

**NASHVILLE-DAVIDSON COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE**  
**HOMELESSNESS PLANNING COUNCIL (HPC)-MEETING MINUTES**

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| <p><b>Planning Council Members Present:</b> Kennetha Patterson (Chair), Rico X (Vice Chair), Stephen Handy (conflict), Liz Mallard, Dr. Xyzeidria Ensley, India Pungarcher, D’Yuanna Allen-Robb, Michelle Southard, Jamie Villegas, David Laggle-Martin (conflict), Jordan Huffman (<i>non-voting</i>), John Rutherford (<i>non-voting</i>), Angie Lawless, Laura Ward, Jaha Martin</p> <p><b>Staff Present:</b> April Calvin, Raquel de la Huerga, Allison Cantway, Matthew Garth, Kelly Muldoon, Chantelle Owens</p> | <p><b>Date:</b> May 14, 2025<br/> <b>Start Time:</b> 8:45AM<br/> <b>Place:</b> Sonny West Conference Center</p> <p><b>Recorded by:</b> Raquel de la Huerga</p> |
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| AGENDA ITEM                                                                                          | DISCUSSION/CONCLUSION                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
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| <p><b>I. WELCOME, CONFLICTS OF INTEREST, MOMENT OF SILENCE, MINUTES AND CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT</b></p> | <p>► <b>Welcome by Chairperson, Kennetha Patterson</b></p> <p>► <b>Remembrance &amp; Moment of Silence</b><br/> Members took a moment of silence for lives lost while experiencing homelessness in the month of April.</p> <p>► <b>Review of April Minutes</b><br/> No corrections.</p> <p>► <b>Public Comment Period</b><br/> Mr. Steve Reiter asked for clarification on who recommended the downsizing the Homelessness Planning Council (HPC). Mr. Reiter noted that the member packets include an outline of the recommendation, but not a full proposal, questioning whether the action item was properly presented to the HPC. Steve also wanted to know how many people that have experienced homelessness would have designated seats on the HPC. Mr. Reiter noted that a Metro Legal representative was in attendance for the meeting and indicated that Metro Legal should not represent the HPC as they are entitled to unbiased legal advice. Mr. Reiter noted that Metro Legal represents the Office of Homeless Services and that it is important for Metro Legal to clarify who their client is.</p> <p>Chair Patterson clarified that the recommendation for downsizing came from the Executive Committee. The recommendation for review was included in the member’s packet and is titled “Executive Committee’s Proposed Downsizing of the Homelessness Planning Council”.</p> <p>Mr. Howard Allen shared that he was making a public comment at the invitation of Steve Reiter. Mr. Allen suggested that the HPC needs to be upsized not downsized. Mr. Allen noted that it is currently very bad for those out on the streets. Mr. Allen then noted that the Point-in-Time Count is not accurate and there needs to be people on the HPC who will fight for those still on the streets. Mr. Allen shared that he was one of the people that fought for people experiencing homelessness to be sitting on the Homelessness Planning Council. However, to Mr. Allen it doesn’t look like much is being accomplished. Mr. Allen noted that actions speaks louder than words. He also requested for there to be coffee and donuts at future meetings, because “when we come together and eat we can talk”. Mr. Allen wants the HPC to not look down on those with lived experience.</p> <p>Ms. Shanley Deignan noted that it is strange to provide public comment before the HPC has had an discussion on the action item. Ms. Deignan is a member of the Governance Charter Committee and noted that the Governance Charter is what outlines the size and composition of the HPC. The ordinance was written in conjunction with the Charter. Ms. Deignan suggested that the ordinance and the Charter would both need to be</p> |

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|                    | <p>amended. Ms. Deignan suggested that there needs to be a solid plan for how to amend both documents. The handout provided in the member's packet only speaks to the ordinance and Ms. Deignan wants to ensure the HPC is still mindful of the CoC Charter. The only body that can amend the Charter is the General Membership. Ms. Deignan shared that she understands attendance is a challenge, however, the Charter outlines a process for removing members with poor attendance that could be applied to address concerns.</p> <p>Chair Patterson noted that she would like the agenda item for downsizing to be a discussion rather than an action item, but wanted to make public comments available.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>II. UPDATES</b> | <p><b>► Office of Homeless Services Director's Report, April Calvin:</b><br/> Director Calvin shared that the Office of Homeless Services (OHS) will be hosting an event with the Paul Warner Group on May 21<sup>st</sup>. OHS hopes that this opportunity can provide some level setting for the community. Director Calvin encouraged all Homelessness Planning Council (HPC) members to register for this event to engage in community dialogue. OHS will also be hosting a State of Homelessness Symposium on June 4<sup>th</sup>, which will feature many national leaders. During today's HPC meeting, Metro Social Services is hosting an event to release this year's Community Needs Evaluation. OHS hopes to continue to host trainings, workshops, and conferences to expand the community's toolbox for addressing homelessness.</p> <p>OHS presented their department's budget request with Metro Council earlier that week. The Mayor's proposed budget has addressed all of OHS' requests. The budget will go through a few workgroups of Metro Council before being presented to the full Council to determine whether or not the initiatives will be fully funded.</p> <p>On Sunday night, the head of security of the Nashville Rescue Mission was shot by an unhoused individual. OHS shared a notice with the community the following morning, after receiving additional information from MNPd.</p> <p>Strobel House won the Urban Land Institute Development of Excellence Award. OHS is looking at other ways to bring on more units and housing options that might be able to be brought online faster. OHS is pursuing funding for non-traditional rapid re-housing and permanent supportive housing operating costs. Director Calvin noted that there are over 800 vacant units within the Low Barrier Housing Collective, however, many people experiencing homelessness would require some form of subsidy to pay for them. Shelter Plus Care vouchers will open up again this month and next month.</p> <p>A member circled back to Mr. Reiter's public comment and expressed wanting to understand distinction for Metro Legal. Metro Legal representative Matthew Garth responded that the Homelessness Planning Council was created by an ordinance of Metro Government. The Metropolitan Legal Department is an advisor to this body. The Office of Homeless Services is also a Metro body, which is why Metro Legal represents both. The CoC General Membership is not advised by Metro Legal.</p> <p>Another member asked for an update on the encampment on Anthes Drive known as Old Tent City. The member asked if the encampment's residents will be primarily housed at 95 Wallace, noting that the previous operator had an average of 344 days of stay and wanting to understand whether Hospitality Hub has a plan to reduce that number. Director Calvin responded that 72 individuals have moved into housing from the Anthes Drive encampment. Director Calvin noted that OHS is working collaboratively with Hospitality Hub to engage residents earlier in the process on ensuring they have important documents and having conversations about permanent housing with clients at the beginning of the process. OHS' Landlord Engagement team is working on creative strategies for permanent housing, including undergoing training on the Shared Housing model and engaging with landlords on providing that format.</p> |

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|  | <p>A member asked OHS to speak to any existing gaps that OHS has seen for those that have not yet moved into housing. Director Calvin noted that there are 6 residents living in RVs, many of which are not equipped to be driven out of the encampment. Additionally, OHS is trying to work on creative solutions for residents that have many pets that might require housing with a yard.</p> <p>A member asked that if on June 2<sup>nd</sup> there are people in the encampment, what is the plan on that day if people are not yet ready to go. Director Calvin noted that in closing all of the other camps, they have never had to use MNPd. Director Calvin suggested the need to share a positive message to ensure individuals are hearing that going into housing is what is best for them. Director Calvin noted concerns of the living conditions in the encampment, which should not be acceptable when there are resources and supportive services available to serve the residents. Director Calvin noted appreciation for non-Metro agencies that have provided support to encampment residents and hopes that the next two weeks will provide time to come up with creative solutions. The member also asked how much was being spent on the mediation event OHS is hosting, which Director Calvin offered to follow up to provide.</p> <p>A member asked for an update on the Shelby House Affordable Gap Loan property. Director Calvin noted that Shelby House intended to provide abstinence based programming, which was not aligned with the Housing First model. At this time, Shelby House no longer wants to continue to offer gap units and is working to return their funding to MDHA. The Landlord Engagement team is working to rehouse the 12 individuals that were placed at Shelby House.</p> <p>A members asked for additional information regarding the Pallet Shelter Request for Proposals (RFP) and whether the recording of the informational session would be shared. Director Calvin shared that an interest meeting was held earlier that week, with approximately four agencies in attendance. Metro is now fine tuning the RFP and hopes to start with a pilot for 25 units. Members asked for the HPC to continue to receive updates regarding the Pallet Shelters as there are many organizations that may be interested.</p> <p>► <b>Collaborative Applicant Report, Allison Cantway:</b><br/>Funded agencies are still awaiting contracts from HUD. OHS is gearing up to conduct monitoring of funded agencies this summer.</p> <p>The US president released a proposed budget, which included drastic cuts to HUD. For example, there is a proposed \$530 million cut to homelessness assistance.</p> <p>OHS continues to meet with ARPA funded agencies to ensure they have plans to spend down their funds.</p> <p>A member noted that many agencies are working on contingency plans and there will be a need to lean further into philanthropy to potentially fill gaps in government funding. The member noted the need to create cohorts of leaders and re-engage the faith community to contribute towards ending homelessness.</p> <p>► <b>HMIS Monthly Report, Kelly Muldoon &amp; Chantelle Owens:</b><br/>48 service providers are currently entering into HMIS. In April, 3,631 individuals experiencing homelessness, within 3044 households, of which 263 were families (414 children) and 2,781 were adult only households. There were 10,626 people experiencing homelessness in the last 12 months. There were 703 individuals entered into HMIS in April, of which 300 were new and 403 returning.</p> <p>The community housed 188 people in April, including 26 families, 63 children, and 83 adult only households. 1,865 people have been housed in the last 12 months. The average length of time people experienced homelessness before being housed was 240 days, a significant increase, potentially due to housing multiple individuals who had experienced chronic homelessness.</p> |
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|                                      | <p>Chantelle Owns shared that the System Performance Measures (SPM) Report was submitted to HUD and has been included in member's packets. The SPMs contribute significantly to how communities are scored in the annual program competition. Any questions regarding the SPMs can be directed to the HMIS Help Desk.</p> <p>► <b>Continuum of Care Updates, Raquel de la Huerga:</b><br/>         Committee updates were included in member packets. A member asked if the Nominating &amp; Membership Committee has considered the potential for downsizing the Homelessness Planning Council. OHS responded that the committee noted that if the HPC were to downsizing in alignment with the Executive Committee's proposal an election would still need to be held as one seat would be vacant. Thus, the Nominating and Membership Committee is proceeding with the election and will adjust the number of seats if downsizing were to occur before June.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>RECOMMENDATION FOR DOWNSIZING</b> | <p>Chair Patterson suggested for members to consider what recommendations might be helpful to bring to the General Membership and be shared with Metro Council regarding downsizing.</p> <p>Members noted a need to have additional details outlined before the HPC can vote on the proposed downsizing. A member noted the need to have the number of people with lived experience defined in the proposal. Members also noted the need to have a better understanding of the attrition process.</p> <p>A member asked if the HPC has ever had a full body of members. Chair Patterson responded that the HPC has not consistently had 25 members and noted the attendance record from the last two years. Another member noted that there are often less than 15 members in attendance for HPC meetings and thus the proposed downsizing might be in alignment with current attendance patterns.</p> <p>Another member noted that attendance issues at the HPC may be connected to the body not yet figuring out how to effectively utilize their monthly meeting and that the majority of the work of the CoC is currently taking place in committees. The member noted that meetings are often filled with updates rather than decision-making and suggested to better define the goal and role of the body.</p> <p>Jamie Villegas moved to table the discussion of downsizing.</p> <p>A member then asked Liz Mallard, chair of the Nominating and Membership Committee, for clarification on the potential scenarios her committee has considered. Liz noted that downsizing is a big issue for her as attendance issues are often holding up progress within the CoC. Liz suggested to proceed with attrition as members fall off either from their terms or attendance issues.</p> <p>Jamie Villegas noted the need to determine if the body is actively considering a motion and that a second would be needed to continue discussing her motion. Laura Ward seconded Jamie's motion. Jaha shared that she is ready for the question. Chair Patterson opened up the vote however there was clarification requested on what was being voted on. Jamie Villegas clarified and amended her motion for the action item to be deferred. The motion was seconded by Laura Ward. Chair Patterson opened up the vote. Chair Patterson, Jamie Villegas, and India Pungarcher voted in favor. Those opposed were David Langgle-Martin, Rico X, Michelle Southard, Pastor Stephen Handy, Jaha Martin, Dr. Xyzeidria Ensley, and Laura Ward. Motion failed.</p> <p>Rico X introduced a new motion to recommended to the General Membership downsizing the HPC as proposed. Rico X later amended his motion to approve the Executive Committee's recommendation as long as there are at least four people with lived experience represented in the overall body. A second was made by Pastor Stephen Handy. A member suggested that the motion's language should reflect that there be at least four voting members with lived experience. Rico X amended his motion again to recommend the downsizing of the HPC with the caveat that there be at least four voting members with lived experience. Chair Patterson added that the vote will be specifically for downsizing to be recommended</p> |

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|                | <p>and that action will need to be taken by the General Membership. David Langgle-Martin seconded the additional amendment. Chair Patterson opened up the vote.</p> <p>IN FAVOR: Liz Mallard, Jaha Martin, Stephen Handy, Dr. Xyzeidria Ensley, Laura Ward, Rico X, Michelle Southard, David Langgle-Martin<br/>         OPPOSED: India Pungarcher, Kennetha Patterson, Jamie Villegas<br/>         ABSTENTION: D'Yuanna Allen-Robb</p> <p>Motion carried. Chair Patterson noted for the Homelessness Planning Council's recommendation to be passed along to the General Membership and Governance Charter Committee.</p> |
| <b>ADJOURN</b> | 10:17 AM                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |