



# FAIRFAX-FALLS CHURCH COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP'S Continuum of Care Board

## PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

- WHEN:** November 8, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.
- WHERE:** Fairfax County Government Center  
Conference Rooms 9/10  
12000 Government Center Parkway  
Fairfax, VA 22035
- AGENDA:** Call to Order.  
Virginia Freedom of Information Act.  
Roles and Responsibilities.  
Training and Resources.  
Community Engagement.  
Setting the Next Meeting (Dec. 6).  
Adjournment.



*Fairfax County is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination in all County programs, services and activities and will provide reasonable accommodations upon request. To request special accommodations call 703-246-5000 (select menu option 8), or TTY 711. Equal Housing/Equal Opportunity Employer.*





# FAIRFAX-FALLS CHURCH COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP'S Continuum of Care Board

## ATTENDANCE:

Name	Attending (Yes/No)	Name	Attending (Yes/No)
David Meyer, Chair	Yes	Maura Williams	Yes
Adrienne Hosein	Yes	Nathalie Washington	Yes
Aimee Garcia	Yes	Noah Abraham	Yes
Ashley McSwain	Yes	Pamela Michell	Yes
Cathy Benn	Yes	Pamela Powers	Yes
Connie Johnson	No	Penelope Rood	Yes
Douglas Dane	Yes	Randy Shusman	Yes
Michael Axler	Yes	Rena Alexander-Lewis	Yes
Fatima Khalid	Yes	Ruth Pearson	Yes
Kameron Wilds	Yes	Seth Pearson	No
Lisa Jones	Yes		

## Non-Continuum of Care (CoC) Board Members

Organization	Name	Attending
Housing and Community Development, Fairfax County	Tom Fleetwood	Yes
Housing and Community Development, Fairfax County <i>Office to Prevent and End Homelessness</i>	Thomas Barnett	Yes
	Stephen Knippler	Yes
	Diana Pina	Yes



# FAIRFAX-FALLS CHURCH COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP'S Continuum of Care Board

## **I. Call to Order**

- The meeting was called to order by CoC Board Chair David Meyer, who welcomed and thanked Board members.
- Everyone present at the meeting introduced themselves.
- Tom Fleetwood, Director, Fairfax County Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), made a few remarks, thanking all on the Board for the work that they do, speaking of the merger of the Office to Prevent and End Homelessness (OPEH) and HCD, and thanking staff and Chair Meyer.

## **II. Virginia Freedom of Information Act**

- Chair Meyer emphasized the need to ensure that the Board complies with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (VFOIA).
- Tom Barnett, Deputy Director, OPEH, HCD, spoke of the resources available, identified in the Powerpoint document, and stressed that all members should watch the “VFOIA Explained for Boards, Authorities, and Commissions” video.

## **III. Roles and Responsibilities.**

- CoC Board roles and responsibilities are described in the CoC Board Charter.
- Chair Meyer reiterated the purpose of the Board, other key points in the Charter, and duties of the Board.
- Deputy Director Barnett described CoC Board membership, committees and workgroups, and upcoming CoC Board projects.

## **IV. Training and Resources.**

- Deputy Director Barnett provided educational information, including data on investments in homeless assistance in Fiscal Year 2022, Key Strategies from the former “10-Year Plan”, and Point-in-Time Count totals (2005-2022).
- Deputy Director Barnett described the challenges that remain; the renovation and replacement of shelters; and current projects.
- An overview was provided of the homeless services project types, and the Housing Crisis Response System Flow Chart was introduced.
- CoC Board members were informed that the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors requested that a survey be done regarding panhandling, and the CoC Board was shown a flyer, the purpose of which was to inform those who are panhandling of services that are provided by Fairfax County.
- Information was also provided to the CoC Board on the Hypothermia Prevention Program.



## FAIRFAX-FALLS CHURCH COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP'S Continuum of Care Board

### V. Community Engagement.

- Deputy Director Barnett informed the CoC Board that the Board of Supervisors is looking to reduce homelessness and asked the CoC Board to engage in “inclusive community engagement”. The concept was explained by reference to the description in the One Fairfax Policy and a list of considerations was presented to the CoC Board. Deputy Director Barnett explained the deliverables that are expected including the need for new strategies. Chair Meyer spoke of how the CoC Board is to present what they determine is needed and assign a dollar amount to the request.
- Deputy Director Barnett turned the attention of the CoC Board to the Draft Work Plan that was included in their package. The Deputy Director identified the week of November 11 as Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week in Fairfax County, as declared by the Board of Supervisors; spoke of the proposed meeting dates for the CoC Board; and identified September as an important time, for it is when requests for the Fairfax County Budget for the next fiscal year are due. The Community Engagement column of the draft plan was noted as was the Fairfax County column that included Budget benchmarks. The Point in Time count under the US Dept. of Housing & Urban Development column was identified, as was the approximate time for the release of the Notice of Funding Availability that ultimately leads to critical funding for non-profit homeless services providers. The importance of the CoC Board in setting priorities for the County for this funding process was noted.
- Regarding designing the community engagement process, Deputy Director Barnett stated that a small group of the CoC Board could work with the County’s Department of Neighborhood and Community Services on this.
- A CoC Board member inquired as to where the Affordable Housing Advisory Council (AHAC) and the CoC Board connect. It was noted that CoC Board member Maura Williams, who is on the AHAC, is a liaison for the CoC Board and that there will be opportunities for presentations and interacting with the AHAC. The importance of having the same message delivered when different boards deal with the same topic was noted.
- A CoC Board member asked how the actual CoC Board meetings will function, and Deputy Director Barnett stressed the importance of setting the Agenda for next meetings and that the meetings are not to be staff driven.

### VI. Setting the Next Meeting (Dec. 6).

- CoC Board members raised questions regarding the next meeting including what the trajectory will be for the December meeting so that members can be prepared; if it is possible to get information on homeless programs and services already available; and if there is any one place that as a compilation of projects available. Deputy Director Barnett offered the Human Services Resource Guide as a resource containing a compilation of human services projects, the guide being accessible at [fairfaxcounty.gov/hstrg](http://fairfaxcounty.gov/hstrg).



## FAIRFAX-FALLS CHURCH COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP'S Continuum of Care Board

- Chair Meyer proposed for the next meeting going around the table and having members identify what services their organization provides and what the gaps are. A Board member commented that this would be a very good starting point and that it would be good to hone in on needs and offer solutions. A Board member raised the question of whether it would be more time effective to have summaries of what organizations do available for the members. Chair Meyer stated that he and staff would discuss the best approach that would cover all of this and that it might include five-minute presentations from Board members.

### **VII. Adjournment.**

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be held December 6, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.