

FY 2022

IN-503: Indianapolis CoC

Continuum of Care

P-9c. Lived Experience Support Letter

Documents include the following:

- **Lived Experience Support Letter**



October 17, 2022

Re: Persons with Lived Experience Letter of Support 2022 Special NOFO

CoC: IN 503 Indianapolis

This letter is in support of the projects and application for the 2022 Special NOFO- Unsheltered Homelessness Set Aside. A group of people with Lived Experience were in every part of the decision-making process during the 2022 Special NOFO Local Competition and were able to vote on projects and provide expertise in focus groups surrounding the Indianapolis CoC Plan for Serving Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness with Severe Service Needs.

To create the Indianapolis CoC Plan for Serving Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness with Severe Service Needs, nine (9) focus groups were convened to discuss strategies and needs for the Indianapolis CoC. Two persons with lived experience were paid to give their expertise on all of the strategies and feedback on the needs of the community.

Two persons with lived experience sit on the Indianapolis Continuum of Care Governing Board (Blueprint Council). These members were able to provide feedback on the local competition and voted for the projects that had applied for the 2022 Special NOFO. These Blueprint Council members were paid for their time and expertise during all of these meetings.

The goal for the Indianapolis CoC is to promote access to the Indianapolis CoC for any person with lived experience who wants to get involved. There are trainings for peer support specialists, opportunities to sit on the Blueprint Council, and openings to sit on decision making committees. As well, all persons with lived experience will be compensated for their time and expertise. The evaluation of the 2022 Special NOFO projects will be with the Non-Conflicted Workgroup and the individuals with lived experience who sit on that workgroup.

Sincerely,

Ray C. Lay
CEO
SMI Enterprises LLC
10-17-22

Ray Lay

Blueprint Council Member, Forensic Peer Support Specialist, Indiana Certified Recovery Specialist