



MARYLAND
BALANCE OF STATE
CONTINUUM OF CARE

COC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 17, 2022 – 1pm-3pm

[Meeting Recording](#)

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Board Members Present

Allegany County: Susan Malone, David Nedved
Cecil County: Gwen Parrack, Earl Grey
Garrett County: Gregan Crawford
Harford County: Robin Tomechko
Southern MD: Jacquelyn Culver, Corae Young
Washington County: Mark Sewell, Tyrell Wilson
MD Department of Education: Shanna Edmond
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
MD Department of Veteran Affairs (MDVA): Dana Burl

Board Members Absent

Harford County: PJ Craig
Southern MD: Cynthia Brown, Lanny Lancaster
MD Department of Human Services (DHS): Lauren Molineaux
MD Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS): Vacant

CoC Lead Present

Danielle Meister, Carolyn Curry

HMIS Lead Present

Jason Burns, Samantha Bochinski

- I. **Welcome & Call to Order:** Quorum was conformed, Corae Young called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.
- II. **Introductions of New Board Members:** Shanna Edmond, MD Department of Education and Casey Tiefenwerth, MD Department of Labor were introduced as the newest BoS Board Members.
 - I. **Approval of February 2022 Board Meeting Minutes:** Young asked for amendments or comments on the February Board Minutes. None were made. Dave Nedved made the motion to approve the minutes, Mark Sewell seconded the motion. The board for was unanimous to approve the February Minutes.
- III. **Committee Reports**

Executive Committee: Young reviewed upcoming BoS Priorities for consideration in 2022, the goal is to be data driven in decision-making. Will discuss further at future meeting. Young reviewed the FY2021 CoC Awards released by HUD, grant agreements with HUD won't be available for several weeks. The Board will review and identify areas for system improvement once we receive score

from HUD. The Southern MD LHC has agreed to start an Equity Pilot to look at equity data and concerning trends, plan to begin in July.

HMIS Committee: Sewell updated the board on HMIS Committee actions including the upcoming review for additional user licenses. Carolyn Curry & Jason Burns provided an overview of the BoS System Performance Measure as submitted to HUD.

Coordinated Entry Committee: No Updates this month

- IV. CoC Lead Report:** Danielle Meister reviewed the Annual Action Plan process, the plan draft is complete and will be on the DHCD website for public comment; 2 public hearings are scheduled in April and the plan will be submitted in May. HOME dollars are still in a community planning phase and will be geared toward those experiencing homelessness or are at risk.

Stuart Campbell provided an update on the HSP funding timeline; stated LHCs should anticipate an increase in available funds, an application training session has been scheduled for relevant parties. The budget includes an additional \$5 million this year, will need to get approval on recommended allocations but do not anticipate major changes. Awards should be out by July 1.

Meister reported that the MD Inter Agency Council on Homelessness was primarily on hiatus during the pandemic, but the workforce committee continued to meet. The larger committee meetings have now resumed. The February meeting reviewed the current guiding action and requested input on strategies and plans and will into post pandemic world. The next meeting is in May, the committee will propose changes to the framework based on feedback, will be adding new committees, looking at ways for the BoS to be more involved, likely at the committee level. ICH meetings are open to public.

Curry updated the board on the upcoming FY2022 CoC NOFA. Program registration is due in eSNAPS on April 7th, competition related policies will be available for board approval in May.

- V. CoC Governance:** Curry reviewed the Lived Experience Recruitment Plan, DHCD will provide guidance in the May meeting regarding the HSP budget, stipend guidelines and appropriate wages.

Curry reviewed the proposed Governance Charter updates with the Board. Young asked board members for additional amendments or comments and the motion to vote. Jacquelyn Culver motioned to approve the charter as amended, Gregan Crawford seconded the motion. The vote was opened on Zoom and all approved.

VI. Local Homelessness Coalition Reports

Allegany County, Dave Nedved: The LHC met yesterday, are in process of planning the Homeless Resource Day for September, will be the 12th year. The local task force continues to move forward, the goal is to help clients who overlap between providers. COVID cases are down locally. *Susan Malone:* Announced the local Youth Reach count will be held 4/4-4/15.

Cecil County, Gwen Parrack: LHC wrapped up the winter shelter on Monday of this week and will continue to hold funding for emergency motels through year. Will prioritize households with children and the medically vulnerable. LHC is working to maximize the use of CV-2 funding, will be spent by 9/30.

Garrett County: No updates, in process of identifying and selecting the 2nd LHC Board Representative.

Harford County, Robin Tomechko: We are finishing the PIT count in Harford. The winter shelter will end in March. HSP audits are underway. Harford Family House is in conversation with a potential collaboration to merge with Welcome One, the local family shelter & individual shelter, to become one organization

Southern MD, Young: LHC is in the midst of HSP monitoring, the Quality Assurance committee is meeting to review local process. The Youth Count starts this Sunday, LHC is meeting with local McKinney-Vento liaisons to partner on count, are currently looking for youth ambassadors. Most hypothermia shelters are done for the year, St Mary's Co. is still hoteling, Charles is still hoteling through April. Clients will move into new shelter on May 1 as long as there is enough staff. Meeting with county delegation tomorrow to discuss housing, LHC is adamant in talking about the rental market and available housing with the delegates. ERAP 2 funding – Calvert Co. is out of funds, Charles Co. is almost out, St. Mary's Co. is still spending. Looking for other ways to support clients. Looking to submit a tri-county grant for Workforce Solutions, there are currently high levels of little to no employment.

Washington County, Sewell: RRH funds are still available in the county, the cold weather shelter is closing in a few weeks. LHC created an EHP shelter, it will be closed in June, are currently helping clients move to permanent locations. In January there was a 35% positive COVID rate, down to 2.5% now; still dealing with impacts including increased addictions, drug abuse and homelessness. Looking to energize the family approach to services in the county. Want volunteers involved to assist with families along with housing navigators and service providers, will tie into the community needs assessment and strategic planning. Want to begin to consider what does a post pandemic life look like. Looking at properties to provide up to 80 units. Youth Reach efforts are being led by youth, they have held a spa day and carnival day for local youth. There is an excitement to translate into surveys. ERAP2 – looking to change eligibility requirements, focus on greatest need in community instead of focusing on 80% AMI, will look at 30-50% AMI and consider arrears; will send request to modify agreement to DHCD. There are currently many jobs unfilled, there is not enough interest, dropping eligibility may help movement on most vulnerable.

VII. State Agency Updates

Casey Tiefenwerth announced that LABOR held a proposal conference for the Workforce Solutions Demonstration grant, over 30 participants were in attendance. The deadline for the intent to apply was yesterday and have received 5 or 6 so far with a few more on the way, will review proposals mid-June.

Shanna Edmond announced that Melissa Surgeon has resigned from Education, the department is currently looking for her permanent replacement. The ARP funds have been disseminated; working to support the LEAs for implementation.

Chelsea Hayman announced that the MDOD 2020 Outreach Project grant has priority groups to fill units in the project, currently looking for focused outreach to homeless individuals and families with a disability, foster youth ages 18-21 with a disability and at risk of homelessness, or those with an IDD and an aging caregiver. Would like ideas on groups to let know opportunity exists, want to

establish a robust wait list. Most of the current list is homelessness individuals, will follow up with contact information.

VIII. Future Board Meeting Agenda Items: None

IX. Public Comment: None

X. Adjournment: Young adjourned the meeting at 2:19 p.m.

Vote Summary:

- February Meeting Minutes Approved
- Governance Charter Annual Updates Approved