

Somerset County Health Department

8928 Sign Post Road, Suite 2, Westover, Maryland 21871
443.523.1700 • Fax 410.651.5680 • TDD 1-800-735-2258

Health Officer Danielle Weber, MS, RN

HALS MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Name:	Homeless Alliance for the Lower Shore Continuum of Care Committee (HALS COC)			
Date of Meeting:	Jul 10, 2025		Time:	10:00AM - 11:30AM
Minutes Prepared By:	Sharon Creasy		In-person Meeting	521 Mack Ave Salisbury, MD 21801
1. Attendees:				
Carey Kelley (Somerset DSS), Ivonne Lomax (WoCHD), Emily Moore (SCHD), Bridgette Gregory (SCHD), Ray Lockamy (SCHD), Leslie Leether (SCHD), Christina Williams (Labor), Linda Copeland (Zion House), Rachel Mitchell (Wor. Youth & Family), Teresa Shatney (TidalHealth), Tory Stone (Diakonia), Shannon Frey (SCHD), Maggie Moore (WCHD), Shelly McCrae (VA), Sharon Creasy (SCHD), Erin Leffew (Life Crisis), Diane Palmer (Sante Group), Twanda Redding (MDOL), Gregory Bisset (VA), Anthony Dickerson (Christian Shelter), Knita Cartwright (MYWCPS), YoVanda Brown (Labor), Cristi Richardson (Wic. Library), Christine Chestnut (City of Salisbury), Joan Harris (WCBOE), Kathy Cannon (Compass Health), Jon Pobst (MPC)				
2. Agenda/Topic/Discussion/Follow-Up:				
Welcome	Co-chair Tori Stone called the meeting to order and warmly welcomed everyone.			
CoC Reminders	Funding information is sent out regularly; if you would like to be added to the CoC distribution list, please contact Sharon Creasy: Sharonr.creasy@maryland.gov 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.			
Approval of November Minutes	June Minutes were approved by Ray Lockamy, and 2nd by Carey Kelley			

Data Subcommittee	<p>Members: Leslie Leether, Emily Moore, Rachel Mitchell, Carey Kelley, Brooke Bartrom</p> <p>Description of Group: 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>Built for Zero: 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> <p>Report Out</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuing working on scorecards • Federal funding is stopping so counties and agencies are stepping up. Hoping to see this trend continue.
Equity Subcommittee	<p>NEED MEMBERS:</p> <p>Description of Group: 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>
Homeless Advisory	<p>Members: Tasha Jamison, Maggie Moore, Cristi Richardson, Bridgette Gregory, Jessica Pastusak, Ray Lockamy, Teresa Shatney, Michelle Smith, Denzell Bledsoe, Kathryn Lewis, Ivonne Lomax, Dale Simms, Robert Audet</p> <p>Description of Group: 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"> • We have new members: went around to introduce everyone and what they do for the communities • Continuing working on formal groups.
Homeless Youth	<p>Members: Amber Green, Shannon Frey, Victoria Stone, Jackie Deal, Tim Gebhardt, Maxine Hillard, Joan Harris, Demettris Dryden, Sharon Creasy, Erin Leffew</p> <p>Description of Group: 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"> • The Bridge is closing* need ideas on who, what, and where can we get more youth options since the Shelter is closing and the Drop-In Center is closed.
Veterans Workgroup	<p>Members: Michelle Hardy, Cherice Johnson, Chris Williams, Lore Chambers, Shelly McCrae, Anielle Anwana, Greg Bisset, Julie Willis, Linda Copeland, Gregory Short, Steve Silberman</p> <p>Description of Group: 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>Report out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be a Surge event for Veteran housing “GET OUR VETERANS OFF THE STREET” Monday 08/04/2025 and Tuesday 08/05/2025.
Agency Updates	Leslie Leether- (SCHD)- as of now the SOAR training is still on. Though there is talk about parts of SOAR being cut. Will update once there is more information.
Old Business/ New Business	<p>Old business:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • none <p>New business:</p>
Closing Remarks	Meeting closed by Tory Stone. If anyone has any ideas or suggestions for the agenda please reach out to our co-chairs: Jennifer Trager: jtrager@ccwilm.org

	Amber Green Amber@shorelegal.org Tory Stone: vstone@diakonia.org
New Members	Email Sharon Creasy at Sharonr.creasy@maryland.gov to be added to the CoC email group.
Next CoC Meeting	Thursday, August 14, 2025 @ St James AME Zion Church of Salisbury, MD @ 521 Mack Ave, Salisbury, MD 21801