

North Carolina Balance of State Continuum of Care

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www.ncceh.org/BoS

NC Balance of State CoC Steering Committee Consent Agenda and Updates

April 1, 2025

Contents

SECTION I. NC BOS COC STEERING COMMITTEE CONSENT AGENDA.....	2
<i>March 4, 2025, Steering Committee Minutes.....</i>	<i>2</i>
SECTION II. UPDATES.....	3
VETERAN SUBCOMMITTEE.....	3
<i>Monday, April 7, 1:00 – 2:00 P.M.....</i>	<i>3</i>
LIVED EXPERTISE ADVISORY COUNCIL.....	3
<i>Friday, April 11, 12:00 – 1:00 P.M.....</i>	<i>3</i>
RACIAL EQUITY SUBCOMMITTEE	3
<i>Wednesday, April 16, 12:00 – 1:00 P.M.....</i>	<i>3</i>
FUNDING AND PERFORMANCE SUBCOMMITTEE.....	3
<i>Thursday, April 17, 2:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.....</i>	<i>3</i>
SECTION III. MEETING MINUTES AND SUPPORTING MATERIALS.....	4
LIVED EXPERTISE ADVISORY COUNCIL.....	4
<i>March 15, 2025, Minutes.....</i>	<i>4</i>
COORDINATED ENTRY COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE.....	6
<i>March 17, 2025, Minutes.....</i>	<i>6</i>
RACIAL EQUITY SUBCOMMITTEE.....	11
<i>March 19, 2025, Minutes.....</i>	<i>11</i>



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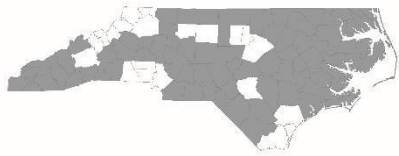
Section I. NC BoS CoC Steering Committee Consent Agenda

The following will be voted on at the April 1, 2025, NC BoS CoC Steering Committee meeting:

March 4, 2024, Steering Committee Minutes

Available here: <https://ncceh.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/March-2025-SC-Minutes.pdf>

**Any Steering Committee member may request to move an item off the consent agenda to be more thoroughly considered. Any such items will be discussed as a regular agenda item at the next Steering Committee meeting.*



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Section II. Updates

- **Veterans Subcommittee**
Monday, April 7, 1 – 2 P.M.
[Join Zoom Meeting](#)
Meeting ID: 837 9246 1651
- **Lived Expertise Advisory Council**
Friday, April 11, 12 – 1 P.M.
[Join Zoom Meeting](#)
Meeting ID: 579 903 9481
Passcode: qYqVY5
- **Racial Equity Subcommittee**
Wednesday, April 16, 12 – 1 P.M.
[Join Zoom Meeting](#)
Meeting ID: 837 9246 1651
- **Funding & Performance Subcommittee**
Thursday, April 17, 2 – 3 P.M.
[Join Zoom Meeting](#)
Meeting ID: 872 9800 5216
Passcode: 414696

Section III. Meeting Minutes and Supporting Materials

LEAC Meeting – 03/14/25

Attendance: Karen C., Melissa H., Von N., Laurel Benfield (Staff), Elliot Rhodes (Staff), Mira Sanderson (Staff)

Federal Response:

Looking ahead, future federal funding will come with increased restrictions. The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has outlined that future Continuum of Care (CoC) funding cannot be used to:

- Promote gender ideology
- Promote diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI)
- Promote elective abortions
- Provide assistance to undocumented individuals

While these changes are not expected to take immediate effect for us—since our grant is secured through December 31, 2025—other organizations, such as Trillium, are already seeing these restrictions included in newly signed grants.

Advocacy and Next Steps

- Karen offered to relay concerns about these funding changes to lawmakers during her upcoming trip to Washington, D.C. in two weeks.
- Laurel noted that the Low Income Housing Coalition will provide strong support and offered to collaborate on developing key talking points.
- Von suggested sharing this information across LEACs to initiate discussions on potential impacts, in addition to connecting it to what she is currently working on in Region 13.
- NCCEH remains committed to advocacy, relying on its policies to continue this work. Von emphasized the importance of educating others on these policies and ensuring ongoing efforts to support affected communities.

Regional Organizing – Region 13:

Von is organizing a single-county listening session for PLE currently in shelters or recently housed in Onslow County. Currently, Von is actively searching for a venue to host the event but hopes to host the event in approx. 30 days.

Goal: Focus on Onslow County by conducting 4–5 listening sessions to gather data on key issues. Based on the findings, recruit regional LEAC member for the county and develop a structured framework from there. Listening Sessions will eventually shift to Issue ID Sessions and then to a plan for action.

Bringing it Home:

- Use Onslow County as a case study to demonstrate the need for a LEAC and highlight its impact thus far.
- Develop a system that incorporates localized listening sessions.

Survey Cards

- Attendees will fill out survey cards, which can be duplicated for qualitative research.
- The collected data will be used to identify key issues, which will then be presented to the group for collective action.

Support and Engagement

- Discuss what information should be included on the ID cards to allow for anonymous input.
- Provide a QR code for those interested in further involvement.
- Consider creating a resource card, both physical and digital, with QR codes linking to local support services.

Next Steps

- Determine the key question(s) to include on the issue ID cards.
- Karen's Suggestion: Add a QR code in the upper corner of the card that directs users to an email invitation for the local LEAC, while keeping responses anonymous. Additional QR codes could link to local resources.
- Send any question ideas to Von via email or text.
- Von will schedule an open Zoom session next week to discuss further. Those unable to attend can reach out directly.

Bringing It Home Conference:

Teresa has received one LEAC bio, the presentation title, and summary. Laurel follow up with Teresa and determine if any additional information is required.

The outline was created based on conversations between Von and Karen.

In our next meeting, we will allocate time to further develop the details.

Coordinated Entry Council Meeting

March 17, 2025, at 10 A.M.

Member Attendance: Gretta Worley (Region 1), Audrey Dooley (Region 2), Bonnie Harper (Region 3), Kelley Hayward (Region 3), Erin Gaskin (Region 5), Priscilla Ward (Region 7 & 8), Stephanie Flowers (Region 9 & 10), Michele Welsh (Region 11, 12 & 13), Angela Harper King (ALM), Fredrika Murrill (ALM), Cassie Rowe (ALM), Nicole Wilson (ALM)

Absent: Region 4

NCCEH Staff Attendance: Ashley Von Hatten, Allie Card, Rachelle Dugan, Mira Sanderson, Teresa Robinson

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Unsheltered PIT

Unsheltered households are counted through the regional by-name list – this is extremely important in your work of connecting households YEARROUND to coordinated entry!

Ashley asked if anyone hears from their UAC throughout the year? Or is it only during PIT count?

- Gretta responded that she is unsure who their UAC is in Region 1 since Maria is on leave. Erin Gaskin noted that their UAC consistently attends their meetings. Kelley mentioned that their UAC is in-house, so they interact with them regularly.

Ashley highlighted that the current UAC term ends in April and emphasized that regions should begin discussions and voting on new UACs in May.

For an unsheltered household to be counted for the unsheltered PIT they must appear on the regional by-name list and have BOTH of the following:

- A current living situation listed as a place not meant for habitation AND
- A current living situation date of the date of PIT

Two ways households can be counted for unsheltered PIT

- Unsheltered household was located on night of PIT and survey was completed with the household and they were entered into HMIS and the by-name list
- Unsheltered household is currently on the by-name list and is contacted on the night of/day after unsheltered PIT and their current living situation is verified as place not meant for habitation for the night of PITC

2025 Unsheltered PIT Data (as of 3/13)

Region	2024 Unsheltered	2025 Unsheltered
1	194	151
2	186	217
3	218	203
4	202	191
5	288	414
6	48	51
7	475	664
8	95	47
9	195	24
10	58	48
11	53	60
12	48	60
13	135	110
Total	2195	2240 (unconfirmed)

Please ensure agencies are following up with clients living unsheltered and working to get the household assessed and connected to resources.

Are you actively making referrals to permanent housing for households identified as unsheltered on the night of PIT?

- Priscilla replied that she is reviewing her list and conducting formal intake for those with contacts, while those without were exited the following day. Gretta stated that she has been following up with individuals in Jackson County. Audrey said the same applies to Region 2, as she has reached out to those with contact information. Erin Gaskin noted that very few HART assessments are being completed during the count.

Exits from Coordinated Entry Projects

If households have not had a current living situation update since PIT night, please EXIT

- Backdate to 1/30/2025 (last date of contact)
- Exit households from the CE Project
- Select “place not meant for habitation” as Exit Destination

Encourage Front Door Providers (specifically Street Outreach and/or SSO providers) to also EXIT households if additional contact cannot be made with the household.

Learning Management Systems – presented by Rachelle Dugan

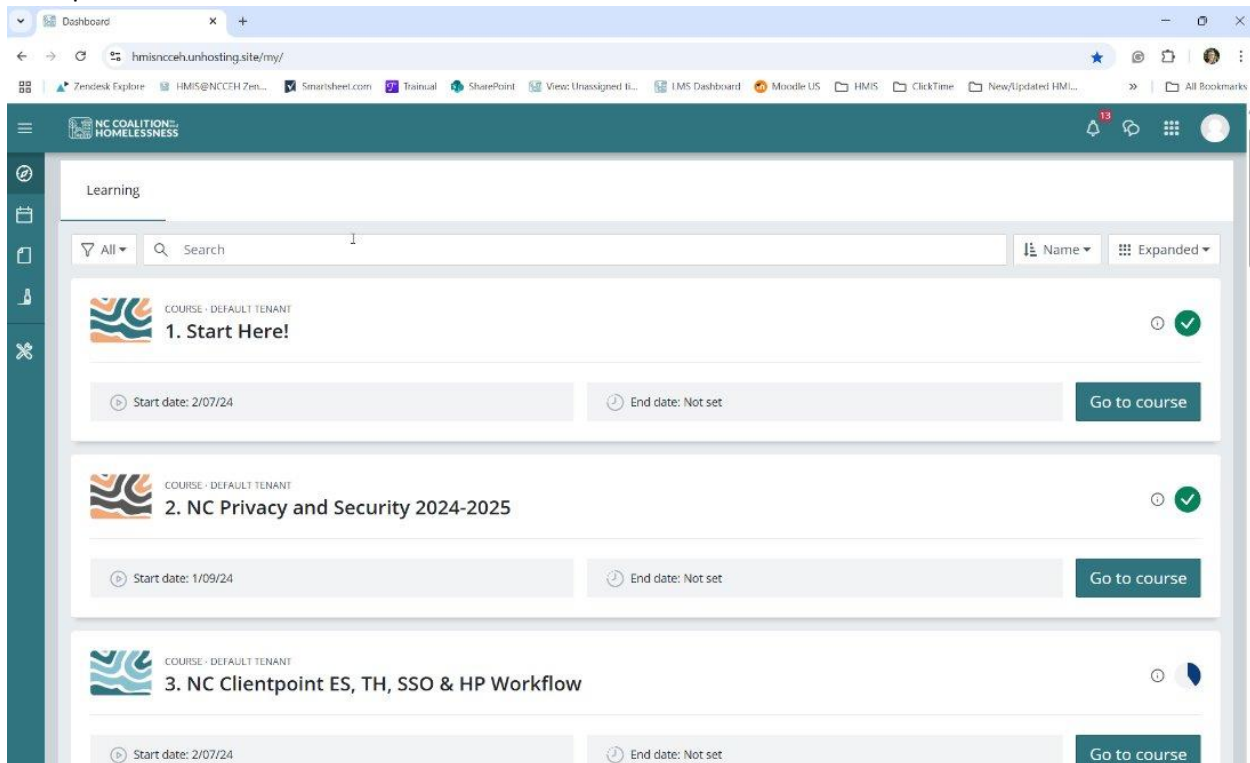
A centralized source of knowledge and training

LMS currently has courses for:

- Rapid Re-Housing & Permanent Supportive Housing
- Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, Supportive Services Only, and Homelessness Prevention

- Street Outreach
- ShelterPoint
- PATH
- VA HCHV & GPD
- VA SSVF & HUD VASH
- NC Balance of State CoC HART Training – NEW
 - All CEC members should have been assigned this course but the course is open to anyone. Feel free to reach out to the data center and we can assign them the course!
 - There currently is not a test client portion, however it is possible to be implemented.

Example of Dashboard:



NC Balance of State CoC HART Training

All CE Leads have already been assigned this training in LMS!

- Training includes
- Training video
- Mock Hart Interview
- HART Paper Forms and Guides
- HART Training Slides & HMIS Data Entry Guide
- HART FAQs and HMIS By-Name List Guide

HART Training can be assigned to anyone or any agency in BoS, who else needs it? Let us know!

Let us know what you want to see!

Is there a new training course you would like to see? Is there an area of Data Entry that the HMIS users in your regions are struggling with? Feel free to email hmis@ncceh.org

Audrey asked why there is an option to place the HART assessment in a different tab and whether HMIS could remove it. Teresa responded that while the Data Center would be happy to remove it, the issue lies with WellSky.

HMIS Data Management – presented by Teresa Robinson

HMIS Data Management Reminders

You have BIG visibility, with bigger responsibility

- Only change data that is within your region's Coordinated Entry project
- i.e. Don't exit clients from programs that you don't manage

Ashley had a question regarding exiting clients and if there is a point where DC can get involved. Teresa responded by saying this request has been asked before but that an escalation with the HMIS numbers can be helpful and perhaps we put something in policy in the future.

By Name List (BNL) Report

CE Events on the BNL only reflect the most recent event recorded. When an event occurs, ensure it is entered into the system once.

- i.e. Referral of a client to RRH is only recorded by CE Lead, not the front door agency or the permanent housing project
 - Other events to record before CE:
 - Shelter or CE Access SSO projects that divert clients before a CE referral to PH can still use CE Event to document referrals within their scope of work with a client
- The facilitator of the referral should be the only agency to record

Denise asked about the referral process for CE events and Code Purple emergency shelter. Teresa responded that there is a dropdown list with various event options.

Recording CE Events

- Use correct EDA and backdate mode
- Click on Entry/Exit tab in client profile
- Event can be recorded during Project Start or Interim
- Be sure that Event is recorded only in CE project
- If your program facilitates the referral, you should record the event
 - not if your agency is receiving the referral
 - don't duplicate a referral from someone else

Changes to Clients while Enrolled in NCORR Projects

If an agency needs to remove data:

- Reach out to hmis@ncceh.org and CC: backathome@ncdps.gov

- Wait for data center instructions on next steps
- NCORR approves
- Follow those steps

Extend grace to all staff involved. Data is difficult sometimes!

Updates and Reminders

- HART Evaluation Survey: January 2025 – March 2025
- Coordinated Entry Evaluation:
 - Permanent Housing (Permanent Supportive Housing and Rapid Rehousing) survey to households from January 27, 2025 – March 31, 2025, when they achieve stable housing.
 - Emergency Shelter and Unsheltered surveys to households in emergency shelter or a place not meant for habitation from March 17, 2025 – March 31, 2025.
- April CEC meeting is CANCELED.

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The next CEC Meeting is on Monday, May 19, 2025

Racial Equity Subcommittee Meeting

March 19, 2025, at 11:30 A.M.

Member Attendance: Dr. Denice Cole, Melissa Hewitt, Sommer Rector, Tambra Chamberlain

NCCEH Staff Attendance: Laurel Benfield, Teresa Robinson, Allie Card, Mira Sanderson

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Federal Response

The Fiscal Year 2024 Grant, including funding for PSH (Permanent Supportive Housing), RRH (Rapid Rehousing), and administrative expenses, introduced significant restrictions and policy shifts. These include severe language prohibiting the use of CoC (Continuum of Care) funds for the following purposes:

- Harboring illegal aliens
- Promoting gender ideology
- Promoting elective abortions
- Promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI)

[Link to Scott Turner's Tweet detailing HUD's CoC Program fund changes.](#)

Additionally, the grant expands funding eligibility to religious institutions and includes protections against religious persecution.

Key Questions Raised:

- Impact on BoS (Balance of State) Policies: What do these policy changes mean for BoS policies? Will adjustments need to be made?
- Legal and Funding Updates: The courts intervened, stating that these restrictions could not be implemented. As a result, HUD rescinded all FY24 funding offers, leaving no timeline for resolution.

New State-Level Legislation

A [new bill](#) introduced at the state level mandates drug-free homeless service zones, with an increase for punishment imposed for these offenses. While the BoS has always operated as drug-free, this raises questions about compliance and potential policy adjustments. This bill is very new and may not make it far in the legislative process. NCCEH is closely monitoring it.

Current Funding and Anticipated Changes

- NCCEH Federal Grant: NCCEH received a federal grant through the FY23 Competition to maintain administrative funding. However, the FY24 contract has not yet been received, and potential changes to funding policies and language are expected.
- Equity Considerations: In the past, the Equity Subcommittee successfully integrated an equity section into funding applications, encouraging organizations to reflect on their equitability. If the new restrictions are enforced, this approach could face challenges.
- ESG Funding: ESG (Emergency Solutions Grant) funding supports shelter operations, emergency shelters, street outreach, rapid rehousing, prevention, and HMIS (Homeless Management Information Systems). While funding is not anticipated to be rescinded, these new policies could influence how programs operate moving forward.

Attendees engaged in a meaningful discussion about their fears and the community's response to recent policy changes. There is a shared sense of uncertainty about the future, particularly as it relates to funding, program operations, and the ability to address equity and inclusion in their work.

The group acknowledged that while much remains unknown, it will be critical to adapt and prepare for potential challenges as further developments unfold.

Equity Committee Interest Session

It is essential that we unite and collaborate to advocate for marginalized groups. Laurel has proposed the formation of a broader group dedicated to protecting our communities.

Key Points:

- We aim to facilitate a conversation that includes more voices in the room.
- Consider who in your region stands out as an advocate for representing diverse communities, such as LGBTQ+, individuals with disabilities, youth, Latinx populations, the aging community...etc.
- It is crucial to focus specifically on your communities, as you are directly involved.

Melissa Hewitt suggested reaching out to Bonnie Harper via chat as a potential advocate. Laurel has requested that this team commit to creating a list of individuals within their regional committee that represent intersecting marginalized communities to attend this committee, which will help in forming our larger advocacy group

NCCEH will draft a general letter that includes a meeting link and date to discuss the logistics of the meeting. Committee members will then engage with their respective groups and communities for further discussion.

Dr. Deniece Cole proposed using the phrase “basic human civilities”, as it encompasses the needs and rights of everyone involved.

Bringing it Home Conference

We are pleased to announce that both in-person and virtual options will be available for our upcoming Bringing it Home conference on Thursday, May 15, and Friday, May 16. The agenda will be distributed next week.

Highlights:

- The LEAC will feature two presentations in addition to many speakers, which promises to be very exciting.
- Teresa expressed her enthusiasm for gathering at some point during the event.
- The planning team has been considering networking opportunities, and we would love to meet in person to foster connections.
- Registration will open on Monday.

Next Steering Committee meeting:

Tuesday, May 6, at 10:30 A.M.