



# Board to Promote Self-Sufficiency

6751 Columbia Gateway Drive, Suite 300 • Columbia, MD 21046

## Minutes of the July 25, 2017 Meeting

Non-Profit Center - 9770 Patuxent Woods Drive, Columbia, MD 21046

### Attendance:

Appointed Members: Bita Dayhoff, Joan Driessen, Lisa Jablononver, Brad Closs, Stan Levi, Kim Salazar, Andra Cain and Kashonna Holland.

Ex Officio Members: Karen Butler, Jack Kavanagh, Diane Martin, Jacqueline Scott, Francine Trout, Antigone Vickery and Elizabeth Meadows.

Department of Community Resources and Services Staff: Kathleen Swanson, Michelle Hippert, Megan Godfrey Jackson, Quinton Askew and Cara Baumgartner.

Consultants: Chris Kingsley

Presenter: Kim Elsenreich

**Meeting called to order** at 9:08 am by Chris Kingsley and Kathleen Swanson

### Agenda:

- **Chris Kingsley welcomed everyone to the meeting**
- **Karen Butler presented a Proposal**

“Establish the Continuum of Care (CoC) as a separate Howard County collaborative group focused solely on ending homelessness thus allowing the Board to Promote Self-Sufficiency (BPSS) the option of prioritizing any and all self-sufficiency issues facing Howard County.”

“Department of Community Resources and Services staff, in their lead HMIS and collaborative applicant roles, will create a community engagement strategy to recommend the CoC models to all engaged in preventing and ending homelessness, including the BPSS.”
- **Kim Elsenreich gave a presentation on the Local Children’s Board (LCB)**
  - Main roles: neutral convener, intermediary, outcome driven, resource allocation and relationship building. Because LCB receives only 1% of human services funding in Howard County, they see their role as more than programing. They use collaboration and advocacy to have influence and funding for pilot programs or to fill gaps when organizations lose their funding.
  - Vision: All children and youth in Howard County are safe, healthy, and have opportunities to succeed with adults who provide them a nurturing community.
  - Main areas of focus:
    - Equality - CHOICE program, baseline reporting, engagement and LCB strategy.
    - Food Access – Roving Radish and Weekend Warrior Bags.
    - Mental Health – Resilient and strong families.
    - Place Based – Community enterprise zones and asset mapping.
  - LCB has changed to being purpose driven with results based accountability. Able to use indicators, strategies and program performance measures to maximize outcomes. Committees are formed around priority areas that are based on data. They now use LCB’s time better by making decisions at each meeting, voting at beginning of meetings, learning about local and national issues and use clear agendas and timelines. Committees

- have defined tasks, constantly assess their progress and are flexible enough to change as needs are presented.
- Children do not grow up in a vacuum. LCB looks at what pieces of their lives have the most impact and try to influence those areas. With this in mind, and data showing the areas of most need, food access became their first priority. Roving Radish and Weekend Warrior Bags were pilot programs grown out of this need. With these programs success, LCB hopes to find partner organizations to take them over so they can begin incubating new programs.
- School attendance may be their next area of focus. There is a correlation between school attendance and children's ability to succeed in life. There is data to show both the problem and if their efforts cause improvement.
- **Chris Kingsley asked the room to endorse or object to Karen Butler's Proposal**
  - The proposal was read again for clarity
  - Chris Kingsley moved for endorsement
  - Diane Martin seconded
  - Room agreed
  - The proposal was endorsed
- **What BPSS would become without the CoC**
  - How to define self-sufficiency. Most saw it as a spectrum. Simply being off programs or having a certain amount of money does not make a person self-sufficient. It can look different depending on the person and their circumstances. Even when achieved, things can happen to a person to change their status. Examples were the Ellicott City flood, serious medical conditions and people living in poverty that were unaware they were not self-sufficient. People need to know and understand their situation before they can change.
  - Issues BPSS could address: incubator for programs (job training, job opportunities, apprenticeships in trades and quality health care), support the three pillars of stability (self, community and institutions), bridging the gap between when people stop receiving benefits and self-sufficient and navigators to help people reach services.
  - Logistics to be decided: how to decide goals and how often to change them, will use root cause analysis and evidence based practices, how to collaborate with other Boards and try not duplicate work or research and how best to work with the County Executive to address self-sufficiency issues.
- **Discussion to continue at the next meeting**

**Meeting adjourned** at 10:48 am by Chris Kingsley with agreement of the room

**Next meetings:**

August 8, 2017 9:00 am at the Non-Profit Center

September 12, 2017 9:00 am at the Non-Profit Center

October 3, 2017 9:00 am location to be determined

Minutes submitted by Cara Baumgartner