



Date: May 11, 2021 **Time:** 1:30p to 3:00p
Location: via WebEx & Teleconference

Meeting Notes

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

The ICH Youth Committee proposed approval for Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project (YHDP) selections. The YHDP awarded the District \$4.28 million from HUD to fund additional youth homelessness services. The ICH Youth Committee leveraged a community selection process by creating the YHDP Community Workgroup.

The YHDP Community Workgroup convened over forty meetings to develop the Coordinated Community Plan (CCP). The CCP determined that YHDP would fund a Site-Based Permanent Supportive Housing and a Rapid Rehousing/Joint Transitional Housing-Rapid Rehousing program. In the Fall of 2020, the CCP was approved by HUD, and the YHDP RFPs were released to the public. The RFP Selection Panel included youth with lived experience, non-conflicted service providers, community advocates, the Department of Human Services (DHS), ICH, and The Community Partnership (TCP). There were no competitive proposals received for PSH, and the YHDP RFP Selection Committee selected the top two scoring proposals under the RRH/Joint TH-RRH RFP. The programs selected were SMYAL (RRH) and Sasha Bruce Youthworks (TH-RRH). The YHDP grant will fund the programs for two years and can be selected for renewal through the CoC NOFA process. The YHDP Community Workgroup requested approval for the selected projects.

The Washington Legal Clinic for the Homeless affirmed their organization's stance against funding rapid re-housing (RRH) due to concerns surrounding time limits within RRH programs.

After an electronic poll was taken, twenty people voted for approval, zero people voted against, and eighteen attendees abstained from voting. The Executive Committee approved the selection of SMYAL (RRH) and Sasha Bruce Youthworks (TH-RRH) for the YHDP Grant.

III. For Discussion

TCP provided an overview of the 2021 PIT Count, highlighting the unique context of the 2021 PIT Count due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The District implemented one of the most comprehensive eviction moratoriums in the country, leading to a decrease in individuals newly experiencing homelessness, resulting in decreased inflow into the homeless system.

a. 2021 PIT Results & Implications

The 2021 PIT Count found a significant decrease in family homelessness due to the Family Rehousing and Stabilization Program (FRSP) and the Homeless Prevention Program (HPP). Individuals newly

experiencing homelessness also decreased by 13% for singles and 12% among families. However, rates of unsheltered homelessness increased by 4.3% in the District.

Attendees inquired about gender demographics specific to unsheltered individuals. In response, TCP stated that among unsheltered individuals counted 81% were cis-identified men, 18% were cis-identified women, and a smaller number of folks identified as trans or gender non-conforming. Attendees also requested additional information regarding the 13.8% increase in domestic violence history reported, as domestic violence agencies have also noticed an increase in families accessing domestic violence services. Attendees were pleased with the dramatic decrease in homelessness in veterans and stated the approach should be replicated for other populations.

TCP leveraged a spatial analysis to assess PIT data by ward and vulnerability indicators to gather data used to fund services tailored to the needs of consumers and locate hot spots. For additional information regarding the results of the 2021 PIT Count, please review the attached PowerPoint presentation or TCP's Washington DC Homelessness Characteristics Map [here](#).

b. Federal Funding Update: Emergency Housing Vouchers

Director Garrett (DCHA) provided a HUD update regarding Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV), stating the District will receive \$11.7 million for 707 vouchers at \$900.20 per voucher. Given the District's high cost rental market, DCHA and DHS are meeting with HUD to determine whether there is an option for an increase in funding to cover higher cost markets. Vouchers must be used within 18 months. If a voucher is not utilized by an individual within the allotted period; it will no longer be available. Additionally, once the individual or family is no longer using the voucher, it does not get reallocated for further use.

An appeal from Director Garrett will be made to HUD for an increased funding, citing the high cost of living in the District. Director Garrett affirmed DCHA's commitment to working with DHS and the CoC to disburse EHV vouchers. Director Garrett mentioned utilizing the DCHA Waitlist prioritization. However, the ICH Executive Committee advocated for vouchers to be allocated to individuals experiencing literal homelessness through the CAHP process.

Director Zeilinger (DHS) expressed excitement for the additional funding and affirmed the need for collaboration across the CoC to assist voucher recipients in securing permanent housing. Director Garrett responded in support of this statement, explaining the importance of system alignment throughout this process.

Additional information from DCHA and DHS will be shared with the ICH community as meetings continue with HUD.

c. ICH "Return to Normal"

The results of the ICH Return to Normal survey indicated overwhelming support for maintaining virtual meetings as restrictions are lifted and DC government staff transition back into the office.

VI. Updates and Announcements

Director Greenwalt will be stepping down from the ICH in early June 2021. MOTA is set to begin a national search to fill the position of ICH Director.

VI. Summary and Adjournment

The meeting was then adjourned.

Next Executive Committee Meeting:

Date: 6/08/2021 **Time:** 1:30p to 3:00p **Location:** WebEx & Teleconference