Maryland
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Maryland
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The Maryland Interagency Council on Homelessness
The Maryland Homelessness and Workforce Systems Symposium
Connecting Systems for Better Service

SYMPOSIUM AGENDA

8:15-9:00am   **Registration**

9:00-9:15am   **Opening Remarks**
Secretary Carol Beatty, Maryland Department of Disabilities

9:15-9:30am   **Plenary**
Peggy Bailey, Vice President for Housing and Income Security, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities

9:30-10:15am   **Lived Experience Panel and Q&A**
Moderator: Peggy Bailey, Vice President for Housing and Income Security, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities
Panelists: Kalem Umrani; George Wagner; Sharon Patrick; Camiera Turner; Isaih Green

10:15-10:45am   **Small Group Discussion & Report Outs**
Danielle Meister, Director, Office of Community Services Programs, Division of Neighborhood Revitalization, Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development

10:45-11:00am   **BREAK**

11:00-12:15pm   **Cross Learning**

Track 1 - Workforce Development for Homeless Service Providers
Neishall Schuyler, WIOA Operations Manager, Baltimore County Department of Economic and Workforce Development; Erin Roth, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Maryland Department of Labor, Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning; Dylan McDonough, Policy Analyst, Maryland Department of Labor, Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning

Workforce Development for Homeless Service Providers session will provide general information for staff working in homeless services about Maryland's workforce system. Topics will range from standard eligibility requirements for basic services, specific workforce programs that may be well suited for individuals experiencing homelessness, and ideas for how to shrink the service gap for people trying to access resources. The goal is for attendees in the session to leave feeling confident in how to best refer their customers to workforce services, as well as ideas for how to improve those referrals.

Track 2 - Homelessness Services for Workforce Development Providers
Danielle Meister, Director, Office of Community Services, Division of Neighborhood Revitalization, Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development; Becky Burrow, Continuum of Care System Performance Coordinator, Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development; Suzanne Korff, Senior Policy Officer for Homelessness, Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development

"How can I find a job without housing if I can't find housing without a job?" This track is intended to be a crash course in homelessness and its solutions, both as experienced by the client, as well as how it has been defined and managed within the interconnected web of systems across the state. We will provide an overview of the homeless services system through the intersection of the statutes, regulations, histories, and economics that form its ecosystem, and how those factors help and harm individuals experiencing homelessness and joblessness. Hopefully together we can start to bridge the gap between employment and housing.

12:15 -1:30pm   **Lunch with the Secretaries**
Moderator: Delegate Brooke Grossman
Panelists: Secretary Jake Day, Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development; Secretary Portia Wu, Maryland Department of Labor

Partnership between workforce and housing is key to the success of supporting homeless job seekers in their employment journeys. During this session, you'll have a chance to hear from two members of Governor Wes Moore's cabinet-- Secretary Jake Day of the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) and Secretary Portia Wu of the Maryland Department of Labor (MD Labor). Through a discussion facilitated by Delegate Brooke Grossman, learn about the vision of the Secretaries and hear their thoughts on questions from the field.

1:30 -2:30 pm   **Workforce Solutions to Address Homelessness (WS2AH) Panel**
Moderator: Casey Tiefenwerth, Special Grants Program Manager, Maryland Department of Labor, Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning
Panelists: *Sandy Washington, CEO, LifeStyles of Maryland, Inc.; Adam Sewell, Director of Workforce and Human Services, Horizon Goodwill Industries; Neishall Schuyler, WIOA Operations Manager, Baltimore County Department of Economic and Workforce Development; Courtney Thomas-Winterberg, Director, Allegany County Department of Social Services; Mike Palumbo, Workforce Development and Strategic Planning Advisory, Maryland Center for Veterans Education and Training*

Based upon recommendations from the Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH) and in partnership with the Department of Housing and Community Development, MD Labor released the Workforce Solutions to Address Homelessness (WSAH) Competitive Grant Solicitation in February of 2022. This initiative seeks to establish partnerships across systems to align and coordinate the delivery of employment and related services to individuals at-risk-of or currently experiencing homelessness. Selected grantees, who hail from nearly all corners of the state, have implemented best practices identified by the ICH to support jobseekers experiencing homelessness through connections to training and employment opportunities that lead to economic security and family-sustaining wages. During this session, attendees will hear from WSAH awardees about what they have learned so far and their vision for further systems integration.

2:30 -2:45 pm   **BREAK**

2:45-4:15 pm   **Regional Strategic Planning - Localized Networking Activity**
Kristen Patterson, Disability and Youth Services, Coordinator, Maryland Department of Labor, Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning

This session is intended to capitalize on the learnings gleaned throughout the day by bringing together stakeholders from both systems to work collaboratively. By the end of this session, attendees will be able to identify members from the homeless services and

workforce system in their community and the bevy of resources that are available to shared participants. Attendees will be tasked with beginning to formulate strategies to strengthen the bridge between the two systems within their respective region.

4:15 pm   **Closing**
Erin Roth, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Maryland Department of Labor, Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning