

Welcome! We'll get started shortly.

Today's meeting is interactive.

To ensure you can fully participate, all board members have been made panelists and are unmuted at entry.

That means we can hear you!

Please mute your phone or use the webex meeting controls now to mute your microphone.





**ENDING
HOMELESSNESS
IN MARYLAND.**

TOGETHER.

**NOVEMBER 2020
BOARD MEETING**



**MARYLAND
BALANCE OF STATE
CONTINUUM OF CARE**

Housekeeping

- Attendance/quorum will be taken automatically via WebEx
- This meeting will be recorded and made available to the public
- Board members should join via computer so you can participate in voting
- Public comment will be accepted at the end of the meeting

Welcome & Call to Order

Carrie DiSimone, Board Chair



Meeting Agenda

- I. Approval of September Board Meeting Minutes
- II. New State Agency Board Member Introductions
- III. The Journey to Form the BoS and A Look Ahead
- IV. CoC Lead Report
- v. HMIS Lead Report

- VI. Local Homelessness Coalition Reports
- VII. 2021 Point-In-Time Count Planning
- VIII. State Agency Updates
- IX. Future Board Meeting Agenda Items
- X. Public Comment
- XI. Adjournment

Vote to Approve September Meeting Minutes



Are there any amendments or changes to the September 2020 Board Meeting Minutes?

Vote to approve the meeting minutes using the webex poll on your screen.

New Board Member Introductions

Danielle Meister, DHCD



Maryland State Department of Education

Melissa Surgeon

Interim State Coordinator, Homeless Education and Neglected,
Delinquent and At-Risk Programs

melissa.surgeon@maryland.gov

Maryland Department of Human Services

Lauren Molineaux

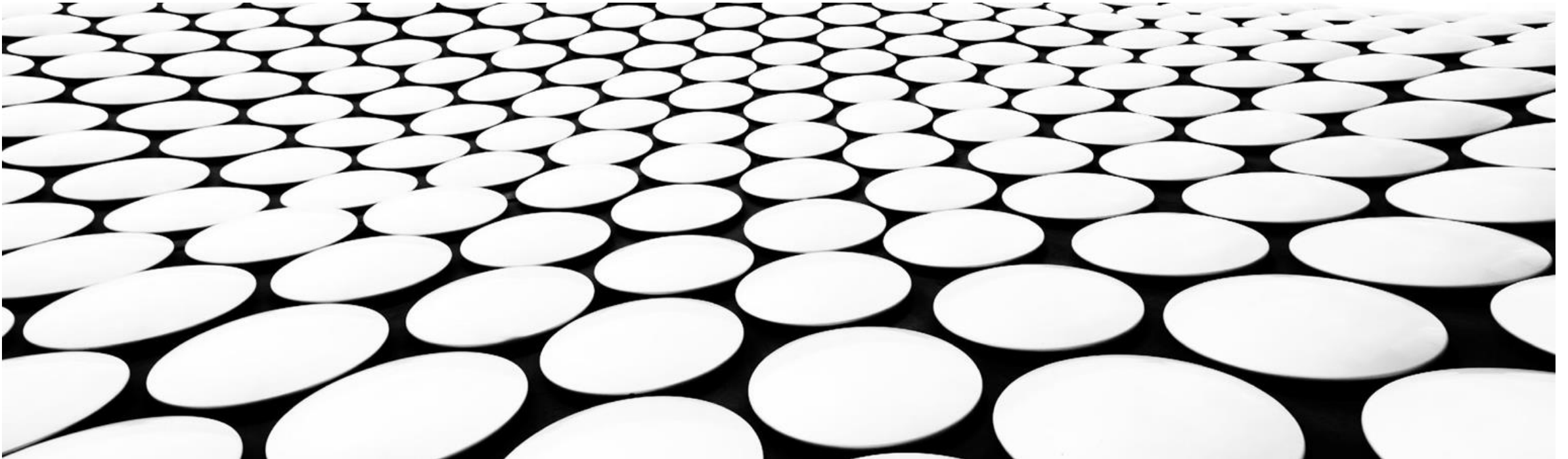
Director, Office of Cash Programs

Family Investment Administration

lauren.molineaux2@maryland.gov

MARYLAND BALANCE OF STATE CONTINUUM OF CARE

THE JOURNEY TO GET HERE AND A LOOK AHEAD



BACKGROUND – DECISION TO FORM A BALANCE OF STATE COC

- Maryland had many small CoCs and all parties saw the need to strengthen services and financial sustainability of homeless services
- In May 2018, Stuart Campbell reached out to Abby Miller and William Snow (HUD-SNAPS) to discuss the merits of merging CoCs
- William met with Maryland CoC leaders to review benefits of CoC mergers
- In late 2018, Maryland was awarded technical assistance to explore CoC merger options
- Discussions were renewed and in August and September 2019, the TA team had numerous conversations with DHCD and CoCs
- CoCs explored merging with each other, but a lack of progress led DHCD to offer to serve as a BoS Lead Agency, which was widely endorsed

2019: FORMING THE BALANCE OF STATE

Cloudburst TA providers and William Snow travelled to Maryland to present on creating a Balance of State CoC

HUD encouraged the merger, based on positive results in other states
DHCD and TA developed tools explaining what the merger would produce and outlining the merger process would look like, as well as analytic tools to help communities see their declining awards that would likely be remedied by merging into a BoS CoC

DHCD organized an “Acting Balance of State CoC Board” with representatives from each of the five in-merging CoCs

Decision to focus on developing fundamental tenets of the CoC’s Governance Charter and CE approach, including bi-weekly calls into January 2020 (timed to be ready for one county’s CoC Board vote)
TA and DHCD met with Baltimore HUD office, whose staff were encouraging and worked out the timeline and mechanics of grant transfers



TA team met with the Washington County CoC Board and worked with DHCD to create an active engagement with Jason Burns and TeamHMIS

2020: MAKING IT OFFICIAL (AND DOING THE WORK)

January: Maryland and five CoCs informed HUD of the intention to merge:
MD-514 is born!

February: Acting Board Members worked with TA to draft Governance Charter, Coordinated Entry principles, and began iterative comment process; TA offered training on establishing and operating a CoC

March: DHCD registers the BoS as a CoC with HUD; drafts policies and procedures for HMIS, written standards, other governance documents

July: CoC creates reallocation and other operational policies; NOFA competition plan approved by board; BoS branding completed; CoC executed MOUs with DHCD and TeamHMIS

August (and ongoing): Learning Management System in place; one-on-one meetings between DHCD staff and LHCs



April: BoS adopts governance charter; forms CoC committees

May: CoC selects new prioritization tool

June: New Board leadership officially voted in; begins formalizing CE processes



TODAY, MARYLAND'S BALANCE OF STATE COC...

- Acknowledges local issues and allows for regional flexibility in decision making
- Achieves representation from the entire geography of the continuum
- Actively engages numerous state agencies in understanding the CoC's issues and supporting its success
- Operates through a single integrated HMIS
- Has improved coordination between counties, which has helped COVID-19 response
- Has increased state-level understanding of what happens at the local level (e.g., funding priorities, how decisions are made)
- Provides a regular and intensive feedback loop with a real-time sense of what boots are doing on the ground, creating transparency with funders

WHAT'S NEXT?

- 2020 NOFA Application
- Continue to strengthen relationships with program staff in and among LHCs
- Build on online/social media presence to communicate CoC impact, current projects, and data
- Build out Learning Management platform to make resources and training materials accessible to all staff
- Fully launch Coordinated Entry as part of HMIS
- Plan for an annual CoC membership meeting and first-year annual cycle of CoC activities
- Integrate persons with lived experience into leadership
- Integrate racial equity into all aspects of planning and performance analysis
- Continue governance planning

THANK YOU FROM YOUR TA TEAM!

- It has been a pleasure working with all of you!
- This young BoS is in great shape and exceeding all expectations
- We look forward to hearing more about your accomplishments in the future

- Judy Perlman judy@judyperlmanconsulting.com 617 308 7369
- Scott Pruitt scott.pruitt@cloudburstgroup.com 303 961 1791

CoC Lead Agency Report

Carolyn Curry, DHCD



Funding Updates

FFY2020 Continuum of Care Program (CoC NOFA)

- Automatic renewals require an act of Congress – HUD believes there may be action in December
- There is no backup plan if Congress does not act – potentially have to do competition
- BoS grants minimally impacted by the delay - only one 2020 grant starts before May and it is small

Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project (YHDP)

COVID19 Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG-CV)

Coordinated Entry

Coordinated Entry System Launch

- Finalizing timeline, trainings and CES forms now
- Committee will review and approve a specific CES rollout plan at 12/4 meeting
- Materials for LHCs and community providers will be created and made available in December

CoC Membership & Meeting

January Member Meeting Planning

- CoC is required to maintain membership list and voting eligibility rules, and hold at least one annual meeting/solicit members annually
- DHCD will be sending out a membership registration form in December with an invitation to a virtual January member meeting
- January meeting will be a celebration of Year 1 and forecast of Year 2 activities
- Who is a CoC member?
 - Open to the public
 - Any organization that is a member of an LHC and/or service provider should also be a CoC member
 - Board members must be CoC members

HMIS Lead Agency Report

Jason Burns, TeamHMIS



HMIS Lead Report

- HMIS Merger Status
- HUD Longitudinal Systems Analysis (LSA) Report
- Upcoming State and Federal Reports
- HMIS Reports Training

Local Homeless Coalition Reports



LHC Reports

Topics

- LHC Updates
- COVID19 and Winter Shelter Planning
- ESG-CV Implementation

LHC

- Allegany
- Cecil
- Garrett
- Southern MD
- Washington

PIT Count Planning

Carolyn Curry, DHCD



PIT/HIC Overview

Point-In-Time Count (PIT)

- One-night “snapshot” of homelessness across the country
- Includes an unsheltered count and a sheltered count
- All CoCs must complete unsheltered count in odd years, and are incentivized to do unsheltered count every year
- Sheltered count is completed every year

Housing Inventory Count (HIC)

- One-night “snapshot” of emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent housing beds/units dedicated to serving people who are homeless

PIT & HIC must be conducted on same night, in last ten days of January (federal requirement)

BoS PIT/HIC Planning

- PIT Planning committee began meeting in October – representatives from all LHCs, TeamHMIS, DHCD
- HUD released guidance on unsheltered PIT count requirements on 11/13
- Committee intends to finalize PIT/HIC Plan by early December

Sheltered Count Methodology

- Includes people residing in emergency shelter, safe haven, transitional housing, rapid re-housing, permanent supportive housing, and other permanent housing dedicated to people who are homeless
- Majority of data is collected through information entered by homeless programs into the CoC's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)
- Homeless programs that do not enter data into HMIS will provide data separately – usually faith-based missions or privately funded shelters
- CoC reports demographic data for total clients, unaccompanied youth, families with children, and adult-only households

Unsheltered Count Methodology

- Typically done using individual surveys with people living in unsheltered locations or places not meant for human habitation (cars, tents, abandoned buildings, etc)
- Survey includes required HUD data elements and any locally prioritized questions
- Surveys can be completed
 - During a street outreach event
 - At homeless programs like drop-in centers or day shelters
 - Via a magnet event or resource fair
- Usually heavy dependence on volunteers and significant staff time investment

HUD Flexibilities for COVID19

- Rooted in concern for health and safety of people experiencing homelessness, staff, and volunteers; HUD will not use 2021 unsheltered count numbers to determine trends over time/negatively impact funding – this is a unique situation
- Communities can do the following without HUD permission:
 - Change how and where they count, including how comprehensive
 - Change how many/what questions are asked on the survey as long as they can deduplicate (as brief as name and housing status)
 - Conduct surveys over 14 days instead of normal 7
- Communities must request HUD permission to:
 - Not conduct an unsheltered count at all
 - Conduct a headcount only (no demographics or household characteristics)
 - Use an alternate data source to submit unsheltered data to HUD (such as a Coordinated Entry by-name list)

BoS Plan for 2021 Unsheltered Count

- **Time Frame**

The official 2021 Point in Time Count date for the MD BoC will be January 27, 2021. LHCs will have up to 7 days after the count to identify and collect data. LHCs determine the duration of the count, all counting efforts must conclude by February 3, 2021.
- **Location**

PIT Count surveys will be conducted at service based sites, including locations that provide day services, soup kitchens, emergency shelters, or any other site where those living in unsheltered situations may present during the day. LHCs will identify the locations and hours that surveys will be conducted.
- **Enumerators**

PIT Count surveys should be administered by existing staff throughout an LHC, for example, including staff from local shelters, street outreach and supportive service providers, where available. LHCs are not required to recruit community volunteers or develop teams to canvass the LHC geography.
- **Data & Methodology**

The 2021 PIT Count survey will only include data elements as required by HUD in prior years. Additional data elements often requested during the count will not be included in the 2021 survey. If the client will not or cannot provide their personal information, observation based surveys will be accepted. .
- **Optional Upgrades**

If an LHC has the capacity and would like to do more than the required minimum standards, they may opt to do so. Street Outreach teams or community volunteers can be used to canvas known areas where people are sleeping in unsheltered locations, outside of service based locations.
- **LHC Count Plan**

LHCs will be required to register the details of their 2021 PIT Count plan with DHCD when requested.

State Agency Updates



Future Agenda Items



Public Comment



Adjournment

