

**GEORGIA BALANCE OF STATE CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

Atlanta, Georgia

August 1, 2023

Conference Call Number (1-844-992-4726; Mtg# is 2632 609 8490)

Present (teleconference)

Rachel Castillo
Tammie Collins
Chad Cheshire
Matthew Elder
Jimiyu Evans
Andrea Giese-Sweat
Philip Gilman
Alison Goldey
Eric McGhee
Diane Rogers
Maxwell Ruppensburg
Michelle Stanley
Charlotte Woody

Absent

Linda Boswell
Kristy Carter
Sondra Hampton
Wayne Mack
Brendon Tate

Collaborative Applicant Staff (teleconference)

Amanda Brand
Isaac Davis
Aashish Gautam
Josh Gray
Rick Heermans
Tina Moore
Keveja Thomas
Cordaryl Turner
Daphne Walker

Guests (teleconference)

Jenny Wood-FaithBridge
Sarah Ediss-Gateway CSB
Christy Day-Bridge of Tiftarea
Paula-Project Infinity
Sharon Scott-CSRA EOA
Falecia Stewart-MUST Ministries
Susan Smith & Navvab McDaniel-PADV
Margaret Schuelke & Nancy Zimmerman-PCCI
Ebony Harris-Youth Empowerment Success Services (YESS)
Reed Fincher-Dalton-Whitfield CDC
Haleigh Jenkins & Linda Heagy-Hand in Hand of Glynn
Suzanne Dow-GA Mountain Women's Center
Megan VandeBogert-Hope Thru Soap
Shauntay Harris-City of Hinesville
Gail Seifert-Okefenokee Alliance for the Homeless
Antoinette Fields-HOPE Atlanta
Jerome Greathouse-GA Dept. of Community Health
Immanuel Laidlaw-BoS CoC Youth Action Board
Teresa Stephens, Chrystal Coker, & Michael Fisher-NDO
Heather Hutton-National Coalition for the Homeless
(Rockdale & Newton Counties)

The special meeting of the Georgia Balance of State Continuum of Care Board (the "Board") meeting was called to order by Chairperson Chad Cheshire at 1:05 p.m.

Chairperson Cheshire welcomed board members, thanked everyone for participating in this meeting, and conducted a roll call of the board members in attendance.

Chairperson Cheshire then invited guests to participate in the public comment period and members to introduce themselves. The guests introduced themselves either verbally as they joined the conference call or through the Chat feature online. There were no additional comments from the public.

Chairperson Cheshire called on Josh Gray and Tina Moore to review the 2023 Balance of State Continuum of Care (CoC) Annual Competition. Mr. Gray provided an overview of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) overarching policy priorities highlighted in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) and stated they are unchanged from last year. These priorities include ending homelessness for all persons, using a housing first approach, reducing unsheltered homelessness, improving system performance, partnering with housing, health, and service agencies, racial equity, improving assistance to LGBTQ+ individuals, persons with lived experience, and increasing affordable housing supply. Mr. Gray reviewed the BoS CoC's proposed responses in addressing these priorities in the competition.

Ms. Moore discussed meeting with the Standards, Rating, and Project Selection Committee on July 26, 2023, to update and finalize the proposed competition policy and process, application documents and scoring criteria, both Addendum documents, and other materials. Referring to materials in the board book (Tab A) emailed to the Board, Ms. Moore discussed the overall competition and then provided an overview of the proposed Balance of State CoC Competition policy and process as they relate to HUD's NOFO and federal priorities. Ms. Moore discussed the permanent housing priority, HUD's two-tiered System for project ranking (relocation and bonus amounts for Tier 2), federal priorities as it relates to Tier 1 and Tier 2 funding, the CoC permanent housing bonus project opportunity, bonus points for leveraging housing and healthcare resources, the Domestic Violence (DV) bonus opportunity, threshold criteria, threshold criteria for Joint TH and PH-RRH Component projects and scoring for agency capacity. Ms. Moore discussed the scoring criteria around using project performance to score and rank projects, the proposed policy to reduce or reallocate projects for low performance or underutilization, and consideration of returns to homelessness. Ms. Moore discussed proposed competition policy around the prioritization of projects in groupings, incentives for agencies to partner with the CoC in the coordination of a homeless count, incentives for applicants to prioritize Veterans or Youth-headed households, and other bonus points available. Ms. Moore reviewed the proposed scoring criteria for new and renewal projects, proposed review application form for new projects, threshold criteria for the new Joint TH and RRH Component Projects, and other competition materials.

Ms. Moore requested the Board's approval of the Annual NOFO competition policy and process, reallocation policy, Certification Policy Addendum, Coordinated Entry Policy Addendum, timeline, scoring criteria, review application forms, and other related materials for new and renewal projects as recommended by the Standards, Rating, and Project Selection Committee on July 26, 2023.

A motion to approve the proposed 2023 Annual NOFO competition policy and process, reallocation policy, Certification Policy Addendum, Coordinated Entry Policy Addendum, timeline, scoring criteria, competition documents, and other related materials as recommended by the Standards Rating and Project Selection Committee, and to open the Balance of State CoC Competition was made by Matthew Elder and seconded by Maxwell Ruppensburg. The Chairperson called for a vote, and the motion passed unanimously.

Chairperson Cheshire called on Tina Moore to review Committee Appointments (Tab B). Ms. Moore reported that committee appointments are being proposed for the Membership and Rules Committee and for the Homeless Management Information Systems Committee.

Ms. Moore discussed responsibilities of the Membership and Rules Committee, which is responsible for providing the checks and balances for the BoS CoC. Ms. Moore further stated that they have authority over the implementation of the Continuum's Conflict of Interest and Recusal Policy; review of Board selection; ethics & parliamentary procedure; oversight of the Board appointment for someone with Lived Experience; election oversight of regional "at large" Board members; and investigation of complaints against the Continuum. Ms. Moore presented the proposed replacement committee member for the Membership and Rules Committee, Denise Farior, who would replace Christy Lovett. She noted that Ms. Farior was an attorney prior to joining DCA, has expertise in governance, operations, policy and compliance and will bring valuable expertise to the committee. Ms. Moore requested the Board's approval of the recommended replacement member, Denise Farior, to the Membership & Rules Committee.

Ms. Moore also presented the proposed replacement committee members for the Homeless Management and Information Systems (HMIS) Committee. Ms. Moore discussed responsibilities of the HMIS Committee, which include monitoring the Continuum's compliance with HMIS requirements prescribed by HUD; monitoring user participation in HMIS; and general HMIS oversight in areas related to the HMIS Lead and the HMIS system. Referring to the materials located behind Tab B, Ms. Moore presented the proposed replacement committee members for the Homeless Management and Information Systems Committee, Chad Cheshire of Volunteers of America Southeast and Joyce Buehner of Youth Empowerment Success Services to fill two vacancies. She noted that both have expertise with extensive use of the HMIS system, and programmatic experience, which will bring valuable expertise to the Committee. Ms. Moore requested the Board's approval of the recommended replacement appointments Chad Cheshire and Joyce Buehner to the HMIS Committee.

A motion to approve the proposed committee appointments of the replacement member, Denise Farior, to serve on the Membership and Rules Committee was made by Diane Rogers and seconded by Maxwell Ruppensburg. The Chairperson called for a vote, and the motion passed unanimously.

A motion to approve the proposed committee appointments of the replacement members, Chad Cheshire and Joyce Buehner, for the Homeless Management and Information Systems Committee was made by Maxwell Ruppensburg and seconded by Matthew Elder. The Chairperson called for a vote, and the motion passed unanimously.

Chairperson Cheshire called on Josh Gray to review the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) Local Competition Update (Tab C). Mr. Gray reported that the YHDP Coordinated Community Plan (CCP) has been approved by HUD, and the funding competition has been completed. A total of \$11,699,223 has been conditionally awarded to 19 new projects. Mr. Gray reviewed project awards for the seven (7) Housing Projects and twelve (12) Supportive Service Only (SSO) projects. Of the 7 housing projects, 5 were requesting Joint Component Transitional Housing and Rapid Re-Housing funds (Joint TH-RRH), 1 Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) project, and 1 Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) Project. For Supportive Services Only (SSO), 3 involved Diversion, 3 for Outreach, 3 for Drop-in centers, and 1 for Navigation. There was also 1 Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) project.

Mr. Gray reported that a total of 12 agencies were selected for funding through these projects, including 8 organizations that are new to CoC funding. The service area for approved projects included a total of 30 counties, many of which are very rural and have not been able to offer any dedicated services to youth experiencing homelessness.

Chairperson Cheshire called on Josh Gray to review the Next Board Meeting (Tab D). Chairperson Cheshire noted that the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board is August 23rd, and that a special meeting of the Board has been scheduled for September 12th (10:00 a.m.). This item is on the agenda to see if the Board would like to reschedule the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board to the time allocated for a special meeting on September 12, 2023.

Mr. Gray reported that the special meeting of the Board was scheduled for September 12th in order to align with the competition. Mr. Gray reported that, for the 2023 CoC Annual Competition at the next meeting of the Board, the Board will need to review and vote on Committee recommendations regarding the results of the competition, project ranking (as a result of policy and scoring criteria established at this meeting), funding reallocations, and submission of the BoS CoC application to HUD.

Mr. Gray noted that given the NOFO timeline, staff is working to schedule the next meeting with the Standards, Rating, and Project Selection Committee for September 5th or 6th, 2023. Mr. Gray requested the Board’s input on rescheduling the August 23th meeting to the allocated time for the special meeting on September 12, 2023.

A motion to approve rescheduling the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting from August 23, 2023, to September 12, 2023, as determined by the Board was made by Jimiyu Evans and seconded by Tammie Collins. The Chairperson called for a vote, and the motion passed unanimously.

Chairperson Cheshire asked if there was any old business. No old business was presented to the Board for consideration.

Chairperson Cheshire then asked for new business. No new business was presented to the Board for consideration.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:59 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board will be held on September 12, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

Chad Cheshire

Signature

Chairperson

Title