# Carroll County, MD Circle of Caring Homelessness Board Half-Day Retreat

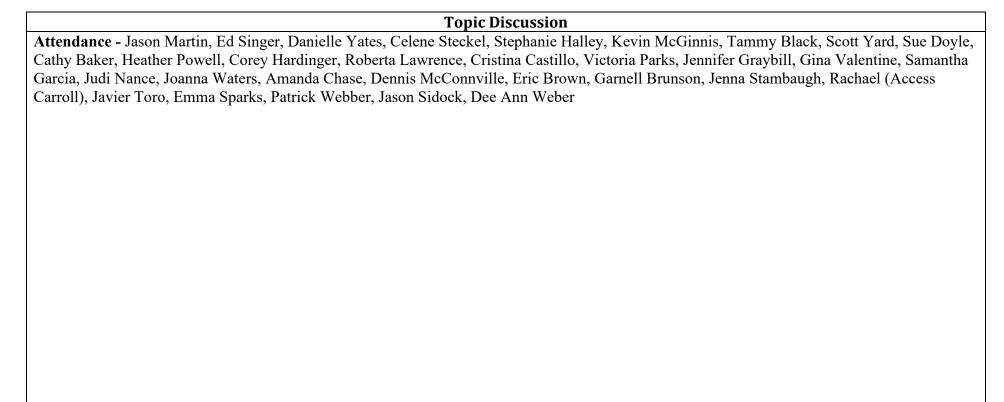
Continuum of Care - Executive Board

Meeting Date: October 23, 2023

**Time:** 12:30 pm-4:00 pm

**Location:** In-Person at The Arc of Carroll County

Chair: Celene Steckel



- 1. Lunch Welcome and Introductions
- 2. Data Review Corey Hardinger shares PowerPoint presentation

### • Overview of Prevention and Diversion Data

- i. Moderate barriers to low barrier 6 years ago
- ii. Carroll County does not turn away out of County individuals where as some counties only support their own residents
- iii. Federal money requires Carroll County to receive residents from any county

### • Coordinated Needs Assessment Data

- i. Coordinated entry is a requirement of the COC NOFO funding
- ii. Housing First can't address other issues individuals are having if they are homeless; follows the funding
- iii. Other counties are moving people in and out of Rapid Rehousing in 60 days by using their own county funding; some bypass coordinated entry, but Carroll County doesn't
- iv. Carroll County Returns to homelessness in the NOFO are not terrible
- v. How frequently is the Coordinated entry process reviewed? It's really dependent upon the individual's situation
- 3. SWOT Analysis Prevention and Diversion

### Strengths

- i. Coordinated Entry is an easy process
- ii. Agency to agency communication; collaboration in general
- iii. Community support and leverage
- iv. Turn around process is fast
- v. Night by Night is a connection as well as Outreach workers 50% of NbN participants are there for 7 days or less; 25% are only there for 1 night
- vi. Housing Stability goes to Eviction court to help prevent evictions
- Seeing numerous Hospital ER discharges as well as from mental health institutions
- What data do we need to see to track these discharges?

#### Weaknesses

- i. Enough resources to meet all the need (\$\$)
- ii. Case management is not a requirement
- iii. Funding cuts weatherization and Housing Counseling no longer available in this county
- iv. No widespread reentry programs
- v. Hospitals have to link everyone with services when discharged

# Opportunities

- i. Hospitals and Detention Centers need to work together to develop a reentry plan
- ii. Need to get a developer that will support Affordable Housing in Carroll County and a community buy-in
- iii. Increase Fair Market Rent (FMR)
- iv. Affordable Housing Planning Subcommittee meet possibly before the first BOC session in November
- v. Home project based units in Carroll County Bishop Garth and Westminster Overlook
- vi. Chronic homelessness is not successful in the Housing program
- vii. SROs single room occupancy

viii. Westminster City does not allow SRO's

#### • Threat

- i. Long wait times
- 4. SWOT Analysis Shelter

### • Strengths

- i. Great Continuum of Care
- ii. Access to shelter all year round and places for adults to go
- iii. Night by Night Shelter not having an intake process
- iv. The amount of referrals
- v. Location of shelters and closeness to services

#### Weakness

- i. Youth aren't included in Shelter Services
- ii. Limited space and capacity
- iii. Case management not required
- iv. Having no Day Center
- v. Transportation barriers and obstacles
- vi. Prohibited from placing requirements on shelter participants

# • Opportunities

- i. Require Case management
- ii. Shelter for Seniors
- iii. More Family shelter and a Medical Respite

#### Threats

- i. Capacity
- ii. Covid benefits and SNAP benefits stopped or reduced
- iii. Evictions on the rise
- iv. Funding uncertainty
- v. Losing good staff
- vi. Substance abuse
- vii. State cutting 20% of shelter funding and repurposing to Diversion
- viii. Discharges from Hospitals of mental health cases and sending them to shelter
- 5. SWOT Prioritization and Action Planning
  - Shelter Action Plan cross agency training on homelessness services
  - Is there advocacy of the Circle of Caring?? give people ideas
  - Jenny Graybill to email Cathy Baker and Marie Liddick to talk to providers about discharges
  - Forming a discharge committee (Scott Yard -chair??)
  - Diversion and Prevention statewide committee under Planning Tiffany Fossett
  - Accessory dwelling need to change the zoning
  - Lived Experience Committee (Amy Baker??)

Advocacy of COC – explore Advocacy committee at the next Circle of Caring meeting

The next Executive Board Meeting will take place in person on Monday, November 27th from 2:00pm to 4pm VIRTUALLY