

CT Balance of State  
(CT BOS)  
Continuum of Care  
(CoC)  
Steering Committee  
Meeting

February 21, 2025



# Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Group Agreements for Meetings
- Adopt January Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
- Announcements
- Reminders and Resources for Providers
- Break-out groups
- Love 146 Presentation
- Partnership for Strong Communities Legislative Agenda
- Partner Announcements
- Other Business





BREATHE

# CT BOS Group Agreements for Meetings

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Developed by Consumer Leadership Involvement Project (CLIP)

- Be present and listen actively
- Choose courage over comfort
- Participate to the fullest of your ability
- Take space, make space
- Assume good intent, but also acknowledge impact
- Challenge ideas, not people
- Use "I" statements
- Recognize emotional tax, extra labor, and burden that Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC), Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders (AAPI), Latino/a/x, LGBTQ+, persons with Behavioral Health issues, DV survivors, Veterans and people with lived expertise/experience of homelessness face in some conversations
- Honor the Conflicts of Interest Policy



# Approve January Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

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## Draft January 2025 Steering Committee Minutes

# Announcements



# Reminder: Post Steering Committee Debrief

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- Anyone who has questions or comments about Steering Committee business can stay on at the end of the monthly zoom meeting.
- As always, questions/comments can also be sent [CTBOSCoC@gmail.com](mailto:CTBOSCoC@gmail.com) or call a team member any time!



# Welcome New Steering Committee Members!



Sandra Cobb,  
Community Representative

Kasey Harding,  
Public Health Representative



# HUD CoC NOFO Awards

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- Total award amount: \$68,628,281
- All Renewal Projects funded - Renewals increase of \$5,527,961
  - Cost of Living Adjustment: 5% for HMIS & Supportive Services
  - Operating: 12% for non-TH projects
  - Leasing: 12% for non-TH projects
  - Fair Market Rent: depending on region
- Five new projects awarded:
  - Two CoC Bonus - PSH:
    - DMHAS -Capital Region Mental Health & Mercy: Expansion – services & units
    - Killingly Housing Authority & Access Agency: Expansion – services only





## HUD CoC NOFO Awards (2)

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- Three Domestic Violence Bonus Projects (DOH):
  - Friendship Service Center & Access Agency RRH
  - CT Coalition Against Domestic Violence: RRH Expansion – services and units
  - Safe Futures Joint TH-RRH – services and units
  - Awaiting CoC application score
  - Field Office not yet issuing contracts
  - [Link to HUD awards](#)

# CoC New Project RFP

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- Unlikely that there will be new money this year
- In 2024 CTBOS applied for & did not receive \$6,253,800 (15 projects) in bonus funding.
- Time providers spend on responding to an RFP would likely be wasted.
- If there are available CoC Bonus Funds:
  - Providers will have the opportunity to resubmit 2024 new project applications.
  - BOS will incorporate Steering Committee funding priorities (e.g., CAN equity) when ranking.
  - If DV Bonus funding is available, BOS will issue an RFP.



HUD System  
Performance  
Measures  
Reporting Put  
on Hold by  
HUD





## SEAT (Skill, Educate, Act, Transform) Board Training

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- Currently recruiting for a 10-week training: Black and Latino residents in Hartford and Danbury interested in non-profit Board service
- Non-profits interested in getting connected to trained Board candidates can apply.

# Shared Housing Certificate Program

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- The Shared Housing Institute and C4 Innovations are collaborating with national shared housing experts to lead each a series of trainings
- Primary training partner will be Bay Area Community Services (BACS)
- Trainings are from March-Dec 2025
- [Link to Shared Housing Certificate Program 2025](#)



# Upcoming BOS Trainings

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## **CoC Fiscal Requirements Trainings**

**Part 2: 3/6**

**10-11:30am**

**Target Audience:** CoC grantee leadership, fiscal office staff and program leadership

### [Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 850 5801 5252

Passcode: 394502

646-876-9923





## Upcoming BOS Trainings (2)

### Housing Requirements trainings:

**Part 1: 3/18; 10am – 12pm**

**Part 2: 4/1; 10am - 12pm**

Target audience: Continuum of Care grantee staff, including Supervisors overseeing housing activities and Housing Coordinators as well as others in leadership positions and Case Managers

### [Zoom Link for Trainings](#)

Meeting ID: 851 7878 0207

Passcode: 855813





## Upcoming Trainings (3)

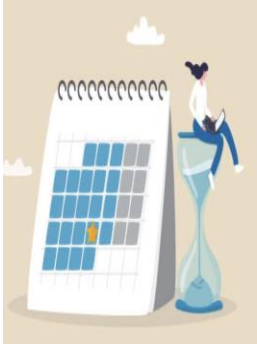
### Grants Management:

- 4/22: 10am-12pm

Target Audience: Senior staff and supervisors responsible for CoC grant management at both agencies that receive CoC funds directly from HUD and those that receive CoC funds through a contract with a recipient agency

[Zoom Link for Training](#)

Meeting ID: 890 6252 6081  
Passcode: 321551



# 2025 Renewal Evaluation Process Updates

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- **Score Change Requests are due 3/7/25 in RED** - Projects dissatisfied with their score may request a score change using the “Change Request or Grievance” feature in RED.
- Per CT BOS Policy, Committee will not consider changes based on:
  - *data changes made after the deadline*
  - *disagreements with the evaluation standards*
  - *circumstances that are commonly experienced across projects (e.g., housing market or staffing challenges)*
  - *an insufficient number of applicants experiencing homelessness*



## 2025 Renewal Evaluation Process Updates (2)

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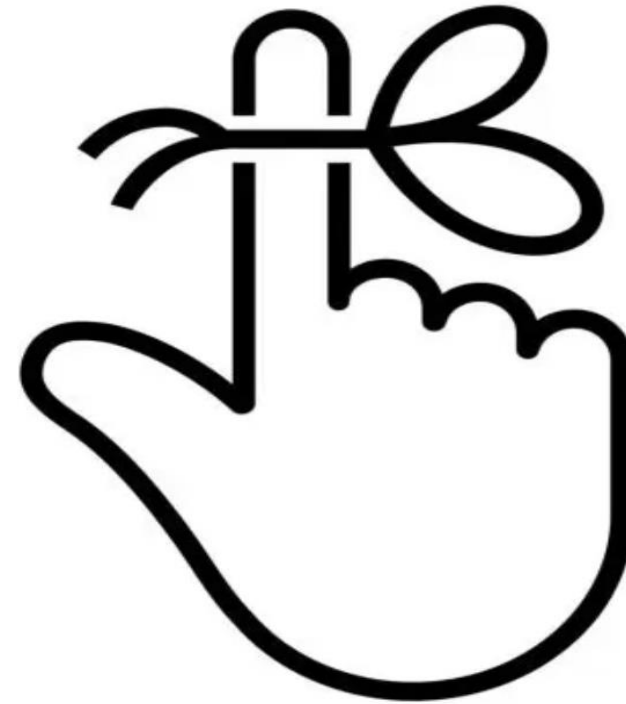
- CT BOS team reviews change requests, makes adjustments, and notifies providers of the outcome.
- Score change requests not resulting in a score adjustment, will be referred to the Grievance Committee.
- Provider can request review by the Grievance Committee if not satisfied with final score
- Grievance Committee issues written decision(s) once the committee has met (target: April 2025)

# DMHAS Housing Stabilization Services (HSS)

- The DMHAS Housing Stabilization Services (HSS) grant provides funding to assist individuals in securing or maintaining safe, decent, and affordable housing as part of their recovery.
- Replaces Homeless Assistance Fund (HAF) Program
- HSS funds must be used to assist persons meeting DMHAS Housing & Homeless Services target population (individuals working w/a DMHAS funded housing or homeless program) and may cover security deposits and/or utility payments.
- The program is administered by Advanced Behavioral Health, Inc.

[Link to DMHAS Housing Stabilization Services \(HSS\)](#)





Resources & Reminders for Providers  
See Document Uploaded to Chat

Coordination  
between CT  
Coalition to End  
Homelessness,  
Opening Doors  
Fairfield  
County, and CT  
BOS





# Federal Funding Reminders

## eLOCCS

- Draw down promptly from eLOCCS. Recommendation is every month.
- Complete all drawdowns as soon as possible after the grant end date. Funds will be unavailable 91 days after the grant end date.
- Generally, reimbursement is for costs already incurred; however, for providers able to meet requirements in [2 CFR 200.305](#), it is not necessary for all costs to be incurred prior to receiving advanced funds. [Link to Homebase slides - Responsible Financial Management in Uncertain Times](#)
- Don't get locked out from eLOCCS. Be sure multiple people at your agency have access to eLOCCS and update eLOCCS user information promptly when there are staffing changes.
- Log-in at least every 90 days to avoid getting locked out - do this even if you do not have funds to draw down. Restoring access to eLOCCS is difficult & takes time.



## Federal Funding Reminders (2)

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- **Submit your APR on time**
  - APRs must be submitted within 90 days of the grant end date. Failure to submit can result in an inability to draw down funds for the current year.
  - The 90-day requirements for APR and end of grant draw downs are literal (NOT 3 months), e.g., 90 days from 2/28/25 is 5/29/25.
- **Maintain documentation of eligibility in all participant files**
  - Maintain documentation that all participants met the relevant category of HUD's definition of homelessness at the time of entry into your project.
  - For PSH, document that participants met HUD's definition of disability.
  - YHDP projects must document that all members of the household were under age 25.



# Discussions

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- Introduce yourself, your role, and how long you have been attending Steering Committee meetings
- Discussion for today:
  - What additional information, resources or training do you need regarding the reminders and resources discussed today?
  - How are you taking care of yourself in these trying times?

Please share suggestions in the chat or email to [ctboscoc@gmail.com](mailto:ctboscoc@gmail.com)

*Reminders: To join a group, accept the invitation. Any issues, return to the main session for assistance.*

# LOVE 146 Programs and Services

CT BOS  
2/21/25  
Tamarra Clark

**LOVE146**  
END CHILD TRAFFICKING AND EXPLOITATION



# PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

- Love146's Story
- What is Child Trafficking
- U.S. Survivor Care (Referrals, Rapid Response, Long Term Services, Transitional Services)



THE STORY OF  
**LOVE146**

**LOVE146**



## US PREVENTION

We reach thousands of youth with education that equips them to recognize vulnerabilities and protect themselves from exploitation.

# WHY



## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Ending child trafficking won't be achieved by one organization or approach.

# 146



## US SURVIVOR CARE

We come alongside trafficked children, remaining a constant support and relentlessly advocating for them.



## PHILLIPINES SURVIVOR CARE

We operate two safehomes in the Philippines providing holistic care for children who've been trafficked.

# DEFINITION

**Child Sex Trafficking** is the sexual abuse of a child (under the age of 18) by another person in exchange for something of value.

## **Key Elements of the Definition:**

- Payment can be in the form of money or in kind (e.g., food, shelter, drugs).
- Payment can be paid to the child or to one or more third parties.
- There is no requirement to prove force, fraud, or coercion.
- “Consent” to prostitution, pornography, stripping, or other forms of commercial sexual exploitation is impossible for a child.

# U.S. Survivor Care

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Love146's Survivor Care Programs provides targeted services to youth who are high-risk, suspected, or confirmed survivors of trafficking.



**LOVE146**

# Referral

## Who Can Refer?

- Anyone can refer a youth to LOVE146 for a Rapid Response.
- Youth must be between the ages of 13-17, residing in Connecticut, and identified as high risk, suspected, or confirmed for human trafficking.

## What to Send:

- Consent to Participate
- Referral Form
- Release Forms



# Rapid Response



WHAT IS A RAPID RESPONSE?

# Rapid Response

## **Rapid Response Provides Information On:**

- The Grooming Tactics of Traffickers
- Real-Life Danger Scenarios
- Online Safety Risks
- Healthy Relationship Dynamics
- Safety Planning Strategies
- Youth-Specific Resources

## **A Rapid Response is NOT:**

- A Forensic Interview

## **What It Is:**

- Focused on providing information
- Does not involve ongoing treatment
- A one-time session, not a series of meetings
- Not an emergency intervention

## **Best Outcomes:**

Youth and families benefit most when immediate needs are addressed, and everyone is in a safe, stable space, ready to participate.

# Long Term Services

LOVE146

# Long Term Services

**Our Survivor Care Long-Term Social Workers are Licensed Master's Level Social Workers who work with providers and caregivers to develop a personalized care plan for each youth. They provide weekly direct services to support the youth in achieving their goals, with services typically lasting between 6 months to a year.**

- Skill Development
- Education and Employment Support
- Crisis Intervention
- Safety Planning
- Application Assistance
- Appointment Support
- Court/Trial Preparation
- Medical Support

*Our social worker's journey alongside the youth and provide consistent support while modeling a healthy relationship for the child.*

# Transitional Services

LOVE146

# Transitional Services

## Eligibility:

- Youth ages 16 and up, currently or previously involved in long-term services
- Suspected and/or confirmed trafficking

## Program Goal:

- Enhance economic and education services for youth healing from human trafficking and exploitation

## Referral Process:

- Referral from Long-Term Social Worker
- A separate care plan will be developed

## Services Include:

- Employment search support
- GED and post-secondary education assistance
- Interview preparation
- Financial aid guidance
- Addressing barriers to employment and education



# Resources



## TRAFFICKING & EXPLOITATION

NATIONAL TRAFFICKING  
HOTLINE

1 (888) 3737-888

Text 233-733 or BEFREE

DCF Careline (use term  
Human Trafficking)  
1 (800) 842-2288



## RAPE & SEXUAL ASSAULT

NATIONAL SEXUAL  
ASSAULT HOTLINE

1.800.656.4673



## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

NATIONAL DOMESTIC  
VIOLENCE HOTLINE

1.800.799.7233



## RUNAWAY

NATIONAL RUNAWAY  
SAFELINE

1.800.786.2929



## LGBTQ

GLBT NATIONAL  
YOUTH TALKLINE

1.800.246.7743



## ALCOHOL & DRUGS

SUBSTANCE ABUSE & MENTAL  
HEALTH SERVICES  
ADMINISTRATION

1.800.662.4357



## LISTENING

CRISIS TEXT LINE

741-741  
Text "LISTEN"



## SUICIDE

SUICIDE PREVENTION  
HOTLINE

1.800.273.8255

# The Hope Factor

*13 Year old in the Phillipines: In my own life, peace is the calmness of my mind and heart; no pain, no anger. And we choose the place and the people that can give us peace; we have freedom of choice and we have the ability to say no to those who can not give us peace.*

**Children are incredibly resilient and with the right services, resources, and caring adults in the youth's lives, we watch youth go on to live incredibly successful lives.**

*"Love146's support has mattered in my life because never have I felt such a strong relationship with a mentor or mental health provider. With Love146, I was finally able to open myself and explore healthy situations that I feel have helped me. I can't explain how much things have changed since I started the program. Now, I feel more comfortable with my surroundings and the people I choose to keep around me. I've not only grown in my mental health, but within school, social relationships, my ongoing future, my own well-being, and the choices I make."*





# Contact Love146

Check out our website for information, volunteer opportunities, donations and support:

[www.love146.org](http://www.love146.org)

**For information and referrals to CT Survivor Care**

**Contact:**

Survivorcare@love146.org

For trainings, and outreach,

**Contact: Shanelle Poole,**

*Training, Outreach, and Prevention Program Manager*

Shanelle@love146.org

P.O. BOX 8266, NEW HAVEN, CT 06530

203-772-4420

203-745-0953

SURVIVORCARE@LOVE146.ORG

“We can keep standing at the bottom of a cliff and caring for those who fall off - or we can build a guard rail at the top to stop the falling.

That’s prevention.

It’s not glorious; it’s smart”

-ROB MORRIS  
LOVE146’S  
CO-FOUNDER

# LEGISLATIVE SESSION & BUDGET BRIEFING

## Governor Lamont's FY26-27 Proposed Budget: Summary of Housing Resources



**Sean Ghio**  
Partnership for Strong Communities



**Bill Welz**  
Gallo & Robinson



# PSC POLICY PRIORITIES

 **AFFORDABILITY**

 **CREATION**

 **CHOICE**

 **STABILITY**

# AFFORDABILITY

Improve and expand funding for the State Rental Assistance Program (RAP) by at least **\$20M per year** to avoid program deficits and support our lowest income families to afford a place to call home while meeting their other basic needs.



# CREATION

**Invest in the creation and preservation of more affordable homes** by maintaining investments in the Housing Trust Fund at \$200M per year and the Affordable Housing Program (FLEX) at \$250M per year, including \$150M for rental homes affordable to our state's lowest income families.



# CHOICE

Support legislation that ensures a **variety of housing types in all communities** so more residents can choose where and how they live. This includes passing Work Live Ride to expand housing options near transit centers and strengthening mechanisms to challenge a municipality that has denied the development of new affordable housing without sufficient reason.



Here For Housing

# STABILITY

**Expand Just Cause Eviction Protections** to ensure all Connecticut renters have quality, safe, stable places to call home.



# JOIN THE CONVERSATION

TAKE ACTION

STAY CONNECTED

## Submit public testimony:

- Visit our 'Take Action' page for opportunities to submit testimony or connect with your representatives
- Visit our 'Stay Connected' page to sign up and receive our newsletters and regular action alerts

## Save the Date!

- [YIMBYTown 2025](#) National Pro-Housing Conference  
*September 14-16<sup>th</sup>*
- [2025 CAHC](#) Connecticut's Affordable Housing Conference  
*November 17-18<sup>th</sup>*





# Partner Announcements

# Other Business?

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# Upcoming CT BOS SC Meetings



Meetings are from 11:00-12:30 unless otherwise noted

- March 21, 2025
- April 11, 2025
- May 16, 2025 – Semi-annual (11-1)
- June 20, 2025
- July 18, 2025
- August 15, 2025
- September 19, 2025
- October 17, 2025
- November 21, 2025
- December 19, 2025

## Zoom Info for all SC meetings:

- [Meeting link](#)
- Meeting ID: 956 4487 8479
- Password: 414595
- Call-in number: 646-876-9923

# CT BOS Team (Housing Innovations)

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CT BOS CoC

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