



North Carolina Balance of State Continuum of Care

bos@ncceh.org

919.755.4393

www.ncceh.org/BoS

Balance of State Steering Committee Workgroup Meeting 2.27.17

Attendance:

- Workgroup members: Melissa McKeown, LaTasha McNair, Teena Willis, Jim Cox, Monica Frizzell
- BoS staff: Brian Alexander, Ehren Dohler, Nancy Holochwost

Welcome

- This is the first meeting of the workgroup to look at potential changes to how the Balance of State Steering Committee is structured.
- Committee members and staff introduced themselves.

Purpose and Goals of Workgroup

- The Steering Committee currently has 13 voting seats, one for each Regional Committee.
- The workgroup will discuss what it would mean to add more voting seats to the Steering Committee, with the ultimate goal of increasing the CoC's capacity to end homelessness.

Research

- BoS staff have done some research on how other BoS CoCs across the country structure their CoC governance. This research will be discussed in more detail at the next workgroup meeting.
- High-performing CoCs have similar structures that involve both representatives from across the CoC's geography (like our Regional Committee seats) as well as at-large seats that are filled by state agencies and advocates for particular populations (like youth or domestic violence).
- Teena asked if staff saw a correlation between expanded representation on the Steering Committee and increased funding for the CoC.
 - Brian noted that having these representatives at the table provides opportunities for the CoC to engage and educate these agencies.
 - Ehren and Brian noted that the workgroup will need to think about who and how many of these types of representatives would be wanted on the Steering Committee.

Current Steering Committee Structure and Role

- Regional Committees each elect a Regional Lead, who serve as the voting members on the Steering Committee. Elected Alternate Leads may vote instead of the lead if not present.
- The Steering Committee holds public, monthly meetings via conference call.
- Ehren asked workgroup members what they see as the main role of the Steering Committee.
 - Workgroup members agreed the Steering Committee receives and shares national- and state-level information with local communities. Workgroup members also agreed the

Steering Committee serves as a board in that it is a decision-making body that steers the CoC's direction.

- The BoS Governance Charter outlines the Steering Committee's responsibilities.
 - Promoting commitment to the goal of ending homelessness
 - Providing funding to quickly re-house people
 - Promoting access to and effective utilization of mainstream funds
 - Providing direction on funding priorities and project application review criteria
 - Creating a network of providers
 - Consulting with recipients of ESG grants
 - Monitoring grant recipient performance (CoC and ESG)
 - Establishing performance targets
 - Establishing and operating a coordinated assessment system
 - Establishing and following written standards
- Ehren asked if there are items on this list that could use improvement. Workgroup members mentioned the following:
 - Individual Steering Committee members should share information with their Regional Committee/local community
 - Higher-level coordination with mainstream services and funds
 - More thorough monitoring of grant recipients
 - Brian noted currently we do this through CoC project review and ranking, but this is a small snapshot of performance. Staff's plan is to do performance improvement throughout the year and to bring this information back to the Steering Committee during the ranking process.
 - Targeting specific populations (there is a focus on veterans, but other populations may be overlooked)
 - Making decisions strategically/proactively instead of responding to things happening or chasing funding
 - Looking at how information flows from the Steering Committee to the Regional Lead and from the Regional Lead to the Regional Committee/local community
- Ehren asked what workgroup members' priorities are for making changes. Workgroup members will think about this and bring ideas to the meeting on March 20.

Next Meeting

- The next meeting will be in person on March 20 at NCCEH's office in Raleigh. The agenda will include:
 - In-depth presentation and discussion of research on how other BoS CoCs structure their governance
 - Goal-setting for the BoC
 - Begin formulating a draft plan for Steering Committee restructuring
- Workgroup members were asked to consider serving as the liaison between the workgroup and the Steering Committee.

