

**Mississippi Balance of State CoC
Governing Council Meeting Minutes**
Thursday, December 12th, 2019
10:00 a.m.

TIME AND PLACE

The Mississippi Balance of State CoC Governing Council was called to order at 10:00a.m. The meeting was held at the E.T. Wolkfolk State Building, 501 N West St. Room 117, Jackson MS 39201.

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, Myron Hutson, Bethany Latham, Florida McKay, Demetra Bates, Kim Townsend, Marika Baliko

Additional Notes

GC members Louise Meyer, Ivie Pulliam, Abby Miller, Sherry Holloway, Allen Williams, and Stephanie Johnson were not able to attend due to scheduling conflicts.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Minutes were submitted for the September 2019 Governing Council meeting.

ADOPTION / REVIEW OF AGENDA

Attendee adopted a motion to accept the agenda and minutes. The motion was seconded. All in favor by acclamation.

AGENDA ITEMS

- I. GOVERNING COUNCIL MEMBERS – NEW:** Three members of the Governing Council transitioned off the council: Hannah Maharrey (Northeast), Leslie Payne (East Central), Case Hicks (MS Permanent Supportive Housing Council representative. 2 new members joined the council: Stephanie Johnson (Northeast), and Abby Miller (East Central).
- II. CONTINUUM OF CARE UPDATES:** Each Regional Representative were able to share an update about their regional coalition. Kim Townsend and Demetra Bates shared information about the Pinebelt Region, Florida McKay shared information about the Delta Region, Marika Baliko shared information shared information about East Central region, and Hannah Maharrey shared information about the Northeast and Southwest Region.

III. Point-in-Time and Project Connects

1. Point-in-Time Count 2020
 - (a) The 2020 Point-in-Time Count will be Tuesday, January 28th, 2020
 - (b) The MS Balance of State will continue to use the Counting Us mobile app to implement the count

- (c) Volunteer sign-up, training videos and orientation quiz will be updated for the 2020 PIT and can be accessed at www.muteh.wordpress.com
- (2) Regional Project Connects
 - (a) 4 out of the 5 regional coalitions within the MS Balance of State are holding a Project Connect during the Fall/Winter of 2019-2020
 - (b) The PineBelt Coalition held a Project Connect on October 25th, 2019 in partnership of the United Way of Southeast MS
 - (c) The East Central Project Connect is Friday, January 24th, 2020
 - (d) The Northeast Project Connect is Monday, January 27th, 2020
 - (e) The Delta Project Connect is Wednesday, January 29th, 2020
 - (f) In lieu of a Project Connect the Southwest Region is creating a resource guide to distribute within their communities.

IV. Coordinated entry – update given by Bethany Latham, HMIS Lead.

1. Awards Totals:
 - a) 123 Projects
 - b) 4,252 – current count unduplicated
 - c) 39,368 – historical count unduplicated
 - d) 12 Awards Training from October 2019 – December 2019
2. Waitlist Functionality
 - a) 6/15/2019-12/12/2019 = 110
 - b) Agencies
 - MUTEH - 39
 - Oak Arbor - 6
 - Safe, Inc - 2
 - VA Hud Vash - 1
 - Weems Path - 1
 - ASC - 10
 - BCCAA - 23
 - CCSM - 5
 - USM-IDS - 21
 - MCCSA – 2
 - c) Not Represented: Catholic Charities – 8 , WWISCAA – 5
 - d) Barriers: Duplicates, Training, Foothold not able to fix
3. Monthly Progress Report Updates
 - a) Timeliness
 - b) Waitlist Referrals
 - c) Client Move-in within MPR date range
4. MUTEH Website
 - a) Schedule/Request Training
 - b) Dashboard for MPRs/Agency Report
 - c) Video and PDF how-to's and tutorials
5. Announcements/Goals for Coordinated Entry and HMIS
 - a) HUD HDX provides STELLA – upcoming reports on System Data
 - b) New Data Standards – October 1, 2019
 - c) St. Gabriel ESG & New Hope Village to come on board
 - d) Hopes of TSA – Laurel coming on board in the next few months
 - e) CES Committee – 1/19/20
 - f) Data Exchange with Stewpot & Open Doors
 - g) System Performance Measures due 2/28/20

- h) HIC/PIT Data due 4/30/20
- 6. MS Balance of State Coordinated Entry System Committee Meeting
 - a) Friday, January 17th, 2019

V. COC Application Appeals Process:

1. MS Balance of State Governing Council discussed the Appeals Process. This is a continuing issue from the previous Governing Council meeting.
2. APPEALS PROCESS Background– Three of the agencies with projects in Tier 2 applied for a ranking appeal. The Governing Council discussed the precedent that was set for past application cycles and what options the GC has for creating a new appeals policy. With documentation from October 2014 to present the precedent the MS Balance of State COC Governing Council has for ranking appeals is that an agency can only appeal the ranking process, and not the numerical ranking itself. The current appeals document is out of date and needs to be updated. M. Mitternacht, executive committee chair, weighed in and said that the Ranking Committee is comprised of members of the Governing Council and that the ranking decision that they determine should be upheld unless gross negligence within the ranking process is determined. It was decided by the GC that the appeals process needs to be proactively updated not reactively.
3. It was suggested by members of the Governing Council that the appeals process of other Balance of State COCs would be the appropriate next step in the continuing discussion of examining the appeals process.

VI. COC WRITTEN STANDARDS

1. The Mississippi HUD Office of Community Planning and Development noticed discrepancies in the MS Balance of State Written Standards.
2. Especially regarding allowable cost and short-term and mid-term rental assistance standards
3. These changes were made by COC director and submitted to the HUD CPD office for revision. Currently are waiting on the CPD office to respond to revision

VII. Standards of Shelter:

1. MS Balance of State Governing Council discussed the standards of shelter that is recognized by the COC. Standards for shelters are difficult to enforce for shelters within the COC that are completely independently funded. The Standards of Shelter can be a suggestion that the COC recommends to the shelters but does not have oversight to enforce.
2. During the Point-in-Time Count any shelter that is found to not meet the MS BOS COC Occupancy/Shelter standards will not be considered an actual shelter. Any individuals counted during the PIT that reside at one of these “shelters” will be counted as unsheltered.
3. Occupancy Standards for all Programs and specifically Emergency Shelters is included in our COC Written Standards
4. The Emergency and Domestic Violence shelters that within the MS BOS COC coverage area were discussed.
5. Emergency Shelters
 - WWISCCAA, Greenville – ESG FUNDED
 - MULTI-COUNTY CSA, Meridian– ESG FUNDED
 - CCSM/RECOVERY HOUSE, Columbus – ESG FUNDED
 - SALVATION ARMY TUPELO

- SALVATION ARMY MERIDIAN
- SALVATION ARMY LAUREL
- Aslane's Mission, Meridian
- Mica House, McComb
- Desoto Sunrise Shelter, Horn Lake
- Field House, Hattiesburg
- New Hope Village, Holly Springs

6. Domestic Violence Shelters

- Care Lodge – ESG Funded
- Safe, Inc. – ESG Funded
- WINGS
- House of Grace
- Our House
- Lighthouse women's shelter, not DV
- Haven House
- Guardian Shelter
- Domestic Abuse Family Shelter
- Catholic Charities DV Shelter

VIII. COC MONITORING

1. One goal of the MS Balance of State COC for 2020 is to schedule monitoring visits with each agency at least twice a year.
2. COC agencies were informed that monitoring visits will begin in 2020 and were given Monitoring information and resources. Two of the forms used during the monitoring visits were emailed to all COC agencies.
 - Continuum of Care Program Internal Wellness "Top Ten" List
 - Internal Wellness Checklist for the Continuum of Care Program
2. These monitoring visits are outside of HUD's monitoring

IX. 2020 GOAL: EFFECTIVELY ENDING CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

1. It is a goal of the MS Balance of State COC is to end Chronic Homelessness
2. The next action steps will be:
 - a) Gather Data to determine current Chronic Homeless situation
 - b) Form a Task Force/Committee of interested stakeholders
 - c) Implement Gap Analysis on Chronic Homelessness
 - d) Create year-long plan to address and effectively end Chronic Homelessness

X. UPCOMING TRAINING AND EVENTS

1. Motivational interviewing
2. Racial Equity
3. SNAP/Food Stamp Application
4. Grant Writing and Funding Workshop
5. Financial Management (for clients)

NEXT GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING: Thursday, February 27th, 2020

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 12:00pm