

# Somerset County Health Department

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Health Officer Danielle Weber, MS, RN

## \*HALS MEETING MINUTES\*

<b>Meeting Name:</b>	<b>Homeless Alliance for the Lower Shore Continuum of Care Committee (HALS COC)</b>		
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>Mar 13, 2025</b>	<b>Time:</b>	<b>10:00AM - 11:30AM</b>
<b>Minutes Prepared By:</b>	<b>Sharon Creasy</b>	<b>In-person Meeting</b>	<b>521 Mack Ave Salisbury, MD 21801</b>
<b>1. Attendees:</b>			
<b>Carey Kelley</b> (Somerset DSS), <b>Ivonne Lomax</b> (WoCHD), <b>Loré Chambers</b> (Zion House), <b>Emily Moore</b> (SCHD), <b>Bridgette Gregory</b> (SCHD), <b>Ray Lockamy</b> (SCHD), <b>Jessica Pastusak</b> (SCHD), <b>Leslie Leether</b> (SCHD), <b>Amber Green</b> (Shore Legal), <b>Christina Williams</b> (Labor), <b>Joan Harris</b> (WCBOE), <b>Linda Copeland</b> (Zion House), <b>Rachel Mitchell</b> (Wor. Youth & Family), <b>Kathryn Lewis</b> (WoCHD) <b>Cristi Richardson</b> (Wic. Library), <b>Teresa Shatney</b> (TidalHealth), <b>Tory Stone</b> (Diakonia), <b>Shannon Frey</b> (SCHD), <b>Shelly Daniels</b> (Samaritan Shelter), <b>Tim Gebhardt</b> (Worcester Public Schools), <b>Cherice Johnson</b> (Labor), <b>Maxine Hillard</b> (Life Crisis), <b>Maggie Moore</b> (WCHD), <b>Shelly McCrae</b> (VA), <b>Sharon Creasy</b> (SCHD), <b>Denise White</b> (SHORE-UP!), <b>Erin Leffew</b> (Life Crisis), <b>Tina Thomas</b> (WICHHD), <b>Christine Chestnut</b> (City of Salisbury), <b>Leliya Lindsay</b> (Salisbury PD), <b>Brooke Bartrom</b> (Wor. DHS), Guest Robert and Dale			
<b>2. Agenda/Topic/Discussion/Follow-Up:</b>			
<b>Welcome</b>	Co-chair <b>Tori Stone</b> called the meeting to order and warmly welcomed everyone.		
<b>CoC Reminders</b>	Funding information is sent out regularly; if you would like to be added to the CoC distribution list, please contact Sharon Creasy: <a href="mailto:Sharonr.creasy@maryland.gov">Sharonr.creasy@maryland.gov</a> The majority, if not all, of organizations present follow HIPAA guidelines. At no point in time do we share consumers (clients) personal information. We can collaborate to find solutions, however we must not reveal identifying information.		
<b>Approval of November Minutes</b>	February Minutes was approved by Carey Kelley, and 2nd by Ray Lockamy		

<b>Data Subcommittee</b>	<p><b>Members:</b>  <b>Leslie Leether, Emily Moore, Rachell Mitchell, Carey Kelley, Brooke Bartrom</b></p> <p><b>Description of Group:</b>  The Data committee will read and interpret various data about homelessness., including first time homelessness numbers, length of time homeless. exits to permanent housing/housing retention, and rates of return. The group will brainstorm and research solutions that can be implemented across the COC</p> <p>Report out:  The data committee is changing course slightly, because DHCD has now implemented a new project that the entire state will be working on, through a system called Built for Zero. The ultimate goal is to have a by-name list that will cover both clients active and not active in HMIS, and allow for a better referral and client conferencing process (hopefully).</p> <p>We are required to create some new policies and will also be working on a more continually updated list of resources, utilizing our existing resource lists and also investigating new resources that may not be noted elsewhere. This is a long-term project that will result in ongoing data collection and a new online dashboard related to data quality across the CoC.</p>
<b>Equity Subcommittee</b>	<p><b>NEED MEMBERS:</b></p> <p><b>Description of Group:</b>  The focus of this subcommittee is ensuring fairness in services (both available and actually supplied) to individuals and families from a lens of equity.</p>
<b>Homeless Advisory</b>	<p><b>Members:</b>  <b>Tasha Jamison, Maggie Moore, Cristi Richardson, Bridgette Gregory, Jessica Pastusak, Ray Lockamy, Teresa Shatney, Michelle Smith, Denzell Bledsoe, Kathryn Lewis, Ivonne Lomax. Guest- Dale, Robert</b></p> <p><b>Description of Group:</b>  This group is comprised of those who have experience or are currently experiencing homelessness and the facilities of this group are CoC Members.</p> <p>Report out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Major Barriers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ transportation- no stops near medical places ( woodforest dr)</li> <li>○ No hot meals on Monday Fridays and Sundays (check with churches to see if they are willing to cook on those days)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Cold weather shelter closing meaning more on the streets</li> </ul>
<b>Homeless Youth</b>	<p><b>Members:</b>  <b>Amber Green, Shannon Frey, Victoria Stone, Jackie Deal, Tim Gebhardt, Maxine Hillard, Joan Harris, Demettris Dryden, Sharon Creasy, Erin Leffew</b></p> <p><b>Description of Group:</b>  The goal of the homeless Youth Subcommittee is to identify, develop, and implement homeless youth services on the Lower Eastern shore.</p> <p>Report out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Resource Guide for Youth</li> <li>● Host homes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ For College (18-24)- a family willing to take in for Spring and Winter break while college dorms are closed.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Creating Policies for Safe spot parking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Christi Richardson will send us a video of how other places like California does the safe spot parking</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Veterans Workgroup</b>	<p><b>Members:</b>  <b>Michelle Hardy, Cherice Johnson, Chris Willliams, Lore Chambers, Shelly McCrae, Anielle Anwana, Greg Bisset, Julie Willis, Linda Copeland</b></p> <p><b>Description of Group:</b>  The Veterans Workgroup is focused on the needs of homeless veterans in our area. There is a separate group from the Veterans-by-name listing meeting and does not discuss specific veterans. *The group includes members of both inside and outside of the CoC *</p> <p>Report out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Lead assessments</b></li> <li>● <b>Barriers</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Transportation</li> <li>○ Housing</li> <li>○ Employment</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Agency Updates</b>	<p><b>Loré Chambers</b> (Zion House)  They will be having their annual Veteran Standdown on 04/26/2025. If you would like a table please let them know.</p> <p><b>Christine Chestnut</b> (City of Salisbury)- Christine is back at Ann St. As of right now Ann St is not at full capacity due to all the high utilities bills. They have over 42 applications that she is going through now. Christine states she is hoping to get</p>

	<p>everyone a list of what you will need to get into the waitlist for Ann St.</p> <p><b>Rachel Mitchell</b> (Wor. Youth &amp; Family)- There will be an Adopt-a-Block Food Drive, though you will have to make an appointment.</p> <p><b>Amber Green</b> (Shore Legal)- There will be a lawyer booth at several Barber shops here in Salisbury, They will be handling Life Planning, Housing, Mental Health and Family Law. If you would like a booth near you please call and talk to Amber.</p>
<b>Old Business/ New Business</b>	<p><b>Old business:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• none</li> </ul> <p><b>New business:</b></p>
<b>Closing Remarks</b>	<p>Meeting closed by Amber Green. If anyone has any ideas or suggestions for the agenda please reach out to our co-chairs:</p> <p>Jennifer Trager: <a href="mailto:jtrager@ccwilm.org">jtrager@ccwilm.org</a></p> <p>Amber Green <a href="mailto:Amber@shorelegal.org">Amber@shorelegal.org</a></p> <p>Tory Stone: <a href="mailto:vstone@diakonia.org">vstone@diakonia.org</a></p>
<b>New Members</b>	<p>Email Sharon Creasy at <a href="mailto:Sharonr.creasy@maryland.gov">Sharonr.creasy@maryland.gov</a> to be added to the CoC email group.</p>
<b>Next CoC Meeting</b>	<p><b>Thursday, April 10, 2025 @ St James AME Zion Church of Salisbury, MD @ 521 Mack Ave, Salisbury, MD 21801</b></p>