

HOWARD COUNTY COALITION TO END HOMELESSNESS

COALITION TO END HOMELESSNESS BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

5/26/2021

Board Members:

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

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

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|---|------------------|---|-----------------------|---|-------------------|
| 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 |
| X | Erica Smith | | | | |

Guests:

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|---|-----------------|---|-----------------|---|------------|
| X | Jennifer Dunson | X | Scott Gottbreht | X | Beth Stein |
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AGENDA

Call to Order: 1:02 pm by Kelly Cimino

Minutes: March and April minutes were motioned, seconded, with no objections and were approved.

Agenda Item: Committee Highlights and Action Items

- Resource Committee: has created an action plan and project budgets. Funding search is ongoing and a proposal will be written to find an intern. The committee would like to work with Community Commitment on marketing to the community.
- HMIS Committee: benchmarks to be assigned for each committee. Baseline data will be shared before the meeting. 50% of benchmarks have a report and are currently meeting or very close to goals. The committee will develop reports for remaining 50% of benchmarks.
- System Performance: intersection between HMIS and the system. Will have an executive summary about the System next meeting.

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- Coordinated Entry Committee: Shelter Prioritization should be based on vulnerability and mortality from being homeless. List of priority groups characteristics for immediate access to shelter were sent to the board, they include many health conditions, age, and length of time homeless. Propose adopting the new Shelter Prioritization Plan, instead of just using By-name list. Jennifer Broderick motioned, Leslie Lampieri seconded, no one opposed and no abstentions. The new shelter prioritization based on vulnerability was approved.
- Community Commitment: working on Summer Solstice Success Celebration. A video is being created for the virtual event and will be distributed June 21st.

Agenda Item: System Trends and Policy Discussion

- Kelly Cimino gave an update on COVID-19 rent, utility and mortgage assistance. The Housing Commission has received two additional awards: ERAP from the Treasury Department and HOME America Rescue Plan. Additional information will be sent to the board about the Housing Trust Fund.
- Eviction Moratorium: evictions are being served in Howard County. The Sheriff's Office is handing out fliers with eviction notices, so people can apply for aid.
- Federal Legislation Update: proposals are being made to increase vouchers for low income seniors.

Agenda Item: Funding Updates

- HPS, Youth and EHP Funding: EHP application was submitted to Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), two programs are being considered. HSP and Youth applications were submitted, HSP is flat funding and Youth is \$250,000.
- HOME funding for PSH: \$1.7 million grant for affordable housing, non-congregant and tenant based rental assistance. Currently accepting applications.
- County funding for Utility Assistance and Food Access: Department of Community Resources and Services (DCRS) is working with faith-based community organizations on these issues. Distributing grants to these organizations. First tier for funds will be faith-based community efforts and the second tier will be to larger nonprofits.

Agenda Item: Homeless Response System

- Community Action Council (CAC) has received 1,007 applications for Housing Assistance Services. 536 have been approved, 29 are denied, 114 inactive, and 328 are being processed. Average cost of assistance is \$6,000 per household. 3 million dollars have already been spent on housing assistance during this year. The Energy Assistance program has received over 5,000 applications.
- Grassroots Day Resource Center hosted a vaccine clinic May 15th and 41 people were vaccinated. The center has expanded operating hours and staff. It is also serving as a summer cooling center for Code Red days and providing hot meals to clients.
- Grassroots Shelter has used mainstream housing vouchers, rapid rehousing and permanent supportive housing to move people from the shelter into housing. An additional 15 clients are pending or have applied for these services.
- Grassroots Crisis Hotline have received 33,000 calls year to date. There were 535 calls for housing assessments, 4,520 housing related calls and 1,101 COVID-19 related calls.

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- Emergency Rental Assistance has assisted 206 households this fiscal year.
- Emergency Motel Program has assisted 34 households year to date.
- Bridges to Housing Stability's HSSP Permanent supportive housing program has 28 active clients, 6 of 28 entered the program from Rapid Rehousing. Rapid Rehousing program has 38 clients, 20 of which are new. Seven clients from these programs are working with the Housing Commission to receive mainstream vouchers.

Agenda Item: Point in Time (PIT) Count and Homeless Vaccination Updates

- COVID-19 Vaccines: 73 homeless people are willing to be vaccinated, 32 are not willing to be vaccinated, 23 are partially vaccinated, and 18 are fully vaccinated. Of the 73 willing to be vaccinated, they may have received a vaccination since the report was compiled. Catherine Wellman will provide demographic information on vaccine refusal for race, age, gender, and military service.
- PIT Count: 20 people from eight households were in shelter during the count. One person was in transitional housing. Total homeless people: 66 households made of 83 individuals. The full report will be sent to the board.

Agenda Item: Lead Agency & Subrecipient Monitoring

The lead agency (Office of Community Partnerships-OCP) will be monitored by Federal and State funders in August. Subrecipients will also be monitored by the lead agency in August. With a second group monitored in September and a final group monitored in October. Subrecipients will receive a preparation for monitoring email a month before they are monitored.

Agenda Item: Mainstream Housing Vouchers

All people the on By-name list that qualify have submitted an application for a mainstream voucher. OCP is working with Waystation and the Health Department for referrals to their independent living programs. This creates flow through the system. As people move into vouchers, this opens space in independent living, that moves people from a RRP bed or living unsheltered into independent living. Increasing the people housing in programs that better meet their needs.

Meeting Conclusion Time: 2:28 pm

Next Meeting: June 23, 2021 1:00 pm via WebEx