



Maryland Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH) July 2022 Meeting Agenda

Thursday, July 14 · 1:00 – 3:00pm
Virtual Meeting

ICH Members: All ICH members have the ability to mute and unmute themselves at any time during the meeting. Please mute phones and/or computer speaker at entry to limit background noise.

Members of the Public: Members of the public are welcome to join the meeting and will be automatically muted at entry. Please note that public participants should reserve all questions or comments until the designated time at the end of the meeting. To make a public comment at that time, you may select “raise hand.” ICH staff will acknowledge each public commenter in the order hands were raised. Alternatively, questions/comments may be entered into the chat or Q&A boxes during the public comment time on the agenda.

I. Welcome - Secretary Beatty, MDOD

- Meeting agenda was approved without amendments
- Motions were solicited and accepted to vote on approval of the February 2022 meeting minutes. Minutes were approved without amendments by a majority vote of council members.
- Council members and staff representatives introduced themselves

II. Homeless Services Funding Updates & New Opportunities – Danielle Meister & Suzanne Korff, DHCD

- Homelessness Solutions Program
 - Budget increased by \$5 million for State Fiscal Year 2023
- ESG-CV
 - Grants were extended by HUD through September 30, 2023 with the potential to receive additional funds through reallocation. No HUD notifications have been received yet, DHCD may also make internal reallocations to best utilize funding statewide.
- FEMA Non-Congregate Shelter Funding
 - Program ended June 2022. CoCs are primarily relying on ESG-CV, HSP, and local funding to fill gaps. Additionally, many shelters are returning to congregate living now that vaccines and testing are readily available and CDC guidance regarding masking, quarantine, and isolation are being eased.
- Maryland Medicaid 1115 Waiver - ACIS Pilot
 - This pilot program provides Medicaid funding for housing-based case management to several counties and local governments throughout the State. Local governments provide a 50% match and are able to draw down the other 50% from Medicaid once services are rendered. The pilot

was increased to 900 slots in the most recent plan approved. Jurisdictions are able to apply for waiver slots on a rolling basis.

- HUD Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Opportunity (CoC NOFO)
 - HUD will hold two concurrent NOFO funding competitions for Continuums of Care this Summer – the regular NOFO and a Supplemental To Address Unsheltered And Rural Homelessness ([Special NOFO](#)). The Special NOFO allows for CoCs to apply for two buckets of funding:
 - Unsheltered – All CoCs are eligible to apply, and communities with the highest rates of unsheltered homelessness are most competitive (bonus points are awarded for CoCs with over 10,000 unsheltered people as of their last Point-in-Time Count)..
 - Rural – Areas designated as rural by HUD may apply for funding. In Maryland, eligible counties include Garrett in the Balance of State CoC and Caroline, Dorchester, Kent, and Talbot in the Mid-Shore CoC
- HOME-ARP
 - Allocated to State and HUD entitlement jurisdictions via the American Rescue Plan Act. Recipients can use funding to provide tenant-based rental assistance, develop new affordable rental housing, and provide supportive services. The period of performance for HOME-ARP grants ends on September 30, 2030. DHCD and entitlement jurisdictions are currently conducting consultations to seek input on funding priorities and projects, and will be drafting allocation plans for submission to HUD later this year. Project selection process will begin after HUD accepts the allocation plan.
- Increase in HUD Operating Budget
 - Mainstream vouchers - [non-competitive opportunity for additional vouchers and additional administrative resources](#).
 - Less funding for Section 811 in HUD budget, potentially to offset increase in 2022
 - [HUD Budget Chart](#): President's Budget for 811: \$288 million; House Budget for 811: \$400 million. Modest increases to the original budget. FY22 budget \$352 million
- Engaging people with lived experience of homelessness
 - New Balance of State CoC policy requires people with lived experience to be compensated for their time spent on CoC board activities, committee work, and participating in local planning efforts, using the [NLIHC Housing Wage](#) for the county they reside in.
 - DHCD encouraged all CoCs to include funding in their annual HSP grant budget specifically for stipends/pay for representatives with lived experience.
 - HUD TA will be convening monthly action sessions on engaging and funding stipends for representatives with lived experience.
 - The ICH is seeking to reconvene its lived experience workgroup in coming months. State regulations governing the ICH continue to prohibit payment to ICH members for their service, which presents a barrier.

III. ICH Committee and Member Agency Updates

- ICH Workforce Workgroup – Casey Tiefenwerth, DOL
 - Workforce Development for Homeless Jobseekers RFP - 10 applications currently with review teams, teams plan to meet in mid-August to make award recommendations.
 - Education awareness campaign - breakdown silos between workforce providers and homeless service providers. Includes planning a conference/in-person collaborative learning opportunity

between homeless and workforce systems

- Youth and Young Adult Workgroup – Christina Drushell-Williams, GOCCP
 - Children’s Cabinet Interagency Fund provides funding for each jurisdiction’s Local Management Board. Local Management Boards (LMBs) have applied for and received funding for youth and young adults experiencing homelessness
 - Governor’s Budget included \$3 million increase to LMBs
 - Interested in identifying a co-chair of youth and young adults workgroup
 - GOCCP Agency also provides funding to Children and Young Adults Task Force.
 - [Children’s Justice Act Committee recruitment](#)
 - [Commission on Trauma-Informed Care](#) - Trauma-informed State Government System - Meetings open to the public
- Veterans – Dana Burl, MDVA
 - Maryland Veterans Trust Fund - this fund has been established to assist veterans and widows/widowers who are experiencing temporary financial assistance. Help with back rent and mortgage payments as well as with utilities. There is a record balance in this fund and therefore are able to help more veterans in need. Learn more here: <https://veterans.maryland.gov/maryland-department-of-veterans-affairs-veterans-trust-fund/>
 - Suicide prevention for veterans – MDVA will lead suicide prevention training for homeless programs in partnership with DHCD
- Harford County Community Action Agency/Balance of State CoC Liaison to ICH - Brian Wainwright
 - Working locally in Harford to establish a grassroots vocational network. Collaboration will identify a household with employment barriers, link them with training at the college, and legal assistance for expungement if appropriate/feasible. Employers willing to hire if participants meet qualifications.
 - Members discussed the supporting recovery through employment initiative at DOL and upcoming workforce development for homeless jobseekers RFP as opportunities for Harford to engage in

IV. SFY2022 State Legislative Session Summary

- Reviewed status of legislation introduced in session– please see summaries and links in meeting slides
 - Sealing of Court Records for tenants who did not have a judgment of possession in favor of the landlord.
 - Access to Counsel initiative - funding for legal support
 - Right of Redemption - tenant has the right to pay fees and remain in the unit. Check provided by a political unit or government agency must be accepted.
 - Eviction Data Collection and Reporting - Requires the judiciary to share eviction data on a monthly basis with DHCD, specifically data on warrants of restitution and writ of possession. DHCD is required to publish data dashboard and make data available to universities and government partners for analysis. Goes into effect January 2023.
 - Most legislative policy recommendations from ICH were not introduced
- Other legislative updates from members
 - The bill allowing the court to stay a proceeding about rent if the tenant applied for assistance was vetoed.
 - There were at least two health care bills that are significant. State restored an Adult Dental benefit to Medicaid - scheduled to be implemented January 1, 2023. Legislation passed that provides health coverage during pregnancy and one year after pregnancy regardless of immigration status

V. Homeless Services Framework Review & Discussion for State Fiscal Year 2023

- Due to time restrictions, discussion was tabled to next ICH meeting
- Amanda Harris recommended having separate groups around CoC Capacity-Building (operations/administration) and Housing Development. It would be good to have a group focus on increasing funding for PSH.

VI. Public Comment

- No comment

VII. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 2:58pm.

Future ICH Meeting Schedule:

September 28, 2022 – 1-3pm

December 8, 2022 – 1-3pm