

Delaware Continuum of Care Board Membership Fact Sheet

What is the Continuum of Care?

The Delaware Continuum of Care (CoC) is a group of community members, service providers, leaders, advocates, and concerned citizens working together to develop solutions to homelessness in Delaware. The CoC meets quarterly to share information, make decisions, and develop strategic goals. The CoC is committed to ensuring that homelessness in Delaware is as rare and brief as possible, and promoting effective collaboration to ensure that our most vulnerable neighbors are provided with high-quality and compassionate services that best meets their needs.

What is the CoC Board?

The Delaware CoC Board consists of 11-21 members who are elected to Board positions by voting members of the Continuum of Care. CoC Board members govern on behalf of the Delaware Continuum of Care, leading the process by which the Delaware Continuum of Care sets strategic goals and priorities to address homelessness throughout the state. This founding CoC Board will work to develop by-laws that comply with the adopted CoC Governance Charter.

CoC Board Roles & Responsibilities

- ❖ Designate CoC staff for Delaware (Data Systems Lead Agency & CoC Lead Agency¹)
- ❖ Work with the CoC and the CoC Lead agency to make decisions about strategic goals and priorities related to homelessness in Delaware
- ❖ Evaluate and address the performance of Delaware's homeless response system, including identifying gaps and making recommendations
- ❖ Ensure that Delaware remains in compliance with federal CoC regulations and funding requirements
- ❖ Approve Delaware's annual CoC funding application to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, ensuring that Delaware is competitive and receives a high CoC application score. *(In the 2014 CoC funding competition homeless assistance projects in Delaware were awarded \$6.7 million to support homeless housing and services in Delaware).*
- ❖ Work with the CoC and the CoC Lead agency to develop strategies for achieving the goals outlined in Delaware's Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness and the federal strategic plan to end homelessness, "Opening Doors."
- ❖ Determine membership on the annual CoC project rating and ranking committee².

Important Qualities of a CoC Board Member

- ❖ The ability to think about things in the big picture
- ❖ A willingness to compromise and have challenging conversations
- ❖ The ability to prioritize and think strategically
- ❖ An appreciation for data-driven decision making

¹ Currently the Homeless Planning Council of Delaware is the Data systems lead and CoC lead agency for Delaware.

² Any board member that is affiliated with a CoC-funded agency will be prohibited from participating in discussions and decision-making regarding any items that impact CoC funding.