

**GA Balance of State CoC Standards, Rating & Project Selection Committee Meeting
November 2, 2105 / 11:00 AM**

Go-To-Meeting Conference Call (<https://www4.gotomeeting.com/join/591196565>)

Agenda

- Balance of State Permanent Supportive Housing Written Standards and Prioritization
- Balance of State Education Policy
- FY2015 Balance of State Continuum of Care Competition Results

Meeting Notes

Welcome and Introductions – Christy Hahn, Planning Manager, Office of Homeless and Special Needs Housing

Attendance:

Members Present:

Rachel Castillo, MUST Ministries, Inc.; Nonprofit Homeless Service Provider; North, GA
Evan Mills, MSW, Advantage Behavioral Health Services; Mental Health Service Provider
Denise Bell Sellars, SW GA Community Action Council; Nonprofit Homeless Service Provider; Southwest GA

Members Absent:

Phillippa Moss, City of Gainesville; Local Government; Housing & Neighborhood Development

Collaborative Applicant Staff:

Christy Hahn, Department of Community Affairs
Tina Moore, Department of Community Affairs
Amy Zaremba, Department of Community Affairs

This meeting of the Interim Standards, Rating and Project Selection Committee began at 11:00 a.m.

Christy Hahn welcomed everyone and thanked Committee Members for attending the webinar. Tina Moore reported that Phillippa Moss called and noted that she was experiencing issues with her internet connection.

Tina Moore reviewed the first agenda item, Balance of State Permanent Supportive Housing Written Standards and Prioritization. Referring to the *Draft - BoS PSH Written Standards and Priority* document, Ms. Moore noted that the written standards and policy build on competition policy to prioritize permanent supportive housing (PSH) beds for people who are chronically homeless. This policy establishes written standards for PSH programs and formerly adopts HUD's Notice CPD-14-012, *Notice on Prioritizing Persons Experiencing Chronic Homelessness and Other Vulnerable Homeless Persons in Permanent Supportive Housing*, issued on July 28, 2014, in that those experiencing chronic homelessness should be given priority for non-dedicated PSH beds as vacancies become available through turnover. There was discussion around how providers will conduct an assessment and use an assessment tool for prioritization. Christy Hahn noted that staff is working with the Assessment, Placement, and Services Committee to modify the existing *Barriers to Housing Stability* assessment to

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serve this purpose. Rachel Castillo requested that staff clarify language on page 1, number 5, so the language would be consistent to the language in number 4 [replace “lease agreement” with “occupancy agreement or lease agreement (or sublease)”].

Motion to approve the proposed *Balance of State Permanent Supportive Housing Written Standards and Prioritization Policy* with the noted correction was made by Denise Bell Sellars and seconded by Rachel Castillo. The motion passed unanimously, and the recommendation will move forward to the Board for approval.

Christy Hahn reviewed the second agenda item, Balance of State Education Policy. Referring to the *DRAFT Balance of State Education Policy 2015* document, Ms. Hahn reviewed the policy. Initially developed in 2012, this policy has been updated to align with HUD standards around Education as indicated in the 2015 NOFA. Ms. Hahn discussed the guidelines of how the Continuum of Care (CoC) will work with Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) program and CoC-funded service providers and how providers should designate staff to work with families to ensure that children and youth have access to, and understand their rights around, education. Ms. Hahn discussed relationships with Homeless Liaisons, family choice, further agency obligations, and privacy to avoid discrimination. There was some discussion around the need for a Balance of State agency to not be limited to a single person being assigned this role, and the need for multiple staff within some agencies.

Motion to approve the proposed *Balance of State Continuum of Care Education Policy* was made by Denise Bell Sellars and seconded by Evan Mills. The motion passed unanimously, and the recommendation will move forward to the Board for approval.

Tina Moore provided an overview of the results of the competition and project review by the Balance of State CoC application review sub-committee. The Collaborative Applicant staff reviewed the scoring results, sub-committee scores, and process of the application review. Scores were collected from review team members for each project, performance data was collected from annual reports, and applicants were given the opportunity to review all data for projects that met threshold.

The Collaborative Applicant staff reviewed the ranking results for renewal permanent housing project applications which includes Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) and Rapid Re-Housing (RRH), new permanent housing project applications (also including RRH and PSH), and renewal Transitional Housing (TH) project applications. Using project application review scores, projects were ranked in tiered groupings as determined in the BoS Competition Policy (Group 1 – Renewal PSH and RRH; Group 2 – New Permanent Housing (RRH and PSH); and Group 3 – Renewal TH).

Staff noted that 70 Projects are in the final ranking. The 2015 CoC Competition began with \$3.4 million subject to reallocation (to the extent that new RRH and PSH projects were submitted and scored high enough to make it through), and agencies representing 14 of the TH projects opted to not apply for a renewal TH project, but to submit an application for a new project, which would be available through reallocation in the 2015 competition. Staff reviewed threshold issues around 2 new project applications. Of the 16 new project applications submitted, the independent application review sub-committee determined that two of the new projects (1 RRH and 1 PSH) did not meet threshold due to organizational capacity issues and weaknesses.

Staff requested the Committee’s approval of the results of the competition, final ranking and determinations, and recommended reallocations of the 2015 Balance of State CoC Competition.

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Motion to approve the results of the competition, final ranking and determinations, and recommended reallocations of the 2015 Balance of State CoC Competition was made by Evan Mills and seconded by Denise Bell Sellars. The motion passed unanimously, and the recommendation will move forward to the Board for approval.

The meeting adjourned at 12:11 PM.