

Carroll County, MD Circle of Caring Homelessness Board
Continuum of Care – Executive Board

Meeting Date: November 24th, 2025

Time: 2:30 pm-4:30 pm

Location: In-person at The COVE

Chair: Celene Steckel

Topic Discussion
Attendance - Jason Martin, Chris Burge, Bobbie Lawrence, Scott Yard, Carly Long, Emma DiBlasi, Joanna Waters, Amy Baker, Gina Valentine, Kaysy Crumley, Stephanie Halley, Corey Hardinger, Celene Steckel, Jennifer Graybill, Kevin McGinnis, Danielle Yates, Amanda Coshun, Yolandie Els, Ed Singer, Debby Standiford, Milo Riddle, Stephanie Powers, Heather Powell, Marie Liddick

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Kevin McGinnis – providing outreach to homeless encampments behind Health Department
- Marie Liddick – federal funding for FY26 pulled back for PATH \$3k
- Bobbie Lawrence – Kahlert grant was approved and will receive funding for veterans and support for seniors
- Milo Riddle – Youth Action Board is running a hygiene products drive; will be on Miracle of Main Street the Saturday 3-7pm
- Heather Powell – need to discuss issuing of no trespass and communication with other agencies
- Gina Valentine – had a meeting with Friendship Place last week
- Stephanie Halley – distributing large amounts of food to all downstream partners; seeing large increase for demand of food at all food distribution sites; Safe Haven in Taneytown has closed and Taneytown will be an area of need
- Stephanie Powers – hiring legal services with funds from the Kahlert grant – legal director and prevention specialist; Gift Wrapping event all December at Pip the Side; upcoming Dance party event for women

2. Approval of the September 29th Minutes

- Ed Singer motions to approve
- Scott Yard seconded,
- Minutes approved without objection

3. Shelter Utilization Review

- Jenny Graybill shared HSP excel report
- Overflow is ready for December if needed

4. SNAP update

- All funds restored with no interruption
- HSP is seeing a dramatic increase in requests for utility assistance

5. Retreat Overview

- Performed 6 SWOT analysis
- Action plan – drill down next steps at next Exec Board meeting
- Encouraging roommates, training on accessory dwelling units

6. Upcoming COC NOFO Application Update – Carly and Debby

- Funding is changing and will be competitive
- Teir 1 – 30% of funding
- Tier 2 – 70% of funding (competitive)
- HUD is encouraging transitional housing
- Focused on ending street homelessness, improving outcomes and minimizing trauma
- Ony 30% funding tied to perm supportive housing
- Ability for extra points for 30% in services for substance use
- Looking to have on site treatment options, 24/7 access to detox, 40 hours of treatment/week

- 25% match for all services; match can be in-kind as long as its documented
- December 12 – project applications are due

7. Habitat Project – Jenny Graybill

- Habitat for Humanity is building 25-30 houses behind the Health Department
- Moving forward slowly
- Survey company is marking up the site (survey)
- Breaking ground tentatively in 2027-2028
- Geo map of area and plotted out where the encampments are
- Need to have a plan for exit strategy of 13 individuals
- Will have short term and long-term housing options and will allow pets
- Provide a joint letter from the County and the Health Department for the encampments

8. Discussion on Board Composition

- Voting members; 3 elected public officials, 2 law enforcement, 1 business community
- COC substance use treatment available for 30% on site
 - i. RSS – 60 beds
 - ii. Rescue Mission – 36 beds

9. Subcommittee Updates:

- **Data Committee – Carly Long and Emma DiBlasi**
 - i. New universal data is coming out
 - ii. Updated signature page for opt out now December 1st
 - iii. Voted for CRISP and voted yes to share data for Carroll County
 - iv. Amy Baker to send PATH info every month for utilization report
- **Lived Expertise Advisory Board – Amy Baker and Chris Burge**
 - i. Meeting December 18th
- **Advocacy Subcommittee – Stephanie Halley and Dave Drezner**
 - i. Meeting next Monday at 2pm
- **Access to Housing – Celene Steckel**
 - i. Recommendations to make positive impacts in our community presented to Planning and Zoning Committee and the BOCC in the next month
 - ii. Prioritize recommendations for next steps
 - iii. No decisions have been made yet
- **Systems of Care – Scott Yard**
 - i. MOU document is ready for signature
 - ii. Goal is to have no discharges to shelters without proper communication
 - iii. legal review by Springfield and Carroll Hospital
 - iv. trying to get the hospital team to come to meeting with Systems of Care
- **Coordinated Entry – Jennifer Graybill**
 - i. Continue to meet and co-manage case list
- **Ending Veterans Homelessness – Bobbie Lawrence**
 - i. Per Lauren Biggs – changes coming in how we select for HUD VASH
- **Youth Homelessness – Ed Singer**
 - i. Have a 1-page resource for youth to identify
 - ii. Supposed to meet next week
 - iii. Working on solutions for kids at a transitional age with nowhere to be and not fit for adult shelter
 - iv. YAB – planning a hygiene drive; meeting next week to go to Collision Course for dinner
- **Outreach**
 - i. Pop up event at NESAP last week

The next Executive Board Meeting will take place in person on Monday, December 22nd at The COVE from 2:30pm to 4:30pm