



Maryland

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Kenneth C. Holt, Secretary

Maryland's Interagency Council on Homelessness

November 15th, 2019
Maryland Department of
Transportation, Hanover



AGENDA

I. Welcome

II. New Business

- a. BHA Housing and Recovery Supports**
- b. Lived Experience Representation Workgroup**
- c. Open board position**
- d. 2019 ICH Policy Recommendations**

III. Department and Member Updates

- a. YHDP & Workgroup to Study Shelter for Minors**
- b. Accessibility Assessment of Shelter Services**

IV. Work Group Updates and Announcements

V. Administrative Updates & Announcements

WELCOME

Member Introductions
Approval of September 2019 Meeting Minutes
Review Agenda

Secretary Carol Beatty
ICH Chair, Maryland Department of Disabilities

Behavioral Health Administration Housing and Recovery Supports

Priya Arokiaswamy

Assistant Director, Evidence Based Practices,
Housing and Recovery Supports, Behavioral Health
Administration

Lived Experience Representation Workgroup

Kate Farinholt,
Executive Director, NAMI Maryland

Open Board Position

Secretary Carol Beatty,
Maryland Department of Disabilities

2019 Policy Recommendations

Suzanne Korff,

Program Officer, Homelessness Solutions, DHCD



Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project Awards

Stuart Campbell,

Director, Community Services Programs, DHCD

In September 2019, two Maryland CoCs, Baltimore City and Prince George's County, were awarded HUD grants for Youth Homelessness Demonstration Projects (YHDP):

- \$3.7 million to Baltimore City
- \$3.48 million to Prince George's County.

The YHDP projects are in the planning stage in 2019, and will launch in 2020.

Workgroup to Study Shelter and Supportive Services for Minor Youth

Stuart Campbell,

Director, Community Services Programs, DHCD



WORKGROUP OBJECTIVES

Chapter 533 of 2019 requires the Workgroup to Study and Shelter and Supportive Services to make recommendations on:

- Legislation, regulations and policy initiatives to address the needs of unaccompanied homeless minors in the state;
- Funding requirements and budgetary priorities to address the needs of unaccompanied homeless minors in the state; and
- Any other relevant issues or considerations identified by the workgroup.

LEGISLATION, REGULATIONS AND POLICY INITIATIVES

- ***Minor's Right to Consent to Housing and Shelter Services.*** Workgroup members expressed interest in proposing legislation that would give minors under the age of 18 the right to consent to housing and shelter services.
- ***Minor's right to consent to Health Care.*** Members of the workgroup expressed interest in removing the condition that minor's be self-supporting from the statute.
- ***Age minimum/range of minors allowed to consent to shelter services.*** Workgroup members discussed the possibility of a minimum age for minors to be able to consent to shelter services.

LEGISLATION, REGULATIONS AND POLICY INITIATIVES

- ***Licensing or monitoring requirements for shelters serving minors.*** Members discussed the need for providers to have licensing or monitoring requirements to maintain the safety and security of minors receiving housing services.
- ***Local Department of Social Services (LDSS) reporting guidelines.*** The workgroup may consider certain circumstances when shelter and housing service providers should be required to notify LDSS about an unaccompanied homeless minor and how LDSS staff are required or expected to respond.
- ***Codifying a host home model for services.*** The workgroup may discuss whether it recommends creating a State host home program or model for unaccompanied homeless minors based on the CARE program.

FUNDING REQUIREMENTS AND BUDGETARY PRIORITIES

- ***Increased funding for the Ending Youth Homelessness Grant Fund.*** The workgroup may recommend legislation mandating the governor to include funding for youth homelessness in the annual allowance.

OTHER RELEVANT ISSUES

- ***Required or recommended services offered to minors.*** The workgroup may also consider preferred or required training for providers serving youth and aftercare services or case management for youth after they leave a provider's shelter services.

Accessibility Assessment of Shelter Services

Chelsea Hayman, Director of Housing Policy and Programs,
Maryland Department of Disabilities

Joy Toliver,
Minority Health and Health Disparities,
Maryland Department of Health

Goal & Methods

Goal

The goal of this project is to identify gaps in emergency shelter accessibility, reasonable accommodation practices, and services that address the unique needs of older adults and adults with disabilities who are experiencing homelessness.

Methods

A survey will be developed to evaluate four Baltimore City shelters' current physical features, accessibility features, shelter policies and procedures related to reasonable accommodations, facility modifications, and services that address the special needs of older adults and adults with disabilities who are experiencing homelessness.

A review and analysis of current research related to aging and homelessness will be used to produce a comprehensive report that will provide a deeper understanding of the public health issue of aging and homelessness. Focus areas of the research report are listed below and will provide relevant knowledge on the topic to enhance and quality of the project and recommendations.

Focus areas include:




- Statistics and estimated prevalence of older adults experiencing homelessness in the United States.
- Demographics, including racial and ethnic disparities, in older adults experiencing homelessness in the United States.
- Health disparities of older adults experiencing homelessness.
- Special needs of older adults and adults with disabilities who are experiencing homelessness.
- Policy recommendations that address homeless shelter accessibility features, reasonable accommodation policies, and services that are essential for older adults and adults with disabilities who are experiencing homelessness.

Homeless Shelter Survey

Homeless Shelter Survey
Accessibility and Accommodations For Older Adults and Adults with Disabilities

Survey Process

Tools Needed

A metal tape measure that is at least 20 feet long.  A digital level or bubble level that is 24 inches long.  One copy of the survey for each shelter, a clipboard, and pen. 

Survey Information

Shelter Name	Surveyor Name
Shelter Address	Telephone Number
City, State	Survey Date/s
Telephone Number	Date the Building was Built
Shelter Representative	Date/s of Renovations, if any.

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The survey was developed in partnership with the *Maryland Department of Disabilities*.

- Physical features being assessed includes accessible routes, signage, ramps, hallways and corridors, restrooms, showers, laundry facilities, and sleeping areas.
- ADA standard measurement items were incorporated referencing the [Americans with Disabilities Act Checklist for Emergency Shelters](#) and the [Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity UFAS Accessibility Checklist](#)
- Shelter policies, services, and reasonable accommodation practices that address the unique needs of older adults and adults with disabilities are also assessed in the survey.

Survey assessments were coordinated in partnership with the Baltimore *Mayor's Office of Homeless Services* at four key emergency shelters.

- Weinberg Housing and Resource Center
- Monument Street Shelter
- Pinderhughes Shelter
- Sarah's Hope Shelter

Application of Project Results

An analysis of research on aging and homelessness, in addition to the shelter survey data will be used to inform stakeholders and develop recommendations for policies and programs aimed to meet the unique needs of older adults and adults with disabilities who are experiencing homelessness in Baltimore City.

This project serves as a baseline for future interns to continue efforts in addressing disparities in homelessness, the revitalization of the emergency shelter system, and the advocacy for policies and programs that prevent homelessness.

WORKGROUP UPDATES

Health and Homelessness

Dr. Olubukola Alonge,

Program Administrative Specialist

Minority Health and Health Disparities, Department of Health

Unaccompanied Homeless Youth

Christina Drushel-Williams,

Senior Policy Analyst, Governor's Office for Children

Workforce

Erin Roth

Deputy Assistant Secretary

Division of Workforce Development and Adult Learning, Department of Labor

Administrative Updates & Announcements

– Member announcements and updates

- Annual Report on Homelessness – Suzanne Korff, DHCD

– Next Meeting Date:

- February 6, 2020, 10AM-12PM, Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development, 7800 Harkins Road, Lanham, MD 20706

– Other Meetings & Announcements

- December 5, 2019, Minority Health and Health Disparities Annual Health Equity Conference