

Baltimore City Continuum of Care

CoC Board Meeting Minutes (In Person Meeting – Our Daily Bread Employment Center)

Thursday, Feb 19, 2026 |: 2:00pm- 4:30 PM

Time	Topic	Discussion/Notes	Facilitator
10 Minutes	Welcome and Agenda Overview	Review agenda, confirm quorum, and approve prior minutes.	Nico Sanders
15 mins	New Year Updates and Priorities	Overview of key updates since last Board meeting and high-level priorities for the year	Nico Sanders
20 Minutes	Committee and Membership Recruitment and Strengthening	Discuss strategies for recruiting new committee and CoC membership for 2026.	Nico Sanders
25 Minutes	Resource Allocation Committee Updates	Update on current financial status, recent funding opportunities and competitions, and fiscal agent updates.	Aliza Sollins

20 Minutes	MOHS Updates	Updates on current and upcoming priorities	Ernestina Simmons
10 Minutes	Public Comment	Opportunity for any non-Board members in attendance to make comments.	All
5 Mins	Closing and Next Steps	Summary of action items, upcoming meetings, and next steps	Nico Sanders

Board Attendance: Rennee Lau, Carolyn Johnson, Margaret Flanagan, Darroll Cribb, Tia Richards, Lara Figures, Greg Brown, Aliza Sollins, Nico Sanders, Jamal Turner, Crystal Pitt, Kemmesha Thomas, Shannon Peterson, Eddie Blackstone, Jeanette Gibbs, Levy Johnson, Shannon Nicholson, Tia Gasque, Odette Ramos, Ernestina Simmons

Other Attendees: Mark Council, M, Cindy Williams, Alexis Newby, Jayden, Jevandre Wilkerson, Ashley Goss, Iman Ibrahim, Sydni Snaggs, Lakeysa Williams, Althea Lyness-Fernandez, Kenisha Lee

Minutes:

- Welcome
 - o Nico called meeting to order, quorum confirmed at 13 voting Board members
 - o Jamal made motion to accept minutes from prior Board meetings:
 - October 20th minutes -- Lara F. seconded, no abstentions or nays. Minutes successfully passed.
 - November 18th minutes -- No nays, 3 abstentions due to absence from the meeting (Darroll Cribb, Carolyn Johnson, Jeanette Gibbs). Minutes successfully approved.
- Committee Chair updates
 - o Lonnie Walker stepped down from the Board, leaving the Chair position open for the Shelter Transformation Committee. Kenisha Lee, the Shelter Transformation Committee Co-Chair, stepped in as acting to the Chair position

- Governance Committee Chair is currently vacant as Jeff Griffin stepped down from the Chair position
- Affordable Housing Committee Chair is also vacant, but it may be turned into a workgroup after review of Charter and Bylaws occur
- Presentation from the Resource Allocation Committee (RAC) Chair Aliza on current financial situation
 - Uplift Alliance (CoC) fiscal sponsor has undergone leadership changes. The CoC has experienced administrative delays such as reimbursement after event costs and website updates
 - Recognition given to Lara Figures for her fast work on the CoC website
 - The CoC lacks consistent operating revenue
 - Current stipend policy is being re-visited and due to resource constraints will only pay for Lived Experience Advisory Committee and Youth Action Board Chair and Co-Chair seats.
 - The draft policy will be sent to Governance, reviewed by YAB and LEAC and RAC and then sent back to the Board
 - The policies should be re-visited yearly.
 - Member 365 needs to be discussed since it is not Cloud based and we need to ensure there is proper backup documentation
 - In addition to current revenues/expenses, need to set back and consider what the CoC should be spending money on
 - Discussion on use of Planning dollars and what can be used for current expenses. Planning dollars are currently primarily used for staffing at MOHS, but some of the items on the expenses list are eligible (not the admin)
 - Discussion of previous fundraisers hosted by the CoC that brought in significant funding.
 - Suggestion provided to recruit United Way for a seat on the Board
 - A new Google Suite was created after trying to trouble shoot the prior one
 - Proposal to create a fiscal working group with a mix of RAC, Resource Development Committee, and MOHS staff
- MOHS Updates
 - The response to the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for FY 25 ultimately submitted with 100% renewals. No changes from the permanent housing cap that was initially proposed by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, but we can anticipate big changes for FY 26 NOFO.
 - Flex Funds are being launched to help encourage move-ins from people who are in City-funded shelters or currently unsheltered for more than a month

- Question: will Board have a chance to review uses? Answer: not at these are launching quickly.
 - The first 300k is CDBG funds, then \$2 million in state Homeless Solutions Program (HSP) Bonus funding will be available.
 - These are not aimed at prevention, including eviction prevention.
- Wellness Center is opening at WHRC
- Housing and Healthcare fair is being piloted in April to try and bring a variety of housing resources outside of Coordinated Access together. It is specifically targeting people that are not likely to get RRH and PSH matches
 - It is not a general resource fair, and not open to the general public
- Welcome and appreciation to Councilwoman Odette Ramos, who has joined the Board
 - Councilwoman Ramos shared her appreciation and interest in making sure that we are considering the needs of people we do not see in the streets because they are staying in vacant properties
- Open Discussion
 - Tia Richards: Flagged that there are increasingly more people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness who are in senior housing, and are at risk of being evicted because they are taking in family members who are in need of a safe place to live. Additionally, seeing more people sleeping in their cars, and when the car is towed away all of their belongings are taken as well.
 - Discussion flagged the strong partnership with APS, the importance of senior resources that include direct outreach (QR code communications are not helpful), and importance of connecting with community associations to reach older adults.
 - Levy Johnson: Elevated concern regarding a letter received about the Youth Action Board from CoC leadership and printed out a copy of the letter to share with the Board for awareness. Nico shared this would be discussed with the Executive Committee at a later time.
 - Tia G: Flagged issue of children in schools who are homeless and the need to provide support to families. Many are doubled up. Also flagged the importance of connecting with kids in foster care, there are 1,200 children in foster care in the City.
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