What Are We Discussing

• Introduction of HEARTH and the Continuum of Care (CoC)

• CoC Program regulatory governance charter requirements

• Montgomery County CoC governance charter discussion
  – Including discussion on committee and sub-committee structure
HEARTH AND THE CONTINUUM OF CARE PROGRAM
HEARTH Act

• Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act of 2009 amended the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act

• CoC Program interim rule implements the HEARTH Act:
  – Published in July 2012, effective August 2012
  – Establishes regulations for the CoC Program, including the CoC as a whole
Continuum of Care

• CoC Program interim rule requires communities to establish a CoC in order to receive CoC Program funding (includes HUD funded PSH, TH, SSO programs)

• The CoC must meet minimum requirements for CoC structure, governance, and responsibilities
A CoC is…

At its simplest, a Continuum of Care is established by *representatives of relevant organizations* within a *geographic area* to *carry out the responsibilities* set forth in the CoC Program interim rule
CoC Organizational Structure and Entities

Continuum of Care

- Board
- HMIS Lead
- Collaborative Applicant

Committees
Subcommittees
REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS OF COC GOVERNANCE CHARTER
CoC Governance Charter (578.5)

• The CoC must develop and follow a governance charter that details the functions of:
  – the CoC board
  – the CoC’s committee structure and roles
  – HMIS Lead
  – staff roles
CoC Governance Charter (578.5)

Governance charter must include:
- Policies and policies to carry out CoC responsibilities
- Code of conduct
- Recusal process for board, board chair(s), etc.

Governance charter must be:
- Reviewed and updated annually
- Developed in consultation with the Collaborative Applicant and HMIS lead
CoC Membership (578.5)

- Membership should ensure
  - Communitywide commitment to ending and preventing homelessness
  - Representation of the relevant organizations within the entire CoC
Examples of CoC Membership

- Nonprofit homeless assistance providers
- Victim services providers
- Faith-based organizations
- Governments
- Businesses
- Advocates
- Public housing agencies
- School districts
- Social service providers

- Mental health agencies
- Hospitals
- Universities
- Affordable housing developers
- Law enforcement
- Organizations that serve homeless and formerly homeless veterans
- Homeless and formerly homeless persons
CoC Requirements (578.7)

Charter describes role the CoC has with each of these responsibilities

• Hold semiannual meetings, with published agendas, of the full membership
• Invite new members at least annually
• Appoint additional committees
• Adopt and follow a written board selection process
• Develop a governance charter
CoC Requirements Cont. (578.7)

- Establish performance targets, monitor performance, evaluate outcomes, and take action against poor performers
- Evaluate ESG and CoC project outcomes and report to HUD
- Establish and operate a centralized or coordinated assessment system
- Establish written standards for providing assistance
MONTGOMERY COUNTY
COC CHARTER
Background and Purpose

- Montgomery County CoC is the planning body for homeless service and housing system within Montgomery County
- The CoC board is the Interagency Commission on Homelessness; referred to as the Commission
Montgomery County CoC Governance Charter

• DRAFT charter approved by the Operations committee on January 28, 2015
• Governance charter aligns the Montgomery County CoC with the HEARTH Act and the CoC Program interim rule regulatory requirements
• Needs full CoC membership approval
Responsibilities of the CoC:
Operations of the CoC

Operations include:

• Developing and updating governance charter annually
• Operating a coordinated assessment system
• Following written standards
• Establishing CoC-wide performance targets
• Monitoring CoC program recipients and subrecipients
• Evaluating outcomes of projects
• Reporting to HUD as required
Responsibilities of the CoC: Planning Activities of the CoC

Planning activities include:

• Coordinating of housing and service delivery system-outreach, prevention etc.
• Planning and conducting annual Point-In-Time (PIT) count
• Conducting annual gaps analysis
• Providing information to inform the local ConPlan
Responsibilities of the CoC: Prepare application for the CoC

Prepare CoC application:

• Designing and operating a collaborative process to develop CoC application to HUD (typically annually)
• Establishing priorities that align with HUD goals
• Designating a collaborative applicant
• Approving submission of CoC application for HUD funding
Full CoC Membership

• Full CoC Membership must
  – Adopt, follow and update governance charter at least annually
• Meet at least semiannually
• General membership open to individuals or organizations residing in or doing business in Montgomery County
• General members may become voting members if also a member of the commission, committees, sub-committees or workgroups
Full CoC Membership

- To become a voting member an individual/organization must submit an application to the Operations Committee.
- Decisions will be made by majority vote.
- One vote per agency.
Interagency Commission on Homelessness (CoC board)

- Commission will act on behalf of the CoC as the governing board.
- Membership of Commission is required though county legislation; includes members of county and federal government, non-profit organizations and a homeless/formerly homeless person(s).
- Each commission member is a voting member of the CoC.
- DHHS will provide support to the Commission.
Interagency Commission on Homelessness

- The commission will comply with regulatory conflict of interest requirements
- Commission members will recuse themselves if a conflict arises
CoC Committees

• Operations Committee
  – Responsible for the day-to-day operations of the CoC
  – Coordinates full CoC semiannual meetings
  – Meets monthly

• Strategic Planning Committee
  – Develops, monitors and updates the CoC’s 10-Year Plan to end homelessness
  – Oversees the implementation of the 10-Year Plan
CoC Committees

• Performance Review Committee
  – Responsible for system implementation of monitoring all recipients and subrecipients
  – Reviews and monitors aggregate CoC-wide performance for scoring and ranking of projects

• Community Outreach and Education Committee
  – Provides education and outreach to the community on homeless issues

• Additional Committees, Subcommittees and Workgroups may be established as needed
CoC Committee Chairs

• All committees will operate with 2 co-chairs
• The Operations Committee will have one County representative as a co-chair
• Current chairs of each committee will remain in their position until January 2016, when committee chair elections will be held
• Subsequent elections for committee chairs will be held each January
• No prohibition exists against the same co-chairs being elected again
CoC Committee Structure

Interagency Commission (CoC Board)

Operations Committee

Allocation Workgroup

Performance Review Committee

Education & Outreach Committee

Strategic Planning Committee

Family Providers Workgroup

Adult Providers Workgroup
CoC Designations

• Collaborative Applicant
  – Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services

• Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) Lead
  – Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services
QUESTIONS?