

# HOWARD COUNTY COALITION TO END HOMELESSNESS

## COALITION TO END HOMELESSNESS BOARD

### MEETING MINUTES

1/27/2021

#### Board Members:

X	Kelly Cimino	X	Peter Engel		Cassandra Killingsworth
X	Bill Salganik	X	James Le'Mon	X	Sandy Monck
X	Jacqueline Scott		Bitia Dayhoff	X	Lisa Terry
X	Shelia Little	X	Mariana Izraelson	X	Karen Booth
X	Linda Zumbrun	X	Jennifer Broderick		Sheryl Neverson
	Jack Kavanaugh	X	Joe Willmott	X	Kelly McLachlan
X	Stan Levi		Roe Bonaccorsy	X	Kimberly Eisenreich
	Rich Pardoe	X	Leslie Lampieri		Chris Cromwell
X	Kelly Anderson		James Cline		Vanita Leatherwood

#### Department of Community Resource and Services (DCRS) and Office of Community Partnerships (OCP) Staff:

X	Rose Burton	X	Jennifer Corcoran	X	Valerie Mathis
X	Cheryl Mattis	X	Megan Godfrey Jackson		Sharee Campbell
X	Cara Baumgartner	X	Colleen Baumgartner		

#### Guests:

X	Jennifer Dunson	X	Joan Washington	X	Beth Stein
X	Tina Field				

## AGENDA

Call to Order: 1:03 pm by Kelly Cimino

Minutes Approved: Minutes from the December meeting were motioned and approved.

Agenda Item: Homeless Persons' Memorial Day

Presenter Name: Jennifer Corcoran

Discussion: Homeless Persons' Memorial Day was observed virtually this year. Howard County government produced and distributed a Memorial video honoring the people in Howard County that lost their lives in the last year while being homeless or from the effects of previously being homeless. The Board watched the video and shared it with their networks.

Agenda Item: Committee Reports

Discussion: Bill Salganik motioned that Committee Reports be tabled and Mariana Izraelson seconded. There were no objections and reports were tabled.

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### Agenda Item: Funding Update

**Presenter Name:** Megan Godfrey Jackson and Colleen Baumgartner

**Discussion:** Community Service Partnership (CSP) Grant Program: Expect that funding will be tight due to COVID-19. Grantees should not expect increases in funding. This means level funding for current Operating grantees, who will need to complete a shorter renewal application. The CSP program is undertaking a grant redesign process. One of the goal is to better align Plan to End Homelessness (PEH) funding with The Path Home. Draft design framework has been crafted with consultants and a design workgroup. The draft redesign will be presented in community forums.

**State and Federal Funds:** Howard Counting is receiving CV1 \$201,000 non-congregant shelter. CV2 requesting \$602,067 for rapid rehousing. There will be a CV3 but amounts and process have not been announced yet.

HUD will not require a NOFA application for funding this year due to COVID-19. Before increase for Fair Market Rent, Howard County will receive \$984,426 to serve 49 households. A NOFA application will be required in the next federal fiscal year.

HSP has not announced when training will take place yet. Providers will have to attend this training to receive funds. The HSP application and training time could be released soon.

**CARES Cold Weather & Code Blue:** Cold weather is using hotels to shelter homeless people, instead of churches due to COVID-19. Code Blue is emergency shelter for when temperatures are below specific temperatures. ~\$45,000 in funding was granted and has been fully spent down. ESG funding will be used when CARES funding is exhausted.

### Agenda Item: Homeless Response System Updates

**Presenter Name:** Karen Booth of Humanim, Mariana Izraelson of Grassroots and Tina Fields of Grassroots

**Discussion:** Street Outreach to unsheltered homeless people is fully functional now. They are able to visually verify homelessness within 24 hours. Have received funding to give food and personal care supplies while doing outreach. Grassroots, Corrections and Humanim have partnered for street outreach. They are able to start building relationships with people and this helps move them into the homeless response system for further assistance.

Cold Weather Shelter has been full for several weeks. Case management and partnership with Bridges is being used to move homeless people into permanent housing. People staying at hotels instead of moving in and out of different churches weekly is helping them to stabilize. Churches have been providing meals to homeless people while they stay in the hotels.

Code Blue has been activated multiple times as temperatures have dropped. This program has been responding well to the need.

### Agenda Item: Point in Time (PIT) Count Update

**Presenter Name:** Rose Burton

**Discussion:** Due to COVID-19, there will be no unsheltered street count this year. An unsheltered street count is only required every other year and Howard County did it last year. We hope to return to yearly unsheltered street count once COVID-19 is over.

Sheltered and HIC counts will continue as normal. We still want to capture as many homeless numbers as possible. Will ensure as many shelter beds are filled as safely as possible, will work with law enforcement and Street Outreach to report the number of unsheltered, and try to move as many

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unsheltered people as possible into Code Blue. Major Street Outreach push to help get people inside. January 28<sup>th</sup> has been chosen as PIT count day in Howard County. Will have all homeless people in the system fill out the PIT questionnaire. Also reaching out to non-traditional providers outside the homeless system that could be helping homeless people to stay in hotels. Will try to get the PIT questionnaires to these providers by February 5<sup>th</sup>.

Agenda Item: COVID-19 Vaccination Planning

Presenter Name: Rose Burton

Discussion: Working with Howard County Health Department to get homeless people vaccinated. Assisting homeless people with transportation to vaccination clinics, signing up for vaccine list, and reminders for vaccine boosters. Will also work with State Health Department to properly track vaccination efforts.

Agenda Item: Permanent Supportive Housing Move-On Initiative and Emergency Shelter Housing Push

Presenter Name: Jennifer Corcoran and Rose Burton

Discussion: Households are being moved out of Permanent Supportive Housing and into Section 8 Housing and other voucher programs. Vouchers are still available, and people are still moving through the process. As people move out of Permanent Supportive Housing this opens spots for people that need more structure to stay stably housed.

Emergency Shelter Housing Push: Case management to move people out of shelter and into housing programs is funded by Bridges to Housing Stability. The Housing Push is helping people out of Cold Weather shelter and homeless shelter and into permanent housing.

Agenda Item: Expanding System Resources

Presenter Name: Kelly Cimino

Discussion: \$9,700,000 in grant funding from the Treasury Department will go to the Howard County Department of Housing and Community Development. This funding will be used for eviction prevention and utility assistance. Will be able to pay for up to nine months of assistance for clients. All CARES grant funding that was awarded has already been distributed to clients.

Meeting Conclusion Time: 2:32 pm

Next Meeting: February 24, 2021 1:00 pm via WebEx