

Unedited AI Generated Transcript

ONLINE ONLY Chittenden County Homeless Alliance- July Steering Committee Meeting-20260702_090735- Meeting Recording

July 2, 2026, 1:07PM

1h 27m 55s

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 0:12

Go ahead, Holly.

C Clarence w Lamore Jr 0:15

What? Just get ready at the point now.

No.

Hey, independent movies.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 0:25

Polly, we can't hear you super well. Would you mind putting in the chat maybe, or I can at some point find the, I think you're doing the announcement of your upcoming party, right, for Dismas House? I think I can find it and put it in the chat.

Oh, go ahead. Are you there? Okay, I'll spotlight you. Here, let's unmute you.

I can't unmute you, I can only mute you. Well, that's not helpful. Okay, if you could put it in the chat, I can put it in the chat. That's awesome.

JH Jennifer Hunter 0:58

You're muted, Holly. You're muted.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 1:01

Okay.

HR Holly Rossi 1:03

Okay, here it is. Okay. I don't know. There I am. Sorry, everybody. So American Flatbread will be hosting us, the one downtown, and that'll be on July 7th, and we will get funds from any flatbread ordered either online, takeout, or dine-in.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 1:04
There you go!

 **Will Karod** 1:05
Yeah.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 1:06
Yeah.

HR Holly Rossi 1:21
So it's all day from 11 to like 1030 to like 11 at night. So I hope you guys come. And I think I sent you all one of these. Okay, thank you.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 1:29
Yes.
Thank you. Thank you. Thanks for the reminder. Maggie.

HR Holly Rossi 1:33
Yeah.

MP Maggie Pierce 1:40
Can you hear me okay? Okay, perfect. I'm so sorry, I logged on a second late. So I hope this isn't too late. But I just wanted to let folks know that this will be my second to last CCHA meeting. Just wanted to thank you all for all the wonderful work here and wish Adam the best in learning how to raise the new place card correctly. He's been practicing.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 1:42
We can!
Yeah.
No.

MP Maggie Pierce 2:03

So I'm looking forward to him taking over, but thanks you all. I'll see you again in August, hopefully in person that time.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 2:10

Yeah, I think so.

Just.

Did you hear me, Chelsea? Go ahead.

CA Chelsea Alsofrom (Pathways Vermont) 2:25

I didn't hear you. Thank you. I am announcing our Morgan's Place open house. So on July 9th, from 10 to 2, our new peer support center that we call Morgan's Place on 50 South Willard Street will be having an open house. Again, from 10 to 2. There's a brief presentation at noon, if you can make

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 2:26

Sorry about that.

CA Chelsea Alsofrom (Pathways Vermont) 2:43

that, but otherwise, it'll just be sort of light refreshments, come see the space, talk with staff. And we hope to see you there. I will send, we have like a little invitation postcard, so I can send that over and we can mail it out so folks can have that as a reminder in their email.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 2:58

Thank you. That's awesome.

Okay, anything else before we move to the minutes?

Okay, seeing no hands, I'll move on. But feel free to like bring them up at the end too. I think we have a little time at the end. No, we don't, but we'll make time. Okay, so next agenda item is the approval of the June meeting minutes. And I think you'll notice that Will has now put them on the website as well. Many thanks to Will for taking that over.

what felt to me is pretty seamlessly, but I bet to you felt very not seamless. So thank you so much for doing that. Any changes needed for the minutes before we?

Okay.

OK, can I entertain a motion to approve?

T **Travis** 3:55
I will make the motion, and I will second it.

JH **Jennifer Hunter** 3:56
Make a motion.

DK **Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri** 3:57
Okay. Thanks.

JH **Jennifer Hunter** 3:57
Or I second Travis's.

DK **Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri** 3:59
Okay.
So Jen and Travis have made and seconded the motion. All those in favor, Will, do you have that poll or should we just do hands? You've got it. Okay, we're trying a new poll thing this morning. So you can vote right in the chat.
If you can't vote in the chat for some reason, just you can message me, Teams me. I just put it in the team or raise your hand or come off mute.
Okay.
Wait for just a few more folks. I agree, Taylor. It is fun.
Sorry.
Okay, I'm going to wait till we have at least half of folks voting. Oh, there we are. Yep, okay, we're there. Okay, great. Okay, so it looks like those were approved. Thank you. That's great. And then any changes needed to this meeting agenda that we're that we're in today and I can screen share so that everybody can see the meeting agenda.
Can folks see that okay?

CK **Ciara Kilburn** 5:35
Can you zoom in?

TT **Taylor Thibault** 5:36
It's a it's a little small, yeah.

L **Lisa Martiny (she/her) - Howard Center** 5:38

Yeah.

DK **Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri** 5:38

I can try. Yep, just a second. Sorry about that. I use a...
a monitor that's the other direction and so sometimes it comes up real slow. Is that
any better?

L **Lisa Martiny (she/her) - Howard Center** 5:52

It's a little better, it could be a little bigger.

DK **Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri** 5:56

Okay, can you see it all if I'm at that? That's close enough, right? How's that?

L **Lisa Martiny (she/her) - Howard Center** 5:57

Yeah.

VF **Virginia Finn** 6:02

People can also zoom in on their own if they go down to your name on the bottom
left-hand corner, and a plus and minus sign should show up.

TT **Taylor Thibault** 6:13

I also believe, and will correct me if I'm wrong, it's attached to the meeting invite. So
if folks are having, are struggling, there may be, it's attached to the meeting invite.

DK **Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri** 6:14

Yes.

T **Travis** 6:22

It is attached, yeah.

DK **Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri** 6:24

It is attached. Yep, it absolutely is. Yep, yep. Okay, any changes needed to this?
Okay, hearing none, let's vote on the approval of the meeting agenda, July meeting

agenda.

Do you have a motion and a second for that?

T **Travis** 6:51

I'll make the motion to accept.

DK **Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri** 6:53

Thank you. Okay. Thank you. Okay. Thank you. Okay, Travis and Taylor. Great. Okay, and go ahead and vote.

TT **Taylor Thibault** 6:55

Hold a second.

DK **Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri** 7:04

Thank you.

TT **Taylor Thibault** 7:05

This really rivals raising my like sign from CHT at the person like meeting.

DK **Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri** 7:13

I love it.

Oh, it's awesome.

Mhm.

All right, let's see here.

Okay, oh, great. And I have one. Okay, we're in half. Great. Let's move on then. Okay, so the first agenda item is, well, the next agenda item is Stephanie with the coordinated entry data. Stephanie, did you want to share or do you want me to share what's attached to the minutes?

SS **Stephanie Smith** 7:52

Um, I can share, probably be easier for me to do that.

DK **Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri** 7:55

Okay.

Sure. Great. Thank you.

Take it away.

SS Stephanie Smith 8:03

Okay, let me know if you can see it.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 8:07

We can, yeah, it looks good to me.

SS Stephanie Smith 8:08

Okay, great. All right, so this is the data for May. At the end of May, we had a total of 583 households enrolled in Coordinated Entry, 89 families, 302 chronic households, 9 veteran households, 36 youth households, 69, 62 plus individuals.

We had 436 households in phase one, 43 in phase two, and 72 in phase three, and 16 households moved into permanent housing in May.

C Clarence w Lamore Jr 8:43

Yes.

SS Stephanie Smith 8:46

So as you can see, since about February, we've maintained a very, like the around 580 to 590 households in coordinated entry. Typically, we do see like a smaller enrollment this time of year, and then it starts to increase in July, actually.

C Clarence w Lamore Jr 8:46

Cancel.

SS Stephanie Smith 9:08

Number of families, we actually had quite a few, I think, quite a few families move into housing. There are a lot more individuals who moved into housing than households who moved into housing for May, and some who moved to inactive as well. So we had a decrease in number of families.

And for youth and veterans, we went up one for veterans. We now have 9 veterans.

Well, at the end of May, we had 9 veterans and 36 youth headed households. A youth headed household is a household where the oldest adult is between 18 and 24

years old.

And then 62 plus individuals, we've been maintaining around 65 to 70 folks who are elderly in coordinated entry. We do, we have been having some housing opportunities that they are able to get referred into, which is great. And we have another one coming up.

because we've been getting also getting a lot of non-elderly disabled vouchers, which they're not eligible for. So hopefully we'll see a little movement in this.

And yeah, this is how many folks we've housed. We've seen quite a bit of a lull this year so far. I have had some folks, I actually did go back and do some data cleanup at the beginning of this year. So I'll have to re-pull those numbers in January, February, March. But we still, even with that, we still have

We did better in April, but we're still pretty low on number of folks moving into permanent housing.

Hopefully, within Ed's opening up, that will change, so...

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 10:58

Any questions for Stephanie?

T Travis 11:01

do you think that availability is the biggest issue with folks being able to move in or are you seeing from your perspective other issues that are barriers to folks that are unhoused obtaining apartments?

SS Stephanie Smith 11:15

Yes, to both. How much time do you have in the second part of that question? There are a lot of the folks we're working with. We are starting to see people sitting in phase three who've been denied from every place we preferred them, which never used to happen.

Um...

I think the PSHA is going to help in terms of helping. We have a lot more folks who need permanent supportive housing than we have permanent supportive housing for them. And so on that side, yes. We also have folks who it's even, there's a lot of barriers even to that housing. And that becomes really difficult because we kind of don't know, don't know what to do. And, you know, problem solving and trying our best to figure out solutions. In terms of availability,

Availability was pretty low at the beginning of this year. I also want to say that we started to feel the lack of vouchers pretty heavily because we were getting a lot of unsubsidized units. And then we were struggling to fill them. Luckily, VHA's events opened up.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 12:28
You.

SS Stephanie Smith 12:36
and we're like ready to go and really excited about that. So hopefully the rest of the, hopefully we'll be seeing some improvements. Already, like Susan's Place was not tax credit or subsidized some of these units because the idea was for people with subsidy to go into them.
And we're actually, we actually got 10 units at Susan's place now matching with NED vouchers, which is really, really great. And it's kind of has on-site services. So it's a little bit of a lower barrier setting than some of, than I would say most of our other, besides like PSH or other dedicated projects, most of our other housing opportunities.
So we're hoping to see 10 in 10 households, couples or individuals move in there.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 13:28
Thank you. Thank you. And
Ohh, no worries, Chelsea.
Okay, Chelsea's wondering if you could summarize the two SSO projects.
planned this that are happening, planning that's happening. Really? Sorry, at a later moment. Okay. Okay, we'll do it at a later moment. Sorry, sorry, Chelsea. I'll find the, I'll find the moment. Sorry about that. Okay, and Sarah, you had your hand up, but are you all set now?

SR Sarah Russell 14:08
Yeah, I was just going to ask about BHA's wait list and Stephanie's take on, like if we're going to see local preferences or people coming up on, just coming up on the wait list or if there's a, you know, kind of a plan around that. But she spoke to that a little bit. I don't know if there's anything else to add.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 14:29

Is there anything you want to add, Stephanie?

SS Stephanie Smith 14:33

We haven't really, there are folks thinking about local preference in certain situations. We've done it before. I always get hesitant now that we have less, we have fewer like available units. I like to like go in and be like, we would like to put five people, you know.

Refer 5 people from coordinated entry into local preference.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 14:54

Yeah.

SS Stephanie Smith 14:58

So right now we're matching it with property, with available units. But that may be something if we start to see, like if we get another unit and we're not able to fill it, then matching with a net is definitely something we're considering doing. Just like unsubsidized tax credit or market rate unit, we don't have somebody to go into.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 15:19

Thank you.

And Taylor, did you want to ask something? Yeah. Okay. Yeah.

TT Taylor Thibault 15:24

Um...

I it kept on going back and forth.

SR Sarah Russell 15:27

How about Stephanie do I?

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 15:36

Okay, are you both? Did you have? You're good. Okay. And Sarah, did you have a clarifying question that I talked over?

TT Taylor Thibault 15:38

I'm good.

Yeah.

SR Sarah Russell 15:45

Sorry, I'm driving. I don't know if, is there anybody from BHA on the call? I'm just curious if there's going to be, if the voucher availability or the wait list that they're hitting is only the net list or if there will be regular vouchers available as well.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 15:47

No.

SB Stephanie Bixby 16:03

Hi, I'm here. Stephanie, BHA. We have no regular vouchers. So we are tapped out and in the negative on regulars. We're only hitting Neds. And we are working on our family unification vouchers. Those are the only vouchers we have available in Pletha right now. And we are right now really focused on leases in

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 16:05

Yeah.

Hey.

SB Stephanie Bixby 16:26

lace for the next month or two, because we don't have a lot of time to utilize the money until the end of the year. So we're going to be working with CBOEO's home program as well to try and switch those people over and secure them in housing. And we are working with a lot of people who have been identified for units for NEDS. so that we can get them through. And then come the end of August, beginning of September, we may open the spigot a little bit wider, but we hit 100 people on our NED waiting list over the last month and a half. So.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 17:07

Wow, that's great. That's great. Thank you. Taylor.

TT Taylor Thibault 17:12

Actually, now I do have a question. VRS is going to be like put into that, into the Vermont State Housing Authority funding through H938. And when I asked yesterday at the situation table if folks had, if there is a possibility that some of those folks may lose

their subsidy through VRS as they transition into Vermont State Housing Authority's bridge funding. I'm wondering if there's any, if BHA is willing to do like a step up program for folks that may be considered.

losing their BRS subsidy, similar to what you're doing with the home program through CBOEO.

SB Stephanie Bixby 17:54

I'm always open to the conversation. I'm just what we'd have to sit down and really talk about what that looks like and who the families are and we could go from there.

TT Taylor Thibault 18:03

And obviously their jurisdiction I think makes sense because we don't know if they're in Chittenden County, but I'm happy, Stephanie, to connect you with Liz or Vermont State Housing Authority just to start that conversation.

SB Stephanie Bixby 18:11

Yeah.

Absolutely.

TT Taylor Thibault 18:16

Okay.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 18:19

Daniel.

DB Daniel Blankenship 18:22

Hi. The conversation for that would be with AHS and their VRS program because we're only in the beginning steps of developing the bridge rental assistance program and for VRS it won't even happen until the spring at earliest. So

And what Stephanie needs now is current folks, but I was thinking the same thing that BRS would be a great referral like home.

for these new FUP vouchers in particular, or maybe even Nets, especially for a transition in place, but I'm not sure who that would be at VRS.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 19:10

I can make that contact. I can help that. So why don't I facilitate a connection between, would it be helpful, Daniel, to be included in that conversation or just Stephanie and folks at VRS? Okay. Happy to do that. Yeah.

DB Daniel Blankenship 19:24

No.

SM Shriver-Blake, Molly 19:26

It would be.

Ashley.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 19:31

Yeah, that's what I was thinking. Yeah.

SM Shriver-Blake, Molly 19:31

K.

Okay, and we can be involved in that program too, because we're just part of those stuff.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 19:39

Great. Awesome. And this is not a large number of folks in our county, by the way.

I'm trying to count, unfortunately, the spreadsheet I get isn't is awkward.

It's under 20. Yeah.

TT Taylor Thibault 19:54

Thanks. Thanks all for starting that connection. I feel like the more folks that we can transition off of, you know, more secure vouchers, the less we have to worry about people losing their subsidy, right? So I really appreciate those connections, guys.

Thanks.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 20:08

Exit.

Thank you. Great. Happy to do that. Thanks so much. Anything else before I move to Brenna for the update at the CRC?

Okay. Brenda, would you like me to screen share or would you like to screen share?

It's up to you.

BB Brenna Bedard 20:31

Could you screen share?

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 20:32

I absolutely can. I'm going to try doing it. Yeah, absolutely. I'm going to try doing it on this other screen to see if maybe it shares larger. Let's see here.

BB Brenna Bedard 20:34

Thank you so much.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 20:45

How is that for folks?

BB Brenna Bedard 20:47

That's great.

T Travis 20:49

Fine.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 20:49

Okay, okay, great. Okay, awesome. Great.

BB Brenna Bedard 20:53

Okay. Good morning, everybody. So for the month of May at the CRC, we had 539 unique individuals and we saw them a total of 1,838 times. If you scroll down, you'll see all the demographic information that we have. We're still working on collecting a lot of

I'm sharing. So just apologies for the background noise. So we're still collecting a lot of our demographic information. You can take a look at it. If you have any questions, let me know. About 45% of the folks that we see are unhoused and about 30% are stably housed. The percentages that we're missing are probably just folks that don't want to share. They have the option to not share if they come in. They also have the option to not share their name. So it doesn't fully collect what we see, just to be transparent about that. Some updates.

about the CRC is that we actually just received a grant from the Land Access and Opportunity Board to become a community resiliency hub. So what that means is that it expands our ability to bring services into our space. So hopefully connecting with Turning Point to bring recovery coaches in, also getting some more mental health supports on site, expanding our ability to bring in veterinarian care, medical care, and things of that nature. We also are looking at creating a community network hub for after hours. And the goal of that is to actually bring the community together so people experiencing homelessness residents nearby, local businesses, municipal partners, the mayor's office, and other partners to facilitate some reparative conversations and, you know, reduce conflict and increase understanding. So we're really excited about that. We are going to be hiring for a resiliency coordinator.

More to come on that. It's a little bit of a slow process creating a new position because it would be a brand new position. So maybe I'll have an update about that next month.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 23:05

Thank you. That's amazing. Thank you. Any questions for Brenna?

BB Brenna Bedard 23:07

Yeah.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 23:14

Thanks so much, Brenna. Thanks for all your work. I do not see Jonathan on, but is someone else from COTS planning to share the COTS data this month?

BB Brenna Bedard 23:15

Yeah.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 23:27

Or am I wrong? Jonathan is on and I just didn't see you.

Okay, so we'll move on from that to looking at the coordinated entry final eval or coordinated entry evaluation, the 2025 evaluation. Do so this is a warned vote to approve the evaluation. I believe we went through this already, or did we not? Do you want to? No, okay, we need to walk through it. Okay, thank you. I missed the meeting last month, so sorry about that. Okay, so Stephanie, would you like to walk us through?

SS Stephanie Smith 24:09

Sure, I can share that. Yeah, we were supposed to, we originally supposed to go through it very briefly. So I will do a little brief overview. We did do a full overview in the CE committee. If you have questions, I'm happy to answer them. And it's available for after the vote. It will be available for you to read.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 24:10

Okay.

Thanks.

SS Stephanie Smith 24:29

Um, okay, let me just share.

All right, I'm going to stop. I'm going to start with the conclusion, just do kind of some of the conclusion stuff. I think that kind of sums up what's happening. So we put in kind of areas for action here. We have a lot of folks who've returned to homelessness, or at least had prior enrollments in HMIS.

where they were exited to a permanent destination and have, so this is since 2020, since 2017 and then returned to coordinated entry or like came into our coordinated entry. They could have been enrolled in another coordinated entry or a shelter program or anything else. It's not just in coordinated entry, in training coordinated entry.

So that's at 58%. It's increasing, unfortunately. And then some of the things about that, that, you know, we need kind of different housing options. Clearly, if the ones we have aren't working very well, we might need other things like that, as well as additional supportive services, retention.

and more permanent supportive housing.

And we just have a very limited amount of permanent supportive housing. And as you all know, that's trying to be cut right now. So we're not really referring anybody into the program at this point. And we also want to look at the future, like developing a report that can dig further into this data to determine where folks are returning from.

Because obviously we have some folks who move in with family or friends and it's not really a permanent solution, even though it might be for six months to a year. And so we really want to like probably more examine the folks that move into their own apartment or other housing situation and then return and see what like what's the cause of that.

So that's something to think about in terms of the eval next year and or even making a report and being able to pull this the 2025 data. So the other thing we have is long average experiences of homelessness.

For those who exited during 2026 or 2025, they averaged 306 days enrolled. And those who remained enrolled at the end of the year were averaging around 383 days enrolled. And this kind of just speaks to the low availability of housing in Chittenden County.

And for CE, this is about looking at partnering on additional housing opportunities, following like, and I spoke on following the pandemic, there was a bunch of new housing built with funds and that has kind of slowed down now. And it's important to leverage existing relationships for different

for additional opportunities. And there's also a disparate length of enrollment for families and a single adults or adult only households.

the families tend to have much shorter enrollments. And those single adults and couples tend to have much longer enrollments. And then we also see that length of enrollments for disabled

and non-disabled households is about 100 day difference. It's much longer for those who are disabled. And part of that is because households where an adult has a disabling condition usually need subsidy. They're often on fixed income. And that can that in and of itself is a longer wait.

getting subsidy.

So that's kind of a short summary of kind of the bigger issues that this pulled out because we don't have a ton of time.

I want to, I actually want to show some graphs so that you guys can see this because

it's some of what I talked about here. That's youth, age.

Looking for the disability one. Oh, this is the family one. So you can see here. Let me zoom in for you all.

Families have much shorter lengths of enrollment than adult only households. The dark purple is those who left during 2025 and the light purple is those who stayed in. So you're seeing about 150 day difference between families and adult only households.

Sorry, I'm trying to find the disability. There we are.

Yes, and then you hear for disabled and non-disabled households, what you can see is about 100 day difference between the two. For not disabled households, those who left during 2025 were enrolled 238 days versus those who are disabled were enrolled.

338 days. So you're seeing a pretty significant difference there. I also want to say all folks who are chronically homeless that we serve would fall under also fall under the disabled category. So most of the people who maintain homelessness longer would be also in that category.

Any questions?

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 30:14

I see that Taylor has a question.

TT Taylor Thibault 30:17

Yeah, thank you so much, Stephanie. I don't have a specific question. I just thought it was interesting after we, I had a brief meeting with Senator Sanders office to touch base on the effects of the NOFO this year. And we were really digging into permanent supportive housing and how there's caps, you know, affiliated with the NOFO and we likely will have

dwindle down the availability of PSH vouchers, not by a ton, which is a difference between this NOFO and 2025 NOFO that was deemed like illegal, basically. And we like for context, it sounds like we're going to have.

you know, 28 permanent supportive housing vouchers available through the COC coming through the NOFO, this coming in 2026 when we put the application together. And it was just, we were interested to look at our data, our coordinated entry data,

to see how many folks are chronic currently. And we have 147 people experiencing

chronic homelessness on a monthly basis. So I just thought that was an interesting data comparison. So we have 28 permanent supportive housing vouchers and 147 people experiencing chronic homelessness.

on a monthly basis. And those vouchers are far and few between because, and we are also looking at this data because people stay longer, right? They have access to the services that they need in order to retain their housing. And so the availability of those vouchers is going to be really challenging as we move forward. And

C Clarence w Lamore Jr 31:50
To.

TT Taylor Thibault 32:04
So anyways, I just thought that was really eye-opening and interesting considering, you know, we're really shifting from a federal level about how.

C Clarence w Lamore Jr 32:12
I, I'm not putting up with that.

TT Taylor Thibault 32:14
Yeah.
I hear you, Clarence. I don't want to put up with it either. So that's why we're making sure that folks that can make change really understand the impacts of what we're seeing in Vermont right now.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 32:19
Yeah.
Okay.
Thank you. Thanks, Taylor. Thanks for the advocacy.

SS Stephanie Smith 32:32
I, I...
I also want to add to that that a lot of folks who wouldn't otherwise move into chronic homelessness because of the scarcity of regular housing. So not everybody who's chronic in Chittenden needs PSH or supportive housing, but we just aren't moving people within a year.

to permanent housing. So that's also another barrier is just availability of mainstream housing.

C **Clarence w Lamore Jr** 33:01

And that's Windows for you.

Now, if I was on Linux, Linux won't do this.

DK **Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri** 33:10

Clarence, I'm just going to mute you.

But unmute if you want to intentionally talk. I don't know if you're intentionally talking though.

Thanks, Stephanie.

Any other questions about the report?

Evaluation.

Amy, go ahead.

AC **Amy Carmola** 33:45

Is the report public or something that we can share?

SS **Stephanie Smith** 33:48

Yes, yeah, it is meant to be public and it will be published on the website and then, yeah, well, after it's approved, but yes.

AC **Amy Carmola** 33:49

Quick.

DK **Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri** 33:59

Yeah.

Other questions?

SM **Shriver-Blake, Molly** 34:04

They have been on the subcommittee of trying to support the development of this. It is a huge amount of work to do this assessment. So Stephanie, I appreciate your dedication to getting us numbers that we can really use moving forward.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 34:20

Yeah, I absolutely agree with that. Thank you. I appreciate that. Sarah.

SR Sarah Russell 34:27

Yeah, also, thank you so much for your, for the work that is done on this. I know it's a heavy lift. Stephanie, I'm wondering if there are any takeaways or changes that you or the coordinated entry committee has identified, either improvements or challenges, are shifts from between the 2024 evaluation and the 2025 evaluation.

SS Stephanie Smith 34:53

The big, the ships, so the things, the year to year comparison, length of time enrolled, interestingly enough.

we had more people enrolled for a shorter time period than last year. And then the other thing was really, which isn't here, is that we are seeing a steady increase, which is in the report and is written and I don't have it in a graph form, a steady increase in the number of people who have previous work essentially like returning to homelessness.

from our previous enrollment in the statewide HMIS system, that was an exit to a permanent destination. So that's a little wordy, but basically an approximation for previous homelessness, permanent housing, and then return to homelessness. I do want to say that living with friends or family permanently is included in that. And so Something that would be good for us to do is to break that apart and to really look and then to look at, and especially probably maybe on more of like a confidential level with a work group with folks who are part of on the release and everything, maybe look at situations where we're seeing returns and what we're missing and like. specifically on the individual level, like what are we routinely missing with returns? I think developing a report to pull that detailed information would be really important to actually addressing returns to homelessness and giving us a bigger idea of like what actually needs to happen.

with retention because I think we also, I often say that like retention is needed. And for some folks that is just like mainstream retention services, but for other folks, it might be significant, like that may not meet their need. And it also could be that they need medical services. We've also run into situations where maybe this person

This person has a developmental disability and really we should be talking about getting them into like DS services. And so really getting into like what are we overall missing would be really important with digging in with more data to really concretely address that. Because I do think we have like.

a lot of youth returners, but oftentimes the youth are staying with friends temporarily or move back in with family and the situation didn't work out, which, you know, isn't great, but is not necessarily speaking to like a retention service that's needed. So really being able to dig into that, I think would be

is really important because I think that's one of the things I'm really struggling with is it's gone from I think around 43% when I did the 2023 eval to now 58%. So it's increased by almost 20% or more.

Like 15 / 3 years, so.

DK **Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri** 37:59

That's huge. Thank you. Other questions?

Okay, hearing none, can I entertain a motion to approve the 2025 coordinated entry evaluation?

T **Travis** 38:21

I'll make the motion to approve it.

DK **Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri** 38:24

Thank you. And Amy, do you have a thank you? Thanks, Jen. You're OK. Great. OK. Great then.

JH **Jennifer Hunter** 38:25

I'll second.

AC **Amy Carmola** 38:28

Awesome.

DK **Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri** 38:35

Let's put in the vote for the approving the 2025 evaluation.

And as before, please feel free to write in the response.

as well if you don't want to vote in the thing. Just waiting for a few more folks.

See here.

Waiting for half, so I just need two more folks to vote.

Perhaps.

Anybody is having. Okay, there we go. Okay.

Great. Looks like that's been approved.

Thank you. Moving on to discussing the 2026 NOFO, HUD NOFO and a warned vote.

So the first piece of this, oh, Amy, did you have a question?

No, okay, great. Okay, sorry, I just didn't want to jump over you. The first question, the first piece of this is a discussion of transferring the permanent supportive housing grant administration from CEDO, Burlington's Community and Economic Development Office, to Vermont State Housing Authority.

Um...

Rebecca or Daniel, would either of you like to talk a little bit more about the rationale behind this?

As long as you haven't done that last meeting and I missed it.

RR **Rebecca Reese** 40:50

We have talked about why. I'm happy to give a brief overview. There are requirements and certifications within the NOFO, like within the federal language, that is specifically around like harm reduction and overdose prevention centers that could end up putting the funding in jeopardy if we continue to stay connected to it. And so that is really like the big reason why we're moving this and why it's so important. Amy, I see your hand up too. I don't know. I mean, I can go into that further or I can also speak to kind of like where we are in the process. I think that might be helpful. If that feels all right, everyone.

Okay. So to be able to ensure that we have access to the funding, that there's no break in access to the funding, to the PSH funding, the city of Burlington has to actually accept the award from HUD before transferring it to Vermont State Housing Authority.

And so we went through the Board of Finance and City Council process to be able to accept the award for the reason for like to be able to transfer it to Vermont State Housing Authority. And that was approved and that piece is done. So the next piece is to make sure that we have all of the approval letters in place, which is they're ready to go and already

with HUD, an approval letter from our office, from Vermont State Housing Authority,

and from the steering committee, which is, we used the e-vote that happened, what, 10 days ago or so at this point, to be able to show that the steering committee agreed with that and is approving that transfer.

What we are now waiting on is the actual grant agreement from HUD. So nothing can happen until we have the grant agreement and we fully execute it with the city of Burlington. So just we will sign it. HUD will sign it. We have everything in place to be able to do that. So as soon as that grant agreement comes out, we will sign it and it will be executed and we will put in for that transfer and HUD like our field representative is aware of this, like the need, the timeliness of this, and is working to make this happen as quickly as possible. To further push getting the grant agreement, which at this point is still just waiting on HUD and the field rep can't give us any more information, like she hasn't heard anything like that.

We, Maggie and I have a meeting with Sandra's office early next week. I think it's like Monday afternoon to just further, just to see if they can push HUD as well to get that grant agreement out. Because at this point, that's what's holding it up. And we have to have that grant agreement executed so that there isn't a gap in funding.

to be able to shift it to Vermont State Housing Authority. And then they can apply with the NOFO as a reapplication as opposed to a new application, which is also really important.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 43:54

Thank you.

RR Rebecca Reese 43:54

Happy to take questions or anything.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 43:57

That was a beautiful job, really succinctly talking about a really complex concern. Thank you. Thank you. Any questions?

RR Rebecca Reese 43:59

Yeah.

Yeah, of course.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 44:11

Okay. Then can I entertain a motion to reassign the PSH administration from CEDO to the Vermont State Housing Authority?

Okay.

TT Taylor Thibault 44:29

We actually already had a vote on that, Carrie, and it was, we're just reaffirming. We wanted to go over the fact that, you know, we had the E vote and just come over, just talk about how that, you know, took place and if it passed, and it did, it passed.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 44:32

Oh, so we're just reaffirming it. Okay. Okay.

It happened.

Thanks.

RR Rebecca Reese 44:46

Okay, it should pass.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 44:46

Okay, yes, right. I remember voting. Or abstaining from voting. Thank you. Thanks, sorry. Okay, so the next agenda item in this is reassigning the ranking committee members.

Could someone discuss that?

So, fair to discuss that.

AC Amy Carmola 45:09

Short.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 45:09

Great. Thanks, Amy.

AC Amy Carmola 45:10

Taylor, were you going to or do you want me to jump in?

TT Taylor Thibault 45:16

Ohh.

AC Amy Carmola 45:16

I was, I emailed Taylor beforehand saying, trying to get a sense, do you want me to share that?

TT Taylor Thibault 45:17

Sorry?

That would be great. Sorry, my kiddos. Yeah, thank you.

AC Amy Carmola 45:23

OK.

Sure. So this group voted, I think, in May. Now, if it's all a blur to me on the composition of the ranking committee, and we have two changes to that committee. One is that Jen Hunter has recused herself from serving on the committee based on a potential conflict of interest if Cathedral Square were to submit a project proposal and or be part of a more collaborative proposal. And the second is that Megan Masterson has agreed to serve on the ranking committee so that we could continue to have five people serve. So thank you for that, Megan.

And I think that's the proposed change that we're asking for approval, for which we are asking for approval today.

Did I miss anything?

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 46:15

Could you? No, that's great, but would you mind just making the motion on that so everybody understands what the vote is? Thank you.

AC Amy Carmola 46:21

Sure. And if I don't think the motion needs to include this, but I will summarize that the with the change to add Megan and remove Jen, the committee would include Carrie, Anna, Tammy, Jane, and Megan.

So I can make the motion.

Make a motion to, okay, am I allowed to?

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 46:42

That'd be great. Thank you. I think so. Yeah.

AC Amy Carmola 46:46

Okay, so I'll make a motion to approve the change of the removal of Jen Hunter and the addition of Megan Masterson to the ranking committee.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 46:55

Thank you. And can I have someone second that?

T Travis 47:04

Does it need to be somebody from the ranking committee?

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 47:07

I don't know if it does. If so, I'll second it. It's fine. Yeah. I'll second it. Okay, great. Okay. Then I think we all can vote on this. So please go ahead and vote if you can. Feel free to take yourself off mute and vote by voice if you need to. And feel free to. Put it in the chat if you can't submit. Just give me a minute. Three more folks would be willing to. Not really. Awesome. Thank you. Okay. Good question. Amy, I feel like I have to look that up. I'll, I'll, I'll connect with you for the minutes. To answer that question. Okay. Thanks, Taylor. Okay. Can we have one more person vote any way you can? Okay, thank you. Thanks so much. I appreciate it. Okay, moving on to, is that, is there more of an update on the NOFO or is that enough for the general update? Have we covered that?

AC Amy Carmola 49:00

I have more to share as an update.

TT Taylor Thibault 49:00
Um...

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 49:02
Great. Okay. Go ahead and share. Thank you.

AC Amy Carmola 49:03
Yeah. So I want to share a couple of highlights about the process for this NOFO, and also to mention that there are two other NOFOs that have been released by HUD. My understanding is that these were somewhat unexpected, but I've shared that the information out through the Google list and the information is posted on the CCHA website. But I want to just recap these. There is a youth homelessness NOFO that's been released by HUD that is a combination of the Youth Homelessness Systems Improvement Grant and the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project. So that those are combined into a single NOFO and registration for any collaborative applicant for which the continuum was going to submit or anyone in the continuum is going to submit an application is July 8th. So we are asking that anyone who is intending to or interested in exploring that to reach out to us and let us know. Applications are due August 10th. And then the second, again, I think unexpected release is for the COC builds NOFO. And this is specifically for new construction, acquisition, or rehabilitation. of new PSH units. So again, I've shared that out and then followed up specifically with anyone I think who may be eligible or interested to make sure people have seen it, but please share that with anyone who may need to know. Back to our primary NOFO, which I thought was plenty for this year for everyone to be keeping track of, but nothing wrong with having more opportunities to try and leverage more money. The regular continuum of care program application has as its first phase a local competition. where organizations can submit proposals to be considered by the ranking committee. And the due date for those proposals for the local competition is July 14th by 5 P.m. on that date. All of this information is on the CCHA website. Please reach out to me or Beth or Megan at United Way with any questions or support that you might need.

in getting ready for that. I want to share a little bit about the conversations that Jesse Bridges, our CEO, has been hosting around potential for partners to explore what might be important projects for our community and who might like to co-design or collaborate on some projects. And those are the conversations out of which the idea has come that there might be two different SSO, supportive services only, projects that the community might be interested in and identifying as a need. The goal of the conversations that Jesse's been convening is to look at what is the opportunity that the NOVO presents and how could we match those up with what we think the needs and opportunities are of our community.

I say this phrase all the time now, because this is a new experience for us to be the collaborative applicant. But my understanding is this year is different in several ways in terms of the annual process of applying for funds from HUD. The first is that the priorities have changed significantly.

HUD's priorities as outlined in the NOFO, not as significantly as we thought they were going to based on the 2025 NOFO, but significantly enough that What is going to be acceptable applications or highly scored applications is different than what it used to be. What is also different this year, as I understand it, is that there is a lot of new additional money that is available for which we can compete as a community. So there's an opportunity to develop and submit new project proposals. And I think it has, there hasn't been as much of an opportunity in the past.

And finally, I feel like there's just been a lot more interest in inclination among partners as CCHA has evolved and has been, you know, completing a strategic plan, really doing analysis of the data to say, let's really look at what we need as a system and as a community that could really leverage and build on the great programs and efforts that we have already. So those, based on those conversations, sorry, a fourth-ish goal was to engage leadership of organizations that are active participants and essential components of our system in Chittenden County. And so that was also part of Jesse's goal was to say,

At the leadership level of organizations, we need to be aware of the NOVO process, making space for staff to be really leaning into CCHA and doing this design work together.

So he's hosted 2 conversations, and there's been a really productive conversation

around what organizational leaders and program directors and staff have felt would be important or necessary or good for us to explore as SSO projects.

And the next step is that Jesse scheduled 2 conversations for next week around two ideas that seem to be bubbling up based on what we think we're hearing, what we are hearing and we think people want to continue to explore, which is 1, a supportive services only project.

That is focused, the type of project in the NOFO is called Street Outreach. It is broader than what we refer to as our specific Street Outreach project, but it's really around outreach and engagement and supports to people who are unsheltered.

And then, and that is a type of project that is prioritized in the NOFO. And a second type of project that we're hearing a lot of interest in is around a supportive services only project that's looking at housing navigation and retention for people that are going through

coordinated entry. So prior to being housed and after being housed, what are the types of more robust supports that can be provided for housing retention? And specifically, this is around what are the resources we need to provide the types of robust supports that people already know they want to be providing.

I'll clarify that for the street outreach idea that's been bubbling up, it's around adding additional

components to what that outreach would involve. So medical care, I'm not going to use the right terms, but adding other types of resources available through that outreach and engagement and looking at different venues in the community, like where can we

Where can people connect to those resources?

So those are the ideas that we're kind of saying, here's what we hear people talking about. Does it make sense to come together and talk about it again? This does not mean that that United Way as the collaborative applicant has says this has said this is what you're applying for and you can only apply this way. It's meant to just be trying to host.

conversation around that. And organizations are always welcome and invited to submit a single project application. You don't have to be part of the collaborative conversations beforehand. You don't have to be part of a larger application.

But we have been advised that a larger project with more components, showing how the different pieces are fitting together into a larger project, will be more...

will receive higher scoring and is more likely to be successful. That's the advice that

we've gotten from Abby with Housing Innovations, who's the amazing consultant working with our COC around that.

I see Molly's question about for the SSO navigation retention, is there a time limit for retention?

I will follow up with the exact correct answer. My understanding is that it would be the funding would provide more intensive retention services for six months. And I don't know, I don't believe it's beyond that, whereas for transitional housing, it would be up to, it's meant to be up to two years. So one of the things we're trying to look at is, would that, is that helpful to have more resources for six months? And is there a way to think about how do you continue beyond that? So does it make sense to take HUD resources to provide for that period of time, knowing that what's needed is longer?

But there are all sorts of really important details about the NOFO that I don't always answer correctly on the fly, so I'm trying to stop myself from doing that. There was, we had two information sessions about understanding the NOFO and how this process will work.

those slides that Abby used to go over. Some of these details are available on the website as well as an FAQ that we put out based on questions that we received from folks.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 59:27

And we definitely do have time for some questions right now. So if folks have time, I don't have questions.

I'm not seeing any, but thanks so much, Amy. That was super informative and very helpful. And I think spoke to Chelsea's question earlier. So Chelsea, if you have any, oh, yep, you got it. Okay, that's what she was hoping for. Excellent. Okay, perfect. Okay. Yes.

AC Amy Carmola 59:59

I want to emphasize that the conversations that we have been hosting are open to anyone. One thing we've noticed is that, you know, there are certain people from organizations who are really actively involved in CCHA. And I'll use our organization as an example. So I've been actively involved. Jesse has not been as actively involved. And sometimes there can be that disconnect between does he know what I'm doing and learning and hearing

at CCHA versus what he's understanding from conversations. We want to make sure that each organization is making that connection in the way that makes sense for you and how you work together. But I want to recognize that in pulling together EDs and CEOs, Jesse realized he's not speaking to the people who are doing, necessarily doing the most, have the best understanding of what's happening with CCHA and what the needs are. So

CEOs and EDs are invited and welcome to bring program directors, program staff, anyone else in lieu of the leadership or along with leadership. And again, there's no organization that's not welcome. So if anybody is interested in being part of some conference,

whether and how to design either of these SSO projects or something else, you are very welcome to participate in that and maybe connect with anyone else in your organization who may have been planning to go.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 1:01:32

Thank you. And Megan was asking where the links for these calls are.

AC Amy Carmola 1:01:37

I have them. So they've gone out and I'm happy to share that to forward to other folks. Jesse sent them out to the list of leaders that he's been convening and he's invited them. He's asked them to share that within organizations. But if you don't have that, ask me directly and I can send it to you.

Just send me an email. It's amy at unitedwaynwvt.org. I'll put that in the chat. Why am I just saying it?

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 1:02:05

Thank you.

Thanks so much. Any other questions?

Okay, thanks so much. I really appreciate all the work on the NOFO. Okay, moving on to the retention subcommittee. I feel like we've had teasers all meeting for the retention work. Thanks for pulling together this retention system.

Jen, are you planning to talk about this? And would you like me to screen share?

JH Jennifer Hunter 1:02:39

I think my co-chair, Emily, is joining us today.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 1:02:43
Yeah, great.

JH Jennifer Hunter 1:02:45
Thanks, Emily.

EK Emily Kosakowski 1:02:45
Hi everyone. So I'm here today to review the community-based housing retention system proposal that we shared out with the agenda along with the flow chart of how that intake system and a data system would work for that. I don't need to read it like word for word, do I?
Or do I? I don't. Okay.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 1:03:06
No, you don't, but would you like me to screen share?

JH Jennifer Hunter 1:03:10
I think that would be great, Carrie.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 1:03:10
So that they can look sincere.

EK Emily Kosakowski 1:03:11
Um, I don't...

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 1:03:13
Okay.

EK Emily Kosakowski 1:03:14
I would also encourage anyone, if you have another screen, to open the flow chart on another screen because there are a lot of pieces to it. And I don't want to make everyone dizzy by zooming around the screen. But over the last few years, the retention subcommittee has done a survey for community members, housing providers,

and service providers around eligibility for retention services, gaps in our systems. And through going through all of that data, looking at current service models in our community, like coordinated entries model, the committee is proposing A community-based housing retention system so that any community member who is at risk of homelessness

Will not.

hit a dead end or like fall through any cracks while they're trying to navigate housing support. The ask that we have today is really to get the steering committee's permission approval to more formally establish the system and do more intentional work around identifying a data system.

working on releases, more of those detail-oriented pieces.

Um...

I think actually, Carrie, I can share because it's a horizontal flow chart and your vertical screen might not.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 1:04:36

That'd be amazing. Thank you. And add.

EK Emily Kosakowski 1:04:36

capture all of it. Yeah, thank you for that though.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 1:04:41

Thank you.

EK Emily Kosakowski 1:04:46

Do you guys mind if I just go through it and then we do questions afterwards? Okay, that would be great. So each of these colors represents a certain faction within the system. The top blue bar is the role that the Housing Retention Committee will have. beyond setting up the system, the committee will then transform into maintaining that system. The green bar is what pieces the electronic database will need to hold. The purple is for all participating providers and what their responsibilities will be depending on someone's eligibility or want for services.

And then finally, the yellow in the bottom is the client community member or household's role. So with the system, we would start with an online form that creates A referral that goes into what we call a closed loop system.

Any participating provider who signs on to use this and be part of this will be notified that there is a new referral to review. If the housing provider that this community member rents from has an internal housing retention team, they will be referred to them first. And if they accept those services, the housing provider will open the case, they will notify the system that the case has been taken by a provider. And then that specific agency is responsible for the outcomes of that work, but would still report back to the system that the person was outreached to.

work is being resolved.

If there is not an internal housing retention team within that housing provider, and they have a Burlington Housing Authority subsidy,

BHA would initially reach out for assessment and assigning the case. And if that household would accept services from BHA, BHA will work the case, they will notify the system that the case has been taken, work is ongoing, and then any outcomes needed will come back to the data system or the housing retention committee.

If the individual does not have an internal housing retention team and they do not have a subsidy, the participating providers will assign this case based on program and grant eligibility criteria. So the provider would need to accept the case, I guess I'll say, and then enter into the system that they are being served.

Um...

Let me go back.

So when looking at who to connect what households to what services, we need to look at all programs eligibility. That could be defined by grant funding. It could be like Champlain Housing Trust Resident Services. We can only work with Champlain Housing Trust residents. And so where there is an opportunity for a household to have a choice in who they work with,

that choice will be offered to them. So if for any reason they do not want to work with their housing providers retention team or they do not want to work with their subsidy providers team, if they are eligible for another agency, that referral can be made.

If not, the case would not be assigned, but it would stay in our community-based housing retention system. And the hope is that by collecting the data here, the committee can host case consultation space to talk about cases that can't be served by, you know, the regular mainstream services.

We would also like to use this data to begin advocacy for a community-based housing retention specialist who could be embedded within some agency. That's something that we could work on. But ideally, they would have very low barrier eligibility so that they could work with.

community members who might not be served by another provider.

I think that I hit all of the squares on this. Jen, let me know if not, but if anyone has questions or anything I can clarify, let me know.

JH **Jennifer Hunter** 1:09:12

Fabulous.

WV **William Vilardo** 1:09:14

Hey, this is this is Will Velardo with SSVVVM. I mean, this looks like at-risk coordinated entry system, like a coordinated entry system. Do you plan on incorporating this in the coordinated entry, or is this a parallel system that you plan on having outside of?

Coordinated entry.

EK **Emily Kosakowski** 1:09:35

I'm so glad you asked that question. So the retention subcommittee, we are also working on best practices for the agencies who agree to sign on as a housing retention provider and participate in this system. We are creating best practices so that we can all agree to consistent services. One of the best practices will be that as soon as a housed client is considered at imminent risk or eligible for coordinated entry, they should either be assessed or referred for assessment. The goal of this system is to capture households who are at risk as soon as they are at risk, and that might not line up with coordinated entry.

eligibility. For example, if somebody gets a lease violation for a failed housing inspection, they are eligible for housing retention services. And if that continues to devolve, if they are issued a rent or at imminent risk, that provider would then make the connection to coordinated entry.

WV **William Vilardo** 1:10:34

So the year at risk definition is not as stringent as the federal definition is what you're saying?

EK **Emily Kosakowski** 1:10:41

That's what we are working toward. Yes, we would like our at-risk to be anytime a action or something is taken by a housing provider to that person that could result in their housing being at risk that they're eligible for services.

WV **William Vilardo** 1:10:57

OK, do you have do you have that definition?

Define, I guess, or have you come up with a solid definition that's not the federal one that you guys work off of?

EK **Emily Kosakowski** 1:11:11

I don't have it in front of me right now, but we do have it in our documents and so we can share that out.

WV **William Vilardo** 1:11:17

Okay.

Thank you.

DK **Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri** 1:11:21

Thanks.

MR **Meghan Morrow Raftery** 1:11:21

Well, Will, you stole my question. So, because I was going to say that this is, that's literally what HMIS does.

EK **Emily Kosakowski** 1:11:28

Mm-hmm.

MR **Meghan Morrow Raftery** 1:11:31

Oh.

DK **Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri** 1:11:36

Anything else, Megan? Or is that it? Nope, you're good. Okay.

MR **Meghan Morrow Raftery** 1:11:39

No, he just, it just sounds, it sounds like since you're using a different definition, you didn't want to use HMIS.
because of that.

EK **Emily Kosakowski** 1:11:48

Where?

Yeah, so again, with if approved today, we need to start evaluating what systems to use. The reason that we're not immediately saying HMIS is because not all providers might be able to do duplicate entry. They might not be able to have an HMIS license. This is also meant to be a referral system only. This is not housing demographic information.

MR **Meghan Morrow Raftery** 1:12:09

Mm.

EK **Emily Kosakowski** 1:12:14

individual data based on people. Housing retention providers will be expected to collect that data based on the work they're doing for their agency. This system is meant to be a triage and referral system only.

MR **Meghan Morrow Raftery** 1:12:22

Yeah.

Okay, when you do go through that, just reach out because there's other ways of using the HMIS for things like this.

EK **Emily Kosakowski** 1:12:37

Thanks, Megan.

MR **Meghan Morrow Raftery** 1:12:37

So we can we can talk about that, yeah, this way, like, because some of those folks might already be entered.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 1:12:44

So, thank you. Thank you, Stephanie.

SS Stephanie Smith 1:12:50

Yeah, so my thoughts are along the lines of what Will said. My only concern is that technically folks who are at risk under the federal definition, we're supposed to roll out an at-risk coordinated entry for them. Obviously, the folks who don't meet that definition, that doesn't matter. So if when we do that, we'd have to be careful about it being a parallel system and because that is very much not allowed. So I think it would be a good idea for us to connect around that because we do in the hopefully increasing staffing enough to start doing at-risk households as well in coordinated entry.

But...

It basically, we we are allowed to have a parallel system.
to accept our HUD funding, we have to say we don't. So.

EK Emily Kosakowski 1:13:41

I just want to clarify, this is not a parallel system. This is a system to capture households who are at risk before the existing systems we have would notice them. So this community-based referral system should be happening like here in the timeline of someone losing their housing. When they become formally at risk and meet the definition, they would be enrolled in coordinated entry.

SS Stephanie Smith 1:13:50

This.

EK Emily Kosakowski 1:14:02

This is a system to intervene sooner than when the coordinating tree might be able to.

SS Stephanie Smith 1:14:09

Okay, so it's pre-risk.

EK **Emily Kosakowski** 1:14:10

So I just want to be clear. It's pretty. Yeah, it's not it's not a parallel track.

SS **Stephanie Smith** 1:14:13

Okay.

JH **Jane Helmstetter** 1:14:14

Yes.

WV **William Vilardo** 1:14:15

Yeah, I just think clearing up that definition, because I'm not aware of the definition you guys are using, to maybe not say at risk, because when you say at risk in our anywhere else, people are thinking federal definitions. So I don't know if it's like an intervention, like, like coming up with a different term, because when you say at risk, people are going to think of the federal definitions.

EK **Emily Kosakowski** 1:14:28

So.

WV **William Vilardo** 1:14:35

of that risk.

EK **Emily Kosakowski** 1:14:36

risk and not imminent risk are different though, aren't they?

WV **William Vilardo** 1:14:40

There's an at-risk.

SS **Stephanie Smith** 1:14:40

At risk is 21 days and it is covered under coordinated entry and at imminent risk is 14 days.

EK **Emily Kosakowski** 1:14:47

Okay, yeah, we definitely can update that because this would be for people on like 22 days and before.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 1:14:54
Great. OK, Jane.

SS Stephanie Smith 1:14:55
Yeah, pretty at risk or something like that. Yeah, pretty at risk.

EK Emily Kosakowski 1:14:58
Mhm.

CJ Crystal Jones 1:14:58
Yeah, I mean, pre-NTV, right? So what we're thinking is we're not waiting for a person to have an eviction date at which we need to count down to, right? What we're talking about is maybe even the household is seemingly at risk. There's something that could lead to a lease violation that that's when we want to intervene.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 1:14:59
Yeah.

JH Jane Helmstetter 1:15:11
Yeah.

WV William Vilardo 1:15:17
Yeah, no, I just think, yeah, like a, I don't know, a different term, like pre-at risk or something, just so there's no confusion.

JH Jane Helmstetter 1:15:23
Thank you.

WV William Vilardo 1:15:26
Just some, yeah, just an idea that came up.

JH Jane Helmstetter 1:15:26

How about prevention? How about prevention? Because that's what this looks like to me. I applaud this concept. We know best practice is prevention. So it's getting people who have eyes on can get people involved early, doesn't have to interfere. And there does need to be coordination. There's no question about it. But I think that's really what we're looking at here.

EK **Emily Kosakowski** 1:15:29
There it is.

WV **William Vilardo** 1:15:48
Yeah, I like the, not, I like the, yeah, the prevention term is I think a better term. Yeah.

JH **Jane Helmstetter** 1:15:48
It's prevention.

DK **Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri** 1:15:55
Okay. Jane, did you have anything else? Okay. Okay. No, great. Okay.

EK **Emily Kosakowski** 1:15:56
Guys.

JH **Jane Helmstetter** 1:15:58
No, that was my point. I really, you know, I'm A proponent of prevention. Thank you.

DK **Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri** 1:16:03
Thank you. Thank you. Jennifer, Jen.

JH **Jennifer Hunter** 1:16:07
Hi there, I may be showing my lack of knowledge in the coordinated entry system, but if somebody gets to 21 days, like they get a notice to quit, it's 30 and then it ticks down to 21, what happens? How does it work?

SS **Stephanie Smith** 1:16:22
So for currently, we have our system set up to serve folks who are at imminent risk. So 14 days, it's a referral and to coordinated entry, 14 days for rent possession. We

need to expand it to include the folks who are at risk is what so and that and that system essentially can't be.

JH Jennifer Hunter 1:16:36

Okay, so...

SS Stephanie Smith 1:16:41

have a parallel to it because that's what we agree to when we sign the HUD stuff. And that I think the technical definition is 21 days to homelessness for at risk. So the eviction process has happened for or is in process, not has happened, but is in process for those folks.

JH Jennifer Hunter 1:16:57

Right.

And just working in our system, I think we should get together on that as well. A lot of people get a notice to quit, time ticks down fast, and I don't think, you know, they get, the day ends, they get a court assigned, and then they get legal aid who might say, oh, you have this. So I think

just talking with you guys on what you would like to happen, you know, I can, I have a whole caseload I can start saying, oh, add their name, add their name. Is that going to help us as a group? And do you want me to do that? I'm just noticing this thing of like, we don't want to duplicate, we want to be prevention, but I'm not seeing things happen to people who are past their out date.

So I'm just wondering, oh, am I missing something? And so love to talk about that, like what the referral system works like right now.

SS Stephanie Smith 1:17:44

So, yeah, yeah.

So right now it's for 14 days, which is right of possession. We do get referrals for folks. We don't get referrals for a lot of other folks, though. Some folks get to us early and some folks get to us.

JH Jennifer Hunter 1:17:58

Okay.

So can I just add, sorry everybody, can I ask a clarifying question? When you say 14

days, is it 14 days till they're out date from their notice to quit or 14 days till a writ of possession? Okay, we are nowhere near going to touch your 21 days. I just realized that. Okay, gotcha. No way, right.

SS Stephanie Smith 1:18:03

Months later.

No, it's 14 days. It's the rent. It's the rent.

WV William Vilardo 1:18:14

So.

SS Stephanie Smith 1:18:14

Yeah.

Yes, yes. So, so it would be it would be much closer to the end of that, not just like they started the eviction process, no. But yeah, we want to make sure that that's if they do get evicted, there wasn't their eviction wasn't able to be prevented. We do want to make sure they're getting to court introductory.

JH Jennifer Hunter 1:18:21

I'm with you. I'm with you now. Thank you.

Gotcha. Perfect.

Gotcha.

Thank you.

WV William Vilardo 1:18:37

And one thing, Jen, I think what you're getting at is like what the balance of state and other COCs across the country have done where they have the at-risk CE incorporated. We haven't gotten there and yet, but somebody that would hit that 21 days in the balance of state would be enrolled at the at-risk coordinated entry in the balance of state. And then there's a literally homeless. part in the balance of state. So it does exist in other places. It's just the bandwidth and getting it set up. And that's something that's a lot of the HUD has put in a lot of their CE guidance. So it's, I think that's something that maybe

SS Stephanie Smith 1:19:06

Yeah, we need stuff.

JH Jennifer Hunter 1:19:11

Bye.

WV William Vilardo 1:19:19

could be explored as well, doing that piece and maybe talking to Ari or somebody, the balance state and how they do it might be a good place for you guys to.

SS Stephanie Smith 1:19:28

So we actually already approved an at-risk assessment and have an enrollment that isn't rolled out yet in the coordinated entry committee. It's just a staffing capacity issue at this point to have, we don't have available assessors in the community who can just do it at this point and administer the program.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 1:19:35

It.

SS Stephanie Smith 1:19:47

So that is the issue. We'd love to be able to do it. We'd love to have a team. We'd love to have a dedicated coordinated entry person to at risk. So that is, that's the thing. We've already approved an assessment and all of that stuff prior. So it's there.

JH Jennifer Hunter 1:20:07

And just a reality check when I do my math, I'm probably 90 days out when, on a, no, on a good day, right? We have a 30 day notice to quit. The lawyer has 60 days to file and then you're doing court. So we might even be. months out before you're getting into that. So that's what we want to capture, all of this stuff before court.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 1:20:31

There is lots of good discussion in the chat, but one of the things that I'll highlight in the chat is that the great discussion about this right now highlights how helpful I

think it would be to have some, well, and Crystal thought it would be, to have some cross-committee work on this when the time comes. So maybe it's coordinated entry committee and

and the retention committee working together. So just it seems like that would be a helpful piece.

Do folks want to take time to answer some of the questions in the chat? Can you see them, Emily and Jen?

EK **Emily Kosakowski** 1:21:12

Yeah, so.

Taylor wrote that she's curious what services would be provided if someone is put into coordinated entry for at-risk. I think that's work that we would flush out with the coordinated under committing. But we, in the roles of who is serving a household, we are not looking to duplicate anything. So there would be a retention provider who is trying to

SS **Stephanie Smith** 1:21:28

Obviously, yeah.

EK **Emily Kosakowski** 1:21:38

help that person stay housed where they are. If we hit the 21 day mark, they're eligible for coordinated entry. Depending on what that looks like, I think ideally we would have more community partners assessing who could, like Molly said, get the workload of folks being assessed more timely done.

And then the work would shift to probably the retention provider talking about how to safely move out and where they're going to go. And then hopefully the housing navigator working with them on where their options are, where they can go next, and kind of assessing case management needs. So I think it would probably flow into more of a partnership.

At that point, Taylor.

SS **Stephanie Smith** 1:22:22

Yeah, the idea for it, at least as I have thought of at risk, would be like retention services, hop if needed, hop financial assistance application, and also thinking about, this is something we used to do when it would come up, would be doing a local

preference for somebody who had like become disabled or whatever for an ad to. keep them in place. And so that would be like a best case scenario situation of the things that could happen, like with coordinated entry, because if they're assessed, we're going to get their income, their situation, that kind of thing, and know what possibilities there are at that point.

JH **Jane Helmstetter** 1:22:45
Yeah.

EK **Emily Kosakowski** 1:23:03
And I think at that point, too, the retention specialist should have already looked into a local preference if that person's eligible for it. So by the time, ideally with the system, by the time someone's moving from retention services to housing navigation, there's a clear picture of what housing sustainability is going to look like for them.

DK **Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri** 1:23:25
Okay, any other discussion or questions?
The retention system.
Do we feel that we're ready for a vote on this?
And it sounds like the vote is going to be to work on the implementation with the suggestion. I heard maybe, yeah, the suggestion that the nomenclature be kind of looked at, maybe change to prevention or early intervention or something like that.

EK **Emily Kosakowski** 1:23:59
Yes, absolutely. So, and we would, we would bring this back to this group to go over like updates as they're happening and changes. We really are just seeking the higher CCHA level approval to now move this idea forward and actually put it into practice.

DK **Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri** 1:24:00
Okay.
Eat.
So can I entertain a motion to move forward the implementation of a housing retention system?

 **Jane Helmstetter** 1:24:27

I'll make that motion.

 **Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri** 1:24:29

Thanks, Jane. And a second.

 **Stephanie Bixby** 1:24:33

I'll second.

 **Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri** 1:24:35

Thank you. What's that?

 **Stephanie Bixby** 1:24:37

Stephanie.

 **Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri** 1:24:38

Stephanie Bixby, thank you. Okay, thanks. Great. Okay. Will, do you want to pop that in the chat?

Or we can do hands if that's easier.

Let's do hands. Can you raise your hand if you approve? Okay.

 **Will Karod** 1:24:59

Sorry, I just got it.

 **Travis** 1:25:00

Physically or electronically?

 **Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri** 1:25:02

Either way is fine. I'm cutting them all. Oh, wait, okay, we have it. We have it now.

 **Will Karod** 1:25:03

Up.



Travis 1:25:03

Oh, wait, never mind, I see, okay.



Will Karod 1:25:06

I couldn't take myself off mute while I was making the poll. No worries.



Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 1:25:09

Oh, fair. Sorry about that. Okay. You can go ahead and vote in the thing or type in the chat or use your...

Use your voice, whichever is better.

Okay, I hear you, Anna. I get like intermittent, like your admin has blocked this. So, okay, great. It looks like it's approved. 17 votes for, I'm counting, well, 18 votes for.

I'm counting yours, Jen and Anna. Great. Great. Thank you. Thanks so much. And thanks for all your work on this. This is great. Any other agenda items today that folks want to discuss before we adjourn?

Okay, hearing none, I can, yep, Stephanie, go ahead.



Stephanie Smith 1:26:12

I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge that Skyla passed away at the beginning of last month. I just wanted to make sure that I know most people already know, but I did want to acknowledge to everybody that we unfortunately lost her last month.



Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 1:26:32

Thank you. Thank you for bringing that up, Stephanie. And please let us know if there are ways that we can support your team.

Thank you.

And lots of voices of support in the chat, in case you can't see it, Stephanie. Will.



Will Karod 1:26:56

I just wanted to check with people to see if it would be helpful for me to send out the full recording of this in addition with the to the minutes. Let me know if anyone has strong opinions on that. I think I probably will send out the recording unless someone doesn't want me to.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 1:26:57

Thank you.

OK.

Any other things we want to discuss before we adjourn?

Okay, I'll entertain a motion to adjourn. Thanks. Thanks.

T Travis 1:27:41

Thanks, folks.

I'll make the motion to adjourn. Sorry, let's be formal.

DK Duquette-Hoffman, Kerri 1:27:45

No, you're great. Thanks, Travis. That works. Thank you. Take care, everyone.

JH Jennifer Hunter 1:27:47

I'll second.

But.

T Travis 1:27:52

Yeah.

● **Will Karod** stopped transcription