

Allegheny County Homeless Advisory Board

CoC Bi-Monthly Meeting

January 24, 2017 10:00AM to Noon
Human Services Building
One Smithfield Street, Pittsburgh.

Purpose: The Homeless Advisory Board (HAB) is a public/private partnership formed to assist and recommend to Allegheny County, the City of Pittsburgh, the City of McKeesport and the Municipality of Penn Hills on public policy, programs, activities, data and all other efforts that will eliminate homelessness and improve the wellbeing of persons and families who are homeless.

Guest Members*

Frank Aggazio, ACHA (P)	Linda Kilderry, Michael's Place (P)
Meg Balsamico, Penn Hills (P)	Joe Lagana, HCEF (P)
Caster Binion, HACP	John Lovelace, UPMC (P)
Diana Bucco, Buhl	Mary Frances Pilarski, VA Healthcare System (P)
Jerry Cafardi, DCP (P)	Lenny Prewitt, Familylinks (P)
Tom Cummings, URA (P)	Richard Ranii, All. Co. Economic Development (P)
Sean DeYoung, PATF (P)	Amy Snider, ACTION Housing
Jane Downing, Pittsburgh Foundation (P)	Philip Spina, Light of Life (P)
Anthony Duckett, JRS	Adrienne Walnoha, CHS (P)
Abigail Horn, ACDHS	

Guest Attendees

Wendy Allman, YWCA	Christine Pietryga, VLP
Charlie Borowitz, OSN	Emil Pyptyk, ACDHS
Jeremy Carter, CHS	Leah Rainey, ACDHS
Bret Cogis, EECM	Gretchen Rechtenwald, YWCA
Judy Eakin, HEARTH	Lea Etta Rhodes, Urban League
Joe Elliott, ACDHS	Chris Roach, OSN
Angalo Farrara, Salvation Army	Rachel Rue, ACDHS
Pete Giacalone, WPIC	Hilary Scherer, ACDHS
Jerrel Gilliam, Light of Life	Barb Smith, HEARTH
Andy Halfhill, ACDHS	Karen Snair, AVAC
Peter Harvey, ACDHS	Liz Totten, City of Pgh
Kate Holko, ACDHS	Pat Valentine, ACDHS
Lisa Kessler, ACDHS	Chelsea Vazquez, ACDHS
Terri Laver, ACDHS	Stephanie Villella, Chartiers
Lloyd Massie, Light of Life	Bethany Wingerson, Center for Victims
Jessica McKown, ACDHS	
Nicole Molinaro, WC&S	

Minutes

1. Welcome & Review of Meeting Minutes—John Lovelace

The November 2016 meeting minutes were approved.

* (P) indicates that the HAB member participated in the meeting. Prior to the January 24, 2017 meeting, Laurel Randi and Jim Wyler recused themselves from the HAB.

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2. Governance—John Lovelace

Governance Charter Annual Review

John Lovelace reminded meeting participants that the annual review of the Allegheny County CoC Governance Charter had been initiated in October 2016. A public comment period was open to gather input from CoC members, and the Executive Committee did their due diligence in reviewing the Charter. Through the review and public comments, the following changes were presented to the HAB for vote, with specific language reflected in an attached revised version of the Charter:

- Clarification of Representatives on HAB (Page 10, Appendix A: Homeless Advisory Board (HAB) By-Laws, Terms of Appointment and Service Section)
- Clarification of Voting on New Members as a Slate (Page 10, Appendix A: Homeless Advisory Board (HAB) By-Laws, Terms of Appointment and Service Section)
- Replacing Vacancies (Page 10, Appendix A: Homeless Advisory Board (HAB) By-Laws, Terms of Appointment and Service Section)
- Public Comment on Items Before Votes (Page 10, Appendix A: Homeless Advisory Board (HAB) By-Laws, Voting Section)
- Revision to Standing Committees (Page 12-13, Appendix A: Homeless Advisory Board (HAB) By-Laws, Committee Chair Responsibilities Section)
- Streamlining of language regarding HMIS Lead Agency Responsibilities (Page 15-16, Appendix B: HMIS Governance Charter)

The proposed revisions to the Allegheny County CoC Governance Charter were approved by HAB vote, with all present members voting in favor.

Election of New HAB Members

Mr. Lovelace then presented a slate of HAB members for HAB vote. Pursuant to the CoC Governance Charter and HAB By-Laws, a nomination period for HAB membership was open throughout November 2016. During this period 14 nominations were received for 8 HAB seats; the 8 HAB seats represented seats of members whose initial term was ending, in addition to HAB members who were stepping down. The 8 members on the slate below were selected by the Executive Committee based on considerations of diversity, in both demographic characteristics and in organizational and sector representation, experience, and leadership background of the candidates. Expectations of HAB members are included in the Governance Charter, and Mr. Lovelace noted that assessment of CoC participation includes members' engagement in the bi-monthly CoC/HAB meetings as well as Committee meetings, affiliate groups, and other CoC endeavors.

Name	Affiliation
Caster Binion*	Executive Director, Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh
Marlon Ferguson	Executive Director, Veterans Place
Pete Giacalone	Housing Programs Manager, WPIC
Linda Rae Kilderry*	Former Director, Michael's Place, The Society Of St. Vincent de Paul, Council of Pittsburg
Lenny Prewitt*	Senior Program Manager, Familylinks
Chris Roach	Director of Outreach, Operation Safety Net
Richard Ranii*	Manager, Human Services Division, Allegheny County Economic Development
Bethany Wingerson	Director of Domestic Violence Services, Center for Victims

**Indicates a HAB member who will be starting their second term.*

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The slate of members was approved by HAB vote, with all present members voting in favor.

3. 2017 Planning Touchpoint

Committee Consideration of Co-Chairs—John Lovelace

Before hearing updates from the Committees and Infrastructure Organization (IO), Mr. Lovelace noted that the Executive Committee was seeking Committee feedback on who might lead each Committee as HAB and CoC Co-Chair. Committees were asked to put forth their recommendation to the Executive Committee in the coming month. In response to this request, Adrienne Walnoha asked Sean DeYoung to consider serving as the HAB Co-Chair for the Communication and Education Committee.

CoC Analysis and Planning Committee—Linda Kilderry

- Linda Kilderry informed HAB members and meeting participants that the Committee had been working on the Ranking Tool that would be used for evaluating CoC and ESG programs, and would be used for ranking projects for the 2017 CoC NOFA application. The below description provides an overview of the tool, and following the January 24, 2017 meeting a public comment period would be open to collect additional feedback from CoC members on the tool before a HAB vote.
 - The tool is organized around nine performance measures: (a) unit utilization; (b) housing performance, as defined by gaining or maintaining housing; (c) income, employment, health insurance and non-cash benefits; (d) length of time in program; (e) recidivism; (f) data quality; (g) fiscal, as defined by funding expenditure and accurate billing; (h) cost effectiveness, as defined by cost per unit and cost per successful outcome; and (i) housing first compliance. Data for each measure is scored on a 5-point scale and weighted to balance the ranking tool results around a consistent 100-point scale (the housing first compliance is on a 9-point scale based on the 9 components in the checklist).
 - Data to populate the tool for each project will be extracted from HMIS, except for sections (g), (h), and (i). Fiscal data maintained through DHS will be used to complete sections (g) and (h), and the Housing First Monitoring Checklist will be used to complete section (i).
 - Once the tool is populated with data it will be shared with the respective project, and the project will be able to describe plans to address any low performance measures.
- Moving forward, the CoC Analysis and Planning Committee will be continuing discussions regarding the reallocation process for renewal projects within the 2017 CoC NOFA application.
- Terri Laver requested that any HAB members who would like to be part of the Evaluation Committee for reviewing and ranking projects within the CoC NOFA process to contact her.

Communication and Education Committee—Adrienne Walnoha

- Beginning March 24, 2017, Northside Common Ministries is hosting a visual art show about living on the streets. The multi-day event will include panel discussions, art, and interactive exhibits, including an effort with Playback Theatre to create a video with individuals with lived experience.
- The Committee is also continuing efforts for the website, as well as collaborating with Storyburgh, a nonprofit media site that focuses on Pittsburgh stories that stimulate public dialogue on community issues.

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Homeless Outreach Coordinating Committee—Philip Spina and Chris Roach

- For 2017, the HOCC will be continuing their three main initiatives, which focus on ending chronic homelessness, improving collaboration with law enforcement, and working around transitional camps.
- Mr. Roach also noted that while Commander Kudrov and other representatives from Pittsburgh Police have been participating in HOCC meetings, on Saturday, January 28th, he would be attending a procedural justice meeting with the police, which would be an opportunity for the police to speak from their perspective to the HOCC.
- A question was raised as to if the availability of the winter shelter was appearing to have an impact of the numbers of people on the streets. Mr. Roach responded that there continued to be a good number of people on the street, even while the numbers at the shelter have been consistently high, citing approximately 100-140 men nightly, and noting the recent data was indicating over 675 unique men and over 100 unique women served through the winter shelter. He noted that the reliability of the shelter being open, rather than it only opening on nights below 25 degrees, enabled much more consistent interaction with shelter users. Through this consistent interaction, Mr. Roach shared anecdotally that he was noticing that a number of new intakes at the shelter were recently released from jail, and the HOCC may consider exploring this and working around jail discharge, particularly in relation to the winter shelter closing after March 15th.

Ad Hoc Strategic Plan Committee—Jane Downing

- Jane Downing provided an update on the Strategic Community Planning Process, and thanked everyone who participated in the sessions with Housing Innovations (HI) earlier in January. Following this visit, HI drafted a preliminary outline for the final report, and the Ad Hoc Committee is working with them to identify five to six priorities, with the current intention of establishing a 5-year plan. The overarching goals of the plan are to develop a more integrated service delivery system for different populations, and then secondly focus on prevention. Examples of priorities under consideration include creating low barrier year-round shelter, coordinating with homeless school liaisons to support identifying children in families who may be at risk and figure out what the best service model is once they are identified, and coordinating with hospitals regarding considerations around individuals who are chronically homeless and need medical respite. Most of these considerations involve different systems and that is the kind of integration needed and is being sought. In addition to the goals of the plan, the Ad Hoc Committee is working with HI and other partners to carefully consider how the plan can be meaningfully adopted so that it is actionable.

Ad Hoc Provider Committee—Linda Kilderry

- The Ad Hoc Provider Committee held its first meeting on December 13, 2016 and had a second meeting scheduled for February 14, 2017. The group is in the process of developing a scope of charge for a standing Provider Committee, and is expecting to request the ability for providers to elect a HAB representative.
- In response to a CoC member's question regarding the process to make a Provider Committee officially recognized by the HAB, Mr. Lovelace said the proposal would be directed to the Executive Committee and then considered within the governance structure and processes.

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Infrastructure Organization Update—Kate Holko

Kate Holko provided an update from the IO, DHS, noting the following:

- From the 2016 CoC NOFA application process, the CoC was awarded \$17.78 million, which included all renewal projects except for one permanent supportive housing project, and the addition of 7 new PSH projects (127 units) and 8 new rapid re-housing projects (318 beds), as well as one bonus project for 47 units of PSH.
 - Allegheny County did comparatively well to other CoCs, with the loss in funding often being associated with the loss of transitional housing and non Housing First programs. It was also noted that at least one CoC lost their HMIS project, which had been ranked in Tier 2 for that Continuum.
- Ms. Holko informed participants that a RFP for Penn Free housing was to be released shortly, reminding participants that Penn Free housing is block grant funding that is focused on Drug & Alcohol needs.
- As part of the effort to support and encourage peer to peer support for homeless providers the RRH Workgroup would continue meeting, and a Workgroup for Emergency Shelter would be starting on February 3, 2017.
- Finally, members and participants were reminded that the annual point-in-time (PIT) count was occurring and that data would be pulled from HMIS so information should be entered in a timely manner.

4. Public Comment/Announcements

- Judy Eakin noted the updated process to indicate the HAB members who were not in attendance was not reflected in the November meeting minutes. This change will be updated moving forward.
- Hilary Scherer reminded attendees that immediately preceding the March 28th CoC/HAB meeting would be a session providing an overview of the CoC and HAB. In addition to new HAB members, sitting HAB members, CoC members, and the public are all very welcome to attend.
- Adrienne Walnoha requested that an update to previous analysis assessing the cross-system involvement of behavioral health, criminal justice, and homelessness be completed and revisited.

Next CoC Meeting

Tuesday, March 28, 2017—10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
Human Services Building
One Smithfield Street, Pittsburgh