



Government of the District of Columbia  
Interagency Council on Homelessness

Executive Committee Meeting Notes  
January 12, 2021 | 1:30 PM to 3:00 PM

**I. Welcome & Call to Order**

Director Greenwalt (ICH) welcomed attendees, shared the meeting agenda and purpose, and provided context for the agenda's discussion items.

**II. Items for Approval**

Director Greenwalt noted that there were no items pending for approval.

**III. HMIS Visibility**

Tom Fredericksen and Kelly Paton, with The Community Partnership for the Prevention of Homelessness (TCP), provided an update on the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) visibility and enhancements. TCP has worked over the last several years to make improvements to address HMIS's impact on the delivery of services and update software and tech features that were not available when TCP first implemented HMIS in the District. Prior to these changes, DC's HMIS functioned as a "closed" system, where each provider agency could only see the client records created by their agency. This led to numerous duplicate records (for people using more than one agency) and to program participants answering the same questions multiple times at different locations. The new visibility structure allows all agencies to see whether someone newly presenting at their agency has a record in the system already, though the content of that record will not be visible without a Release of Information (ROI).

TCP then discussed the improved data sharing process between providers working with the same client. Universal Identifiers will be shared between providers regardless of whether there is an ROI. However, in order to share more information, all clients will have to sign a Universal ROI (currently in draft and will be finalized shortly).

In order to ensure all HMIS Policy and Protocols are up to date, TCP has also been updating various policy areas of the HMIS Policies and Procedures Manual and the HMIS User Agreement.

For additional information, please reference the attached Executive Committee PowerPoint presentation.

**IV. 2020 HUD CoC Competition**

The HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) Program is the primary source of federal funding supporting the community's efforts to prevent and end homelessness. Typically, CoC Program Grants are renewed annually as part of a competitive process. However, the 2020 CoC Program renewal cycle has been delayed because of the pandemic.

Jenn Mine, with TCP, reviewed information regarding the most recent COVID relief bill, which allows the renewal of existing CoC Program grants noncompetitively. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development will post a list of grants up for renewal. This will be an informal noncompetitive process (no application). Collaborative Applicants will be given the opportunity to review and

correct the list as needed. There will be no new Permanent Housing or DV Bonuses this year. Lastly, TCP will share the final list of renewals with the ICH Executive Committee.

## **V. Prevention Update**

The Mayor extended the public health emergency until the end of March meaning that the eviction moratorium will be in place through May 2021 (60 days after the end of the public health emergency). Allison Tucker, with the Department of Human Services (DHS), presented the District's most recent prevention and diversion efforts.

The most recent COVID Relief Bill includes \$25 billion nationally in emergency rental assistance. DC is expected to receive \$200 million. DHS is already working closely with the Department of Housing and Community Development and other District agency partners to track the emerging details about how the funds can be used in order to quickly implement a coordinated, interagency effort to get these funds to households in need. Information will be shared as soon as it becomes available.

Allison Tucker then reviewed the Emergency Response Assistance Program (ERAP) including recent improvements made to the eligibility and application process, important data outcomes, and the development of the new Eviction Prevention Hotline. For detailed information regarding ERAP, upcoming changes, and the Eviction Prevention Hotline, please reference the attached Executive Committee PowerPoint.

## **VI. Stimulus Checks**

Theresa Silla, with the ICH, shared information about the second round of stimulus payments (also known as the Economic Income Payment or Stimulus Check) approved by the most recent Covid Relief Bill. Most people will receive payments automatically including eligible taxpayers who filed a 2019 tax return, SSI/SSDI and VA beneficiaries, and anyone who successfully registered for the first round of stimulus payments using the non-filer tool. However, individuals will not be able to access this payment using the Get My Payment portal if they did not file a tax return in 2019 or they did not use the non-filer tool for the first round of payments. To receive the stimulus payments, eligible individuals will now be required to file a tax return. For additional information, please reference the attached Executive Committee PowerPoint.

## **VII. Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project Update**

Kimberly Waller, with the ICH, and Jenn Mine, with TCP, announced the release of the new Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project (YHDP) Request for Proposals. For more information about the RFPs and how to apply, visit: <https://community-partnership.org/about/contract-with-tcp/>. The two RFPs will fund the following programs:

1. HUD Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project Site-Based Youth Dedication PLUS Permanent Supportive House (D-PSH)
  - b. Funding Available: Not to exceed two million
  - c. Bidders' Conference: February 1, 2021 at 10:00am
  - d. Eventbrite registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/136295281857>
  - e. Closing Date: February 22, 2021 at 2:00pm
2. HUD Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project Youth Rapid Rehousing (YHDP RRH) or Youth Joint Transitional Housing- Rapid Rehousing (Youth Joint TH-RRH)
  - a. Funding Available: Not to exceed two million
  - b. Bidders' Conference: February 1, 2021 at 2:00pm

- c. Eventbrite registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/136311921627>
- d. Closing Date: February 22, 2021 at 2:00pm

TCP will accept written questions about these solicitations from the date of release through February 11, 2021 at 2:00pm. Questions must be submitted in writing, via email to [rfp@community-partnership.org](mailto:rfp@community-partnership.org).

#### **VIII. ICH Governance & Operations**

Director Greenwalt reviewed the voting results of the December Executive Committee meeting. For additional information, please reference the attached Executive Committee PowerPoint. The Executive Committee then unanimously approved the launch of a Public Awareness & Education Work Group that will report to the Executive Committee. Lastly, the Executive Committee did not reach consensus on the issue of whether the new Racial Equity & Inclusion group should be a Committee or a Work Group that reports directly to the Executive Committee. In accordance with the ICH Bylaws, this issue was sent to the voting members of the ICH Executive Committee for an offline roll call vote. As a result of that vote, the Racial Equity & Inclusion work will be a Work Group that reports directly to the Executive Committee. Please see the attached Roll Call Vote Results handout for additional information.

#### **IX. Partner Updates Announcements**

No updates were shared.

#### **X. Summary and Adjournment**

The meeting was then adjourned.

Next Executive Committee Meeting Date: 2/09/2021 Time: 1:30p to 3:00p Location: WebEx & Teleconference