

## May 2025 Quarterly Meeting: CoC Director Report

Activities included below occurred between the November 2024 quarterly meeting and the May 2025 quarterly meeting.

### CoC Competition

- Received award announcement in January regarding the results from FY24 CoC Competition.
  - CoC received increase in planning grant funds for CY 2026
  - CoC did not receive funding to expand SSO CE or SSO CE DV.
  - CoC did receive expansion funds for DV RRH and will add The Bridge to Hope (West Central: Dunn & Pepin); Hope House (Central); PAVE (Central: Dodge); and expand Bolton Refuge grant (Dairyland)
  - CoC funded agencies were awarded bonus projects including: CACSCW Jefferson RRH (new), Hebron House PSH expansion, KHDS KYF RRH expansion, KHDS MyHOME RRH expansion, and NCCAP PSH expansion.
- Significant delay in contracts & new Federal Administration impact on contract language
- Received FY24 CoC Competition Scoring Debrief document (5/13) and attended debriefing webinar (5/21)

### CoC Organizational Activities

- Conference Planning
  - Helped organize and oversee 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual CoC Conference in Green Bay (2/17-2/19/25)
    - Planning mtgs: 11/21, 12/5, 12/19, 1/2 , 1/15, 1/30, 2/6, 2/13
    - Post event included recording and organizing match, lessons learned, and final costs & feedback reviewed. Debrief (4/23).
  - Planning for our **Collaborative Summit** – met 5/22, confirmed location – Ho Chunk in Baraboo, the date (Sept 10-11, 2025), prices, food, and itinerary. Will be sending SAVE THE DATE soon and hotel reservations will open soon.
    - Confirmed full day presenter – Tasha Mae, “Advocacy Queen” – full day training  
*This immersive, results-oriented training equips service providers with practical tools to navigate complex systems on behalf of clients—while also teaching clients how to advocate for themselves. Participants will walk away with advocacy language, legal insight, and real-world strategies they can implement immediately.*
  - Planning for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual CoC Conference in Appleton (February TBD 2026). Meeting monthly to start planning theme, keynotes, creating presentation proposal application, identify potential sponsors and topics.
- Attended Board of Director mtgs: in person 12/3, virtual 1/7, 2/4, 3/4 , 4/1, 5/13; Exec mtgs: 11/21, 12/19, 1/15, 1/28, 1/29, 2/28, 3/20, 4/7, 4/25, 5/15
- Staff – Supervision & meetings related to 2 Teams & joint projects
  - Grants Team – led by Meredith McCoy (Monitoring & Compliance Manager) with a focus on Marching to Zero for spending all grants and outcomes/performance
    - Added Sara Garbe (Jan 2025) – Grants Specialist

- Systems Team – led by Ryan Graham (Homeless Systems Manager) with a focus on building relationships and expanding partnerships
  - Added Liz Nation (April 2025) – Homeless Systems Specialist
- Staff attended the CSH Conference in Chicago (April 2025); NAEH in LA (Feb 2025) – Ryan presented on CE & outreach; WCHSA in Green Bay (May 2025) – Molly & Adam presented on 1915i; and Org Code Leadership Academy (April 2025) – Ryan attended.
  - Submitting conference presentation proposals for NHSDC (Baltimore) for Fall 2025
- Website: released Finance committee approved RFP, finalized selection of One Branding, signed contract. Adam is point of contact for storyboard and revamping of website.
  - Staff scrubbed Balance of State CoC website following the “Big Freeze.” Slowly putting items back on. Reviewing each to ensure they are “safe” from scrutiny.
- 1915i collaboration with DHS: Adam & Molly are the points of contact. Conducted a virtual CoC training about the benefit on 4/8. Local coalition governing documents are required for approval. As of today:
  - 13 coalitions have approved governing doc
  - 7 complete pending coalition-level vote
  - 1 has not provided sufficient info
- Action Plan
  - Annual Report due 6/20/25.
  - Priority Selection to begin in July 2025 for 25-26 year, focus on System Performance Measures & housing those homeless the longest.
- Point-in-Time (PIT)
  - Sent out HIC for November 2024 – April 2025
  - Worked closely with Kate & Adam to finalize July PIT data; complete the January 2025 PIT count & in process of finalizing January’s data for HUD Submission (due 6/13).
  - Working on revisions to PIT methodology, goal to release for comment and feedback in Fall 2025
- BOS Committee Support
  - Attended Finance & Audit mtgs: 1/23 and 3/27
  - Attended Governance mtgs: 12/10, 1/14, 2/11, 3/11, 4/8
- Local Coalitions/Agencies
  - Virtual meeting with Mayor Woodford (Appleton) – 12/13
  - Dairyland coalition: Stakeholder engagement mtg (12/4), mtg with City Council member (12/18)
  - Presented virtually at Brown coalition (4/9); initiated a plan to deliver a similar “state of homelessness” for each coalition by the Fall of 2025. I will create the slide deck and handouts. Support staff will help the coalition create an event, recruit/advertise, and determine who is the right person to provide the training. The goal is to provide the same level of detail and information to each coalition about each coalition, to a larger audience to increase understanding and conversation around creating a plan to end homelessness. As of today:
    - 2 coalitions done (Brown and Winnebagoland)
    - 4 scheduled (Dairyland, Kenosha, Waukesha & West Central)
    - 2 scheduled with TBD (Coulee & Lakeshore)

- 13 - waiting to hear back from

**Grant Spending – As of April’s invoice:**

Grant Name	Status	Notes
SSO CE 24-25	A little behind	Ends 6/30. Approximately 26% remaining.
SSO CE DV 24-25	On track	Ends 8/31. 37% grant funds remaining.
HAP 24-25	Under Spent	Total grant award \$896,500 (ends 9/30) 9 sub-grantees still 69% of grant remaining to be spent
DV RRH 24-25	Under spent	Ends 9/30. 60% of grant remaining.
YHDP SSO CE 24-25	Under spent	Ends 9/30. 52% of grant remaining.
YHDP SSO 24-25	Under Spent	Ends 12/31. 78% of grant remaining. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Replacing Newcap – NE and NWISH with Foundations of Living</li> </ul>
CoC Planning CY25	On track	Started 1/1. 69% of funds remaining Will be used to support increased monitoring-related travel, and the Collaborative Summit in the Fall.
Bezos Day One Fund <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Year 1</li> <li>- Year 2</li> </ul>	Under spent Just started	Finished out year 1, underspent. Has a plan to utilize some of the remaining funds. Signed contract for Year 2.
HOME ARP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Year 1</li> </ul>	Very Under Spent	Total grant award \$200,000 (ends 6/30) 9 sub-grantees still 50% of grant remaining to be spent

- New Grants
  - Submitted CoC Builds Grant (11/21/24) – no awards made by HUD, now received new NOFO from HUD. Working on implications and next steps.
  - Completed HOME APR grant application for additional funds for 25-26 grant year
  - Submitted NAEH Workforce Innovations Grant (4/11/25) – would be funds to develop an inter-coalition mentoring program and coalition onboarding curriculum.
  - Completed HUD’s Issues & Conditions for the CoC Planning Grant CY2026, SSO CE 25-26, and SSO CE DV 25-26. Board Chair signed HUD contracts and I returned them to the HUD Field Office. Still waiting for DV RRH, YHDP SSO CE, and YHDP SSO.
- Collaboration:
  - Met with Urban Triage Executive Director. Drafted MOU. Sent 2/5. To date, no response.
  - Staff met with WAHRS about potential collaboration and to provide funding to support efforts around ending youth homelessness. Received proposal. Submitted AAQ to HUD to ensure eligibility of planning fund use.
- Match: Continue to focus on local coalition-level, committee, PIT, and Board match
- Monitoring
  - Received & completed the monitoring paperwork for HOME ARP (DEHCR) in May 2025
- “The Big Freeze” – events related to the federal funding freeze of grant funds and aftermath (January 28, 2025)
  - Media engagement – interviews and emails
  - Working with 3 CoC leaders to share information, develop strategy
  - Reached out to HUD DC and HUD Field Office for guidance

- Discussion with Senator Baldwin’s office, supported letter to Rep. Van Orden’s office in partnership with WAHRS
- HUD Staff
  - Met in person (in Eau Claire) with multiple members of the HUD field Office staff and Meredith (11/20), agreed to monthly calls to address issues/concerns and increase communication (1/13, 2/14, 3/14, 4/11) – ended because of new Administration
- APR Submissions
  - SSO CE DV 23-24 submitted 11/18 (due 11/29)
  - YHDP SSO CE 23-24 submitted 12/19 (due 12/28)
  - DV RRH 23-24 submitted 2/28/25 (requested multiple extensions due to subrecipient source documentation challenges; the frozen out of the ELOCCS system; then final payment request had to be approved by HUD Field Office) – originally due 12/28
  - HAP 23-24 close out submitted 2/26/25
  - YHDP SSO 23-24 submitted 3/31/25 (due 3/28)
  - CoC Planning grant CY24 submitted 3/27/25 (due 3/28)
  - Advocacy grant ended 2/28, submitted final report with summary of activities

#### **National Conferences/Trainings/Webinars/Meetings**

- Webinar – NAEH: Post-Election Discussion: Navigating Homelessness policy and FY25 Appropriations (11/20)
- Webinar – Legal Update for Nonprofits: Navigation Uncertain Landscape (2/6)
- Webinar – IRP: Evidence Based Policy & Practice Approaches to Addressing Homelessness in US (3/5)
- Attended NHSDC in New Orleans, LA (April 2025)
- Met with DC HUD regarding HMIS (1/21)
- Attending Rural Community of Practice meetings (12/10, 1/14, 2/11, 3/11)
- Participate in the ALICE Research Advisory Council (RAC) – meeting 2/26

#### **Advocacy**

- National:
  - Attended Rep. Van Orden’s virtual town hall (3/12, 4/2)
  - Focus on the counter-narrative to President Trump’s “skinny budget” and proposed changes to the CoC program, including the end of PSH
  - Supporting NAEH, NLIHC, and NHLIC’s asks for support to reach out to our Reps
  - Working on more one-pagers around the need for PSH, the impact of our programs, and need that continues to exist for CoC leadership and structure and negative implications of a block grant system that relies on the states for funding and support
- State-level:
  - Met with Rep. Rivera-Wagner (5/29)
  - Focusing on Prevention & HAP funds during this budget, would also like to see outreach funding
  - Working on one pagers with data for State Assembly and Senate; would like to do a coordinated invitation to participate in July PIT

### **Media**

- Submitted article for WI Counties Association magazine – Feb 2025 issue focused on homelessness
- Interview with WPR regarding federal funding landscape and homelessness (5/7)

### **Policy Development**

- Revising Emergency Shelter standards following feedback from DEHCR
- Balance of State CoC Social Media Policy approved at February Board meeting
- YHDP Reimbursement Policy Addendum approved at February Board meeting
- Resolution to create Lived Experience Advisory Board and Conference Planning Committee approved at March Board meeting
- YAB Compensation Policy v2 approved at April Board meeting, with v3 up for discussion and approval at the upcoming June Board meeting

### **State Collaboration & Advocacy efforts**

- Attended Children Come 1<sup>st</sup> Advisory Committee meeting (2/25, 4/22)
- Collaboration conference calls with Dane, Milwaukee & Racine CoC leads – these calls include DEHCR & Mike Basford (12/12, 1/9, 2/13, 3/13, 4/10, 5/8)
- Attend WI IAC quarterly meeting virtually (12/17, 3/12)
- Met with DEHCR staff & 3 CoC leaders – EHH allocation (1/15, 2/7, 4/6, 5/9)
- Attended Q4 TAC meeting (12/5)
- Met with DHS & Family Keys project – debriefing (1/13)
- Badger State Housing Alliance meeting – discuss advocacy opportunities and partnership (3/5)
- Coordinated discussions with other 3 CoC leaders & state agency staff on collaboration efforts, addressing issues & concerns =
  - DHS - Ending Homelessness Partnership meeting (12/11, 1/8, 2/5, 2/25, 3/5, 4/2, 4/16, 5/14, 5/28)
  - DHS – 1915i Check-in (12/9, 1/22, 3/6, 4/16, 5/13)
  - DHS – Homelessness Forum (5/19)
  - Leader mtg (1/22, 3/11, 3/13, 4/9)
  - CoC Leader & ICA Quarterly Check-in (3/6)
  - Budget Briefing – with DEHCR liaison and Mike Basford (3/26)

### **Upcoming:**

- Vacation (6/13-6/22)
- Staff attending NAEH in Washington DC (July 2025) – Ryan, Sara, Liz, and Kate
- Staff attending A Home For Everyone (July 2025) – Liz
- Presenting at the Inform Conference in La Crosse (Nov 2025)