

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH)

**Housing Solutions Committee
Meeting Summary**

Date: Monday, May 18, 2020

Time: 3:00 PM

Location: WebEx Meeting

Agenda:

1. D.C. Government Agency Updates
2. Work Group Updates

Meeting Summary:

1. DC Government Agency Updates

DHCD

- Staff teleworking
 - Closed Spring Flats senior project as well as two scattered sites w/ SOME
- Budget updates planned to be shared at CNHED's FY2021 Virtual Budget Briefing Wednesday at 3:30 pm
 - Will also give briefing at the Fair Budget Coalition in early June
- Public Hearing June 8, Government Witness Hearing June 15; both done virtually
- Recipient of federal aid from CARES Act
- \$9.1M in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding will be used for tenant rent assistance for those impacted by COVID as well as capacity support to nonprofits impacted by COVID
- Helping with DMPED's microgrant program in wards 7 and 8 to support small business
- Participating in national advocacy on rental assistance and development finance

DHS

- Budget briefing Wednesday 5/20 at 2 pm with the DC Fiscal Policy Institute on Human Services budget, link is [here](#). Meeting Number = 476 744 400; Password = Budget; Call In Number = 1-650-479-3208
- Also participating in CNHED's FY2021 Virtual Budget Briefing Thursday 5/21 at 3:30 pm, link to register is [here](#)
- Opened second hotel site (210 rooms) for individuals experiencing homelessness that are medically vulnerable and at high risk for serious complications if contracting COVID. First site has 126 rooms. Clients at these sites will be prioritized for housing matches moving forward.

- Stopped operation of hypothermia shelters; transferred those in these shelters to PEP-V, Isolation and Quarantine hotels, or other openings in general emergency shelter
- FY2021 budget includes \$5M for Homeward DC, including new PSH investments, and \$7.8M for investments in family emergency shelter
 - Funding will permit for resumption of work at Harriet Tubman and New York Avenue
- Restarted CAHP process in May
 - Phase 1 is focused on clients in PEP-V that are interested in site-based housing opportunities coming online. The youth system has also been making matches to site-based TH opportunities.
 - Phase 2 will focus on assisting clients matched to tenant-based resources.
 - DCHA has established a virtual housing process over past 6-8 weeks that includes electronic signatures, virtual unit inspections, and virtual voucher briefings. Elements of the CAHP process that still need more discussion/clarity include protocols for locating clients (especially in the single adult system), responsibilities for helping clients become document ready, and assisting clients with housing search. Partners interested in participating in these conversations should plan on joining upcoming Strategic Planning Committee meetings.
- Voucher extensions being made on a case-to-case basis by the DCHA

DCHA

- Providing essential services; combination of telework + on-site
- Examining Mayor's budget now and what impacts it will have on DCHA
- Receiving funding to support Homeward DC 2.0 and Public Housing Preservation

2. Work Group Updates

- NIMBY Work Group and Permanent Supportive Housing Work Group currently put on pause to realign with final version of Homeward DC 2.0 as well as new budget situations; will resume after reformatting

3. Other Updates

- ICH will continue virtual meetings; should plan on WebEx format for the next few months
- No ICH Full Council meeting until June; ICH Committees starting back up this month

Next Meeting of the Housing Solutions Committee will be scheduled for Monday June 22 at 2:00 PM, subject to change.