

Detroit Continuum of Care | Board of Directors

Working to Equitably End Homelessness in Detroit, Highland Park, & Hamtramck

March 2022 Continuum of Care Board Meeting

(Meeting packet can be accessed by [clicking here](#); Meeting Slides by [clicking here](#))

Welcome and Introductions:

Amy B. opened the meeting at 2:00 pm with introductions – utilizing the chat box.

Executive Committee Report & Announcements:

Summary –

HOME ARP

Racial Equity C4 Update

- More participants are still needed for C4 Innovation’s Racial Equity partnership work with the State of Michigan

Consent Agenda

February Board Meeting Minutes

- The floor was opened for questions. None were asked.
- Approval of the February CoC Board Meeting minutes was motioned by Gerald Curley and seconded by Celia. The vote passed.

Committees

Executive Committee Elections

Summary –

- Executive Committee positions were overviewed:
 - Chairperson- helps set board agendas, chairs the CoC Board Meeting, coordinates EC meetings
 - Secretary- helps keep accurate records of board meetings and works with the lead agency during elections
 - At-Large Officer- hold the same voting rights as other EC members, a way to bring more voices to the table
- The following people were voted on for the following positions:
 - Celia Thomas for Chairperson
 - Candace Morgan for Secretary
 - ReGina Hentz for At-Large Officer
 - For Celia Thomas’s vote, Deb Drennan motioned and Kaitie Giza seconded. The vote passed.
 - For Candace Morgan’s vote, Celia Thomas motioned and Gerald Curley seconded. The vote passed.
 - For ReGina Hentz’s vote, Eleanor Bradford motioned and Donna Price seconded. The vote passed.

Grievance Review Committee Update

Summary –

- Because of expressed interest in the grievance process from last month’s Board Meeting, another GRC update was given. The Grievance Review Committee has been experiencing a higher number of grievances being submitted, and the rate does not appear to be slowing. These grievances elevate concerns across the board with clients speaking out about shelter conditions and general violation of shelter rights.

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- The City of Detroit and the CoC revamped their grievance process in 2019. Last year was first year where points were deducted off a NOFA for substantial grievances filed against an agency, as consequence for consistent complaints. The following questions were asked pertaining to this topic:
 - What role does the CoC board want to have in these conversations?
 - When should grievances impact funding and where should those consequence-centered conversations live?
 - What other actions does the Board recommend be taken?
- As of now, there have been 12 grievances substantiated out of the 42 submitted in 2021. A large group of individuals expressed interest in joining a Grievance Workgroup to discuss changing the grievance process further and improving equity in shelters.

Detroit Advisor's Group Report-out

Summary –

- The purpose of the DAG is to work with the CoC and the City of Detroit to ensure the homeless response system provides safe, stable, and permanent housing for all people, including Black and Brown, LGBTQ+, and trans folx. They also breakdown stigmas associated with people experiencing homelessness.
- This group consists of people who have experienced homelessness. After the city's NIS work, the Advisor's Group was formed to increase equity within the CoC and homeless response system. Committee members shared their experiences with homelessness and their personal accomplishments.
- The DAG wants to improve parts of the homeless response system, such as the grievance process, CAM access, and more issues. They want to create jobs for people experiencing homelessness, create a toolkit for system navigation, create a system that is culturally congruent and trauma responsive, recruit and train new committee members, and contribute to system work.
- The group asked the CoC Board members to attend two of the Detroit Advisor's Group meetings, which are held bimonthly. One meeting would be where the Advisor's explained to the Board members what needs to change and how they would like to see change occur. The other meeting would allow for Board Members to update the DAG on the work they've been partaking in because of the DAG's previous suggestions.
- For this vote, Celia Thomas motioned and Eleanor Bradford seconded. The vote passed.

Funding

CoC Competition Debrief

Summary –

- Due to a timing issue, this topic was moved to the next board meeting agenda.

YHDP Update

Summary-

- The Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project, or YHDP, that's been in progress for the last six months, developing a plan to end youth homelessness in Detroit. So far the following accomplishments have been made by those involved with YHDP:
 - Deep data dive
 - Held 12 listening sessions on special topics
 - Held 2 stakeholder convenings
 - Held 6 conversations with service providers

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- Coordinated with Technical Assistance to collaborate with education stakeholders, train and empower youth, and navigate the CCP process
- Formalized a mission & vision for ending youth homelessness fully developed by youth
- Formalized goals to end youth homelessness
- Held weekly planning group meetings
- Folx involved with YHDP plan to:
 - Hold more work sessions to inform the CCP
 - Formalize objectives and action steps of the plan
 - Design and select projects
 - Hold one last stakeholder convening
 - Edit and complete the written CCP
- The ask of the CoC Board was to grant the Core Team permission to approve the CCP, approve project design, approve project selection, and select projects to receive funding, instead of the CoC Board, who normally does these actions for the CoC Competition. This was voted on, and Dr. Gerald Curley motioned, Celia Thomas seconded. The vote passed.

Committee Recruitment

Committee Recruitment

Summary –

- For the last agenda item, participants were moved into breakout rooms to discuss different committees for committee recruitment purposes. Presenters gave short speeches on the Grievance Review Committee, the Chronic Leadership Committee, the Veteran's Leadership Committee, the Values and Funding Priorities Committee, the CAM Governance Committee, and the Low Income Housing Tax Credit Committee. Board Members were provided a [google form](#) to fill out in communicating their preferences for participating on CoC Committees.

Amy B. closed the meeting at 4:30pm. *The next CoC Board meeting will be on Monday, April 4th, 2022 from 2 – 4:30pm. Location will continue to be virtual.*