

**Arkansas Balance of State  
Continuum of Care Board Meeting  
December 14, 2023**

<b>Coalition/Organization</b>	<b>Voting Members Attended:</b>
ARVAN/ARVAC	Cody Shelton, Mary Thompson
BBMN	Chonda Tapley, William Tollett
Central AR Coord. Entry	Absent
Collaborative Applicant	Whitney Force, Autumn Johnson
Delta Hills	Yasmine Pace (For Myracle White)
Eastern Arkansas	Josephine Flowers
HMIS	Absent
Mississippi	Lisa Willard
Northeastern AR	Jana Burnett, Shane Fore
RHC	Absent
SWAP	Boyce Mitchell
Toadsuck	Spring Hunter (For Lacey Strom), Shannon Howard
Other Voting Members:	Michelle Simon, John Hooker
DHS	Absent
HUD	Absent
State of Arkansas	Absent

**Call to Order**

The general meeting was called to order via virtual platform at 11:05 am by Whitney Force.

**Roll Call**

A welcome was given, and a roll of voting members were recorded.

**Balance of State Updates**

New HMIS Regional Coordinator for the Balance of State, Brandon Turner. Brandon was unable to attend due to a training.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Boyce Mitchell and seconded by Shane Fore to approve the August 2023, September 2023, October 2023 and November 2023 minutes. The motion unanimously passed.

**Federal & State Reports**

**HUD**

Absent

**DHS**

Absent

## **HMIS**

Whitney gave an update on the progress of the LSA Report. The LSA started with 50 warnings/errors. Currently there are 5 warnings and 0 errors. The report cannot be submitted with any errors. All errors have been resolved. Warnings will be explained away. Brandon reached out to all HMIS End Users to obtain new User Agreements due to the change in the HMIS Lead Agency.

## **Old Business**

### **Revised Governance Charter**

Whitney advised that there would not be a vote on that this month due to the possibility of additional changes needing to be made. Once the revisions are complete, it will be sent out for an electronic vote.

## **New Business**

### **HMIS Steering Committee**

Previous BoS representatives were Casey Kidd and Myracle White. Myracle has agreed to remain in her position. Whitney Force offered to take Casey's open position on the committee. Spring Hunter made a motion to accept and William Tollett seconded the motion. The motion unanimously passed.

### **Guest Speakers**

Whitney advised that she would like to start having guest speakers at the monthly meetings to speak for 10 to 15 minutes. Asked for suggestions for speakers. Whitney spoke with Linda Morgan with the Department of Health who has a new Homeless Initiative that is state wide. They can set up at different locations to offer their services. Ms. Morgan has offered to be a guest speaker at a future meeting.

### **Location Ideas for Domestic Violence Coalition Training**

Whitney asked for ideas for a possible location for the training to be held. Nicole Brakebill suggested speaking with the DV Coalition to see if we can hold the training there. Chonda Tapley suggested the HUD Office as a second option. Whitney will send out location and times for the meeting.

## **Old Business**

### **Discharge Planning Workgroup**

Spring Hunter provided the workgroup with examples of referral forms, intake forms and other information from a respite care facility that they visited in Tennessee. The group will look at those before the next meeting.

### **Point in Time**

William Tollett, Chair of the Point in Time Committee, reminded attendees of the mandatory PIT volunteer training that will take place on January 17<sup>th</sup> from 11:00A.M. to 12:30P.M. as well as signing up on the form that was sent out by Whitney. Spring Hunter asked if we were only reporting just sheltered. Whitney advised

that the committee decided to do both a sheltered and an unsheltered count even though it is not required by HUD. William Tollett agreed. Unsheltered will be collected in the Counting Us app. The Sheltered count will be done via HMIS. William Tollett inquired about the invoice for the Counting Us app. Whitney Force advised that she believes that it was paid but she will check on that.

### **Coordinated Entry**

Have not met this month. Autumn Johnson confirmed that the next meeting will be in January. Autumn also advised that she sent out an email to the LHC Chairs in reference to resource mapping. She asked that everyone send a list of their resources to their Coalition Chair or herself for that to be compiled. Autumn provided her email address in the chat.

### **Local Homeless Coalition Reports**

#### **Delta Hills**

No Report.

#### **Eastern Arkansas**

Josephine Flowers advised that they are trying to get a group together for the PIT Count. Added a few new members.

#### **ARVAN**

No Report.

#### **BBMNS**

Chonda Tapley advised that they had their November meeting and plan to have their December meeting December 15<sup>th</sup>. They discussed funding and housing opportunities in their area. Possibly a new member joining from Searcy county in their scheduled December meeting.

#### **Mississippi**

Lisa Willard advised that they have not had a meeting due to being understaffed. She plans on having a meeting the next week.

#### **Northeast Arkansas**

Shane Fore has been out of the office but advised that they are now accepting new residents at The Stepping Stone Sanctuary.

#### **RHC**

No Report.

#### **SWAP**

Sarah Fowler advised that they had a November meeting and they are recruiting members for the PIT Count. Garland county is on track and the Sheriff in Montgomery County has changed since the last election. They are working on that relationship.

**Toadsuck**

Spring Hunter advised that they will have their first Emergency Shelter opening on December 21<sup>st</sup>. There are 36 beds. They have an additional 14 beds for inclement weather openings. This has been in the works since 2018. CAPCA is staffing the Conway City Shelter. They will only house adults over the age of 18. They are working with United Way for hotel stays for families, possibly through March. Looking at the PIT Count. They are looking for someone to play point person for their LHC PIT Count. Debbie Crosby advised that the Ribbon Cutting for the Shelter will be December 19<sup>th</sup> at 12:00P.M. Everyone is welcome.

**Next Meeting**

January 11, 2024 at 11:00A.M.

**Adjournment**

Meeting Adjourned at 11:27A.M. by Whitney Force.

Minutes recorded by Whitney Force.