BALTIMORE CITY COC MINUTES

THE JOURNEY HOME

CoC Board Meeting

July 18, 2024| 2p.m.-4:30p.m.| In-Person: Our Daily Bread, 725 Fallsway |Meeting called to order by Jeff Garrett

In Attendance

Attendees (from current board): Ciera Dunlap, Eddie Blackstone, Tara Taylor, Chuck Callahan, Kevin Lindamood, Ernestina Simmons, Doug Schmidt, Carolyn Johnson, Amy Collier, Crystal Pitt, Jeff Griffin, Levy Johnson, Da'Mel Ross, Lolah James, Dan McCarthy

Members of the public or support entity representatives: Ingrid Lofgren

Approval of Minutes

Meeting minutes will be approved at 7/25/24 Executive Committee meeting then brought to the Board for final review at the 9/19/24 Board meeting.

Agenda

I. Welcome
II. Review of CoC Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest Policies
III. Community Comments
IV. Capacity Building Workgroup Recommendations and Next Steps
V. Active CoC Committee Reports
VI. Re-formed CoC Committee Updates
VII. MOHS Updates
VIII. Community of Practice RFP- Results

Agenda items/order are subject to Discussion

Agenda Item: Welcome
Meeting discussion began at 2:16 p.m., however there was not quorum moving to the discussion to announcements and community comment.

There was a moment of silence for the death of Damien Haussling, a long-serving member of the CoC.

Agenda Item: Review of CoC Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest Policies
Dan requested for board members to sign and complete CoC Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest policy forms, requesting that all documents return to Kate Calhoun of MOHS.

Agenda Item: Community Comments

Amy Collier: The documentary *Beyond the Bridge* which examines homelessness solutions across various cities with a focus on collaborative approaches. The filmmakers are open to hosting a panel discussion in Baltimore, if the CoC is open to the associated costs.

Ingrid Lofgren: At the previous meeting there was a resolution to apply for HABC funding and an inquiry was made regarding any response from HABC. Dan reported that they have not heard back, and Ingrid requested a follow up.

At 2:27 p.m., when quorum was reached with 12 members in attendance, the meeting to order by Dan McCarthy.

Agenda Item: Capacity Building Workgroup Recommendations Next Steps
There was discussion on the Capacity Building Workgroup's recommendations, with Board members noting insufficient community support and no discussion with MOHS. It was highlighted that the CoC's initial work with Due East occurred under different circumstances, including different leadership at MOHS, suggesting the need to reconsider moving forward with Due East's recommendations.

There was a motion is to remove Jeff Garrett from the CoC Board. Dan confirmed that if Jeff were removed, he would not assume the position of Chair or Vice-Chair but expressed his desire to remain on the Board. The motion was seconded. Thirteen members in favor, one abstention, no denials. The motions passed.

Tara Taylor was nominated to fill the existing term and accepted the nomination. The Board votes unanimously in favor with no abstentions, no denials. Tara Taylor assumed the position of CoC Board Chair, requesting transition support and training.

Tara nominates Eddie Blackstone as Vice-Chair. Eddie accepts nomination. Twelve members vote in favor, one denial, no abstentions. Eddie assumes position of the CoC Vice-Chair.

Tara took responsibility for the agenda and facilitated the rest of the meeting discussion. There was discussion about the future direction and goals, community and relationship building, transparency, representation, and inclusion. There are still vacancies for lived experience (1 position), systems leaders (2 positions), and at-large representatives (1 position).

There was discussion regarding the need for more inclusive, non-congregate shelter systems for LGBTQ individuals and people with disabilities.

Agenda Item: Committee Reports

Governance: None.

Lived Experience Advisory Committee (Mark Council): With Jeff Garrett's removal from the Board, the LEAC will need a new chair. The Bylaws require that the chair is a Board member. Ellis Lee was elected as co-chair of the LEAC.

Youth Action Board: None.

Affordable Action Committee: None.

Homeless Response System Committee (Ciera Dunlap): There was discussion on the challenges of Coordinated Access, including long wait times. Despite challenges with the current system, providers should continue to support their clients in navigating the process. It was clarified that decisions made at the committee level must go to the Board for approval.

Shelter Transformation Committee (Tara Taylor): STC is updating participation agreement they created last year. Once a draft is completed, it will be brough to the board. They are also going to start recruiting at shelters for CoC membership.

Data and System (Kemmesha Thomas): This committee does not meet in the Summer. Next meeting is August 20 and the committee is recruiting.

Resource Allocation Committee (Chuck Callahan): There are two major funding sources for the year: Baltimore State and Federal funding, primarily coordinated through MOHS to support shelters and other services. The current funding cycle is completed, and despite a significant number of requests, there was not enough funding for all programs. MOHS ultimately decides which programs are funded. The next funding opportunity is the summer/fall NOFO (Notice of Funding Opportunity) from HUD which is expected to drop soon. This initiates a cycle that must be completed by September 30, during which RAC ranks and reviews 42 programs to determine their funding priorities.

There is a draft Letter of Support policy that will be presented to the Board at the next Board meeting.

Race Equity Action Committee (Di Rucker): The committee met with MOHS and the Mayor's Office of Equity and Civil Rights. They are restarting recruitment and developing a recruitment workgroup. The committee hopes to collaborate with other committees.

RAC shared that the Baltimore CoC has been awarded $80k for individuals with lived experience to participate in a racial equity program. The award is looking for 6-8 people to engage in community practice with Technical Assistance. The program needs Board representation and should choose individuals in the next 2-3 weeks.

Youth Homeless Action Committee (Saleen): The committee is creating bylaws and a voting process.

Community Comments:

Chrissy Thornton of Associated Black Charities is still available to meet with the group if there is interest. There is a cost associated with her facilitation. Naomi Sweitzer of TAC is also available to facilitate additional Board trainings, at no cost.

Franciscan Center has administered Narcan 17 times since July 5, where two have died. There was a call for the CoC to increase engagement in advocacy.

Maryland was one of ten states awarded for Youth Homelessness Improvement Grant for $2 million.