



**Lee County Continuum of Care (CoC)  
Governing Board Meeting Minutes**  
Lee County Human & Veteran Services



Wednesday, May 13, 2026, at 11 am  
[Click Here to Join the Meeting](#)

**Members Present:**

Caitlyn Roberts – Human & Veteran Services  
Erin Dallacosta – Lee County School District  
Keila Santiago – United Way  
Terryn Baah-Acheamfour – The Salvation Army  
Michael Overway – Lee County Homeless Coalition  
Christie Walthall – SVDP  
Jessica Tursi – Goodwill Industries SWFL  
Officer Schilling – FMPD  
Heather Cross - CPE  
Joseph Rea – Centerstone  
Blossom Kapper – Veteran Affairs  
Jessica Turner – Community Advocate  
Diana Giraldo - City of Ft Myers  
Marcia Davis – Housing Authority of the City of Fort Myers  
Carl Baxter – BCW Enterprises and Consulting  
John Tanner – Endeavors

**Human & Veterans Services Staff Present:**

Kayla Towle  
Joan Hoxter  
Lisa Moisan  
Amber Robinson  
Clara Sanchez  
Ana Estrada  
Carolina Alcantara  
Juan Albino  
Matthew Puleo

**Others Present:**

Latasha Cohen  
Johnnie Johnson  
Joey Sylla  
Fabian Flores  
Jazmin Crittenden  
Tremeka Alexander



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**I. Call to Order – Roll Call – \* Established Quorum**

*Jessica Turner, Chair, and Joan Hoxter, HVS*

**A. Attendance**

1. Members absent with excuse
  - Therese Everly – CASL
  - Rae Nicely – Lehigh Community Services
  - Lois Healy – Affordable Home Ownership
  - Carolyn Johnson – Community Advocate
  - Alex Olivares – CCDOV
2. Members absent without excuse
  - Stephanie Neurock – Congressman Byron Donalds

**B. Approval of minutes March 11, 2026**

**ACTION:** Terryn Baah-Acheamfour motioned, and Carl Baxter seconded the motion to approve the meeting minutes for March 11, 2026.

**II. New Business**

*Jessica Turner, Chair, Terryn Baah-Acheamfour, Vice-Chair, Joan Hoxter, HVS*

*A. \*Approval of New/Alternative Board Members*

- Heather Singleton – Community Cooperative

**ACTION:** John Tanner motioned, Michael Overway seconded the motion to approve Heather Singleton as a new board member.

- Rae Marshall – alternate for Christie Walthall - SVDP

**ACTION:** Diana Giraldo motioned, Erin Dallacosta seconded the motion to approve Rae Marshall as a new alternate board member.

- Cecilia Rodriguez – alternate for Erin Dalla Costa – Lee County School District

**ACTION:** Michael Overway motioned, Officer Schilling seconded the motion to approve Cecilia Rodriguez as a new alternate board member.



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*B. Juan Albino – Pit Count Update*

- Juan Albino discussed the PIT Count submitted to HUD at the end of April and reviewed comparisons between last year and current year's data. It was shared that the overall count decreased by 50 individuals, with reductions seen across several household groups compared to previous years. The conversation included a breakdown of age groups, noting an increase in children, families, and individuals over 55, while youth numbers remained stable. The group also reviewed gender and Hispanic population data, noting a larger increase among females and a decrease in the Hispanic count. Veteran numbers have remained stable over the past four years, reflecting continued support for that population. The chronic homeless rate also decreased, while a slight increase in reported substance abuse cases was noted.

*C. Board Seats, Vacancies & Wait List*

- Joan Hoxter discussed upcoming changes to the governance charter, with Joan reviewing several proposed updates. One of the changes discussed was the implementation of a waitlist process. The conversation also covered the process for voting in new members. The discussion included best practices and rules regarding eligibility to run for Chair and Vice Chair positions, as well as increasing the term limits for those roles. It was shared that there is currently a draft of the proposed changes, and the official version will be provided to the Board in advance of the next Governing Board meeting. The Board will vote on the governance charter changes at the beginning of the July 8, 2026, meeting.

*D. Updates on ESG Rush Funding*

- Joan Hoxter provided an update on Federal ESG Rush Funding. The county received notification from HUD regarding reallocated unspent funds in the amount of \$317,956. The funds are going back to the agencies that had those grants, Salvation Army and Centerstone, because of the time constraints on spending the additional money, and will be used to support housing and behavioral health services.

*D. Update on FY2026 HUD NOFO*

- Joan Hoxter discussed that the HUD FY25 grant renewals are in process and shared that the release of the FY26 NOFO is expected on June 1st. Joan shared revised grant renewal report cards to reflect HUD requirements and to separate contract compliance from performance outcomes. Joan shared a new contract compliance checklist to ensure all contract requirements are met for CoC renewal projects. It was noted that the revised renewal report card and checklist will be presented to the board for approval at the July 8, 2026, meeting.

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*E. Veterans Committee Conversation – Michael Overway*

- Michael Overway discussed agencies expressing interest in establishing a Veterans Committee focused on addressing and reducing homelessness among veterans. Michael Overway suggested having a standing meeting. It was shared that Jessica with Hearts and Homes for Veteran has a standing monthly meeting and she could report out work being completed to the General CoC and Governing Board rather than creating a new meeting.

*F. Housing Committee/Resource Committee Convening a Meeting of Faith-Based Leaders*

- Jessica Turner shared that she will be convening the meeting of faith-based leaders and would like to gain a better understanding of available faith-based resources and learn more about their processes. She discussed the importance of bridging the gap between the many organizations within the CoC to strengthen connections and collaboration. Jessica also expressed the desire to involve faith leaders in future meetings and discussions.

*G. CoC Workshops*

- Joan Hoxter discussed the need for all community partners that assist people experiencing homelessness or at risk to engage with the CoC, regardless of whether they receive any federal funding, because the more involvement and collaboration there is, even in small ways, the more progress can be made. It was also announced that Anne McCreedy has returned as HUD TA. She has over 14 years of experience. Information was provided regarding Leading the Way Home and the upcoming May 27 workshop: with the HUD FY2026 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) expected to be released on June 1, 2026, this workshop will bring together current CoC members, funded agencies, and community partners interested in learning how to support individuals and families experiencing, or at risk of, homelessness in Lee County.

Topics will include an overview of:

- Understanding where your organization fits within the Continuum of Care
- Best practices and capacity building for Permanent Housing (PH), Transitional Housing (TH), and supportive services
- Preparing for upcoming HUD FY2026 funding opportunities



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- Strengthening partnerships and coordination among agencies serving Lee County
- It was also shared that we will be using additional Planning Grant dollars, from HUD, for the consulting services of Ann McCreedy, who will be working with us on a series of workshops, doing a deeper dive into SSO, and the best practices, data outcomes, and grants administration/compliance. Rachel Walter, who has worked with Tara Martinson of HVS on the Opioid Abatement Plan, will work with us over the next several months to strengthen collaboration across community partners, clearly identify referral pathways, and best practices, helping us to identify gaps and enhance impact throughout the community. Joseph Rea questioned the consulting done by Third Horizon and why we are utilizing additional consultants. Joan was not aware of what Joe was referring to since it was outside of the scope of work for the CoC. Heather Coss added some additional context regarding the consulting, which was for a CDBG DR behavioral health project. Kayla advised that the work we're doing is specifically for boots on the ground and capacity building for the CoC, which is what HUD planning grant dollars are to be utilized for. Joan and Kayla advised that they would inquire about the behavioral health project and determine if any of the information collected could be used for the work we are doing. They will share what they find out at the next Governing Board meeting.

### **III. Adjournment**

*Jessica Turner, Chair*

- Jessica Turner adjourned the meeting.
- Next Meeting July 8, 2026, 11 am [Click Here to Join the Meeting](#)