



New York State Balance of State Continuum of Care

74th New York State Balance of State CoC Steering Committee Meeting

September 4, 2025
9:30am-11:00am

Steering Committee Attendees

Adam Anderson, Cattaraugus
Acting Commissioner Gretchen Crowningshield, Clinton
Crystal Narducci, Clinton
Fern Hurley, Fulton
Randy Viele, Fulton
Lisa Reginelli (on behalf of Alison Jackson), Herkimer
Kelley Gilligan, Montgomery
Jeanine Robitaille, Montgomery
Noel Feik, Otsego
Deb Finger (on behalf of Commissioner Lisa Winne), Otsego
Ashley Brody, Putnam
Piaget Solpiaget, Putnam
Stephen Munford (on behalf of Commissioner Donna Becker), Schoharie
Commissioner John Liddle, Sullivan
Deb Worden, Sullivan
Sarita Green, Sullivan

Guests

Lauren Canetto, OTDA Temporary Assistance
Teah Cerina, OTDA Temporary Assistance
Atricia Graham-Owusu, OTDA Temporary Assistance
Colleen Haberzettl, Sullivan County DSS
Amanda Haley-Beaudette, ETC
Colleen Hayter, CARES of NY
Michele McCool, ROME
Lindsey Mehrman, Clinton County DSS
Amanda Stamas, RSS
Patrick Tallon, CARES of NY
Melissa Witzgall, Catholic Charities Housing Office

Ex-Officio Members

Sonia Tate, OCFS
Linda Camoin, OTDA
Mary Crowley, OTDA
Heather Diamond, OTDA
Arden Estep, OTDA
Jason Gallacchi, OTDA
Sarah Watson, OTDA

Welcome and Introductions

National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH)

A presentation was reviewed from the 2025 NAEH Conference on Master Leasing as a tool to house homeless individuals.

FY2025 Continuum of Care (CoC) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

In July, HUD sent out a notification that there will be a CoC NOFO in FY2025. It is unknown at this time as to the impact on the prior year's two-year competition cycle. More details will be released in the future.

Coordinated Entry (CE) Stipends

OTDA and the CE Committee are finalizing the process for paying stipends to the local agencies in the Balance of State (BoS) that facilitate CE for each county.

OTDA Bureau of Housing and Support Services (BHSS) Regional Meetings

OTDA BHSS' Regional Meetings are coming up in October. Registration is currently open. As in previous years, there will be two locations – Rochester and Westchester. Dr. Dennis Culhane will be the keynote speaker.

Committee/Program Updates

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

The CE Committee and the Otsego Local Planning Body (LPB) are partnering with the State University of New York (SUNY) at Oneonta to conduct a research project that tests the Balance of State Vulnerability Assessment Tool (BoS-VAT) for reliability and validity. The research will focus on the cohort of BoS-VAT assessments conducted by provider agencies in Otsego County.

CARES of NY is currently working on transferring HMIS data from Otsego County's previous CoC to the BoS HMIS.

BoS Racial Equity Committee

The results of the Board Diversity Matrix are being finalized and will be reviewed at the next Racial Equity Committee meeting. The Regional Racial Justice Advisory Committee held their annual summit in August.

SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access and Recovery (SOAR) Workgroup

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) Technical Assistance Center has closed as of August 18. Technical assistance and training previously offered is no longer available, as well as access to the SOAR website. Training resources and information has been saved by OTDA if any providers are in need of these resources. The BoS SOAR workgroup will be expanded to include all counties in the state to discuss SOAR strategies and next steps.

Solutions to End Homelessness (STEHP) Workgroup

The STEHP Workgroup will be meeting quarterly to talk about questions, challenges, and successes related to STEHP funding.

LPB Updates

Fulton

Fulton County has been discussing the Medicaid 1115 Waiver and how the funding and services provided could be used to help Fulton County.

Montgomery

Montgomery County is preparing to open the Warming Center in the Fall. The LPB is also discussing the Medicaid 1115 Waiver and how to best utilize the funding and services available.

Otsego

Otsego County is preparing for the Code Blue season and is working with CARES of NY to transfer their HMIS records from their current HMIS vendor. Agency staff will receive HMIS training in mid-September.

Putnam

Putnam County has started discussing the screenings for the Medicaid 1115 Waiver. Search for Change has begun to fill the 15 beds in their newly expanded Office of Mental Health (OMH) program.

Sullivan

Sullivan County has seen a surge in homelessness with 37 new individual presenting in the previous 30 days, which is an increase of roughly 15 to 20 percent. Many of these individuals have been younger adults.

Schedule of Upcoming Meetings

Cattaraugus – September 17

Clinton – September 18

Fulton – September 16

Herkimer – September 22

Montgomery – September 22

Otsego – September 9

Putnam – September 24

Schoharie – September 8

Sullivan – September 23

Steering Committee –October 3 (in person)

Meeting adjourned at 10:34am.