

**Mississippi Balance of State CoC
Governing Council Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, August 27th, 2020
10:00 a.m.

TIME AND PLACE

The Mississippi Balance of State CoC Governing Council was called to order at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom Online Meeting Platform.

ROLL CALL

Elected COC Governing Council Members, the HMIS Lead Agency, and the CoC Collaborative Applicant

CALL TO ORDER

Hannah Maharrey, MS BOS COC Director, called the meeting to order.

PRESENT

Hannah Maharrey, Ivie Pulliam, Abby Miller, Ledger Parker, Bethany Latham, Florida McKay, Demetra Bates, Kim Townsend, Stephanie Johnson, Chantel Maye proxy of Kimberly Moore. and guest Marika Baliko

Additional Notes

GC members Martha Mitternacht, Sherry Holloway, Myron Hutson, Louise Meyer, Allen Williams were unable to or did not attend.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Minutes were submitted for the December 2019 and February 2020 Governing Council meetings.

ADOPTION / REVIEW OF AGENDA

Ivie Pulliam adopted a motion to accept the agenda and minutes. The motion was seconded by Kim Townsend. All in favor by acclamation.

AGENDA ITEMS

I. CONTINUUM OF CARE REGIONAL UPDATES: Each Regional Representative were able to share an update about their regional coalition.

1. Pine belt – New Pine Belt coalition co-chair, Rebecca Ford – Oak Arbor, would begin in September 2020. Salvation Army Hattiesburg experienced budget cutback and shelter re-opening is not possible. New Hattiesburg Police Dept is working with Pine Belt Coalition, Changes Drop-In Center is not fully completed, and city has delayed installation of showers and laundry, also has limited access due to COVID, Changes staff assist homeless community with referrals and mental health assessments, and is a good meeting location for outreach team, PB Coalition would like to help establish a mission statement for the drop-in center and create

program/agency guidance, community street outreach team should resume during end of August.

2. East Central – Focusing on cleaning up and housing clients from encampments, and mapping Lauderdale county for unsheltered area which includes 11 AmeriCorps volunteers are doing street outreach in Meridian area.
3. Delta – Continuing outreach efforts, Housing availability is difficult, local agencies are trying to bring new landlords on board through awareness campaigns including flyers and cold calls.
4. Northeast – Project Solution Workforce Development partnership between City of Tupelo and NE coalition to help homelessness individuals gain employment is successful with 10 homeless individuals working, increase of homelessness due to COVID-19 has been noticed, SAFE, Inc is facilitating an COVID-19 relief fund through CREATE and United Way
5. Southwest – with the WINGS Shelter closing in McComb, MUTEH, Catholic Charities, and ASC are the main agencies that work in the Southwest region

II. 2020 POINT-IN-TIME

1. Point-in-Time Count 2020
 - (a) The 2020 Point-in-Time Count was Tuesday, January 28th, 2020
 - (i) Total Count: 447
 1. Total Decrease of 7% (480 in 2019)
 2. Sheltered 227 – Unsheltered 220
 - (ii) Demographics
 1. Race
 - a. Black: 230
 - b. White: 203
 - c. American Indian/ Alaskan Native: 4
 - d. Multiple Races: 10
 2. Gender
 - a. Male: 268
 - b. Female: 179
 3. Ages
 - a. 25+: 368 or 82.3%
 - b. 18-24: 23 or 51.1%
 - c. <18: 56
 - (iii) Most Populated Cities
 1. Hattiesburg – 121
 2. Meridian – 81
 3. Laurel – 56
 4. Tupelo – 50
 - (iv) Regional Coalition Totals
 1. North Central – 31
 2. Delta – 37
 3. Northeast – 75

4. East Central – 81
 5. Southwest – 35
 6. Pine Belt – 188
 - (v) Living Situations for Homeless Persons
 1. Emergency Shelter – 202
 2. Transitional Housing – 18
 3. Unsheltered – 227
 - (vi) Households with at Least 1 Adult and Child
 1. Total No of Households – 26
 - (vii) Subpopulation
 1. Veterans – 25
 - a. Sheltered – 13
 - b. Unsheltered – 12
 2. Serious Mental Illness
 - a. 54 SMIs
 3. HIV/AIDS
 - a. 3
 4. DV Victims
 - a. 43 Adults
 - b. 10% of PIT Count
 5. Chronic Homelessness
 - a. 63 persons
 - b. 14% of Count
- (2) Governing Council asked for PIT data from Coast and Central CoCs which has not been released yet

III. COC Activities During COVID-19

1. Awareness: COC-wide meeting about COVID-19
2. Shelters: Meeting between BOS shelters and MS Dept of Health Director
3. Outreach: Access to Testing for homeless, Targeted outreach, COC-wide meeting with Outreach teams
4. Housing: COC-wide meeting with Housing teams
5. State Partnerships: Non-Congregate Shelter Task Force, MS ESF6 Mass Care Coordination Team
6. CARES ESG-CV: RAMP (MS BOSCOG Coverage Area), COC-wide webinar, Monthly COC Meetings
7. Governing Council asked about evictions and if numbers of increased in coverage area, and discussed eviction moratorium

IV. COORDINATED ENTRY – update given by Bethany Latham, HMIS Lead.

1. HMIS Program and Users
 - a. 7 inactive programs due to program ended or closed
 - b. 32 programs using HMIS not in BOS area, most in Jackson MS
 - c. 13 New projects added including CARES program, HOPWA, Ryan White Program
2. HMIS Vendor

1. Foothold wants to increase HMIS charges by \$36,000
2. Current price is \$65,000/year
3. Still relatively less expensive than other systems
3. CES Changes in Awards
 1. HUD updates data standards every year instead of previously timeline of every other year
4. System Performance Measures
 1. At least 4 years of data
 2. HUD grades programs on programs own previous performance measures
 3. Findings:
 1. Some shelters not discharging residents, equals no new intakes
 2. Shelters closed and did not discharge clients
 3. CoC needs to focus on
 1. Increasing income
 2. Reducing returns to Homelessness
5. Waitlists
 1. Clients Placed vs. Move-in-Entered
6. Reports
 1. First quarterly RAMP report due in October 2020
 2. System Wide Awards Training, September 9th, 2020
 3. CES Annual Performance Report
 1. Training Video – Sept 11th, 2020
 2. Zoom Training – Sept 18th, 2020
7. LSA is replacing AHAR

V. Racial Equity Tool:

1. Presented by Marika Baliko
2. Developed by National Alliance to End Homelessness
3. Black Mississippians are overrepresented in homeless population
4. Black Mississippians are 37.8% of gen pop, but 51% of homeless population
5. Findings
 1. MS BOS COC is addressing this inequity with Black homeless individuals being housed in permanent housing at a higher percentage compared to White, and all other races
 2. However, need to work on returns to homelessness, over half of those that returned to homelessness were Black clients

VI. Veteran Homelessness

1. MSBOSCOG VET BNL Call every two weeks
2. VET BNL Snapshot from 8/5/2020 c
 1. 39 veterans on list

2. Average Veteran BNL Monthly inflow: 11.5 (newly homeless vets within COC)
3. 6 chronically homeless veterans on list

VII. Chronic Homelessness

1. Need to set target date for task force meetings
2. Create list of invitees
3. Design and implement gap analysis

VIII. FY2020 COC Funding Competition

1. NOFA has not been released
2. Delayed due to COVID-19

IX. Upcoming Trainings and Events

1. Annual Performance Reviews: Referral Tracking
 - a) Instructional Youtube Videos – Sept 11th
 - b) CES-wide Webinar Training – Sept 18th
2. RAMP Webinar - TBD

X. OTHER ITEMS OF DISCUSSION

1. Concerns about 2021 Point-in-Time Count
 1. Could be shelter count only
 2. Also unsheltered count could be 100% observation
 3. CoCs are waiting on HUD guidance

NEXT GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING: December 2020

The meeting adjourned at 12:00pm