

Carroll County, MD Circle of Caring Homelessness Board

Continuum of Care – Executive Board

Meeting Date: April 28th, 2025

Time: 2:30 pm-4:30 pm

Location: In-person at The COVE

Chair: Celene Steckel

Topic Discussion
Attendance - Jason Martin, Ed Singer, Yolandie Els, Celene Steckel, Danielle Yates, Kevin McGinnis, Stephanie Powers, Chris Burge, Bobbie Lawrence, Debby Standiford, Kaysy Connell, Scott Yard, Jennifer Graybill, Carly Long, Lisa Crook, Nicole Jackman, Stephanie Halley, Emma DiBlasi, Corey Hardinger, Joanna Waters, Milo Riddle, Marie Liddick,

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Celene Steckel reaching out to the Executive Director of the Carroll County Humane Society to invite them to Circle of Caring

2. Approval of the March 24th Minutes

- Scott Yard motions to approve
- Bobbie Lawrence seconded
- Minutes approved without objection

3. Shelter Utilization Report – Scott Yard

- Shared HSP excel report
- Reached out to 20 shelters around Maryland and spoke with 6 of them
- Everyone of them uses coordinated entry for intake
- All must do your ADLs
- Baltimore City uses cold blue for cold weather
- In Baltimore City all referrals must go through the city and then forward to Catholic Charities and the Coordinated Entry would call the individual
- Open wounds are not allowed entry into shelter
- Baltimore City limits Baltimore City residents only in shelter, but not at their NbN shelter
- Beyond Shelter out of Frederick – The Religious Coalition – has a large NbN, AO and Family Shelter
- NbN model not popular for funding
- HSP recommendation if changes must be made:
 - i. Require chores being completed; if non-compliant then they would be removed from shelter
 - ii. Case Management requirement
 - iii. There is no cap on cold weather season
 - Highest utilization during cold weather was 60-63 individuals
 - 60 nights total at more than 50 individuals
- NbN provides a safety net that AO and Family Shelter do not
 - i. If you have an oxygen tank, walkers, or other issues that make you vulnerable you wouldn't be able to stay in shelter, but can at NbN

4. Planning to have an Executive CoC half day Retreat sometime in October

- One of the focuses will be to look at RRH and the number that are returning to homelessness

5. FY26 HSP Grant application (Carly/Debby)

- HSP application is due Friday, May 2nd, so our application will be uploaded by Friday

6. Subcommittee Updates:

- **Data Committee – Carly Long and Emma DiBlasi**
 - i. The State uploaded the data sharing agreement and limits it to research purposes only
 - ii. Approved for opt out customizations for clients that don't want their data included
 - iii. The State will be sending out a new data sharing agreement that we will have to approve and sign
 - iv. Carroll County is the only county that has not opted in yet

- v. Standard Performance Measures just turned in
- **Lived Expertise Advisory Board – Amy Baker and Chris Burge**
 - i. 44 new homeless in last 90 days
 - ii. 1/3 are from out of county Frederick and Baltimore County and City
 - iii. 2 are employed and 1 is newly employed
- **Access to Housing – Celene Steckel**
 - i. Master Plan workgroups meeting every other week are ongoing
 - ii. First workgroup is this Monday
 - iii. Habitat for Humanity has recently purchased land behind the Health Department and the goal is to develop 26-27 homes; project will take multiple years to complete
 - iv. Scott Swartz will be speaking at our next Circle of Caring meeting
- **Systems of Care – Scott Yard**
 - i. Did not meet this month
 - ii. Melissa Zahn will be the acting Director of Access Carroll
- **Ad Hoc – Carly Long**
 - i. Went to all subcommittees for feedback
 - ii. We have a new draft to review and present to the Executive CoC – Needs Assessment Tool
 - iii. Start new Needs Assessment Tool on July 1st
 - iv. Adult Only restructure first and then Rapid ReHousing
- **Coordinated Entry**
 - i. Meeting is cancelled for next month
 - ii. In the process of updating Needs Assessment and Coordinated Entry
- **Ending Veterans Homelessness – Bobbie Lawrence**
 - i. Met last month and reviewed cases
 - ii. Have housed 14 veterans over the last 6 months
 - iii. 4 veterans are currently in emergency housing
 - iv. Sheppard Pratt is ending their Veterans Program, and we are hoping that Platoon 22 will take over the program
- **Youth Homelessness – Ed Singer**
 - i. YSB has 28 clients in CYP
 - ii. Have a waiting list of 2-4 weeks
 - iii. Family Preservation has a wait list of 6-8 weeks
 - iv. Have been participating in community events; Youth Homelessness Month and the National Youth Homelessness Summit in DC; Systems improvement in Annapolis and the Enough Act
 - v. Highest amount of unaccompanied youth they have ever had
- **Outreach**
 - i. Participating in the Drug and Violence Awareness Expo
 - ii. PFlag event last Saturday – have a display board for the Youth Action Board

iii. Resource Fair and networking Event had 25 vendors participate

*The next Executive Board Meeting will take place in person on Monday, June 23rd from
2:30pm to 4:30pm at The COVE*