

# Vermont Balance of State Continuum of Care

## VCEH Balance of State Continuum of Care

Board Meeting Agenda

Tuesday June, 18 2024

10:00-11:30 am

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81144850126?pwd=WTJxdHcxZTRNbzF6Q1JkMkdKMlM0QT09>

Meeting ID: 811 4485 0126

Passcode: 810280

One tap mobile +19292056099,,81144850126#,,,,\*810280# US (New York)

### Meeting Agenda

10:00 Call to Order & Attendance

10:03 Consider approval of minutes for Balance of State CoC Board meeting held on Tues May 21, 2024. Minutes are available here, <https://helpingtohousevt.org/minutes/>

- **Jess makes a motion to approve; Mary seconds; motion passes**

10:05 HHAV Organizational & Legislative Update, Frank Knaack

- Email Frank if you'd like to be added to his Friday email updates: [fknaack@hhav.org](mailto:fknaack@hhav.org)
- Frank reported on the outcomes of the veto session at the Legislature, where both the Appropriations Bill and the Overdose Prevention Center legislation were overridden.
- Welcome to our new HHAV team member Grace Shyer, our Program Coordinator. Grace formerly worked as a VISTA with VAHC and as a housing advocate with CVOEO.

VT BoS CoC staff report, Molly Shimko

- Reminder to please send in your Board Member Agreement & COI if you have not yet! You have received an email if you've not yet returned your items.
- NOFO Updates
  - We are currently accepting applications for new projects for the NOFO. Recordings, slides, and FAQ from the New Project Application Info Sessions are available online. [Visit the FY24 NOFO Info Hub Page HERE.](#)
  - Our Scoring & Ranking Committee is convening this month and approving our scoring tool. This scoring tool will then come to our board for a vote.
- People Lived Experience Committee
  - We discussed the need to establish a committee of people with lived experience both as HUD requirement for our CoC Program Grant NOFO application and as a best practice within the organization. This committee would be instrumental in ensuring that the organization's work is informed by and meets the needs of those with lived experience. We discussed and emphasized the importance of the membership committee in recruiting new board members and maintaining a

strong and healthy board. The team agreed to establish a flexible compensation approach for people with lived experience to participate in the proposed committee.

- We'd love for CoC Board members and other interested members who would be excited to play a support and mentoring role for new Committee members to reach out to us ([mshimko@hhav.org](mailto:mshimko@hhav.org)). These roles would not be setting up a separate PLEE Committee but rather creating a supported space for newly recruited Committee members with lived experience to learn more about how the CoC works, group norms, and other questions people likely have. For examples, board members would provide an orientation or background for PLEE partners before they join a Committee.

10:30 CoC Grant NOFO Discussions: Brattleboro Housing Authority Program funded by the CoC Grant NOFO in FY22 and FY23, David DeAngelis, Section 8/Grants Manager

- David shared the program's successful past, its challenges, especially during the Covid-19 pandemic, and its current status. David noted that 80% of participants were single individuals, with the remaining 20% being families, and they currently have 10 approved participants and sponsor agencies. He expressed concern about the increasing difficulty of finding affordable housing due to large conglomerates buying up properties and raising rents. He also mentioned a study indicating the need for an additional 500 rental units of low-income housing in the Brattleboro community. Lastly, he explained their mainstream voucher program aimed at alleviating pressure on case management capacity.

10:45 CoC Grant NOFO Discussions: NewStory Center Program funded by the CoC Grant NOFO in FY22 and FY23, Jennifer Yakunovich, Development Director

- Jennifer presented on the NewStory Center program, which uses funding from the CoC for a rapid rehousing program. Jennifer reported positive outcomes from the program, including successful transitions by some participants to paying a percentage of their rent.

11:00 VT BoS CoC Committee Reports & Discussion of VT BoS CoC Committees

[View VT BoS CoC Committees](#)

Coordinated Entry

Veterans Committee

Membership Committee

Youth Committee

HUD CoC Funding Committee

Education and Training Committee

Point-In-Time Committee

Homelessness Awareness Day Committee

HMIS Advisory Committee

Strategic Planning

- Coordinated Entry: Jess discussed the decision to move away from the ranking of short, medium, and long-term prioritization in favor of an alternative system. This change was prompted by issues with the current ranking system, particularly its application to medium-term cases. Ari emphasized that the coordinated entry committee remains a suitable forum, but that a smaller working group would handle the more detailed and technical discussions. Additionally, Ari announced the addition of Taylor Grimes to support coordinated entry in a part-time position.
- Veterans: Jason announced the rescheduling of the Veterans Executive Committee meeting to Thursday

- Strategic Planning: Jess noted that the strategic planning committee's timeline will be based around working with HHAV, and co-chairs, Molly, and Frank will be meeting to address this.

Announcements

- Mary shared good news about the local emergency plan providing cooling shelters in Bennington.
- Ari highlighted a funding opportunity through OEO for emergency shelter and permanent support of housing, with applications due July 10th. View [HERE](#).
- Abby Erwin, DCF, informed the team about the Department of Health's weather advisory regarding the upcoming heat and shared a cooling map. [Access to Cooling Map](#).

**\*2024 VT BoS CoC Board Member**

Ari Kisler  
Casey Winterson  
Cheryl Jackins  
Chris Mitchell  
Dan Handy  
Jason Brill  
Jess Graff  
Jessica Makela  
Jonathon Ruiz  
Kate Logan

Kate Rohdenburg  
Kathi Partlow  
Kim Anetsberger  
Lee Trapeni  
Lou-Anne Wood  
Marie Lennon  
Mark Demers  
Mary Gerisch  
Rewa Worthington  
Will Eberle

Name	Board Member Position	Affiliation	Present?
Jess Graff	Co-Chair & Franklin/Grand Isle Rep	CVOEO	Y
Kim Anetsberger	Co-Chair & Lamoille Rep	Lamoille Community House	Y
Ari Kisler	One rep for VT-ASH	AHS, DCF, OEO	Y
Kate Rohdenburg	One rep for victims of DV/SV	WISE	Y
Jason Brill	One rep for veterans	U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs	Y
Kate Logan	One rep for Youth	VCHRYP	Y
Jay Ruiz	Rep with lived experience	SSVF	
Marie Lennon	Rep with lived experience	Middlebury	
Rewa Worthington	One rep for Housing Partners	Evernorth	Y
Lou-Anne Wood	One rep for Complex Care	AHS-Vermont Chronic Care Initiative	Y
Cheryl Jackins	One Rep for Mental Health	Pathways Vermont	Y
Will Eberle	One Rep for Substance Use	Recovery Vermont/VAMHAR	
Mark Demers	Addison Coalition Rep	CVOEO	Y
Mary Gerisch	Bennington Coalition Rep	Bennington Housing Authority	Y
Chris Mitchell	Caledonia & S. Essex Coalition	AHS	Y
	North Windsor & Orange Coalition		
Casey Winterson	Orleans & N. Essex Coalition Rep	NEKCA	Y
Jessica Makela	Rutland Coalition Rep	Homeless Prevention Center	Y

Lee Trapeni	So Windsor & No Windham Coalition Rep	Springfield Supported Housing	Y
Dan Handy	South Windham Coalition Rep	Groundworks Collaborative	
Kathi Partlow	Washington Coalition Rep	Family Center of Washington County	

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