



**Kentucky Housing Corporation
KY Balance of State Continuum of Care – Advisory Board Meeting
10:00 a.m. ET, Thursday, March 21, 2019
KHC – West Annex – 1231 Louisville Rd. Frankfort, KY 40601**

The Kentucky BoS CoC Advisory Board met on March 21, 2019 at Kentucky Housing Corporation in Frankfort, Kentucky. A quorum was present with the following members:

KY BoS CoC Board Members Present and via Webinar

Paul Semisch, Gateway Housing (Region 4, Chairperson)
Marty Jones, Community Action Council of Lexington (Region 6, Vice-Chair)
Caleb Rose, Pennyroyal Center (Region 1)
Cyndee Burton, Matthew 25 (Region 2)
Kristy Dangel, Women’s Crisis Center (Region 3)
Danielle Amrine, Welcome House (Region 3)
Rebekah Stamper, Volunteers of America (Region 4)
Jackie Long, Mountain Comprehensive Care Center (Region 5)
Bailey Richards, Kentucky River Community Care (Region 5)
Sameera Jackson, WellCare (At-Large)
Robin Perkins, KCADV (ex-officio)
Adrienne Bush, HHCK (ex-officio)

KY BoS CoC Board Members Absent

Steve Clark, Heartland Cares (Region 1)
Lydia Jefferson, Kentucky Housing Corporation (At-Large)

Others Present and via Webinar

Kelly Asher, Homeless and Housing Coalition of Kentucky
Andrea Miller, KCADV
Ashley Straka, Gateway Housing
Keith Long, Kentucky River Foothills
Cassie Carter, Homeless and Housing Coalition of Kentucky
Eulene Brock, Lighthouse Safe Haven
Lynn Childers, CARES
Tami Damron, AVOL
Terry Davidson, Clark County Homeless Coalition

Vanessa Davis, Father Bradley
Katie French, KCADV
Paula Howard, Mountain Comprehensive Care Center
Elizabeth LaPash, Welcome House
Beth Lunsford, Safe Harbor
Liz Maratta, Big Sandy Community Action
Tish Shupe, Clark County Community Services
Madison Smith, Brighton Center
Kandice Whitehouse, Elizabeth's Village
Donna Wyatt, Pennyroyal Center
Wendy Smith, Kentucky Housing Corporation
Jennifer Oberlin, Kentucky Housing Corporation
Rosemary Lockett, Kentucky Housing Corporation
Kenzie Strubank, Kentucky Housing Corporation
Ashley VonHatten, Kentucky Housing Corporation
Danielle Humes, Kentucky Housing Corporation
Tisha Callis, Kentucky Housing Corporation
Curtis Stauffer, Kentucky Housing Corporation

Approval of the Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from the January 17, 2019 board meeting was made by Cyndee Burton and seconded by Marty Jones. The motion passed unanimously.

KHC Updates

Curtis Stauffer shared Housing Contract Administration (HCA) reorganization updates with the Board. Kenzie Strubank started her new role with HCA as the Homeless Programs manager. Nicole Howley joined the Data and Reporting Team as a reporting specialist and brings high-level experience with HMIS to the department. Jennifer Oberlin provides technical and quality assurance for CoC and ESG grants. Kathy Lykins continues to provide technical and quality assurance for the HOME program (including HOME TBRA). Johnny Bush was hired as the weatherization assistance and technical administrator, which will increase our administrative capacity for the program. Rita Kirtley continues to focus on CoC grants with the new project specialist (ideally hired by the end of April) to focus on ESG, HOPWA, and TBRA grants.

Curtis reminded the Board this was Rosemary Lockett's last CoC Advisory Board meeting, as she is retiring on April 30, 2019. Information regarding her retirement celebration will be shared with everyone, as it becomes available.

Kenzie stated HCA is working on a contract with the Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH) regarding a Housing First Fidelity training. The training will be geared towards rapid rehousing (RRH) and permanent supportive housing (PSH) providers and will be provided over the course of two days. The training will be offered in both Lexington and Bowling Green in May. These trainings are not mandatory, but housing providers are strongly encouraged to participate. HCA is also working towards a Housing First training targeted towards emergency shelters. Information regarding the training will be shared as soon as it's available.

Family Unification Vouchers

Wendy Smith explained the Family Unification Vouchers and stated KHC applied for 100 Housing Choice Vouchers to assist families with children and transition-age youth and was awarded 74 vouchers. These vouchers can assist two household types (1) families whose lack of adequate housing is the primary factor in the placement of children out of the home or the barrier to returning children to the home and (2) youth 18-24 years of age who left foster care, or will leave foster care within 90 days, and are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. KHC has allocated money to help with security and utility deposits. KHC is launching this in-house, with vouchers available in the 87 counties where KHC administers the Housing Choice Vouchers. Voucher recipients will be identified through referrals from the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS) and must come through the identified personell at CHFS called Gatekeepers. A map of the Gatekeepers' regions and contact information will be posted to all Basecamps.

CoC and ESG

Rosemary provided an update on the 2019 ESG application. In 2017 KHC established a two-year funding cycle through the Annual Action Plan. In 2019 there will be a competitive application. Applicants selected through the 2019 will be eligible for renewal in 2020. The application is under development. KHC has not received the 2019 allocation amount from HUD, but it will likely be similar to the 2018 allocation of approximately \$2.3 million. The goal is to open the application in early April. Information regarding the application will be posted through the eGram.

Rosemary stated on February 6, 2019 HUD made announcements regarding 2018 CoC awards for new projects. KHC was awarded four of the seven new projects applied for through this competition, with both Domestic Violence Bonus (DV Bonus) projects awarded. The 2018 award amount represents an increase of one million dollars with \$869,000 for the two DV bonus projects. Some PSH projects with operating or leasing funds will see an adjustment to these line items, with rental assistance line items adjusted by county based on changes to Fair Market Rents (FMRs). HUD is currently pushing contracts through for the 2018 awards, which is huge progress in the timeframe. KHC will finalize the legal documents and then complete CoC technical submission with agencies that are KHC subrecipients. HUD has indicated through conferences and the 2018 debriefing call with KHC staff that the 2019 NOFA may be released in early May. HUD also listed target priorities through webinars and identified rural homelessness, participation in a Moving On strategy, individual and/or single person homelessness, racial equity and/or disparity, persons with lived experience, and system performance measures as top priorities in either this NOFA or future NOFAs.

Rosemary said another main priority was CoCs pairing RRH enrollment with workforce development program enrollment in order to increase participants' income. KHC is unsure what this pairing would look like and asked for feedback from the Board. Jackie Long stated her Veteran clients are connected with disabled veterans' representatives through the career center and clients are enrolled in at least one service. This includes access to computers, resume assistance, and help with job connections. Adrienne Bush stated it would be helpful to have a meeting with the Workforce Development Cabinet in order to know where the open career centers are located and how to contact persons in each area. A question was raised about how this effort to enroll participants in workforce programs would work with Housing First implementation since services and program participation cannot be required. It was stated that the intent was not to require participants to enroll and participate, but rather to offer automatic enrollment

or at least be more deliberate regarding career services and create an incentive for CoC recipients to take the extra step to help clients get connected to workforce development if they are not doing so already. Cyndee added her clients are connected to vocational rehab centers where their skills are assessed, they can obtain a GED, and they are given options which may lead to employment. Jackie suggested sending out a policy of encouragement to include workforce development enrollment in housing plans and push out locations and contacts of vocational rehab centers and careers centers. She added we should state this information in the local CoC NOFA and include the information we have sent to agencies and are working towards a policy. Marty stated this is in line with systems performance measures, as it also looks at data regarding increases in income. Adrienne mentioned the realistic perspective of this as a medium-term goal and not a short-term goal as it usually takes at least a year for a household to become stabilized. Rosemary said HUD wants to see real steps and processes that are going to lead to success and the more solid evidence the better.

Andrea Miller stated their pairing with Goodwill, as they serve a significant part of the state, and a new on-line program called Next Jobs, which helps with resumes. Paul said Goodwill is a great resource in their community and discussed how pairing with Goodwill across the state should be considered. Concern was expressed regarding how enrollment would be documented and specifics for what qualifies as enrolled. Rosemary stated the goal would be to capture any enrollment and training.

Jackie stated each career center has a manager and this person would be a good starting point for engagement. She works with six career centers and the managers control what goes on in the center and are always willing to help. Job clubs are also a good place to refer people and they are located in many counties. They set up in libraries and have meetings, which include referrals to training, resume assistance, and online application assistance.

Sameera Jackson added WellCare has a member resource entitled WellCare Works, which can be accessed by members to look for employment providers, receive on the job coaching, and assistance with resumes and interviews.

Jackie, Kristy, and Sameera will provide follow up documents and information to Rosemary to help assist with partnerships for workforce development through the balance of state.

Committee Reports

Coordinated Entry

Cassie Carter provided an update regarding the last Coordinated Entry Committee meeting. The main focus for the February meeting was the development of the coordinated entry evaluation for both providers and clients. Ashley VonHatten explained the timeframe regarding the evaluations and stated it would be reviewed again during the May committee meeting, after a site visit to West Virginia Coalition to End Homelessness. The provider evaluation is in a good place, with help from Danielle Humes in creating the survey in Survey Monkey but we are seeking guidance during our site visit regarding the client aspect of the evaluation process. Currently the client piece of the evaluation is set-up to be given to the client when he/she enters an access point, but we are excited to continue to review other rural Balance of States and gather more information on their processes. The coordinated entry system must be reviewed annually, per HUD, with the goal of the evaluation to provide information regarding what is and is not working in our system and using that information to update our policies and procedures.

Performance Measures Committee

Marty stated there is no update at this time as the next meeting is scheduled for April.

Governance Committee

Paul shared a few changes regarding the Board, as Kenzie and Michelle Yoebstl have resigned. There are two people to fill their vacancies and a new at-large member. These items will be discussed in other business.

K-Count

Kristy stated because of the polar vortex there were a large number of persons who pooled their resources together and stayed in motels, not wanting to risk the freezing temperatures. Jennifer stated during her travel throughout the Balance of State it was discussed doing a summer count, as the numbers may not be as accurate for the winter count due to the inclement weather. Although it cannot be mandated to participate in a summer count, northern and western Kentucky regions are in discussions to conduct another count.

Overall the committee was very successful and received great feedback regarding the trainings. It was valuable to have Kristy and Kenzie's perspective during the trainings and Kristy advised reaching out to each region for collaboration on this piece for next year's trainings. There was not any feedback on the survey tools but suggested sending out a survey to capture information.

CoC Regional Meetings

Kenzie stated all regional meetings are scheduled, with times and locations available in the March 28, 2019 KHC [eGram](#). Kenzie asked for feedback regarding topics for the regional trainings. The following items were discussed as potential topics:

- KHC/HCA updates
- Overview of Continuum of Care
- Summer count
- Family Unification Program vouchers
- Foundation of System Performance Measures
- Regional and/or LPC discussion regarding gaps and training needs
- Advocacy
- Voting for regional board members

Advocacy

Adrienne stated the federal government did complete the FY 2019 budget, after the longest shutdown in history. The current budget funds the government through September 30, 2019. There was a slight increase in homeless funding, with reductions in other areas, but an overall increase in HUD funding. The president's administration released their FY 2020 budget, which zeros out HOME, CDBG, Housing Trust Fund dollars and would raise rent on public housing participants with a reduction in homeless assistance of \$37 million. Congress must approve this budget and it is advised to reach out to contacts within the government to express how this budget is unacceptable.

On the state level, there is one day left of general assembly. House Bill 378 was introduced, which expands youth homeless education options. It allows transfer of credit from one high school to another, for homeless youth, and allows access to birth certificates free of charge for youth aged 16-24. The bill had a clause removed granting unaccompanied youth access to mental health resources without the consent of their parents. The state low income housing tax credit bill did not have a committee hearing but did garner 20 sponsors for the bill. A lingering issue is pension for quasi-government agencies and what the contribution rate is going to be in the coming years. There is a proposed Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) rule currently in the public comment period, with negative proposals included in the rule. The Medicaid 1115 decision will be released by a judge in April.

Other Business

Bailey Richards informed the Board today is her last meeting, as she is resigning from her position at Kentucky River Community Care and from the Advisory Board.

Paul explained per the Bylaws, "In the event of a mid-term vacancy, the Governance Committee is responsible for submitting nominations for a new representative to the Advisory Board at least two weeks in advance of a Board meeting to be voted on by the Board. The newly elected representative shall complete the original term of service."

Kelly Asher is being nominated for the Region 6 representative seat vacated by Kenzie. He is the housing navigator at HHCK.

Dave Swenson is being nominated as an at-large representative. He has spent the past five years as a homeless case manager with Veteran Affairs (VA) and has been tasked with ensuring compliance for all coordinated entry mandates. Prior to his work with the VA, he served as the supervisor for a shelter providing emergency services to runaway youth.

Pam Hurt is being nominated for the Region 2 representative seat vacated by Michelle Yoebstl. She is the assistant director of Barren River Area Safe Space.

A motion to approve the three nominations was made by Marty and seconded by Kristy. The motion passed unanimously.

Kenzie suggested the scheduling of the remaining 2019 board meetings and 2020 meetings be added to the agenda for the May 16, 2019 meeting.

Paul thanked Rosemary for her years of service, incredible help and partnership, and expressed on behalf of the Board, how much she will be missed.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.