



# McHenry County Continuum of Care to End Homelessness

## Steering Council Minutes – February 6, 2025 at 1:00 PM

Next meeting date: March 6, 2025

Members	Present?
Lillie Prince	
Laura Franz	
Donna Rasmussen	X
Kathrine Pfister	
Julie Davis	
Lindsay Kellner	X
Aaron Neal	X
Brandon Kyker	X
Gina Zinck	X
Joe Davis	X
Suzanne Martinez	
Alma Wright	X
Anneliese Thurston	X

Frequent Attendees:

Liz Heneks	
Bill Meath	
Kristin Miller	
Carrie Freund	
Andrew Turner	
Sarah Ponitz	X

**The meeting was called to order by Brandon Kyker at 1:00 pm**

1.0 Roll Call and Guest Introductions

Brandon did roll call as documented above.

2.0 Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes

2.1 December 5, 2024 ~ Steering Council meeting minutes

2.2 January 2, 2025 ~ Steering Council meeting minutes

Gina made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Brandon, all in favor and motion carried.

3.0 Public Comment Period - none

4.0 Action Items ~ none

5.0 Old Business

## 5.1 Systems Updates

Joe: HMIS update: Migration is moving along. Looking for PIT surveys.

Gina: CE: system is steady with some room available. Plenty of room at PADS. PSH remains a need. Cold weather program remains a high priority.

## 6.0 New Business

Brandon introduced the CoC competition and prioritization of projects. Aaron summarized that HUD issued, January 16, a press release regarding the initial awards notices from most recent CoC NOFO, with a mention of a second notice coming out (information unknown). Thresholds PSH application straddled Tier 1/Tier 2 and they were only awarded the Tier 1 portion. Brandon will reach out to other CoC leads to see if there is information about the second release. Other Tier 1 projects were increased. **(See summary below as sent out by Brandon via email and verbally summarized during the Steering Council)**

*HUD released the first of two notices which shows increases to funding for CoC projects from the recent competition, please see below. HUD has not released the notice about Tier 2 funding yet for communities.*

### **Tier 1 Projects that received additional funding:**

- Home of the Sparrow – TH-RRH → **\$529,313.00** (an increase of **\$62,500**, from initial request of \$466,758)
- Home of the Sparrow – DV-RRH → **\$103,771.00** (an increase of **\$15,216**, from the initial request of \$88,555)
- Pioneer Center – Coordinated Entry → **\$82,380.00** (an increase of **\$4,380**, from the initial request of \$78,000)
- Veterans Path to Hope – Scattered Site PSH → **\$112,362.00** (an increase of **\$17,611**, from the initial request of \$94,751)
- Veterans Path to Hope – Transition to Home TH-RRH → **\$96,224.00** (an increase of **\$7,817**, from the initial request of \$88,407)

### **Tier 1 and Tier 2 Projects that did not receive additional funding:**

- Thresholds – PSH → **\$125,105.00** (This project straddled Tier 1 and Tier 2, the Tier 2 funding notice has not been released yet.)
- McHenry County – HMIS → **\$45,571.00** (No increase)

Brandon reminded about the Friday Finance Committee and discussion related to prioritization for a recommendation to Steering Council to then go to Full Board. Brandon stated he'd like to see the CoC competition favor PSH projects due to the impact of lower funding on their long-term success and stability. PSH is long-term and Brandon believes there are other funding streams for the other types of housing. Gina supported this by stating PSH supports the most vulnerable populations and could be expanded to include family PSH. Aaron summarized the impact of losing PSH units already and that losing funding from Tier 2 could cut more units. Everyone is hopeful that the second notice will result in more funding for Thresholds PSH. Aaron reminded that the overall CoC score impacts overall funding and being a high-performing community brings in more dollars. Brandon reminded that 90% of Tier 1 is guaranteed and the remaining 10% goes to Tier 2. McHenry CoC has not done well enough at including those with lived experience to participate/be a consultant – this is ESSENTIAL.

Gina added that perhaps HMIS could add a question related to lived experience and willingness to participate.

Brandon sent the Finance Committee the APRs out of Clarity to use for the discussion tomorrow. There are many ways to prioritize/divide the project types up.

Next application will be done in 2 years and Aaron suggested we remind ourselves that funds are not guaranteed. Gina reminded us that we lost PSH from Pioneer previously. She wondered if agencies who got more funding would agree to move their extra funding to Thresholds to support the continuation of their PSH. Brandon will reach out for guidance from HUD to see if this would be allowed. Brandon asked Aaron about IDHS renewals and when they end so he can be prepared for recommendations.

#### 7.0 Review and Approval of the February 20, 2025 Full Board meeting agenda

Brandon moved to approve the full board meeting agenda; seconded by Joe, approved by all and motion carried.

#### 8.0 Open Forum and Member Announcements

Joe said county is in the process of completing the Consolidated Plan which determines priorities for CDBG/HOME. There are surveys for nonprofits to complete which will guide allocations. Brandon said they are considering doing a year of infrastructure projects and will always do 15% services. Having a priority each year would be less expensive overall. Transportation and affordable housing are coming up as primary needs, followed by job opportunities.

#### 9.0 Adjournment

Aaron made a motion at 1:40 pm to adjourn, seconded by Alma, approved by all and motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Laura Franz, 2.18.2025

1.0