



**MARYLAND
BALANCE OF STATE
CONTINUUM OF CARE**

COC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 21, 2024

[Meeting Recording Link](#)

Board Members Present

Allegany County: Dave Nedved, Margaret Paul
 Cecil County: Earl Grey, Gwen Parrack
 Frederick County: Kenneth Oldham, Michelle Ott
 Garrett County: Shawnee Reynolds
 Southern MD: Cynthia Brown, Jacquelyn Culver, Corae Young
 Washington County: Mark Sewell, Tyrell Wilson
 MD Department of Education: Patricia Julianelle
 MD Department of Health (MDH): Priya Arokiaswamy
 MD Dept. of Housing and Community Development (DHCD): Danielle Meister
 MD Department of Labor (Labor): Casey Tiefenwerth

Board Members Absent

Garrett County: Fred Polce
 Harford County: PJ Craig, Robin Tomechko
 Southern MD: Florence Brooks
 MD Department of Disabilities (MDOD): Vacant
 MD Department of Human Services (DHS): Vacant
 MD Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS): Vacant
 MD Department of Veteran Affairs (MDVA): Dana Burl

Committee Chair Present

Coordinated Entry: Brian Wainwright

CoC Lead Present

Becky Burrow, Carolyn Curry, Kristen Halsey, Suzanne Korff, Tiffany Little

HMIS Administrator Present

Sam Bochinski, Jason Burns

I. Welcome & Call to Order

Corae Young called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm, quorum was confirmed. Young introduced new board member Margaret Paul, Executive Director of the Office of Consumer Advocates who is replacing Susan Malone to represent Allegany County.

II. Approval of Jan 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

Young asked for amendments or comments on the January meeting minutes, none were made. Young asked for a motion to approve, Mark Sewell made the motion, Tyrell Wilson seconded the motion. All approved the January minutes.

III. Committee Reports

Executive Committee: Young presented the CoC Governance charter, no additional suggestions were made by the CoC; the basic edits that were made were reviewed for consideration. Young

asked for any further discussion, none was made, Young requested a motion to approve, Dave Nedved made the motion, Brian Wainwright seconded the motion. All approved the annual Governance Charter updates.

Young announced the results of the Board Leadership election and confirmed that she and Sewell have been re-elected to serve a second term.

HMIS Committee: Sewell reported that the Point in Time and Housing Inventory Count reports are due to HUD on April 30, 2024. Sewell presented the CoC System Performance Measures report that was submitted to HUD on March 13th. The report will be sent to the board, CoC statewide and national comparisons will be provided once the data is available.

Point in Time Count Planning Committee: Carolyn Curry reviewed the 2024 PIT Count process and said preliminary data will be available for LHC review in early April.

Coordinated Entry Committee: Wainwright announced that Southern MD will receive CES training on April 2 and Frederick County will be scheduled for some time in April. All other LHCs have been trained and the new process and case conference meetings are underway. The BoS is working with HUD TA to identify the next steps in the CES launch process and intends to develop Phase 2 in late summer 2024. The next phase will include identifying ways to reduce inflow into the system, better coordinate access to shelter and develop performance measures and system monitoring plans.

MD ICH: Suzanne Korff reviewed the ICH meeting that was held February 8th; meeting minutes will be available in the coming days. The next meeting will be on June 6th at the University of MD Baltimore Medical Center.

IV. CoC Lead Report

Curry introduced Tiffany Little, the new BoS Training and Engagement Coordinator; and reviewed the new CoC Help Desk for all CoC related questions and inquiries. Curry reviewed the FY2023 CoC Funding Competition awards and score. The HSP Ad Hoc Committee will resume in the coming weeks.

Danielle Meister reported on the ongoing legislative efforts; all DHCD bills moving forward, including Governor's Housing Package; final decisions should be known by April.

V. Local Homelessness Coalition Reports

Washington County: Sewell reported that the LHC is working to close the cold weather shelter, trying to house as many current residents as possible. The local women and children shelter is unexpectedly suspending operations for at least 6 months; LHC is gathering all providers and partners to identify solutions.

Southern MD: Jacquelyn Culver reported that the LHC has started the launch of Coordinated Entry, more training will be provided soon; the quality assurance team is working on the monitoring plan, agencies are currently completing self-assessments ahead of the risk assessments being complete; working to create a transparent process. FY23 monitoring is complete; working to create cycle of continuous monitoring.

Harford County: Wainwright reported that the cold weather shelter ending in a week, working to accelerate rapid rehousing placements. April 20th the LCH will host the Homeless Project Connect, recently renamed to remove stigma. Eviction prevention providers out of funding, faith-based communities are the sole safety net right now, hoping to engage local PHA to reconsider eligibility requirements on rental assistance. LHC preparing for monitoring, will likely be complete later in summer.

Garrett County: Shawnee Reynolds reported that the LHC has started coordinated entry and a local case conference, all shelter clients in HMIS and being assessed. The organization has a new president and the LHC is looking into developing a warming shelter. The county has a long list of shelter and little housing available. Will need to seek additional TA and support.

Frederick County: Vincent Rogers, Director of Housing for Frederick County introduced himself, new to the organization, learning the position and role as the incoming Local Lead Agency.

Cecil County: Gwen Parrack reported that the LHC has started case conference meetings; looking into FY25 HSP funding and how to incorporate RRH back in, it has been primarily funded by CV and EHP funds the past several years. Working to coordinate local organizations, several small nonprofits are forming and doing street outreach, wanting to bring them all together. Through local coordination and case conference want to instill an attitude of continuous quality improvement. The homeless system of always evolving and must roll with it. Regarding Homeless Prevention funds – have found that the funds that have been used don't necessarily go to the population of those who will become homeless without it. Would like to see a more targeted effort, learn what other LHCs are doing, decide is it the best way to use HP funding.

Allegany County: Nedved reported that the LHC met and are planning the Community Resource Fair, it will be moving to a new location at the Second Baptist on Grand Avenue, closer to people who will access it, will have better attendance. In early August the DoD is hosting an Innovative Readiness training. The main shelter is moving locations – current building falling apart, able to purchase furniture store on the edge of town and will renovate.

VI. State Agency Updates: Young

Maryland Department of Disabilities – seat vacant

Maryland Department of Education: Patricia Julianelle reported that all school systems except Allegany County received McKinney Vento grants; the department has worked with DHCD to provide support on the youth homelessness systems improvement grant, met with colleagues about SB 370, hope to work with DHCD on implementation if it passes.

Maryland Department of Health: None

Maryland Department of Housing & Community Development: Nothing additional

Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs: None

Maryland Department of Human Services – seat vacant

Maryland Department of Labor: Casey Tiefenwerth reported that one of the grantees of the Workforce Solutions Grant to Address Homelessness has ended their grant agreement. Still seeking a co-chair for the ICH Workforce Subcommittee.

VII. Future Board Meeting Agenda Items

- a. DHCD will share the full System Performance Measures report and include performance comparison as data becomes available.
- b. Homeless Prevention best practices and how to best target funds

VIII. **Public Comment:** None

IX. Adjournment

Young asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting, Sewell made the motion. The meeting adjourned at 2:36 pm.

Vote Summary

- January Meeting Minutes Approved
- Annual Governance Charter Updates Approved

Upcoming BoS CoC Board Meetings

May 16, 2024: 1-3pm

July 18, 2024: 1-3pm

September 19, 2024: 1-3pm