# Balance of State Continuum of Care Statewide Meeting

October 25, 2019, Macon Bibb County EOC, 1680 Broadway, Macon, GA

October 30, 2019, Webinar (Same Agenda Repeated)
Registration link:
https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3358325628090156811

Georgia® Department of
**Community Affairs**

October 25th & 30th, 2019

**Presented by DCA as Collaborative Applicant**

# Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions

- Balance of State CoC Updates

- Coordinated Entry

- Homeless Initiatives in the Balance of State CoC

- Public Comment

# Balance of State CoC

October 25th & 30th, 2019

Mike Thomas – CoC Program Manager

# HUD Continuum of Care

A Continuum of Care (CoC) is established by representatives of relevant organizations within a geographic area to carry out the responsibilities set forth in the CoC Program interim rule.

Georgia Balance of State CoC has152 counties.

# HUD Continuum of Care Program

The CoC Program is designed to assist individuals and families experiencing homelessness and to provide the services needed to help them move into permanent housing, with the goal of long-term stability.

- ❑ To develop a **long-term strategic plan and manage a year-round planning effort** that addresses
    - ❑ the needs of homeless individuals and households;
    - ❑ the availability and accessibility of existing housing and services; and
    - ❑ the opportunities for linkages with mainstream housing and services resources.
- ❑ To prepare an **application** for McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (McKinney-Vento) competitive grants.

# Continuum of Care Purpose

The HEARTH ACT mandates a clear structure for the Continuum of Care (CoC).

Prior to this, the CoC program was simply a competition. Now it is codified into law, and requires the following:

- The CoC must have an independent Board of Directors that is representative of the community and is inclusive to all stakeholders.

- The CoC must implement a Governance Charter that outlines the governance structures in a transparent way.

- The CoC is responsible for setting and meeting goals to prevent and end homelessness. It must formally collaborate with ESG Entitlements, and monitor and measure performance on both a program and system level.

# Collaborative Applicant (DCA) Responsibilities

- To provide oversight for the Continuum in order to meet HUD's rule for Continua of Care and to assure that requirements are met for the annual HUD Continuum of Care funding competition.

- Maintain Continuum membership lists, conduct membership recruitment campaigns targeted to stakeholders, publish agendas for membership meetings, and assist the Board in conducting meetings of full membership not less than twice annually.

- Consult with both ESG Entitlements and HUD Consolidated Planning jurisdictions.

- Implement and coordinate the biennial unsheltered point in time count and the annual shelter survey.

# Collaborative Applicant (DCA) Responsibilities (contd.)

- DCA provides staff for the Continuum's planning and implementation of:
  - United States Interagency Council on Homelessness's plan to end homelessness, titled "Home, Together."
  - Coordinated assessment system that assesses the eligibility and needs of each household seeking homeless assistance, and provides services and/or referrals to homeless households that best fit their individual circumstances in regaining independence within the community in the shortest possible time.
  - Housing and service system within its geographic area that meets the needs of homeless households, that encompass outreach, shelter, housing, and prevention strategies.
  - Written standards that establish a minimum set of expectations in terms of the quality expected of projects, their priorities and the implementation of strategy.

# Membership

- Formalized process

- Agency representation and individuals

- Voting – Designated voting member (agencies only)

- Agencies contact CoC when designated member leaves (replace member contact for agency)

- Participation – Code of Conduct Policy approved May 15th
  - Attend not less than one meeting (membership, Board, Committee, or Subcommittee) per year
  - Agencies can substitute staff for meeting participation
  - Inactive or non-voting members to be reviewed

- Conflict of Interest approved May 15th

# Balance of State CoC Updates 2019 Competition & HUD Priorities

Georgia® Department of Community Affairs

October 25th & 30th, 2019

Tina Moore – CoC Program Coordinator

# Context – CoC Competition

The Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) is a competition held each year to compete for both renewal and new funding.

It has 2 principal layers.

1. The Collaborative Applicant (DCA) for the CoC competes against other CoCs to show the work the CoC is doing to end homelessness. It receives a score for this work.

Based on this score, the CoC may get some or all of the funding available nationwide, up to its ARD (annual renewal demand).

2. Projects must compete against each other within the CoC to ensure that they have priority in receiving funding that is allocated to the CoC for each competition.

# 2019 Balance of State CoC Competition

- July 24, 2019 - 2019 CoC Program Competition opened.

- Review Applications were sent to the review sub-committees and scored in accordance of policy set by the CoC Board at a special meeting on July 24, 2019.

- Scores were collected from review team members, performance data was collected from annual reports, and applicants were given the opportunity to review their project scores.

- September 4, 2019 - Board approved the results of the competition, final ranking and determinations, reallocations, and recommended adjustments of the 2019 Balance of State Competition (following review and approval by the Standards, Rating, and Project Selection Committee).

- September 27, 2019 - final CoC Application posted for public review.

- September 28, 2019 - final CoC Application submitted to HUD.

- Award results not expected before the end of December

# 2019 Balance of State CoC Competition (cont'd.)

## Funding Available and Ranking Tiers

- ❑ Tier 1
  - Approximately $17,589,863
  - Relatively secure to be funded
- ❑ Tier 2
  - $1,059,851
  - Funding less secure (projects re-scored by HUD)
  - $997,708 available for Bonus CoC PH projects
- ❑ Reallocated Funds
  - $761,778 available
- ❑ Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus
  - $1,995,416 available

# 2019 HUD & CoC Priorities (see handout)

- Six Policy Priorities Highlighted in NOFA*
  - Ending Homelessness for all persons
  - Create a Systematic Response to Ending Homelessness
  - Strategic Resource Reallocation
  - Using an Evidence-Based Approach
  - Increasing Employment
  - Providing Flexibility to Housing First with Service Participation Requirements

  *see handout

# Other 2019 Priorities

- Applicant compliance:
  - Written Standards
  - Coordinated Entry System Written Standards, Policies & Procedures
- Veteran, Youth, Chronic prioritization (chronic beds)
- System Performance (how projects impact)
- Housing Stability
- Serving most vulnerable
- Housing First/Low Barrier
- Data Quality/HMIS (data, data, data)
- Serving the right population

# Create a Systemic Response to Homelessness

- Collaborate with mainstream and community-based services to create a systemic response to homelessness.

- Use performance and outcome data to identify and improve how resources are utilized.

- Structure Coordinated Entry to organize mainstream and community resources to ensure interventions fit the needs of participants.

- Ensure the coordination of homeless assistance is open, inclusive, and transparent (and supports client choice).

- Coordinate mainstream services and housing, ensuring people experiencing homelessness receive assistance rapidly.

# Increasing Employment Opportunities

- CoCs and CoC-funded Projects should work with local employment agencies and employers to prioritize training and employment opportunities for people experiencing homelessness.

- CoCs should promote partnerships with public and private organizations that promote employment.

- Create formal partnerships with state and local organizations to create training and employment opportunities for people experiencing homelessness.

- Build in to local coordinated entry a method of prioritization, that supports homeless participants in reaching employment goals.

- Create systems that addresses and integrates individuals with high barrier and high service needs, as employment provides income to afford housing and improves recovery outcomes for people with mental health and addictions issues.

# Cross System Collaboration

- The Balance of State is promoting partnerships with mainstream providers, CoC member and non-member agencies, to create a systemic response to homelessness.

- Designing a data driven process that identifies mainstream services and housing models that are deferring, preventing, and ending homelessness.

- Georgia State Homeless Collaboration includes-Balance of State (BoS), Temporary Aid to Families in Need(TANF), Department of Early Childcare and Learning (DECAL), Department of Children and Family Services (DFCS), Technical Colleges and Schools of Georgia(TCSG).

- New projects required to have a play to coordinate and integrate with mainstream programs that participants may be eligible.

# 2019 Balance of State CoC Competition Results

- 74 Projects in the final ranking (5 projects did not meet threshold)
  - 63 renewal PSH & RRH that were operational
  - 2 RRH renewals from 2018
  - 2 New RRH under Reallocated Funds
  - 1 New RRH under PH Bonus
  - 2 New RRH under DV Bonus
  - 2 HMIS
  - 2 Coordinated Assessment
- 2 Projects opted not to request funding for renewal of their projects ($761,778)

# 2019 Balance of State CoC Competition Results (cont'd.)

- New Coordinated Assessment Expansion, $200,000 Reallocated Funding, Tier 1

- Adjustments: 2 new highest scoring projects adjusted to align with remaining Reallocated funding available ($561,778)

- Adjustments: 1 new CoC PH Bonus project adjusted to correct budget errors and request 2 years of funding

- Adjustments: 2 new DV Bonus projects adjusted to correct budget errors

- No additional projects proposed for reduction or reallocation

- Of 10 new projects submitted, 5 did NOT meet threshold

# 2019 Balance of State CoC Competition Results (cont'd.)

2019 funding available to Balance of State CoC

$22,241,463

Balance of State CoC requesting

20,233,051

- $761,778 reallocated
- $352,798 CoC bonus unused
- $1,655,614 DV bonus unused

# 2020 Balance of State CoC Competition Preparation

- Interested in submitting an application under the 2020 competition?
  - All competition materials are posted on the Balance of State CoC's web page.
  - Start Early
  - Once BoS CoC Competition opens, there is around a 2-week turn around
- If you are interested but haven't submitted an application before, please contact Tina, April, or Mike.

# 2019 Assessment of Renewal Projects (ongoing)

- Assessment & Prioritization of people with highest needs
  - All CoC-funded projects should be assessing participants using the VI-SPDAT (or project participates in a local BoS Coordinated Entry implementation where applicable).
  - All clients should be prioritized as outlined in the BoS CoC Written Standards and the Balance of State Coordinated Entry Written Standards Policies and Procedures (or project is part of a local BoS Coordinated Entry implementation where applicable).

- **BoS CoC** Coordinated Entry Participation!! (REQUIRED)

- Housing First & Low Barrier

- Housing Stability

- Returns to Homelessness

- Program Eligibility

- Alignment with Written Standards

- Project Assessment as it relates to System Performance

# 2019 Assessment of/TA for Renewal Projects (upcoming)

- Debriefing Session for BoS CoC Applicants

- Mandatory Fair Housing/Anti-Discrimination Training Follow Up

- Employment

  - Applicant narratives detailing how they work with local employment agencies and employers to prioritize training and employment opportunities (73%), or how they will do so going forward (18%)

- Increasing Income

- Mainstream Benefits

- Racial Disparity Assessment

# Balance of State Continuum Governance Update

Georgia® Department of
**Community Affairs**

October 25th &
30th, 2019

Tina Moore – CoC Program Coordinator

# Balance of State Governance Update

- ❑ Board of Directors

- ❑ Standing Committees

- ❑ Governance Charter

# Balance of State Continuum of Care Board of Directors

- The Board currently consists of 19 member seats, either appointed by state agency heads, or elected by the Continuum membership.

- Continuum membership will elect 5 "at large" board members.

- Appointments must be relevant to the Continuum, either providing direct or indirect funding or some form of services to the homeless.

- Six new Board appointments

# BoS CoC Board Members

| Board Member | Appointing Agency |
|---|---|
| Mike Kraft, Chair | GA Department of Community Supervision |
| Chad Cheshire, Vice Chair (*New) | At-Large BoS Region 3 |
| Tonya Cureton Curry (*New) | Department of Community Affairs |
| Sondra Hampton | Department of Community Affairs |
| Bill McGahan | State Housing Trust Fund for the Homeless |
| John Ellis | State Housing Trust Fund for the Homeless |
| Monica Johnson | GA Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities |
| Eric McGhee | GA Department of Education |
| Janice Davis (*New) | GA Department of Labor |

# BoS CoC Board Members

| Board Member | Agency |
|---|---|
| Kristy Carter | Criminal Justice Coordinating Council |
| Shannon L. Candler | Gwinnett County (ESG coordination) |
| Linda Boswell (*New) | Clayton County (ESG coordination) |
| Vacant | Membership and Rules Committee Lived Experience Appointment |
| Rachel Castillo (*New) | At-Large BoS Region 1 |
| Matthew Elder (*New) | At-Large BoS Region 2 |
| David E. Blackwell | At-Large BoS Region 4 |
| Diane Rogers (*New) | At-Large BoS Region 5 |
| Nicole Sanders | Carl Vinson Medical Center |
| Charlotte Woody | Macon-Bibb County (ESG Coordination) |

# Balance of State Continuum of Care Standing Committees

- The Continuum has 4 standing committees:
  - Membership and Rules Committee
  - Standards, Rating, and Project Selection Committee
  - Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) Committee
  - Assessment, Placement, and Services Committee

# Membership and Rules Committee

John Marria, PhD, DBA
Housing Authority of the City of Cairo; South GA PHA

Evan Mills, MSW, Committee Chair
Advantage Behavioral Health Services; Northeast GA

Jodie Goodman
Carroll County Mental Health Advocates Program; West GA

Leslie Hartman
Safe Harbor Children's Shelter; Southeast GA

Dave Whisnant
Department of Community Affairs; Special Needs Housing Statewide

# Standards, Rating & Project Selection Committee (Updates Pending)

Evan Mills, MSW

Advantage Behavioral Health Services; Mental Health Service Provider

Phillippa Moss

City of Gainesville; Local Government; Housing & Neighborhood Development

Randy Lane

Formerly Nonprofit Homeless Service Provider; Local Government; South, GA

Karen Yawn

Battered Women's Shelter (The Haven); Nonprofit Homeless Service Provider; South, GA

One Vacant Seat TBD

# Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) Committee (Updates Pending)

Maria Beard

CSRA Economic Opportunity Authority; Nonprofit Homeless Service Provider; East GA

Ciceli Brown

City of Albany; Local Government Service Provider; South GA

Lucinda Garrett

Douglas County Community Service Board; Mental Health Service Provider; West GA

Two Vacant Seats TBD

# Georgia HMIS Steering Committee/CoC Admin Representatives – BoS Continuum

- CoC Steering Committee Representatives
  - Lucinda Garrett, HMIS Committee
  - Mike Thomas, Collaborative Applicant
- CoC Administrators
  - Chandra McGhee, HMIS Data Analyst
  - Jasmine Rockwell, HMIS Data Analyst
  - Ambra Noble, Data Analyst (*New)
  - Rhonda Taylor, HMIS Data Analyst (*New)
  - Kate Tettamant, S+C Program Coordinator (*New)

# Assessment, Placement and Services Committee

Martha Boyce
Carroll County Emergency Shelter; Nonprofit Service Provider; West GA

Kristin Bryant
City of Hinesville; Nonprofit Service Provider; Coastal GA

Sondra Hampton
Southwest Georgia Community Action Council; Nonprofit Service Provider; Southwest GA

Daisy Jones
GA Department of Community Supervision; Social Services Program Consultant; Southeast GA

Katheryn Preston
Georgia Alliance to End Homelessness; Homeless Coalition; Statewide

Anjala Huff
Project Community Connections; Nonprofit Service Provider; Clayton, Douglas & Gwinnett

Jessica Mitcham
Good Neighbor Homeless Shelter; Nonprofit Service Provider; Northwest GA

# Youth Action Board

- The Board of Directors approved a Youth Advisory Board (YAB) to serve as an official committee.

- The YAB will be comprised of youth up to age 24, with 2/3 of members having lived experience of homelessness.

- An active YAB is required to apply for funding under HUD's Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program.

- Strategy around youth homelessness will be formulated in conjunction with the Youth Homelessness Advisory Group and the YAB.

# CoC Governance Charter Contents

- ☐ CoC Board and process for Board selection

- ☐ CoC committee structure and roles

- ☐ HMIS Lead

- ☐ Collaborative Applicant Responsibilities

- ☐ Process for amending the charter

- ☐ Reviewed and updated (if necessary) annually

- ☐ 5-year review of Board selection process

# 2019 Changes to the Governance Charter

- Updated references to Federal Strategic Plan "Home, Together" (pages 2 and 8)
- Update goals of "Home, Together" (page 2)
- Updates to procurement reference (page 16)

# Balance of State Youth Updates

Georgia® Department of **Community Affairs**

October 25, 2019

April Woods – Continuum of Care Program Coordinator

# HUD Youth Priorities

- Homelessness should be Rare, Brief and Non-recurring

- Unsheltered Homeless Youth Age 24 or Younger

- Use of evidence based assessment tools specific to transition age youth (18-24)

- Youth experiencing human trafficking, domestic violence and other forms of exploitation

- Parenting Youth

- LGBTQ youth experiencing homelessness

- Exits from foster care to homelessness

# Nothing for Us Without Us

- Youth with lived experience know what they need and must guide the decision making.

- Youth Action Board is a requirement for planning HUD funded youth services.

- Be open to changing our perspective about who our youth are. Along with how we can create an environment of authenticity so youth can be who they are.

# Youth Action Board

- The Board of Directors approved a Youth Advisory Board (YAB) to serve as an official committee.

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- An active YAB is required to apply for funding under HUD's Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program.

- Strategy around youth homelessness will be formulated in conjunction with the Youth Homelessness Advisory Group.

# Youth Homeless Demonstration Program

- Preparing for the 2020 YHDP requires a planning process that identifies strategies, service, housing models, and local approaches that are ending and preventing youth homelessness.

- Creating opportunities to collect data along with harnessing data we may already have in HMIS.

- Formal partnerships with mainstream partners, including Employment, Child Welfare, and Early Child Care are required in the CoC and YHDP NOFA.

- Systems designs need to be flexible so they can be tailored to youth with both low and high service needs.

- Youth are the experts on what works for them, creating partnerships and real leadership roles when planning youth systems of care.

# Youth Specific Coordinated Entry

- In partnership with the Coordinated Entry team and implementation sites, facilitate system mapping in the CoC to identify and target youth specific services.

- Build in to CE system youth specific access points, assessment and screening tools designed for youth

- Create metrics in your communities to measure how the system is working.

- Find creative ways to compare youth who may be temporarily housed to those who are unsheltered to inform youth triage methods.

# Continuum of Care YHDP Work Groups

- Youth Action Board – Youth with lived experience that guide decision making and planning
- Youth Homeless Advisory Group – Balance of State along with CoC members and non-members interested in ending youth homelessness
- Youth NOFA Workgroup – Funded youth service providers in the CoC.
- Georgia State Homeless Collaboration (GSHC) – Mainstream providers serving homeless and precariously housed youth in the BoS geography.

# Anti-Discrimination Policy

October 25th & 30th, 2019

Mike Thomas – CoC Program Manager

Georgia® Department of
**Community Affairs**

# Georgia BoS CoC Anti-Discrimination Policy

The Georgia Balance of State CoC and all organizations receiving CoC or Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program funds must comply with applicable equal access and nondiscrimination provisions of federal, state and local civil rights laws, including the:

- ❑ Fair Housing Act,
- ❑ Title VI of the Civil Rights Act,
- ❑ Age Discrimination Act of 1975,
- ❑ Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act,
- ❑ Americans with Disabilities Act, and
- ❑ Equal Access Rule.

24 CFR 5.105 provides a full list of applicable federal laws, regulations and Executive Orders.

# Georgia BoS CoC Anti-Discrimination Policy

- CoCs are reviewed for having implemented a CoC-wide anti-discrimination policy and conducting a CoC-wide anti-discrimination training on the Equal Access Final Rule and the Gender Identity Final Rule.

- Additionally, HUD is measuring actions each CoC is taking to ensure that providers of emergency shelter, transitional housing, rapid re-housing, and permanent supportive housing adhere to the anti-discrimination policy.

- Admission may not be denied, and family members may not be separated from other family members of caregivers, based on age, sex, gender, marital status, or disability when entering shelter or housing. This is inclusive of sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression.

# Georgia BoS CoC Anti-Discrimination Policy

- CoC is committed to providing all persons with equal access to its services, programs, activities, education and employment regardless of race, color, national origin, religion, age, sex, familial status or disability.

- Policy of CoC to comply fully with all federal, state and local nondiscrimination laws and to operate in accordance with the rules and regulations governing Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity in housing and employment.

- Specifically, the CoC shall not deny any family or individual on account of race, color, national origin, religion, age, sex, familial status or disability the opportunity to apply for or receive assistance under any CoC program. Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women, and people securing custody of children under the age of 18.

# Georgia BoS CoC Anti-Discrimination Policy

- Balance of State CoC Anti-Discrimination Policy was developed by DCA legal staff, and approved by the Board on August 24, 2018.

- The policy does not add additional requirements, but emphasizes requirements already in place for all federal grantees through HUD contracts and the Balance of State CoC Written Standards.

- This policy will address the nondiscrimination provisions applicable to the CoC.  These laws will be implemented through consistent policy and procedures by each organization within the CoC.  Each organization will provide training to their staff, contractors and volunteers on these policies.

# Mandatory Training CoC/DCA ESG Funded Providers

- A mandatory Fair Housing Training for all funded agencies created September 2019, for all organizations or sub-recipients receiving CoC or Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program funds.

  - Please use Google Chrome to view the presentation at: https://www.dca.ga.gov/safe-affordable-housing/homeless-special-needs-housing/georgia-balance-state-continuum-care-2

- Please ensure that all staff view this video training as soon as possible.

- The PowerPoint and a question and answer from the live session will be released in the near future.

# Moving On Policy

Mike Thomas – CoC Program Manager

# Georgia BoS CoC Moving On Policy for Permanent Supportive Housing

- The HUD CoC application makes clear that HUD wants each CoC to have an official Moving On policy.

- The policy presented here was developed by DCA staff with language adopted from the Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH).

- The Moving On Strategy is:

  - Voluntary and tenant-driven,

  - Designed for people with disabilities residing in PSH who no longer need services, but may need rental assistance,

  - Designed to maximize program resources, and

  - Provide people the opportunity to become more independent.

- The policy does not add additional requirements, but emphasizes start of the process.

- Approved by the Board on September 4, 2019.

# Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS)



Georgia® Department of
**Community Affairs**

October 25th & 30th, 2019

Mike Thomas – CoC Program Manager

# HMIS Updates

- ❑ New Data Standards!
  - ❑ 2020 Data Standards effective October 1, 2019 (https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/3824/hmis-data-dictionary/)
  - ❑ Training Video at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wb2tqEYC9TM&feature=youtu.be
- ❑ Sage Reporting CoC-Funded Projects
  - ❑ All APRs (and exception templates) uploaded October 1st or later must use the new format from your HMIS or comparable database system (the CSV APR 2020) regardless of the date of the APR or the date range required for the CSV.
  - ❑ Updated Sage Guidebook at: https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/5315/sage-coc-apr-guidebook-for-coc-grant-funded-programs/
- ❑ Data Standard Updates
  - ❑ Changes to the workflow (how clients are enrolled and exited as you navigate through the system)
  - ❑ Please watch entire training video

# HMIS Updates (cont'd.)

- Balance of State CoC Technical Assistance
  - User Group Meetings
  - Targeted TA based on data evaluation
- Data Issues (identified during CoC Competition)
  - Start Date Enrollment & Move-In Date.
  - Exiting Clients (timeliness & accurately to reflect actual program exit)
- Longitudinal System Analysis
  - Opens for submission middle of March, 2020
  - Submission deadline middle of May, 2020
  - Final confirmation middle of July, 2020
- System Performance Measures
  - Opens for submission middle of October, 2019
  - Submission deadline February 28, 2020

# HMIS Updates (cont'd.)

- Data Quality and Performance Evaluation

  - The CoC is working to finalize system wide data quality and performance evaluation standards by the end of 2019

  - Data quality standards will ensure that reports can be pulled with high confidence in the data, and help target technical assistance

  - High data quality will be crucial for measuring performance as part of the overall CoC performance evaluation plan

  - Project level performance data contributes to system performance measures and other data submitted to HUD

- The System Administration Team works closely with the DCA team to support the ClientTrack system.

  - For all training and support-related issues, please email GA HMIS Support at GAHMISsupport@dca.ga.gov.

  - For issues within the ClientTrack system, please submit a ticket/case using the Help link within the database.

# ClientTrack Access and Assistance

- Housing providers who would like ClientTrack access must send a request including agency name, user name, location, and any other relevant information to:
  - GAHMISSupport@dca.ga.gov

- For further support and information, please review the Georgia HMIS website at:
  - https://www.dca.ga.gov/safe-affordable-housing/homeless-special-needs-housing/homeless-management-information-system-hmis

- Requests for ClientTrack technical assistance should ALWAYS be submitted through the help ticket function in the system.

- Balance of State CoC users may contact the BoS CoC HMIS support team by emailing:
  - BoSHMIS@dca.ga.gov

# Coordinated Entry

Georgia® Department of
**Community Affairs**

October 25th &
30th, 2019

Isaac Davis and Rebecca Hickom

Coordinated Entry System Coordinator

# CES in the BoS

- Current Coordinated Entry Regions
  - Anchor Communities: Bartow, Bibb, Burke+, Colquitt, Douglas, Glynn, Hall+ and Liberty Counties
- Working with other anchor communities to increase number of regions (Clayton, Dougherty, Gwinnett, Houston, Lowndes, Troup)
- Implementation sites will expand to cover multiple counties as possible
- All implementations use HMIS to record assessments, manage prioritization list, track referrals, system data
- Agencies outside of implementation communities assess and prioritize on an agency level

# Participation in CE

- How does my project participate in coordinated entry?
  - Inside CE Regions
  - Outside CE Regions

# Participation in CE

If your agency is located in a CE Region (Bartow, Bibb, Burke+, Colquitt, Douglas, Glynn, Gwinnett, Hall+ or Liberty counties), you must:

- Diversion (Screening Tool)
- Report program vacancies to lead agency
- Fill all permanent housing (RRH & PSH) vacancies through CE
- Follow CE Written Standards
    - HMIS Workflow- Referral acknowledgement and status updates
- Attend CE Planning Meetings/Case Conferencing
- NO MORE SIDE DOORS

# Participation in CE

If your agency is NOT located in an implementation community, you must:

- Diversion (Screening Tool)

- Assess households experiencing literal homelessness using VI-SPDAT, should NOT be assessed prior to entrance into emergency shelter/hotel motel

- Input household into HMIS, input VI-SPDAT results in HMIS
  - Be careful not to enroll into project until you're ready

- Prioritize permanent housing project vacancies using the Prioritization Spreadsheet/Prioritization Standards

- Meaningful referrals when necessary

# Governance and Tools

- ❑ BoS CoC CES Written Standards
- ❑ Prevention and Diversion Screening Tool
- ❑ Coordinated Entry Intake Form
- ❑ VI-SPDAT (Family, Single and TAY)
- ❑ Prioritization Spreadsheet
- ❑ Trainings

Located on CE webpage at:

https://www.dca.ga.gov/safe-affordable-housing/homeless-special-needs-housing/georgia-balance-state-continuum-care/balance

# AmeriCorps VISTA and CE

- Focused on capacity building

- 1 VISTA Leader and 18 VISTA members throughout the BoS

- Recruiting in multiple counties

- Benefits

# Questions

# Contact

**Isaac Davis**

Coordinated Entry System Coordinator

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**Rebecca Hickom**

Coordinated Entry System Coordinator

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470-423-1432

# Homeless Initiatives in the Balance of State Continuum

Georgia® Department of
**Community Affairs**

October 25th & 30th, 2019

Mike Thomas – CoC Program Manager

# 2019 Point in Time Homeless Count

January 28, 2019

- Unsheltered Count
  - Street count on January 28
  - Service-based count January 29 – February 4
  - Targeted counties based on predictive model clusters
- Sheltered Count & Housing Inventory
  - Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing projects
    - Provider surveys for each Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing project
    - HMIS data
  - Rapid Re-Housing
    - Chart (by county)
  - SSVF Grantees
    - Chart (by county)
  - Permanent Supportive Housing
    - Supplemental Information (chronic HH type)
    - HMIS data

# 2019 Point in Time Homeless Count

- The unsheltered count was administered by 26 local coordinators

- The unsheltered portion of the count was performed exclusively using the Counting Us mobile app to collect surveys

- Simtech Solutions provided a predictive model to estimate unsheltered homelessness in uncovered counties

- The sheltered count was administered by DCA staff

# 2019 Point in Time Count Partners

- Krystal Mason, 90 Works
- Evan Mills, Advantage Behavioral Health
- Mary Collins, Carrolton Housing Authority
- Jim Lindenmayer, Cherokee Homeless Veteran Program
- Kristin Bryant, City of Hinesville
- Vanassa Flucas, City of Valdosta
- Sharon Edwards, Community Outreach Training Center
- Tracey Johnson, CSB of Middle Georgia
- Cali Hollis, CSB of Middle Georgia
- Jennifer Shearin, Dalton Whitfield Community Development Corporation
- Tiffany Stewart-Stanley, Douglas County Board of Commissioners
- James Hamm, End Time Gospel Assembly
- Carol Prince-Bressinger, Family Connection

- Bill Searcy, Fellowship of Christians United in Service
- Katie Hagin, Gateway Behavioral Health
- Jessica Mitcham, Good Neighbor Homeless Shelter
- Matthew Elder, HomeFirst Gwinnett
- Debbie Anglin, Hearts to Nourish Hope
- Diane Yarbrough, Henty County Homeless Initiative
- Brandon Miller, Houston Homeless Coalition
- David Blackwell, Dougherty Homeless Coalition
- Naomi Ladson, Salvation Army Macon-Bibb
- Michael Fisher, Ninth District Opportunity
- Randy Weldon, Southwest Georgia Community Action Council
- Devon Smyth, William S. Davies Shelters
- Mackenzie Harkins, private volunteer

# Upcoming Planning and Coordination Priorities

- ❑ CoC Planning Areas

    - ❑ Homeless youth

    - ❑ Outreach

    - ❑ Victims of Human Trafficking

    - ❑ Coordination with Veterans efforts

    - ❑ Coordination with DV efforts

# Training and Technical Assistance

- Regional meetings – December 2019

- DCA training conference – February 2020 in Savannah

- BoS CoC Applicant Debriefing (dates TBD)

- Coordinated Entry HMIS training – ongoing

- Coordinated Entry Lead Agency training – ongoing

# Training and Technical Assistance

Training:

- DCA – Housing Symposium – February 2020
- T3 – Prevention and Diversion – October 2019
- Racial Equity Improvement Plan – TBD
- CoC Grant Management – TBD

CoC Projects:

- Racial Equity Improvement Plan
- Collaboration with mainstream benefits and employment
- Data quality and performance evaluation plan
- Strategy to address youth homelessness

Need:

- Mainstream benefits and employment resource collaboration
- Continuing expansion of Coordinated Entry

# Youth Pilot PIT Count

- Youth PIT count pilot was performed during the week of June 24, 2019 the counts took place in Brunswick, Camden, Albany, Bartow, and Forsyth.

- Count Coordinators were Safe Harbor, Advocates for Children and Open Arms.

- 325 Youth were surveyed.

- 160 Youth met the definition of literal homelessness as defined by HUD.

- 91 Youth reported being precariously housed- couch surfing, staying with family or friends and paying for a hotel or motel.

- 71 Youth were in treatment, transitional housing or living with family or friends

# Youth Pilot PIT Count

- Youth identifying as LGBTQ – 39 yes – 281 no -5 refused

- 249 Persons of color

- 82 Caucasian

- 79 of the 325 youth reported one or more episodes in foster care or a group home

NOTE* The data from this count has not been validated, and will not be submitted to HUD therefore are not intended for public use.

# Public Comment, Feedback, & Questions

**Georgia**® Department of
**Community Affairs**

October 25th &
30th, 2019

- Feedback & Questions?

- Upcoming Issues?

- Topics of Interest?

# Next Steps

- Please make sure you signed in (notices sent by email)
- Individuals in the Balance of State CoC's 152 counties wanting to be a member, please complete membership survey at: https://www.dca.ga.gov/housing/homeless-special-needs-housing/georgia-balance-state-continuum-care/membership
- Regional membership meetings expected later this year

# Resources

❑ The Governance Charter (and other policies)–
https://www.dca.ga.gov/housing/homeless-special-needs-housing/georgia-balance-state-continuum-care/policies

❑ DCA's Continuum webpage -
https://www.dca.ga.gov/safe-affordable-housing/homeless-special-needs-housing/georgia-balance-state-continuum-care

❑ HUD's Continuum of Care Interim Rule
https://www.hudexchange.info/coc/coc-program-law-regulations-and-notices/#regulations

❑ HUD's Continuum of Care webpage –
https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc/

# Thank you so much for your participation!

- ❑ Questions?
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