

Carroll County, MD Circle of Caring Homelessness Board

Continuum of Care – Executive Board

Meeting Date: July 24, 2023

Time: 2:00 pm

Location: In person meeting at Access Carroll

Chair: Celene Steckel

Topic Discussion

Attendance - Jason Martin, Danielle Yates, Celene Steckel, Stephanie Halley, Kevin McGinnis, Eric Brown, Tammy Black, Dennis McConnville, Cathy Baker, Scott Yard, Nicole Jackman, Heather Powell, Joanna Waters, Corey Hardinger, Roberta Lawrence, Cristina Castillo, Dotty Dalphon, Debby Standiford, Victoria Parks

1. Welcome and Announcements from Board Members
 - No announcements
2. Approval of June 26th Meeting Minutes
 - Past Meeting Minutes will be posted online
 - Scott Yard motions to approve; seconded by Heather Powell; June 26th minutes approved with no objections
3. Shelter + Care Transition – Scott Yard
 - Transition is going well
 - 2 individuals left to update
 - Everyone stayed in place with new lease or leased up with HUD
4. Strategic Planning COC Half Day Retreat – Celene Steckel
 - At the Arc on October 23rd from 12:30-4:00pm
 - Boxed lunches will be provided
 - Jason will send out calendar appointment for COC Executive Board
5. COC NOFO Discussion – Corey Hardinger
 - NOFO Writing Process – last year Corey and Jenny wrote the NOFO, looking for passionate writers and reviewers
 - Looking for someone from the school system – Kathi Green? Health Department – Amy Baker/Cathy Baker?, and someone from Early Childhood Education
 - Timeline – NOFO application due September 28th
 - Performance Measure Discussion – How does your agency provide services that help impact our performance measures?
 - i. SPM 1 – Length of time persons remain homeless – up 1 day from last year
 - ii. Scott Yard, HSP – Diversion Screening – financial education staff member is also working the screening line and pushing employment services
 - iii. Kevin McGinnis – LEADS program – instead of incarceration, provide follow up services and resources; WPD also working this program; 80% of individuals who enter this program still remain in the program; they have access to a peer and case

management; Dennis McConville – monthly follow up is ideal for the LEADS program; recidivism – follow up resources changes lives; incarceration is not always the answer

- iv. Amy Baker – CCHD – no hospital plan to avoid exit into homelessness; mental health court needed; give them wrap around services; might be coming soon as there might be a docket; already happening in Montgomery, Frederick, Baltimore County, Baltimore City, Prince George’s counties
- v. In 2022, discharges into homelessness are up; hospital is missing linkages to reduce discharge to homelessness
- vi. SPM 2 – Returns to Homelessness
- vii. Danielle Yates, Housing – Housing stability picks up services after receiving funding or a voucher; Perm housing – 96% stayed housed; data shows where homeless came from but don’t know where they exited to; HMIS captures 1 person 1 time
- viii. Alcohol abuse disorder is an underlying concern for returns to homelessness; What causes alcohol abuse? Something deeper, victimization, alcohol and mental health problems, hoarding; alcohol being seen in older adults 50-70 years old
- ix. Seeing older homeless 60 years + having problems with hoarding; what are the returns to homeless age demographic?
- x. Have some funding available from the Kahlert Foundation – older adults with disabilities
- xi. Homeless don’t know how to live in an apartment; feel loneliness
- xii. Scott – HSP – have a class that teaches how to be a good tenant led by the financial education staff; HSC could help with class
- xiii. Amy Baker – CCHD – have 9 peers at the Health Department; hiring 3 replacements, must identify as someone looking for mental health services; requires two years of sobriety; will give support for as long as person needs it; about to imbed a peer at the shelter – two nights a week and has lived shelter experience
- xiv. SPM 3 – Number of Homeless Persons
- xv. PIT count data, we count every single person
- xvi. Corey – no Covid guidance in the NOFO this year
- xvii. SPM 4 – Increases in Income
- xviii. Amy Baker – CCHD – training more people to complete SOAR applications; completed by the Behavioral Health Administration; housing stability is trained in completing SOAR applications; takes 16-20 hours to complete one SOAR application
- xix. SPM 5 – First Time Homeless
- xx. Tammy Black – Access Carroll – seeing an increase in 60-year-olds + at risk for homelessness; Access Carroll still a skilled nursing facility, send home health out; still seeing older folks residing at the Boston Inn
- xxi. Community departments agree – Housing is healthcare
- xxii. Stella can offer some age demographics
- xxiii. Local Management Board has 7 community agencies walking through TIROE initiative
- xxiv. SPM 7 – Exits to and retention of perm housing
- xxv. Adams County is pairing homeless to older clients who need assistance; Partners in Care- not in Carroll
- xxvi. Host Homes is another program thriving in Frederick County, but not in Carroll

6. Approval of the COC Ranking Project Policy – Debby Standiford

- Motion to approve – Scott Yard; Seconded by Amy Baker; Ranking Project Policy approved

7. Subcommittee Updates – pushing to our next meeting

8. Affordable Housing Planning Subcommittee

- Receiving bids for a yearlong housing study; will identify a vendor and move forward with the study

*The next Executive Board Meeting will take place virtually on Monday, August 28th from
2pm to 4pm.*