



Affordable Housing Advisory Committee and the Continuum of Care (CoC)

Presented by: Judith Cabelli and Thomas Barnett

Fairfax County Department of Housing and Community Development

Continuum of Care (CoC)

- ❑ **What is a Continuum of Care:** 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 CoC was envisioned as a local network to plan and coordinate homeless services.
- ❑ **CoC Lead:** Fairfax County's Office to Prevent and End Homelessness (OPEH) serves as the CoC Lead.
- ❑ **Governance for Fairfax County's CoC:** The Governing Board for the Continuum of Care (CoC), also known as the Fairfax-Falls Church Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness, dissolved in 2020 as OPEH merged with Fairfax County's Department of Housing and Community Development.

Establishing and Operating a Continuum of Care

https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/EstablishingandOperatingaCoC_CoCProgram.pdf



Role of Continuum of Care (CoC)

§ 578.7 - Responsibilities of the Continuum of Care.

- 1) **Meetings:** Hold meetings of the full membership, with published agendas, at least semi-annually;
- 2) **New Members:** Make an invitation for new members to join publicly available within the geographic at least annually;
- 3) **Board Selection:** Adopt and follow a written process to select a board to act on behalf of the Continuum of Care. The process must be reviewed, updated, and approved by the Continuum at least once every 5 years;
- 4) **Appoint additional committees, subcommittees, or workgroups;**
- 5) **Governance Charter:** In consultation with the collaborative applicant and the HMIS Lead, develop, follow, and update annually a governance charter, which will include all procedures and policies needed to comply with subpart B of this part and with HMIS requirements as prescribed by HUD; and a code of conduct and recusal process for the board, its chair(s), and any person acting on behalf of the board;

https://www.govregs.com/regulations/expand/title24_chapterV_part578_subpartB_section578.7



Role of Continuum of Care (CoC), continued...

- 6) **Performance:** Consult with recipients and subrecipients to establish performance targets appropriate for population and program type, monitor recipient and subrecipient performance, evaluate outcomes, and take action against poor performers;
- 7) **Outcomes:** Evaluate outcomes of projects funded under the Emergency Solutions Grants program and the Continuum of Care program, and report to HUD;
- 8) **Coordinated Assessment:** In consultation with recipients of Emergency Solutions Grants program funds within the geographic area, establish and operate either a centralized or coordinated assessment system that provides an initial, comprehensive assessment of the needs of individuals and families for housing and services.
- 9) **Utilization of ESG funding:** In consultation with recipients of Emergency Solutions Grants program funds within the geographic area, establish and consistently follow written standards for providing CoC assistance.

HMIS designation, Continuum of Care Planning, and the development and submission of applications in response to a NOFA published by HUD under § 578.19 of this subpart are also responsibilities of the CoC

https://www.govregs.com/regulations/expand/title24_chapterV_part578_subpartB_section578.7



Continuum of Care (CoC) Governance

The following responsibilities were locally developed and included in the Governance Charter prior to dissolution:

- ☐ Promote **shared responsibility and decision-making** among all partners
- ☐ Exercise **executive stewardship over the pooled funding and resources** available for addressing homelessness in the Fairfax-Falls Church community
- ☐ **Mobilize political and community will** to increase the overall resources available to end homelessness and catalyze such other actions as may be necessary to affect the community and systems change necessary to end homelessness
- ☐ **Involve and engage all segments of the community** to assure their participation in the work of preventing and ending homelessness
- ☐ **Monitor progress** towards achievement of the goal of preventing and ending homelessness
- ☐ **Articulate progress** toward the goal throughout the community



Membership

- ❑ **Continuum of Care Board:** Each CoC must establish a board that is selected in compliance with the process approved by the CoC. The process is established as a requirement at 24 CFR part 578.7(a)(3).
- ❑ **According to the rule, the Board must:**
 - (1) Include at least one homeless or formerly homeless individual
 - (2) Represent the relevant organizations and projects serving homeless subpopulations, such as persons with substance use disorders; persons with HIV/AIDS; veterans; the chronically homeless; families with children; unaccompanied youth; the seriously mentally ill; and victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

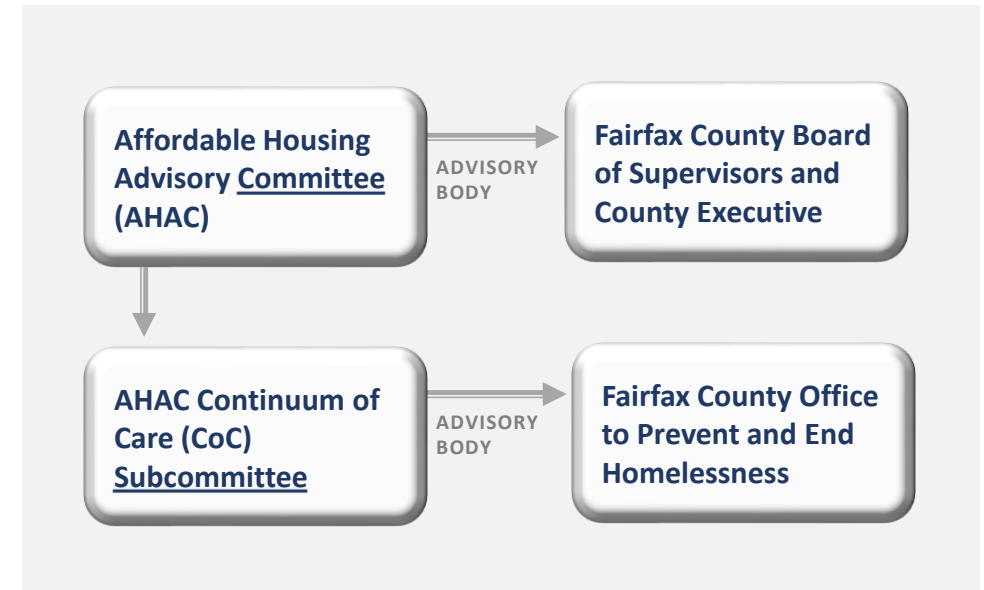
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Merging AHAC and CoC Governance

- ❑ **Affordable Housing Advisory Committee (AHAC)**
 - ❑ **Continued/Revised Role:** Serve as an advisory body to the Board of Supervisors and County Executive
 - ❑ **Additional Role:** Serve as the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) recognized decision making body for the Continuum of Care Rule 24 CFR 578, Subpart B, entitled “Establishing and Operating a Continuum of Care.”
- ❑ **Need to Determine Appropriate New Structure to include:**
 - ❑ **AHAC Continuum of Care (CoC) Subcommittee**



Next Steps

- ☐ **Rechartering AHAC requires Board Approval**
- ☐ **AHAC Executive Committee Convene to Develop Proposed New Structure with Staff**
- ☐ **Recommendation to the Board of Supervisors through the AHAC Executive Committee**
 - ☐ Presentation at 2021 Housing Committee Meeting
 - ☐ Include as part of the FY2022 Budget process
 - ☐ New charter implemented as of July 1, 2021

