



New York State Balance of State Continuum of Care

**68<sup>th</sup> New York State Balance of State CoC  
Steering Committee Meeting**

February 6, 2025  
9:30am-11:00am

**Steering Committee Attendees**

Adam Anderson, Cattaraugus  
Angie Rogers (on behalf of Toni Taylor), Cattaraugus  
Nicole Zink (on behalf of Commissioner Erin Whitcomb), Cattaraugus  
Elizabeth Carpenter, Clinton  
Crystal Narducci, Clinton  
Commissioner Christine Peters, Clinton  
Kelley Gilligan, Montgomery  
Fern Hurley, Fulton  
Randy Viele, Fulton  
Kristin Giroux (on behalf of Janine Robitaille), Montgomery  
Ashley Brody, Putnam  
Eileen Kelley (on behalf of Commissioner Sara Servadio), Putnam  
Commissioner Donna Becker, Schoharie  
Christy Houck, Schoharie  
Commissioner John Liddle, Sullivan  
Vanessa Sotelo (on behalf of Deborah Worden), Sullivan

**Guests**

Gretchen Crowningshield, Clinton County Department of Social Services (DSS)  
Amanda Haley-Beaudette, ETC  
Mary Ann Oliver, HUD Buffalo  
Stephanie Schermerhorn, CARES

**Ex-Officio Members**

Sonia Tate, OCFS  
Chantelle Sheffield, OMH  
Tim Bethea, OTDA  
Linda Camoin, OTDA  
Heather Diamond, OTDA  
Arden Estep, OTDA  
Jason Gallacchi, OTDA  
Dana Greenberg, OTDA  
Jordan Orayfig, OTDA  
Sarah Watson, OTDA

## **Welcome and Introductions**

## **Steering Committee Voting Actions**

### ***January Meeting Minutes***

The January Steering Committee minutes were reviewed. A motion to conditionally approve was made by Ashley Brody in acknowledgement of one change to the minutes and seconded by Randy Viele. All attendees were in favor, none opposed.

### ***New Steering Committee Members***

Fern Hurley, Associate Executive Director of Captain Human Services, was nominated to the Steering Committee. A motion to accept Fern to the Steering Committee was made by Randy Viele and seconded by Commissioner Liddle. All attendees were in favor, none opposed. Kelley Gilligan, Catholic Charities of Fulton and Montgomery County, was nominated to the Steering Committee. A motion to accept Kelley to the Steering Committee was made by Crystal Narducci and seconded by Randy Viele. All attendees were in favor, none opposed.

## **2025 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count**

The annual PIT Count was held on January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Initial review of the data noted an increase in both the sheltered and unsheltered count. OTDA will continue to compile data and submit to HUD in the spring. Once finalized, county-level reports will be generated. Outreach for the Housing Inventory Count (HIC), which is submitted to HUD with the PIT Count, will take place in the coming weeks.

## **FY2024 Continuum of Care (CoC) Funding Awards**

HUD recently released the FY2024 CoC Funding Awards. The NYS BoS CoC received one new CoC Bonus project for Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) in Putnam County administered by CoveCare. Should additional funds become available in 2025, HUD will issue supplemental awards from FY2024 local priority listings. HUD awards included cost of living adjustments to renewal projects for supportive services. In total, the NYS BoS CoC received an increase of more than \$372,000, with a total CoC award of \$2.48 million. Given the two-year funding cycle, the only programs that need to apply for renewals in 2025 are new projects, with automatic renewals to current recipients.

## **Youth Advisory Board and Lived Experience Advisory Board Presentation**

OTDA presented on the topic of incentivizing people with lived experience, with the goal of using CoC planning grant dollars for financial compensation for persons with lived experience (PWLE). The presentation discussed programmatic benefits of adopting insight from PWLE and how compensation plays an important role in incentivizing PWLE expertise, as well as various forms of compensation for those PWLE.

OTDA presented on Youth Advisory Boards (YAB). The goal of a YAB is to advise the CoC on policy and create systematic change related to youth homelessness. Anyone interested in developing a YAB in the NYS BoS CoC should reach out to OTDA.

## **Balance of State Racial Equity Committee**

The NYS BoS CoC is looking to develop a CoC-wide racial equity committee. One of the first projects of the committee will be updating and deploying the Diversity Assessment Tool. NYS BoS CoC members who are interested can contact OTDA for more information.

## **Committee/Program Updates**

### ***Lived Experience Advisory Board (LEAB)***

The LEAB is developing a compensation policy for members with lived experience. The next meeting will be April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

### ***Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)***

CARES is working on System Performance Measure (SPM) reporting and data cleanup is underway.

### ***HMIS/Data Committee***

The HMIS/Data Committee met on January 23<sup>rd</sup>. The committee discussed updates regarding the PIT Count, HIC, System Performance Measures, and data quality. The committee reviewed nationwide and statewide CoC data.

### ***Solutions To End Homelessness Program (STEHP) Workgroup***

The BoS CoC will facilitate a quarterly STEHP workgroup to offer providers the opportunity to discuss best practices.

## **Local Planning Body (LPB) Updates**

### ***Cattaraugus***

Code Blue has seen a 249% increase compared to last year. OTDA will be visiting the warming center on March 19<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with the March LPB meeting.

### ***Clinton***

Behavioral Health Services North (BHSN) continues to work on filling the MHAB transitional housing program.

### ***Fulton***

The district is exploring use of Shelter Arrears Eviction Forestallment (SAEF) funds to support the payment of shelter arrears necessary to retain housing for households that are in receipt of, or eligible for Public Assistance (PA). CAPTAIN reported that they continue taking referrals from the Coordinated Entry (CE) list.

### ***Herkimer***

Herkimer remains busy with operation of the warming center and Code Blue.

### ***Montgomery***

Montgomery County's warming center has been full. The district plans to begin utilizing SAEF funding by February 18<sup>th</sup>.

***Putnam***

The County continues efforts in developing a stabilization center. This is in the final stages of contractual review. OTDA will visit the warming center on February 7<sup>th</sup>.

***Schoharie***

The Schoharie warming center has been at capacity, resulting in additional hotel placements. The district has not yet been able to find a Family-Centered Services case manager, so this position remains advertised. The district plans to utilize SAEF funding in the coming months to support the payment of shelter arrears necessary to retain housing for households that are in receipt of, or eligible for Public Assistance (PA). All housing programs in the county are currently full.

***Sullivan***

Sullivan County reported that the hotel census has been decreasing due to enhanced case management efforts. The Monticello warming center is routinely exceeding capacity. It was noted that Sullivan's median average home price has increased dramatically in recent years, which has created an increased need for rental units. HONOR and Action Toward Independence, Inc. (ATI) are providing Family-Centered Services Case Management. The county will match their existing Rental Supplement Program (RSP) to allow for rental amounts to go up to 100% Fair Market Rent (FMR).

***Schedule of Upcoming Meetings***

Cattaraugus – February 19

Clinton – February 20

Fulton – February 18

Herkimer – February 24

Montgomery – February 24

Putnam – February 26

Schoharie – February 10

Sullivan – February 25

Steering Committee – March 6

A motion to adjourn was made by Kelley Gilligan and seconded by Ashley Brody. All attendees were in favor, none opposed.

Meeting adjourned at 10:46 AM.