



Government of the District of Columbia  
Interagency Council on Homelessness

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

<b>Date:</b> April 10, 2018	<b>Time:</b> 1:30p to 3:30p	<b>Location:</b> One Judiciary Square (441 4 St NW), Rm 1114
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**Meeting Participants**

Schroeder Stribling, N St Village	Tanya Royster, DBH	Harris Berg, Collective Good
Laura Zeilinger, DHS	Hammere Gebreyes, DCHA	Tom Fredericksen, TCP
Kristy Greenwalt, ICH	Setareh Yelle, DOES	Linda Kauffman, Downtown BID
Theresa Silla, ICH	Scott McNeilly, WLCH	Albert Townsend, PFFC
LaShun Lawson, ICH	Kate Coventry, DCFPI	Marcia Bernbaum, PFFC,
Carter Hewgley, DHS	Jill Carmichael, NCC	Kris Thompson, Calvary
Larry Handerhan, DHS	Reggie Black, Rahlevosity	Chapman Todd
Madeline Sloan, DHS	Robert Warren, PFFC	Adam Rocap, Miriam's Kitchen

**Meeting Notes**

**I. Welcome/Framing**

Director Greenwalt (ICH) welcomed attendees and walked through the proposed agenda items.

**II. Proposed FY19 Budget**

Director Greenwalt invited DHS, DBH and DOES to cover proposed investments that impact the implementation of Homeward DC. Director Zeilinger (DHS), Director Royster and Setareh Yelle (DOES) shared updates for their respective agencies, and Director Greenwalt covered the DHCD update.

Please see attached PPT for details. Also note that a handout on the newly launching Pre-Arrest Diversion (PAD) Program was also distributed to support the discussion re the proposed DBH budget.

Discussion re the proposed DHS budget focused on:

- **Security Deposits** and any limitations/caps included in the budget support act language. Primary concern was related to caps and the need to figure out how the market takes advantage of what DC is willing to pay for to raise the cost of housing individuals. Recognition that the Tenant Barriers work group is doing research on what tenants are experiencing as well as what is fair and reasonable practice for landlords.
- **Budget allocation compared to the investment modeled in Homeward DC vs the actual need on the ground.** Acknowledgement that our understanding of need and our ability to model is a work in progress that is tackled by Strategic Planning. Additionally PPT slides will be adjusted for distribution to reflect some the information available.
- **Investment in youth services** and
  - Significant difference in number of beds or slots per dollar invested in the youth subsystem compared to number of beds or slots per dollar invested in the adult singles subsystem. Acknowledgement that service delivery model for youth is much smaller and more service intense than single adults based on assumptions related to

vulnerability and need for wrap around, intensive services. Discussion about the available for discussion/research around optimal size for programming versus optimal size for realizing cost savings/efficiency for even smaller shelter youth served relative to investments and the potential need for continued work on that front.

- Any issues with getting money out the door. Confirmation from Director Zeilinger that this has not been an issue in the youth space except for those instances when standing up an entirely new program.
- **Construction activities planned for the DC General Campus** and question regarding why DC General is ramping down (prior to construction activities) but Harriet Tubman is not. Clarification that timing of DC General closure is related to the desire to meet the goals established and not the construction schedule, as evidenced by the fact that a lot of other facilities will remain open on the campus include DC Jail and CPEP. Explanation/descriptions of the provisions made to:
  - Monitor air quality during construction and
  - Address any impacts related to transportation to and from the campus as a result of construction activities.
- **Year round capacity for women** and whether the District plans to address needs once the seasonal provisions related to hypothermia close down on April 15. Efforts/adjustments made already include changing temporary beds to low barrier shelter beds at Pat Handy, converting seasonal beds at CCNV into year round beds, continued analysis of inflow and turn-aways to assess if provisions are adequate. Acknowledgement that this is a regional problem and that there are efforts underway to work with Metropolitan Washington Council of Government (COG).

Discussion re the proposed DHCD budget focused on:

- **Need for continued investment in Public Housing** instead of the current approach of developing mixed income communities under the New Community Initiatives. Perception that this is discriminatory against public housing and longtime DC residents.
- **Issue with the newly framework issued for the Comprehensive Plan** which does not take into account pre-existing data that can highlight and frame the affordable housing crisis appropriately.

These issues are being referred to the appropriate ICH Committing: Housing Solutions.

Discussion re the proposed DBH budget focused on:

- **Setting rates for services** and ensuring both standard scope of work for services provided to units by different agencies and also leveraging Medicaid for those services so more local dollars can focus on creating units.
- **Orientation to the Pre-Arrest Diversion (PAD)** program: Director Royster extended an invitation to a joint DHS/DBH Brown Bag on the topic that will be sent out to the members of the Executive Committee.

- **Effort to balance the need for forensic beds vs civil beds.** Reflecting both the growing national trend and need for forensic beds and the expectation that meaningful connections and engagements envisioned under the new PAD program will help alleviate some of the community/civil needs.
- **Peers** and the critical role they will play as part of the PAD program that is launching, in terms of meaningful and sustained connections

Due to time limitations the discussion on the proposed DOES budget was limited to the continued investments in:

- **Leveraging opportunities and growth in the IT/Cybersecurity fields,** as these are living wage jobs that generally do not require college and/or bachelor degrees; but rather certifications and on the job training that are generally more accessible to residents experiencing homelessness; and
- **Programs that residents experiencing homelessness rely on** for connections to the employment/labor market, including Career Connections.

### III. HMIS Visibility Progress Update

Tom Fredericksen (TCP) quickly covered the HMIS Visibility updates. Please see attached PPT for details.

Due to time limitations, discussion was limited to

- **Ability to influence the HMIS vendor** (in partnership with HUD and other communities also relying on the vendor) to roll out updates to HMIS
- **Need for continued engagement with consumers,** including a quick report out on the extensive efforts made to date to engage consumers (e.g. June 2017 ICH Pre-Meeting forum as well as the Listening Sessions scheduled at Low Barrier Shelters) and the strong sentiments expressed by consumer around the urgency to address this issue as lack of HMIS visibility makes coordination around housing very difficult for the shelter, street outreach and housing providers, creating a number of frustrations for consumers themselves.
- **Need for continued engagement with DV providers and clients** to ensure that the DV concerns are appropriate addressed in the visibility efforts.

### IV. June Full Council Prep: Understanding System Inflow

Director Greenwalt quickly framed the issue (please see attached PPT for details) and opened the floor for a brief discussion.

Discussion topics included:

- Ability to interview small sample of clients returning from inactive to help inform data analysis.
- Ability to assess inflow associated with local, regional and national disasters (e.g. fire in Montgomery County, floods in Houston, etc).
- Ability to identify number of individuals experiencing homelessness as a direct result of evictions and ability to identify rates of evictions in the surrounding jurisdictions. For example, research

on evictions suggests that a number of counties in Virginia have very high eviction rates (amongst the highest nationwide). Is there disproportionate inflow from those areas?

- Ability to track last zip code/place of residence and better understand whether the inflow is from areas with relatively high eviction rates.

## **V. Consumer Engagement Strategy Update**

Note that due to time limitations, there was no discussion.

Director Greenwalt updated the group that a meeting has been scheduled with the ICH Full Council Members that have lived experience to obtain more feedback and work towards a consensus on approach, due to the myriad of approaches and suggestions that came out of the March Pre-Meeting.

## **VI. Governance/Administrative Updates**

Note that due to time limitations, there was not enough time to discuss the following handouts, which were circulated at the meeting.

- 2018 Priorities of the ICH Committees and
- ICH Committees At-A-Glance.

However Director Greenwalt did request for a vote to approve the Housing Solution and Youth Committee slates. Schroeder Stribling made a motion. The motion was moved. There was consensus to adopt the Housing Solutions and Youth Committee Slates.

## **VII. Department Announcements**

Due to time limitations, this agenda items was skipped.