BALTIMORE CITY COC MINUTES

General Body Meeting

October 10, 2024 | 2 p.m.-3:30 p.m. |*Meeting called to order by Tara Taylor*

Agenda + Discussion

I. Welcome
II. Call for Membership/CoC Board Nomination and Voting Timeline
III. Logo Vote and Survey Update
IV. MOHS Updates
V. Celebration for World Homeless Day Speech and Acknowledgements
VI. CoC Committee and Community Updates

Discussion of Agenda Items

Agenda Item I: Welcome and Overview of the Meeting and CoC- Tara Taylor, CoC Chair & Eddie Blackstone, CoC Vice Chair

Welcome and Meeting Objective: Tara Taylor and Eddie Blackstone welcomed members to the meeting. The primary purpose of this meeting is to kick-off the election process for the 2024 Board Election.

Agenda Item II: Call for Membership

CoC Board Nomination and Voting Timeline: The election process is formally open. The calendar for the election process was shared. The CoC is requesting that a bio be included when the nomination form is submitted.

2024 Election Calendar

Thursday, September 12 Brief CoC Membership on 2025 election process

Thursday, September 19 Board Meeting- Review Election Process and Timeline

Friday, October 4 Review timeline with Governance Committee

Tuesday, October 8 Call for nominations

Thursday, October 10 General Body CoC Meeting- Call for Nominations

Thursday, October 17 Board Meeting - Reminder of open nominations process

Friday, November 8 Deadline for nominations and accompanying bios

Tuesday, November 12 Deadline for Member365 registration

Tuesday, November 19 Notice for Election: Nominees & bios released to CoC

Tuesday, November 26 Follow-up: reshare bios and information on how to vote

Thursday, December 6 – Dec 12 Voting on Member365: In-person at General Body Meeting or electronically.

Thursday, December 12 Voting at General Body CoC meeting – Voting closed

Thursday, December 19 Board Meeting

January 2025 New Board Member Training

January 2025 Leadership Elections at First Board Member of January

Board Nominations: Any interested candidate can self-nominated or be nominated by another person. You do not have to have an account in Member 365 to nominate a candidate, though you must have an account to run for a seat and/or to vote in the election. To be a member of the CoC, you must be registered in Member 365. Support was provided during the meeting to help with Member 365 sign ups. Individuals and agencies each have one vote. Flyers were also provided with a QR code to help CoC members access the nomination form and Member 365.

Agenda Item III: Logo Vote and Survey Update

CoC Logo: Three potential logos were proposed at the last meeting. A survey was provided to identify which logo the membership preferred. The logo selected was shared. The next step in the approval process is to present the recommended logo to the CoC Board for vote in the next meeting, scheduled on October 17, 2024.

CoC Calendar for CY 2025: The CoC Chairs collaborated with MOHS to develop an annual calendar of meetings for the next calendar year. Eddie shared the draft calendar. Once it is finalized, it will be sent out to all members and posted in Member 365 and on the MOHS website. Invitations for meetings will also be sent out to members.

Agenda Item IV: MOHS Updates- Ernestina Simmons, MOHS Executive Director

CoC NOFA: Final CoC rankings will be published today, October 10, 2024.

Relationship between MOHS and the CoC: Director Simmons encouraged the CoC to keep investing in Baltimore City and to ensure that people know that MOHS and the CoC care about them. She stated she feels very grateful to be a part of the CoC and the goal is to always improve our system. The relationship between MOHS and the CoC is critical to be able to end homelessness in Baltimore City.

Agenda Items V: Celebration for World Homeless Day Speech and Acknowledgements

Testimonials: Two very powerful testimonials were given by Iya Dammons and Da'Mel Ross. Both presentations highlighted the need for significant improvement in how and who are providing the services and resources to help people exit homelessness. The CoC and MOHS must ensure that services and programs provided to individuals and families experiencing homelessness be racially and culturally sensitive and that people providing the services must reflect those that are seeking help.

Acknowledgements: CoC members were asked to share acknowledgements with the group.

Agenda Items VI: Committee and Community Updates

Project Wave: provides free internet service.

Layla's Love: provides sustainable housing. There will be an event, "Spread the Love Initiative".

Safe Haven: has been renames to be Maryland Safe Haven. They have a new facility with 14 units of housing, office space, and a community center. There will be an Open House soon. It was announced that there is a significant grant opportunity and anyone who is interested in being involved should contact Iya Dammons.

PIT Count: the planning process for the PIT count is underway. Ellis Lee is the lead for the CoC. There is a great need for CoC volunteers, including those from the Provider community. There will be food available, including a vegan option.

YES: is looking for a new Executive Director. They also have a new site for their program.

CoC Update: the CoC will be putting out a survey of its membership to identify the needs of the community.

Future Meetings

- CoC Board Meeting – November 21, 2024 2:00 – 4:30 p.m.
  Our Daily Bread, 725 Fallsway, Baltimore MD
- CoC General Body Meeting – December 12, 2024 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.
  Helping Up Mission, 1029 E. Baltimore Street, Baltimore MD