June minutes approved – clarification around NAEH report comments regarding Housing First

Overview of the System – Jennifer Corcoran
CSHS in Howard County started in 2012, focusing on services. Over time has evolved to ensure people have equal opportunities to served and to actually move people into housing. Prioritization implemented to be sure the most vulnerable are being served.

Eviction prevention vs. Homeless prevention- Howard County has more eviction prevention resources than homelessness prevention.

Principles and practices highlighted in presentation: System Response/Coordinated Entry, Data-driven Decision-making, Progressive Engagement, Functional Zero, Housing First, Motivational Interviewing, Trauma-Informed Care, Harm Reduction, SOAR, Landlord Relationships. All concepts discussed in The Path Home. Functional Zero is not an ambiguous concept, but a situation in which the resources are available to house people faster than they fall into homelessness.

Review of System Flow. (Slideshow will be distributed to committee)
Eligibility criteria: Literally and imminent risk homeless (unsheltered or in emergency shelter) or 14 days from homelessness. There is a residency requirement, but it does not apply to those fleeing violence.

Points of Entry: Street Outreach, SafeHouse Entry (Hopeworks), Standard Assessment (Grassroots Hotline). Outreach and Hotline feed into the By-Name List. From BNL, prioritized and moved into appropriate program or housing destination.

Breakdown of program types and services they provide.
• Overview of HUD Standards – Catherine Wellman
  Tabled for August meeting.
• Using the NAEH summary to guide committee work
  Next to last page in report provides key indicators we should be measuring – can use that as a foundation. Also outline the importance of coordinating committees. Designate liaisons to various other committees to help determine appropriate benchmarks. Using data we have to help guide system. Data is complicated and we have to be mindful of our data resources.