

CONTINUUM OF CARE (CoC) BOARD

JANUARY 17, 2024 | 3:00-5:00PM

VIRTUAL MEETING

TIME	AGENDA ITEM
3:00pm	1. Call to Order
3:03pm	2. Welcome/Introductions
3:20pm	3. Public Comment
3:25pm	4. Approval of Agenda (ACTION)
3:30pm	5. Approval of Minutes (ACTION)
3:35pm	6. 2024 PIT Count Methodology (ACTION) – <i>Andrew Kraemer, OCED</i>
3:50pm	7. Housing and Homelessness Immediate Impact Resource Allocation BOC Funding Update – <i>Andy LaBarre, Washtenaw County</i>
4:00pm	8. Re-establishing the Youth Homelessness Committee Update – <i>Kellie Rutledge, Ozone House</i>
4:10pm	9. Winter Shelter Task Force Update – <i>Rhonda Weathers, SOS, and Dan Kelly, SAWC</i> a. Hoteling Update – <i>Sharon Lapides, Contractor</i>
4:30pm	10. CoC Committee Chair Updates a. Coordinated Entry Oversight & Evaluation – <i>Katie Hoener, CMH</i> New Chair and Secretary Equity Concerns in Eviction Prevention Committee and Evaluation Workplan
4:45pm	11. Public Comment
5:00pm	12. Adjournment

Key Terms

PIT: Point In Time

BOC: Board of Commissioners

Board Position	Board Member
WHA Director	Amanda Carlisle, Director, Washtenaw Housing Alliance (WHA)
CoC At-Large	Aubrey Patiño, Avalon Housing
Homeless or Housing Program	Dan Kelly, Shelter Association of Washtenaw County (SAWC)
Homeless or Housing Program	Jan Little, Michigan Ability Partners (MAP)
Faith Community	Jim Mogensen, Religious Action for Affordable Housing (RAAH)
Domestic Violence Provider Representative	Kim Montgomery, SafeHouse Center Services Director
WHA Board Member	Rhonda Weathers, SOS Community Services
Police/Sherriff	Sheriff Jerry Clayton, Washtenaw County Sheriff OR Kathy Wyatt
OCED Director	Toni Kayumi
Housing Commissions	Jennifer Hall, Director of Ann Arbor Housing Commission (AAHC)
Workforce Development	Johnny Epps, Michigan Works Southeast
CMH Director	Katie Hoener, Community Mental Health OR Melisa Tasker, Community Mental Health (CMH)
Housing Access for Washtenaw County	Amanda Guanco, Call Center Supervisor
Substance Abuse Coordinating Agency Director	Nicole Adelman, Community Mental Health Partnership of Southeast Michigan (CMHPSM)
Another Township or City Highest Elected Official	Renee Smith, City of Ypsilanti
Public Health Director	Ruth Kraut, Deputy Health Officer
CoC At-Large	Tish Lee, Legal Services of South Central Michigan (LSSCM)
Housing Commissions	Zachary Fosler, Director of Ypsilanti Housing Commission (YHC)
City of Ann Arbor Mayor	John Hieftje, Former Mayor
McKinney Vento Liaison	Kellie Rutledge, Ozone House Director
Currently/Formerly Homeless	Jennifer Monahan, Washtenaw Intermediate School District (WISD)
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Director	Renee Adorjan, MDHHS Director OR Alice Seipelt, Community Coordinator
Veterans Administration	Gabriel Parra, Health Care for Homeless Veterans Coordinator
Washtenaw County Board Chair	Greg Dill, County Administrator OR Andrew LaBarre, County Commissioner
Private Funder	Jillian Rosen, VP for Community Investment for Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation
Police/Sherriff	Vacant
Police/Sherriff	Deputy Chief Jason Forsberg, Ann Arbor Police Department
WHA Board Member	Vacant
CoC Non-Funded Agency	Vacant
Institute of Higher Education	Vacant

CONTINUUM OF CARE (CoC) BOARD

NOVEMBER 15, 2023 | 3:00-5:00PM

VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDANCE: J. HIEFTJE, R. SMITH, A. SEIPELT, A. KRAEMER, K. KUNES, K. HOENER, A. WILLIAMSON, T. KAYUMI, E. JOHNSON, K. WYATT, K. FIELD, C. KLUS, R. WEATHERS, A. GOSSAGE, D. GOLDBAUM, J. LITTLE, N. ADELMAN, A. GUANCO, R. WAITE, A. PATINO, M. WEBER, D. KELLY, A. LABARRE, E. CHANG, A. MAYLONE, J. LITTLE, S. TARUZA, R. KRAUT, OCED COURT LIAISON, D. LEMLEY, S. LAPIDES, E. TENNISWOOD

TIME	AGENDA ITEM
3:00pm	1. Call to Order
3:03pm	2. Welcome/Introductions
3:05pm	3. Public Comment
3:10pm	4. Approval of Agenda (ACTION) <i>Moved and seconded. All in favor.</i>
3:12pm	5. Approval of Minutes (ACTION) <i>Moved and seconded. All in favor.</i> <i>R. Smith discussed saying “I” versus raising hands. N. Adelman said her title needs to be changed for the minutes.</i>
3:15pm	6. Coordinated Entry System Funding Needs – <i>Ellis Johnson II, OCED</i> <i>E. Johnson presented the HAWC budget starting on page 15 in the CoC Board Packet for 11.15.23 with additions. Current funding sources include MESG, HESG, and HSS. Potential funding sources are from the County and CoC Bonus Funding.</i> <i>A. Carlisle asked about the potential funding from the County 4-year budget amount and if there was an update on the County budget process. E. Johnson said the process is still ongoing. A. LaBarre said the first reading is being voted on tonight and Commissioners’ amendments were offered at the last meeting. He welcomes input on the balance between funding the roles and funding the services.</i>

	<i>A. Carlisle said the budget says most of the funding will go to the Call Center under OCED. What is the timeline for the dollars? What is the plan and what will fall off as of December 31st? A. LaBarre said he would share something in writing and share with his colleagues that clarity around the process is needed.</i> <i>J. Hall acknowledged the work being done at the County to address need. She voiced that it would be better to have a long-term funding commitment than only a one-year bump to the system.</i> <i>E. Johnson said developing the budget included thinking about the gaps in OCED as OCED has taken on the HAWC work to stabilize the system.</i> <i>D. Kelly discussed imagining best-case scenarios for the long-term after figuring out the short-term, possibly called an aspirational budget.</i> <i>A. Carlisle asked about the cap that the County does. E. Johnson said that OCED charges out to grants based on how staff are spending their time.</i>
3:20pm	7. 2024 PIT Count Planning Update – Andrew Kraemer, OCED <i>A. Kraemer said the planning is underway. Every year we do an in-person count at the end of January by counting those in shelters and on the streets throughout the County. We conduct brief surveys with everyone, and the data is compiled. It is done across the country to get an understanding of homelessness. We will start meeting with community partners at the beginning of December and then recruit volunteers in January. Our community is interested in doing a second PIT Count in the summer, so we will discuss that, too.</i> <i>A. Carlisle asked about the date. A. Kraemer said it will be January 31st.</i> <i>A. Carlisle discussed wanting to get an accurate count of young people experiencing homelessness, so we could try to enhance the PIT Count. A. Kraemer said we do collaborate with Ozone House and I like the suggestion of reaching out to school partners to capture youth homelessness better.</i> <i>A. Patino asked if we are behind schedule with planning. A. Kraemer said no, we are on time and usually approve the methodology at the January meeting. Our methodology is likely to remain unchanged.</i>
3:30pm	8. Re-establishing the Youth Homelessness Committee – Amanda Carlisle, WHA

A. Carlisle directed members to the Packet starting on page 19. The last several years we have not applied for a HUD grant for youth. WHA put together a summary of goals of the program but realized we would not be competitive in the funding competition, so we passed up the opportunity. WHA met with Ozone House and Our House to make a plan to be better positioned to apply next year. One part we are missing is a Youth Advisory Board that will need some staffing support. We brought on two MSW interns to work on this. We want to provide stipends for the young people on the committee, so we are talking to the millage staffing committee. We are not yet ready to ask for a letter of support from this CoC Board, but when we are, we will ask for your support. We have been in communication with the CoC's in Michigan who successfully received the funding to learn from them. The YHDP funding can be used more broadly, and we could identify programs we want to fund. It is a renewable grant once it is received the first time.

A. LaBarre said he is happy to helpful in any way on that ask.

K. Rutledge said we are excited about this opportunity, and within Ozone we are working on establishing our own Youth Advisory Board. It falls in alignment with our strategic plan, so we appreciate WHA and Our House's support, and the CoC's.

A. Maylone said as school representatives, we want to make sure youth not connected to Ozone can be represented, too. A. Carlisle said we have outreach plans and would like to partner with them as it gets up and running.

3:45pm

9. Quarterly Homelessness System Data – Andrew Kraemer, OCED

A. Kraemer said I create this presentation every quarter for our Built for Zero leadership teams and the full report is in the Packet. We have seen homelessness increase. We have housed 317 persons permanently in 2023 through September. It is taking us slightly longer to house people compared to 2022. Families with children in our system have been the majority of the growth in need. There is a downward trend for veterans in the time it takes to be housed, unlike other populations where the length of time to housing is increasing (chronic, non-chronic, families). Most families showing up in the system are new to the system. There is a huge racial disparity with Black/African American/African (HUD definition) folks overrepresented in the system. For the HAWC Call Center, our goal is to answer calls within five minutes, so we are working on meeting that (44% on average are answered that quickly now). We have not been seeing as many HCVs going to families lately. 783 people were served in permanent supportive housing between July and September 2023.

	<i>K. Hoener said on the Call Center data, what is the difference between the categories like Miscellaneous. A. Kraemer said miscellaneous could be them calling from another county or they don't meet eligibility requirements. I can pass along a more detailed breakdown if wanted.</i> <i>A. Maylone asked if there was data on if folks calling in categorized as Diversion are coming back into the system as eligible. A. Kraemer said with a lot of time and an intern, perhaps yes, but not with current workloads. It would be helpful to know. We are ramping up a Diversion program at SOS to serve more of those clients.</i> <i>J. Mogensen asked if the family system is about to crash. A. Kraemer said it isn't crashing but it is overwhelmed. At this point we cannot guarantee timely fashion rapid rehousing. If we continue to see a rise in family homelessness, there is not a plan to scale resources for that. The ultimate fix would be more affordable housing in the County and affordability in the market. J. Mogensen discussed diversion. A. Kraemer discussed how it can be a lot for a family to take another family in and yes, we are asking a lot of the system and people's support networks.</i> <i>A. Carlisle said of the families on the list, some are in shelter, some are in hoteling, and those who are not are likely doubled up, so verifying them might determine that they are not eligible for services. A. Kraemer said yes, we need positions dedicated to that. A. Maylone said from the school district perspective, we have seen many more requests for homelessness verification from the schools.</i>
4:00pm	10. Winter Shelter Task Force Update – Rhonda Weathers, SOS, and Dan Kelly, SAWC <i>R. Weathers said last winter we experienced record breaking demand for family shelter, so a Winter Shelter Task Force was created in April 2023. This year there are additional sites. D. Kelly discussed the Ypsi Freighthouse as one of the day shelter sites. We have overall added capacity across the County with the ability to serve 200 individuals each night as a goal. R. Weathers discussed the funding last year for hoteling families and how implementing case management services was good for the program. There were lessons learned from last year- increased mental health and substance use challenges, older adults and those reporting a disability were observed. Stipends for families were effective. D. Kelly shared that they interviewed other counties and found that they are grappling with similar issues. R. Weathers discussed the need to increase bed capacity for this winter, eviction prevention and diversion resources, stipends, hotel funding. D. Kelly discussed the need for sites, staff, volunteers, food, transportation, laundry. R. Weathers shared the Task Force's funding recommendations totaling \$1.11million for winter response. A. Carlisle shared that the Task Force Interim Report is almost finalized. R. Weathers said the Task Force will continue to meet.</i>

A. Carlisle thanked the Commissioners for approving the funding recommendations, especially Commissioner LaBarre. The Task Force will continue to work and hope the CoC Board will stay engaged in this.

J. Hieftje thanked the Task Force.

D. Kelly seconded A. Carlisle's thanks to the Commissioners. The investment from the local community is incredible. R. Weathers seconded that.

K. Hoener also thanked R. Weathers and D. Kelly.

4:15pm

11. PWLEH Compensation Plan Task Force – Kristin Kunes, OCED

K. Kunes discussed how the Board approved creating a task force to make a plan to compensate people with lived experience in September. We have been having conversations about the lack of representation in these spaces and our funders are moving to ask about this in applications. We do not currently have an existing plan. I am happy to lead this effort and I am asking for participation. It would likely meet twice a month. Please reach out to K. Kunes.

J. Little shared that she is interested. J. Mogensen wants to be kept in the loop. K. Hoener will check in with PATH folks.

4:20pm

12. CoC Committee Chair Updates

a. CHP Committee – Andrew Kraemer, OCED

A. Kraemer said this committee is responsible for tracking the by-name lists and making referrals. We prioritize folks for our limited resources by meeting twice a month. We review the list and make referrals using the community prioritization policy. There is also an opportunity for case conferencing between providers. We implemented the new prioritization policy approved by the Board. Last Tuesday, we did over 30 referrals, which is a lot! I am proud of the committee's work.

b. Built for Zero– Amanda Carlisle, WHA

A. Carlisle shared about the Built for Zero Initiative. We have a leadership team for each of our populations that meet monthly to look at progress. We look at our system to see if there are changes to be made towards the goal of making homelessness rare and brief. A. Carlisle discussed data quality for better service. Five members of the Washtenaw County Ending Veteran Homelessness Team went to a learning session in Washington D.C. Our goal is to reach functional zero next

<i>year which would be housing 12 veterans each month. We created action steps related to our goals.</i>	
4:45pm	13. Public Comment <i>R. Smith welcomed A. Williamson who is sitting in for Z. Fosler today. A. Williamson thanked everyone.</i>
5:00pm	14. Adjournment

Key Terms

PIT: Point In Time

PWLEH: People With Lived Experiences of Homelessness

CHP: Community Housing Prioritization

Board Position	Board Member
WHA Director	Amanda Carlisle, Director, Washtenaw Housing Alliance (WHA)
CoC At-Large	Aubrey Patiño, Avalon Housing
Homeless or Housing Program	Dan Kelly, Shelter Association of Washtenaw County (SAWC)
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OCED Director	Director (Toni Kayumi) OR OCED Manager (Ellis Johnson II)
Housing Commissions	Jennifer Hall, Director of Ann Arbor Housing Commission (AAHC)
Workforce Development	Johnny Epps, Michigan Works Southeast
CMH Director	Katie Hoener, Community Mental Health OR Melisa Tasker, Community Mental Health (CMH)
Housing Access for Washtenaw County	Amanda Guanco, Call Center Supervisor
Substance Use Services Prepaid Inpatient Health Plan (PIHP) Representative	Nicole Adelman, Substance Use Services Director
Another Township or City Highest Elected Official	Renee Smith, City of Ypsilanti
Public Health Director	Ruth Kraut, Deputy Health Officer
CoC At-Large	Tish Lee, Legal Services of South Central Michigan (LSSCM)
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McKinney Vento Liaison	Kellie Rutledge, Ozone House Director OR Pam Cornell-Allen, Ozone House Associate Director
Currently/Formerly Homeless	Jennifer Monahan, Washtenaw Intermediate School District (WISD)
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services Director	Renee Adorjan, MDHHS Director OR Alice Seipelt, Community Coordinator
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Police/Sherriff	Deputy Chief Jason Forsberg, Ann Arbor Police Department
WHA Board Member	Vacant
CoC Non-Funded Agency	Vacant
Institute of Higher Education	Vacant

ACTION ITEM SUMMARY

CONTINUUM OF CARE (CoC) BOARD | January 17, 2024

Adoption of the 2024 Point-in-Time Count Methodology

The Point-in-Time (PIT) count is a count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons on a single night in January. HUD requires that CoCs conduct an annual count of homeless persons who are sheltered in emergency shelter, transitional housing, and Safe Havens on a single night, and a bi-annual count of the unsheltered population. HUD requires CoCs to submit PIT count data and information on the methodology used to generate their sheltered and unsheltered counts. HUD uses this information to ensure the data collected is valid and reliable. The information is also used to evaluate the progress CoCs are making on reducing homelessness generally and among specific subpopulations. HUD uses this information to inform annual appropriations for homelessness programs and score CoCs during the CoC Program Competitions; it is also an important source for local programs and system planning. The final PIT count methodology must be approved by the CoC in accordance with the CoC's Governance Charter. The 2024 PIT Count Methodology is attached.

Current Action Needed:

Approval of the 2024 PIT Count Methodology as submitted in this packet that details methodology that will be used to carry out the PIT Count on January 31st, 2024.

Motion:

The CoC Board approves the submitted 2024 PIT Count Methodology to be used when conducting sheltered and unsheltered counts on January 31st, 2024.

2024 Point-in-Time Count Methodology

Approved by the CoC Board: (date)

Introduction

The Point-in-Time (PIT) count is a count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons on a single night in January. HUD requires that Continuums of Care conduct an annual count of homeless persons who are sheltered in emergency shelter, transitional housing, and Safe Havens on a single night.

HUD requires CoCs to submit PIT count data and information on the methodology used to generate their sheltered and unsheltered counts. HUD uses this information to ensure the data are valid and reliable and to evaluate the progress CoCs are making on reducing homelessness generally and among specific subpopulations. This information is also used by HUD to score CoCs during CoC Program Competitions and is an important source for local program and system planning.

This document outlines Washtenaw County CoCs PIT Count Methodology used to carry out the PIT count. **PIT Count Methodology must be approved by the CoC Board.** For reference and more detailed information, please refer to HUD's [PIT Count Methodology Guide](#)¹.

Sheltered PIT Count Methodology

Standards

HUD has outlined three standards for conducting a count of people who are homeless and in shelter (emergency shelter, Safe Haven, or transitional housing projects) on the night of the count. You can view these beginning on page 14 of HUD's [PIT Count Methodology Guide](#).

Approaches

Main approaches to generate accurate sheltered PIT Counts:

- ☒ Complete census count
- ☐ Random sample and extrapolation
- ☐ Non-random sample and extrapolation

Washtenaw County CoC uses a complete coverage count for the sheltered count because all CoC projects collect complete and accurate data from all clients for each population and subpopulation characteristic.

Data Collection

Methods used to gather and calculate subpopulation data for sheltered homeless persons:

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☒ HMIS | ☐ Interview of sheltered persons |
| ☐ HMIS plus Extrapolation | ☐ Samples of PIT interviews plus extrapolation |

CoC selected HMIS to collect and calculate the sheltered PIT Count data due to strong HMIS coverage and data quality and the regular trainings we hold on program entry/exit protocol. In addition to ensuring good data quality year-round, the HMIS System Administrator conducts a number of trainings with Contributing HMIS Organizations to prepare for the PIT count and subsequent data pulls. Training topics include training on data quality, program entry/exit protocol, and running reports to ensure data completeness.

Unsheltered PIT Count Methodology

Standards

HUD has outlined three standards for conducting a count of people who are homeless and unsheltered on the night of the count. These can be viewed beginning on page 17 of HUD's [PIT Count Methodology Guide](#).

Approaches

CoCs may complete their unsheltered count on the night designated for the count (i.e., "night of the count" approach), over the 7 days following the night of the count (i.e., "post-night"), or through a combination of these approaches. Post-night counts are typically service-based counts.

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☒ Night of the Count Complete Census | ☐ |
| ☒ Night of Count- known locations | ☒ Post-Night Service-based count |
| ☐ Night of Count- random sample | ☐ HMIS |

Washtenaw County CoC will conduct a complete census for its unsheltered count, but will use elements of a known location & service-based count to ensure it did not miss any unsheltered persons. We select this methodology because the CoC covers a relatively compact geographic area and has the resources to deploy approximately 25 enumerators to canvas the entire geography. Known locations will be incorporated into the plan, based on outreach staff knowledge of where unsheltered homeless persons usually stay. Also, the CoC will use a service-based approach to survey at the only breakfast program that people experiencing homelessness often attend. The CoC will conduct a service based count the following day for youth in partnership with Ozone House.

Data Collection

In addition to the surveys, the CoC may utilize the PIT Count Data Extrapolation Tool in conjunction with a complete count methodology to assist in obtaining gender, ethnicity and race for a small number of households with whom the CoC was not able to collect this information. Due to the PIT Count being conducted over night, some individuals approached by enumerators may be unable to fully complete the PIT Count survey.

PIT Count Data Quality

To review the three PIT Count Data Quality standards, please reference page 8 of HUD's [PIT Count Methodology Guide](#)

Sheltered Data Quality

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☒ Training | ☒ HMIS |
| ☒ Follow-up | ☒ Non-HMIS de-duplication techniques |

To ensure an accurate count and good data quality, all emergency shelter (ES) and transitional housing (TH) will conduct the sheltered count at the same time on the night of the PIT count. The count will be implemented in accordance with a comprehensive plan and corresponding detailed timeline, established by the CoC, HMIS Lead and with input from partner agencies. Following the PIT count, the HMIS System Administrator, in collaboration with ES and TH administrative staff, will reconcile HMIS data with internal data, using de-duplication techniques, to ensure that each sheltered person is only counted once across the continuum.

Unsheltered Data Quality

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☒ Training | ☒ Unique Identifier |
| ☒ Blitz Count | ☒ Survey Question |
| ☒ Enumerator Observation | |

The CoC holds pre-meetings with a CoC Subcommittee to identify known locations of unsheltered households, plan for day-of logistics to ensure all geography would be covered, and refine the PIT count tool/survey. These meetings involve people from various sectors to ensure all populations are represented, including youth volunteers and staff from CoC's homeless youth providers to identify locations for unsheltered youth. PIT Count coordinators engage all police departments in the county to contact PIT headquarters if they encountered anyone who needed to be surveyed meeting with current consumers of

homeless services and meeting with youth volunteers and staff from the CoC's homeless youth provider to identify locations of unsheltered youth.

ⁱ <https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/4036/point-in-time-count-methodology-guide/>

A RESOLUTION APPROVING HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS IMMEDIATE IMPACT
RESOURCE ALLOCATION

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

NOVEMBER 1, 2023

WHEREAS, at the October 18, 2023 Board of Commissioners meeting, Administration presented a comprehensive overview of a proposed strategic framework to address the housing and homelessness crisis; and

WHEREAS, the proposal focused on services and roles already performed by the County in both its functional and entity capacity to address current emergency needs and create strategic long-term impact; and

WHEREAS, part of the proposed next action steps identified in the high-level framework included community stakeholder and end user engagement; and

WHEREAS, feedback received via community engagement, system stakeholder, and Commissioner response identified specific areas of priority; and

WHEREAS, support for winter sheltering, eviction prevention & diversion, expanded intake & assessment, are identified as priority areas of need; and

WHEREAS, expanded case management services and direct cash assistance piloted via the family sheltering program demonstrated success in homelessness reduction; and

WHEREAS, community members being unbanked & underbanked places them at higher risk for predatory financial systems increasing risk of poverty and homelessness; and

WHEREAS, populations of color, low-income populations, persons living with disabilities, and homeless or housing insecure populations, were and continue to be disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, low income, disproportionately impacted, and homeless populations are eligible recipients for direct assistance via American Rescue Plan Act including cash aid also known as a guaranteed basic income; and

WHEREAS, the Continuum of Care has released their request to assist with the winter sheltering season and their requests are included in the recommended funding amounts.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners authorizes use of \$2,180,000 in American Rescue Plan Funding under the Financial Equity Center for use for assistance to individuals and households currently homeless, at risk of homelessness, and/or undergoing or at risk of eviction and/or in need of diversion support. The funding will be used as follows:

- \$750,000 for direct cash assistance for up to 1-year to families and individuals currently experiencing homelessness or housing instability, at least \$375,000 of which shall be used for lump sum payments to aid with immediate housing needs such as security deposits.
- \$710,000 for Eviction Prevention and Diversion.
- \$250,000 for Winter Shelter Staffing and Site Support.

- \$150,000 for Short-Term Emergency Hotel Stays.
- \$70,000 for Unbanked and Underbanked housing barrier reduction support.
- \$250,000 for rapid rehousing

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners instructs the County Administrator to identify an additional \$250,000 in County funds to be used for rapid rehousing.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners directs the Administrator to convene a workgroup to explore feasibility of a Washtenaw County Housing Commission and provide a comprehensive report to the Board of Commissioners no later than September 30, 2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners recognizes that the funds obligated as part of this resolution are non-structural in nature, must be obligated by December 31, 2024, and spent no later than December 31, 2026. As such, the outlined initiatives shall not bind the County beyond the timelines as indicated.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Administrator to amend budgets in alignment with the obligated funds of this resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners authorizes the County Administrator to amend budgets as necessary, within the total allocated amount, to assist the Continuum of Care in providing winter shelter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners authorizes the Administrator to issue and execute any and all necessary contracts or agreements to implement the activities authorized under this resolution.

COMMISSIONER	Y	N	A	COMMISSIONER	Y	N	A	COMMISSIONER	Y	N	A
Beeman	X			Maciejewski	X			Somerville	X		
Hodge	X			Rabhi	X						
LaBarre	X			Sanders	X						
Lyte	X			Scott	X						

CLERK/REGISTER'S CERTIFICATE - CERTIFIED COPY

ROLL CALL VOTE:

9 0 0

STATE OF MICHIGAN)

I, Lawrence Kestenbaum, Clerk/Register of said County of Washtenaw and Clerk of Circuit Court for said County, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate copy of a resolution adopted by the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners at a session held at the County Administration Building in the City of Ann Arbor, Michigan, on November 1st, 2023, as it appears of record in my office.

COUNTY OF WASHTENAW)^{SS.}

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of
said Court at Ann Arbor, this 2nd day of November 2023.

LAWRENCE KESTENBAUM, Clerk/Register

BY: _____

Deputy Clerk



Res. No. 23-190



COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

220 NORTH MAIN STREET, P.O. BOX 8645
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48107-8645

December 29, 2023

To: Commissioner Justin Hodge, Chair
Commissioner Caroline Sanders, Vice-Chair
Commissioner Jason Maciejewski
Commissioner Crystal Lyte
Commissioner Shannon Beeman
Commissioner Annie Somerville
Commissioner Andy LaBarre
Commissioner Yousef Rabhi
Commissioner Katie Scott

From: Gregory Dill
County Administrator

Re: Housing and Homelessness Immediate Impact Allocation Disbursement Framework

Greetings,

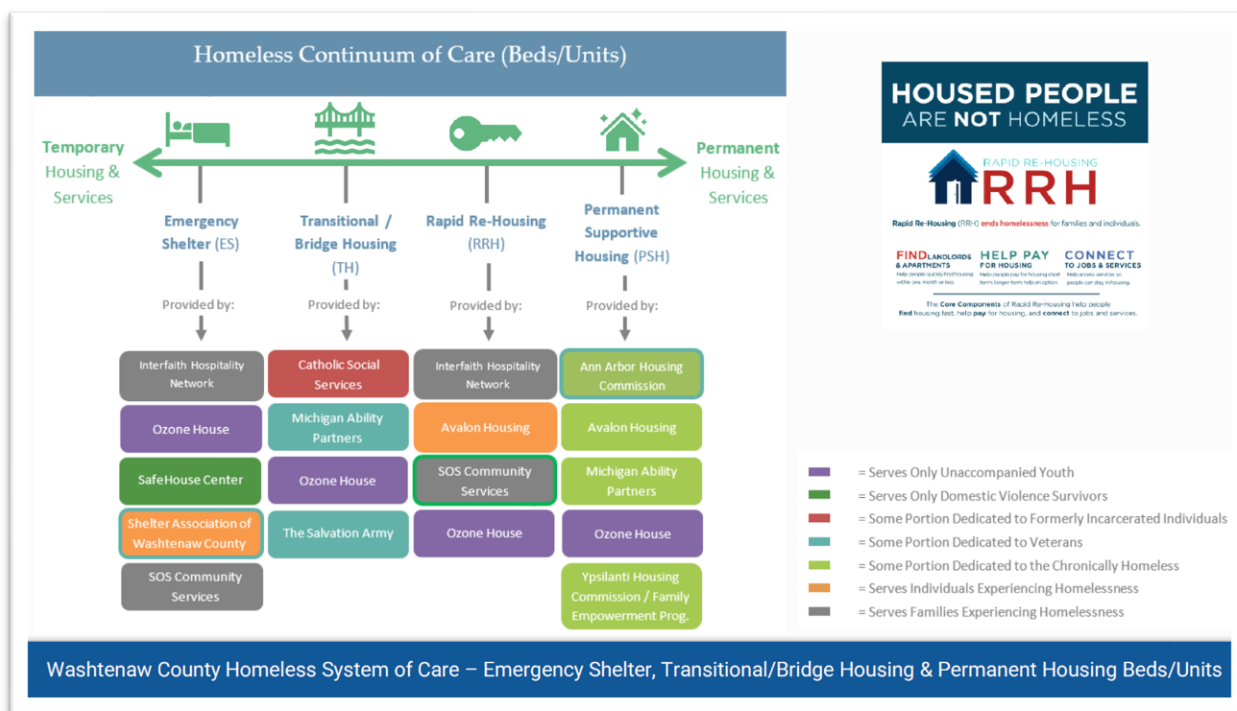
On December 15th, I shared an update from our OCED Director, Toni Kayumi, around the developing framework for disbursement of the Board's [resolution 23-190](#) providing funding to address immediate need with housing and homelessness within the County.

Please see the following update related to the proposed operational framework for the Board's investment into the coordinated entry system addressing housing and home insecurity. This information should provide additional context around action items and timelines for the more time-critical aspects of the allocation. This framework utilizes existing system partner agencies to maintain capacity and increase resources to agencies working in the housing and homelessness sectors funded by the Board's resolution. These organizations are the providers who do this work in our County. Your investment and the following framework help ensure that they have the capacity to do that important work this season and into 2024.

FRAMEWORK DEVELOPMENT AND SYSTEM ENGAGEMENT

This proposal is the result of ongoing engagement between service agencies within the Continuum of Care, impacted individuals, departmental leadership staff, and County Administration. Over the last several weeks, communication has taken place with the *Washtenaw Housing Alliance (WHA)*, *Avalon Housing*, *the Ann Arbor Housing Commission*, *Alpha House/Interfaith Hospitality Network*, *Shelter Association of Washtenaw County*, *the City of Ann Arbor* and *SOS Community Services*; all of whom are agencies within the CoC. There

are additional planned discussions with agencies included within this framework, and they will be provided the opportunity to review the proposal. As illustrated in the graphic below, there is some level of support for each of the Homeless System of Care's Rapid Rehousing and Emergency Shelter providers in the proposed framework.



*Provided by WHA's 11.16.23 "Housing and Affordable Housing in Washtenaw County" presentation.

On December 1st, Washtenaw County hosted a community conversation around housing and housing insecurity that centered those with lived experience. A reoccurring theme of that conversation was the need for direct resources to impacted individuals. As such, Poverty Solutions at the University of Michigan has provided a proposal for a program to disburse the Board's Direct Assistance and Lump Sum investments. The proposal includes an aggressive timeline, expected outcomes, costs, as well as assessment of the impact of the investment.

The overarching goal of this proposed framework is to support and utilize the existing coordinated entry and homeless system of care frameworks, and to provide resources to address capacity limits to keep people in their homes, to quickly rehome those who are displaced, and to provide emergency sheltering for those who cannot be rehomed through at least the winter months. We believe that this framework is consistent with the coordinated system in place in the County and supported by the COC. Some proposed investments have more far-reaching impacts. The Board's resolution allocating these resources also *"authorizes the County Administrator to amend budgets as necessary, within the total allocated amount, to assist the Continuum of Care in providing winter shelter"*. To that end, some categories have been adjusted to accommodate providers and expressed needs*.

This framework has not yet been fully executed, but discussions are underway. There will be additional engagement with system agencies to finalize and operationalize, and that it may be necessary to adjust categories and/or amounts to address the need most effectively. Staff in both OCED and Administration are working to have services in place as soon as possible, and

to ensure that there is no delay in services due to the contracting or funding processes of the County.

FRAMEWORK PROPOSAL BY FUNDING CATEGORY AND USAGE:

Winter Sheltering Category – \$375,000*

4 organizations are recommended for funding. This category amount is increased from the \$250,000 allocation in the resolution to be able to support both immediate shelter needs, and to assist the growth of additional family sheltering spaces which will be available beyond the winter.

Shelter Association of Washtenaw County (SAWC) – Winter Sheltering Plan

Amount: \$210,000

Justification: Operationalizing of the CoC Winter Sheltering plan described at October 18 Working Session, including staffing and site support.

Timeline: Services for winter shelter operations are currently underway. Contract execution is not expected to impact the operational framework. Contract with SAWC is expected to be finalized in January.

Ozone House – General Operations

Safehouse – General Operations

Amount: \$20,000 each

Justification: These are emergency shelter providers in the Homelessness System of Care that provide for targeted populations. Current recommended allocation would allow for staffing and site support through the winter season and beyond for shelters which support subpopulations.

Timeline: Amendments to existing contracts executed by January 30, 2024.

Interfaith Hospitality Network - Family Shelter Expansion proposal with City of Ann Arbor

Amount: \$125,000

Justification: The City of Ann Arbor approved sale of the former dental clinic site on N. Ashley to the Ann Arbor Housing Commission. AAHC will allow IHN to lease the space. They plan to reconfigure their space, moving administrative offices to Ashley, and expand family sheltering at their Jackson Rd. site. The administrative space on Ashley is proposed to be shared with SAWC, who will sublease space from the AAHC. Moving IHN's administrative operations to N. Ashley will increase their congregate family shelter space from six families to 14 families at the Jackson Rd. location. The proposed arrangement is a temporary solution, The AAHC's long term plan for the site is to demolish the building for the development of affordable housing, a process expected to last 18 month-2 years. This expansion is expected to more than double family shelter bed capacity through the winter and beyond.

Timeline: On-going conversations between AAHC, and OCED. Shelter expansion expected as quickly as resources can be committed.

Short Term Emergency Hotel Stays Category - \$110,000*

2 organizations are recommended for funding. The category funding amount is decreased from the \$150,000 allocated by the Board to be able to support the Family Sheltering Expansion.

Shelter Association of Washtenaw County – Emergency Hotel Program for Individuals

SOS Community Services– Emergency Hotel Program for Families

Amount: \$55,000 each

Justification/ Method: SAWC is the emergency hotel shelter provider for individuals, SOS is a provider for families. With the increased need demonstrated last season, this funding will help to ensure that there is capacity for both populations. Particularly families, with the extremely limited capacity for family shelter beds within the system.

Timeline: Contract execution anticipated by the end of January 2024.

Eviction Prevention and Diversion Category – \$645,000*

1 outside organization and 2 County Programs are recommended for funding. The funding amount is decreased from the \$710,000 allocated by the Board to this program category.

SOS Community Services - Assessment Staffing Support and Capacity

Amount: \$150,000

Justification: SOS Community Services is one of two agencies in the CoC providing services specifically to families. It is the understanding of staff that SOS has expiring grant dollars supporting their operations and this funding will likely be used to fund the gap in the short-term; it will be confirmed next week at a meeting between OCED and SOS leadership on December 27. There is currently an approximate 30-day wait time for assessment appointments. This funding will help ensure that there is no increase in wait time for assessments. The goal of this investment is to stabilize and possibly increase resources to address the operational barriers contributing to wait times so that eviction prevention resources can be made available to needing them.

Timeline: Anticipate contract execution by January 30, 2024.

Barrier Busters – Funding Source for Allocations to Assessed Individuals and Families

Amount: \$470,000

Justification: This investment maintains HAWC as the point of entry and will help clear the backlog of families and individuals currently awaiting BB funds. The unrestricted nature of the funds will allow for a broader use in community, with the goal of helping individuals and families before they reach the point of eviction or utility shut-off. The intent is for these funds to be administered and distributed through the Barrier Busters program framework, but to have the funding earmarked to only be used to address eviction prevention efforts and not be available to address other types of need which are generally requested of the Barrier Busters program

Timeline: Immediate, only requires transfer of funding.

Administrator's Office - Emergency Program and Flexible Funding

Amount: \$25,000

Justification: Inevitably, some families/ individuals slip through gaps or face insurmountable barriers. This strategy includes broad eligibility, prioritizes minor children, families, and elders. Only dire cases of imminent eviction. Payments paid directly to complexes, landlords, utility companies. Case-by-case, only at the Administrator's discretion and upon his explicit approval. This amount also allows for contingent costs associated with sunseting the current Emergency Family Hotel Sheltering program.

Timeline: Immediate and on-going.

Rapid Rehousing Category – \$250,000

This category was increased by the Board of Commissioners through amendment at the Board Table from \$250,000 to \$500,000, with the funding to be identified by the County Administrator. 4 organizations are recommended for funding, with equal funding for each organization. The funding source was the 2023 general fund surplus amounts from the "Board of Commissioners Undesignated Allocation", as well as smaller amounts in other operational expenditure lines

SOS Community Services – Rapid Rehousing for Families: \$125,000

Interfaith Hospitality Services – Rapid Rehousing for Families: \$125,000

Ozone House – Rapid Rehousing for Youth: \$125,000

Avalon Housing – Rapid Rehousing for Adults: \$125,000

Justification: Divide allocation equally between the County's four service providers of Rapid Rehousing. This approach ensures an allocation to each of the providers within the Continuum of Care.

Timeline: Contract execution by January 30, 2024.

Direct Cash Assistance Category - \$750,000

1 organization is recommended for funding, and would implement both programs.

Poverty Solutions at University of Michigan – Lump Sum Program: \$375,000

Poverty Solutions at University of Michigan – Recurring Distribution Program: \$375,000

Justification: Contract with Poverty Solutions at the University of Michigan for disbursement of both monthly direct assistance for up to one-year, and one-time lump sums. They have the infrastructure, and framework to implement and disburse direct assistance dollars to residents, and to study the impact of the investment.

Timeline: January contract execution, in alignment with County purchasing and procurement procedures.

Housing Barrier Reduction Support for Unbanked/ Underbanked - \$50,000*

1 County Program is recommended for funding.

OCED Financial Empowerment Center – Scholarships and support for program participants

Amount: \$50,000

Justification: This allocation aims to add capacity to an existing program that assists residents with financial coaching, credit repair and the costs associated, with the goal of reducing this issue as a barrier to housing, utility accounts, transportation, and/or employment.

Timeline: Anticipate making funds available to FEP clients in January of 2024.

Summary of Proposal Framework:

By Category:

Funding Category	BOC Allocation	Proposal Allocation	Variance
Direct Cash Assistance - Lump Sum	\$ 375,000	\$ 375,000	\$ -
Direct Cash Assistance - Rolling Distribution	\$ 375,000	\$ 375,000	\$ -
Eviction Prevention and Diversion	\$ 710,000	\$ 645,000	\$ (65,000)
Housing Barrier Reduction Support	\$ 70,000	\$ 50,000	\$ (20,000)
Rapid Rehousing	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ -
Short Term Emergency Hotel Stays	\$ 150,000	\$ 110,000	\$ (40,000)
Winter Shelter Staffing and Site Support	\$ 250,000	\$ 375,000	\$ 125,000
Grand Total	\$ 2,430,000	\$ 2,430,000	\$ -

By Organization and Program:

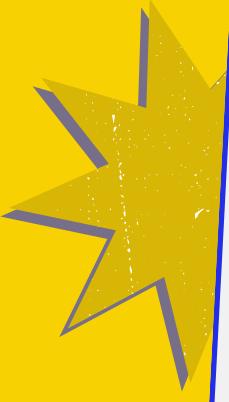
Organization - Program	Amount
Avalon Housing	\$125,000
Rapid Rehousing	\$125,000
Interfaith Hospitality Network	\$250,000
Rapid Rehousing	\$125,000
Winter Shelter Staffing and Site Support	\$125,000
Ozone House	\$145,000
Rapid Rehousing	\$125,000
Winter Shelter Staffing and Site Support	\$20,000
Poverty Solutions at University of Michigan	\$750,000
Direct Cash Assistance - Lump Sump	\$375,000
Direct Cash Assistance - Rolling Distribution	\$375,000
Safehouse Center	\$20,000
Winter Shelter Staffing and Site Support	\$20,000
Shelter Association of Washtenaw County	\$265,000
Short Term Emergency Hotel Stays	\$55,000
Winter Shelter Staffing and Site Support	\$210,000
SOS Community Services	\$330,000
Eviction Prevention and Diversion	\$150,000
Rapid Rehousing	\$125,000
Short Term Emergency Hotel Stays	\$55,000
Washtenaw County - County Administration	\$25,000
Eviction Prevention and Diversion	\$25,000
Washtenaw County - OCED Barrier Busters	\$470,000
Eviction Prevention and Diversion	\$470,000
Washtenaw County - OCED Financial Empowerment Center	\$50,000
Housing Barrier Reduction Support	\$50,000
Grand Total	\$2,430,000

IMPLEMENTATION:

Staff have begun the process of drafting and executing agreements with these entities for these purposes, and it is the intent of Administration to ensure that the contracting and procurement process does not unnecessarily delay the delivery of services that these funds make possible. As previously mentioned, discussions are underway with these organizations regarding the funding framework described in this document. Agreements have not yet been fully executed, so there is still time to adjust this framework if necessary, and on this we would welcome your thoughts and feedback as quickly as possible. In the meantime, we will continue to work to execute this framework and the services it supports. If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best,

Gregory



Make Your Voice Heard!!!

ARE YOU

- BETWEEN THE AGES OF 16 AND 24
- LIVING IN WASHTENAW COUNTY
- HAVE EXPERIENCED HOUSING INSTABILITY OR HOMELESSNESS?

Join the Continuum of Care (CoC) Youth Action Board to help improve youth housing services in Washtenaw County

Scan the QR Code or follow the link below to RSVP for the Youth Action Board Info Session on January 17th at 6:00pm at Our House

Every youth participant will receive a \$50 gift card.



Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/szh1b92sGpXUxyxL7>

Washtenaw CoC 2023 Winter Shelter Task Force Update

November 21, 2023

Presentation by Rhonda Weathers and Dan Kelly



Polar Vortex during the 2013-2014 Winter led to changes in winter shelter programming here in Washtenaw County in 2014-2015

Addition of day-time shelter
Delonis & additional site

Addition of off-site overnight
Warming Center

Additional funding for
emergency hotel / motel stays

2022-2023 Winter Response transformed again, to include additional sites and programs



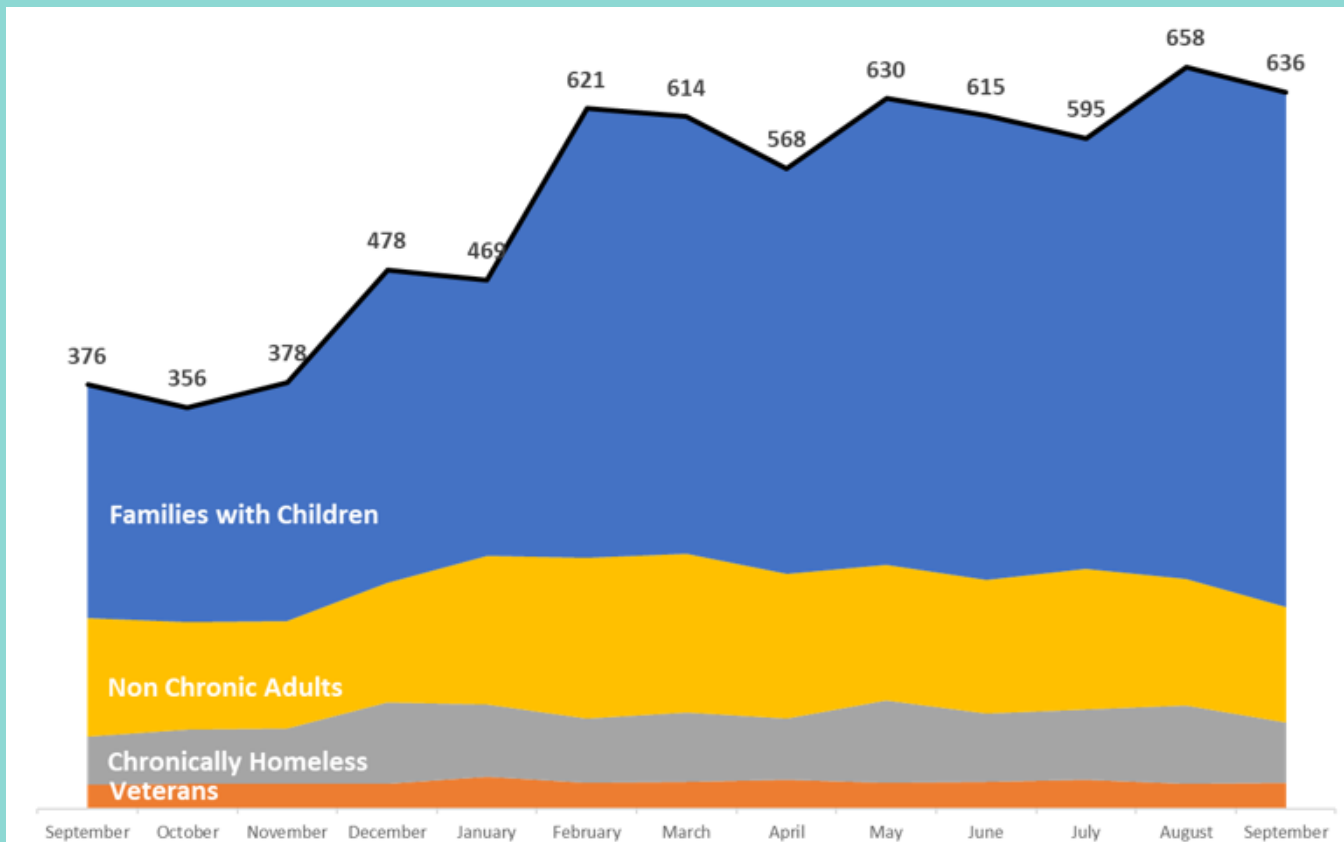
Off-site Overnight Shelters in Ann Arbor & Ypsilanti

Expansion of Daytime Shelter Sites in Ann Arbor & Ypsilanti

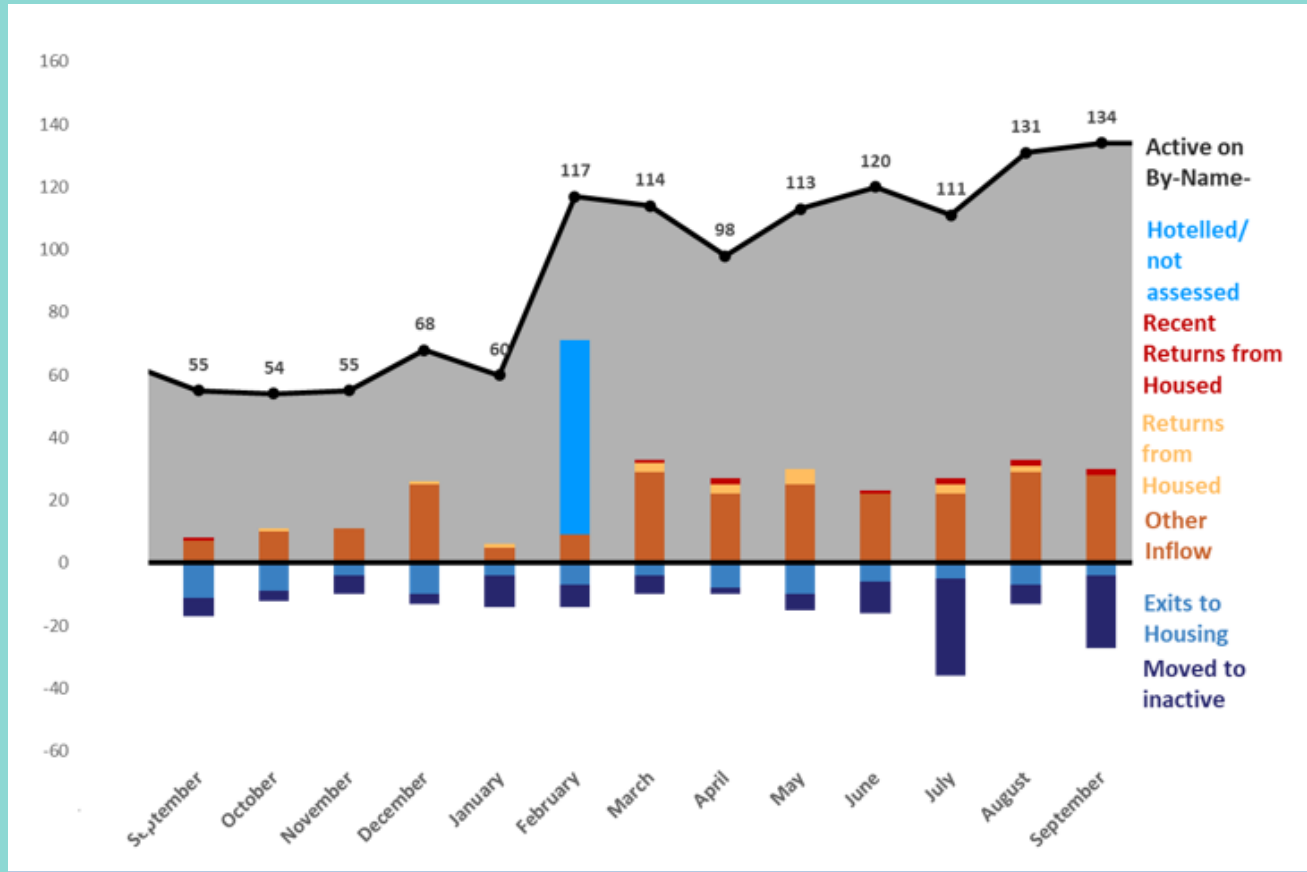
Funding for hotel/motels for families experiencing homelessness

Funding for shelter diversion stipends

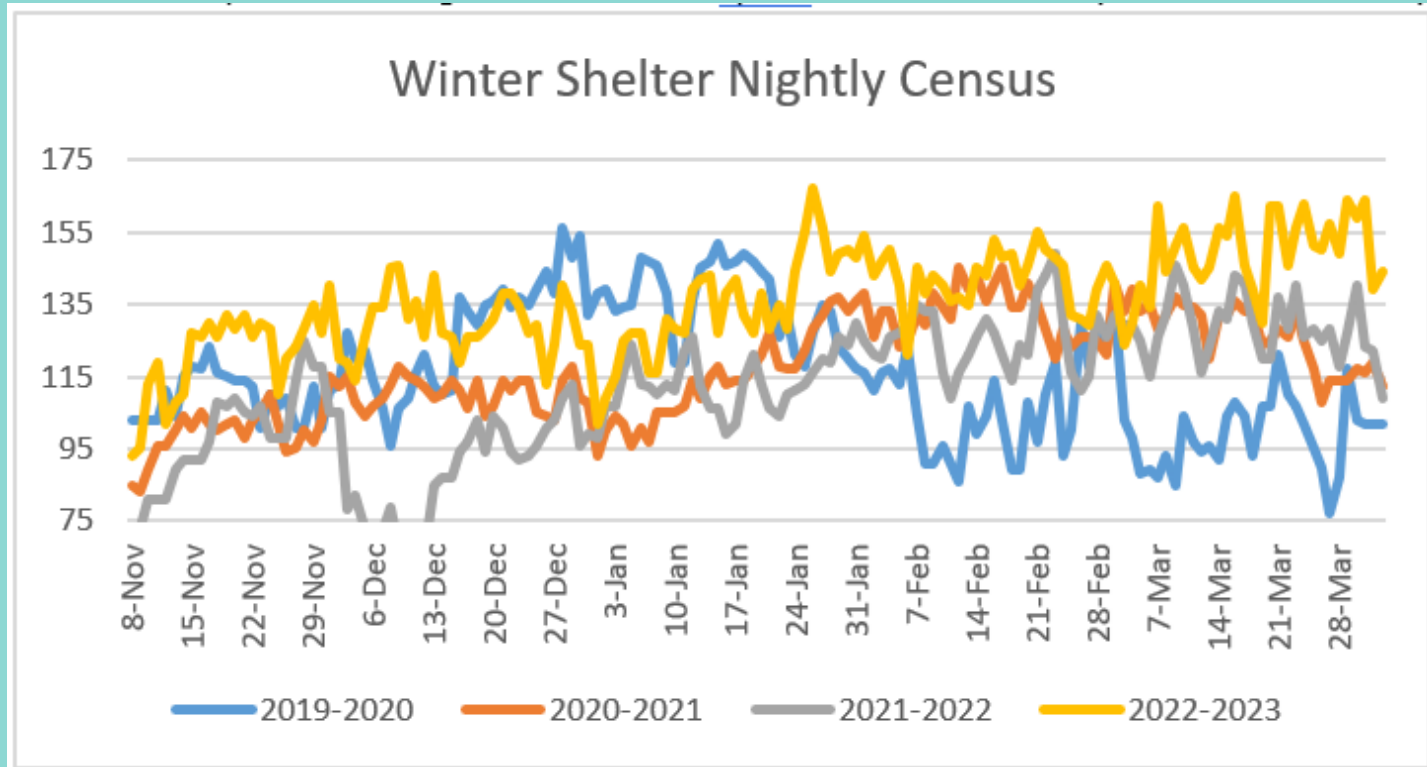
All Households - Sept 2022-Sept 2023



Family Households - Sept 2022-Sept 2023



Single Adult Households Winter Shelter Census 2019-2023 Comparison





Lessons Learned from 2022-2023 Winter

Increase Acuity of Clients

- **Increased mental health** and substance use challenges
- **Increased % of older adults & those reporting a disability**

Shelter Diversion Less Costly than Hoteling

- **58% of families** who received stipends never returned to homelessness
- Need for **case management** coupled with assistance

Increased Staffing Needs

- Daytime
- Overnight
- Weekends

Other Michigan communities surveyed are grappling with similar winter sheltering issues

Task Force Interviewed:

- Kent County
- Detroit
- Oakland County
- Out-Wayne County

WINTER SHELTER TASK FORCE

• Kent County

- Talked with Adrienne Goodstal, Chief Engagement Officer at Mel Trotter Shelter (single adult shelter)
- Witnessed a substantial increase in winter shelter needs: used to be around 500, now estimating over 600-650 each night
- Coordinating a special summer PIT count to better estimate potential winter needs
- Needs additional funding support to meet increased demand

• Detroit

- Spoke with Terra Linzer from the City
- Shelters overcapacity in summer, expecting winter capacity challenges
- Adding 3 winter shelters (2 for families, 1 for single males) but may still need to turn away due to high demand
- Created overflow process for those turned away
- Limited additional funding expected, exploring alternate funding sources
- Shelter length of stay increasing rapidly
- Targeted use of HCVs and RRH for long stayers

• Oakland

- Talked with Leah McCall, Director of Alliance for Housing Oakland County
- Insufficient beds for winter sheltering for everyone
- Bed capacity: 75 single adult beds year-round, 54 family beds, 35-40 additional winter beds, 52 DV beds
- HOPE and Lighthouse (primary single adult and family providers respectively) have applied for MSHDA and Oakland County funds for additional non-congregate sheltering, no timeline on when that will be implemented though

• Out-Wayne

- Winter capacity is only 60 beds (30 new year round beds and 30 additional beds during the coldest 2 or 3 months of winter)
- Waiting list for shelter up to 400 people at a time (10 to 20 referrals for shelter per week)
- Limited engagement from local government to support efforts is primary barrier they noted

Planning & Recommendations for 2023-2024 Emergency Shelter Bed + Daytime Winter Shelter Capacity and Operations



Considerations for families experiencing homelessness during 2023-2024 winter



Need for
increased
eviction
prevention
resources

Need for
shelter
diversion +
stipends

Planning for
overnight
overflow site
for families

Need for
short-term
hotel stays
funding



Needs as of November



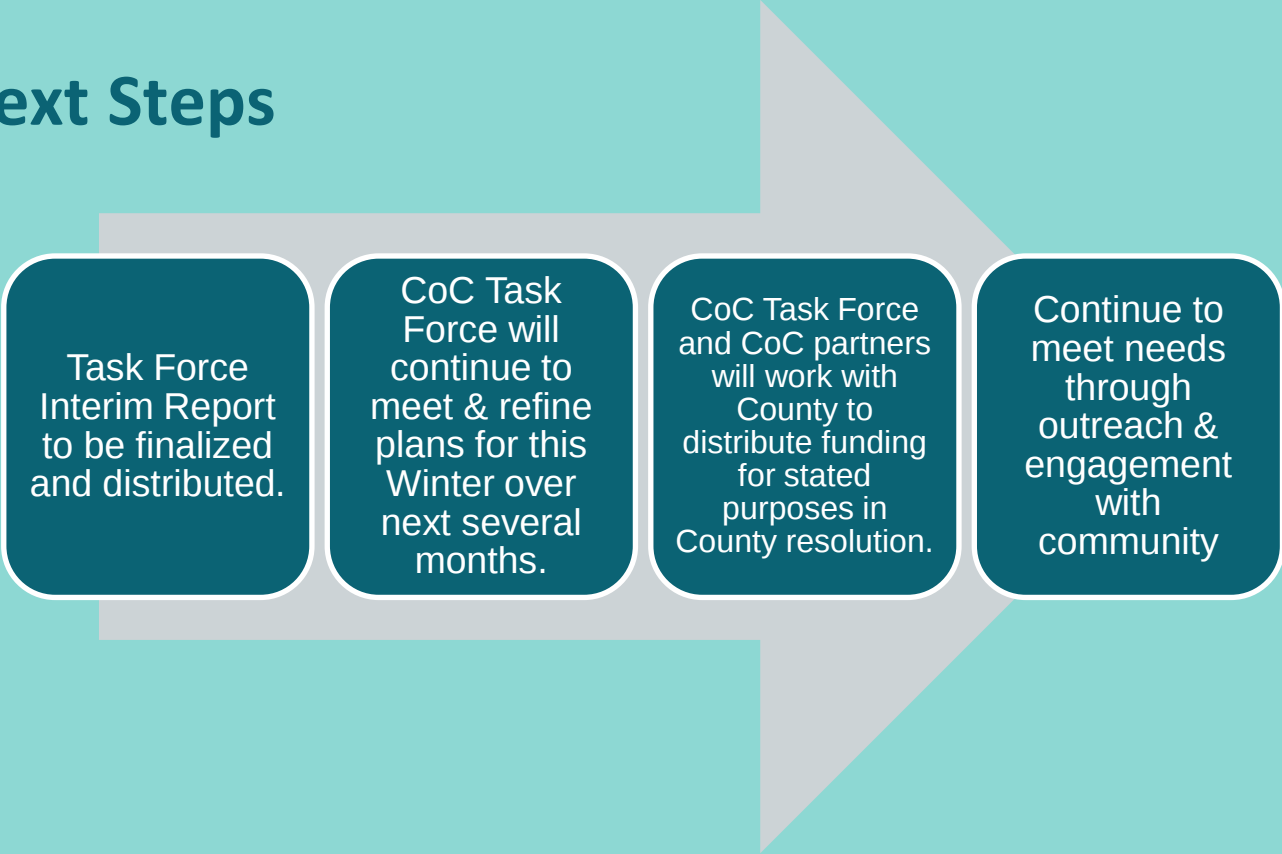


Task Force's Funding Recommendations totaled **\$1.11M for Winter Response**

- \$600K for **Eviction Prevention**
- \$50K for **Shelter Diversion**
- \$60K for **Shelter Diversion Stipends**
- \$150K for **Short-term Hotel Stays**
- \$250K for **Daytime & Overnight Shelter Staffing and Site Support**



Next Steps



Task Force
Interim Report
to be finalized
and distributed.

CoC Task
Force will
continue to
meet & refine
plans for this
Winter over
next several
months.

CoC Task Force
and CoC partners
will work with
County to
distribute funding
for stated
purposes in
County resolution.

Continue to
meet needs
through
outreach &
engagement
with
community