Baltimore City Continuum of Care

CoC Board Meeting Agenda

NEW Date: Tuesday, October 14, 2025; 2:00-4:30 PM

NEW Location: 400 S Bond St, Baltimore, MD 21231 (SVPD Beans and Bread)

Time	Topic	Discussion/Notes	Facilitator
10 Mins	Welcome C Agenda Overview	Review agenda, confirm quorum, and approve prior minutes.	Nico Sanders
15 mins	Board Membership Policy Updates	Discuss policy development process and what was updated. Board vote on whether or not to pass the new policy.	Jeff Griffin
10 min	Vote on Removal of Absentee Board Members	Discussion and Board vote on removal of Board members that have not attended a Board meeting this calendar year	Nico Sanders
10 Mins	Board Elections / Timeline	Give an overview of the Board election, where we are in the process, next steps	Jeff Griffin
30 Mins	MOHS Updates	Updates on current and upcoming priorities	Director Simmons, Lakeysha Williams

15 Mins	PIT Count Planning	Updates on planning for FY 2026	Althea Lyness-Fernandez
15 Mins	Closing Remarks	Summary and review of next steps or action items.	Nico Sanders

Attendance: Crystal Pitt, Darroll Crib, Jeanette Gibbs, Lara Figures, Eddie Blackwell, Lolah James, Carolyn Johnson, Renee Lau, Aliza Sollins, Kemmesha Thomas, Levy Johnson, Greg Brown, Margaret Flannagan, Nico Sanders, Althea Lyness-Fernandez, Ernestina Simmons, Janae Jeter

Welcome and Agenda Overview – Nico Sanders

- Nico Sanders opened the meeting; quorum was not present at meeting start
- Due to lack of quorum, minutes were not approved

Governance & Membership Policy (Voting Item) – Althea Lyness-Fernandez

- Updated Governance Board Membership Policy refines **who sits on the Board**, **how they are selected**, and **seat definitions** (clarifies seats for lived-experience committees).
    - **System leader seats**: shift from membership vote to **Board selection** (one designated by Chair) to ensure expertise/tenure.
    - **Agency cap**: no more than **two members from the same agency**; second seat only if it's a lived-experience seat.
    - **Role changes**: if a member changes jobs, Chair (with Board) determines seat continuity or reassignment.
    - **Filling vacancies/selection mechanisms** clarified.
    - Open suggestion (not for immediate action): ensure youth representation within lived-experience seats
- Due to lack of quorum, this item was not voted on

Attendance & Removals – Nico Sanders

- Two members flagged for **non-participation (Sade Adeyo and Ny'Sjay Jones)**; intent is to vote on removal from Board
- **Discuss on quorum** required for any action (majority of voting seats then-seated):
    - **Standard actions**: simple majority with quorum.
    - **Removal for cause**: higher threshold (supermajority).
    - **Attendance removals**: proceed under standard motion rules (with quorum).
- Due to lack of quorum, this item was not voted on

Elections & Timeline – Althea Lyness-Fernandez

- Board election cycle ready to launch; need to **confirm vacancies** first.
- Governance to prep **recruitment and slate**; membership vote target late Nov; Board confirmation early Dec.
- Consider **virtual voting session** (proper notice) to clear backlog items.

Stipend Framework (Discussion) – Nico Sanders

- Draft updated stipend policy circulated with meeting materials. Discussion to explore the following ideas for an updated stipend policy:
    - Discussion regarding the need to clarify goals and purpose for stipends
    - Tie stipends to **defined duties** (meeting cadence, agenda setting, notes, outreach).
    - Shift to **work-product/earned** model (hourly or deliverable-based), not upfront lump sums.
    - Set **ineligibility** where full paid roles already cover the same work.
    - Need to identify **sustainable revenue** – the budget does not currently have enough to cover the amount of stipends that were previoulsy received
    - Explore reframing as **fellowships** (resume value, skill-building).

Point-in-Time (PIT) Count (Voting Item Later) – Althea Lyness-Fernandez

- Goal of the PIT Count Methodology document is to provide overview of key dates and **methodology consistency** with last year for clean year-over-year comparison.
    - Recommended dates are Jan 25 and 26, 2026 and rain dates of Jan 30 and 31, 2026
- Standing up the **Steering Committee**; broad recruitment incl. lived-experience bodies, youth, VSPs, VA,
- Comments provided include importance of university partnerships (credit/volunteer pipelines) encouraged, and incorporating last year's feedback
- The Board did not vote on the PIT Methodology as quorum was not reached

MOHS Updates – Ernestina Simmons

- Anticipated federal funding changes could **de-prioritize PSH** (30% safe tier cap); major **portfolio risk**.

- Renovations/relocations underway; **family shelter** model re-evaluation toward **apartment-style** capacity.

- **Winter plan**: dedicated family transport; seeking **overflow site** amid neighborhood pushback.
- Discussed Housing Our Neighbors shelter survey and resulting coverage

Communications & Events – Lara Figures

- **Fundraiser** this week—Board presence requested to strengthen visibility and partnerships.
- New **website** rollout to include funding-risk explainer and "**what you can do now**" actions.

Immediate Next Steps and Closing – Nico Sanders

- Chair/Staff: schedule **short virtual session** (proper notice) to vote: minutes, membership policy, PIT plan, attendance removals
- PIT: launch **Steering interest form**; confirm campus partners; import last year's **after-action** items.

- Funding risk: draft **one-pager** (talking points + federal asks) for Board and public hearing use.