



**Pinellas Continuum of Care (CoC) Executive Committee**  
**Friday, May 3, 2024 | 11:00am – 12:00pm**

Zoom: [Click Here](#)

**Meeting ID: 829 4375 0234 | Meeting Passcode: 988168 | Dial-In: 305-224-1968**

*The Pinellas Continuum of Care is dedicated to ensuring homelessness is rare, brief and a one-time experience.*

<b>Time</b>	<b>Topic/Materials</b>	<b>Information / Action</b>	<b>Lead</b>
11:20am	<b>Welcome</b>	Information	Kathleen Beckman, CoC Chair
11:25am	<b>Consent Agenda</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Executive Committee Attendance</li> <li>• April 5, 2024 Meeting Minutes</li> </ul>	Action	Kathleen Beckman, CoC Chair
11:30am	<b>CoC Membership Type: Grassroots Advocate</b>	Action	Victoria Kelly, HLA
11:35am	<b>Onboard Software</b>	Information	Pamela Qualls, HLA Board Secretary
11:45am	<b>Advocacy</b>	Information	Daisy Corea, MPA, HLA
12:00pm	<b>Adjourn</b>	Information	Kathleen Beckman, CoC Chair

**Pinellas Continuum of Care Executive Committee Meeting Attendance**

Member	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
CM Kathleen Beckman	X	X	X								
CM Deborah Figgs-Sanders	X	-	X								
April Lott	X	X	X								
Kevin Marrone	X	X	X								
Sean King	X	-	X								

**Meeting Minutes**

**Pinellas Continuum of Care (CoC) Executive Committee Meeting Notes  
Friday, April 5, 2024 | 11:00am – 12:00pm | Virtual Meeting**

<b>Executive Committee Attendees</b>	
Kathleen Beckman	Councilmember Deborah Figgs-Sanders
April Lott	Sean King
Kevin Marrone	
<b>Guest Attendees</b>	
Charlie Gerdes	Amy Foster
<b>HLA Attendees</b>	
Pamela Qualls, HLA	Daisy Corea
Victoria Kelly	

**Welcome and Introductions** (presented by Chair Kathleen Beckman)

- Chair Kathleen Beckman called the meeting to order at 11:00am.
- Daisy Corea, new CEO of the HLA, introduced herself.

**Consent Agenda** (presented by Chair Kathleen Beckman)

*April Lott motions to approve attendance and meeting minutes; Councilmember Deborah Figgs-Sanders seconds; motion passes unanimously.*

- Executive Committee discusses Dr. Susie Paterson’s appointment as Chair of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee. Dr. Paterson serves as Vice Chair and is with the Foundation for a Healthy St. Pete and League of Women Voters.
- Councilmember Figgs-Sanders expresses discomfort voting on the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Chair in these circumstances.
- Chair Kathleen Beckman approves Dr. Paterson’s appointment as Chair of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee.
- The Executive Committee requests formal resumes for future appointments.

**Charter Amendments** (presented by Pamela Qualls)

- Pamela Qualls notes confusion over the role of designees on the CoC Board of Directors.
- Charlie Gerdes notes that an alternate cannot vote. Mr. Gerdes states that appointed entities can only appoint one person to represent that entity on the board. If the appointed individual cannot attend a meeting, they may send someone to take notes. This individual would not be allowed to vote and would not count towards quorum.
- The Sheriff’s Office and Public Defender’s Office are discussed, as they are elected individuals. Boards, such as the Pinellas County School Board, are also discussed. Mr. Gerdes notes that boards such as Pinellas County School Board may designate a staff member or elected individual.

- Committee members suggest removing the language “designee” to eliminate confusion and the impact of the expiration of the interlocal agreement.
- Amy Foster stresses the importance of the Pinellas County School Board on the CoC, stating that upcoming changes may bring groups such as these back to the table.
- Charlie Gerdes notes that charter amendments can be made whenever there is procedurally time to do it but that there is a noticing period.
- Charlie Gerdes offers to review Pamela Qualls’s proposed charter amendments.
- Executive Committee suggests reviewing charters during the August membership meeting.
- Chair Kathleen Beckman asks Charlie Gerdes to define quorum. Mr. Gerdes explains that this is whatever governing documents state; 50% + 1 is common but not necessary. Mr. Gerdes also notes that the CoC is no longer required to consider in-person attendance due to the expiration of the interlocal agreement and could, therefore, say that virtual attendance counts towards quorum.
- The Executive Committee thanks Mr. Charlie Gerdes for his service to the CoC.
- April Lott suggests fidelity to the charter.
- Charlie Gerdes states that each appointed member of the Board of Directors should submit documentation outlining the single individual who will represent that entity on the board.

**Advocacy** (presented by Chair Kathleen Beckman)

- Daisy Corea discusses attending Tuesday’s Lived Experience Advisory Committee (LEAC) meeting where Florida Senate Bill 1530 and House Bill 1365 were discussed, noting the value and importance of lived expertise in all of the CoC’s work. Meeting participants came up with talking points.
- Amy Foster mentions that a meeting with the Sheriff’s Office regarding Florida legislation is upcoming. Ms. Foster notes that some organizations are planning to sue municipalities for a lack of shelter space. HMIS has created a report to show shelter space, and Helen Rhymes with the City of St. Petersburg is noting the importance of providers keeping shelter capacities up to date. Ms. Foster also notes a lack of medical respite beds. Ms. Foster states that her understanding is that the state law conflicts with federal law, which is also being heard this month. Ms. Foster expresses concern over municipalities doing things to protect themselves that harms the system.
  - Kevin Marrone discusses the need to consistently define Safe Harbor as either Jail Diversion or Emergency Shelter.
  - April Lott notes that Lt. Haisch has stated the Pinellas County Sheriff’s Office does not plan to put people in jail for experiencing homelessness. Ms. Lott expresses concern over a lack of availability.
- Daisy Corea is working with Karen Yatchum regarding a county-wide meeting.

**Thrive by Five** (presented by Chair Kathleen Beckman)

- Chair Kathleen Beckman asks Executive Committee to review these documents and provide feedback, noting that something similar may be beneficial for the CoC.
- Sean King clarifies if a partnership MOU and a messaging guide are being suggested. Chair Beckman responds affirmatively.

**April 9<sup>th</sup> CoC Membership Meeting** (presented by Chair Kathleen Beckman)

- Chair Kathleen Beckman requests Executive Committee members attend the quarterly CoC Membership meetings for a show of unity.
- Sean King suggests sending communication to CoC Board members reminding them of the obligation to attend 2 CoC Membership meetings annually.

**Closing and Adjournment** (presented by Chair Kathleen Beckman)

- Chair Kathleen Beckman adjourned the meeting at 12:10pm

## **Proposed Membership Type**

Proposed Membership Type: Grassroots Partner Organizations

Eligible Members: Grassroots organizations active in Pinellas County; these organizations are not faith-based organizations, registered 501(c)(3)s, government entities, or for-profit businesses

Membership Dues: \$50; sliding fee scales available

Benefits: Eligible for all organizational member benefits

Committees and Councils: Eligible to serve on all CoC boards, councils, and committees



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**Florida Senate Bill 1530 and House Bill 1365**

**Talking Points from the Florida Coalition to End Homelessness:**

In light of the signing of House Bill 1365 into law, and on behalf of its members, the Florida Coalition to End Homelessness (FCEH) encourages county and municipal leaders to work with their homeless continuums of care (CoCs). The CoC in your area has the training and experience to follow best practices in ensuring emergency accommodations are safe, dignified, and appropriately targeted to households experiencing homelessness. We are asking local governments to work with their local Homeless CoCs to reduce the impact of this new law on our neighbors who have no other option but to sleep on the street.

Strategies such as prevention, diversion, Rapid Rehousing, and Permanent Supportive Housing are being implemented successfully across Florida through the Homeless Continuums of Care and their partners.

***[Provide local statistics from SPM] ie:***

- ***West Palm Beach COC FL-605 successfully housed 97% chronically homeless disabled persons enrolled in PSH (SPM 7)***
- ***Treasure Coast CoC FL-509 ended homelessness for 92% of their participants (they didn't return to homelessness after 2 years) (SPM 2)***

House Bill 1365 prohibits counties & municipalities from authorizing or otherwise allowing public camping or sleeping on public property without certification by the Department of Children and Families (DCF); authorizes counties to designate the public property for such uses for a specified time period; requires counties to establish specific standards & procedures relating to such property; authorizes DCF to inspect such property and to issue notice; provides exception during specified emergencies and if the county is fiscally constrained

According to an analysis of the costs of these encampments, it will cost an average of [\\$23,910 per tent](#) (including \$3,130 for the initial costs to set up) for one year. Alternatively, providing housing and supportive services will **end homelessness**. Permanent Housing with supportive services costs an average of \$18,530 per bed, per year.

There is not one community that has enough shelter. The housing crisis affects everyone, especially those most at risk of being unhoused or already homeless, and each community must do what it can to help all the residents in their area. The state of Florida's 27 continuums of care have the expertise needed to help their communities.

Together, we can make homelessness in Florida rare, brief, and non-recurring.

**Encampment Costs Estimate**

County	Estimated # unsheltered on a night in county	CoC 2023 Total PIT Count (Sheltered and Unsheltered)	Cost per tent (start up plus annual operating)	Estimated Cost per county to set up and operate for 12 months	Estimated Cost per county to set up and operate for 12 months	Estimated Cost per CoC Coverage Area	Cost estimate per county to set up and operate for 12 months
Pinellas	646	2144	\$ 23,910	\$ 15,445,860	\$ 15,445,860	\$ 15,445,860	\$15,445,860