

**What is a
Continuum of Care (CoC)?**



History

- Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act - signed into law on July 22, 1987
- Renamed the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act on October 30, 2000
- Consolidated and reauthorized by the 2009 Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act
- Authorizes CoC funds and multiple other sources of homeless assistance funding

The local “Homeless Assistance System” including all providers; not referring to just CoC funding

“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 maximize self-sufficiency. It includes action steps to end homelessness and prevent a return to homelessness.”

CoC is...

- A local homeless assistance planning network
 - *Encourages local agencies to form a collaborative, comprehensive and community-based system to end homelessness*
- A HUD Funding Source
 - *Provides funding in the form of a competitive grant to develop projects that further the goal of ending homelessness*

Purpose of the CoC

- Develop and manage a local strategic plan that:
 - *Identifies the needs of homeless individuals and families*
 - *Identifies needs and strategizes solutions for existing housing and supportive services needs*
 - *Increases coordination with mainstream housing and service providers*
- Make CoC funding decisions and adjustments to planning as per HUD directives

CoC Governing Board

Housing Providers

Businesses

Hospitals

Local Governments

Anyone interested in
making homelessness
rare, brief, and
nonrecurring

Service Providers

Continuum of Care



Lee County CoC Structure

HAVE
YOU EVER
FELT
INVISIBLE
BEFORE



Governing Board

- CoC Governance Charter
 - *Outlines roles and responsibilities of the CoC and all participating parties*
 - *Policies and procedures for the governing board*
- Governing Board created in 2013 as required by the HEARTH Act
 - *9 to 35 members, all of whom must be voted on a approved by the CoC General Membership*
 - *Responsible for:*
 - Voting on policies for CoC and Emergency Solution Grant (ESG) funded projects
 - Monitoring CoC and ESG funded projects
 - Developing a strategic plan to end homelessness in Lee County
 - Collaboration of local agencies to create a comprehensive and systemic response to homelessness

Lee County Human and Veteran Services

- CoC Lead Agency
- Responsible to submit grant applications for:
 - CoC
 - *Dept. of Children and Families (DCF) Grants such as ESG, Challenge, and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families*
 - *Others as necessary*
- Responsible to HUD and DCF to comply with regulations and reporting for all grants
- Responsible for monitoring all grant funded agencies

Lee County Homeless Coalition

- Members in good standing with the homeless coalition are considered to be the general membership of the CoC
- Responsible for advocating on behalf of the CoC and communicating with CoC General Membership
- Works with Lee County to complete the annual Homeless Services Day and Point in Time Count