



AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVISORY COUNCIL Continuum of Care Committee

PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

- WHEN:** Friday, March 4, 2022, at 2:00 p.m.
- WHERE:** Government Center
Conference Rooms 9/10
12000 Government Center Parkway
Fairfax, VA 22035
- AGENDA:** Call to Order, Roll Call, Approve Minutes
Chair & Vice-Chair Elections
Gaps Analysis
Strategic Plan
Debrief CoC Bi-Annual Meeting & Racial Equity Systems Analysis
Announcements
Adjourn



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.





AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVISORY COUNCIL Continuum of Care Committee

MOTION 1: A motion was made to call this meeting of the Continuum of Care Committee on March 4, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. at the Government Center, Conference Rooms 9/10 to order.

Motioned by: Lauren Leventhal

Motion seconded by: Maura Williams

No Discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

ATTENDANCE:

Organization	Name	Attending (Yes/No)	Location (Remote Participants Only)
Cornerstones	Maura Williams	Yes	
FACETS	Carole Huell	No	
Family Services, Fairfax County <i>Domestic and Sexual Violence Services</i>	Vanessa Cullers	Yes	
Family Services, Fairfax County <i>Public Assistance and Employment Services</i>	Lisa Jones	Yes	
Health Department, Fairfax County	Nathalie Washington	Yes	
Northern Virginia Family Service	Claire Louis	Yes	Remote
Pathway Homes	Lauren Leventhal	Yes	
Public Schools, Fairfax County	Kathi Sheffel	Yes	Remote
Shelter House	Laura Woody	Yes	

Non CoC Committee Members

Organization	Name	Attending
Housing and Community Development, Fairfax County <i>Office to Prevent and End Homelessness</i>	Thomas Barnett	Yes
	Jamie Ergas	Yes
	Ling-Yun Garada Lin	Yes
AHAC Member	Jerry Poje	Yes

MOTION 2: A motion was made to certify for the record that each CoC Committee member's voice may be adequately heard by each other CoC Committee member.

Motioned by: Claire Louis

Motion seconded by: Maura Williams

No Discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION 3: A motion was made to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2021, CoC Committee Meeting.

Motioned by: Lisa Jones

Motion seconded by: Nathalie Washington



AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVISORY COUNCIL

Continuum of Care Committee

Lauren Leventhal abstained as she was not a CoC Committee member at the time. No Discussion.
Motion passed unanimously.

CHAIR & VICE-CHAIR ELECTIONS:

Nominations for the Chair were made after the last CoC Committee meeting in accordance with the bylaws. The roles of the Chair and Vice-Chair were reviewed along with the voting process.

- ☐ **Chair.** The Chair presides over meetings of the CoC Committee and is eligible to vote at all times. The Chair has the authority to delegate appropriate functions to CoC Committee members and to request assistance from the County staff supporting the CoC Committee.
- ☐ **Vice-Chair.** In the absence of the Chair at a meeting, the Vice-Chair shall perform the duties and exercise the powers of the Chair. If neither the Chair nor the Vice-Chair is available, the member present with the longest tenure on the CoC Committee shall act as Chair.
- ☐ **Voting.** (Bylaws, PG 4) "A quorum is necessary for a vote. A majority (more than 50%) of the membership of the CoC Committee shall constitute a quorum. In making any recommendations, adopting any plan, or approving any proposal, action shall be taken by a majority vote of CoC Committee members present and voting. Upon the request of any member, the vote of each member on any issue shall be recorded in the minutes. All votes of CoC Committee members shall be taken during a public meeting, and no vote shall be taken by secret or written ballot or by proxy."

MOTION 4: A motion was made to vote to elect the Chair of the CoC Committee.

Motioned by: Nathalie Washington

Motion seconded by: Vanessa Cullers

No Discussion. Motion passed unanimously

VOTE: All those in favor of election Maura Williams as the Chair of the CoC Committee were asked to say aye, any opposed or abstentions was also requested.

Votes in Favor: Unanimous

Opposed: None

Abstentions: None

No Discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

VICE-CHAIR NOMINATION:

Immediately following the election of the Chair, the Chair nominated the Vice-Chair. Maura Williams nominated Lauren Leventhal as the Vice-Chair of the CoC Committee. A motion was made to vote to elect the Vice-Chair of the CoC Committee.

Motioned by: Vanessa Cullers

Motion seconded by: Lisa Jones

No Discussion. Motion passed unanimously.



AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVISORY COUNCIL

Continuum of Care Committee

VOTE: All those in favor of election Lauren Leventhal as the Vice-Chair of the CoC Committee were asked to say aye, any opposed or abstentions was also requested.

Votes in Favor: Unanimous

Opposed: None

Abstentions: None

No Discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

GAPS ANALYSIS:

Conducting an annual gaps analysis is a HUD requirement with the goal being to quantify and prioritize unmet needs (calculation between the estimated amount of need and the current capacity). In the examples provided in the meeting materials, there are similar themes throughout, including a connection between the Point-in-Time Count and the Housing Inventory Count. The Regional Racial Equity Analysis project is also currently surveying to identify system gaps. The CoC Committee was asked to describe what they think should be considered.

☐ Discussion.

- *Prevention.* Prevention services could be strengthened. There has been an increase of prevention resources due to the pandemic, but what will happen once the funding ends should be explored.
- *Housing Market & Move-On Strategy.* As landlords are looking to sell, tenants do not have ample time to find alternative housing, which could lead to homelessness. In regard to resources, vouchers would really help people move on from permanent supportive housing.
- *Services & Trauma-Informed Care.* Services to support housing stability is another area to consider. There is a lot of momentum when people move into housing, but that can easily be lost if services are not provided. Trauma-Informed Care should be incorporated into all services provided, not just for victims of domestic violence.
- *Elderly Population.* The elderly, aging population with extreme medical needs is a vulnerable population that is going to continue to require additional support. The design of facilities should also be considered when serving the aging population as well.
- *Mental Health Services.* Increasing the availability to mental health services is critical. The Community Services Board has needed to reduce staff on the PATH Outreach team to address the needs of state mandated projects. The reduction impacts homeless services.
- *People with Disabilities.* People with disabilities who are living with family or elderly parents is a vulnerable population at risk of homelessness if the elderly parent passes away or needs to move out for more intensive care and there is not a plan for care.
- *Legislation.* Virginia has had significant landlord tenant law changes within the past year. Legislation connected to homeless services/housing is an area that would make sense to focus on. One of the strategic elements of the [Affordable Housing Advisory Council](#) (AHAC) is legislative opportunity.



AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVISORY COUNCIL Continuum of Care Committee

- *LGBTQ+*. It was noted that the City of Philadelphia has a population of LGBTQ+ with unique challenges in accessing housing resources and it would be good to build a more cohesive system locally to address the needs of this population.
- *Prioritizing Resources*. The pandemic brought a significant influx of funding that was not anticipated. The Gaps Analysis should be used to help prioritize resources so when opportunities arise, the CoC can be less reactive and can prioritize projects that have a longer-term impact.

☐ Summary.

Approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Apply an Equity Lens○ Pursue a consultant○ Incorporate stakeholder feedback
Project Types	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Prevention (reduce number of people becoming homeless)
Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Consider populations already known to be vulnerable:<ul style="list-style-type: none">● People who are undocumented● Elderly, aging population with extreme medical needs● Individuals with disabilities● LGBTQ+● Victims of Domestic Violence
Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Identify the funding available○ Housing resources, including the availability of vouchers as a move-on strategy from permanent supportive housing○ Service capacity to support successful housing placements○ Availability of mental health services
Additional Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Trauma-Informed Care○ Legislation related to homelessness/housing

STRATEGIC PLAN:

In March 2008, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors adopted the [10 Year Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness](#), which was created by a 95-member Implementation Committee with representation from housing development organizations, business and financial institutions, healthcare and mental health providers, faith community, employment services, nonprofit serving providers and public agencies. The 10 Year Plan was briefly reviewed along with the vision and values. The 10 Year Plan expired in 2018 and the CoC Governing Board dissolved shortly thereafter. The CoC Committee has now formed as the governance of the CoC. The CoC Committee members were asked to describe what they think should be considered.

☐ Discussion.

- *Strategic Plan Length*. It was noted that a shorter plan, a 3–5-year plan, would allow the CoC to be more actionable and more closely connected to performance.



AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVISORY COUNCIL

Continuum of Care Committee

- *Stakeholders.* One of the strategic elements of the AHAC is education and engagement. People with lived experience of homelessness and members of the faith community are two stakeholder groups that should be engaged. Since the CoC Committee started, there are two members that moved on, including staff from two important partners, The Lamb Center and New Hope Housing. In terms of County partners, Neighborhood and Community Services (Coordinated Services Planning) and the Community Services Board need to be engaged as well.
- *Data.* Increasing access to the local homeless data and using data to develop the strategic plan is an essential approach.
- *Existing Structures.* The Housing Blueprint, which identifies the number of affordable housing units needed, is already in place along with Built for Zero, a national campaign that uses targeted metrics. The planning process should build off of what has already been developed.
- *Panhandling and Encampments.* Panhandling and unsheltered encampments are areas that the Board of Supervisors and public have an interest in.
- *Community Awareness.* Homelessness is not just those at the bus stops. Anyone can experience homelessness and homelessness is not limited to those living on the street. Educating the community to understand homelessness more deeply is an important part of the work.
- *Workforce Housing and Home Ownership.* Housing First is a critical strategy to ending homelessness, but additional resources, such as workforce housing and paths to home ownership should be considered as strategies to promote long-term housing stability and address intergenerational poverty.
- *Multigenerational Homelessness.* There are currently adults receiving homeless services that have accessed homeless services as a child. Identifying opportunities to prevent experiences of homelessness, and thus multigenerational homelessness, should be considered.

□ Summary.

Approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Apply an Equity Lens ○ Pursue a consultant ○ Incorporate stakeholder feedback <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Include perspectives from people with lived experience ● Identify stakeholder gaps (faith community, Community Services Board, Neighborhood and Community Services, New Hope Housing, The Lamb Center) ○ Use existing data to inform the process ○ Use existing structures to inform process (Housing Blueprint, Built for Zero, Regional Racial Equity Analysis)
Revisit the Vision and Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vision: Every person in our community will access and maintain decent, safe, affordable housing. ○ Values:



AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVISORY COUNCIL Continuum of Care Committee

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We value everyone in our community, recognizing the right of all people to have a safe affordable place in which to live.• We value diversity, believing that communities are strengthened when people connect across differences.• We value excellence and are committed to finding creative, bold solutions for both housing needs and support services.• We value an inclusive process that respects all points of view and a balanced approach to the issues.• We value education and advocacy and their power to impact public policy in ways that achieve a vision of a community without homelessness.
Structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Goal○ Action Steps○ Timeline (3–5-year strategic plan)
Additional Considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Panhandling○ Encampments○ Multigenerational homelessness○ Housing First and then what (workforce housing, paths to home ownership)

REGIONAL RACIAL EQUITY ANALYSIS:

An update on the Regional Racial Equity Analysis from members of the Regional Equity Action Council (REAC) was provided. Fairfax County's CoC is working with 8 other jurisdictions on a Regional Racial Equity Analysis in partnership with C4 Innovations as the consultant. REAC is the local Fairfax County CoC leadership which is the intermediary that connects with C4 Innovations and the other jurisdictions and brings the information back to the CoC. The process includes a deep dive into the inequities that people experience through the process of accessing homeless services in order to create equitable pathways to affordable housing. There were listening sessions facilitated by C4 Innovations as well as a stakeholder survey. REAC is in process of conducting a gaps analysis. As part of the gaps analysis, a survey was developed focused on the description of projects and services, and responses have been requested from multiple organizations. Whether or not sessions are needed to support the completion of the survey is being considered. The deadline to complete the survey is now April 15th. Root cause analysis is another area of focus, which entails asking *why* someone is experiencing 5 times to demonstrates the connection to systemic issues.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- ❑ **HOME-ARP.** \$7.9 million dollars of HOME-ARP funding was awarded to Fairfax County. A consultant is being pursued and feedback from AHAC and the CoC Committee will also be requested.



AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVISORY COUNCIL Continuum of Care Committee

- ❑ **Virginia's Department of Behavioral Health and Disability Services (Data Sharing Agreement).**
The state has a data sharing agreement to look at the overlap between state psychiatric beds and homelessness in Fairfax. The state has dedicated money for permanent supportive housing in Northern VA and they are going to be hosting a number of sessions in the spring to bring together developers and providers to look at what permanent supportive housing could look like. The state is also looking at merging data across the state of Virginia. Fairfax County staff are going to bring these projects to the Super Users, the governance of HMIS, and to the CoC Committee as well for feedback.
- ❑ **Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Opportunity.** The results of the 2021 HUD Continuum of Care Program Competition are not yet known but are expected to be announced soon. The CoC Consolidated Application, including the CoC Application attachments and the Priority Listing, are available at <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/homeless/continuum-care>.

AGENDA FOR MEETING ON APRIL 13, 2022:

- 1) Call to Order, Roll Call, Approve Minutes
- 2) Regional Racial Equity Analysis
- 3) Gaps Analysis
- 4) Strategic Plan
- 5) CoC Policies
- 6) Bi-Annual CoC Meeting: Plan agenda for spring meeting
- 7) Announcements
- 8) Adjourn

MOTION 5: A motion was made that the meeting adjourn.

Motioned by: Maura Williams

Motion seconded by: Nathalie Washington

No Discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be on April 13, 2022, at 2:00 p.m.; the location is TBD. Meeting invitations will be shared to reserve the dates.