**CT BOS Steering Committee Meeting Minutes**

**12/20/24 - 11:00 am – 12:30pm**

1. **Welcome**

[December Steering Committee Meeting Participants](https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/mqsysph420x0hbuyf2eio/SC-participants.xlsx?rlkey=o0sspe312rnmra19j2k1mtzft&dl=0)

1. **Guidelines for BOS Meetings**
2. **Adopt November Semi-annual Meeting Minutes –** passed by consensus
3. **Announcements**

* Happy Holidays!
* Post Steering Committee Debrief
  + After each Steering Committee meeting, the CT BOS Co-Chairs stay on the zoom to answer questions and provide any needed clarification on the meeting topics.
* Co-Chairs election
  + Alice Minervino, DMHAS and John Merz, ACT were elected by consensus for a two-year term.
* HIC/PIT Updates - Information was shared regarding upcoming trainings:
  + **Unsheltered Count Thursday, January 9, 2025 -- 10AM-12PM -** [Link to Zoom](https://nutmegit.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_dTN7XUqqRm-4sQamOb6lrg)
    - Unsheltered Group - Both HMIS and Non-HMIS participating programs should attend: Street Outreach; Warming Centers; CAN Leads
  + **Sheltered Count & Housing Inventory Chart (HIC) Thursday, January 9th 2025 -- 1PM-3PM -** [Link to Zoom](https://nutmegit.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_qskzu4VjTrCmd9AlErTWpw)
    - Sheltered Group - Both HMIS and Non-HMIS participating programs should attend: Emergency Shelter; Transitional Housing; Safe Havens; Permanent Housing; Permanent Supportive Housing, including VASH; Rapid Re-Housing; Warming Centers (if there are mats/cots)
* Renewal Evaluation Deadlines & Key Dates
  + **12/31/24**: Deadline to submit DMHAS surveys to DMHAS (HI to obtain data directly from DMHAS)
  + **1/15/25** Deadline to:
    - Submit CT BOS consumer surveys to CT BOS
    - Complete the initial submission process in [RED](https://poe.nutmegit.com/GrantEvaluator)
    - Submit [support](https://poe.nutmegit.com/GrantEvaluator/Support) requests to let us know that you need help or you think something is incorrect.
  + **2/19/25:** Deadline to make data changes and refresh data in RED
* [2025 CT BOS Renewal Evaluation Instructions](https://www.ctbos.org/wp-content/uploads/2025-RENEWAL-EVALUATION-INSTRUCTIONSv3.pdf)
* Renewal Evaluation Webinar: [Slides](https://www.ctbos.org/wp-content/uploads/BOS-Renewal-Evaluation-Training-2025v4-1.pdf) & [Recording](https://youtu.be/inxbEX1zPbE)
* DOH/DMHAS Monitoring and Training RFP - [Link to RFP](https://oda8v68ab.cc.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001eCHxo1thULyaBb7vy_MNUXEyZamrTa_cplw_7HmYdqqFrQpDKFisTfbSXklUW15gW4tx-XUxI29VwsG5u-03MLghdmTqzxQuYw5ct5ShVLvxkJV97Z4nkVo-URIRUwBx9KP7fNpdNVaZbC3dkgP0LCqvuygUI-HCRthN6DaUjvbCnvK_ZDlSjSMqNMPbmzoKW7unOB6cd9GEipwvJ8lHM95GpSynNsW_zO4PYD8K7_y2O01-NjXOOeyczSSHLL0z&c=vNNYNVXgvTpCZSX_99UaibVu4Rv7dOXAljDjoiy0SDUxCpRAP0gozA==&ch=I33z6T8VmXLkSWmgi14u3ek9LgVXl-otzFQlwvxDVU8R95vqGmigWw==)
* DOH with DMHAS is seeking organizations to provide:
  + - Training to permanent supportive housing, HIV/AIDS Housing, Street Outreach, Diversion, Shelter, Rapid Rehousing)
    - Monitoring and technical assistance for project types listed above and CAN Backbone projects
* BOS Warming Centers – the following information was shared:
  + [List of Warming Centers with Locations and Hours](https://www.ctbos.org/wp-content/uploads/2024.12.20_BOS_Warming-Centers-Read-Only.pdf)
* How to get BOS e-mails – participants were reminded to please ensure all key staff are signed up to receive CT BOS emails:
  + [Link to sign-up for BOS e-mails](https://www.ctbos.org/sign-up-form/)

1. **Vote - Add a Public Health Representative to the Steering Committee?**

* It was noted that there are many connections between the homeless and health care systems and that having a Public Health Rep on the Steering Committee would be beneficial.

**Motion: To add a Public Health Representative to the Steering Committee. Motion passes by consensus.**

1. **New Project Priorities Discussion**

* Each year the Steering Committee votes on new project priorities. Proposed priorities were presented and discussed at this meeting and the Steering Committee will vote on these at the January Steering Committee meeting.
* BOS conducted a geographic equity analysis to determine if any CAN’s CoC funding allocation is low compared to demand among people experiencing homelessness.
* 5 of the 6 CANs in BOS provided information on CAN priorities.
* Following are the proposed priorities for 2025 projects funded through the CoC Bonus/Reallocation. *Proposed new priorities underlined*
  + **Geographic Equity:** Prioritize Projects in the Central and New Haven CANs
  + **New PSH Unit**s for [Dedicated PLUS](https://www.hudexchange.info/faqs/3284/what-is-a-dedicatedplus-project/) qualified individuals (including youth) who meet the HUD definition of disability
  + **New RRH Units**for individuals and families (including youth) who meet the HUD category 1 & 4 definitions of homelessness
  + Set aside (amount TBD) for PSH & RRH with at least 25% of new units designated for people **aged 60 and over**
  + Set aside to fund **enhanced services in existing CoC-funded PSH & RRH units**(up to the funding cap) with a preference for PSH projects with no designated services funds
  + **New RRH Diversion/Rapid Exit Units** (i.e., short-term rental assistance - up to 3 months)  for individuals and families (including youth) who meet the [HUD category 1, 2 or 4](https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/coc-esg-virtual-binders/coc-esg-homeless-eligibility/four-categories/) definitions of homelessness
  + Set aside to fund **services in congregate PSH projects** in development set to open within the timeframe specified by HUD and that do not have sufficient funding already secured - up to the funding cap; preference for projects opening in 2026
  + **Coordinated Entry** - Supportive Services Only (CE-SSO; not via RFP)
* Proposal for allowable types of new projects for 2025 DV Bonus Funds
  + RRH
  + Joint TH/RRH
  + CE- SSO (not via RFP)
  + Any other project types HUD indicates in NOFO are allowable (not via RFP)
* There was discussion around how the minimum of 25% set aside for people aged 60 made sense as it creates enough units to make an impact on the population and also creates a model of intergenerational housing.
* There was also discussion around the 3 measures used to determine the need in each CAN. CT BOS considered the total number of active households on the By-Name-List, the active number of unsheltered households, and the data DOH used for its system re-design RFP (i.e., attended CAN appointments).

1. **System Performance Measures (SPMs)**
   * Rose Kelly, Nutmeg presented on SPMs. Link to presentation: [SPM Presentation](https://acrobat.adobe.com/id/urn:aaid:sc:US:d6414fe1-9b99-498b-8122-35d279ed7387)
2. **Break-out groups –** Groups discussed the SPM related questions and provided the feedback below:
   * **Which results stand out to you from the performance measures? What would help to improve performance?**

* There is an issue with undocumented persons, and they can’t get mainstream benefits. The requirements for SPM reporting are defined by HUD, & HUD does not have a way to exclude people who are undocumented. In terms of CT BOS renewal evaluation, none of the benchmarks are set at 100%, because there will always be participants who are ineligible for benefits.
* It was reported that DOH contracts have raised benchmarks for cash/non-cash benefits for projects they fund. Steve DiLella noted that DOH can be flexible and is open to conversations on that topic.
* For returns to homelessness, resources are needed when people leave housing. They need services and income. There are medical needs and food needs as well.
* It might be helpful to look at exit strategies and include a six month follow-up.

1. **Proposed Changes – YHDP RRH Standards**

* DOH is proposing a change to the RRH Operating Guide to allow YHDP RRH projects to use either the YHDP rental calculation or the standard RRH rental calculation methodology (each service provider must consistently use one method or the other).
* Steering Committee will vote on this at the January Steering Committee meeting.

1. **FY24 Planning Grant Expenditures**

* CT BOS received $1.25 million from HUD for the CT BOS Planning grant. There are six areas of Planning grant activities and the funding was allocated as follows for the most recently completed grant year:

|  |
| --- |
| * Coordination Activities: 12% |
| * Project Evaluation: 10% |
| * Project Monitoring Activities: 3% |
| * CoC Application Activities: 10% |
| * Developing a CoC System: 19% |
| * HUD Compliance Activities: 46% |

1. **Partner Announcements**

* CT CAN End Homelessness - 2025 Legislative Agenda Launch Event
* Join CCEH for a speaking event and press conference to launch the CT CAN End Homelessness 2025 Legislative Agenda, hosted by State Representative Eleni Kavros DeGraw in collaboration with legislative champions. Speakers will outline the work ahead of us in the 2025 legislative session, and the event will feature advocates discussing the need to invest in the Homeless Response System.

Date: Friday, January 10th, 2025

Time: 12:30-1:30

Location: Legislative Office Building, Room #1C

300 Capitol Avenue, Hartford CT 06106

<https://cceh.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/2025-Legislative-Agenda.pdf>

1. **Other Business**
2. **Steering Committee Meeting Schedule**

* February 21, 2025; 11-12:30
* March 21, 2025; 11-12:30
* April 11, 2025; 11-12:30
* May 16, 2025; 11-1:00 – Semi-Annual Meeting
* June 20, 2025; 11-12:30
* July 18, 2025; 11-12:30
* August 15, 2025; 11-12:30
* September 19, 2025; 11-12:30
* October 17, 2025; 11-12:30
* November 21, 2025; 11-12:30
* December 19, 2025; 11-12:30