**COG HOUSING PROGRAMS:**

**Homeless Services Planning and Coordinating Committee and**

**Housing Directors Advisory Committee**

***2015 Accomplishments:***

* Coordinated the 2015 regional Point-in-Time enumeration;
* Conducted a region-wide training for trainers leading volunteers in the annual homeless enumeration;
* Produced annual report on homelessness (Point-in-Time results) and shared results with COG committees, researchers and various media outlets;
* Provided input to COG staff for the new regional entity formed between Prince George’s County, Montgomery County, and the District of Columbia, ReACH (Regional Action Coalition on Homelessness);
* Housing Directors held three off-site meetings in 2015 (Montgomery County, Fairfax County/City of Falls Church and the HUD DC Field Office) to gain an in-depth view of each jurisdiction’s housing programs;
* Housing Directors and Homeless Services Committee members met jointly in September to hear the interim results of HUD’s *Family Options Study,* learn about creative financing methods to support social services and to share areas of common concerns around regional affordable housing needs.

***2016 Work Plan Priorities:***

* Coordinate and report on the regional results of the Point-in-Time homeless enumeration to be held on January 28, 2016 to help determine the trends, community needs and responses to homeless services provided in the region;
* Promote regional solutions to address the acute housing needs in the region through in-depth sharing of jurisdictional programs, policies and partnerships;
* Focus on specific topics of current concern (ex: maintaining affordable condo fees or development of permanent supportive housing) to committee members.
  + On March 31st, COG is partnering with Enterprise Community Partners and the National Housing Conference to hold a data-focused workshop for reporting to HUD under its new Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing rule.

***Questions for the Human Services Public Safety Policy Committee Members:***

* What are the key issues around housing affordability in your jurisdiction and which one would you like to discuss with your colleagues during April’s housing-focused meeting?
* What worked well and what didn’t work as well during April 2015’s meeting on housing affordability (if applicable)? Should we follow the same format in 2016?