

A Vision for ... Developing a Governance Charter for the Balance of State Continuum of Care

CoC Purpose and Mission

In accordance with HUD mandates, the program is designed to:

- (1) Promote communitywide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness;
- (2) Provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers, States, and local governments to quickly re-house homeless individuals (including unaccompanied youth) and families, while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused to homeless individuals, families, and communities by homelessness;
- (3) Promote access to and effective utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families; and
- (4) Optimize self-sufficiency among individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

What is a CoC?

At its simplest, a Continuum of Care is established by representatives of relevant organizations within a geographic area to carry out the responsibilities set forth in the CoC Program interim rule.

The composition of each CoC is expected to be tailored to its unique community circumstances, to the extent possible involving all of the players required to further local efforts to end homelessness. The purpose of requiring stakeholder representation from a wide range of organizations within the CoC's geographic area is to ensure that all community stakeholders participate in developing and implementing a range of housing and services.

CoC Membership

- Broad participation sought from “relevant individuals and organizations”
- Invitations for membership distributed by emails semi-annually inviting interested parties to become members and to participate in full membership meetings
- Information posted on website
- Applicants for membership must have a demonstrated interest in the success of and relevance to the BoS CoC
- Full membership must meet at least twice per year
- Members expected to attend at least one meeting per year (full membership, board or committee ... in person or via webinar)
- Provide input into operation of CoC, the work of committees, and to policies established by the CoC

CoC Membership, cont'd ...



- Full membership ratifies original charter and votes on “at large board membership” only. Board then represents membership.
- Two types of members – (1) voting, and (2) non-voting
- Three classifications of membership:
 1. BoS CoC “Homeless Service Provider” – only 1 voting member per provider. Unlimited non-voting members. Weight of vote: 700%
 2. “Participating Organization” – only 1 voting member, unlimited non-voting members. Weight of vote: 200%
 3. “Individual” – may not be associated with Classifications 1 or 2. All voting members. Weight of vote: 100%

What are CoC / Related Meetings



- Annual meetings (must have at least two)
- Consolidated Plan meetings – includes the cities of Albany, Brunswick, Dalton, Gainesville, Hinesville, Macon, Rome, Valdosta, Warner Robins, and the counties of Cherokee, Gwinnett, Clayton and Henry
- By ESG Entitlement (Clayton and Gwinnett)
- By DBHDD region (5 of 6, excluding Metro Atl)
- Attendance at local coalition meetings
- Committee meetings

The CoC Board of Directors

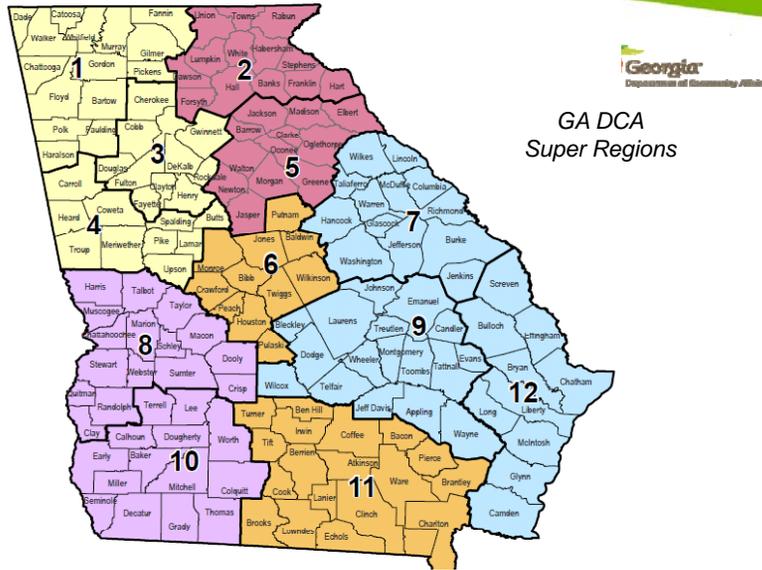


- Follow and draft amendments to governance charter that establishes the “Collaborative Applicant” and “HMIS Lead” – both DCA/GHFA
- Board appoints chair and vice chair
- Meet not less than quarterly – meetings posted 7 days in advance of meeting
- Approve Exhibit 1 Application
- Receive Committee Reports – Take formal actions

Board Size and Composition



- **15 members total with staggered terms of office**
- **All appointments and nominations first submitted to, and subject to review by, “membership and rules committee”**
- **Membership and rules committee to monitor elections**
- **Nine (9) agency head appointments by DCA, HTF (2), DBHDD, Children and Families, Corrections, Labor, VA, Gwinnett ESG and Clayton ESG**
- **Five (5) “at large” elected by membership, one each from each of the 5 DCA “Super Regions,” excluding local CoC counties**
- **One (1) homeless or formerly homeless representative appointed by the Membership and Rules Committee**



CoC Committees



- Purpose only to serve Board. May not act independently
- May or may not consist of Board members
- All appointments made by Board
- Committee members appoint chair and vice-chair
- Committees may appoint subcommittees, as needed
- Four (4) mandated committees
 1. Standards, Rating, and Project Selection (to be established on an interim basis by DCA until Charter is ratified)
 2. Homeless Management Information Systems
 3. Membership and Rules, and
 4. Assessment, Placement and Services

Standards, Rating and Project Selection Committee



- No direct conflicts of interest allowed
- Mitigate perceived conflicts of interest
- Develop and recommend written standards for all phases of CoC and ESG programs. Incorporate NOFA and Opening Doors priorities within standards
- PIT count methodology
- Gaps analysis
- Recommend research priorities
- Establish rating and selection system
- Appoint subcommittees for Continuum of Care application review

HMIS Committee



- Recommendations and oversight for HMIS Lead
- Review, revise and recommend privacy, security and data quality plan for the HMIS
- Assure HUD compliance by HMIS Lead
- Monitor HMIS participation
- Interact with HMIS user groups

Membership and Rules Committee



- Notify appointing authorities of needs for appointments
- Chair, or his/her designee, to serve as CoC ethics officer (all phases)
- Monitor conflicts of interest, establish recusal process
- Ratify appointments and serve as nominating committee for elected Board members
- Monitor service by Board members
- Obligation to seek diversity and to meet membership requirements for participation by “relevant organizations” in accordance with the CoC rule

Assessment, Placement and Services Committee



- Joint with state interagency council
- Lead in the development of a Coordinated Assessment System
- Develop written standards for CoC and ESG program admissions
- Identify system issues/needs
- Coordination of service programs
- Facilitate access to mainstream services

Other Committees or Workgroups



- Chronic Homelessness
 - » End chronic homelessness by 2015
- Veterans
 - » End Veterans homelessness by 2015
- Education
- Children and Families
 - » End Families, Youth and Children’s Homelessness in 10 Years
- Homeless and Runaway Youth
- Other

Collaborative Applicant (DCA/GHFA)



- Provide general oversight to CoC in order to meet HUD rules and competitive standards
- Collaborate with other GA CoCs
- Represent CoC to larger community
- Evaluate selection criteria in CoC NOFA and make recommendations to the Standards, Rating and Ranking Committee
- Coordinate PIT count
- Research best practices and make policy recommendations

Collaborative Applicant



- Provide administrative support to the Board
 - Provide notices, membership invitations and other support on behalf of Membership Committee
 - Meet FHEO compliance requirements
 - Publish agendas of Membership Meetings
 - Keep records (minutes, policies, etc.)
 - Set, provide notice, and attend all membership, Board and committee meetings
 - Maintain BoS CoC website

Collaborative Applicant



Meet obligations of CoC rule to coordinate with ESG Entitlements (Gwinnett and Clayton) and HUD Consolidated Planning jurisdictions (the cities of Albany, Brunswick, Dalton, Gainesville, Hinesville, Macon, Rome, Valdosta, Warner Robins, and the counties of Cherokee, Gwinnett, Clayton and Henry)

And Most Importantly ...



The Collaborate Applicant MUST!

Prepare and submit the annual
Balance of State Continuum of
Care Application to HUD

Contact us ...

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