BALTIMORE CITY COC MINUTES

THE JOURNEY HOME

CoC Board Meeting

November 21, 2024 | 2p.m.-4:30p.m.| In-Person: Our Daily Bread, 725 Fallsway |Meeting called to order by Tara Taylor

In Attendance

Attendees (from current board): Crystal Pitt, Chuck Callahan, Amy Collier, Carolyn Johnson, Jeffrey Griffin, Eddie Blackstone, Tara Taylor, Jimmie Robinson, Dan McCarthy, Ciera Dunlap, Iya Dammons, Levy Johnson, Da'Mel Ross, Kevin Lindamood, Shae Johnson on behalf of Nico Sanders

Members of the public or support entity representatives: Ernestina Simmons, Aliza Sollins, Kate Calhoun, Mary Rode

Approval of Minutes

Board meeting minutes from 9-19-2024 and 10-17-2024 were approved.

Agenda

I. Welcome
II. Meeting Minutes
III. Logo Vote
IV. Spud- Website Developer
V. Election Update- Nominee Updates and Bios
VI. PIT Count Update
VII. MOHS Data and Graph Overview
VIII. Subcommittee Structure Overview
IX. Women's Housing Coalition Request for Direct Grantee Status
X. CoC Consent Form Update/Vote
XI. MOHS Report Out
XII. Community Comments

Agenda items/order are subject to Discussion

Agenda Item: Welcome
Meeting called to order by Tara Taylor at 2:10 p.m.

Orientation Update: Dates proposed for Board orientation are 1/22 or 1/23 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m., location TBD. There were no preferences voiced.

Agenda Item: Logo Vote

- Unanimous approval of logo with suggestions to use a different font and to run the logo through an accessibility feature to ensure it's viewable to people with disabilities.

Agenda Item: Spud- Website Developer

- Spud, the website developer, provided an overview of the website rebuilding plan, highlighting features such as dedicated webpages for CoC subcommittees, and event calendar, Board member bios, and job postings. A suggestion was made to start a photograph library. Spud will collaborate with Ellis to collect content related to CoC subcommittees, and Eddie will provide the 2025 meeting calendar. Questions arose about sharing community-level data on the website. Spud confirmed that any requested information should be included. To ensure sustainability, Spud will not be the sole operator of the site and proposed forming a committee to support website maintenance.

Agenda Item: Election Updates- Nominee Updates and Bios- Kevin Lindamood

- Board nominee bios have been distributed. Election will take place on Member365 from Dec. 6- 12. Everyone was reminded to review the most up-to-date bios, as they will be updated to reflect any withdrawals. Kate will share a Board list, keeping only continuing Board members on the list.

Agenda Item: PIT Count Update- Ellis Lee

- Eventbrite will handle volunteer registration with sign-ups closing on January 13. Participation requires mandatory training. Volunteers will be divided into four groups, but specific requests for volunteer leads cannot be accommodated. Volunteers are asked to use their own cars, if able.

Agenda Item- MOHS Data and Graph Overview- Tara Taylor & Ernestina Simmons

- MOHS data for 10/1-9/30 system performance year showed improvement compared to historical trends, but still lags behind national averages. Key updates included:
    - An increase of 120 clients served in 2024 compared to 2023, and a decrease in average number of days spent homeless.
    - A rise in youth and senior homelessness reported by street outreach teams.
    - Disproportionate representation of Black and African American individuals in the system, aligning with national trends, but not Baltimore City's demographics.
- There was a request to include LGBTQ data and questions about homeless student statistics, noting that BCPS uses a broader definition than HUD.
- There was a request for quarterly reports to be shared with the Board.

Agenda Item- Subcommittee Structure Overview

- **Meeting Minute Template**: A standardized meeting template was presented to the Board and is expected to be used by subcommittee members moving forward.
- **Data Request Process:** Subcommittees can request HMIS data following the data request process. The request goes to MOHS and will be approved or amended as appropriate.
- **HUD TA Request Process:** The HUD request form was shared.

Agenda Item: Women's Housing Coalition Request for Direct Grantee Status- Chuck Callahan

- Women's Housing Coalition (WHC) has sought to become a direct HUD grant recipient instead of receiving reimbursements through MOHS, a process they have pursued for two years. However, their request does not meet HUD's conditions for direct recipient changes.
- Tara and Eddie will issue a formal letter denying their request.
- HUD monitors direct recipients minimally (e.g. AIRS), while MOHS ranks but does not monitor recipients. The CoC could implement stricter monitoring for direct recipients.
- Current regular payments are flowing smoothly but there are delays with other grant funders, such as the health department and state.

Agenda Item- MOHS Report Out- Director Simmons

- CoC Builds: The city purchased two hotels Beacon Communities, HCH, Episcopal Housing. CoC Builds provides capital to produce 155 units—100 PSH and 55 affordable, and medical respite use. HABC committed 100 vouchers to this project and Commissioner Kennedy committed $1 million dollars to this project. Decisions are expected in 4-5 months.
- Development of Annual CoC Board Transition Process: Kate Calhoun will be working on drafting a community-developed CoC Board transition process, outlining procedures for Board recruitment, nominations, Chair selection, orientation, training, and succession planning.
    - There were suggestions to intentionally solicit participation from the systems leaders the CoC wants to serve on the Board, and to have a future board meeting that focuses on how to recruit these systems leaders.

Agenda Item- CoC Consent Form Update/Vote

- FHO grant was submitted without consent of individuals of lived experience. Affected members shared their experiences. There was unanimous approval for the consent form, requiring that written consent be obtained before using any CoC individual on a grant.
- Dan McCarthy resigned from the Board.

Meeting adjourns at 4:05 p.m.