



Public Health
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Somerset County
Health Department

Somerset County Health Department

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Health Officer Danielle Weber, MS, RN

HALS MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Name:	Homeless Alliance for the Lower Shore Continuum of Care Committee (HALS COC)		
Date of Meeting:	Jul 9, 2026	Time:	10:00AM - 11:30AM
Minutes Prepared By:	Sharon Creasy	In-person Meeting	521 Mack Ave Salisbury, MD 21801
1. Attendees:			
Loré Chambers (Zion House), Bridgette Gregory (SCHD), Linda Copeland (Zion House) Shannon Frey (SCHD), Tasha Jamison (Wic.HD), YoVanda Brown (Labor), Amy Kelly (WCDSS), Ivonne Lomax (WoCHD), Erin Leffew (Life Crisis), Latoya Ward (PUSH), Tory Stone (Diakonia), Desire Daniels (Zion House), Rick Hamilton (Diakonia), Demettris Dryden (SCHD), Morgan Flanagan (Salisbury PD), Ginny Poorman (City of Salisbury), Shannon Frey (SCHD), Joan Harris (Wic.Public School), Jerrisha Hood (SCPS), Leliya Lindsey (SPD), Maggie Moore (WCHD) , Diane Palmer (Sante Group), Sara Howard (Wor.State Atty), Pricilla Wilson (PUSH), Jonathan Polk (MD Physicians Care), Denise White (SHORE-UP),			
2. Agenda/Topic/Discussion/Follow-Up:			
Welcome	YoVanda Brown called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.		
CoC Reminders	Funding information is sent out regularly; if you would like to be added to the CoC distribution list, please contact Sharon Creasy: Sharonr.creasy@maryland.gov The majority, if not all, of organizations present follow HIPAA guidelines. At no point in time do we share consumers (clients) personal information. We can manually collaborate to find solutions, however we must not reveal identifying information.		
Approval of Minutes	June meeting minutes were approved by Ivonne Lomax and 2nd by Tory Stone.		

Presentation- PUSH and PURPOSE of MD- Latoya Ward	Bring critical resources to the community to help lower the impact of intergenerational trauma —creating opportunities for healing , resilience , and lasting change We offer: ● PRP (Adult and Adolescent-Psychiatric Rehabilitation Program) ● Reentry and mentoring Services ● Outpatient Mental Health Clinics ● DUI Services ● SUD program ● Multilingual outreach Programs Youth Empowerment, Holistic Support Services, and Community Engagement. Treatment is designed to meet the specific, individual needs of each client. We prioritize the following with every program participant:- The promotion of both physical and mental health and wellness. ● The integration of independent living and life skills ● The benefits of living a clean and sober lifestyle ● Becoming an active positive member of their family and community Additional Clinical Services ● Psycho-educational Programs ○ Parenting , Anger Management , Social Skills ● Specialized Treatment Planning ○ Personalized plans tailored to each individual’s needs ● Therapy Services ○ In-home or on-site Individual, Family, & Group Therapy ● Case Management ○ Coordinating care and connecting clients to resources ● Advocacy ○ Supporting clients in accessing necessary services ● Referrals ○ Connecting individuals to additional supportive services ● Psychiatric Assessments ○ Comprehensive mental health evaluations ● Medication Management ○ Ongoing monitoring and support for prescribed medications
Update on NOFO- Shannon Frey	We have been approved for another year of funding in FY26, but FY 27 will only look like 40% for each county so we are only looking at maybe being able to house 5 per county for next year. We are working on clients on a case by case basis. Hoping to be able to move all the ones that can be moved into Low income housing , which will leave the most vulnerable ones left in the program. As of now the waitlist will remain closed,

Agency Updates	Ginny Poorman (City of Salisbury)- We have this individual who was referred to us from HOPE and came from Hudson 3.1 just months ago and he is now transiting into his own apartment. The collaboration worked out great Jonathan Polk (MD Physicians Care)- new project that just started up, partnering with Adopt a Block to help with food insecurities in the area. Hoping to do a 6-12 month cohort. YoVanda Brown (Labor) There are 2 upcoming job fairs, the first one on 07/14 and the 2nd one on the 28th . These will be held at the Tri-county Lower Shore American Job Center Mini Job Fair: 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM at The American Job Center, 31901 Tri-County Way, Salisbury, MD. Tasha Jamison (Wic.HD)Adult mental health first Aid training July 29th from 9am-4pm-in-person training Ivonne Lomax (WoCHD) 9th Annual International Overdose Awareness Day Event at WinterPlace Park (6737 Blue Ribbon Rd, Salisbury, MD) Aug 31st from 5:30-7:30pm free Shannon Frey (SCHD)- FY 27 Funding for HSP has been approved. We are currently waiting for all the subgrantees to return their Exhibit B(part of the grant agreement) to the Somerset County Health Department, so we can forward the grant agreement back to DHCD. Catholic Charities is the only one with Prevention and Rapid Rehousing funds. Diakonia only has Rapid Rehousing. but both will serve all three counties.
Old Business/ New Business	Old business: • none New business: • The September meeting will not be on our regularly scheduled second Thursday of the month, but on Thursday September 24, 2026 and at the meeting the MD CoC Balance of State will join us to provide information regarding our transition from being the Lead CoC to being under the Balance of State. We will send out the time once we have that information.
Closing Remarks	If anyone has any ideas or suggestions for the agenda please reach out to our co-chairs: Jennifer Trager: jtrager@ccwilm.org YoVanda Brown yovanda.brown1@maryland.gov Tory Stone: vstone@diakonia.org
New Members	Email Sharon Creasy at Sharonr.creasy@maryland.gov to be added to the CoC email group.
Next CoC Meeting	Thursday, August 13, 2026 @ St James AME Zion Church of Salisbury, MD @ 521 Mack Ave, Salisbury, MD 21801