

Carroll County, MD Circle of Caring Homelessness Board

Continuum of Care – Executive Board

Meeting Date: February 24th, 2025

Time: 2:30 pm-4:30 pm

Location: In-person at Access Carroll

Chair: Celene Steckel

Topic Discussion
Attendance - Jason Martin, Ed Singer, Joanna Waters, Amy Baker, Celene Steckel, Danielle Yates, Kevin McGinnis, Stephanie Halley, Stephanie Powers, Chris Burge, Corey Hardinger, Bobbie Lawrence, Debby Standiford, Kaysy Connell, Scott Yard, Jason Sidock, Gina Valentine, Yolandie Els

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Bobbie Lawrence –Grandparents Conference: Footsteps for Future Generation scheduled for March 29th

2. Approval of the January 27th Minutes

- Chris Burge motions to approve
- Kevin McGinnis seconded
- Minutes approved without objection

3. Shelter Utilization Report – Scott Yard

- Shared HSP excel report

4. Prioritize/Plan for potential of Federal Budget Cuts – Corey Hardinger/Debby Standiford

- Federal funding discussion centered around what counties are using federal funds
- Equal Access is still the law and must be followed
- HUD anticipated 50% cut in staff
- Homelessness staff cut 84%
- COC awards have been removed from HUD website
- Need to start messaging with landlords and developing contingency plans
- FY26 HSP Grant should be out today
- Anticipate Housing First will go away
- HUD not subject to the restraining order
- YHDP application information is gone from website
- FY26 for the federal government starts October 1st
- Emergency contingency plan
 - i. Where do we start with what gets funded and what does not
 - ii. Need to develop a template for all agencies to organize what programs are federally funded
 - Agency
 - Program
 - Cost
 - Number served and who is served
 - Cost per individual
 - iii. Creative solutions??

5. FY26 HSP Grant application - supposedly out today and due April 26th

6. Subcommittee updates

- Data Committee – Carly Long
 - i. Suzanne Korff and Chris Pitcher met with committee to answer questions about data warehouse
 - ii. Reviewed WellSky solutions to lock down shared data
 - iii. Suzanne Korff will edit the agreement and send back to the committee; have not received yet
 - iv. Next meeting is March 6th and 11th
 - v. Kaysy needs a data dictionary

- Lived Expertise Advisory Board – Amy Baker
 - i. Added a new member is Lisa Crook
 - ii. Looking for additional members
 - iii. Will have a table at the Resource Fair in April
 - iv. Discussion on transportation issues and needs
 - v. Want to do more listening sessions and surveys to gather information about how we can provide further assistance
 - vi. Ideas from the committee include hosting a Voucher 101 class (clinic) at soup kitchens to discuss all the housing voucher options; using QR codes for information; rental application fee assistance needed and working on developing
 - vii. Next meeting is March 21st
- Housing Subcommittee – Celene Steckel
 - i. New name
 - ii. Planning is having Open Houses to share information on the Master Plan upcoming in Taneytown and Eldersburg
- Systems of Care – Scott Yard
 - i. Tammy Black has stepped down as Chair and Scott Yard has volunteered to be the new Chair of the committee
- Ending Veteran Homelessness – Bobbie Lawrence
 - i. 2 veterans got housed in February and 2 in January Have not met in January
 - ii. 5 veterans housed in emergency hotels with significant health issues
 - iii. Have 15 VASH vouchers all occupied
- Outreach –
 - i. Meeting on Thursday
 - ii. Yearly Taneytown Resource Fair in the Spring
- Youth Homelessness - Ed Singer
 - i. No updates to report

7. Artificial Intelligence Discussion and article - Celene Steckel

- AI discussion – stay vigilant of AI jumping on virtual meetings

8. COC NOFO Update

- No update to report – NOFO is now a 2-year writing cycle

9. Upcoming training for Circle of Caring

- How to raise private funding
- Enough Act – Adison Eslinger

***The next Executive Board Meeting will take place in person on Monday, March 24th from
2:30pm to 4:30pm at The COVE***