



Continuum of Care Board Minutes

3/20/2025

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Attendance:

Board Members: Adriana Rangel-Ponce, Jessica Harper, Brandi Tuck, Trevor Nissen, Christina McGovney, Patrick Reynolds, Lizzie Cisneros, Steven Gilbert, Tonya Jones, JJ, Mark Morford, Xenia Gonzalez, Jamar Summerfield

[Absent – Hannah Studer, Helmi Hisserich, Laura Golino de Lavato, Casady Monroe, Kat Salas, Ian Slingerland]

JOHS & County Staff: Alyssa Plessner, Malka Geffen

Agenda Item	Discussion Points	Decision/Action
Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land & Labor Acknowledgment • Review Community Agreements • Review Racial Equity Lens Tool • Review Agenda 	
Update on HUD/New Administration Impacts	<p>CoC Lead shared updates about HUD and impacts of the new administration (see 3.20.25 meeting presentation slides)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CoC Lead has put together resources to support CoC providers with trauma-informed responses to participants concerned about impacts to their housing. <p>Q: Are HUD CoC funds still flowing? A: Yes, current contract funds are flowing; no issues drawing down those funds. It looks promising that the new funds will be released.</p> <p>Q: How many staff are there in a field office and what do they do? A: 150 in Seattle, fewer in PDX; they process our grant agreements, getting money out into our communities, which means it'll take significantly more time. They also do monitoring for compliance and answer provider questions re: spend downs and budgets.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This week, a monthly meeting was established with HSD, Portland Housing Bureau, Home Forward, Metro, and the OR Housing Community Services division for a united understanding of impacts of cuts across jurisdictions and will report back to the CoC Board about those. 	
Charter Revision Review and Approval Vote	<p>Co-Chair led the CoC Board through the Charter review (see 3.20.25 meeting presentation slides)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One piece of feedback received is that changes to the Charter are restricting responsibilities of the Board. • Will use fist-to-five to get consensus on the changes. 	

#9 - Q: If the CoC Board is not the decision-making body for the CoC, who is? A: In the retreat discussion, there was a lack of clarity about what was meant by the CoC; however, the CoC Board is the decision-making body for what HUD calls a Continuum of Care.

- Suggest leaving it in
- Define what "decision-making body" means and list what does and does not fall in our purview
 - Can include major decisions as "including, but not limited to:" (for ex: CoC Board signing letter for Home Forward getting more vouchers)
 - We appoint JOHS as Collaborative Applicant
 - Need to be clear we're more than an advisory committee
 - CoC Charter isn't the place to lay out JOHS' responsibilities; CoC Lead and Co-Chairs can create an ecomap for understanding

Co-Chair asked for fist-to-five vote to leave the language:

4s and 5s

#10 - no change: 5s

#11 - no change: 5s

#12 - no change: 5s

#13 - CoC decides what it wants to work on is the spirit of this; suggest "Developing and implementing an annual work plan for CoC Board actions and focus areas": 5s

#6 - Q: Don't think we should remove #6, even though it's discussed under collaborative applicant; pulse check for removing it: 2 and 3s

Suggest: Reviewing CoC System Performance with the Collaborative Applicant: 4s and 5s

#2 - Suggest: Setting priorities to maximize CoC competitiveness for HUD funding while maintaining alignment with research-based best practices and policies of City of Portland, City of Gresham, Multnomah County and Metropolitan Service District: 4s and 5s

New #6 - CoC funding is restricted in terms of what it can be spent on, so by understanding how funding sources intersect, CoC Board can provide more support to providers in spending down their funds; Suggest: Understanding how CoC funding intersects & aligns with local and state government funding and supporting grantees in maximizing full utilization of CoC grants.

CoC Lead called for a vote to approve the CoC Charter:

Steven Gilbert - 5, Lizzie Cisneros - 5, Adriana Rangel-Ponce - 5, Christina McGovney - 5, Jamar Summerfield - 5, Tonya Jones - 5, Trevor Nissen - 5, JJ - 4, Mark Morford - 5, Brandi Tuck - 4