

Coalition for the Homeless of Pasco County, Inc.

Continuum of Care (COC) Leadership Council Virtual Meeting Minutes

DATE OF THE MEETING: JUNE 26, 2025

LOCATION: VIRTUAL/ ZOOM MEETING

TIME STARTED: 10:02 AM

TIME ENDED: 11:12 AM

ATTENDANCE:	THOMAS O'CONNOR BRUNO	ROSANNE SMITHWICK	LIZ RHODES
JENNIFER WATTS	MELISSA GILES	CHRISTA LONGO	JEFF SKLET
ERIN O'CONNOR BRUNO	BEN ORTBERG	DAVID MILLER	JOHNPOL COMAS
SAM PICARD	LEESA FRYER	VICKI WIGGINS	JASON THOMAS
KATHY HUNT	ERICA SMITH	TRANG CHITAKONE	BARBARA KLEINSORGE
JASON SAFFELS	BENTLY BRADFORD	CHUCK LANE	JENA BLAIR
MARCY ESBJERG	KARRIE ROLLER	DANIELLE HUSBAND	BRIAN HOBEN
CHRISTINE SANTANA	JORDAN FRENCH	DENISE SANDERSON	
AGENDA	ACTIONS		
CALL TO ORDER	The meeting was called to order at 10:02 AM by Rosanne Smithwick.		
MINUTES	Approval of April 2025 General Membership Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve by: Vicki Wiggins Motion seconded by: Barbara Kleinsorge No Opposition		
CoC COMMITTEE REPORTS	Coordinated Entry- JohnPaul Comas: The committee is focusing on cleaning up language surrounding clients who exhaust housing resources. The committee is examining other continuums of care manuals to ensure clarity in responsibilities. The emphasis is on ensuring housing providers are not overwhelmed by repeated referrals to clients who refuse housing options. The goal is to present the finalized language in July. Outreach- Thomas O'Connor Bruno: Reports the 2025 Point in Time results for January 27, 2025. The unsheltered numbers have been pretty level since 2022. All Veterans identified through the unsheltered count (20 individuals) have been referred to SVDP for services. The numbers are not final until HUD audits them. Highlights: Unsheltered Count: 411 individuals (down 16 from 2024) Sheltered Count: 227 individuals (down 77 from 2024) Total: 638 individuals/536 households (down 93 individuals/65 households from 2024, respectively) Total chronic designation increased from 16% in 2024 to 27% in 2025. Strategic Plan- Mary Esbjerg and Jennifer Watts: The strategic planning meeting was held at the end of May, focusing on housing crisis response. The committee is working on a training list and a poverty simulation for the		

	upcoming month. Success stories are being posted quarterly on the website and Facebook to encourage and track progress. The strategic action plan will be reviewed by September, and tasks will be monitored throughout the year. HMIS- Thomas O'Connor Bruno: Right now, we are focusing on data cleaning and with submission of federal reports having been done. The next focus will be on the Longitudinal System Analysis (LSA) at the end of the year. Emails are being sent to agencies to schedule HMIS committee meetings. Admin is preparing for the transition of contracts and ensuring accurate program entries in HMIS.
BNL REPORT	Melissa Giles: Explanation of BNL report. Report provided to all council members. Review of data on the report. Update of families with minors. Reported as twenty-four with ten being on the family shelter waitlist.
OLD BUSINESS	Grand Blvd Property-Pasco Hope Danielle Husband: We are transitioning households into housing and providing support to individuals with chronic health issues. The mobile medical unit is now a site for Pasco Hope, offering regular health services. The campus is undergoing renovations with plans for future improvements. CBDG Disaster Response: Marcy Esbjerg: Talked on the submission of the Better Future Action Plan to HUD and the positive feedback received. A request for proposals for an implementation vendor is currently being reviewed, with a contract expected by September. CoC Training Schedule: Jennifer Watts: The training schedule for the upcoming year has been released, which includes in-person and virtual sessions. There is an emphasis on the importance of rapid resolution and diversion tactics to address homelessness more effectively. Things are subject to change. Hot Weather Sheltering- Jennifer Watts: The hot weather sheltering pilot project was discussed, with plans to use the Pine Street office for better accessibility. The brigade team will provide support, including cooling kits and potential use of MREs and hygiene kits. The goal is to engage more clients and offer reprieve from the Florida heat. The importance of sharing resources and working together to support the community is highlighted.
NEW BUSINESS	County's Approach to Homelessness: Chuck Lane: The new homeless liaison, James Walters, was discussed, along with the county's strategic plan to address homelessness. The position will focus on internal education and alignment within the county organization. The goal is to make homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring, with a collaborative approach involving the COC and community partners. The position will report to Denise Sanderson initially, with a focus on creating a county-wide task force.

	CoC Monitoring: Thomas O'Connor Bruno: Provided an update on COC monitoring of HUD contracts, including entrance meetings and documentation collection. The APPRR committee will use the performance program to discern which agencies should receive continued funding. The county has seen a significant increase in funding for homelessness programs, with plans to expand monitoring to more agencies. The goal is to have the monitoring process completed by the end of the year.
BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR	Emergency Housing Voucher Program Transition - Jeff Sklet: Discusses the transition of the Emergency Housing Voucher Program to the regular Housing Choice Voucher Program. The transition will occur in 2026 due to increased rental prices and higher per unit costs. Participants in the current program will be seamlessly transitioned to the new program, with no loss of benefits. The county will provide notices and support to ensure a smooth transition for clients.
ANNOUNCEMENTS	Poverty Simulation Training- Jennifer Watts: Reminder that the Poverty Simulation Training will occur on Thursday, July 10th, 2025, after the General Membership meeting. Sword and the Spoon will provide lunch. The CoC members were encouraged to attend.
PUBLIC COMMENTS	No comments from the floor.
ADJOURNED	Motion to adjourn by: Kathy Hunt Motion seconded by: Christine Santana No opposition The meeting was adjourned at 11:12am. Next meeting, July 10th, General Membership Meeting and Poverty Simulation Training, St George Greek Orthodox Church.