



Delaware Continuum of Care

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QUARTERLY MEETING

APRIL 21, 2021

*"A community-based collaborative that ensures a responsive, fair, and just approach to addressing homelessness, and strives to achieve housing for all"*

# Agenda

## Welcome

## Business

- New Board Member – Kim Eppehimer, Friendship House
- Governance Update
- Committee Updates
  - Racial Justice and Equity
  - Advocacy and Policy
  - System Performance
  - Membership and Nominations
  - Service Solutions

## Announcements

## Breakout Rooms

- Homeless Service Provider Discussion: Vaccinations and Reopening Plans
  - Alicia Lehmer, CoC TA Provider, HomeBase
- Homelessness and Housing Policy Update
  - Sarah Rhine, Policy Director, Housing Alliance Delaware
- DE-HAP 3.0 Update and Q&A
  - Marlena Gibson, Director of Policy and Planning, DSHA



# CoC Business

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# New Board Member

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## **Kim Eppheimer, Executive Director, Friendship House**

Friendship House is a nonprofit organization uniting people facing homelessness with loving, supportive communities they can call home. Kim has been with Friendship House for seven years, originally beginning as a part-time volunteer coordinator.

Kim's educational background includes a master's in financial accounting from the University of Maryland, a Certificate of Non-Profit Management from University of Delaware, and a certificate of Theology and Ministry from Princeton Theological Seminary.

She is a member of the Human Trafficking Advisory Board and the Behavioral Science Advisory Board, both with Wilmington University, as well as the Human Services Advisory Council for University of Delaware.

Most recently she has started a new program in collaboration with both the county and several other organizations at the New Castle County Hope Center.

# CoC Governance Sub-Committee

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The DE-CoC has contracted with Dianna T. Myers and associates to assist with DE-CoC Governance work

## Purpose:

- Review the CoC Governance Charter and Lead Agency MOUs, provide recommendations for changes and updates

## Members:

- Carrie Casey, John Bates, John Whitelaw, Marlena Gibson, Susan Kent

## Meetings:

- 1st meeting took place with DMA on 4/8/2021
- Meetings will continue every other Thursday from 11-1 until recommendations are ready for presentation, feedback, and approval

# CoC Racial Justice & Equity Committee

*FAIR HOUSING IS NOT AN OPTION, IT'S THE LAW*

## Inception

- This committee is the newest of the CoC's sub-committees.
- It was formed in September 2020
- The committee meets on the last Thursday of each month
- Committee has 14 active members

## Purpose

- To analyze the negative impacts of homelessness on people and communities of color, identify racial disparities in homelessness, and propose action steps to move toward a more equitable future in Delaware

## Since Inception

- o Established goals: advocacy, collaboration, and education
- o Meet with DE senate housing committee members  
Senators Marie Pinkney and Brian Townsend
- o Collaborated with CoC's policy and advocacy committee and HOMES campaign members
- o Fact sheet outlining racial disparities among black individuals and families experiencing homelessness

## How to Join

*Next Meeting:*

April 29, 2021 at 9:00am

### **Committee Contacts:**

Kim Ellis, Chair

[kellis@ccwilm.org](mailto:kellis@ccwilm.org)

Paula Witcher, Co-Chair

[paula.witcher@vmcenter.org](mailto:paula.witcher@vmcenter.org)

Erin Gallaher, HAD Staff

[egallaher@housingalliancede.org](mailto:egallaher@housingalliancede.org)

# Advocacy and Policy

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Deborah Gilbert White, Chair

Tony Sierzega, Co-Chair

This committee helps develop the DE-CoC advocacy agenda and promotes solutions to prevent and end homelessness among community members, local and state leaders, and elected officials

Advocacy and Policy in 2021:

- Source of Income
- HB58 - Panhandling (Ask for help)
- HOMES Campaign

Next Meeting:

- 5/18/21 at 11:00am

Committee Contacts:

- [drdgwhite11@gmail.com](mailto:drdgwhite11@gmail.com)
- [tsierzega@declasi.org](mailto:tsierzega@declasi.org)
- [egallaher@housingalliancede.org](mailto:egallaher@housingalliancede.org)



# System Performance

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Kim Brockenbrough, Chair

*Co-Chair Needed*

This committee helps to identify and analyze gaps, evaluate performance, and recommend solutions for improvement of the DE-CoC homeless service system

2020 Highlight:

- The committee identified a gap in system services surrounding Homeless Street Outreach from the FY19 System Performance Metrics. This resulted in the funding of the Brandywine Counseling Homeless Street Outreach Pilot!!

System Performance in 2021:

- Review of the FY20 System Performance Metrics
- System Performance improvement planning

Next Meeting:

- TBD

Committee Contacts:

- [kimbrockenbrough@icloud.com](mailto:kimbrockenbrough@icloud.com)
- [egallaher@housingalliance.org](mailto:egallaher@housingalliance.org)

# Membership and Nominations

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Brandy Nauman, Chair

*Co-Chair needed*

This committee annually reviews the DE-CoC membership for compliance with HUD membership requirements, identifies gaps in participation, and provides recommendations for strategic engagement and recruitment of new members

Membership and Nominations in 2021:

- 2021 CoC Membership Review
- Membership Engagement Plan

Next Meeting:

- TBD

Committee Contacts:

- [bnauman@sussexcountyde.gov](mailto:bnauman@sussexcountyde.gov)
- [flawrence@housingalliancede.org](mailto:flawrence@housingalliancede.org)

# Service Solutions

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Jo Allegro Smith, Chair

Ruthann Messick, Co-Chair

This committee identifies gaps in services or service connections and develops strategies for enhancing or expanding access to these services for persons experiencing homelessness in Delaware

Service Solutions in 2021

- Committee membership recruitment

Next Meeting: May 4, 10:00am

Committee Contacts:

- [jallegrosmith@rehobothcommunitycenter.org](mailto:jallegrosmith@rehobothcommunitycenter.org)
- [ruthann@delawarerestaurant.org](mailto:ruthann@delawarerestaurant.org)
- [flawrence@housingalliance.de.org](mailto:flawrence@housingalliance.de.org)



# Announcements

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# Breakout Rooms

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## **Homeless Service Provider Discussion: Vaccinations and Reopening Plans**

- Alicia Lehmer, CoC TA Provider, HomeBase

## **Homelessness and Housing Policy Update**

- Sarah Rhine, Policy Director, Housing Alliance Delaware

## **DE-HAP 3.0 Update and Q&A**

- Marlena Gibson, Director of Policy and Planning, DSHA

### Instructions:

- In just a moment, you will have the option to select the breakout room of your choice.
- Once you have made your selection, you will automatically be placed in that room.
- If you do not select a room, one will be selected for you at random.
- The breakout sessions will last for the remainder of the meeting. You are free to go once your session has ended.

*Thank  
you*

Next Meeting:  
July 21, 2021

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For any additional questions, please contact Erin Gallaher at [egallaher@housingalliance.org](mailto:egallaher@housingalliance.org) or Felisha Lawrence at [flawrence@housingalliance.org](mailto:flawrence@housingalliance.org)