

INTERAGENCY COMMISSION ON HOMELESSNESS

Meeting Summary Notes

Wednesday, December 17, 2014

Commission Members

(Present)
Ahluwalia, Uma S.
Berner, Debra
Bohorquez, Marta
Brissett Chapman, Sheryl
Crowel, Raymond
Davis, Betsy
Fox-Morrill, Priscilla
Horton-Newell, Amy (Chair)
Kaufmann, Louise
Khan, Nadim, A.
Kirk Susan
Leventhal, George
Nelson, Rick

Newton, Bridget
Pesquera, Marcos (Vice Chair)
Roynestad, Brian
Sarver, Shane (attending for
Delegate Craig Zucker)
Seidel, Stanley
Sinclair-Smith, Susie
Thames, Jeffrey O.
Tracey, Brian
Wallenstein, Arthur

Commission Members

(Excused)
Spann, Stacy
Wilds, Moses

Staff

Ball, Kim
Black, Sara
Childress-Harvell, Aneise
Curington, Victoria
Hochron, Jean
Huggins, Gloria
McMillan, Linda
Rickford, Eric
Soni, Nili

Guests

Fuje, Ferework
Newman, Lisa
Pope, Kamika

Welcome | Introductions

Nadim Khan convened the meeting with introductions and announced that County Executive Leggett selected Amy Horton-Newell to serve as Chair and Marcos Pesquera to serve as Vice Chair of the Interagency Commission on Homelessness (ICH).

Amy-Horton Newell, Esquire, is the Director of the American Bar Association Commission on Homelessness and Poverty and was appointed as a Public member of the Interagency Commission on Homelessness (ICH). Marcos Pesquera is the Executive Director of the Adventist HealthCare's Center on Health Disparities and was appointed as a Public hospital representative to the ICH. Both commissioners will serve in their posts for one year.

Orientation

Nadim Khan provided an overview of the mission, roles and responsibilities of the ICH, Continuum of Care (CoC), and proposed committees.

Interagency Commission on Homelessness: The ICH was established by the County to act on behalf of County residents experiencing homelessness and to provide advice, counsel, and recommendations to the County Executive and County Council. The Commission's responsibilities involve matters influencing provision of services, County government policies and procedures, development and implementation of State and Federal laws, and other issues affecting the lives, rights, and welfare of people experiencing homelessness in Montgomery County.

Councilmember George Leventhal added that last year's 100,000 Homes Campaign was successful because it brought together diverse partners to collaborate on effective strategies to end homelessness as a County. As a result, the County Council drafted legislation to create the ICH to improve coordination among those working with homeless residents and to fully apprise the County government of the issues surrounding this population.

The ICH will meet quarterly (March, June, September and December).

Montgomery County Continuum of Care: The Montgomery Continuum of Care (CoC) is the Housing Urban Development (HUD) recognized body responsible for community planning to prevent and end homelessness in Montgomery County. It is a public-private partnership that includes County and other government agencies, non-profit service providers, landlords and others who have a role in the County's housing market.

The CoC is required to have a formal governance structure to guide its activities, including the designation of a Governing Board. The CoC has designated the ICH as the Governing Board of the Montgomery County CoC and will meet quarterly (March, June, September and December).

The *proposed* CoC Governance structure will be as follows:

- The Interagency Commission on Homelessness will serve as the Governing Board of the CoC. The following committees will operate under the ICH:
 - **Operations Committee** (formerly the Continuum of Care Leadership Group). This committee will continue to meet on a monthly basis and will be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the CoC.
 - **Education and Outreach Committee:** Provide education and outreach to the community on homeless issues.
 - **Strategic Planning Committee:** Develop, monitor and update the CoC's Strategic Plan to end homelessness.
 - **Performance Review Committee:** Review and monitor aggregate CoC-wide performance for all CoC programs
 - Other Workgroups will include the following:
 - **Allocation Workgroup:** Review CoC new and renewal applications and make recommendations for scoring ranking and funding.
 - **Family Providers Workgroup:** Address day-to-day issues and current program operations for family shelter programs.
 - **Adult Providers Workgroup:** Address day-to-day issues and current program operations in the singles shelter programs.

Community-wide Meetings: HUD requires all CoC to hold two annual public meetings to inform the general public and provider agencies regarding the status of homelessness and housing needs. Montgomery County will hold the CoC community-wide meetings in February and September.

Updates: Winter overflow Shelters | Shelter Need during summer months

The last agenda item included an update provided by Nadim Khan to the ICH on the current status of Homeless Services delivered and the number of available year-round beds and capacity during the Winter Overflow months (November 1-March 31). The issue discussed was the unavailability of beds during the summer (after the shelter capacity is reduced to its year-round level).

Action Items:

- ➔ Schedule a conference call to discuss the Governance Charter and Ten Year Plan to End homelessness in mid-January. The purpose of the call is to:
 - Clarify and reconcile the role and responsibilities of the ICH and the CoC Operations Committee with the overall HUD goals for the CoC, and
 - Provide orientation to the members with respect to the goals, objectives and strategies outlined in the CoC's Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness.
- ➔ Prepare an instruction paragraph on how residents can volunteer for the January 28, 2015 Point-in-Time count.
- ➔ Provide data to County Council by February on the number of residents leaving the winter overflow shelter on April 1 (with or without a housing plan). The CoC Operations Committee will discuss the issue with partners to gather data on how many residents are leaving the shelter with and without referrals.
- ➔ Clarify how four committees will report out to ICH. Develop charter for each committee and standards for reporting back to ICH.

Next meeting

Wednesday, March 18 at 2:00-4:00 p.m. at the Rockville Memorial Library, 21 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland, 1st Floor Conference Room

Meeting adjourned