



Racine City & County Continuum of Care (WI-502)
c/o HALO
2000 DeKoven Avenue, Unit #1
Racine, WI 53403

Minutes

Homelessness and Housing Alliance of Racine County

Location:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84223902873?pwd=dmhYeVhTUy9Kdmh6ekxTbHpFSnVadz09>

February 21, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

Mission: We collaborate to serve people experiencing homelessness and at risk of homelessness in Racine County through housing, prevention, emergency, and supportive services.

NOTE: CoC website <https://racinecoc.org> and the Homelessness & Housing Alliance of Racine County email address is homelesshousingalliance@gmail.com

1. Welcome – called to order at 9:00 am,

Attendance:

Membership:

21st Preparatory School

Blake, Kim

Center for Veterans Issues

Santoyo, Melinda

Aurora Health Care

Leslie, Kim

City of Racine

Knoff, Kathryn

Clement J Zablocki Veterans Affairs**Medical Center**

Majinski, Nicole

Devine Destinations Church

Bell, Pastor, Keith

HALO

Love, Irma

HOPES Center

Scott Metzel

Legal Action of Wisconsin – Racine

Perz, Matt

Held Vander Wyst Robert

Racine CoC

Lorenzen, Gai

Reinders, Teresa

Racine Revitalization Partnership

Snyder, Kathy

Racine Dominicans

Broslavick, Chris

Racine Unified School District

Alicia Mojica

SAFE Haven of Racine

Brown, Jeanette

Smith, Shebria

United Health Care

Deanna Kloster

United Way of Racine County

Kallio, MaryBeth

Women's Resource Center

Jori Chambers

2. Approval of Agenda – approval needed, requires a motion from the floor to accept

Motion to accept agenda: Jori Chambers

Second: Melinda Santoyo

Motion carries - unanimously

3. Approval of Minutes of the December 2024 membership meeting

Motion to approve minutes: Gai Lorenzen

Second: Melinda Santoyo

Motion carries – unanimously

4. New business –

- a. Collaborative Applicant update: (Bob Held Vander Wyst)

HALO notified CoC leadership that their board feels that due to many changes they are undergoing, they no longer will act as the Collaborative Applicant for the CoC and HUD funding. Their work included writing the grant, distributing funding where appropriate, and providing monitoring of programs receiving state and federal funding. We are grateful for the years they provided those services.

So last year, we asked other nonprofits and government agencies if they wanted to be the collaborative applicant for the continuum of care and the entity that applied and was selected was Racine County. We are working on getting an agreement with Racine County to be the collaborative applicant. The process is moving a bit slower than we anticipated. Meetings with the county are scheduled. Additionally, we are working with a pair of technical assistants (TA) provided and paid for by HUD. They are helping us with the process of obtaining a new collaborative applicant and are meeting with the county next month as well. In the meantime, we have asked Halo to be a temporary collaborative applicant for right now so that we can continue our work, and they have agreed. We have to work out with the county exactly what that collaborative

applicant relationships look like, and that's just taking some time. We want to be really careful about it, and make sure that we have everything laid out so.

b. Continuum of Care Governance Document Updates (Gai Lorenzen)

Amendments to the governance document need to be approved by the membership,

- Section 5.3 states that the annual meeting will be at the last meeting of the year. "Year" is not defined in the governance charter, and at the time that the governance charter was originally written and passed, around 2014 we were meeting monthly, so the meeting was usually in December.

We are asking for an amendment that states that November will be the annual meeting,

Motion made by Jori Chambers

Motion seconded: not able to determine from audio – no name provided but second was vocalized.

Motion carries – unanimously

- Section 6.22, the terms of office for the board members.

Section 6.22 indicates the term of office for the board members. It was not clear when those terms started. We are asking for a motion to have the term start January 1st.

Motion to made by Kathy Snyder

Motion seconded: Jori Chambers

Motion carries - unanimously

c. Discussion regarding Rapid Rehousing projects

Rehousing is housing for people who are currently homeless. Once they move into that housing, then they're not going.

Considered homeless anymore, they'd be considered formerly homeless. It provides rental assistance and supportive services for up to 24 months.

The number of rapid rehousing units that we have available in Racine has decreased dramatically over the last number of years, basically because the providers who the agencies have been running Rapid Rehousing programs have been downsizing their projects or have not gone for renewals when new projects came in, meaning that there just aren't enough people doing those kinds of projects anymore. And part of that stems from challenges in the model and the difficulties in keeping people in units and fund management with the way the rental assistance goes and so on. There's a lot of different complications with it, but the end result is that we use a system called coordinated entry for housing for people experiencing homelessness in the shelters and on the streets, and we have a housing prioritization list on which people who go into shelter or who are on the streets who would like to be considered for housing that's designated for people or homeless can go on to this housing prioritization list. When a project has an opening, they ask who's the next person list, and that person gets assigned so rapid rehousing was the sort of primary tool that we had for a long time for people were just homeless with no special designation of having a disability or being a veteran or whatever. Because the number of units has gone down, it means that it's harder to get people out of shelter and off the streets into housing projects.

5. Committee Updates

a. POINT in TIME: (Scott)

On the night of January 22, 2025, we had 133 people experiencing homelessness in shelters. That's an emergency shelter. We had 47 in transitional housing, and we had 13 that we were able to find, identify and confirm as being unsheltered on the street. For a total of 193 people experiencing homelessness in Racine County on the night of January 22, 2025, it could be a few more. It's possible that there were some people we weren't able to find. It's actually probably pretty likely, but we can confirm those numbers, and that's why we call it our best estimate for that night of count, and it was broken down into 129 households. There were 193 people in 129 households, consisting of 25 households with children, 104 households without children, and one household that was a child only household, so we had one child who was in SAFE Haven that night.

b. System Performance (Scott)

i. We've been working on three things, performance analysis and improvement project.

We're looking at ways that we can reduce the length of time homeless. That's how long people are homeless, and we're seeing on average, and the number of people who return to homelessness after they've entered permanent housing. So, they were homeless, they got into housing, come back into homelessness. We were looking at data related to those measures, and then we went through a process in November and into December 2024, of interviewing staff from agencies that work with people who are homeless, landlords and actually people experiencing homelessness themselves, to ask them about length of time homeless, why they think it's so long? Why do they believe people return to homelessness? What solutions do they have? And we collected a lot of information, and right now we're in the process of trying to go through that and code it and figure out what it all means

ii. Data analysis presentation at August Members meeting

We plan to do a presentation at this meeting on system performance measures from the last fiscal year September

2023 to October 2024. We'll look at the extent to which homelessness is rare, brief and non-recurring in Racine, and some examination of any disparity in our numbers, with regard to race, gender, ethnicity and so on.

- iii. We are looking at the questions in this Notice of Funding Opportunity that are related to system performance measures, such as the length of time people remain homeless, the extent to which people exit homelessness into permanent housing. In return, the number of people who are homeless from year to year, people are homeless for the first time, whether that's going up or down, and success in placing people into housing that's exits from exits, from programs into permanent housing. Iraida is leading us to look at questions such as, where did we miss points, either related to how we're taking strategies around these system performance measures, or the performance itself, and how we can improve.

6. Agency/Community updates

No agency or community updates were shared by attendees.

- 7. **Next meeting:** Friday, August 15, 2025, 9:00 a.m. corrected the date per the motion to move meetings to 2nd month of each quarter of year.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:55am by Teresa Reinders, Jori Chambers. second.

Minutes submitted by Teresa Reinders, Director