

Carroll County, MD Circle of Caring Homelessness Board

Continuum of Care – Executive Board

Meeting Date: June 27th, 2022

Time: 2:00 pm

Location: Virtual on GoToMeeting Platform

Chair: Tammy Black, Celene Steckel

Topic Discussion

Attendance - Jason Martin, Nelda Caballero, Sue Doyle, Brooke Davis, Gabby Zelaya, Susan McFadden, Constance Ridgeway, Mary Naugle, Katie Speert, Heather Semies, Barbra Diaz, Dawn Moody, Leslie Wagner, Stephanie Krome, Jaime Martin, Celene Steckel, Carly Long, Corey Hardinger, Debby Standiford, Angel Hill, Thoko Shumba, Marty Kuchman, Tammy Black, Heather Powell, Bobbie Lawrence, Courtney Wunderlich, Dominique Evans, Dona Foster, Eileen Vozzella, Tiffany Masimore, Scott Yard, Kerri Vitz, Samantha Zuniga, Amy Baker, Jenny Graybill, Liz Hoey, Joanna Waters, Taylor Weber, Laura Thompson, Gina Valentine, Carrie Freshour, Lorrene Munoz, Trish, Ivette and Barbra, Arianne Minyard, Brian Colussy

1. Welcome and Announcements from Board Members

2. Approval of May 23rd's Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve by Scott Yard and seconded by Tammy Black; all were in favor and the minutes were approved.

a. Past Meeting Minutes will be posted online

<https://www.carrollcountymd.gov/government/directory/citizen-services/circle-of-caring-homelessness-board/past-meeting-minutes/continuum-of-care-executive-board-meeting-minutes/>

3. Questions regarding agency updates provided by email

4. Youth Homelessness Summit

Youth Homelessness Summit Update/Youth Homelessness Subcommittee Recap

- 2-hr long virtual Summit with 47 attendees
 - o Continuum of Care Executive Committee and assorted guests from DSS, CCPS, TWOI, CCYSB, Access Carroll, Connie Ridgeway, CCWD, Bureau of Housing, Family Law Administration, Goodwill STEP, McDaniel College/St. Paul's UCC, Youth REACH MD
- Frequently used data and how it doesn't tell our whole story
 - o HMIS and PIT Count Data shows a decline or no significant change in homeless youth numbers
 - o Youth REACH is an incomplete picture of youth homelessness
 - o Youth Focus groups
- Highlights from provider presentations
 - o DSS: new introductions and overviews of Foster Care and CPS units
 - o CCPS: homeless student and family data trends

- COVID-19's impact on counting homeless students – we are now reaching pre-COVID levels of student homelessness: SYE 6/2019 = 169. SYE 6/2022 = 145.
- Elementary students are most often identified as being homeless; the majority of students experiencing homelessness are doubled up
- CCPS can provide many services currently through COVID funding from MSDE, but their services must focus on education since they are an educational institution. Much of this support will run out in September 2023 as the funding ends

o TWOI: client caseload data and trauma

- Of their 131 active clients, nearly 120 of them are under age 24
- Individuals who have experienced a lot of significant trauma
 - 89.5% lived with a parent/caregiver with mental health issues
 - 79% witnessed domestic violence and suffered emotional abuse from a parent/caregiver
 - 63% experienced physical abuse as a minor
- 39% (51) were currently experiencing homelessness
 - An additional 8 were at imminent risk, meaning 45% of TWOI's caseload is homeless or at risk of becoming homeless
 - Majority of these individuals are doubled up which is often only a temporary arrangement
 - 5 were outright sleeping in tents or in cars
 - 12 of these youth are unaccompanied, meaning they are not in the care of physical custody of a parent or legal guardian
 - o Often they feel they have no other choice but to leave; 32% were asked to leave by their parent and 50% had parents unable to care for them
 - o Almost half dropped out of high school; over a third are pregnant or parenting. The average age of first experiencing homelessness for these youth was age 13.

o CCYSB: Connecting Youth program data

- This program works with disconnected or opportunity youth who are age 16-24, not in school, not working, and may be homeless
 - There are an estimated 4.6 million opportunity youth nationwide, and 85,000 in MD
 - If the current cohort of young people were working, the impact on our nation's economy would be \$4.7 trillion over their lifetimes
 - They are costing taxpayers \$93 million annually and \$1.6 trillion over their lifetimes in lost revenues and increased social services
 - Barriers experienced by disconnected youth include having a lack of opportunities or skills, and not being ready for work opportunities
 - These consist of lack of education, poor mental and physical health, homelessness and poverty, involvement in the legal system, lack of reliable foster care, transitioning from foster care, lack of transportation, substance use
- Connecting Youth Program data

- Total of 222 referrals received from FY18 to December 2021
- An average of 67 youth have been served each fiscal year from FY18 to December 2021, and 75+ youth have been served each year since FY19.
- Transportation, mental health, housing, poverty, and then substance use are the most common barriers cited by our Connecting Youth program participants
- An average of 44 program participants carry over from one fiscal year to another, speaking to the length of time it takes these youth to get connected due to these significant barriers
- Next Steps
 - o Youth Homelessness Subcommittee of the Continuum of Care
 - August 10th from 10-11 is our first meeting
 - Membership
 - Members of the Coordinating Council
 - Some guests from Summit?
 - Youth Ambassadors
 - Goals
 - **COMMITTEE/PLATFORM: Establish a collaborative committee.** Meet and determine each agency's strengths and what they can offer.
 - **RESOURCE & GAP MAPPING: Identify what services related youth homelessness are needed in the community.**
 - **DATA: Utilize existing data to support new ideas and initiatives.** New ideas are being posed and other agencies may have the data to support them. Focus is on partnering/strengthening the current partnerships with current youth service providers. Data & tracking youth homelessness locally. Processes for HUD-homeless and non-HUD-homeless.
 - **YOUTH VOICE: Establish a Youth Action Board.** Youth event in summer.
 - **BEST PRACTICES: Establish the Connecting Youth program model as a best practice/evidence-based practice OR implement an existing best practice/evidence-based practice. [USICH models related to youth homelessness.](#)** USICH Framework Logic Model for Ending Youth Homelessness (pp. 3). Unaccompanied Youth Intervention Model (pp. 7)
 - o Reach out to Gabby to get involved!

The next Executive Board Meeting will take place VIRTUALLY on Monday, July 25th from 2pm to 4pm.