

2023 Maryland Rural Summit

Addressing Rural Homelessness





Mark Sewell

Director of Grants Management

Washington County
Community Action Council



Sandy Washington

Chief Executive Officer
LifeStyles of Maryland, Inc.



Carolyn Curry

Maryland Balance of State Lead

MD Department of Housing &

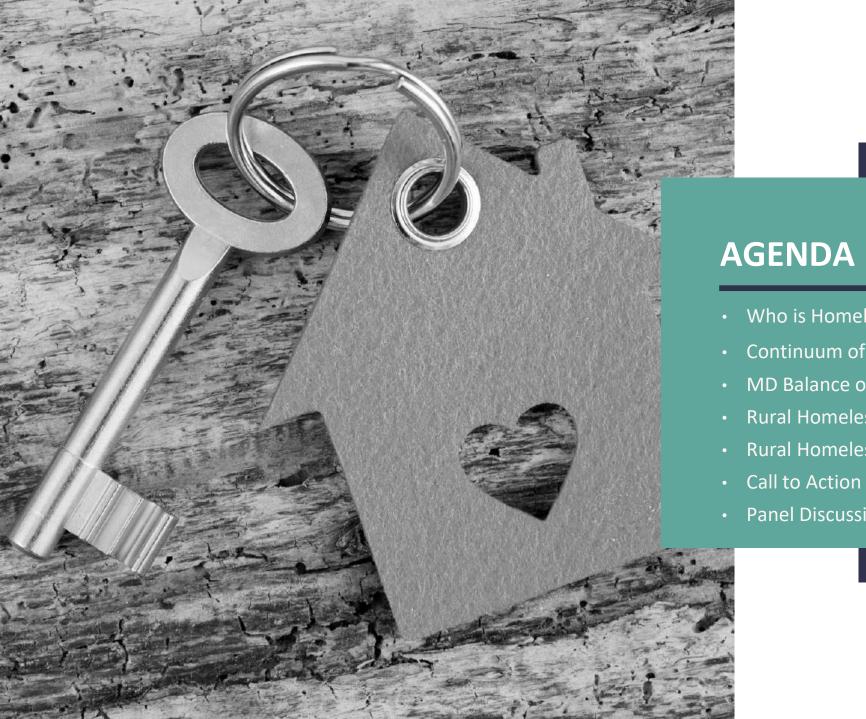
Community Development



Danielle Meister

Director, Office of Community
Services Programs

MD Department of Housing & Community Development



AGENDA

- Who is Homeless in Maryland
- Continuum of Care Overview
- MD Balance of State History
- Rural Homeless Challenges
- Rural Homeless Promising Practices
- Panel Discussion

How Do We Define Homeless?



HUD Definition

- Individuals or families who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence
- Place not meant for human habitation outdoors, park, car, sidewalk, campsite
- Living in an emergency shelter

McKinney Vento Youth Definition

- Unaccompanied youth without family support
- Living in shelters, streets, cars, vacant buildings
- Other unstable circumstances
- Shared housing



How Do We Measure Homelessness?

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

Homeless service providers participate in HMIS which provides an unduplicated count of those enrolled in each program on any given date.

Annual Point in Time Count (PIT)

Every year in the last 10 days of January, communities must conduct a count of those living in unsheltered settings or emergency shelter.

School System Based Database

School districts are required to report the number of students and their families who are experiencing homelessness during the school year.





Who Is Homeless in Maryland?



Female BoS: 46%, State: 40%



Black/African American BoS: 42%, State: 60%



Children Under 18 BoS: 29%, State: 20%

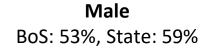


Chronically Homeless BoS: 27%, State: 20%

Adult Survivor of DV



Veterans
BoS: 13%, State: 7% (of adults)





White BoS: 50%, State: 34%



Older Adults (55+) BoS: 18%, State: 21%



Mental Health/Substance Use BoS: 40%



Rural vs. Statewide Trends

Compared to statewide averages, people experiencing homelessness in <u>rural</u> areas are more likely to be:

- A female
- A child under 18
- A veteran
- A survivor of domestic violence
- Experiencing chronic homelessness
- Experiencing homelessness as a family vs. as a single adult

Racial Disparities

- Balance of State: 25% of the population is BIPOC, but 46% of people experiencing homelessness are BIPOC
- Maryland: 47% of the population is BIPOC, but 65% of people experiencing homelessness are BIPOC

Who is Homeless in Maryland?

39% of those experiencing homelessness have one or more source of income: Employment, Retirement, SSI, SDI, VA





75% of those experiencing homelessness have health insurance: Employer, Medicaid, Medicare, CHIP, VA



Where Are People Sleeping in Maryland?



26%

UNSHELTERED LOCATIONS: Individuals who are sleeping in places not meant for human habitation, including cars, vacant lots and buildings, under bridges or in the woods. EMERGENCY SHELTER: Emergency Shelters are intended to serve as a temporary shelter for crisis intervention.

61%





13%

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING:
Transitional Housing
programs provide time-limited
rental assistance and
supportive services geared
towards self-sufficiency and
independence.

Statewide Counts

	Annual Homeless	Point-in-Time	Unsheltered	Sheltered		
Continuum of Care	Served by CoCs 2022	Count Total 2022	Count 2022	% Unsheltered	Count 2022	% Sheltered
Anne Arundel County	1381	307	75	24%	232	76%
Baltimore City	8027	1597	124	8%	1473	92%
Baltimore County	2564	468	140	30%	328	70%
Carroll County	523	77	11	14%	66	86%
Frederick County	1030	216	18	8%	198	92%
Howard County	565	165	22	13%	143	87%
Lower Shore	950	237	68	29%	169	71%
MD BoS	4018	1053	306	29%	747	71%
Mid Shore	654	116	5	4%	111	96%
Montgomery County	2874	581	69	12%	512	88%
Prince George's County	2265	533	53	10%	480	90%
Statewide Total	24851	5350	891	17 %	4459	83%

During the 2021-2022 school year, 16,671 students and their families were identified as homeless under the McKinney-Vento definition, meaning they were unsheltered, in a homeless shelter, or in a couchsurfing/temporary living situation.



MD DHCD Roles in Ending Homelessness

Policy and Systems Collaboration

- Interagency Council on Homelessness
- Maryland Homeless Services Data Warehouse
- YouthREACH

Funder

- \$15m annually for homeless services (\$1m from HUD ESG, \$14m from state funds)
- \$10m annually for anti-poverty and homeless programs through Community Services Block Grant
- \$4m annually for housing counseling, homebuyer education, and foreclosure prevention
- Capital funding for construction and renovation of shelter, transitional, and permanent housing facilities
- HOME-ARP, Emergency Rental Assistance Program, Homeowners Assistance Fund, Emergency Housing Vouchers

Continuum of Care Capacity-Building

- Collaborative Applicant and HMIS Lead for Maryland Balance of State CoC
- Training, Technical Assistance, Monitoring, Peer Networking for All CoCs

MD DHCD Roles in Ending Homelessness

State vs. Federal Funding for Homeless Services in Maryland

		HUD	State	Total	% HUD	% State	
Urban/M	Urban/Metro						
MD-501	Baltimore City CoC	\$28,207,295	\$3,297,802	\$31,505,097	90%	10%	
MD-503	Annapolis/Anne Arundel County CoC	\$2,668,730	\$788,327	\$3,457,057	77%	23%	
MD-504	Howard County CoC	\$1,047,570	\$399,218	\$1,446,788	72%	28%	
MD-505	Baltimore County CoC	\$3,327,292	\$892,206	\$4,219,498	79%	21%	
MD-600	Prince George's County CoC	\$10,574,232	\$1,305,393	\$11,879,625	89%	11%	
MD-601	Montgomery County CoC	\$10,588,312	\$1,075,643	\$11,663,955	91%	9%	
Rural							
MD-506	Carroll County CoC	\$446,834	\$617,997	\$1,064,831	42%	58%	
MD-511	Mid-Shore Regional CoC	\$761,305	\$1,386,805	\$2,148,110	35%	65%	
MD-513	Lower Shore CoC	\$1,244,858	\$1,049,041	\$2,293,899	54%	46%	
MD-514	Maryland Balance of State CoC	\$6,256,782	\$4,475,800	\$10,732,582	58%	42%	
Total		\$65,123,210	\$15,288,232	\$80,411,442	81%	19%	

Urban counties tend to have significant local government investment (often \$10+ million) in shelter and permanent housing programs, compared to rural areas who sometimes may receive very little to no county/city funding.

What is a Continuum of Care?

A collective group of providers AND a community plan to organize and deliver housing and services to meet the specific needs of people who are homeless as they move to stable housing and maximum self-sufficiency.





What do CoCs Do?

- Promote a community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness;
- Provide funding for efforts to quickly re-house individuals and families who are homeless, which minimizes the trauma and dislocation caused by homelessness;
- Promote access to and effective use of mainstream programs;
- Optimize self-sufficiency among individuals and families experiencing homelessness;
- Develop and implement a long-term plan to address homelessness, including housing and service gaps, in the CoC;
- Apply for the annual CoC Program Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA).

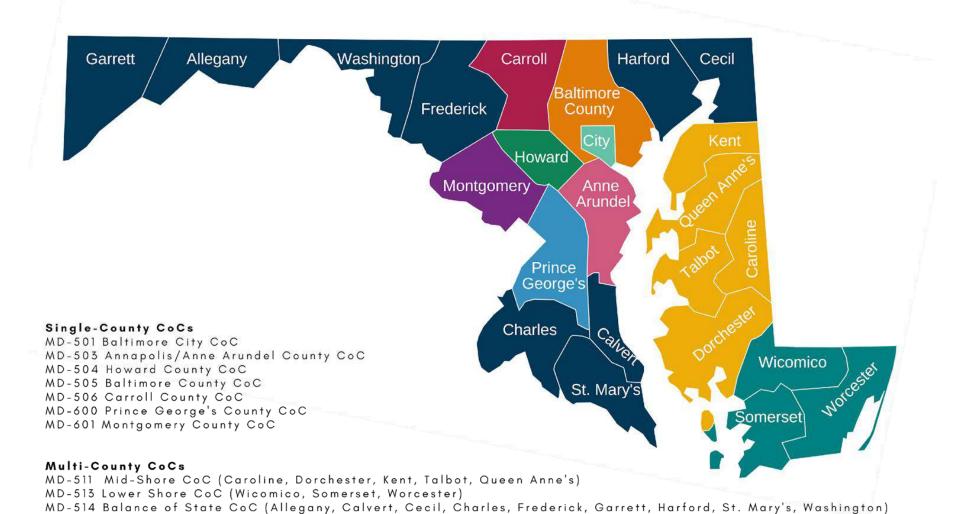


Who Makes Up the CoC?

In order to carry out the primary purpose of the COC Program, HUD requires representatives of relevant organizations to form a Continuum of Care to serve a specific geographic area. These representatives include:



MARYLAND CONTINUUMS OF CARE





16

MD Balance of State CoC Map



MD-514: Maryland Balance of State CoC



CoC & HMIS Lead Agency

Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development

Leads annual application process for HUD funding, provides staffing support to CoC, monitors projects for compliance, improves system and project performance.



HMIS Administrator

Team HMIS

Oversees HMIS system implementation, provides training and end user support for data collection and reporting. Works with CoC Lead and Board to improve system and project performance.



Local Homelessness Coalitions

County/Regional Leadership

to homelessness and work closely with the BoS lead agencies and Board to develop policy, implement CoC initiatives, increase access to housing and services in their communities, and coordinate the CoC members in their area.



CoC Governance Structure

Key Partners/Stakeholders

- Collaborative Applicant: Maryland DHCD
- HMIS Lead: Maryland DHCD, contracting with small company for system admin support
- Counties: 9
- Local Homelessness Coalitions: 7 (1 regional, 6 single-county)
- Public Housing Authorities: 13
- Con Plan Jurisdictions: 5

CoC Board Composition

- Local Homelessness Coalition Members: 15
- Lived Experience: 1+
- State Agencies: 6
 - Housing and Community Development, Labor, Disabilities, Human Services, Education, Health



MD Balance of State CoC Mission

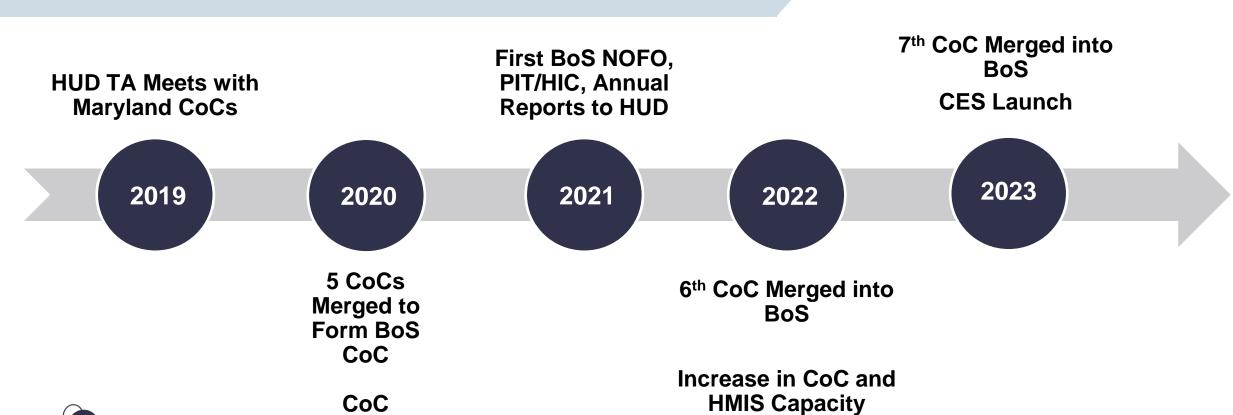
Our collective mission is to make homelessness....

RARE	Prevent homelessness as much as possible, reduce the number of people in shelter and on the street
BRIEF	Transition households out of homelessness and into permanent housing as quickly as possible
NON-RECURRING	Permanent housing placements should be stable and adequate community supports are in place to prevent a return to homelessness



MD Balance of State CoC History

Established Governance Structure



Unique Challenges in Rural Communities

Affordability

Lack of Adequate Shelter

Community Integration

Limited Government Funding

Housing Discrimination

Housing for Veterans

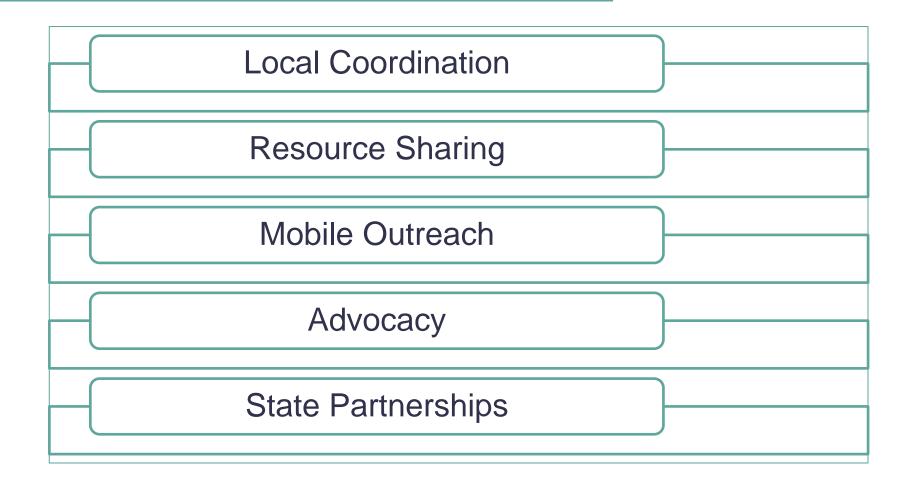
Collaboration

Structural Barriers

Education & Community Engagement



Promising Practices for Rural Communities





Call to Action



GET INVOLVED

Learn More About Your CoC

Join A Working Committee



VOLUNTEER

Local Point in Time Count: January 2024

Learn About Year-Round Needs



ADVOCATE

Contact Your Elected Officials

Meet With Local Decision Makers





STREET GUIDE

Updated November 2023

Homeless Coalition

STREET QUIDE Updated

YTMUCC ACTEMINSAW Hameless Coalition November 2023

STREET GUIDE Updated November 2023

SHELTERS

SHELTERS

Adults Only

Reach Cold Weather Shelter: 301-733-2371, 140 W. Franklin St. Open last Sunday of October to first Sunday of April

Youth (Ages 16-24)

Goodwill Youth Shelter: 240-350-8237

Men Only

Hope Center (Rescue Mission): 301-739-1165, 125 N. Prospect Families with Children

SHELTERS

St. John's Shelter: 240-513-6388, 14-16 Randolph Ave Women and Children

CASA (abusive situations): 301-739-4990, 116 W Baltimore St. Salvation Army: 301-733-2440, 534 W. Franklin St

SUPPORT CENTERS

Reach Day Resource Center: M-F 9am - 1pm, 140 W. Franklin Reach Crisis Resource Program: Tue & Thurs, 9am - 1pm Potomac Community Services Homeless Outreach: Drop In Mon-Fri, 9am -12pm and 1pm to 4pm, 29 E. Washington St. Soul Haven Drop-In Center: Monday-Friday, 10am - 4pm, 119 East Antietam St.

Young Adult Solution Center (YASC): Ages 16-24, Monday-Friday, 10am-3pm, 200 N. Prospect St. 240-350-8237

MEALS/SOUP KITCHENS

M/W/Th: Horizon Goodwill, 8am (breakfast), 200 N. Prospect St. Every Day: Hope Center (Rescue Mission) 12 pm & 7pm M/T/W/Th/F: Salvation Army, Noon-1, 541 George St. M/T/W/Th/F: It's a Blessing, 11a-1p, 141 S. Potomac St. Tue. only: Zion UCC, 5:30 pm - 201 N Potomac (rear entrance) Wed. only: Presbyterian Church, 10am-Noon, 20 S Prospect Thurs, only: Williamsport UMC, 5-6 pm, 25 E. Church St. 4th Sat only: St. John's Episcopal, 11am, 101 S. Prospect St. 1st &3rd Sun: Harvest Breakthrough, 12:30-1:30, Summit Ave. Sat only: Rock of Hope, 4 pm, 62 E. Antietam St.

HOTLINES

- Mobile Crisis: 240-625-2246, wcmobilecrisis@sheppardpratt.org
- Child Protective Services: 240-420-2222
- Elderly and Vulnerable population abuse: 971-673-5200
- Alcoholics Anonymous: 301-733-1109
- Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault (CASA): 301-739-8975
- 211 Maryland (community info / referral services): 211
- Students in Transition (Homeless Education): 301-766-2823
- MD AIDS Hotline: 800-638-6252
- MD Crisis & Suicide Hotline: 988
- Narcotics Anonymous: 800.777-1515

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Public Health

Harford County Health Department

The 2021 Harford County Street Card

SHELTERS & HOUSING ASSISTANCE

If you are experiencing homelessness, housing instability, or pending eviction, contact Harford Community Action Agency (HCAA) Mon-Fri 8:30 to 5:00. No after hours/weekend calls.

Services accessible on: https://harfordcaa.org/

Harford Community Action Agency (HCAA)

EXT 2240 Shelter 411 / EXT 2232 Rapid Re-Housing 1321-B Woodbridge Station Way, Edgewood, MD

SSP (Supportive Services Programs), M-F 8:30-5:00

United Way of Central Maryland Hotline

SARC (Sexual Assault/Spouse Abuse Resource Ctr) (24hr Line) 410-836-8430 Confidential domestic violence & sexual assault services.

Community & Economic Development 410-638-3045 15 S. Main St., Bel Air, MD

Havre de Grace Housing Authority, 101 Stansbury Ct. 410-939-2097

FOOD & EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

Harford Community Action Agency (HCAA)

Food Pantry 410-612-9899 1321B Woodbridge Station Way, Edgewood, MD

Mon & Wed 9-3; Tues & Thur 4-7; Fri 9-12 Assistance with SNAP 443-686-0020

Department of Social Services (DSS) 410-297-6100

2029 Pulaski Hwy, Havre de Grace, MD

Financial assistance, food stamps, medical assistance & related support.

Mason-Dixon Community Services 410-452-9025 708 Highland Road, Street, MD / Mon-Thurs 9-12 Food assistance, energy assistance, counseling and information referrals, and

programs for families and children.

New Hope Outreach (Day Shelter) 410-676-3531

2048 Watergate Ct., Edgewood, MD

Provides breakfast & hot lunch. Monday-Friday 9am-1pm.

Answered Prayers Ministry 443-752-2450

105 Wilson St., Havre de Grace, MD

Offers food, and temporary shelter (based upon availability)

Calvary Baptist Church 410-838-6080

206 E. Courtland St., Bel Air, MD

Hot meal on Mondays 6-7pm in Fellowship Hall (food pantry open also); Food Pantry: Tues 9:30-3, 1 bag food per fam/per wk., Bring Harford Co. ID

Bel Air United Methodist Church 410-838-5181

21 Linwood Ave., Bel Air, MD

Offers emergency financial assistance (no motel nights) on M 9:30a-12:00p Hot lunch on Weds 11:30am-Ipm. Bagged food available M-F 10:00a-3:00p.

Grove Presbyterian Church 410-272-0896

50 E. Bel Air Ave., Aberdeen, MD

Martha's Meal Soup Kitchen on Thursdays 11:30am-Ipm, Deacon's Pantry on Wednesdays 7pm-8pm (Food Only).

Tabernade of Faith Family Life Center 410-939-5017

315A North Earlton Rd., Havre de Grace, MD

Monthly food distribution (free) and financial literacy workshop (fees apply)

FOOD & EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE (cont.)

Hope in Action of Central Christian Church

410-687-0040

The Armory-37 N. Main Street Bel Air, MD Provides meals on Sundays at 12:00pm for individuals in need

FISH (Friends in Self Help) 410-836-6440 Assistance with food, utilities, medical transportation & prescriptions

Prince of Peace Church - The Sharing Table 410-575-3858

2600 Willoughby Beach Rd., Edgewood, MD

Soup kitchen on Saturdays 11:30am-1:00pm; includes bag of groceries

Inner County Outreach 410-272-3278

529 Edmund St. Aberdeen, MD

410-612-9909

211

Provides food pantry, eviction prevention, and utility assistance.

Tabitha's House 410-877-9730

112-D Connolly Rd., Fallston, MD Assistance with food, clothing, & household items. Appointment needed

Grace United Methodist Church 410-272-0909

110 W. Bel Air Ave., Aberdeen, MD

Emergency food assistance by appointment only, Thursday 3:30-5:30pm.

Lutheran Mission Society 531 Legion Dr., Havre de Grace, MD

Clothing, food, furniture and housewares are among available Items.

St. John's Episcopal Church

114 N. Union Ave., Havre de Grace, MD

Grace Place: Lunch/Grocery WED 11:15-12:15; Meals/Grocery FRI 11-12

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church 410-679-4000 1100 Philadelphia Road, Joppa, MD

Emergency assistance & food pantry on Thurs 3:30-5pm & Sat 10-am-12pm

St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church 410-676-5119

1450 Abingdon Rd., Abingdon, MD Utility assistance & food pantry on Thurs 5:30-6:30 & Sat 9-10am.

Bring Photo ID, Utility turnoff and bill, etc.

St Matthew Lutheran Church 410-838-3178 1200 E. Churchville Road, Bel Air, MD

Food Pantry: Thurs 6-7:30pm in Fellowship Hall

VETERANS RESOURCES

Perry Point Medical Center 1-800-949-1003 Homeless, medical & mental health services for veterans 410-642-2411

Army Community Services 410-278-7572 B. 2503, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD

Maryland's Commitment to Veterans 1-800-770-4801 Helping Veterans transition into healthy civilian life.

Aberdeen Vet Center Outstation 410-272-6771 223 W. Bel Air Avenue Aberdeen. MD 877-927-8389

Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Rel Air MD

443-502-2687 Havre de Grace, MD 410-272-3249 Alliance, Inc./Mosaic 410-282-5900 x3

Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF)

EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT

Harford Community Action Agency (HCAA)

shops, ABE/GED assistance & employment assistance.

1010 Gateway Rd., Edgewood, MD Family & Financial Development Programs inc. financial counseling, work-

410-836-0333 LASOS, Inc.

33 W. Courtland St. Bel Air, MD

Adult & family literacy classes in English as Second Language, mentoring, etc.

Maryland Division of Rehabilitative Services (DORS) 410-836-4590

2 S. Bond St.-Suite 102, Bel Air, MD

443-456-3629

Skill training job placement, independent living program for individuals w/

Susquehanna Workforce Center

Bel Air Center, 2 S. Bond Street, Ste. 204, Bel Air, MD 410-836-4603 HDG-2021-D Pulaski Hwy., Havre de Grace, MD 410-272-5400 Job search assistance, employment counseling & skills enhancement.

Maryland State Unemployment Office 667-207-6520

Harford Community College 443-412-2616

401 Thomas Run Road, Bel Air, MD

Adult Basic Education, GED classes and other educational programs; English as a Second Language—non credit—GED /education 443-412-2152

The Epicenter (Showers by Appt in Edgewood) 1918 Pulaski Hwy, Edgewood / Aberdeen Shopping Plaza, Aberdeen

Cafe Edgewood Wed 1:30-4:30; Aberdeen Mon, Wed, Fri 11-3;

Employ Assistance Edge 1st & 3rd Mon 6-8pm; Aber 2nd & 4th Mon 6-8pm.

410-686-3629 Advantage Psychiatric Services—HdeGrace Supportive employment for individuals with mental health challenges

LEGAL ASSISTANCE

410-836-0123 Harford County Bar Foundation Legal Referral Service Referrals for pro bono legal services. Appointments only.

Harford County Community Mediation Program 410-638-4807

125 N. Main Street, Bel Air, MD Dispute resolution services for citizens of Harford County.

800-444-9529 Legal Ald Bureau

103 S. Hickory Ave., Bel Air, MD Legal services for low income individuals & families

Maryland Division of Parole and Probation

2 S. Bond St., Bel Air, MD 410-836-4650 31 W Bel Air Ave. Aberdeen MD 410-297-2200

Public Defenders Office 1-877-430-5187 2 S. Bond St., -Suite 203, Bel Air, MD 410-836-4880

Legal representation in criminal cases. Apply at least 10 days prior to trial.

SENIOR CITIZENS

Office on Aging

410-638-3025 145 N. Hickory Ave., Bel Air, MD

Adult Evaluation and Review Services (AERS)

410-942-7999 2015 Pulaski Hwy., Havre de Grace, MD Provides evaluations for aged & functionally disabled adults who need long-

term care & are at risk for institutionalization.

Habitat for Humanity Susquehanna CAPABLE & Home Repair 410-638-4434 Needs assessment & home safety repair; Eligibility; 65+ and low income

410-836-8202



UNDERSTANDING SUPPORT

FOR INDIVIDUALS SEEKING EMERGENCY SHELTER IN CHARLES COUNTY

Currently, Charles County does not have an immediately available, walk-in shelter, but does have a coordinated entry process with the Department of Social Services as the single point of access. In the future, there will be a "No Wrong Door" process in place where other agencies can be an access point for homeless individuals.

What to do if an individual asks for help with finding shelter:

Available Monday - Friday, 8am-4pm

- Call the Charles County Department of Social Services Customer Call Center at 301-392-6400.
- Go to the Department of Social Services at 200 Kent Avenue, La Plata (for VanGo route support, visit https://bit.ly/30G6bcg).
- Call LifeStyles of Maryland at 301-609-9900 (available Mondays Fridays, 9:30am-5pm).

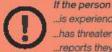
Helpful Tips

- Offer to assist the person with calling or provide them with this information.
- A message may need to be left at one of the numbers above, then wait for a callback.
- The intake call could take between 5-15 minutes. Be mindful of this time if offering your help or providing a phone.
- Ask the person if they are an individual or if they have a family with dependent children who are also experiencing hometessness before calling.

Available After Hours

- The Charles County Sheriff's Office is designated as the County's after-hours initial point of contact for individuals requesting emergency sherter."
- Call the Charles County Sheriff's Office Non-Emergency line at 301-932-2222.
- Notify the station clerk that you are supporting a individual seeking shelter & request an officer to respond to the individual's location to do a welfam chord.
- If an emergency shelter is available, the individual may need to find transportation to the shelter through VanGo, cab service, or rideshare.
 - If these options are unavailable, officers may speak to Social Services regarding alternate modes of transportation, who may contact LifeStyles and/or other agencies if additional support is needed to assist the individual.
 - *Please note that response times will vary due to officer availability, the location of the individual, call volume, prioritization of calls, etc.

When to Dial 911



...is experiencing a medical emergency ...has threatened harm to self or others. ...reports they are a victim of a crime.

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Panel Discussion

For the Room

- 1. What are the takeaways you learned from this session?
- 2. What was most surprising?
- 3. What are you going to do next?

