



Eastern PA CoC Board Meeting
July 17, 2023
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/95780178070?pwd=emtjUy9lelByTndUdng3cGVZT29wQT09>
 Meeting ID: 957 8017 8070; Passcode: 020931 Phone +1 309 205 3325 US

AGENDA

TIME	AGENDA ITEM	PURPOSE
10:00 a.m.	Welcome and approval of June meeting minutes-Alisa Baratta	Previous meeting minute need to be approved
10:05 a.m.	Coordinated Entry Update/Diversion training conversation-Leslie Perryman	Update on CE and Diversion Training next steps
10:45 a.m.	NOFO and H4G update-Leigh Howard	Review timeline for scoring with non-conflicted board members
11:05 a.m.	DCED update-Brendan Auman <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HUD Coalition Building Cohort 	DCED Information Inform board of Cohort work
11:20 p.m.	Update on the PHARA joint meeting-Jeff Rich	Planning for Spring 2024 event? Should a few board members attend the Fall PAHRA Conference?
12:00 p.m.	Meeting adjourned	



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In Attendance

Alisa Barratta
Chris Kapp
Deb Bartholomew
Jeff Rich
Andrea Herb
Rob Nicolella
Leslie Perryman
Luis Resto
Stephine Myer
Tiffany Jones
Brendan Auman
Amanda Riehl
Leigh Howard
Mary Penny

- Alisa Baratta called the meeting to order and asked Brendan to provide the DCED update while we waited for others to join.
- DCED Update
Brendan Auman provided the DCED Update. The ESG program funding application period opened on July 10th and will remain open until August 18th. There are no major changes this year, but they have eliminated some extra forms. They did include a request for a letter of support from the COC this year. They are not looking for each sub-recipient, just one for the project as a whole. Brendan paused and asked if there were any questions.
Alisa asked how to proceed because her agency would be a sub-grantee. Brendan replied he would defer to the rest of the board on that question, but she could just excuse herself from that conversation. After a brief discussion, the board decided that there was no need to change the current process and conflicted board members could excuse themselves. The Executive committee will review support letter requests and note any issues in the letter with sub-grantees.
Brendan did note that DCED did have monies returned from the 2021 program and they have been reallocated some to the 2023 allocation so the amount being awarded

could be increased. The 2023 amount is 5.7 million, but that number could be increased but he does not know the amount at this time.

Brendan then moved on to an update on the planning grant. The Coc did request and was approved for an exception on the 2021 planning grant. This request was submitted to expand or extend the timeline so we can support the coordinated entry diversion training. But also, we had some excess funds that needed to be spent. Currently, it looks like right now we have around 57,000 still unallocated. With some additional coming back from the DMA budget that expired at the end of June. I'm recommending that we use those funds for NOFO costs. Typically, DMA bills for that half up front and half upon submission utilizing the funds for that purpose will completely draw them down. One this to note is that this will then increase the 2022 allocation.

Board Vote

The board then voted on Brendan's recommendation to relocate the 2021 planning dollars. There was no opposition to this recommendation and was passed unanimously.

Brendan also added that HUD announce the Coordinated Entry Data Standards 4.21 has been delayed to the 2026 Data Standards. This is a relief because that will allow more time for implementation and a smoother transition.

Amanda Riehl briefed the board on HUD Coalition Building Cohort that she and Mary Penny have been participating in. The purpose of the cohort is to build more meaningful relationships to have a better coalition in terms of the OC. Which includes moving from transactional. To transformational relationships and create meetings that are inclusive and participatory as possible. The things that they are discussing include analyzing power and developing leadership on the board. Building multi-racial, multicultural, and multi-genera boards. Branching out from having only professionals and elites dominate leadership roles on the board.

And some actions that they have been encouraged is to pursue creating a board engagement survey. To include some things about how board members feel about the dynamic and the culture of the board. What do board members see as their natural strengths that they should be focusing on that they can bring to the board? Creating more creative and collaborative meetings. And how to develop better links to the community by community we mean both the COC membership community and the broader communities in which we serve.

- Coordinated Entry Update/Diversion training conversation-Leslie Perryman
The Coordinated Entry Committee Diversion Work Group has approved the second-round applications for the diversion funds. There is still \$ 38,821 remaining That we are going to then offer to round one recipients. They have sent grantees a simple survey monkey form to ask if they feel like they could take on additional funding. The committee is hopeful they will be able to distribute the funds and get them out. The committee also extended the ability to spend those funds until the end of November instead of the end of September to give them more time to spend down.
Leslie then moved on to the topic of the recent diversion training. She noted she would like to meet with Brendan and Leigh to discuss how to proceed with the future scheduled training.
We have a coordinated entry committee meeting coming up soon. What we decided was we were going to change the committee meetings back to monthly since there's a lot of work that's going to be done due to the data standard updates.

- **NOFO update**

Leigh Howard provided a high-level overview of the NOFO that was released on 7/5/23. All that has been released at this point is a high-level outline of where HUD is going and what they intend to evaluate. Sometimes there is specific information in regard to how that evaluation of a particular type of outcome. Leigh noted that there are some areas he won't be able to fully detail yet as HUD has not released all of the information yet. He was able to share that the policy priorities have remained the same. Ending homelessness for all persons using a housing first approach, reducing unsheltered homelessness. Improving system performance, partnering with housing health and service agencies. Improving assistance for LGBTQ-plus individuals. Engaging persons with lived experience and increasing affordable housing supply. In terms of what tier one funding those projects, those budgets total 93% of our existence and are our annual renewal demand. As a requirement of HUD through the COC NOFO process, we are required to evaluate and rank all projects. Projects are ranked by our funding committee based on the evaluation that was completed in June but this year tier one is 93%. That is a number that fluctuates from year to year. There have been years that it's been a hundred percent and years as low as 85%. The COC bonus amount is 7%. That is the competition portion of the NOFO and focused on projects that are ranked in Tier 2, which is competitive nationally and getting additional funds through the COC bonus dollars and the domestic violence bonus.

A new and potentially exciting opportunity to expand some resources where they are needed in the COC. It is a new and potentially exciting opportunity to expand some resources where they are needed in the COC. One is.

VAWA (Violence Against Women Act) related costs can be added to budgets. We don't yet know what that will look like yet and if the funding will be through a Coordinated Entry Grant or the Domestic Violence dedicated money. There are some conversations that will certainly need to take place. The second new eligible item is going to be something that they're calling the "Rural Cost Budget Line" to address the unique challenges CoCs face when serving people experiencing homelessness in rural areas. What we do know is that were designated as rural during last year's special NOFO. There is a likelihood that the same counties will still qualify unless they've experienced a substantial population change. What we don't know yet is if the COC will be eligible for this special funding. Leigh's guess or assumption is that any projects that are applied in a rural area that qualifies will be able to add these costs to their budget.

Leigh then mentioned one this as a board they have not really talked about is the new definition of homelessness. This will be in effect for projects funded through renewal projects and new projects. The final thing Leigh wanted to mention is that there is a new attachment that's required and expected by HUD, which is a letter signed by a working group comprised of people with lived experience of homelessness. This is something that we had to do for the special NOFO as well. To have a group of folks who are engaged in that. Hud is looking for a group of at least 3 people and right now we have 2 people. both are consistently participating on the funding committee. So, we will be discussing and providing some sort of recommendation around how to best receive some sort of letter of endorsement from either the participants on the funding committee or some other process. Leigh thinks the funding committee will probably be the most appropriate because they are in fact engaged in approving the RFD, selecting the new projects, and ranking those projects. He is hoping that that group will suffice in regard to meeting that expectation.

Brendan then added that he wanted to make a note of the planning grant. that is going to be increased potentially up to 5% of our or \$50,000 That' will cause the need for additional match documentation and support there. He has been reviewing how we can collect more match dollars and potentially capture some more through the point-in-time count. Many communities have volunteers that exist outside of our traditional service providers. If we are able to document the time that is spent providing training, conducting the actual pit count and having those hours documented and submitted would be a great resource.

Home4Good

The Executive Committee approved the release of the H4G application process in order to ensure that the application could be released as soon as possible. The application is following the guidelines provided by PHFA as opposed to restricting the kinds of projects to be considered but instead leaves it as open and flexible to allow communities to come in for projects they feel they need. Leigh provided a copy of the email which then links to the application and the materials. The project will be ranked and selected by a group of non-conflicted members of the CoC board.

- **Update on the PHARA joint meeting**

Jeff Rich provided the board with an update on the discussions about holding a joint meeting/training event with PAHRA. He noted that the Executive Committee met with Kelly Hicks, the ED of PHARA and they are on track for a Spring 2024 event. He will be attending the PHARA conference planning meeting when it is scheduled.

Board Vote

The board unanimously voted to accept the June 2023 meeting minutes.

- **CSH Pennsylvania Supportive Housing Workgroups.**

Action Items

1. Mary will ask Amanda to add choosing CoC representatives to the workgroups to the August 8th Executive Committee meeting agenda.
2. Mary or Brendan will reach out to My Dog is My Home to discuss participation in the CoC.

- **Meeting adjourned**