



Continuum of Care General Membership Meeting

October 18, 2021 (10:00AM – 2:00PM)

TO REGISTER: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_k8EUKITxSIKH1XaDd9lr_g

AGENDA

- 10:00AM:** Welcome and Introductions – Leslie Perryman
- 10:10AM:** CoC/HMIS Evaluation– Brendan Auman
- Follow-up from 2020 evaluation
 - 2021 survey
- 10:50AM:** Governance Charter Revisions and Vote by the full CoC – Alisa Barratta
- 11:00AM:** Written Standards – Tara Day Ulrich and Jason Alexander
- Updates and timeline
 - Breakout groups
- 12:00PM:** Coordinated Entry Evaluation – Sasha Caine, Homebase
- 12:20PM:** LUNCH BREAK (30 minutes)
- 12:50PM:** NOFO Updates – Leigh Howard
- 1:20PM:** HOME resources available through the American Rescue Plan – Kimberly Polm
- 1:35PM:** DEI Committee Introduction – Sergio Carmona, TAC Consultants
- 1:50PM:** CoC Evaluation Survey Results
- 2:00PM:** Adjourn



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY
& ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

EASTERN PA COC BOARD, COLLABORATIVE APPLICANT AND CONSULTANT EVALUATION RESULTS

October 18, 2021

Brendan Auman
Homeless Program Manager

COLLABORATIVE APPLICANT EVALUATION

- Started in 2018
- Evaluate the effectiveness of the CoC's Board, Collaborative Applicant, and CoC Consultants.
 - Where can improvements be made
- This evaluation reviews the 2020 calendar year completed during the October CoC Meeting
- 96 responses in last year's survey

DEMOGRAPHICS

Eastern CoC Membership Survey 2020

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
CoC Program grant recipient/funded agency	49.44%	44
CoC General (voting) member	16.85%	15
CoC General (non-voting) member	11.24%	10
ESG grant recipient	32.58%	29
Committee member	15.73%	14
Legislative representative	1.12%	1
Community agency	43.82%	39
Faith based agency	8.99%	8
School district	0.00%	0
Domestic Violence agency	14.61%	13
Veterans service agency	15.73%	14
HMIS system user	51.69%	46
RHAB member	44.94%	40
Children and Youth service agency	2.25%	2
Re-entry service agency	4.49%	4
Department of Correction	0.00%	0
Community member (none of the above)	1.12%	1
Other (please specify)	3.37%	3
Total Respondents: 89		

DEMOGRAPHICS CONT.

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Lehigh Valley	11.24%	10
Northern Tier	13.48%	12
Pocono	16.85%	15
South Central	29.21%	26
Central Valley	24.72%	22
Not a RHAB member	4.49%	4
TOTAL		89

UNDERSTANDING THE ROLES OF DCED

Eastern CoC Membership Survey 2020

	FULLY UNDERSTAND	SOMEWHAT UNDERSTAND	DO NOT UNDERSTAND	DON'T KNOW	NOT APPLICABLE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
The difference between the roles of the CoC board, DCED as the Collaborative Applicant and the consultants?	26.04% 25	61.46% 59	10.42% 10	2.08% 2	0.00% 0	96	1.89
DCED as the HMIS Lead?	52.08% 50	35.42% 34	9.38% 9	3.13% 3	0.00% 0	96	1.64
DCED as the CoC Lead Agency?	47.92% 46	36.46% 35	12.50% 12	3.13% 3	0.00% 0	96	1.71

BOARD MEMBER EVALUATION

	EXCELLENT	VERY GOOD	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	DON'T KNOW	NOT APPLICABLE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Board member responsiveness when asking a question during meetings or when they are providing technical assistance	16.67% 16	48.96% 47	18.75% 18	2.08% 2	0.00% 0	8.33% 8	5.21% 5	96	2.66
Board member knowledge and expertise	20.83% 20	47.92% 46	18.75% 18	3.13% 3	0.00% 0	7.29% 7	2.08% 2	96	2.44
Ability of RHAB chairs to set schedules and facilitate RHAB meetings	27.08% 26	39.58% 38	17.71% 17	4.17% 4	2.08% 2	7.29% 7	2.08% 2	96	2.45
The leadership of the board in achieving the goals identified in the CoC's strategic plan	16.67% 16	39.58% 38	27.08% 26	6.25% 6	1.04% 1	6.25% 6	3.13% 3	96	2.67
The work of the CoC committees to bring positive changes within the CoC	17.89% 17	41.05% 39	27.37% 26	5.26% 5	1.05% 1	5.26% 5	2.11% 2	95	2.55
The progress that the CoC is making to address homelessness in the region	15.63% 15	41.67% 40	27.08% 26	9.38% 9	2.08% 2	3.13% 3	1.04% 1	96	2.54

FEEDBACK

- Simply a preference for local control of diversion, applications, priority placement etc. Not a reflection of the work that the COC puts in. It is obvious that you are dedicated to your process
- I see struggle with what tasks or roles belong to which entity, I see struggle to get people housed in a timely manner, we have more need than the man power to serve all those facing homelessness, different entities in the COC having conflicting priorities
- There was a decided lack of information on what the CoC does and how it functions when I stepped into my housing specialist role. I have mentioned several times that there is a need for consistent training on HMIS and the CoC that starts at square one for those who are new to both organizations.
- There has been significant and ongoing disconnection between the CoC and the CE committee - there is no oversight for the committee, which makes decisions made about this system function in a vacuum. The priorities of the CoC are not consistently represented in planning, development and leadership of CE.

DCED EVALUATION

Eastern CoC Membership Survey 2020

	EXCELLENT	VERY GOOD	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	DON'T KNOW	NOT APPLICABLE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
DCED responsiveness when you ask a question either during meetings or when they are providing technical assistance	15.05% 14	37.63% 35	29.03% 27	4.30% 4	3.23% 3	6.45% 6	4.30% 4	93	2.75
DCED staff knowledge and expertise	23.66% 22	38.71% 36	26.88% 25	3.23% 3	2.15% 2	3.23% 3	2.15% 2	93	2.38
The performance of DCED staff in organizing, facilitating and ensuring that the CoC meetings meet the needs of the members	20.43% 19	36.56% 34	31.18% 29	2.15% 2	1.08% 1	6.45% 6	2.15% 2	93	2.53
The level of preparation, facilitation, training and technical assistance provided for the CoC NOFA	18.28% 17	41.94% 39	24.73% 23	4.30% 4	0.00% 0	6.45% 6	4.30% 4	93	2.58
Information provided by DCED staff on CoC activities (funding, NOFA, etc.)	15.05% 14	46.24% 43	26.88% 25	5.38% 5	0.00% 0	4.30% 4	2.15% 2	93	2.48

FEEDBACK

- DCED Helpdesk for HMIS does not always have the best communication skills, but they seem to be improving recently.
- More technical assistance is needed for agencies to apply for funds
- Lots of problems with new Client Track / HMIS. Slow response time, no solutions.
- HMIS question responses are not always timely which creates difficulty.
- DCED staff continues to be overworked and undertrained. They need more staff, and staff who are better versed in what we are doing in order for them to be more responsive to issues in a timely manner. DCED trainings are consistently wrong and hard to follow, and often require follow up with the CES RM team to clarify. I suggest that DCED does not do trainings, and rather works with the CES team, who would then do the trainings, since they're doing them anyway after the fact.

CONSULTANT EVALUATION

Eastern CoC Membership Survey 2020

	EXCELLENT	VERY GOOD	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	DON'T KNOW	NOT APPLICABLE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Consultant responsiveness when you ask questions during meetings or when they are providing technical assistance	29.35% 27	38.04% 35	20.65% 19	1.09% 1	1.09% 1	7.61% 7	2.17% 2	92	2.36
Consultant knowledge and expertise	32.61% 30	42.39% 39	16.30% 15	2.17% 2	0.00% 0	6.52% 6	0.00% 0	92	2.14
The performance of consultants in organizing, facilitating and ensuring that CoC meetings meet the needs of the members	28.26% 26	40.22% 37	22.83% 21	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	8.70% 8	0.00% 0	92	2.29
The level of preparation, facilitation, training, and technical assistance provided for the CoC NOFA	29.35% 27	36.96% 34	20.65% 19	2.17% 2	0.00% 0	7.61% 7	3.26% 3	92	2.39
Information provided by consultants on the CoC activities (funding, NOFA, etc.)	30.43% 28	38.04% 35	21.74% 20	2.17% 2	0.00% 0	6.52% 6	1.09% 1	92	2.26

FEEDBACK

- Lately I'm not as aware of meetings and trainings. This could be just me. Please select and advise a central source to track these and ensure all posts are on this central source.
- COC meetings don't always meet needs of all members or representative cultures, demographics

TRAINING AND COMMUNICATION FEEDBACK

Eastern CoC Membership Survey 2020

	VERY USEFUL	SOMEWHAT USEFUL	NOT USEFUL	DON'T KNOW	NOT APPLICABLE	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Data gathered from the Point in Time Count (PIT) and the Housing Inventory County (HIC)	35.87% 33	50.00% 46	8.70% 8	4.35% 4	1.09% 1	92	1.85
Trainings on HUD rules and regulations	70.65% 65	28.26% 26	0.00% 0	1.09% 1	0.00% 0	92	1.32
Trainings on providing services	59.34% 54	38.46% 35	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	2.20% 2	91	1.47
Trainings on how to improve system performance	48.35% 44	42.86% 39	3.30% 3	3.30% 3	2.20% 2	91	1.68
Federal updates/information	55.43% 51	43.48% 40	1.09% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	92	1.46
Funding opportunities information	55.43% 51	41.30% 38	1.09% 1	1.09% 1	1.09% 1	92	1.51
Community updates	44.57% 41	51.09% 47	3.26% 3	0.00% 0	1.09% 1	92	1.62

DCED STAFF AND CONSULTANTS MEETING THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
The responsibilities have been met	35.87%	33
They are making progress toward meeting them	44.57%	41
They didn't meet them	0.00%	0
Not sure if they met them	7.61%	7
Don't know, not enough experience to rate	11.96%	11
TOTAL		92

FEEDBACK

- They have been very slow in providing access to HMIS for new case managers that has slowed the launch of our program.
- You get the application submitted, so I can't say it's not met. The HMIS system as a whole is confusing with all its changes, seems unnecessarily complicated and finding reports is always a challenge
- The transition from CT15 to CT19 was messy and it's problematic when reporting needed for program level work is not available.
- It has been very difficult to add new users to the HMIS system in our agency. Streamlining that process would be very helpful
- There are still all sorts of issues and inconsistencies for those using HMIS. It is not user friendly and when tech support is needed it can take forever.
- Lots of problems with new Client Track / HMIS. Unable to track the data my programs need, despite acknowledged requests for appropriate workflow modules.

We heard your feedback! So what have we done to since last year's evaluation?

HUD HMIS TA

- Requested Technical Assistance from HUD to evaluate our HMIS System
- Worked with Greg Barchuck at ICF
 - Reviewed HMIS Structure, policies and procedures
 - Conducted interviews

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Staffing
 - Help Desk
 - Training/Resource Development
 - Custom Reporting
- HMIS Structure
 - Lack of Governance for HMIS/Lead Agency
 - Review of Data and Security Plan
 - Data Tips and Tricks
 - Etc
- Full report will be made available soon

2021 CA, BOARD, AND CONSULTANT EVALUATION

- Take 10 minutes to complete this year's evaluation
- <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7V277LQ>



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HOME-ARP OVERVIEW

October 2021

Kimberly Polm, HOME Program Manager

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021

- \$5 billion for homelessness assistance and assistance to other vulnerable populations to:
 - Provide capital investment for permanent rental housing
 - Upgrade available stock of shelter to include non-congregate shelter
 - Provide tenant-based rental assistance and supportive services
- Funds were appropriated under Title II of Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act of 1990 (NAHA) – HOME Program statute
- Allocated via HOME Program formula to jurisdictions that qualified for a HOME allocation in FY2021
- Funds available to Participating Jurisdictions (PJ) until September 2030

HOME-ARP ALLOCATIONS IN PA

American Rescue Plan Act HOME Supplemental Allocations			
KEY	NAME	STA	AMOUNT
420096	Allentown	PA	\$3,496,826
420114	Altoona	PA	\$1,192,765
420504	Bethlehem	PA	\$1,404,987
421116	Chester	PA	\$1,318,782
422178	Erie	PA	\$2,932,681
422898	Harrisburg	PA	\$1,752,227
423411	Johnstown	PA	\$881,979
425451	Philadelphia	PA	\$42,007,561
425529	Pittsburgh	PA	\$8,342,028
425793	Reading	PA	\$3,580,856
426201	Scranton	PA	\$2,440,076
426711	State College	PA	\$1,109,162
427227	Upper Darby	PA	\$1,561,080
427947	Wilkes-Barre	PA	\$1,235,638
427962	Williamsport	PA	\$888,134
428136	York	PA	\$1,980,626
429007	Beaver County	PA	\$2,091,861
429011	Berks County	PA	\$2,296,766
429029	Chester County	PA	\$3,984,864
429041	Cumberland County	PA	\$1,903,664
429043	Dauphin County	PA	\$2,348,835
429045	Delaware County	PA	\$3,732,740
429079	Luzerne County	PA	\$2,530,085
429091	Montgomery County	PA	\$5,080,650
429095	Northampton County	PA	\$2,338,781
429125	Washington County	PA	\$2,104,738
429133	York County	PA	\$3,070,455
429999	PA Non Entitlement	PA	\$73,094,403
42C028	CNSRT-Bucks County	PA	\$4,484,799
42C125	CNSRT-Westmoreland Co	PA	\$3,684,314
42C403	CNSRT-Allegheny County	PA	\$10,799,656
42C987	CNSRT-Lancaster County	PA	\$6,789,732

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021

- Suspended certain HOME statutory requirements for HOME-ARP
 - Match Requirement
 - Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) Set-Aside Requirement
 - Maximum Per Unit Subsidy Limit (aka, 221(d)(3) limit)
 - 24-month commitment deadline

HUD HOME-ARP PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

- **Notice CPD-21-10: Requirements for the Use of Funds in the HOME-ARP Program**
 - Issued September 13, 2021
 - Notice establishes all HOME-ARP requirements

COMMONWEALTH OF PA HOME-ARP PROGRAM

- PA's allocation = \$73,094,403
- Brief overview of –
 - Qualifying populations (QP)
 - Eligible activities and costs

QUALIFYING POPULATIONS (QP)

1. **Homeless**, McKinney Act definition at 24 CFR 91.5
2. **At risk of Homelessness**, McKinney Act definition at 24 CFR 91.5
3. **Fleeing, or Attempting to Flee, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, or Human Trafficking**
 - Definitions from VAWA regulation at 24 CFR 5.2003, except
 - Human trafficking definition from Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000

QUALIFYING POPULATIONS CONTINUED

4. Other Populations where providing supportive services or assistance under section 212(a) of NAHA (42 U.S.C. 12742(a)) would prevent the family's homelessness or would serve those with the greatest risk of housing instability

Veterans and Families that include a Veteran Family Member that meet the criteria for one of the qualifying populations described above are eligible to receive HOME-ARP assistance.

HOME-ARP ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Rental Housing
- Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)
- Supportive Services
- Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelter
- Nonprofit Operating and Capacity Building Assistance
- Administration and Planning

HOME-ARP RENTAL HOUSING: ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES & COSTS

- HOME-ARP Eligible Activities:
 - Acquisition of standard rental housing
 - Construction of rental housing
 - Rehabilitation of rental housing
 - Includes conversion of nonresidential buildings to housing
- HOME-ARP Eligible Costs:
 - Development hard and soft costs
 - Relocation
 - Operating cost assistance/reserves

HOME-ARP TENANT BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE (TBRA)

- HOME-ARP can assist qualifying populations to pay the rent, security deposits, utility payments, and utility deposits
 - A PJ may provide up to 100% of rent and utility costs
- Assistance is attached to qualifying household rather than the unit
 - Household can take assistance to another unit that is rent reasonable and meets applicable property standards

HOME-ARP SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

- HOME-ARP funds may be used to provide a broad range of supportive services to qualifying individuals or families:
 - As a standalone program, or
 - In combination with other HOME-ARP activities
- Individuals and families who meet a QP definition and are not already receiving these services through another program are eligible for HOME-ARP supportive services

HOME-ARP SUPPORTIVE SERVICES: ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Three categories of eligible supportive services under HOME-ARP:
 - McKinney-Vento Supportive Services -- adapted from the services listed in section 401(29) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act
 - HOME-ARP Homelessness Prevention Services -- adapted from eligible homelessness prevention services under Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) regulations and are revised, supplemented, and streamlined
 - Housing Counseling -- as defined in Part 5, including requirement that counseling only be provided by HUD-certified housing counselors

ELIGIBLE COSTS – MCKINNEY VENTO SUPPORTIVE SERVICES AND HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION SERVICES

- Childcare
- Education Services
- Employment assistance & job training
- Food
- Housing search & counseling services
- Legal services
- Life skills training
- Mental health services
- Outpatient Health Services
- Outreach services
- Substance abuse treatment services
- Transportation
- Case management
- Mediation
- Credit repair
- Landlord/Tenant liaison
- Services for special populations
- Financial assistance costs

ELIGIBLE COSTS – HOUSING COUNSELING

- Staff salaries & overhead costs of HUD-certified housing counseling services – direct housing counseling services
- Development of a housing counseling workplan
- Marketing & outreach
- Intake
- Financial & housing affordability analysis
- Action Plans
- Follow-up communication with program participants

HOME-ARP NON-CONGREGATE SHELTERS (NCS)

- For purposes of HOME-ARP, NCS is defined as one or more buildings that:
 - Provide private units or rooms for temporary shelter
 - Serve individuals and families that meet one or more of the qualifying populations
 - Do not require occupants to sign a lease or occupancy agreement

HOME-ARP NCS: ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES & COSTS

- HOME-ARP Eligible Activities:
 - Acquisition of structures
 - New construction, with or without land acquisition
 - Rehabilitation of existing structures (examples – nursing homes, motels, etc.)
- HOME-ARP Eligible Costs:
 - Acquisition costs
 - Development hard & soft costs
 - Replacement reserves (for costs identified in capital needs assessment)

Ongoing Operating Costs of NCS cannot be paid for HOME-ARP

HOME-ARP NONPROFIT OPERATING AND CAPACITY BUILDING ASSISTANCE

- Assistance to Nonprofits:
 - Up to 5% of allocation to pay operating expenses of nonprofit organizations undertaking HOME-ARP activities
 - Up to an additional 5% of allocation to pay eligible costs related to developing capacity of nonprofit organizations undertaking HOME-ARP activities
 - Can be provided if PJ expects to provide HOME-ARP funds to the organization for HOME-ARP activities within 24 months
 - Eligible costs are “general operating costs” of the nonprofit

HOME-ARP NONPROFIT OPERATING AND CAPACITY BUILDING ASSISTANCE

- **Limitations on Assistance to Nonprofits:**
 - In any fiscal year, operating assistance may not exceed > 50% of the general operating expenses of organization for that fiscal year, or \$50,000
 - In any fiscal year, capacity building assistance may not exceed > 50% of general operating expenses of organization for that fiscal year, or \$50,000
 - If an organization receives both types of assistance in a fiscal year, the aggregate total amount it may receive is greater of 50% of their operating expenses for that year or \$75,000

NEXT STEPS FOR PA'S HOME-ARP

PA DCED will strategize to identify appropriate priorities and needs throughout the Commonwealth of PA

- Collaboration with partners
- Outreach to identify gaps in housing and service provider support
- Develop allocation plan for submittal to HUD



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Proposed Written Standards Revisions

Presented to the PA-509 Eastern PA CoC Membership on October 18, 2021

Consulting & Design by Capacity for Change, LLC

PA-509 Eastern PA CoC Written Standards Committee

Tara Day Ulrich, Transitions of PA, Chair

Michele Albright, Valley Youth House

Brendan Auman, Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development

Alisa Baratta, Third Street Alliance for Women and Children

Jackie Condor, Clinton County Housing Authority

Leigh Howard, Diana T. Myers and Associates

Laura Maggiorini, The Veterans Multi-Service Center – Central Pennsylvania

Leslie Perryman, Crossroads Community Services/Street 2 Feet Outreach Center

Angela Susten, Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development

Lauren Whitleigh, Diana T. Myers and Associates

Jason Alexander, Capacity for Change (Consultant)

What are the PA-509 Eastern PA CoC Written Standards?

- Both the Emergency Solution Grant (ESG) and the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Rules state that all Continuums of Care must establish written rules for the administration of ESG and CoC assistance.
- All Eastern PA CoC programs that receive ESG or CoC funding are required to abide by these Written Standards.
- These Written Standards ensure that persons experiencing homelessness who utilize the Eastern PA CoC Coordinated Entry System and other projects will have equitable access to information, services, and supports to help them find, move into, and maintain permanent housing with stability.
- Therefore, the use of these Written Standards is strongly encouraged for all Eastern PA CoC-participating programs funded through any public or private grant sources.

Eastern PA CoC Written Standards Revision Process

- The Written Standards were last revised, approved by the CoC Governing Board, and released to the CoC membership on November 16, 2020.
- In January 2021, the Written Standards Committee was re-established by the CoC Governing Board and charged with reviewing and revising the standards again to ensure they are a) compliant with new ESG and CoC program requirements (ex. ESG-CV), b) trauma-informed/competent, and c) center equity and voices of people with lived experience.
- CoC members were invited to participate in Committee workgroups, listening sessions, and online surveys focused on six critical Written Standards areas: Coordinated Entry, Homeless Prevention, Street Outreach, Emergency Shelter, Rapid Re-Housing (including Transitional Housing-RRH), and Permanent Supportive Housing.

WS Committee Recommendations: All Program Types

- Reorganize document to include everything important to a project type in one place (i.e., eligibility, prioritization, minimum standards, guidance, etc.)
- Create/add “at-a-glance” summaries as well as sample policies, tools, templates, forms, plans, worksheets, and checklists for each project type.
- Add more detailed guidance for working with youth, veterans, people fleeing domestic violence or human trafficking, and anyone regardless of immigration status.
- Add more equity and trauma-informed language throughout.
- Link to lengthy excerpts from ESG and CoC annual program funding requirements rather than copying and pasting them into the Standards.
- Provide ongoing trainings and open office hours for CoC members.

WS Committee Recommendations: Coordinated Entry

- Clarify that every household must go through Coordinated Entry (CE) to access any CoC program if they are or wish to reside in the Eastern PA CoC region.
- Improve standards related to obtaining client consent, client information requests, and client appeals process.
- Establish new standard related to attempting diversion.
- Households enrolled by Emergency Shelters directly from the street must ensure they contact CE for enrollment with 48 business hours.
- SO, ES, and HP providers must acknowledge, date, and document referral outcomes in PA HMIS.
- Clarify use of CE Intake Notes.
- Use client-centered, culturally responsive language.

WS Committee Recommendations: Homeless Prevention

- Revise Homeless Prevention (HP) standards to encourage programs to give participants the least amount and duration of case management and subsidies needed to help them exit to permanent housing with stability.
- Clarify that ESG does not allow payments to be made directly to clients.
- Clarify that ESG security deposits need to be returned to the program, not the client, to be used as program income and match moving forward; require a written agreement between the program and the landlord stating that.
- List in detail all eligible uses of ESG HP funding.
- Provide a checklist for required client documentation.

WS Committee Recommendations: Homeless Prevention

- Eliminate requirement for three estimates for moving costs/storage fees.
- Replace references to short vs. medium term assistance eligibility with a requirement to recertify HP enrollment every three months.
- Clarify situations in which ESG HP can be paired with other sources of HP funding.
- Change requirement from monthly face-to-face meetings to monthly communications and prescribe a set of information to be exchanged in them.
- Clarify use of HP with Category 4 households fleeing Domestic Violence.

WS Committee Recommendations: Street Outreach

- Add guidance for RHY-funded Street Outreach (SO) providers who can serve HUD Category 3 in addition to Categories 1 and 4.
- Clarify across all standards that SO staff should meet people where they are living when it is safe to do so and guidance on possible meeting locations when it is not.
- Encourage SO staff to work in pairs or teams whenever possible.
- Clarify that SO programs should accept referrals from CE for clients that are not already known, document referral outcomes, and add CE Intake notes in PA HMIS.
- Require SO programs to provide staff with training in CPR, verbal de-escalation, NARCAN use, trafficking, suicide prevention, domestic violence, mental health and substance use, crisis intervention, mandated reporting, and trauma-informed care.
- Create separate standards for unaccompanied youth vs. minor children in families.
- Change standards from requiring SO staff to partner with physical/mental health providers to require SO project organizations to do so instead.

WS Committee Recommendations: Emergency Shelter

- Revise prioritization to reflect the fact that every county has different resources for certain populations.
- Provide more guidance for working with participants that have significant medical, mental, and/or behavioral health needs or who are resistant to working on permanent housing goal plans.
- Add standards specific to ESG-CV funded Emergency Shelter (ES) programs.
- Clarify requirement to acknowledge, date, and record CE referral outcomes in PA HMIS in a timely manner.
- Expand standards related to equitable access and respect for all participants regardless of gender.
- Condense standards related to support/service animals and pets.
- Add standards for Hotel/Motel voucher projects managed by ES programs.
- Provide sample housing goal plans and policies on curfews, possessions, pets and emotional support animals.

WS Committee Recommendations: Rapid Re-Housing

- Revise Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) standards to encourage programs to give participants the least amount and duration of case management and rental assistance needed to help them exit to permanent housing with stability.
- Establish a RRH to PSH transfer policy standard.
- Add standards specific to ESG-CV funded RRH programs.
- Clarify expectations re: moving people into housing in 30 days - when to exit a client who is not engaged in housing search process/denies multiple units.
- Provide more detailed guidance on:
 - HMIS enrollment and recording housing move-in dates.
 - Providing case management after rental assistance ends.
 - Calculating duration and amount of rent and utility assistance; what is included in FMR.
 - Trauma-informed methods for verifying literal homelessness.
 - Number of bedrooms needed if client is pregnant or has partial custody of children.
 - Checklist of documents that need to be in client's file.
 - PHA utility allowance at the county level.

WS Committee Recommendations: Permanent Supportive Housing

- Revise Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) standards to encourage programs to give participants the least amount and duration of case management and rental assistance needed to help them exit to permanent housing with stability.
- Establish a PSH program to another PSH program transfer policy standard that is built into prioritization.
- Clarify that at least one household member must have a disability as defined by HUD - even if it is not the Head of Household.
- Clarify eligibility to include people that meet the HUD definitions of Cat. 1 or Cat. 1 and 4.
- Clarify that for chronic dedicated Permanent Supportive Housing beds, when a participant exits the program, the bed must be filled by another chronically homeless participant unless there are no chronically homeless persons located within the CoC's geographic area.
- Clarify that PSH 11. Permanent Supportive Housing Case Managers communicate and coordinate between a participant's supportive service providers, landlord/property manager, mental health and substance use recovery Case Managers or peer specialists, among others, with participant's consent.

WS Committee Recommendations: Permanent Supportive Housing

- Ensure standards are inclusive of both (sub-) leasing and (sponsor-based) rental assistance programs.
- Clarify that tenant-based leasing programs use FMR, not rent reasonableness.
- Clarify what providers can require in terms of documentation (e.g., Social Security Card, birth certificate, etc.)
- Clarify that clear that case management should be offered on site with linkage and referral to supportive services.
- Clarify that someone can be out of their unit for up to 90 days without termination.
- Clarify conditions in which a client can be terminated from a PSH program.
- Create a Chronic Homelessness flowchart and documentation requirements.
- Revise standard related to Moving On strategies.
- Provide a rental assistance calculation worksheet and guidance on utility allowances.

Written Standards Revision Breakout Session

CoC members may enter one of five Zoom breakout rooms to provide feedback to the Written Standards Committee on its proposed recommendations as follows:

1. Coordinated Entry (Jackie Condor moderator)
2. Homeless Prevention (Alisa Baratta moderator)
3. Street Outreach and Emergency Shelter (Jason Alexander moderator)
4. Rapid Re-Housing (including TH-RRH) (Laura Maggiorini moderator)
5. Permanent Supportive Housing (Tara Day Ulrich moderator)

Written Standards Revision Process Next Steps

- ❑ Written Standards Committee will incorporate breakout session member feedback.
- ❑ Written Standards Consultant will revise current Written Standards for Committee review and recommendation to the CoC Governing Board.
- ❑ CoC Governing Board will vote to approve.
- ❑ Written Standards will be released to CoC membership in January 2022.
- ❑ Supplemental materials (e.g., tools, templates, forms, at-a-glance documents, etc.), trainings, and Zoom office hours will follow in January - March 2022.

Update on the Eastern PA CoC's FY2021 CoC NOFO Work

Eastern PA CoC General Membership Meeting - October 18, 2021

FY21 CoC NOFO Timeline

- August 18: NOFO released
- October 18: HUD's CoC 30-day deadline
 - This is the deadline by which all projects (renewal & new) must be submitted to the CoC
 - ✓ Due date for renewal projects and preliminary projects has passed
- November 2: HUD's CoC 15-day deadline
 - This is the deadline by which all projects must be informed if their applications were accepted, rejected, and any reallocation decisions
 - ✓ Reallocation decisions have been made and communicated to applicable grantees
 - ✓ Funding Committee's new project selection meeting is tomorrow. We hope to communicate all decisions to the CoC by the end of the week.

SPM FY19 to FY20 “Scorecard”: Metrics Scored on CoC Application

Metrics <i>(* not covered in today's presentation)</i>	FY20 Outcome	FY19-FY20 % Change	Positive or Negative?
M1a.1 - Average LOT Homeless: ES, SH & TH	102 Days	+11%	×
M2 - Returns: All Project Types, 0-12 months	9%	+4%	×
*M3.1 - Persons Homeless PIT: Total Sheltered & Unsheltered	2,032	+189	×
*M3.1 - Persons Homeless PIT: Total Sheltered	1,666	+160	×
*M3.1 - Persons Homeless PIT: Total Unsheltered	366	+29	×
M4.4 - Leavers Change in Income: Earned	26%	-7%	×
M4.5 - Leavers Change in Income: Non-Employment	22%	-6%	×
*M5.2 - First Time Homeless: ES, SH, TH or PH	85%	-4%	✓
M7b.1 – Exits to PH Destinations: ES, SH, TH and PH-RRH who exited, plus persons in other PH projects who exited without moving into housing	62%	0%	!
M7b.2 - Exits to PH Destinations: PH projects except PH-RRH	96%	0%	!

SPM M1b: Length of Time Homeless

FY2019 (10/01/2018-09/30/2019) to FY2020 (10/01/2019-09/30/2020)

Metric 1b - Length of Time Persons Remain Homeless - Including Element 3.917												
	FY19			FY20			# Change			% Change		
	Universe	Average LOT Homeless	Median LOT Homeless	Universe	Average LOT Homeless	Median LOT Homeless	Universe	Average LOT Homeless	Median LOT Homeless	Universe	Average LOT Homeless	Median LOT Homeless
1.1 Persons in ES, SH, and PH	4022	143	67	3890	168	69	-132	+25	+2	-3%	+17%	+3%
1.2 Persons in ES, SH, TH, and PH	4750	160	77	4470	184	82	-280	+24	+5	-6%	+15%	+6%

SPM M7b.1: Successful Placement in Permanent Housing – ES, SH, TH & PH-RRH

FY2019 (10/01/2018-09/30/2019) to FY2020 (10/01/2019-09/30/2020)

Metric 7b.1 – Change in exits to permanent housing destinations			
	Submitted FY 2019	FY 2020	Difference
Universe: Persons in ES, SH, TH and PH-RRH who exited, plus persons in other PH projects who exited without moving into housing	4239	3960	-279
Of the persons above, those who exited to permanent housing destinations	2639	2460	-179
% Successful exits	62%	62%	0%

Breakout of FY20 M7b.1 Data by Project Type

	ES	TH	PH-RRH
Total clients exited	2277	339	1322
Exited to PH	1065	197	1184
% Exits to PH	47%	58%	90%

- Data points used for FY18 & FY19 CoC applications
- HUD has looked for a 5% improvement in the past

SPM M7b.2: Successful Placement in or Retention of Permanent Housing: PSH, OPH

FY2019 (10/01/2018-09/30/2019) to FY2020 (10/01/2019-09/30/2020)

Metric 7b.2 – Change in exit to or retention of permanent housing			
	Submitted FY 2019	FY 2020	Difference
Universe: Persons in all PH projects except PH-RRH	1066	934	-132
Of persons above, those who remained in applicable PH projects and those who exited to permanent housing destinations	1025	899	-126
% Successful exits/retention	96%	96%	0%

- Data points used for FY18 & FY19 CoC applications
- HUD has looked for a 5% improvement in the past

SPM M2: The Extent to which Persons who Exit Homelessness to Permanent Housing Destinations Return to Homelessness

Change FY2019 (10/01/2018 - 09/30/2019) to FY2020 (10/01/2019 - 09/30/2020)

- Data Point used for FY18 & FY19 CoC application
- HUD has looked for a 5% improvement in the past

	Total # of Persons Exited to PH Destination (2 Years Prior)	Returns to Homelessness in <6 Months		Returns to Homelessness from 6 to 12 Months		Returns to Homelessness from 13 to 24 Months		Number of Returns in 2 Years		Returns to Homelessness from 0 to 12 Months	
		#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Exit was from SO	+35	+3	+3%	1	0%	-1	-5%	+3	-4%	+4	+2%
Exit was from ES	+174	+30	+2%	+25	+1%	+6	0%	+61	+3%	+55	+3%
Exit was from TH	-94	+5	+2%	+4	+2%	-5	-1%	+4	+3%	+9	+4%
Exit was from SH	0	0		0		0		0		0	
Exit was from PH	+35	+39	+4%	+11	+1%	-5	0%	+45	+4%	+50	+4%
Total Returns to Homelessness	+150	+77	+3%	+41	+1%	-5	0%	+113	+3%	+118	+4%

SPM M4: Change in Income - Stayers

FY2019 (10/01/2018-09/30/2019) to FY2020 (10/01/2019-09/30/2020)

Metric 4.1 - Change in earned income for adult system stayers during the reporting period

Metric 4.2 - Change in non-employment income for adult system stayers during the reporting period

Metric 4.3 - Change in total income for adult system stayers during the reporting period

	Submitted FY 2019	FY 2020	Difference
Universe: Number of adults (system stayers)	512	527	+15
4.1 - Number of adults with increased earned income	68	57	-11
4.1 - Percentage of adults who increased earned income	13%	11%	-2%
4.2 - Number of adults with increased non-employment cash income	220	228	+8
4.2 - Percentage of adults who increased non-employment cash income	43%	43%	0%
4.3 - Number of adults with increased total income	269	263	-6
4.3 - Percentage of adults who increased total income	53%	50%	-3%

CoC Membership input for NOFO response

EQUITY

○ Has your organization taken any steps to improve racial equity in how you provide assistance to participants, or to ensure outcomes of assistance are equitable? If so, please describe these steps.

CoC Membership input for NOFO response

COVID-19 COORDINATION

- Did your organization coordinate with the health system during the COVID-19 pandemic to decrease the spread of COVID-9 and ensure safety measures were implemented?
- Please describe how your organization identified eligible individuals and families experiencing homelessness for COVID-19 vaccination (based on local protocol).
- Did your organization encounter any increases in domestic violence requests for assistance during the pandemic? (due to requirements to stay at home, increased unemployment, etc). If so, how did your organization address this need.

CoC Membership input for NOFO response

EMPLOYMENT/INCOME

- Has your organization implemented any strategies to **increase access to employment/earned income** for persons experiencing homelessness? Examples might include: coordination with local One-Stop centers, State or local rehabilitation programs, employment training/apprenticeships, partnerships with employers or employment agencies, job fairs, outreach to employers, etc.
- Does your organization have any **partnerships** with employment partners (private employers, employment organizations, staffing agencies, public employment agency)?
- Has your organization implemented any strategies to **increase access to non-employment cash sources** for persons experiencing homelessness? (public benefits, SSI, etc). Examples may include: coordination with County Assistance Office or Social Security Offices, staff persons trained in SOAR, etc.
- Does your organization **connect program participants to volunteer opportunities or opportunities for civic participation** (townhall forums, community meetings, etc.)?

CoC Membership input for NOFO response

CROSS-SYSTEM COORDINATION

- Does your local Public Housing Authority have homeless admissions preference or Move-On Strategy? If so, which Public Housing Authority.
- Are you currently working with any of the following community partners to establish a homeless admissions preference or Move-On Strategy? Multifamily assisted housing owners; PHA; Low Income Tax Credit (LIHTC) developments; Local low-income housing programs.
- The McKinney-Vento Act requires CoCs to collaborate with youth education partners (school districts, McKinney-Vento education authorities). Does your organization have any collaboration with youth education providers, including McKinney-Vento local education authorities and school districts? This may include participating in meetings with school district partners, or school district partners attending homeless-related meetings in your community.
- Does your organization have any written formal agreements, MOU/MOAs or partnerships with one or more providers of early childhood services and supports? Early Childhood Providers; Head Start; Early Head Start; Child Care and Development Fund; Federal Home Visiting Program; Healthy Start; Public Pre-K; Birth to 3; Other.

CoC Membership input for NOFO response

IMPROVING SYSTEM OUTCOMES

○ Has your community implemented any strategies **to prevent first time homelessness?**

CoC Membership input for NOFO response

INCREASING ACCESS/REMOVING BARRIERS

- What strategies does your organization use to ensure that staff are up to date regarding the mainstream resources available for program participants (e.g. Food Stamps, SSI, TANF, substance use programs)?
- Has your community implemented any strategies to ensure homelessness is not criminalized? Examples: engaging or educating those within the community who have decision making authority including local policy makers, elected officials, law enforcement, individuals, and businesses engaged in developing and implementing community plans

Survey forthcoming

- Following today's CoC meeting, DMA will be distributing a survey in order to collect input on each of these questions. Please take a few minutes to share the good work that has been taking place in your community over the last year.

THANK YOU!

Introduction of the Eastern PA CoC's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee

Eastern PA CoC General Membership Meeting – October 18, 2021

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee

Background:

- The mission of the Eastern PA Continuum of Care (CoC) is to end homelessness throughout its geographic region, which encompasses 33 counties, primarily rural, in the eastern part of Pennsylvania. The CoC works to foster a sense of collaboration and shared purpose among its participating members around the work to end homelessness throughout its geographic region.
- The vision of the Eastern PA CoC Board for its Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion work is that homeless assistance is provided in a fair and equitable manner such that no one's identity is a predictor for receiving homeless assistance or achieving positive outcomes such as acquiring and maintaining permanent housing while participating in homeless assistance programs.
- The Eastern PA CoC is establishing a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee to actualize its vision and advance its commitment to providing a client-centered, culturally aware service-delivery system in which all individuals, including people of color, LGBTQ persons, persons with disabilities, immigrant populations, and other historically marginalized populations, receive the assistance they need to end their homelessness.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee

Committee Purpose:

- Lead the CoC's efforts to address inequality and advance equity through ongoing evaluation of the homeless assistance system's program models (outreach, emergency shelter, transitional housing, joint transitional-housing, rapid re-housing, and permanent supportive housing) and processes (access, assessment, and referral to housing programs) to ensure access to the system and system outcomes are equitable. The Committee will make recommendations to improve the system on an ongoing basis.

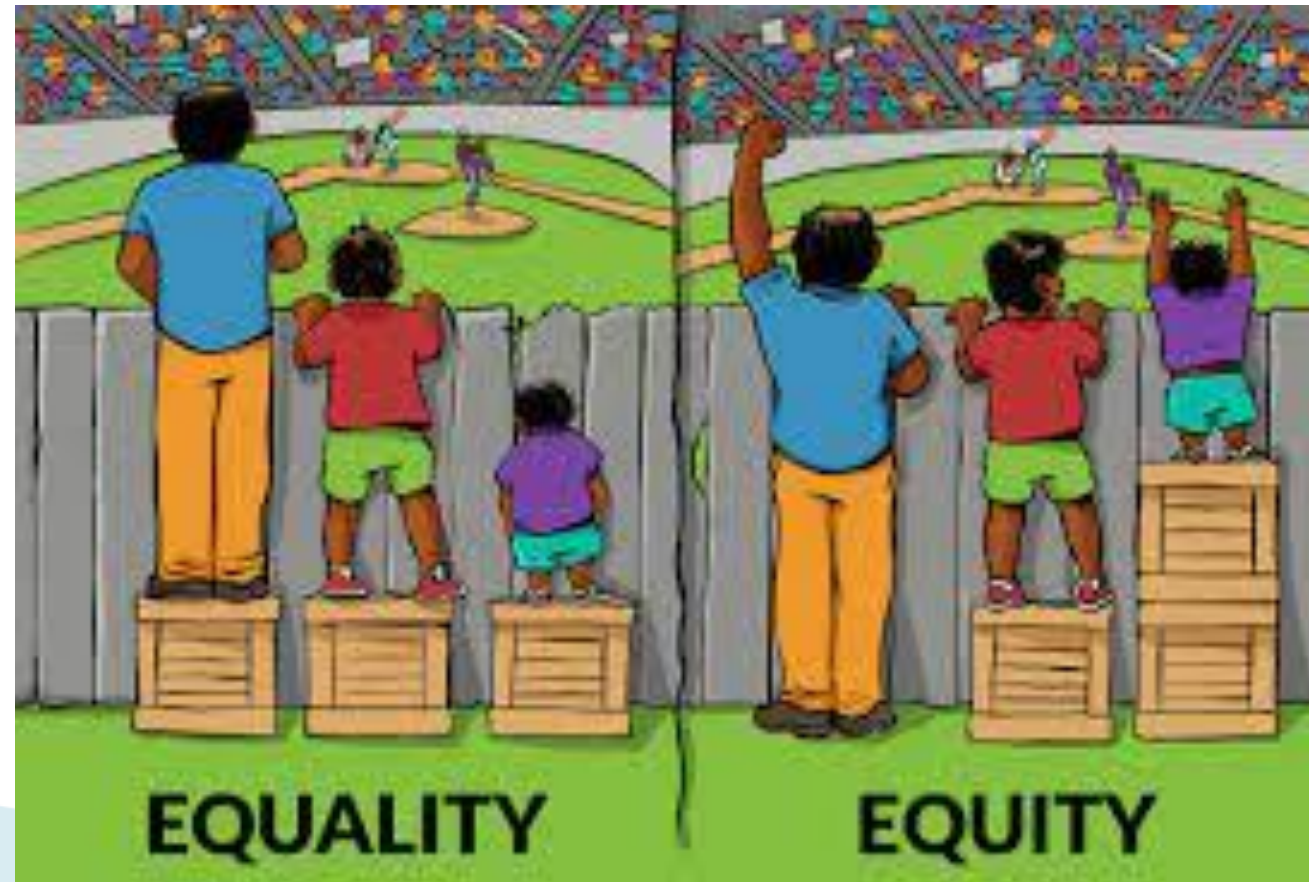
Committee Responsibilities:

- Actualize the Board's vision that homeless assistance is provided in a fair and equitable manner such that no one's identity is a predictor for receiving homeless assistance or achieving positive outcomes such as acquiring and maintaining permanent housing while participating in homeless assistance programs.
- Work collaboratively through an intentional, ongoing process to develop the CoC's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Framework
- Inform and/or support ongoing evaluation activities by recommending questions the CoC should seek to answer and the types of information the CoC should gather and analyze to answer those questions, with a particular emphasis on gathering qualitative information using surveys, interviews, or focus groups with people participating in the homeless assistance system and homeless service providers as this information will help the CoC contextualize and better understand what needs to be done to advance equity.

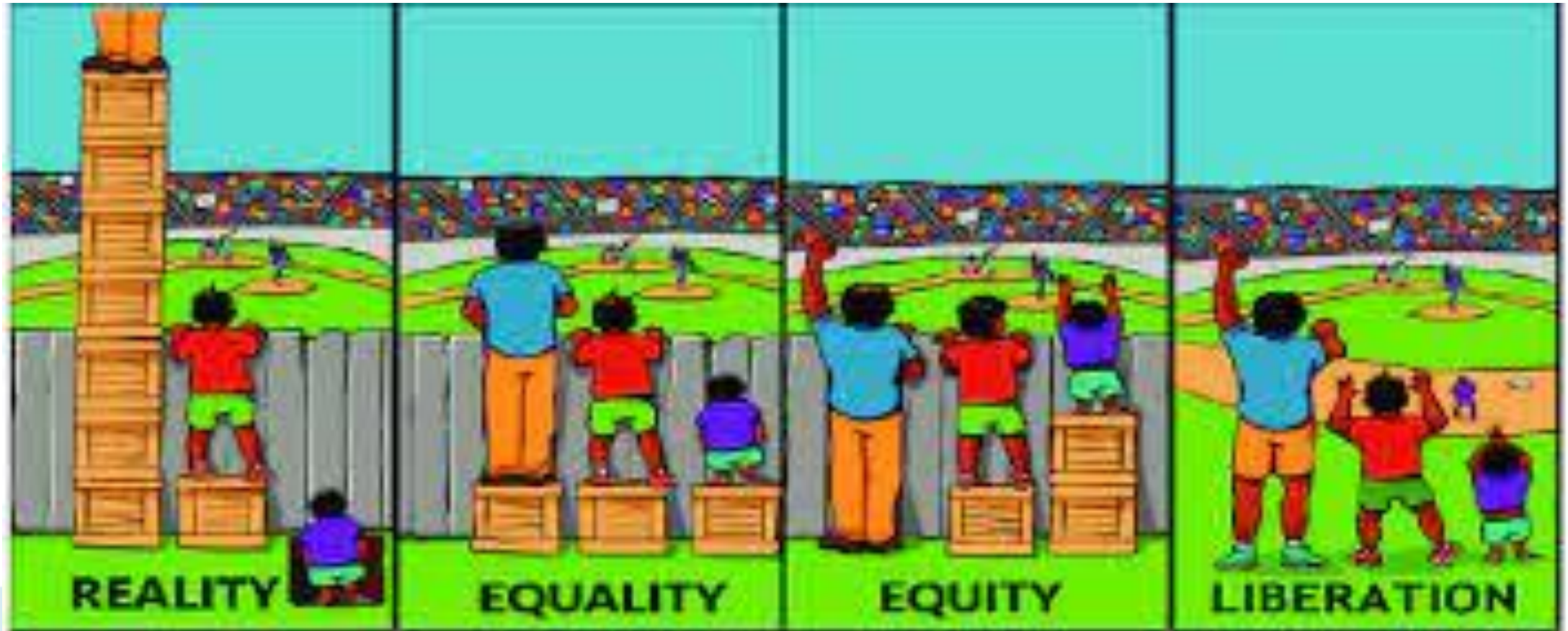
DEI Committee Membership

Name	Organization	RHAB
Jernae Drummond	YWCA Northcentral PA	Northern Tier
Cleveland Way	Transitional Living Center	Northern Tier
Timaki Johnson	Family Promise of Monroe Count	Pocono
Ellie Nedimyer	The Salvation Army Carlisle	Central Valley
Krunal Thakore	The Gate House- Transitional Housing and Care Center	Central Valley
Julie Kennedy	United Way of Lancaster County	Lehigh Valley
Evan Collier	Evan James Resources	Central Valley
Tara Day Ulrich	Transitions of PA	Central Valley & Northern Tier
Heather Boher	My Father's House - Servants to All	Central Valley
Sergio Carmona, CoC Board Vice President	Blair County Community Action Program (BlairCAP)	South Central
Brendan Auman	Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED), CoC Collaborative Applicant	n/a
Leigh Howard	Diana T. Myers and Associates (DMA), CoC Consultant	n/a
Lauren Whitleigh	Diana T. Myers and Associates (DMA), CoC Staff	n/a
Alison Korte	Technical Assistance Collaborative (TAC)	n/a
Dr. LaMont Green	Technical Assistance Collaborative (TAC)	n/a

How is equity different from equality?



How is equity different from equality?



Review: Targeted Universalism



Establish a universal racial justice goal



Assess performance relative to the racial justice goal



Identify different performance between goal and overall population




Assess and understand the persistent drivers of racial inequity



Develop and implement targeted strategies to remove barriers to racial equity and racial justice

Review: REIA

1. Identify stakeholders
2. Engage stakeholders
3. Identify and document racial and ethnic inequities
4. Conduct a root cause analysis
5. Clarify the purpose
6. Consider adverse impacts
7. Advance equitable impacts
8. Examine alternatives
9. Ensure sustainability
10. Identify success indicators



race forward
INSTITUTE FOR RACIAL JUSTICE FOUNDATION

Racial Equity Impact Assessment **GUIDE**

Below are sample questions to use to anticipate, assess and prevent potential adverse consequences of proposed actions on different racial groups.

<p>1. IDENTIFYING STAKEHOLDERS Which racial/ethnic groups may be most affected by and concerned with the issues related to this proposal?</p> <p>2. ENGAGING STAKEHOLDERS Have stakeholders from different racial/ethnic groups—especially those most adversely affected—been informed, meaningfully involved and authentically represented in the development of this proposal? Who’s missing and how can they be engaged?</p> <p>3. IDENTIFYING AND DOCUMENTING RACIAL INEQUITIES Which racial/ethnic groups are currently most advantaged and most disadvantaged by the issues this proposal seeks to address? How are they affected differently? What quantitative and qualitative evidence of inequality exists? What evidence is missing or needed?</p> <p>4. EXAMINING THE CAUSES What factors may be producing and perpetuating racial inequities associated with this issue? How did the inequities arise? Are they expanding or narrowing? Does the proposal address root causes? If not, how could it?</p> <p>5. CLARIFYING THE PURPOSE What does the proposal seek to accomplish? Will it reduce disparities or discrimination?</p>	<p>6. CONSIDERING ADVERSE IMPACTS What adverse impacts or unintended consequences could result from this policy? Which racial/ethnic groups could be negatively affected? How could adverse impacts be prevented or minimized?</p> <p>7. ADVANCING EQUITABLE IMPACTS What positive impacts on equality and inclusion, if any, could result from this proposal? Which racial/ethnic groups could benefit? Are there further ways to maximize equitable opportunities and impacts?</p> <p>8. EXAMINING ALTERNATIVES OR IMPROVEMENTS Are there better ways to reduce racial disparities and advance racial equity? What provisions could be changed or added to ensure positive impacts on racial equity and inclusion?</p> <p>9. ENSURING VIABILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY Is the proposal realistic, adequately funded, with mechanisms to ensure successful implementation and enforcement. Are there provisions to ensure ongoing data collection, public reporting, stakeholder participation and public accountability?</p> <p>10. IDENTIFYING SUCCESS INDICATORS What are the success indicators and progress benchmarks? How will impacts be documented and evaluated? How will the level, diversity and quality of ongoing stakeholder engagement be assessed?</p>
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Review: Racial Equity Lens Framework

(Let the questions below be your daily mantra)

- What are the Race Equity goals for this process (typically 1 -3 overarching goals)? → **SET RACE EQUITY GOALS**
- How are we being accountable to BIPOC and other historically disenfranchised participants in this process? → **BE ACCOUNTABLE TO MOST IMPACTED**
- How are we maximizing benefit and minimizing harm to BIPOC and other historically disenfranchised participants in this process? → **MAXIMIZE BENEFIT & MINIMIZE HARM**
- What are the organizational barriers in place that act as additional constraints for BIPOC and other historically disenfranchised participants? What are interventions to remove barriers to ensure equitable outcomes? → **IDENTIFY & REMOVE BARRIERS**
- How are we monitoring our progress to ensure that we are iterating rapidly to meet the goals while being accountable to those most impacted. → **CONTINUOUS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT**