

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

NOTES

03/27 EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND SHELTER OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

Issued: 2 April 2024

Purpose	Planning forum responsible for developing and evaluating the implementation of the Winter Plan and coordinating shelter-related topics.		
Details	Date: 27 March 2024	Time: 1 pm – 2:30 pm	Location: Webex Link
Attendees	Participants: 58	Organizations: 25 Detailed list below meeting no	
Key	Areas of Concern or Risk	Opportunities for Improvement	Progress/Trends to Celebrate

I. WELCOME & AGENDA REVIEW

As meeting participants gathered, Theresa Silla (Executive Director, ICH). Co-Chairs Anthony Newman (DHS) and Reginald Black (Serve Your City) introduced themselves and welcomed attendees.

Reference	Reference Materials		
PPT	 Meeting Agenda Intro & Call for Announcements Adopting Notes & Managing the Listserv and Notes on Welcome & Agenda Review 	2-5	

II. SYSTEMWIDE CHECK-IN

Four topics were discussed during systemwide check-in 1) Overview, Outstanding & New/Emerging Concerns, 2) Hypothermia Check-In, 3) Shelter Case Management, and 4) Impact of DOC Discharges on Homeless System.

A. OVERVIEW, OUTSTANDING & NEW/EMERGING CONCERNS

Director Silla presented the constituent concerns tracker and asked for any new concerns.

Comments and questions are captured on slide 11. Topic areas are summarized here for easy reference:

• Safety and security concerns in shelters and transitional housing. Concerns are resident to resident and staff to resident.

Reference Materials			
PPT	 Overview of Systemwide Check-In Resource: Constitute Concerns Tracker New/Emerging Concerns or Updates 	7-10	

B. HYPOTHERMIA CHECK-IN

Mr. Newman and Ms. Aguilar from DHS presented the updates on closing dates for which sites.

Comments and questions are captured on slides 16-17. Topic areas are summarized here for easy reference:

- Clarification on the number of shelters closing and the total number of shelters outside of hypothermia season.
- Discussion on the continuation of presenting transitional housing options to people staying at hypo shelters and at low-barrier shelters.
- Flag from Shelter Capacity that our Transitional Housing for adults is at about 60% utilization.
- Concern raised and flagged to work on changing the barriers of eligibility and program rules to transitional housing so more people might enroll.
- Concerns were raised in the chat on which shelters have ongoing violence and bullying happening.
- Concern about language access in the youth system.

Reference Materials		
PPT	 Men's Closing Dates Women's Closing Dates Action Steps to Closing Sites 	13-15

C. SHELTER CASE MANAGEMENT

Mr. Newman from DHS presented on upcoming changes to shelter case management.

Comments and questions are captured on slide 22. Topic areas are summarized here for easy reference:

• Clarification on what DHS means by training and how can we ensure we are raising up the right leaders.

Reference Materials			
PPT	 Client-Centered Challenges to Current System Proposed System Response Feedback we need 	19-21	

D. IMPACT OF DOC DISCHARGES ON THE HOMELESS SYSTEM

Director Silla and Reggie Black introduced the topic of how discharges from jail are impacting the homeless system and introduced Director Williams from DOC to share. Due to time, there was not much space for feedback other than in the chat.

Comments and questions are captured on slide 26. Topic areas are summarized here for easy reference:

- Thankful for the presentation and connection with DOC.
- Request to discuss the issue of incarceration resetting the clock for time experiencing homelessness.

Reference N	Reference Materials		
PPT	 Purpose & Context Presentation notes from Director Williams 	24-25	

III. DISCUSSION

Two topics were discussed during the discussion period 1) HSEMA Heat Plan, and 2) Updating Priorities/Projects to Address Feedback.

A. HSEMA HEAT PLAN

Director Silla framed the conversation around the Heat Plan and confirmed that the ICH has consolidated previous feedback on the Heat Plan. Alec Coutroulis from HSEMA presented the updated Heat Plan and planning process.

Comments and questions are captured on slide 45. Topic areas are summarized here for easy reference:

- Concerns about transportation during heat alerts.
- Flagging air quality alerts and whether they will be part of the plan. There is a separate plan for air quality alerts.
- Concern about safety on the cooling buses and the lack of staffing.

Reference Materials		
PPT	 Roadmap 2024 Heat Emergency Plan Agenda Background Heat Sensitivity – Exposure Plan Overview Concept of Operations Plan Implementation Communications Cooling Centers and Facilities Transportation 2024 Updates – Next Steps 	28-44

- District Agency Roles and Responsibilities
- Comments Concerns Received to Date

B. UPDATING PRORITIES/PROJECTS TO ADDRESS FEEDBACK

Director Silla presented the annual priorities and projects and how feedback is being integrated. Director Silla also discussed a possible new cross-cutting workgroup focusing on justice-involved, domestic violence, and migrants.

Comments and questions are captured on slide 54. Topic areas are summarized here for easy reference:

- Appreciate the inclusivity of the proposal.
- Appreciate being realistic about what is attainable.
- Discussion on how to focus on prevention and diversion as well so that we can also focus on getting more people into permanent housing.

Reference Materials		
PPT	 Roadmap *Reminder* Icebreaker for the Month of March on Strategic Planning for Special Populations *Reminder* Work led by ERSO CMTE & WGs Feedback Received Related to Priorities *Proposal* Work led by ERSO CMTE & WGs Next Steps 	47-53

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

Reference Materials		
PPT	Announcements CFSA: Community Pop-Up Briefing DHS: Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) DOC: READY Center DPR: Summer Jobs ICH: Budget Engagement Sessions NHLC: Homelessness on Trial Webinar NHLC: Housing Not Handcuffs: Johnson v. Grants Pass Supreme Court Rally Peace Day 2024 Youth Homelessness Matters Day Event: Save the Date	54-64

VI. SUMMARY & ADJOURNMENT

Director Silla adjourned the meeting and reminded the group of the Budget Engagement Sessions in April and the next meeting for ERSO in April.

Next Meeting Date: 24 April 2024 Time: 1 pm – 2:30 pm Location: Webex Link

Participant List

Ms. Umi ANDREW

Abby Sypek (Everyone Home DC)

Alec Coutroulis (HSEMA)

Annette Lee (DBH)

Anthony Newman (DHS)

Betty Gentle (SOME)

Blair Copeland (CC)

Brendan Haley (Everyone Home DC)

Candyce Coates (TCP)
Carla Branham (DHS)

Catherine Crosland (Unity)

Chris Pitocchelli (FP)

Claudine Witter (Pathways)

Cornell Kinard (DHS)
Cpt. Jon Dorrough (MPD)
Daisean Foster (ICH)

Danica Hawkins (FP)
David Rinonos (DHS)

Dervin Brown (UPO)

Donte Lucas (DHS)

Emil Pauling (DHS)

Jacqueline e. Williams (DOC)

Jakia Carroll

Janethe Peña (DC Doors)

Jennifer Joyce (DHS)

Jill Carmichael (ICH)

Joshua Drumming (WLCH)

LaJuan Brooks (WLCH)

Lauren Markovich (TCP)

Leticia Deyr (DHS)

Liza Poris (FP)
Lynn Amano (FP)

Marquita Smith (DHS)

Mary Bridget Klinkenbergh (CC)

Michael Ferrell (DCCFH)

Ms Naomi

Rachelle Ellison (PFFC)

Ray Walker (Community

Connections)

Rebecca Kellett (GMCGT)

Reginald Black (Serve Your City)

Robert Warren (PFFC)

Roxanne Murray (Echelon)

Russell McDowell (N St Village)

Sabrina Burrell (DHS)

Samantha LeBlanc (TCP)

Sari Frankel (DBH)

Tamika Weldon (DHS)

Tia Dunn (HSEMA)

Tiffany Tyler (DHS)

TyShawn Burnette (FP)

Tyrell McQueen (TCP)

Veronica Fabani (CC)

Zina Williams (DHS)

Krysta Aguilar (DHS) n brown-white (UPO)

Rico Harris (CCNV)

Sierra Barnedo (SMYAL)