

Greater Richmond Continuum of Care (GRCoC) Board
Monday, September 15th, 2025; 9:30am; Zoom

Board Members in Attendance: Jovan Burton, Fletcher Johnson, Clara Stokes, Adrienne Cole, Beth Vann-Turnbull, Jessica Sagara, Robert Baez, Brian Davis, Katie Chlan, Kathleen Kramer, Celeste Anderson, Sherrina Sewell, Octavia King, Reggie Gordon, Rev Gwynn Crichton, Amy Popovich, and Hana Yun

Homeward Staff in Attendance: Kelly King Horne and Jen Johnson

9:32am: The GRCoC Board was at quorum and began the meeting.

9:32am Welcome and Consent Agenda:

Jovan welcomed members and motioned to approve the consent agenda. A motion was given by Brian Davis, and a second was given by Jessica Sagara.

9:39am GRCoC Business

- Kelly explained the differences between the Continuum of Care Board and Homeward Board, noting that Homeward is a nonprofit with a board focused on strategic partnerships and data use, while the Continuum of Care Board oversees publicly funded homeless assistance programs and is staffed by Homeward.
- The meeting focused on planning the upcoming COC event, which aims to highlight the work of homeless service providers and foster collaboration across sectors. Kelly explained that the event will include a networking session, the release of Homeward's annual report, and input sessions on key topics.
- The meeting focused on reviewing three MOUs related to Homeward's roles as collaborative applicant, HMIS lead, and coordinated entry system coordinator. The board approved the three MOUs related to Homeward. A motion was given by Reggie Gordon and a second was given by Brain Davis.
- Homeward needs volunteers for the Appeals Committee. Brian Davis, Celeste Anderson, and Fletcher Johnson are all interested in participating.

10:21am Discussion:

- The board discussed provider survey results showing \$30 million annual cost for homeless services, with \$9 million from federal funding
- Kelly presented data on homelessness in the Greater Richmond area. She explained that while this represents a significant increase, the actual number of people experiencing homelessness is likely higher, but not by hundreds or

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thousands. Kelly also shared historical data showing that while the region's per capita rate of homelessness is lower than the national average, the problem is still significant, with over 9,000 unduplicated individuals served by the Continuum of Care in the past year. The discussion touched on the challenges of comparing winter and summer counts, as well as the need for expanded housing support and shelter capacity considering rising rents and increased demand for services.

10:52am Updates:

- Jovan reminded attendees about the October 8th Regional Summit on Homelessness, where the annual report will be released.

10:56am Adjournment

Next Board Meeting: 12/8/2025