

Meeting of the Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH)

March 19, 2019, 2019 1:00 – 3:00pm

Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development, 7800 Harkins Rd, Lanham, MD 20706

I. Welcome - Meeting began at 1pm

II. New Business

- a. Youth Funding** – Stuart Campbell, Director, Community Service programs, Department of Housing and community development
- i. New funding: Additional \$1million awarded by the Governor
 - ii. Working on aligning with the HSP Program
 - iii. Challenges: Funding for Youth under the age of 18
 - iv. Drafting regulations over the next few months
 1. Requires Youth Involvement: Statewide? Local?
 2. How will we help facilitate that?
 - v. Met with the CoCs last week to discuss the funding; there was definitely a lot of excitement.
- b. Overview of Youth Homelessness Report** – Sacsheen Scott, Project manager, Department of housing and community development.
- i. Youth Report – Resources, Barriers, & Challenges – 15pgs
 - ii. This Year’s Report – Research Assistance from Graduate Fellow
 - iii. 75 Surveys Received
 - iv. Systemic Barriers affecting Youth Experience Homelessness
 - a. Obtaining IDs, Age Discrimination, Transportation, Purchasing a Vehicle
 - v. Resources: Federal: ESG, FUP Vouchers, Runaway and Homeless Youth Program, McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance
 - vi. State: Youth REACH MD, HSP Grant, New Future Subsidy
 - vii. Systemic Gaps:
 1. Affordable & Subsidized Housing
 - a. 57% of CoCs and homeless service providers indicated that they do not provide housing or services specifically targeted to Unaccompanied Youth
- Contact Information:
 - a. Sacsheen.Scott@maryland.gov, 301-429-7506
- c. LIHTC Supportive Housing Set Aside** -Heather Sheridan, Associate Director of Homelessness initiatives, Department of Housing and Community development.
- i. PSH Set-Aside in our LIHTC Process (QAP)
 1. This is the first time the State of Maryland has had this!
 2. Affordable up to 35% AMI
 3. No more than 50% of units identified as PSH
 4. Must have Project-Base Rental Assistance committed
 5. Letter of Support required from the CoC
 6. Supportive Services plan which is acceptable to DHCD
 7. Low Barrier entry requirements for Housing
 - ii. Worked with partners in Community Development Administration (CDA) and the Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH) who provided technical assistance throughout December and January on this strategy

- d. **SAMSHA Award to MDH or Opioid Response** - Heather Sheridan, Associate Director of homelessness initiatives, Department of Housing and Community Development.
 - \$66 million (over 2 years) awarded to MDH for communities impacted by the Opioid Crisis
 - Up to \$1.8 million dedicated to Recovery Housing (either Expansion or New)
 - (Note: Funds CANNOT be used for Rental Assistance)

- e. **Youth & Young Adult Work Group Updates:**
 - i. Report focuses on System-Level Response to Youth Homelessness
 - ii. Working Sessions on Different Topics
 - iii. Monthly Meetings (Next meeting on March 26)
 - iv. Intersections with Child Welfare, Juvenile Justice, etc.

- f. **Health & Homelessness Work Group Updates:**
 - i. Objectives – Goal 3 of the Homeless services Framework, to determine how hospitals are releasing people – engaging hospital associations across the state.
 - a. Assessment; Engaged several CoC, determining what is the need
 - i. MoCo, Charles, & St. Mary’s are also working on this
 - ii. Mini-Conference
 - iii. Members felt that it was unnecessary at this time.

 - b. Persons Exiting the Prison System – Is there a re-engagement plan?
 - Quarterly meetings (last one on February 1)

- g. **Workforce Development Work Group Updates:**
 - i. High Level Objectives & Strategies which align with what’s already being done in MD
 - ii. Identify Existing Resources, 29 American Jobs Centers
 - iii. Identify the Gaps:
 - iv. Opioid-related funding:
 - \$2.5 million – Labor Department – workforce Solutions to support the epidemic
 - \$75K - Opioid Workforce Innovation Fund – seeding innovative ideas to build system capAcity
 - a. People impacted directly or indirectly by the crisis.
 - b. Occupational Needs: Pain Management; Certified Pain Recovery Specialist
 - c. \$250K - Innovation Fund for Women
 - d. Maryland Correctional Institute for Women
 - i. Developing a pre-apprenticeship programs for women in hospitality.
 - v. Fostering Employment Activities
 - Foster Youth & Unaccompanied Homeless Youth
 - Focused on Apprenticeships
 - Incentivize employers

- e. **Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Strategy** – Heather Sheridan, Associate Director, Homelessness initiatives, DHCD
 DHCD/ ICH Housing Goals:
 1. Increasing housing options for approx. 5,000 chronic homeless, youth & veterans over the next 5 years.
 2. Approximately 3,500 chronic homeless across the state.
 3. Need 900 RRH Placements needed over the next 3 years
 4. Need 2,800 permanent housing placements over the next 5 years

Strategy:

1. New Construction – Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) – Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) set-aside
2. Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) – Dedicating tenant-based vouchers and existing units to the homeless.
3. HUD-Funded PSH – 8500 across the state.
4. Project-Based Contract Admin. (Private Landlords)
 - A. Approx. 20,000 Units statewide .
 - B. Developing relationships with them and CoCs
 - C. Encouraging them to prioritize their recruitment from CoC
5. Other DHCD Programs
 - A. Weinberg
 - B. 811
 - C. STHFG Program – Just increased by \$1 million
6. Conversion of existing transitional housing into PSH
7. Meetings happening with the 17 other housing authorities statewide

f. Assistance in Community Integration (ACIS) Pilot – Overview of pilot, benefits and application process available here: <https://mmcp.health.maryland.gov/Pages/Assistance-in-Community-Integration-Services-Pilot.aspx>

To support the pilot, DHCD outreached HUD to request additional vouchers for the 300 in the first cohort of the pilot.

- HUD will be releasing a new notice of funding for an additional 15-18,000 vouchers nationwide in the summer of 2019.

III. Transition of ICH Chair & Closing Remarks

a. New ICH Chair: Carol Beatty, Secretary of the Department of Disabilities

- Introduced new staff: Chelsea Hayman
- Carol thanked Sect. Holt for his leadership being such an advocate for this issue
- Carol also thanked Heather for her assistance during the transition.
- Bio:
 1. Appointed Secretary in 2015
 2. Prior to that her career was in community services for people with developmental disabilities (for ~40yrs).
 3. Excited to advocate for them on a state & national level.
 4. Served on the Local Children’s Board & the Commission on Disabilities in Howard County

IV. Review and Discussion of the 2018 Annual Report on Homelessness

- Feedback collected from ICH Members
 1. Motion to approve the Report, subject to the corrections. Updates mentioned.
 - a. Seconded and approved.
 - b. No Objections

V. Member announcements and Upcoming Events:

- MD Youth Homeless Symposium – May 1-2 in Annapolis
 1. 200 Slots; Waitlist
- Maryland Community Action Partnership (MCAP) Conference – May7-9 in Towson

- Annual Walk – Mental Health Awareness - Saturday, June 1
Natl. Alliance for Mental Health – POC: Kim Fairholt
- Monthly Welfare Advocates Meeting - 228 W. Lexington St, Baltimore, MD –
10:15AM
- United Way:
 1. Annual Baltimore Emergency Dental Clinic
 2. Dental Health is a huge need in the homeless population
 3. “NO Questions asked” Dentistry
 4. 700 Patient encounters; 1700 procedures
 5. Working on a dentures clinic.

ICH Members in attendance (14):

Amanda Harris

Bonnie Ariano

Bridget Patton

(Chair) Carol Beatty

Christina Drushel-Williams

Erin Roth

Heather Sheridan

Secretary Kenneth Holt

Lisa Klingenmaier

Dr. Olubukola Alonge

Shannon Snow

Carol Gilbert

Patricia Flanigan

Valerie Ashton-Thomas

ICH Members that sent a representative (2): Sandy Monck, Terry Hickey

ICH members not in attendance (5): *Carrie DiSimone, Dana Burl, Kristina Donnelly, Leslie Dews
Kevin Lindamood*