

ARKANSAS BALANCE OF STATE CONTINUUM OF CARE  
Minutes March 13, 2025 – 11:00 AM  
Zoom

- I. Welcome
- II. Meeting called to order @ 11:04 am by William Tollett - Chair.
- III. Approval of Minutes: February Minutes, Boyce made a motion to approve minutes. Second, Shannon Howard Minutes were approved.
- IV. Partner Reports
  - ADFA – No report provided
  - HUD – No report provided
  - DHS – No report provided
- V. Balance of State Update
  - Collaborate Applicant – Sue Legal does not have anything on her end. They received an award letter for their grant. Lauren Morphew spoke about the Pit Count. They do have training with SimTech Solutions on how to export all the information. To make sure that we have all the data before sending out the final report. I personally am doing my own exporting and trying to get an unofficial statement to all the LHC. I know there are a lot of reports that are due to HUD coming soon. So, if there is any LHC that hasn't received this information from me, let me know. I am working on this tomorrow to send it out to everyone.
  - Homeless Program Director – Mark Sniff, ADFA is still meeting with all the states HMIS Leads. We are going to start doing some mandatory reports for the entire CoC. As well as individual reports for providers, especially those receiving ESG grant money. We haven't hashed out the details on the specifics of what they are looking for in terms of the reports, I can work with providers to see what training on what reports they will need to run. It may be a monthly thing. We are still working on details of that. Regarding federal reporting, it is still on hold, we have not yet received a timeline on when that will resume. When it does it will be in the order of the system performance pit and hick again.
  - Coordinated Entry – Autumn Johnson, we are still testing the assessment. That will go through March. Then we are going to start working with the Coordinated Entry Committee on Policies and Producers.

## VI. Old Business

- Mark Sniff, ADFA, has started to have involvement with the HMIS leads across the state. They're just kind of learning the platformer helping them understand how that data directly relates to the grants, specifically ESG grants. So, we're having a monthly meeting with them all the leads across the state. Currently in the HUD exchange the system performance measurement report is still sort of paused and delayed. We're checking daily to see when that might become available. Currently, \*we are working on cleaning the point in time, counting housing inventory, counting data for the pre upload. Once we make our first upload it should kind of flag maybe some of the errors. And so, I'll be contacting a lot of the individuals who are part of that count. To clarify that data so that we can have really for submission of the report. So, we're just waiting on HUD to give us the green light to go ahead and start submitting those reports. But we have a lot of data from the point in time housing inventory count that we're currently working on.

## VII. New Business

- Committee Meetings – William Tollett, Sue has sent me a list of all the committee members. The committees need to begin interacting with each other and working in their specified area. So, while the committee really needs to elect a committee needs to elect a committee chair. I am asking for now if the first person on that committee be a temporary chair and act to get your members together by phone or by zoom and begin meeting and elect a chair. Then once a chair is elected for your committee, please send a mail to both myself and Sue. Why are the committees important? Well one, they are engaging members of the BoS from across the state. It also allows the BoS to function in a more cohesive manner and we have a commitment within our planning grant, where our committees are supposed to be meeting and updating the board as far as progress or programming components we are working on. Have new developments of reaching people whatever they might be. It is vitally important, and we want to be in compliance with our grant. I am sending out a committee list along with the current members.

## VIII. Committee Reports

- Steering Committee Updated – Autumn Johnson, there will be a meeting later this month.

## IX. VIII. Other Coalition Updates

- Chonda Tapley, there's a lot of talk with HUD and Grants and funding, and the good news is, when we were with Congressman Womac's office. The House voted on the CR, and it was approved and now waiting on the Senate to vote. Womac's office said that they are supporting continuing funding like the Republicans. Not slashing the budget like the talk was. That is good news for all of us, and all our grants and funding. The big discussion is HUD is one of the most difficult Federal departments for the government to deal with. Tomorrow there are supposed to be some announcements about HUD.

## X. Coalition Reports

- ARVAHAN – Rashad Woods, we did our first meeting for our announced that today was Cody Shelton last meeting with ARVAHAN. It went well. We're going to invite some of our legislators during their off-day field day times which we have one today meet with them, have those conversations, those personal tied stories, success stories, sad stories, good stories that really hit them at heart, and not just talk about what our vac's doing and our van. But talk about homelessness across the State, and what's in our backyard as well. So, if we could create a platform that might be one of the committees to create a platform to have that shared story database. So we can pull from Little Rock when we're in Russellville, advocating for dollars or in Fayetteville or in the delta and stuff like that, because again, our legislators doesn't just vote for our one little city or territory, they vote for the whole State, and so, therefore, if we have information not regarding one area, but the whole state on that story side, they have the data, and that's great. But the stories are really what make the impact. So, our group has made a challenge to try to pump out every quarter at our meetings, do a resource binder and pump out a success story to from each division so we're excited. I also want to announce that today is Cody Shelton's last meeting with us. He is moving on to greener pastures that they say, and bring welcoming a new baby, so he'll be moving around and hopefully he'll still be involved in the act of community action.
- BBMNS – Cassie Johnson, we did not have a meeting last month. We will be having a meeting next Friday.
- Delta Hills – Kimmy Antoine, we did not meet, but we will be meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup>, so I will have an update for you.
- Eastern Arkansas – Jennifer Johnson, we met yesterday and went over the vacancies that we have on our board. To challenge everyone to try to fill those vacancies, to invite more people to our meetings and get involved.

- Mississippi – Lisa Willard, we last month on the 18<sup>th</sup> and we had a good turnout. We are still dealing with the affordable housing crisis in our area. We are struggling to move people into permanent housing.
- NEA – Lauren Morpew, I spoke with Heather, she wants to start having monthly meeting. I am going to work with her on getting the meetings established. I think they have a solid team. They don't have an actual meeting time. Their pit count went well
- RHC – Lauren Morpew reported that they did not have a meeting.
- SWAP – Autumn Johnson, Libby gave me an update, she said that they are beginning their committee and membership expansion outreach plan. They have an upcoming meeting per Lauren Morpew. Then they have community resource center director in attendance and are excited about his experience and expertise in their ability to support the CRC. Libby has sent voting proxy assigned Autumn Johnson.
- Toadsuck – Lauren Morpew, they are scheduled to meet to tomorrow.

#### XI. Other Coalition Updates

- William Tollett wants to remind everyone, in order to get your letter of good standing, you're supposed to hit the 75% mark of your attendance and participation, and you are the thankful ones that are here every month when we meet, and it allows us to move forward and do what we do. When you are speaking in your LHC. If you have members in the LHC that are not participating in their balance of state let them know that one. We want them to participate, but secondly in order to get a letter of good standing to use for Federal grants, they must meet an attendance requirement, and encouragement comes, and you need them to be able to submit that letter of good standing. We can issue it to you and provide you with the opportunity to compete for that grant. They to go ahead and get started in meeting with us, so that when that letter of

#### XII. Next Balance of State zoom Meeting

- April 10, 2025 @ 11:00 am

#### XIII. Meeting Adjourned

Submitted by Cassie Johnson, ARBoS Secretary.