



MONTGOMERY COUNTY BOARD of SOCIAL SERVICES
April 1, 2019 | 4PM – 6PM
401 Hungerford Dr, 5th Floor, Rockville
AGENDA

Board Members

HHS and Council Staff

Name	Title	Present				Present
Marquette Rogers	Chair	X		Oscar Mensah	HHS Staff	X
Jason Martin	Vice Chair	X		Vivian Yao	Council Staff	
Lesley MacDonald	Secretary	X		Belinda Cervas	HHS Staff	X
Samaura Stone	Member	X				
Spencer Boyer	Member					
Catherine “Cat” Kahn	Member	X				
Kendell Battle	Member					
Stephanie Mensh	Member	X				
Chanté Leverette						
Rodolfo “Rudy” Lunasin	Member	X				
Councilmember Rice	Member					

I. CALL TO ORDER:

- The meeting was called to order at 4:10pm.
- A motion was made to accept to accept the March meeting minutes by Marquette Rogers, seconded by Cat Kahn.

II. PRESENTATION: Housing and Homelessness

- Amanda J. Harris, MSW, MPP – DHHS, Chief of Services to End and Prevent Homelessness (SEPH)

Ms. Harris continued her presentation on Homelessness in Montgomery County. Successes - “ending homelessness is doable but hard.” Montgomery County part of a nationwide effort to end homelessness in veterans & chronic homelessness - 70 communities are part of it. There were 120,000 people housed across all these communities last year.

SEPH housed 148 veterans since 2015 - ending veteran’s homelessness in the County.

SEPH housed 409 through Inside (not Outside) Initiative for Chronically homeless; getting close to “functional zero” - no chronic homeless. With an influx of resources housed 125 people in three months.

Most low-income households are rent-burdened.

The County has a coordinated entry system for homelessness that uses one common assessment tool to figure out best placement based on their circumstances. Multiple points of entry. Staff at access points are to assess need and vulnerabilities. Every other week housing providers meet, figure out who can take a particular client.

Only 1 in 4 households who need it gets a housing voucher. The first goal is to keep people out of shelter. Most vulnerable (greatest need) most services. Rapid rehousing - more insensitive services How works with nonprofits - all housing providers that get HUD funding must be part of the housing continuum.

HOC does not use coordinated entry. HOC is quasi-governmental - board of commissioners appointed by County Executive.

Interagency commission on homelessness - agencies, Councilmember, County Executive representative HUD vouchers can't serve undocumented people, nonprofit can; but most are afraid to ask.

Collaboration Council working on a re-engagement center for disconnected youth.

Of people entering homeless system as single adults in the County: 48% need rapid rehousing, 20% need permanent supportive housing with a high level of services, 21% need PSH - low support 12% just need a permanent voucher.

This is a crisis response system.

Families with young children - 86% need rapid rehousing.

At 2019 point in time count in the region - # of homelessness increased by 23% at 647 for 2-09

Unsheltered count went down by 44%. Shelter capacity over 700, never reached full shelter capacity this winter.

Year round shelter beds - 70 women, 65 men, 28 families in shelter, plus overflow.

Department of housing and community affairs - has loans for nonprofits to house people.

9 M from HUD to providers. 43 million in contracts 1/2 HHS general funds, the rest is from DHCA, Housing trust fund, Nonprofits doing rental subsidies, rent goes up every year, HHS does not get more Collaborative application for HUD submitted through.

NEEDS FROM SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD members Allocation committee for project funding for HUD - looking for community members to serve on the allocation

committee. Likely in late spring - total time commitment 30 hours of work over a few months. NEED A VOLUNTEER FROM SS BOARD for rapid rehousing or permanent supportive housing care coordination and housing support services Other needs - budget advocacy with the council for increase DHHS and contract budget increases

III. OLD BUSINESS

- Movie screening – Resilience discussion
Resilience screening - now expanded to a symposium. Upcounty or Downcounty?

Who is the audience we are trying to reach? Is the movie this best vehicle, or perhaps a TED talk? Educators, coaches, pediatricians

How do you teach resiliency?

Discussion about screening to be continued.

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

- Oscar pulled data on trauma incidents by Fire stations, as well as opioid poisoning incidences - looks like Rockville is a center for both.
- This week is National Public Health Week, April 1 – 7, 2019

V. NEXT MEETING

Topic: TBD

May 6, 2019 | 4:00-6:00pm

VI. ADJOURNED: Marquette Rogers, Chair, at 6pm