



Maryland Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH)

August 2025 Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 28, 2025

[Zoom](#)

1. Welcome and Introductions

Assistant Secretary Danielle Meister, DHCD

2. Vote to Approve the April 2025 Meeting Minutes

Assistant Secretary Danielle Meister, DHCD

- April 2025 Meeting Minutes were unanimously approved

3. Interagency Collaboration Updates

1. PSH Strategy

Assistant Secretary Danielle Meister, DHCD

- Danielle presented on permanent supportive housing (PSH) initiatives, highlighting that DHCD historically hasn't prioritized funding for homeless households but is now implementing new strategies. She explained that approximately 3,000 people in the state experience chronic homelessness, with older adults and families with children being two subpopulations that are increasing.
- The Governor's Moore Miller State Plan aims to end chronic homelessness by 2035, requiring 500-600 units annually. Danielle detailed the funding model for PSH, which involves leveraging low-income housing tax credits, Medicaid funding for supportive services, and additional subsidies for extremely low-income tenants. She also outlined plans for a streamlined referral process through continuums of care and discussed the distinction between PSH units (which come with intensive services) and homeless preference units (which provide a waitlist preference but no guaranteed services).

2. Statewide Housing Voucher Programs (SVP)

Chelsea Haymon, DHCD

- The meeting discussed the Statewide Housing Voucher Program, a new initiative providing 5 years of state-funded voucher assistance to low-income families on the housing choice voucher waitlist. Chelsea Haymon, deputy director of Special Population Programs at DHCD, explained the program's purpose, eligibility requirements, and funding details.
- The program is available to all Maryland PHAs, with 6 currently participating and 6 more expected to join in FY26. Priority groups include households with children, foster children, military veterans, homeless individuals, disabled individuals, and elderly individuals. The program is funded through general funds and covers state fiscal years 2025-2027, with additional revenue from the evictions filing fee fund starting in FY26.

3. Medicaid 1115 Waiver Expansion - ACIS

Claire Gregory and Sania Rahman, MDH

- Claire and Sania presented on Maryland Medicaid's Assistance and Community Integration Services (ACIS) program, which began in 2017 under a 1115 Waiver to provide housing and tenancy-based case management services for Medicaid participants experiencing housing insecurity. The program initially served 300 participants across four jurisdictions (Baltimore City, Cecil County, Montgomery County, and Prince George's County) with local health departments acting as lead entities. The program showed positive results including a 37% decline in emergency department visits and 70% of participants obtaining stable housing, leading to its expansion into a more sustainable Medicaid benefit.
- Claire presented updates on the ACIS benefit expansion, highlighting key changes including the transition to departmental claiming through MMIS, elimination of local match requirements, and establishment of a standard rate of \$725 per member per month for housing and tenancy-based case management services. The program is currently authorized until December 31, 2026, with an extension application due in September for a five-year period. The department is working on updating provider websites, publishing a program manual, and developing a new request for application form by winter 2025 to accommodate increased participant spaces and new jurisdictions.
- Claire and Danielle discussed the reentry program, explaining that individuals eligible for Medicaid while incarcerated can participate in ASIS pre-release, but post-release on Medicaid.

4. HUD Older Adult Home Modification Program

Angela Fraser, DHCD

- Angela presented on the Older Adult Home Modification Program (OAHMP), a \$1.25 million, 3-year pilot providing low-cost, high-impact home modifications to help older adults remain in their homes safely.
- OAHMP is complimented by a \$600,000 THOME Enterprise grant, which will support home modification work that is not covered by OAHMP, and evaluation that assesses program design and client outcomes (i.e., housing stability and housing quality, ability to perform Activities of Daily Living (ADLs), reduced risk of falls, greater physical mobility, etc.) to make the case for additional investment in home modification services.

5. Community Schools Rental Assistance Program

LaToya Arnold-Artis, DHCD

- LaToya outlined the Community Schools Rental Assistance Program, which provides emergency rental assistance to eligible student households experiencing housing instability or homelessness in priority jurisdictions. The program is set to launch in September.

6. Community Schools Pilot

Amy Louttit, DHCD

- Amy presented on the Community Schools Pilot, which is starting in September 2025 in four community schools in Frederick and Washington County. The pilot will work to provide training to community school staff on housing and McKinney Vento resources, and streamline referrals for housing and supportive services, with four participating schools and ongoing collaboration with community partners.

7. Youth Homelessness Systems Improvement Grant,

Amy Louttit, DHCD

- The YHSI project, led by Amy Louttit, includes developing a roadmap for youth homelessness services with interagency buy-in, establishing a Youth Action Board, and coordinating with various stakeholders. ICH members and guests are invited to join YHSI staff, CoC YABs and other partner staff at the [National Symposium on Solutions to End Youth Homelessness](#) in Baltimore on October 7th and 8th, and can use the code **Maryland100** to register free of charge.

8. Maryland Statewide Homelessness Data Warehouse

Suzanne Korff, DHCD

- Suzanne provided updates on the statewide homeless services data warehouse, which is nearing completion with data sharing agreements from nine out of ten Maryland continuums of care, and emerging research partnerships with other state agencies and partner institutions.

4. Office of Tenant and Landlord Affairs Presentation

Alyce Thompson, DHCD

- Alyce, the new director of the Office of Tenant and Landlord Affairs, presented an overview of the office's functions, including educating tenants on their rights, coordinating with enforcement authorities, and administering the Tenant Bill of Rights. She highlighted the office's priorities, such as building infrastructure to handle high-volume requests, relationship building with stakeholders, and analyzing eviction data to identify hotspots. Alyce also discussed the upcoming updates to the Tenant Bill of Rights and the impact of increased eviction filing fees on reducing evictions, particularly for failure to pay rent.

5. Federal & State Updates

Danielle Meister, DHCD

- The meeting focused on federal updates, particularly concerning the expiration of emergency housing vouchers and HIV/AIDS funding in rural areas by June 2026, which will affect 668 (EHV) and 40 (HOPWA) households, respectively.
- Danielle confirmed that new HUD terms and conditions potentially requiring immigration status checks are currently stayed until September 10 due to a multi-state lawsuit.

6. ICH Member/Agency Updates and Initiatives

Danielle Meister, DHCD

7. Public Comment

Danielle Meister, DHCD

- The group discussed the need for more frequent meetings than the current quarterly schedule, with agreement to potentially meet every other month or monthly, and DHCD offered to send out meeting slides and collect member updates. The meeting covered positive updates and initiatives, including a new partnership between organizations, and Tony inquired about using HUD funds for travel to a youth homelessness conference in Baltimore, which was confirmed as eligible for funding. The conversation ended with participants agreeing to maintain communication through email and coordinate future in-person meetings.

8. Next ICH Meeting: October 21 - 10 AM-12 PM (Location TBC)

9. Adjournment