



Empowering Communities,  
Building Futures.

# Continuum of Care Board Meeting

January 22, 2025

# Agenda

1. Approve meeting minutes from December 4, 2024.
2. Finalize NAACP Responses.
3. Discuss Proposed Committees (survey responses, meeting schedule.)
4. FY2024 Continuum of Care Notice and Funding Report
5. Discuss County Budget Process Timeline
6. Hypothermia Prevention Program Numbers



# NAACP Responses

- The following slides summarize draft responses to the NAACP's recommendations regarding encampment closures based on the CoC Board's discussion at the last meeting.
- Staff requests feedback on the draft responses.
- Some responses need clarification on the CoC Board's position on the recommendation, particularly where it involves public safety issues such as officer's carrying weapons or encouraging witnesses to be present.



# Recommendation #1

“If an encampment must be cleared, the county should offer residents an indoor shelter at least with overnight accommodation, where they can receive food and social services. Vulnerable tent campers—those who are elderly or have mental or physical health issues—should be offered daytime shelter as well. Homeless campers must be notified of how to obtain alternate shelter.”

## Draft Response: **Undetermined**

The CoC Board agrees that shelter should be provided for individuals living in an encampment prior to a closure. The CoC Board recognizes that shelter capacity is insufficient to meet the current needs of adults experiencing homelessness and there are serious negative impacts to individuals’ lives when forced to move without a place to go. The CoC Board also acknowledges a significant increase in resources is required to shelter every adult in need and recommends that, at a minimum, Fairfax County should offer a couple of nights in hotel for individuals told to leave an encampment.

## Recommendation #2

“The time and date of any planned removal must be announced at least two weeks in advance both publicly (in the county website and in a press release and to the tent encampment (through posted notices).”

### Draft Response: Complete

The CoC Board agrees that a two-week notice, at a minimum, must be given not only to encampment residents but also publicly so that organizations serving unsheltered residents may also be informed and help prepare unsheltered residents for alternate arrangements. A notice of more than two weeks would be preferred.

## Recommendation #3

“County employees sent to clear an encampment must include co-responders — mental health professionals from the Community Services Board as well as officers trained in de-escalation techniques — to carry out the operation without harm to the homeless people.”

### Draft Response: **Complete**

The CoC Board agrees that mental health professionals and police officers trained in crisis intervention and de-escalation must be present when encampments are closed. It is important that this approach is well documented in Fairfax County’s policies and procedures and approved by the departments involved.

# Recommendation #4

“Witnesses must be invited. These could include a representative of the National Lawyers Guild in DC or an attorney or representative of a civil rights group such as NAACP.”

## Draft Response: Needs Approval

The CoC Board does not agree with this recommendation. Fairfax County is already including several skilled individuals in responding to encampments, including homeless outreach and mental health professionals, as well as police officers trained in crisis intervention. Adding more groups to this process could become overwhelming for everyone involved, especially during such a sensitive time. In fact, it may be preferred to have minimal witnesses out of respect for the dignity of unsheltered individuals experiencing a traumatic loss of their temporary home in an encampment. It is the opinion of the CoC Board that the thoughtful and capable parties currently participating are sufficient for the needs of the process.

# Recommendation #5

“Homeless people who are being displaced should not be arrested. Being homeless is not a crime.”

## Draft Response: **Complete**

The CoC Board is in full agreement that no one should be arrested solely for experiencing homelessness.



# Recommendation #6

“The belongings that the homeless people wish to help should be put in storage for 60 days at a known location accessible by transit so the person can retrieve them at no cost.”

## Draft Response: **Needs Approval**

The CoC Board does not support this recommendation. While the intent is commendable, the CoC Board is concerned about the level of resources that would be needed for a storage solution and has doubts that it could be effective. As ProPublica reported in their November 2024 article, called “Cities Say They Store Property Taken From Homeless Encampments. People Rarely Get Their Things Back.”, in a survey of 14 cities with such programs there were frequent challenges including identifying locations convenient for people experiencing homelessness; limited operating hours, space, and storage timeframes; and lost or stolen items. The CoC Board believes that the resources needed to stand up such a program could be more strategically invested in other programs.

# Proposed Committees of the Continuum of Care (CoC) Board

- ***Coordinated Entry Policy.*** The committee provides policy direction for the CoC in designing its system for assessing the needs of individuals and families for housing and services, as well as the written standards for providing homeless services – including evaluating individuals’ and families’ eligibility and prioritizing who will receive assistance.
  - Meetings would occur on a regular basis to be determined by the committee.
  - Members would come from the CoC Board and, according to its bylaws, be composed of at least four members.
  - The committee would be supported by a Coordinated Entry Implementation workgroup led by the Office to Prevent and End Homelessness (OPEH).



- **Lived Experience.** The committee provides insights and perspectives for the CoC Board and member organizations into the planning, implementation, and evaluation of homelessness programs and policies. The primary goal of the committee is to ensure that the voices of those who have experienced homelessness are heard and integrated into decision-making processes, ultimately leading to more effective and empathetic solutions.
  - Membership is comprised of at least four individuals who have direct personal experience with homelessness in Fairfax County. They may come from the CoC Board, as well as local program participants, staff, and volunteers of CoC member organizations.
  - Meetings occur periodically when input is needed on a particular issue.



- ***Selection and Ranking.*** The committee is responsible for: (1) reviewing applications for new funding opportunities, if available, during the annual CoC competition and selecting new project(s) for inclusion in the CoC's Consolidated Application; and (2) ranking all projects, including both new and renewal projects, according to the priorities identified in the annual gaps analysis and the approach developed in the local U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) CoC Program funding policies, reviewed and updated annually by the CoC Board.
  - Meetings do not occur on a regular basis but are scheduled during the annual CoC competition.
  - Membership may come from the CoC Board and community members without a conflict of interest in CoC project funding decisions.
  - The OPEH Monitoring and Evaluation workgroup would provide CoC recipient and subrecipient performance and outcomes.



- **System Improvement.** The committee would provide strategic, data-driven advice to the CoC Board for improving the CoC systemwide performance. Responsibilities would include: (1) conducting an annual gaps analysis of the homeless needs and services; (2) review and approve performance targets for CoC and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) recipients and subrecipients; (3) review performance and outcomes of CoC and ESG grant recipients and subrecipients; and (4) recommend action to the CoC Board to take against poor performers.
  - Meetings would occur on a regular basis to be determined by the committee.
  - Members would come from the CoC Board and, according to its bylaws, be composed of at least four members.
  - The OPEH Monitoring and Evaluation workgroup would provide recommended performance targets appropriate for population and program type, as well as recipient and subrecipient performance and outcomes.



# FY2024 Continuum of Care Notice and Funding Report

Projects	2023	2024	Grand Total	Pct. Increase
1991 Pathway Homes SHP	(410,586)	481,421	70,835	17%
1994 Pathway Homes SHP	(250,260)	288,503	38,243	15%
1995 Pathway Homes SHP	(331,905)	378,875	46,970	14%
2007 Pathway Homes SHP	(204,814)	249,561	44,747	22%
2009 Pathway Homes SHP	(204,431)	249,082	44,651	22%
2011 Pathway Homes SHP	(413,763)		(413,763)	-100%
2014 Pathway Homes SHP	(1,488,136)	1,799,174	311,038	21%
2015 Pathway Homes SHP	(637,937)	775,690	137,753	22%
CoC Planning Project	(302,409)	513,993	211,584	70%
Domestic Violence Rapid Re-Housing	(1,183,196)	1,377,315	194,119	16%
Linda's Gateway	(462,206)	528,355	66,149	14%
Pathway Homes SPC 10C	(983,635)	1,236,139	252,504	26%
Pathway Homes SPC 1C	(605,341)	760,909	155,568	26%
Pathway Homes SPC 9C	(436,574)	548,966	112,392	26%
PSH Group Homes	(381,660)	431,018	49,358	13%
Rapid Rehousing for Transition Age Youth	(227,216)	268,953	41,737	18%
RISE	(1,090,635)	1,310,202	219,567	20%
Triumph III	(762,807)	926,810	164,003	21%
Triumph Permanent Supportive Housing	(204,760)	249,939	45,179	22%
<b>Total</b>	<b>(10,582,271)</b>	<b>12,374,905</b>	<b>1,792,634</b>	

FAIRFAX COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
FAIRFAX COUNTY REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING  
AUTHORITY

# County Budget Process Timeline

- **November 26:** Joint County/School Budget Committee to discuss FY 2026 fiscal forecast
- **January 23:** FCPS Superintendent releases FY 2026 Proposed Budget
- **February 4:** School Board holds public hearings on budget
- **February 18:** County Executive releases FY 2026 Advertised Budget Plan
- **February 20:** School Board adopts FY 2026 (proposed) Budget Plan
- **February 25:** Joint County/School Budget Committee to discuss FY 2026 budget and tax rate
- **March 4:** Board of Supervisors Advertises FY 2026 tax rate
- **March 18:** Board of Supervisors Advertises FY 2025 Third Quarter Review
- **April 22:** School Board Presents FCPS Budget to Board of Supervisors
- **April 22–24:** Board of Supervisors holds public hearings on FY 2026 Budget
- **May 6:** Board of Supervisors marks-up FY 2026 Budget
- **May 13:** Board of Supervisors adopts FY 2026 Budget
- **May 22:** School Board adopts FY 2026 Approved Budget
- **July 1:** FY 2026 Budget Year begins



# Hypothermia Prevention and Winter Seasonal 1,059 served in Programs as of Jan. 22, 2025

	Region 1		Region 2		Region 3		Region 4
	Hypo	WS	Hypo	WS	Hypo	WS	Hypo
Total Individuals	127	222	147	296	199	195	218
Total Bed Nights	1,109	2,777	1,457	3,425	3,557	2,638	3,468
Veterans	3	16	3	9	8	8	8
Transition Age Youth	5	15	10	24	18	11	7
Chronically Homeless	49	65	25	43	64	60	80
Gender - Female	29%	29%	26%	28%	31%	33%	31%
Gender - Male	71%	71%	74%	72%	69%	66%	68%
Race - Black or Afr. Am.	46%	61%	50%	57%	50%	46%	45%
Race - White	31%	22%	17%	21%	25%	27%	31%



# Adjourn

Next meeting is February 26, 2025.

