



MARYLAND
BALANCE OF STATE
CONTINUUM OF CARE

COC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

July 21, 2022: 1pm-3pm

[Meeting Recording Link](#)

Passcode: ii7@c6Re

Board Members Present

Allegany County: Susan Malone, David Nedved
Cecil County: Gwen Parrack, Earl Grey
Garrett County: Fred Polce, April Sisler
Southern MD: Anna Wood, Corae Young, Florence Brooks
Washington County: Mark Sewell, Tyrell Wilson
MD Department of Disabilities (MDOD): Chelsea Hayman
MD Department of Health (MDH): Priya Arokiaswamy
MD Dept. of Housing and Community Development (DHCD): Stuart Campbell
MD Department of Labor (Labor): Casey Tiefenwerth

Board Members Absent

Harford County: PJ Craig, Robin Tomechko
Southern MD: Cynthia Brown
MD Department of Education: Shanna Edmond
MD Department of Human Services (DHS): Lauren Molineaux
MD Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPPSCS): Vacant
MD Department of Veteran Affairs (MDVA): Dana Burl

CoC Lead Present

Danielle Meister, Carolyn Curry

HMIS Administrator Present

Jason Burns, Samantha Bochinski

- I. **Welcome & Call to Order:** Quorum was conformed, Corae Young called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.
- II. **Approval of May 2022 Board Meeting Minutes:** Young asked for amendments or comments on the May Board Minutes. None were made. Mark Sewell made the motion to approve the minutes, Stuart Campbell seconded the motion. The board for was unanimous to approve the May Minutes.
- III. **Committee Reports**
Executive Committee: Young introduces new board member Florence Brooks, Southern MD. Brooks replaced retiring member Lanny Lancaster.

HMIS Committee: Sewell provided updates on the increased hours Team HMIS will be dedicating to the Balance of State and the updated schedule in the HMIS Quarterly User Forums

Coordinated Entry Committee: Carolyn Curry announced that the CE Committee meetings will resume in August and Corae Young and Brian Wainwright are the new co-chairs

MD Interagency Council on Homelessness: Wainwright reviewed approved legislation as presented in the most recent ICH meeting. Wainwright provided an update on the Veteran Trust Fund that has been established to assist veterans and widows/widowers who are experiencing temporary financial assistance. Program primarily helps with back rent and mortgage payments and utilities. <https://veterans.maryland.gov/maryland-department-of-veterans-affairs-veterans-trust-fund/>

- IV. **CoC Lead Report:** Curry provided an overview of the FFY2022 CoC SPECIAL NOFA and provided and updated version of the Lived Experience Representation Stipend Policy, based on Board feedback.

Young asked for amendments or comments on the policy, none were made. Sewell made the motion to approve the policy, Casey Tienfenwerth seconded the motion. The board voted unanimously to approve the policy.

Danielle Meister announced that DHCD staff met with the MD Network Against Domestic Violence to identify future partnership opportunities and reviewed several upcoming training opportunities.

- V. **Local Homelessness Coalition Reports**

Allegany County, Dave Nedved: Local politicians and commissioners are past their primaries, LHC can focus on other issues. Union Rescue is talking with Cumberland, looking at new location options, seeking funding opportunities. The next LHC meeting in August.

Cecil County, Gwen Parrack: Focus on HSP awards and contracts with grantees, working with new directors to understand HSP procedures. LHC general membership meeting will share funding updates, PIT results, winter planning. Local COVID transmission fairly significant. LHC is working with DHCD to create case conference procedures.

Garrett County, April Sisler: No new updates. The LHC is excited about new funding opportunities. There are struggles with housing and section 8 program, not currently enough available housing.

Harford County, Brian Wainwright: A local hotel has been in the media due to deplorable conditions, threats to shut off utilities for resident families. Households with animals are facing increased barriers. New tax credit / low-income developments are in progress to provide up to 70 new units, a significant amount will be designated to homelessness. Harford is interested in sharing resources with Cecil County.

Southern MD, Corae Young: Seeing an increase in referrals for services, there are many couch surfers with an imminent risk of homelessness. There is shelter space, but many are declining – people prefer hotels, but that is not an option anymore. Offering beds first come first serve. Calvert County ERAP2 funds were approved by the commissioners.

Washington County, Mark Sewell: There is a new initiative in the county for outreach, program will go to underserved municipalities in county, take outreach staff, food, service applications, will be full service to camps. LHC is launching the Circles Program, currently getting staffed but need volunteers. Circles is grass roots, peer led program to provide wrap around services to families; LHC received \$1 million grant from multiple sources. The LHC chair is running for delegate, watching the polls. LHC having discussions with DHCD for ARP/HOME funding; have identified properties with potential to increase units, looking for multi-use facilities for PH, shelter, one stop shop for services.

VI. **State Agency Updates**

LABOR, Tiefenwerth: The workforce proposals are with the review team, expect funding announcements in September. ICH Workforce Committee meeting in person in September, planning to bring together workforce & homeless providers to learn from each other at future conference. Intend to break down silos, streamline partnerships and collaboration between the systems. Currently in the planning process, will invite CoC members to participate and present/educate. Always seeking new members for subcommittee, email for info casey.tiefenwerth1@maryland.gov

DHCD, Meister: ERAP passed the treasury spending threshold, are not subject to reallocation. Thanks to all partners who worked on push to spend more. Unspent funds in August will be able to be spent over longer amount of time.

Dept of Disability, Chelsea Hayman: Recommend homeless service providers who are making referrals to the 811 program to get in contact with the department. There is often a disconnect with people and their service providers. Individuals referred to our program must have case management through the process of applying to their units. Majority of waitlist population are individuals experiencing homelessness, but their case managers do not always follow them through the entire process, may lead to greater risk of losing housing.

VII. **Future Board Meeting Agenda Items**

None.

VIII. **Public Comment**

None.

IX. **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 2:27 pm.

VOTE SUMMARY:

May Meeting Minutes Approved

Lived Experience Stipend Policy, as Amended, Approved July 21, 2022: 1-3pm