

# Atlanta Continuum of Care Governing Council (GC)

September 7, 2017

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## Meeting Minutes

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### Members Present:

Tom Andrews	Carmen Chubb	Jack Hardin
Phillip Hunter	Dana Johnson Inman	Terri Lee
Cathryn Marchman	Marc Pollack	Ed Powers
A. J. Robinson	Paul Vranicar	

### Members Absent:

Jimiyu Evans	Monica Johnson	Connie Lee
Katrina Mitchell	Joyce Sheperd	Jenifer Turner-Reid
Cleta Winslow		

### Guests/Staff Present:

Deirdre Bolden	Latoya Emanuel	Desta Taylor
Janice Wallace	Amy Zaremba	

### Welcome & Call to Order: Tom Andrews

The Atlanta Continuum of Care Governing Council was called to order at 1 p.m. and introductions were made.

### Review of Minutes: Tom Andrews

**Bithia Ratnasamy's name was corrected in the 6/8/17 CoC meeting minutes. With that change noted, the minutes were unanimously approved.**

### Governance Update: Jack Hardin

- Jimiyu Evans was nominated as provider representative to the CoC to fill the vacancy left by Kim Anderson **The motion to appoint Jimiyu Evans to the CoC was unanimously approved.**
- Carmen Chubb was recommended as CoC Vice-Chair position. **Carmen Chubb's appointment as Vice-Chair of the carried unanimously with one abstention from Carmen Chubb.**
- Following Kathy Palumbo's retirement, the Governance Committee convened to discuss replacement prospects. It was recommended that a candidate with a philanthropic background be considered.
- To determine opportunities for improvement, a self-assessment questionnaire will be distributed to CoC membership with the results forthcoming at the December meeting.

### Policy Approval: Amy Zaremba

- **CoC VAWA – Violence Against Women Act Emergency Transfer Plan:** Concern for the safety of tenants of the housing programs that are funded by Continuum of Care (CoC) grant funds precipitated the need for an emergency transfer plan for anyone eligible within the policy guidelines. Policy requirements, documentation, eligibility, confidentiality and the safety of tenants were reviewed. **A motion was made by Jack Hardin to approve the Emergency Transfer Plan for Survivors of Domestic Violence and carried unanimously.**

Prepared by: Janice Wallace

- **CoC Non-Discrimination Policy:** The policy on non-discrimination clarifies the CoC's commitment to provide an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members of staff, clients, volunteers, subcontractors, vendors and clients, and that equal access is available for all individuals and families. **The motion by Jack Hardin to adopt the CoC Non-Discrimination policy was unanimously approved.**

#### **Committee Reports**

- **Youth: Deirdre Bolden**

An overview of recent Youth Committee activities was provided which include the development of a special Youth Strategic Plan, the completion of a youth assessment tool, similar to the adult tool, which will be used for coordinated entry. She also announced that Georgia State received funding for a youth specific count, which will include the metro area, including Cobb and Gwinnett counties. Keylan Mitchell, with HHS, created a pilot to target young adults in the LGBTQ community. A new psychiatrist with focus on adolescents is now working at Mercy Care.

- **HMIS: Ed Powers**

Draft versions of the Bylaws and Standard Operating Procedures Manual were distributed to the HMIS Steering Committee to review and vote on. DCA, as the HMIS Lead, is hosting a statewide conference in October. Migration continues to be problematic as reports are not as available as needed.

- **Performance: Point-In-Time (PIT) Report: Desta Taylor**

Results of the 2017 PIT Count were provided. The count, led by Partners for Home, took place in January using the same method as previous years; however, improvements in surveying were seen by using the Client Track HMIS system. Results showed a 17% decrease in total homelessness since 2015 and a 44% decrease in chronic homelessness during the same timeframe. Discussion ensued about how to best market the report and how to evaluate clients moving in and out of the system. In addition, it was stressed that intensive focus on the most vulnerable, including the Peachtree and Pine population, is imperative.

- **Veterans: Cathryn Marchman**

Several months ago, the CoC submitted an application to the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) to determine if the benchmarks regarding ending homelessness among Veterans were met. USICH requested some follow-up information and that was provided and the CoC is now waiting for a response. Additionally, emphasis will be placed on moving Vets housed in Peachtree & Pine to a better location.

#### **NOFA Update: Amy Zaremba**

The HUD CoC NOFA goals are designed to promote a community-wide commitment to ending homelessness. The 2017 HUD priorities for funding are to end homelessness for all persons, to create a systemic response to homelessness, to strategically allocate and use resources, and to use a Housing First approach. The proposed Atlanta CoC priority ranking list includes projects divided into two tiers of funding: Tier One- \$6,371,264 relatively secure for funding; and Tier Two - \$813,352 the sum of 6% of CoC ARD (\$406,676) and Bonus 6% of final pro rata need (\$406,676) funded on CoC application score and other factors. The Ranking & Review Committee's recommendations and next steps were outlined.

**A motion to approve the Ranking & Review Committee's recommendations relative to NOFA Priority Listing was made by Jack Hardin, seconded by Terry Lee, and carried unanimously.**

#### **Partners for HOME**

- **Peachtree & Pine (PT&P): Cathryn Marchman**

Partners for HOME, in partnership with other agencies and communities, have worked to assess and transition those living at PT&P to permanent housing. Work with the City of Atlanta to identify new shelters is underway, but there will be some delay of the build-out and an interim plan is being put into place until done. Of additional concern are those being discharged from the hospital, women and children, and gaps in housing authority vouchers.

- **HomeStretch: Jack Hardin**

The City of Atlanta approved a debt service budget, strategic plan, and Homeless Opportunity Bond for \$25 million that will close on 10/5/2017. HomeStretch, in an effort to match the \$25 million, has raised \$18 million. Recommendations for spending will be through the Regional Commission on Homelessness and Invest Atlanta with assistance from Partners from Home. In consideration of the upcoming election and uncertainty about the City of Atlanta post-election, community oversight was built into the process to add value and oversight.

- **Homestretch Project List: Cathryn Marchman**

Strategic Plan Goals were summarized based on a 3-year spend-out:

**1. End Chronic Homelessness:**

- Year 1: End Chronic Homelessness by 2019
- Year 2: Create 225 units
- Year 3: Create 455 Units – total 1000

**2. End Family Homelessness by 2020:**

- Rapid Re-Housing (create 200 units; 100 annually x 3 years)
- Bridging Affordability: 2 year \$300 shallow subsidy rental assistance program; Pilot to serve 200 working families; 100 in year 1
- Diversion Pilot 35 families

**3. End Youth Homelessness by 2020:**

- Family Host Homes
- Transitional Living Program
- Rapid Re-Housing

Additional line items include independent third party evaluator, admin costs for administrator, workforce connections, training, surge support/staff and technical assistance. It was noted that these goals will be in addition to what is already being done.

- **Strategic and Projected Activities: Cathryn Marchman**

Strategies and correlating activities to ensure goals for the 4000+ underserved in the Atlanta area are met by providing durable intervention.

**Adjournment: Tom Andrews**

There being no additional business, the meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

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