



Maryland Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH) May 2026 Meeting Agenda

Thursday, May 28, 2026, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Annapolis Historic Post Office Building

1 Church Cir, Annapolis, MD 21411

Format: In person only

1. Welcome and Introductions, Secretary Jake Day

- Secretary Day welcomed ICH members and guests
- Introduction of new DHCD staff who will be supporting ICH and interagency collaboration
 - Deputy Director of the Division of Homeless Solutions, Gina Rendina (she/her)
 - State System Improvement Director, Jaye Summerlot (they/them)
- ICH members and staff introduced themselves and their agency

2. Vote to Approve the January 2026 Meeting Minutes, Secretary Day

A motion was made; motion seconded; All in favor

Motion passed: No issues or changes reported to the January 2026 meeting minutes.

3. DHCD Program Updates

A. Maryland Balance of State CoC Expansion – Assistant Secretary Danielle Meister

- In 2020, 16 CoCs across the state created the Balance of State (BoS); Both rural and suburban counties joined and DHCD was selected as the lead agency. The following tasks are typical of a lead agency:
 - Apply for federal funding,
 - HMIS management,
 - Coordinated entry planning,
 - Training and technical assistance.
- The lower shore CoC joined the BoS in April after HUD approval, and Mid Shore has expressed interest and may join later this year.
 - The merger process takes approximately a year, and we will continue to share updates.

B. Community Schools Rental Assistance Program (CSRAP) Update - LaToya Arnold-Artis

- CSRAP awarded \$10 million to 6 grantees across 8 jurisdictions. Communities were selected based on the number of community schools, students who meet the definition of homelessness, and other criteria. CSRAP did not cover case management in cycle 1. CSRAP resources did not match the need; Demand was for \$31 million in the first two months.



- FY27 CSRAP received a \$6 mil increase
- DHCD will be taking a closer look at data and refining for cycle 2, including looking at employment and veteran data. CSRAP data collection was aligned with ERAP. Data suggests
- that there is a high correlation between age and housing instability. In homeless data: Families with children under 5 and young parents have the highest risk of homelessness. The Maryland Veterans Trust Fund provides financial and rental/mortgage assistance to veterans and families in need and can help refine questions in the CSRAP application to better target and assist veterans.
- The Philanthropic community is very interested in this program and could provide an opportunity to support case management.
- Key takeaway: supply will not meet demand
 - We must be thinking of the channel of access and how to concentrate other resources through the schools, including working with sister agencies

C. Supportive Housing - LIHTC & New FY27 Funding for PSH – Assistant Secretary Danielle Meister

- The LIHTC competition is open now for this year. We are anticipating another round of awards in 2025. To end chronic homelessness by 2035, we need to create 500-600 units every year for 10 years. This is the first time we have created a PSH plan for the state; the goal is to build a sustainable, systemic PSH plan.

D. Supportive Housing - Medicaid 1115 ACIS Program Expansion Update - Claire Gregory, MDH

- MDH was allocated 2,140 spaces by CMS in January 2025 and conducted a Solicitation Process to award the remaining 1,520 spaces to current and new ACIS Lead Entities.
 - 1,690 awarded across the state as of May 2026
 - 5 new ACIS Lead Entities
 - Carroll, Calvert, Harford, Howard, and Garrett County
 - Awardees are a combination of LHDs and a local DHCD
- Right now, the focus is on outreach and engagement with current providers; the focus in the fall will be compliance. This funding is set to expire at the end of this year; MD has applied for a 5-year renewal but has not received approval yet.
 - If not approved at the federal level, there is an opportunity to still fund the program at the state level.

E. Supportive Housing - Capacity-Building Partnership - Jillian Fox, Corporation for Supportive Housing

- CSH collaborates to advance solutions that use housing as a platform for services to improve the lives of the most vulnerable people, maximize public resources and build healthy communities.
 - Their shared goal is to ensure Maryland has a strong, well-coordinated system of Supportive Housing that meets the needs of people with disabilities, experiencing or at risk of long-term homelessness and institutionalization.
 - Launch of Maryland Association for Supportive Housing (MASH) Coalition
 - (1) Ensuring we see investments to see quality supportive housing across the state.
 - (2) CSH is in the process of ensuring that everyone is at the table at the scale that is necessary.
 - (3) Building a policy agenda



- (4) Series of working group calls- for service providers, landlords, developers, and hearing from different sectors about the challenges, needs, etc.
- (5) Meetings are on Thursdays.
- Inaugural Maryland Supportive Housing Summit, October 12th and 13th in Baltimore. Registration is LIVE.
- New Summer webinar series runs May 27 – September 16.

F. Youth Homeless Systems Improvement Strategy Convening, June 14th - 15th - Amy Louttit

- **Purpose:** A planning summit with expert facilitation bringing together youth, state partners, and system leaders to engage in the strategic planning process to establish a Statewide Strategic Plan for preventing and addressing youth homelessness in Maryland.
 - Attendees will be equipped with a better understanding of youth homelessness in Maryland and the experiences of young people interacting with youth-serving human service agencies.
- **Stakeholders:**
 - Maryland Youth Homelessness Coalition (MYHC) members (youth representatives across Maryland CoCs with lived experience)
 - State agency representation from DHS, MSDE, MHEC, Labor, DJS, DPSCS
 - Continuum of Care leads and Host Agencies responsible for supporting the Youth Action Board members locally
 - Advocates and other youth service providers based in Maryland

4. Federal Updates, Assistant Secretary Danielle Meister

- **2025 CoC NOFO Update and Forecast for 2026 NOFO**
 - The court blocked the December 2025 NOFO with a preliminary injunction and required HUD to renew awards under the 2024-2025 NOFO. HUD initially appealed, then retracted.
 - The court is requiring HUD to file weekly status updates due to their slow rollout of awards - as of 5/26:
 - Q1 awards - All award letters sent, 88% of grant agreements issued
 - Q2 awards - All award letters sent, 25% of grant agreements issued
 - Q3 and Q4 awards - No award letters sent, no grant agreements issued
- **Recent HUD Proposed Rules & Housing Counseling Changes**
 - DHCD & OAG submitted comments on three proposed rules in April around work requirements and time limits, mixed-status family eligibility, and eviction policy changes.
- **FFY2027 Skinny Budget Proposals**
 - Proposes to defund the CoC program entirely and move an equivalent amount of funding to the ESG program.
 - Funding would not go to CoCs directly - only to state or entitlement jurisdiction.
 - Eliminates all permanent supportive housing funding and transitional housing funding.
 - Eliminates HMIS Lead funding for rural CoCs (only the state would be eligible).



5. FY26 Legislative Updates

A. DHCD Legislative Updates - Secretary Day

- The Governor signed SB937: Fair Chance in Housing Act:
 - Establishes new limits on using criminal histories in applications for rental housing screenings for landlords with 5+ rental units
 - Establishes a process of making conditional offers before conducting criminal history screenings, withdrawing conditional offers, and reassessing applicants who submit additional mitigating information
 - Criminal background screenings must be done for all tenants or no tenants.
 - Prohibits drug and alcohol testing for prospective tenants
 - Prohibits advertisements that refuse to consider a tenant with an arrest or conviction
 - Does not apply to owner-occupied rental units
 - \$500 civil penalty for every violation
- OTLA is required to produce forms landlords must use to navigate this process. Regulations and in-depth training are coming.

B. Renter Rights Legislation - Alyce Thompson

- Alyse provided updates on SB12: Air Conditioning Requirements, SB130: Individual Water Submeters, and SB335: Income-based housing subsidies and positive rental history reporting.
- OTLA updates include the following:
 - Updating the Tenants Bill of Rights to reflect new legal requirements. Publication slated for 10/1/2026.
 - Access to Counsel in Evictions (ACE) funding moved to OTLA from the Office of the Attorney General
 - (1) 19M in funding provided to Maryland Legal Services Corporation, 15M slated for eviction defense across the state for households making less than 50% of the state's median income
 - (2) OTLA supports the Access to Counsel in Evictions Task Force, which evaluates the ACE program and makes recommendations for improvement.
 - Kicking off an update to the Eviction Dashboard
 - (1) Updates to reflect new Judiciary data being shared with DHCD
 - (2) Seeking stakeholder input on how your organizations can use eviction data to inform your policies, practices, and programming. What data do you wish we had that we don't currently collect and share?

6. ICH Strategic Planning Process, Danielle Meister

The Maryland Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH) Strategic Plan will establish a coordinated, statewide framework to prevent and end homelessness through cross-agency collaboration, data-driven planning, and community-informed policy development. The strategic planning process will engage state agencies, Continuums of Care (CoCs), local governments, service providers, advocates, people with lived expertise, housing partners, healthcare systems, philanthropy, and other stakeholders to create a comprehensive, actionable, and measurable plan.

- The strategic planning process will result in five major deliverables:



- Five-Year Maryland ICH Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness
- Statewide Philanthropy and Government Funding Scan
- Shelter and Housing Inventory Gaps Analysis with Cost Estimates
- DHCD Internal Operations Plan to Implement the ICH Strategic Plan
- FY2026 Annual Report on the State of Homelessness with Policy Recommendations.

7. Longevity Ready Maryland & ICH Shared Goals Izzy Shycoff, MDOA

- The LRM Plan is a ten-year multisector plan for aging to address the challenges and maximize the benefits and opportunities of an aging society. Demographics are changing: 1 in 4 people in MD is over age 60. Goals include the following:
 - Establish LRM in the permanent, broader work of the Maryland Department of Aging
 - Expand the role of the Maryland Commission on Aging to become the LRM Implementation Advisory Group.
 - Require comprehensive updates to LRM every four years, accompanied by annual progress reports.
- Our request: Incorporate a longevity lens into your strategic planning; we must anticipate an aging demographic:
 - Cross-sector coordination
 - Prevention

6. Other ICH Member Updates and Initiatives

- No updates to report

7. Public Comment

- No other comments

8. Adjourned 12:10 pm