



New York State Balance of State Continuum of Care

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

October 3, 2025

9:30am-2:00pm

### **Steering Committee Attendees**

Adam Anderson, Cattaraugus  
Jodi Fuller, Cattaraugus  
Commissioner Gretchen Crowningshield, Clinton  
Crystal Narducci, Clinton  
Fern Hurley, Fulton  
Krystena Savaria (on behalf of Commissioner Anne Solar), Fulton  
Shauna Cone (on behalf of Maureen Petrie), Herkimer  
Lisa Reginelli (on behalf of Allison Jackson), Herkimer  
Kelley Gilligan, Montgomery  
Jeanine Robitaille, Montgomery  
Noel Feik, Otsego  
Deb Finger (on behalf of Commissioner Lisa Winne), Otsego  
Toya Lane, Otsego  
Ashley Brody, Putnam  
Piaget Solpiaget, Putnam  
Mary Banks (on behalf of Christy Houck), Schoharie  
Commissioner Donna Becker, Schoharie  
Sarita Green, Sullivan  
Commissioner John Liddle, Sullivan  
Deb Worden, Sullivan

### **Guests**

Alicia Berger, Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York (LASNNY)  
Lauren Canetto, OTDA Temporary Assistance  
Teah Cerina, OTDA Temporary Assistance  
Sara DeWitt, OTDA Bureau of Training and Staff Development  
Colleen Haberzettl, Sullivan County Department of Social Services (DSS)  
Amanda Haley-Beaudette, ETC Housing  
Colleen Hayter, CARES of NY  
Jen Heidemann, NYS Department of Health (DOH)  
Lindsey Mehrman, Clinton County DSS  
Steven Munford, Schoharie County DSS  
Jennifer Schultz, Albany Stratton VA Medical Center  
Patrick Tallon, CARES of NY  
Melissa Witzgall, Catholic Charities Housing Office

**Ex-Officio Members**

Linda Camoin, OTDA  
Mary Crowley, OTDA  
Heather Diamond, OTDA  
Julie Duncan, OMH  
Arden Estep, OTDA  
Jason Gallacchi, OTDA  
Dana Greenberg, OTDA  
Sarah Watson, OTDA

**Welcome and Introductions****Steering Committee Voting Actions*****August Meeting Minutes***

The August Steering Committee minutes were reviewed. A motion was made by Crystal Narducci and seconded by Deborah Worden. All attendees were in favor, none opposed.

***September Meeting Minutes***

The September Steering Committee minutes were reviewed. A motion was made by Ashley Brody and seconded by Noel Fiek. All attendees were in favor, none opposed.

**National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH) Conference Session Highlight**

A presentation from the 2025 NAEH Conference on landlord incentivization and outreach was reviewed.

**OTDA Training Opportunities**

Sara Dewitt from the OTDA Bureau of Training and Staff Development presented on training opportunities that are available on the Homeless Services Training Resource System, which can be found at <https://hstrs.common.gc.cuny.edu/trainings/>

**Chautauqua County Continuum of Care (CoC)**

The Chautauqua County CoC applied to merge with the Balance of State (BoS) CoC. Over the next few months, both CoCs will meet to discuss a potential merger. The BoS must vote to accept Chautauqua as part of the CoC by next year's CoC registration, which typically opens in January.

**Committee/Program Updates*****Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and Coordinated Entry***

FY2026 HMIS Data Standard changes went into effect as of October 1<sup>st</sup>. HUD is retiring the "Gender" data element and introducing one titled "Sex".

CARES will be working on the Longitudinal Systems Analysis (LSA) submission to HUD and is currently working on transferring data from Otsego County's previous HMIS software.

The State University of New York (SUNY) at Oneonta will be conducting research testing of the Balance of State Vulnerability Assessment Tool (BoS-VAT) in Otsego County.

## **Funding Opportunities and Updates**

### ***Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative (ESSHI) Awards***

NYS OMH recently made conditional ESSHI awards. The Balance of State received 17 conditional awards across the CoC, with at least one project in each county.

### ***Housing Access Voucher Pilot Program (HAVPP)***

HAVPP is a New York State Homes and Community Renewal (HCR) voucher program granting \$50 million to be administered through Local Administrators. This program is similar to federal Housing Choice Vouchers but is State-funded. The BoS is eligible for up to 29 vouchers, broken down as follows: Cattaraugus (3), Clinton (6), Fulton (3), Herkimer (3), Montgomery (3), Otsego (2), Putnam (3), Schoharie (1), and Sullivan (5).

### ***FY2025 CoC Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFO)***

The FY2025 CoC NOFO has not yet been released.

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

### ***Clinton***

The Warming Center in Clinton County is preparing to open. Clinton County has also been working to develop a universal housing application website for local housing providers. The Stabilization Center in Clinton is currently up and running.

### ***Fulton***

Fulton County has been discussing their Code Blue strategy for this year as they do not currently have a Warming Center within the county.

### ***Herkimer***

Herkimer County is still looking to identify a new site for the Warming Center.

### ***Montgomery***

Montgomery County is preparing to open the Warming Center for the season and IPHNY is working on preliminary aspects of their shelter development project.

### ***Otsego***

Otsego County is preparing for the Code Blue season and is working with CARES of NY to transfer their HMIS data. All providers in the county attended HMIS training in mid-September.

### ***Putnam***

Search for Change has been discussing strategies to utilize their ESSHI funding awards most effectively.

***Schoharie***

The Schoharie County Warming Center is preparing to open for the year.

***Sullivan***

Sullivan County Warming Centers plan to open on November 21<sup>st</sup>.

***Schedule of Upcoming Meetings***

Cattaraugus – November 19

Clinton – November 20

Fulton – November 18

Herkimer – November 24

Montgomery – November 24

Otsego – November 14

Putnam – November 26

Schoharie – November 10

Sullivan – November 25

Steering Committee – December 4

Meeting adjourned at 1:40pm.