. The number of Veterans experiencing homelessness who enter service-intensive transitional housing is significantly less (50% of lower) than the number of Veterans entering homelessness.

Data notes:
- The count for the Veterans that entered service-intensive Transitional Housing is continuous for the 90-day period of the report. This means, these individuals may have been housed at any time during the 3-month period.
- Newly Identified Homeless Veterans: These are individuals within the continuous 90-day period preceding the benchmark measurement.
**AGNDA ITEM DESCRIPTION FORM**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting Name:</th>
<th>Homeless Leadership Board</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meeting Date:</td>
<td>November 01, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item Title:</td>
<td>Housing First/Low Barrier Questionnaire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agenda Item Number:</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name of Staff Member Submitting:</td>
<td>Susan Myers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Background:</td>
<td>The Funders Council placed the Housing First/Low Barrier Questionnaire on the October 4th HLB Board agenda for approval. Following Board discussion and public comment, the Board sent the questionnaire back to the Funders Council for further refinement. The Funders Council reviewed and discussed the tool at their meeting on October 25th. The questionnaire provides the opportunity for an organization to justify any “yes” responses in order to track if an organization has funder requirements that may not follow the CoC’s Housing First/Low Barrier approach. As a result of this opportunity to explain unique circumstances, the Funders Council voted to retain the questionnaire in its current format.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget Impact (if any):</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff Recommendation:</td>
<td>Approve the Funders Council recommendation to implement the Housing First/Low Barrier Questionnaire as submitted.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CEO Approval:</td>
<td><em>Susan Myers, CEO – Approved, 10/29/19</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Housing First/Low Barrier Questionnaire

Organization Name: 

Housing First/Low Barrier shelters and permanent housing programs are proven effective in engaging and assisting all sub-populations of homeless persons to a path to permanent stable housing. Communities have demonstrated that programs can be well-run and safe without requirements that keep many homeless individuals from entering and/or remaining in their programs.

The Continuum of Care (CoC) has designed this Housing First/Low Barrier Questionnaire to assist providers and the CoC with documenting how closely organizations align with the CoC’s Housing First approach. The CoC uses this tool to: track an organization’s progress in aligning with Housing First best practice standards, to identify what organizations are doing well, and where improvements can be made through technical assistance. Organizations are encouraged to use this questionnaire as an iterative tool to track progress on implementing Housing First over time and as an excellent opportunity to initiate Housing First conversations among various levels of project staff.

Please answer the following questions related to the organization’s criteria and program rules. The questionnaire will be scored with each “yes” answer receiving 0 points and each “no” answer receiving 1 point. An N/A answer will receive 1 point. Maximum points are 25. The higher the score, the closer the organization is to being Housing First/Low Barrier.

For the consistency of the data collection process, please do not alter, change, or add additional information on this questionnaire. Questionnaires submitted that are altered, changed, or have additional comments will be considered void and will receive a score of 0.

1. Will/Does the organization require a background screening prior to program entry (excluding sexual offender/predator check)?
   Yes ☐ No ☐

2. Will/Does the organization prohibit persons with certain criminal convictions (e.g. violent felonies, arson) from entering their programs (excluding registered sexual offender/predator)?
   Yes ☐ No ☐

3. Does the organization require drug screening prior to program entry?
   Yes ☐ No ☐

4. Will/Does the organization require participants to be clean and sober prior to program entry and/or during program stay?
   Yes ☐ No ☐
5. Will/Does the organization require alcohol/drug tests on participants suspected of being under the influence?
   Yes ☐    No ☐

6. Will/Does a positive alcohol/drug test result in termination from the program and/or require participant to participate in substance abuse treatment and/or detox to resume program services?
   Yes ☐    No ☐

7. Will/Does the organization require participants to have a mental health evaluation prior to program entry?
   Yes ☐    No ☐

8. Will/Does the organization require program participants who demonstrate mental health symptoms to participate in mental health services and/or medication compliance (excluding those who present a danger to self or others) as a condition of services?
   Yes ☐    No ☐

9. Will/Does the organization require participants to have income at time of program entry?
   Yes ☐    No ☐

10. Will/Does the organization require participants to obtain an income as a condition of remaining in the program?
    Yes ☐    No ☐

11. Will/Does the organization require participants to participate in supportive services (such as vocational training, employment preparation, budgeting or life skills classes; not including required case management meetings) as a condition of continued services?
    Yes ☐    No ☐

12. Will/Does the organization require participants to be ‘progressing’ in their goals in order to remain in the program?
    Yes ☐    No ☐

13. Will/Does the organization require participants to sign a services plan agreement to receive your services? (Please note a service plan is not the same as a housing plan.)
    Yes ☐    No ☐

14. Will/Does the organization’s program participant have to do “chores” as a part of program stay and/or will program participants who do work around the facility receive special treatment or are rewarded with special benefits (applicable for facility/program-based emergency shelters, transitional housing, permanent housing)?
    Yes ☐    No ☐    N/A ☐
15. Will/Does the organization include curfews and/or required ‘lights out’ time for all program participants
   (applicable for facility/program-based emergency shelters, transitional housing, permanent housing)?
   Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐

16. Will/Does the organization exclude or refuse program entry based on race, color, religion, national
   origin, disability, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or gender expression.
   Yes ☐ No ☐

17. Will/Does the organization include any requirements, outside of those typically found in a lease
   agreement or in “community-living” conduct rules (applicable for facility/program-based emergency
   shelters, transitional housing, permanent housing, scattered site housing)? Examples of acceptable
   “community-living” rules include agreement to be non-violent, agreement to no weapons on site,
   agreement to no alcohol/drug consumption on site.
   Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐

18. Will an organization’s program participant be asked/forced to leave the program and/or will organization
   refuse services if program participant is being viewed as disrespectful to a staff member or other
   program participant?
   Yes ☐ No ☐

19. Will/Does the organization’s program participants have to travel to the organization’s office(s) to receive
   the majority of their services, including case management, after they are housed (applicable to scattered-
   site PSH, RRH and HP programs)?
   Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐

20. Will/Does the organization’s program participants have to travel to the organization’s office(s) to receive
    the majority of services, including case management (applicable to Street Outreach and Engagement
    only)?
    Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐

21. Will/Does the organization exclude any dependent children in the household, based on age and/or gender,
    from remaining with the household at the program (applicable for facility/program-based emergency
    shelters, transitional housing, and permanent housing for households with children)?
    Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐

22. Will/Does the organization prohibit any member(s) of a household (as defined by the household), based on
    age, gender, biological relationship and/or marital status, from residing together at the program
    (applicable for facility/program-based emergency shelters, transitional housing, permanent housing, scattered site permanent housing)?
    Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A ☐
23. Will/Does the organization exclude any family composition type: single dad, single mom, same gender couples, opposite-gender couples, multi-generational, and non-romantic groups who present for services as a family (applicable to programs that serve households with children under the age of 18)?
   Yes □   No □   N/A □

24. Will/Does the organization require program participants to be “placed” in accordance with their sex assigned at birth and/or “perceived” gender; and/or require participant to “prove” their gender identity prior to receiving services (applicable for facility/program-based emergency shelters, transitional housing, permanent housing, scattered site permanent housing)?
   Yes □   No □   N/A □

25. Will/Does the organization exclude participants who do not have a form of identification (applicable for emergency shelters)?
   Yes □   No □   N/A □

TOTAL SCORE:
In order that the Homeless Leadership Board may provide technical assistance if necessary, please describe any challenges that may be preventing this organization from implementing Housing First principles and practices:

If the response is “yes” to any of the questions above, please indicate the corresponding question number and provide a detailed justification for this response. Any relevant policies or procedures that support the explanation provided should also be attached. Please reference the applicable policy or procedure in the explanation.

Certification of Responses
I attest that the answers above are true and are provided by marking Yes, No, or N/A without any additional comment or clarification.

Authorized Applicant Signature: ________________________________

Authorized Applicant Name and Title: ________________________________

Date: ________________

Click Here to Return to Agenda
AGENDA ITEM DESCRIPTION FORM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting Name:</th>
<th>HLB Board Meeting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meeting Date:</td>
<td>November 1, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item Title:</td>
<td>Pinellas County CoC Board Membership Update</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agenda Item Number:</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name of Staff Member Submitting:</td>
<td>Susan Myers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Background:</td>
<td>The Pinellas County CoC Board will be voting on members during the December 6, 2019 Annual Board Meeting. The document provides the current status of HLB Board members and the impending open seats.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget Impact (if any):</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff Recommendation:</td>
<td>N/A for informational purposes only</td>
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<tr>
<td>CEO Approval:</td>
<td>Susan Myers, CEO - 10/28/19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
<td>Began First Term</td>
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<tr>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Elected</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baird, Melissa</td>
<td>March 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooley, Duggan</td>
<td>December 2017</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cox, Trena</td>
<td>January 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eisenbeis, Keri</td>
<td>January 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Forsythe, Larina</td>
<td>September 2019</td>
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<td>Hendricks, Paul</td>
<td>January 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jalazo, Michael</td>
<td>October 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>Johnson, Debbie</td>
<td>December 2017</td>
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<td>King, Sean</td>
<td>December 2016</td>
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<td>Lott, April</td>
<td>January 2016</td>
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<td>Picard, Sam</td>
<td>January 2019</td>
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<td>Simmons, Shadai</td>
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<td>Stoleo Redd, Robbin</td>
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<td>Sousa, Thomas</td>
<td>December 2018</td>
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<td><strong>Officers</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Foster, Amy - Chair</td>
<td>January 2017 as Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holck, Donna - Vice Chair</td>
<td>January 2019 as Vice Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>King, Sean, At Large Vice Chair</td>
<td>January 2018 as At Large Vice Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnson, Debbie - Treasurer</td>
<td>January 2018 as Treasurer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baird, Melissa - Secretary</td>
<td>January 2019 as Secretary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Seat is open as of 12/31/19
## AGENDA ITEM DESCRIPTION FORM

**Meeting Name:** HLB Board Meeting  
**Meeting Date:** November 1, 2019  
**Item Number:** 7  
**Item Title:** Racial and Gender Disparities Subcommittee 2019 Point-in-Time Analysis  
**Name of Staff Member Submitting:** Avery Slyker

**Background:**

The Racial and Gender Disparities Subcommittee was created to review and try to address disparities within the CoC. Based on the FY 2017/2018 data, the subcommittee elected to address racial disparities within the CoC.

This summer, the subcommittee had the opportunity to work with a University of South Florida Intern, Corey Recvlohe. Corey wrote an analysis of the 2019 PIT racial disparities, which included a literature review with recommendations for the CoC on how to address racial disparities. The Racial and Gender Disparities Subcommittee then worked with the analysis to visualize the data. The final data visualizations were completed by Dr. Stephanie Reed, Pinellas County Government, and the Homeless Leadership Board.

As a result of the 2019 PIT analysis, the subcommittee is preparing to conduct focus groups at homeless meal sites throughout the CoC. Data from these focus groups will be used to create and implement surveys to then gather qualitative data from clients, employees, stakeholders, and funders. The HLB staff has approached the Foundation for a Healthy St. Petersburg to inquire if the Foundation would assist with facilitating the focus groups and data analysis. The survey data will be included within a more extensive report that will include a qualitative data analysis that compares Pinellas HMIS entry, exit, and VI-SPDAT data to U.S. Census data.

The goal of the more significant report will inform and assist the subcommittee with making recommendations to employ racial equity throughout the CoC and meaningfully involve those most impacted by structural racial inequity in the creation and implementation of CoC policies and procedures.
The Data and System Performance’s Racial and Gender Disparities Subcommittee is requesting the HLB transition the subcommittee into a standing committee for the CoC. As the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee, members will create, implement, and maintain an equity, diversity, and inclusion plan for the CoC. This plan would focus on policies, procedures, and training efforts to advance equity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Budget Impact (if any):</th>
<th>NA</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Staff Recommendation:</strong></td>
<td>Staff recommends approving the transition of the Racial Disparities Subcommittee into new CoC standing committee, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee that will focus on policies and procedures, the development and implementation of the CoC’s equity, diversity, and inclusion plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CEO Approval:</strong></td>
<td>Susan Myers, 10/28/19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2019 Point-In-Time Racial Disparity Analysis

FL-502
The issue of homelessness within communities of color is fraught with tremendous challenges. There are no silver bullets that may quickly re-equitize over-representation across homelessness services; however, there are many ways programs can begin re-evaluating their approaches. This review looks at both established and newer research and presents a summary of solutions put forth by non-profit organizations, agencies, and researchers working to deliver more impactful care. Common between all of them is the understanding that persons of color make up nearly 40% of all homeless individuals in the United States (HUD, 2018), while only rising to 13.4% of the total population (US Census Bureau, 2018). A stark fact guiding much of the discussion.

From 2007 to 2018, the number of people experiencing homelessness throughout the US has fallen 14.6%, according to Point-in-Time (PIT) estimates (HUD, 2018). Nominally, Florida has 17,039 fewer people experiencing homelessness—a drop of 35.4%. Additionally, about a quarter less chronically homeless individuals are seeking care in the same period. Resounding improvements have occurred among veterans, with PIT estimates cut by 48% from 2009 to 2018. These successes illustrate that even as the US total population has grown 8.6% over the last decade (US Census Bureau, 2018), Continuum of Care (CoC) programs have lifted tens of thousands of families and individuals out of homelessness. That said, much more work is required.

Persons of Color made up 39% of the total homeless counted during the Pinellas County’s 2017 Point-in-Time Survey compared to 11% of Pinellas County’s population from the 2010 census (U.S. Census Bureau, 2019) Persons of color also made up 48% of the homeless youth compared to 16.2% of Pinellas County’s population for individuals under the age of 18 (U.S. Census, 2109). Additionally, within the 2019 Pinellas County PIT, persons of color made
up 75% of the parenting homeless youth and 27% of the homeless veteran population. (HUD CoC Racial Equality Analysis Tool, 2018)

This review will have two fundamental themes. First, the problem scope will help define those characteristics of risk that communities of color face, including aspects of incarceration, healthcare, veteran status, and youth discrimination; this includes some slightly older material, but is relevant to the overall understanding of other factors that contribute to increased homelessness risk. Second, will be to identify those solutions that have the best likelihood of gathering not only organizational but community support in changing the culture around delivering homelessness services; everything from specific policy suggestions, to hiring and training practices, but also how data may better measure results.

Solving homelessness is a difficult task that involves not only singular human lives but systems of governance, finance, labor, management, and analysis. Each piece of the puzzle has a role to play in providing solutions for those without networks of support or assets to lean on. When examining ethnic over-representation found in homeless populations, it requires a holistic approach that incrementally identifies and solves points of failure. In doing so, no one approach will drastically improve results unless combined with a myriad of supportive functions that target overall efficacy.

Problem Scope

The early 1980s ushered in a new era of homelessness research, with institutions such as the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) funding a series of first-generation studies examining homelessness populations (Jones, 2015). Afterward, the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) and the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) began methodically analyzing the range of issues facing homeless communities. However, only
recently has there been attention paid to the levels at which ethnic homelessness disparities remain constant when compared to the overall racial makeup of metropolitan areas (NAEH, 2018).

Indeed, structural elements may contribute to demand for homelessness services within communities of color, including poverty prevalence, declining affordable housing inventory paired with increasing affordable housing demand, and housing discrimination along with residential segregation (Carter, 2011). Other findings identify facets of poverty, pointing to external socioeconomic factors such as unequal pay and hiring discrimination (North, 1994). The structural hypothesis is further supported by research indicating that childhood experiences with poverty and single-parent households more likely lead to housing stress resulting in homelessness during early life and into adulthood (Koegel, 1995). A comprehensive large-\(n\) analysis found that by age 26, those who experienced homelessness at a young age were 1.6 times more likely to commit violent crime in adulthood, and 30% more likely to commit property crime (Cronley, 2015). When child maltreatment was present, subjects’ propensity for property crime jumped 15 times.

Incarceration among nonwhites is also a contributing issue, as those with felony backgrounds are often denied rental opportunities when utilizing housing vouchers that would otherwise make housing available through homelessness services (SPARC, 2018). It is not clear these issues are the results of either lack of skills or jobs—as many prisoners work and acquire new skills while serving their terms—but rather stigma regarding past histories, which in most cases are drug-related non-violent offenses. In the context of pathways out of homelessness, criminal backgrounds often disqualify eligibility for low-income Section 8 housing even years after completing sentencing (New Destiny Housing, 2016).
Stigma also relates to homelessness service utilization, especially for persons of color, and may lead to service avoidance and increased psychological stress; this is particularly acute when dealing with service providers, caseworkers, social and health services, housing, and others that may not share any racial or ethnic experiences (Weisz, 2018). With mention to homeless youth, perceptions of discrimination were associated with increased emotional distress, often offset by higher measures of racial/ethnic identification (Milburn, 2010). Additionally, homeless LGBTQ+ persons of color are more likely to experience depressive episodes when exposed to perceived micro aggressive social interactions with social service providers (Gattis, 2017).

Concerning black male veterans, the most significant predictor of both homelessness and risk were race and unmarried status (Montgomery, 2015). Others have even found that in comparison to Veterans Administration Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH), more often than not black clients received vouchers for housing in lower quality areas, as opposed to white clients placed in higher quality neighbors no matter if they received vouchers or HUD-VASH services (Patterson, 2014).

Possible Solutions
The factors driving homelessness within communities of color is pervasive and total. As previous research has demonstrated, there is a slew of structural, social, and historical elements in both early and later life contributing to racial over-representation among the homeless. Addressing these stressors requires a comprehensive outlook, such that service levels can impact recidivism.

From an organizational standpoint, it is vital that agencies, leaders, and staff advocate for racial equity (SPARC, 2018). Staff requires training on how their interactions may be perceived or misinterpreted by persons of color. There must also be development opportunities for leaders of color at the management level, including creating positions focused solely on racially based
equity responses to homelessness. Diversity guidelines should be established for hiring throughout service levels so it is more likely that homeless persons of color will interact with those whose experiences intersect ethnically and culturally (SPARC, 2018). Specific training for ethnic equity and inclusion must have specific goals in mind, with centering around prejudice reduction, healing and reconciliation, and anti-racism messaging encompassing social, economic, and racial justice (Shapiro, 2002). It is also vital to understand that structures of accountability, authority, and expertise (including diversity committees and taskforces, diversity managers and departments) are the most effective means of increasing proportions of diverse management (Kalev, 2006).

From a prevention perspective, service providers need to identify failed transitions from publicly funded institutions and systems so that persons of color originating from child welfare programs, hospitals, and corrections are not discharged inadequately without planning and support (Gaetz, 2017). Additionally, discrimination support can assist those experiencing restricted access to housing, equal pay, and educational opportunities. Social inclusion must be enhanced as well, highlighting family reconnection, community, and cultural engagement, and connection with volunteering opportunities in communities of color to develop relationships and foster social skills (Gaetz, 2017).

When looking at the issue of youth homelessness concerning persons of color, rapid re-housing (RRH) presents a cost-effective alternative to transitional housing (TH) (Point Source Youth, 2018). Based off interventions without preconditions, RRH provides services and financial assistance tailored to the unique needs of each assisted household, shortening homelessness time-periods in comparison to assisted sheltering or TH. RRH programs often
consist of connecting landlord partners with homeless youth, providing rental and financial move-in assistance, as well as case management services.

On the data side, analysis of permanent housing outcomes needs to be tracked to quickly identify where there are ethnic and racial disparities in permanent housing exits. These data should drive goals for including people of color with lived experience of homeless into planning efforts, providing not only support to build out services but context for resource allocation (Manzo, 2017). All these processes should assist driving towards system-wide equity, including regular data review, impact assessment, and refining strategies.

**Data**

Understanding racial disparities in homelessness requires data. The raw data from the 2019 Point-in-Time Count (PIT) was used to look at racial disparities within the Continuum of Care (CoC). Included within this review are disparities found in PIT counts derived from the Pinellas County jail system, as well as point-in-time surveys. The most considerable weighted disparity was that of Black/African Americans at a count of 619, who while being 11.10% of the population of Pinellas County, represent 23% of total homeless, a 209% over-representation. Black/African Americans are also the only group to show disparities within Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, Safe Haven, and Unsheltered when compared the 2010 Census count for the CoC. The report also shows the racial and ethnic distribution within the 2019 PIT compared to 2018 Census data.

One of the most astounding disparities found was 23.7% of the Homeless Veteran individuals counted during the survey were Black/African American, compared to the U.S. Census that states 8% of Veterans within Pinellas County were Black/African American. This is a 296% over-representation. Veterans represent 12% of the homeless population within the CoC.
Disparities were also found within the PIT homeless youth count. Out of the total homeless youth surveyed sheltered and unsheltered, 26% were Black/African American and 12% were youth that are two or more races. Pinellas County Census for Black/African American youth under the age of 18 is 16.2% and 2.2% for youth with two or more races. The over-representation for the youth count is 160% for under the age of 18 and 545% for youth with two or more races when compared to the U.S. Census.

The second set of disparities examined were jail counts, which included breakdowns by race and gender compared with the 2010 US Census. The only two disparities found was that of black and white males, over-representing their share of the St. Petersburg population in homelessness by 182.26% and 52.12% respectively. Every other group showed under-representation, including any racial category of females, as well as Hispanic, Asian, and racially unknown males. On a comparative basis St. Petersburg had less disparities than Clearwater, as the city to the north must contend with significant disparities with not only their black and white male homeless jail populations but also regarding Hispanic males.

Conclusion

Within the United States, there are across the board inequities in homelessness among persons of color. These discrepancies are the results of persistent and systemic injustices ranging from access to housing, discriminatory segregation, unequal pay, underfunded education, poverty, and many other elements of racially based social and political exclusion.

Considering these realities, it is incumbent upon civic leaders, city services, and governments to do what is necessary in addressing these challenges in comprehensive ways. Improvements should include diverse hiring of directors, managers, and caseworkers; interventions should focus on transitioning those leaving state institutions, helping them from
falling back into homelessness during discharges. New ways of approaching housing must include strong relationships with landlords and others that are willing to rapidly re-house youth, establishing lease histories and permanent residences to rebuild their lives and social networks. And data must be an essential tool used to evaluate change effectiveness, giving insights to program planners mitigating chokepoints, especially when encountering newly emerging concerns when and where they occur.

Homelessness is not merely a personal fault, but a perfect storm of concurrent social, political, economic, and racial circumstances that form a series of diminishing and inefficient choices, leading to irregular patterns of personal and professional development. Without a concerted effort by community members and service leaders, the social costs of racially inequitable homelessness will continue to plague persons of color and other marginalized communities. This review hopes to shed some light on those opportunities most likely to make a difference.
Point-in-Time Disparities

Racial & Ethnic Composition of the Number of Individuals Staying in Emergency Shelter (ES), Transitional Housing (TH), Safe Haven (SH) or Unsheltered on the Night of the 2019 Point in Time Survey. Source: Point in Time Raw, Unduplicated Data (2019)

Heatmaps of Homelessness Racial Disparities from Pinellas County Point-in-Time Jail Data

Pinellas Jail Count Disparities - *All*

Geographic Locations Where All Inmates of Color Stayed Prior to Pinellas County Jail. Source: Pinellas County Point-in-Time Raw Data from Pinellas County Jail (2019)

Pinellas Jail Count Disparities – *Black/African American*
Geographic Locations Where All Inmates of Color Stayed Prior to Pinellas County Jail. 
Source: Pinellas County Point-in-Time Raw Data from Pinellas County Jail (2019)

Pinellas Jail Count Disparities - *Hispanic*

Geographic Locations Where All Inmates of Color Stayed Prior to Pinellas County Jail. 
Source: Pinellas County Point-in-Time Raw Data from Pinellas County Jail (2019)
Works Cited


**Contributors to the Report**

The report is based on extensive work performed by: University of South Florida Intern, Corey Recvlohe. The Data and System Performance Racial Disparities Subcommittee reviewed and made data analysis recommendations that were completed by Dr. Stephanie Reed, Pinellas County Government and the Homeless Leadership Board.
2019 Point-in-Time Count

Racial Disparities Subcommittee
Racial & Ethnic Composition of the Number of Individuals Staying in Emergency Shelter (ES), Transitional Housing (TH), Safe Haven (SH) or Unsheltered on the Night of the 2019 Point in Time Survey
Pinellas County Racial/Ethnic Distribution
2019 PIT vs. 2018 Census data*

*National and State Population Estimates, United Census Bureau, 2018
Where Pinellas County Inmates of Color Stayed Prior to Pinellas County Jail.
Literature Review

- **Scope of the problem of racial disparities within the Homeless Crisis Response System**
  - National concern
  - Defining the characteristics of risk

- **Potential Solutions**
  - Organizations
  - Prevention perspective
  - Homeless youth

- **Recommendations for the CoC based on best practices**
  - Landlord relationships
  - Data
Subcommittee Recommendation

- Transition the Racial Disparities Subcommittee into a standing committee of the CoC
  - Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Committee will:
    - Develop and implement an equity and inclusion plan for the CoC;
    - Deepen the CoC’s capacity to infuse issues of equity and inclusion into policies, practices, programs, services, and structures;
    - Develop resources and supports to deepen the capacity of the CoC to use an Inclusion Lens in their daily work activities; and,
    - Expand our CoC structures and practices to meet our clients' needs related to social justice, equity and inclusion.
Thank you!