



**Public Health**  
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Somerset County  
Health Department

## 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>Jan 9, 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>Gregory Bisset</b> (VA), <b>Kathryn Lewis</b> (WoCHD) <b>Cristi Richardson</b> (Wic. Library), <b>Teresa Shatney</b> (TidalHealth), <b>Tory Stone</b> (Diakonia), <b>Demettris Dryden</b> (SCHD), <b>Denzell Bledsoe</b> (Wic.LMB), <b>Shannon Frey</b> (SCHD), <b>Anthony Dickerson</b> (Christian Shelter), <b>Tim Gebhardt</b> (Worcester Public Schools), <b>Cherice Johnson</b> (Labor), <b>Maxine Hillard</b> (Life Crisis), <b>Tasha Jamison</b> (WiCHD), <b>Michelle Hardy</b> (Wic.HD), <b>Maggie Moore</b> (WCHD), <b>George Wilson</b> (St. James), <b>Shelly Merae</b> (VA), <b>Danielle Anwana</b> (VA), <b>Julie Willis</b> (Wic. LBHA)			
<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>	December meeting minutes were approved by <b>Shannon Frey</b> .		

<b>Data Subcommittee</b>	<p><b>Leslie Leether, Emily Moore, Rachell Mitchell, Carey Kelley</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 solution that can be implemented across the COC</p> <p><b>Goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Gap Analysis</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Trend in data</li> <li>○ Current consumer needs</li> <li>○ County investment in ending homeless</li> <li>○ Attitude</li> </ul> </li> <li>● <b>Follow up survey</b></li> </ul>
<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>Tasha Jamison, Maggie Moore, Cristi Richardson, Bridgette Gregory, Jessica Pastusak, Ray Lockamy, Teresa Shatney, Michelle Smith, Denzell Bledsoe, Kathryn Lewis, Ivonne Lomax.</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><b>Goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Increase the number of individuals with lived experience who attend the larger HALS Committee meetings</li> <li>● Create a peer Led Homeless Advisory Council in each county to meet monthly and provide a voice to the needs of each jurisdiction.</li> </ul>
<b>Homeless Youth</b>	<p><b>Amber Green, Shannon Frey, Victoria Stone, Jackie Deal, Tim Gebhardt, Maxine Hillard, Joan Harris, Demettris Dryden</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>

	<b>Goals:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Host four trainings into use of COC Youth coordination assessment</li> <li>• Create an online youth resource guide by July 1st.</li> </ul>
<b>Veterans Workgroup</b>	<p><b>Michelle Hardy, Cherice Johnson, Chris Williams, 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. The 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><b>Goals:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• End homelessness for all Veterans</li> <li>• Providing &amp; Developing a resource guide to help educate and inform the community &amp; veterans. to be completed by June 2025 (Veterans, Tri-county resource guide) provide at least 100 guides.</li> <li>• Stand down by June 2025 event to be held and two annually thereafter. Lore will be in Cambridge as well</li> <li>• Subcommittee members to attend 10 events/meetings</li> <li>• invite shore transit to the meeting to discuss transportation barrier-</li> <li>• follow up as needed assessment</li> </ul>
<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>	Meeting closed by Amber Green. If anyone has any ideas or suggestions for the agenda please reach out to our co-chairs: Jennifer Trager: <a href="mailto:jtrager@ccwilm.org">jtrager@ccwilm.org</a> Amber Green <a href="mailto:Amber@shorelegal.org">Amber@shorelegal.org</a> Tory Stone: <a href="mailto:vstone@diakonia.org">vstone@diakonia.org</a>
<b>New Members</b>	Email Sharon Creasy at <a href="mailto:Sharonr.creasy@maryland.gov">Sharonr.creasy@maryland.gov</a> to be added to the CoC email group.
<b>Next CoC Meeting</b>	<b>Thursday, February 13, 2025 @ St James AME Zion Church of Salisbury, MD @ 521 Mack Ave, Salisbury, MD 21801</b>