



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

Activity Summary from CoC Director

August 2025 – November 2025

Funding

HUD CoC Competition – July 2025, the federal administration notified CoCs that they were rescinding second year of the two-year process and all funding will be via a new competitive process. On 11/13/2025, HUD released the NOFO information and started the clock ticking on the competition. Funding will focus on new FY2025 policy priorities: 1) Ending the crisis of homelessness on our streets, 2) Prioritizing treatment and recovery, 3) Advancing public safety, 4) Promoting Self-sufficiency, 4) Improving Outcomes, and 4) Minimizing Trauma. These policy priorities must be carried out following the administration's focus as defined through Executive Orders from January 2025 to the present.

Partnerships

National level participation

National Alliance to End Homelessness

The Alliance has created six virtual state-level cohorts to facilitate engagement with the Alliance team and engage in regional peer learning opportunities. Each cohort will contain representatives from 6-10 states and have been formed based on common characteristics of Congressional lawmakers in these areas. I am participating in this process. We meet every other week via Zoom.

National Call on HoUsed: Universal, Stable, Affordable Housing

The National Call on HoUsed: Universal, Stable, Affordable Housing meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month. Housing and homelessness advocates nationwide meet to learn more about how to advance long-term solutions to end the housing crisis and achieve housing justice.

CoC-led national conversation

The first nation-wide, CoC-led conversation bringing together Continuum of Care leaders from across the country. I will be attending their organizing conference December 9, 2025, in San Diego, CA.

Theme: By CoCs, for CoCs - Building Our Collective Voice

Explore how a national professional association could support your CoC through shared tools, communication platforms, and peer learning.

See examples of how coordinated approaches can improve communication, data use, and local system performance.

Provide input that will shape the priorities and structure of the emerging National Association of Continuum of Care Leaders (NACCL).

National Advocacy

As CoC Director I participated with the Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH) email campaign to encourage Representative Ryan Steil to join a GOP letter, initiated by Representatives Garbarino (R-NY-02) and LaLota (R-NY-01), to urge HUD to renew all existing CoC grants expiring in 2026 without requiring an open competition. I sent emails to staffers identifying the impact to Racine County. Our funding from HUD is

\$1,073,531.00 The amount for Veterans alone is \$257,642.00 asking them to please consider the negative financial and emotional impact on agencies not having the renewal available as we reach the end of contracts without any real decision made by the Administration and HUD. Representative Steil did not sign the letter.

A similar, separate letter from the Senate was sent to HUD Director Scott Turner. Senator Tammy Baldwin did sign the letter.

Balance of State Advocacy Committee, NAEH, and NHL

Discussion regarding strategies related to potential anti-homelessness legislation coming to WI from out of state lobbying groups.

State level participation

Wisconsin Interagency Council on Homelessness (WI-ICH)

We are working to understand the full impact of potential budget cuts proposed by the legislature. We have met as a Council to report activity across the state by the various state departments.

Department of Children and Families

Thrive from the Start: Birth to 3 Working to establish a group to submit a letter of intent for a technical grant that would address Birth to 3 around the state that would include examining homelessness on this age group. We met multiple times to initialize the process and finalize the intent to submit a grant application. The letter of intent is open to all 50 states and there will be 10 states selected for the final application and funding. UPDATE: We have an interview portion of the selection process scheduled December 4, 2025.

Ending Homelessness Through State and CoC Partnerships

We have been discussing the State Health Assessment draft and focusing on homeless data. The CoCs are reviewing it to provide feedback. The report has been completed and moved on to state approval levels. Once approved, the state will release it to the public

Wisconsin Housing First Coalition

I am working with another board member to review and revise the by-laws for the organization. We are working on planning for next year, 2026. We are also planning events and responses to potential anti-homelessness state legislation presented by out-of-state lobbyists.

Medicaid 1915i – CoCs and DHS

There is potential that local city and county funding processes are going to be requiring shelter and outreach programs to leverage Medicaid 1915i. While we discussed potential changes to Medicaid and the impact on those experiencing homelessness, it was difficult to discuss any solutions or options without specific information from the federal level at the time we met.

County level participation

Racine County Health Poverty Workgroup: Housing/Evictions

This is a workgroup led by the County Public Health Department in connection with the *Racine County Public Health: Community Health Improvement Plan 2022-2027* (CHIP). The work of this group focuses on the western portion of Racine County.

- We are working on flyers and social media posts to reduce the stigma of people in need and looking for public services and support. Once the flyers and social media posts are done, we will distribute them to any organization interested in using them.

- We are working on gathering information related to forming an eviction mediation service. This could extend beyond the western end of the county. The CHIP plan can be found at:
<https://crchd.com/sites/default/files/Community%20Health%20Improvement%20Plan%20CHIP%202023%203.27.24.pdf>

ACELERO

I am in the process of renewing our MOU with ACELERO

Racine CoC System Performance

The Committee is working to finalize the results of the surveys conducted to examine the length of time individuals are homeless and why individuals return to homelessness after being housed. We are working to pull together an interpretation for results.

Meetings

- CoC check-ins with WI-ICH, DEHCR, HUD
- WI-ICH workgroup and Council meetings
- Collaboration with the other three WI CoCs
- Wisconsin Housing First Coalition – Strategic Planning, Regular Board meetings
- Ending Homelessness through State-CoC Partnerships (EHSCP) bi-weekly
- Racine County Poverty Workgroup: Housing/Evictions bi-weekly

Acronyms and abbreviations

CHIP – Community Health Improvement Plan <https://crchd.com/community-improvement-plan>

DEHCR – Division of Energy, Housing and Community Relations (under WI Department of Administration)
<https://doa.wi.gov/Pages/AboutDOA/DEHCRMainPage.aspx>

DV – Domestic Violence

EHH – The Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP), and Housing Assistance Program (HAP) are collectively referred to as the EHH Program. Administered under DEHCR
<https://energyandhousing.wi.gov/Pages/AgencyResources/ehh-program.aspx>

HMIS – Homeless Management Information Systems

HUD – Housing and Urban Development

LSA – Longitudinal Systems Analysis <https://homelessdata.com/knowledge-base/what-project-types-are-included-in-the-lsa/>

NAEH – National Alliance to End Homelessness <https://endhomelessness.org/>

NHLC – National Homelessness Law Center <https://homelesslaw.org/>

NOFO – Notice of Funding Opportunity

PIT – Point-in-Time

PSH – Permanent Supportive Housing

SPM – System Performance Measures <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc/system-performance-measures/#guidance> or <https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/system-performance-measures-in-context.pdf>

YHDP – Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project