



INTERAGENCY COMMISSION ON HOMELESSNESS

Housing for all = A Stronger Montgomery

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/homelessness | HousingForAll@montgomerycountymd.gov

Wednesday, November 1, 2023 | 3-5p

Approved January 10, 2024

Present		
Chelsea Andrews	Asmara Habte	Robin Lewis
Margarita Bohorquez (Representing MCPS)	Courtney Hall	Karishma Sheth
Scott Bruton	Manuel Hidalgo	Beth Shuman
Amanda Chesney	Terence Hill	Susie Sinclair-Smith
Jeff Goldman (Chair)	Christine Hong	Earl Stoddard
Ebony Grey (Co-Chair)	Kathryn Kelly	

Absent		
James Bridgers	Christopher Dickersin-Prokopp	Vaughn Stewart

ACTION MINUTES:

The Interagency Commission on Homelessness (ICH) convened its Hybrid meeting over Zoom and at the Rockville Memorial Library at 3 p.m. on Wednesday, November 1, 2023.

Approval of the August 2, Meeting Notes (VOTE) – *Ebony Grey*, Co-Chair motioned for the approval of the August 2, meeting notes.

PRESENTATIONS:

Commissioner's Vision and Support in Continuum of Care (CoC) Work | Jeff Goldman

Jeff Goldman, Chair, opened with welcome remarks and introductions. Commissioners shared their vision, priorities, and commitment of the Continuum of Care work and serving on the ICH.

Zero for All Update | Paloma Arroyo-LeFebre, MSSW, Zero for All Strategy and Collaboration Coordinator
Paloma and Bezawit Baheru provided an update on current homeless services by sharing PowerPoint slides with data charts. The charts demonstrated the inflow and outflow of individuals and families through MC homeless system. Christine Hong shared that the goal is to reach functional zero by having the outflow greater than inflow where we are housing people quicker than they are presenting in need of our services. Strategies to meet the goal are diversion, SHaRP Program, Exit Bonuses, and working with landlords to encourage them to work with us to keep people housed.

Review of Montgomery County's Progress on Ending Homelessness | Christine Hong, Chief of Services to End and Prevent Homelessness

Montgomery County Population Status:

Veterans	HH w-minor children	Chronic (as of Sept.)	Youth	Seniors (62+)
15	93	60	20	56

Current definition of homelessness is having a documented disability who have been in our system for a year or longer. The goal is making homelessness rare, brief, and one-time only.

Updates on reaching the goal as of FY22:		
Rare	Brief	One-time Only
5-year tread a 29% decrease	Permanent housing shows a 5-year tread a 34% increase. Length of time in homeless days shows a 5-year 33% increase.	19% increase of returns to homelessness after 24 months 99% retaining permanent housing (excluding RRH)

CoC and ESG revising the current written standards – Progress Update | Liam Hudson, Senior Program Manager, Corporation for Supportive Housing (CS)

Liam Hudson gave an update on the redrafting of the written standards for the CoC and Emergency Solution Grant programing. Written standards are a requirement of HUD for CoC and ESG. The Goals are:

- Operational community's values
- Developing a standard for all services and programming across providers
- Ensuring consistency across providers and standards of care
- Creating individualized and equitable access while prioritizing the most systemically marginalized, and therefore most in need, members of a community.

CSH will update the standard by conducting a survey (to date: 50 people have responded to the survey). Focus groups will be conducted in December. A draft of the written standards will be available in January and the final draft is due February-March of 2024.

Committee Reports

Committee reports will be presented at the next meeting. Committees were encouraged to send a written report to Rozina Adhanom for distribution.

Public Comments

Comment made to include data on people recently released from incarceration. Christine commented that plans are being made to have staff from the Department of Correction and Rehabilitation (DOCR) include those who are released from jail or prison into the HMIS system. Also, to use diversion resources to connect returning residents to their family support. SEPH will be making housing returning resident a budget priority by collaborating with DOCR.

A new provider volunteered to offer training to those experiencing homelessness in out homeless system.

Announcements

Christine announced that 3 committees need chairs: Partnership and Funding, Strategy and Planning and Workforce Development. She encouraged the group to consider volunteering to serve as chairs.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, January 10, 2024 | 3-5, Zoom Meeting

Meeting adjourned.