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 $1 million 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

   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

   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 – May 7-9 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