

ENDING HOMELESSNESS AS A REGION

Homeless Services Planning and Coordinating Committee

Triina Van
COG Homeless Services Planning and Coordinating Committee Chair

Hilary Chapman
COG Housing Program Manager

COG Board of Directors
November 8, 2023



Agenda Item #9

1

Committee Intro

• Who Participates in COG's Homeless Services Committee?

- Continuum of Care (CoC) lead managers, Directors, HMIS Administrators, Coordinated Entry manager, HUD DC Field Office, and other local government CoC staff

Full committee + Two Subcommittees Meet Monthly:

• Regional Case Coordination Learning Collaborative

- How can we work together to ensure all unhoused individuals are receiving services and have a path to permanent housing? Working to creating processes and protocols to serve people with multi-jurisdictional (or no jurisdiction) ties. (Coordinated Entry Managers)

• Regional Data Metrics Working Group

- How can we work together using data to advance regional coordination? (HMIS leads)



2

We are More than Just the Point-in-Time Count

• What Do We Do?

- Share strategies and develop approaches to prevent and end the experience of homelessness that are unique to living in a high-cost housing market such as metropolitan Washington

Implementation of the 2021 Regional Compact to End Homelessness

- Five Action Items
 1. Data Sharing
 2. Regular Reporting
 3. Regional By-name Tracking and Case Coordination
 4. Residency Requirements
 5. Racial Equity



Committee Strategic Planning Retreat: November 2022
(pictured above: Jillian Fox, CSH, left; Kacy Barker and Andrew Dubin, Arlington County)

Agenda Item #9: Regional Homeless System Response
November 8, 2023

3

3

Quality Data Is Key to Making Progress

State and Sub-Regional Efforts are Leading the Way

Virginia Homeless Data Integration Project (HDIP)

- Statewide effort to share Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) data using Green River's Open Path platform
- Implementation scheduled for Q2 of 2024

Sub-regional "Triad" Data Sharing (District of Columbia, Montgomery County & Prince George's County)

- Data sharing agreement (2017, COG-supported)
- Monthly By-name list matching, review, and resource coordination for Veterans and Single Adults
- Working with Green River Open Path platform (Kaiser Permanente funding to DC/The Community Partnership for the Prevention of Homelessness)



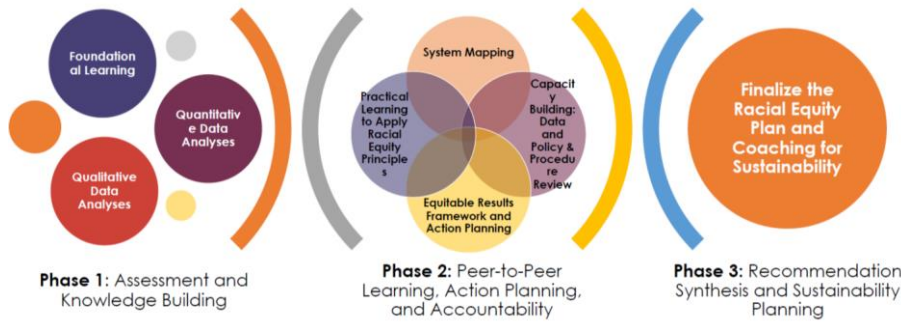
Metropolitan Washington
Council of Governments

Agenda Item #8: Regional Homeless System Response
November 8, 2023

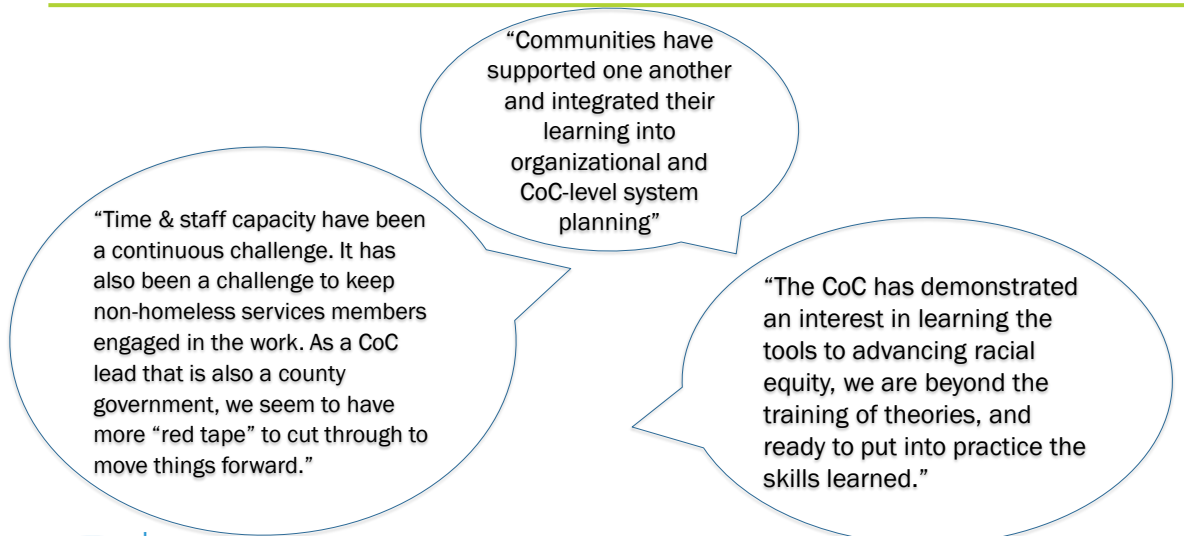
4

4

Regional Homeless Services Racial Equity Systems Analysis (2021 – 2023)



Racial Equity Systems Analysis Reflections



Racial Equity Systems Analysis Recommendations

Regional and Local CoC Recommendations for all 9 Participating Jurisdictions by C4 Innovations

- Establish a **Regional Interagency Council on Homelessness**
 - Provide oversight of the Racial Equity Action Plan
 - Ensure ongoing evaluation of impact
 - Update plan as needed
- Establish a **Regional Lived Experience Coalition**
 - Provide leadership in identifying and driving transformative system change
 - Ensure people who are experiencing homelessness are always centered in system planning processes



Metropolitan Washington
Council of Governments

Agenda Item #9: Regional Homeless System Response
November 8, 2023

7

7

A New Partnership For System Transformation

- COG will serve as a “Backbone Organization”
- Community Solutions will provide 3 years of pro bono technical support to improve regional data quality and reach “functional zero” through:
 - Collaborative Community Support
 - Backbone Strategy and Core Infrastructure Design
 - Large Scale Change Strategy Support
 - Data Infrastructure and Performance Management support
- Current Built for Zero Participants: Arlington County, District of Columbia, Fairfax County, Montgomery County, and Prince George’s County

**COMMUNITY
SOLUTIONS**

Built For Zero

A movement to measurably and equitably end homelessness



Metropolitan Washington
Council of Governments

Agenda Item #9: Regional Homeless System Response
November 8, 2023

8

8

What's Ahead in 2024

- **Point-in-Time Count: Wednesday, January 24, 2024** (results in May 2024)
- **Kickoff with Community Solutions** (estimated February/March 2024)
 - Focus on developing quality data
 - Learning and coaching sessions
- **Regional protocol development** for Case Coordination and Standards of Care for people who do not meet residency requirements for housing placements
- **Data sharing agreement** for northern Virginia CoCs to connect with the District of Columbia and suburban Maryland CoCs

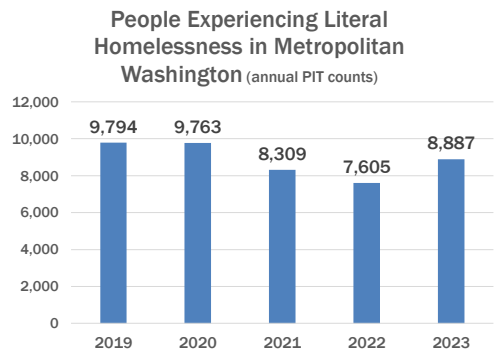


Pictured above: COG Chair Kate Stewart provides welcome remarks at the Kaiser Permanente – COG Regional Homelessness Forum (October 12, 2023)



Key Takeaways in Ending Homelessness

- **Unprecedented investments** in housing and homelessness during the pandemic contributed to declines; the end of rental assistance and eviction moratorium caused increases.
- **To meet the regional need, we need regional investment** from all COG members
- **Ending the experience of homelessness is possible** with adequate resources and strategic cross-jurisdictional collaboration
- **Partnering with Community Solutions** in the Built for Zero Initiative has the possibility to fundamentally transform how we prevent and end the experience of homelessness in the metropolitan Washington region



Triina Van

Homeless Services Committee Chair
Homeless Services Coordinator, Arlington County
(703) 228-1319
tvan@arlingtonva.us

Hilary Chapman

Housing Program Manager
(202) 962-3346
hchapman@mwkog.org

Shirin Wilkerson

Regional Housing Planner
(202) 962-3312
swilkerson@mwkog.org

mwkog.org

777 North Capitol Street NE, Suite 300
Washington, DC 20002

