

HOWARD COUNTY COALITION TO END HOMELESSNESS

COALITION TO END HOMELESSNESS BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

3/24/2021

Board Members:

X	Kelly Cimino	X	Peter Engel		Cassandra Killingsworth
X	Bill Salganik	X	James Le'Mon	X	Sandy Monck
	Jacqueline Scott	X	Bitia Dayhoff		Lisa Terry
X	Shelia Little	X	Mariana Izraelson	X	Karen Booth
X	Linda Zumbrun	X	Jennifer Broderick		Sheryl Neverson
	Jack Kavanaugh	X	Joe Willmott	X	Kelly McLachlan
X	Stan Levi		Roe Bonaccorsy		Kimberly Eisenreich
X	Rich Pardoe	X	Leslie Lampieri	X	Chris Cromwell
	Kelly Anderson		James Cline	X	Vanita Leatherwood

Department of Community Resource and Services (DCRS) and Office of Community Partnerships (OCP) Staff:

X	Rose Burton	X	Jennifer Corcoran	X	Catherine Wellman
X	Cheryl Mattis	X	Megan Godfrey Jackson		Valerie Mathis
X	Cara Baumgartner	X	Latonya Dulin	X	Sharee Campbell

Guests:

X	Tina Fields	X	Josh Bombino	X	Beth Stein

AGENDA

Call to Order: 1:03 pm by Kelly Cimino

Minutes Approved: Minutes from the February meeting were motioned and approved

Agenda Item: Committee and Sub-committee reports

Discussion:

- Executive Committee – One member of the Office of Community Partnerships staff is assigned to each committee. Each committee will meet for an hour monthly.
- Community Commitment & Awareness Committee – This is committee met 3/23/2021. Working on updating their action plan. Making a list of current partners. Planning the virtual Summer Solstice Success Celebration to celebrate people who moved from homelessness into housing in the last year. They will be building out other events throughout the year. Looking for advocacy and partners in the community to raise awareness of homelessness and related issues. Committee will meet the second Wednesday of each month starting in April. Sub-committees for specific events will meet more often as needed.

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- Coordinated Entry Committee –Membership in the committee is for one year. At the last committee meeting, Elizabeth Meadows spoke on COVID-19 homeless prevention funding. Discussed a new prevention targeting tool. The committee decided to keep using the current tool until COVID-19 pandemic is over. They have created a schedule for committee meeting topics for the rest of the calendar year.
- HMIS Committee – Had their first committee meeting in a year. They are responsible for reviewing the homeless system using data quality reports. They updated their goals for the committee’s part of the Plan to End Homelessness. They will meet the 3rd Thursday of each month. Most agencies using HMIS were represented at the meeting. The committee will happily add representatives from remaining agencies not already represented. There is a new policy for scanning client documents into HMIS. This will allow all agencies working with the client to have use of documents. This helps with submitting complete applications for assistance and housing. Step-by-step guide will be sent to HMIS users and the goal is to go live with document scanning April 1st.
- Program Policies & Process Committee – Committee will meet the 3rd Thursday of each month. The committee is identifying goals for FY21 and FY22. Part of their roles are identifying funding and assisting with hiring.
- Resource Development Committee – This committee has developed a work process: what resources are needed, potential sources of funding, what is currently funded, strategies for developing housing resources, and based on those answers; how to appeal or apply for resources.
- System Performance Committee – Committee chair had to resign due to a conflict of interest. They are looking for more committee members. Will work with the Executive Committee to find a new chair.

Agenda Item: Homeless Response System Updates

Presenter Name: Karen Booth, Josh Bombino, Mariana Izraelson, and Tina Field.

Discussion:

- Humanim – Street Outreach: 11 individuals presented to the system and need to determine if they are literally homeless. 21 people have been verified as literally homeless and unsheltered. Six people have entered into the Grassroots shelter from street outreach. Concerned that 16 additional people will be leaving Cold Weather shelter next week. The number leaving could be less concerning, as they are applying for housing programs. Eviction courts are processing landlords’ requests for evictions, expect an increase in evictions and homelessness as a result.
- Grassroots - Cold Weather Shelter: 37 individuals, includes 35 adults and two children. Vaccinations were available to shelter residents 3/24/2021. Code Blue – 16 cold weather events, made of 45 nights. 644 duplicated individuals, 93 unique individuals stayed in Code Blue hotel shelter. All clients were connected to outreach and completed housing assessments. Day Resources Center – In addition to their regular services, there have been many food deliveries to shelters, hotels, and homes. Emergency Shelter – Offering vaccines to all shelter residences on 3/24/2021.

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Agenda Item: COVID-19 Vaccine Tracking

Presenter Name: Catherine Wellman

Discussion: HMIS is being used to track vaccinations. This includes: who has been tested, who has symptoms, if they are willing to be vaccinated, if they decline the vaccine, if they have a vaccine appointment scheduled, completed vaccination/s, partially vaccinated, etc. The assessment was made so it is easy to fill out by case managers. There was a training session and guide for how to enter this data in the HMIS system.

Agenda Item: Housing Push Plan

Presenter Name: Jennifer Broderick

Discussion: Bridges to Housing Stability is working with 25 clients on housing plans and applications. They are also moving some clients onto Section 8 vouchers.

Agenda Item: Agency Monitoring and Risk Assessment

Presenter Name: Latonya Dulin

Discussion: All CoC and HSP programs will be monitored this year. Programs are categorized as high, moderate or low risk. Will receive notification of monitoring before the end of the calendar year. If you are a funded agency and know you have compliance issues, please reach out to Latonya before monitoring. Part of the responsibility of monitoring is to education and assist with issues. It is better to have a plan in place before monitoring of how these issues will be addressed.

Agenda Item: Department of Housing and Community Development - Rent & Utility Assistance

Presenter Name: Kelly Cimino

Discussion: Applications for assistance were opened March 11th. Clients may apply for up to 12 months of assistance. Can apply even if they previously received 3 to 6 months of aid. Funding can also help pay for moving costs, security deposit and three months of rent for people that are unable to stay in their current housing. They must have a COVID-19 pandemic related loss of income to qualify for assistance. More grant money may be coming from the State but must spend the Federal and Treasury Department grant funds that have already been received first.

Meeting Conclusion Time: 2:27 pm

Next Meeting: April 28, 2021 1:00 pm via WebEx