



Public Health
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Somerset County
Health Department

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:	Oct 9, 2025	Time:	10:00AM - 11:30AM
Minutes Prepared By:	Sharon Creasy	In-person Meeting	521 Mack Ave Salisbury, MD 21801
1. Attendees:			
Jennifer Trager (Seton), Carey Kelley (Somerset DSS), Loré Chambers (Zion House), Bridgette Gregory (SCHD), Jessica Pastusak (SCHD), Leslie Leether (SCHD), Linda Copeland (Zion House) Shannon Frey (SCHD), Maggie Moore (WCHD), Sharon Creasy (SCHD), Christine Chestnut (City of Salisbury), Gregory Bisset (VA), Ivy McKenzie (St. James), Jody Hurley (LifeCrisis), Knita Cartwright (MYWCPS), Leliya Lindsay (Salisbury PD), Rachel Mitchell (Wor. Youth & Family), Diane Palmer (Sante Group), Denise White (SHORE-UP!), Carly Nascimbeni (ShoreLegal), Steve Bradford (WraparoundMD), Tasha Jaimerson (Wic.HD), Lisa Hawkins (community member), YoVanda Brown (Labor), Cristi Richardson (Wic. Library), Jerrisha Hood (SCPS), Joe Ruffo (HealthPort), Amy Kelly (WCDSS), Blondine (Habitat for Humanity), Sheri Ewing (Habitat for Humanity), Sherry Hostetler (WorWic), Molly Hilligoss (Habitat for Humanity), Ivonne Lomax (WoCHD), Shelly McCrae (VA), Teresa Shatney (Tidalhealth)			
2. Agenda/Topic/Discussion/Follow-Up:			
Welcome	Jennifer Trager called the meeting to order and 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 Minutes	September meeting minutes were approved by Jessica Pastusak and seconded by Ray Lockamy		
Habitat for Humanity- Sheri Ewing	Home Ownership: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● needs to be willing to partner with them, have income to sustain the home.● help with down payment● It usually takes around 2 years to get into the house.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ while the client works on Credit building and money to put down		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All homes are around \$250,000.00 homes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ some are new homes and others are fixer upper • we are working on closing the gaps for the financial side • All inspections for the homes does have to be hired out <p>Critical Home Repairs: (USDA makes all final decisions on applicants) Open for Wicomico and Somerset County's</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • all loans over \$5,000 due required a lien on home • low to no interest loans are available • CBDG (Community Development Block Grant) is for City of Salisbury residents only* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There is no payment for this help but a lien on the house for 5 years. <p>Rental Assistance: This program has not launched yet but is planning to on October 20th and run till 12/30/2025. already have over 300 intakes. There is no qualified income for this.</p>
Wicomico Co-Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due to Amber having to step down due to conflict of interest, we opened the floor for anyone wanting to volunteer. YoVanda Brown from Labor has offered to be the co-Chair for Wicomic and was voted in.
Agency Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jessica Pastusak (SCHD)- Light the night is October 18th for suicide prevention there will be glow stick, chalk art, and more. This is being held at Winterplace Park in Salisbury, MD. We also have Movie night on October 24th that will be featuring the original (1980's) Ghostbusters movies along with Trunk or treat. This is being held at the Somerset county Health Dept. • Christine Chestnut (City of Salisbury) has been able to move one of the residents that are losing their housing at Ann St. and another has been incarcerated but not sure what the other 9 will do for housing. The closing date for this program is in 2027. They have to live in Wicomico and they will not take pregnant women and children, • YoVanda Brown (Labor) There is the Annual Job Fair today from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm at the Civic Center • Carly Nascimbeni (ShoreLegal) She is out in the community at least once a month doing intakes around the community. If you would like to know her schedule or have someone that needs assistance to please send her an email at Carly@shorelegal.org • Lisa Hawkins (community member) spoke on supportive housing and some of the issues that arise for losing the funding for her housing at Ann Street. The rent would increase from 30% to 50%. She spoke of how that makes her feel and the anxiety that comes with it

Old Business/ New Business	Old business: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • none New business: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YoVanda Brown (Labor) volunteered for the Co-Chair Wicomico seat.
Closing Remarks	<p>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.green1@maryland.gov Tory Stone: vstone@diakonia.org</p>
New Members	<p>Email Sharon Creasy at Sharonr.creasy@maryland.gov to be added to the CoC email group.</p>
Next CoC Meeting	Thursday, November 13, 2025 @ St James AME Zion Church of Salisbury, MD @ 521 Mack Ave, Salisbury, MD 21801