

# HOWARD COUNTY COALITION TO END HOMELESSNESS

## COALITION TO END HOMELESSNESS BOARD

### MEETING MINUTES

3/25/2020

#### Board Members in Attendance:

Kelly Cimino, Board Co-President	Jennifer Pollitt-Hill	Stan Levi	Karen Booth
Bill Salganik, Board Co-President	Ayesha Holmes	Kelly McLaughlin	Kim Eisenreich
Jacqueline Scott	Jack Kavanaugh	Joe Willmott	Linda Zumbrun
Jennifer Broderick	Linda Zumbrun	James Le'Mon	
	Bitia Dayhoff	Peter Engel	
	Joe Willmott	Sandy Monck	

#### Staff:

Rose Burton	Cara Baumgartner
Liz van Oeveren	Jennifer Corcoran
Cheryl Mattis	
Keisha Benjamin	

#### Guests:

Joan Washington	Josh Bombino	Scott Gottbreht	Stephen Liggett-Creel
Kim Fuller			

## AGENDA

Call to Order: Kelly Cimino called the meeting to order at 1:02 pm

Minutes Approved: February minutes were motioned and approved.

#### Agenda Item: National and Local Updates

Presenter Name: Liz van Oeveren

Discussion: Per National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH) reports and guidance on COVID-19, homeless people are two to three times as likely to be hospitalized, two to four times as likely to need critical care, and two to four times as likely to die when sick. OCP is participating in Maryland DHCD and HUD weekly and daily conference calls. HUD weekly calls can be joined by anyone, Liz will send providers signup information. HUD exchange list serve is sending daily updates, Jennifer Corcoran will send signup information.

OCP is in daily contact with our homeless shelters. OCP is working with the County Executive and Office of Emergency Management for planning.

#### Agenda Item: Shelter Issues

Presenter Name: Jennifer Corcoran

Discussion: Think of three areas – space, supplies, and staffing. Space – posting educational material on prevention methods, rearrange space for three feet for healthy people and six feet for sick people, isolate sick when possible, and screening process for new clients. Supplies – soap, hand sanitizer, face

## HOWARD COUNTY COALITION TO END HOMELESSNESS

masks, gloves, food, and making sure inventory is kept up to date. Staff – communication plan, identify everyone in chain of communication, training, contingency planning, cross training, and policy for how long staff are out of office when ill. Always be aware who is most at risk, who has been exposed, who is currently sick, and who is recuperating.

### Agenda Item: Grassroots Shelter Status and Plan

**Presenter Name:** Ayesha Holmes

**Discussion:** Jennifer Corcoran has supplied Grassroots with the HUD checklist. Have been using that list for planning. The challenge will be once clients and staff contract virus. Have opened up common rooms and allow meals to be eaten outside. This allows more space for clients when in these areas. Planning for what to do when told to shelter in place. Have discussed shelter needs with the county. Days to weeks out from clients having the virus while in shelter. Two staff tested positive for virus and are staying home, another staff member is awaiting results. Grassroots would like to know more about the wider community efforts.

### Agenda Item: HopeWorks Shelter Status and Plan

**Presenter Name:** Jennifer Pollitt-Hill

**Discussion:** So far, no clients or staff have been diagnosed with virus. Screening new clients, for fever when they enter the shelter. If someone seems ill, we are putting them in hotel. All clients currently have own bedrooms, may have to share if more clients come in to shelter. We have isolation rooms available for sick, have not needed them yet. Need masks and gloves but have enough food. Currently eight clients at HopeWorks, still have two more rooms available.

### Agenda Item: Street Outreach Guidance

**Presenter Name:** Jennifer Corcoran

**Discussion:** Have provided a checklist and tool kit from HUD for guidance to street outreach. How to keep staff safe, maintaining social distancing, if staff are high risk then move out of street outreach, how to provide information to clients out in the community, and how to help clients when they don't have access to hygiene facilities. Providing water, food and hand sanitizer to people on streets. Protocols if someone waiting is diagnosed or recovering. When to give emergency assistance to clients.

### Agenda Item: Street Outreach Update

**Presenter Name:** Josh Bombino and Karen Booth

**Discussion:** Street outreach through Humanim had started right before COVID-19. Humanim was planning for day-to-day procedures and now have to plan for an emergency situation. It is easier to maintain social distancing while out in the field. Their main worry is access to resource for people on the street. Many of places homeless people used before are closed, and they now have a serious lack of hygiene options. Laurel community pool is letting people use showers and bathrooms but not everyone can get there. May try setting up camp showers if they can't find other places to bathe. They are working on how to hand out food and water and are lacking masks and gloves like everyone else. Workers will be on the lookout for people with the virus and will try to connect them to screening and health care providers if needed. If someone is positive, they will also contact Jennifer Corcoran for resources. Grassroots offered to help with transportation for hygiene and it was recommended to contact the Health Department for PPE.

## HOWARD COUNTY COALITION TO END HOMELESSNESS

Agenda Item: Day Resource Center Update

Presenter Name: Ayesha Holmes

Discussion: The Day Resource Center is providing grab and go meals. They always need more donations of food, water, and supplies. Need is only increasing as emergency continues. Are doing their best to do social distancing and maintaining small groups only.

Agenda Item: Coalition to End Homelessness Board Update

Presenter Name: Kelly Cimino

Discussion: Crafting governance and implementation of The Path Home have been tabled. The state has canceled Youth Reach. There will be no committee meeting until further notice.

Grassroots has stopped using CallPoint for initial contact. Instead, they input to ICarroll and then transfer the data into CallPoint at a later time. The Board would like to discuss this in April.

Agenda Item: Community Action Council (CAC) Update

Presenter Name: Bitia Dayhoff

Discussion: CAC is operational. If people need housing or energy assistance, please call their main number. Most calls are related to people looking for first month rent and security deposit. With eviction and turn off postponed, expect to increase in need once the pause is lifted.

Food bank has food and water available. If an agency needs either for clients, please contact CAC.

Requests for food have increased three times, with 300 new individuals asking for food in the last week. CAC is partnering with Neighbor Ride to make grocery deliveries for people unable to leave their homes.

Agenda Item: Friday Service Provider Conference Call

Presenter Name: Rose Burton

Discussion: Board members expressed a desire to listen to the call. This meeting is specifically for homeless service providers and their needs, but it was agreed board members could benefit from listening as well. Collective problem solving is also a theme and it was agreed board members could help with that portion. A WebEx invite will be sent after the board meeting.

Meeting Conclusion Time: Meeting closed at 2:10 pm

Next Meeting: April 22, 2020 1:00 pm - WebEx