



[Funders Together to End Homelessness – Baltimore Meeting \(4/17/20\)](#)

Friday, April 17, 2020 - 9:00am to 10:00am

Summary Notes

Action Items:

- HyeSook will provide a summary of funds secured via the Text to Give campaign for the Journey Home
- Amy will tweak the language to make it clear that homeless service providers are eligible to apply to the Greater Baltimore COVID Response Fund – Scott, Elizabeth and Sarah can assist.
- Amy will Check in with Matt the Public Justice Center to see what they are thinking re: eviction prevention work
- Terry will talk with Tracey Barbour-Gillett about any discussion about eviction prevention among community investment/homeownership folks.
- We will Create two subcommittees with a focus on the following two areas: YHDP and COVID
- The Topic Schedule for our calls – still Fridays from 9-10am will be as follows:
 - YHDP on [4/24](#) and [5/15](#);
 - COVID on [5/1](#) and [5/22](#);
 - Full group on [5/8](#) and [5/29](#).

Update from Baltimore Civic Fund – HyeSook Chung

- Have been waiting for guidance from the Mayor about how the Baltimore Civic Fund can be helpful in COVID response and be thoughtful moving forward, especially in the long-term impact.
- Mayor's team has though through different areas of fundraising – some are supporting agencies in program implementation, others in fund development. The Mayor specified Healthcare equipment, food access, public education and outreach, and small business recovery. Homeless services are key in that. Working with Kim Morton and Sheryl Goldstein on this.
- Mayor created the Baltimore City Response Fund, for which we are the fiscal sponsor. Will push that out next week.
- Continuing to pushing the Text to Give campaign for the Journey Home – [See social media toolkit here](#)
- Need to sit with Journey Home folks, Hannah and Jerriane and discuss what other supports would look like. Not fully articulated prevention measures but thinking this will be a long and short-term strategy.
- How much has been raised via Journey Home?
 - Don't have figure – will send it after call. Less than \$5,000 mostly generated by individual donations.
- How it will be used?
 - Will talk with Jerriane and Hannah about that. Not yet decided. CoC board will meet next week to weigh in. There's not enough to have a significant investment in anything. Will probably continue to fund things in our action plan, mostly around shelter situation.

- The Baltimore Civic Fund will be helping with short- and long-term fundraising for Journey Home. Baltimore City Response Fund will coordinate with CoC board, but is likely to focus on housing, evictions and rent. Also have some intention to build out a more clear front door including shelter and diversion support.

Greater Baltimore COVID Response Fund

- See RFP here: <https://www.greaterbaltimorecovidresponse.org/rfp>
- It unintentionally appears that Homeless Services are not included in the RFP. Amy will tweak the language to make it clear that homeless service providers are eligible to apply.
 - May want to propose an additional bullet to make it more clear. Sarah can be helpful
 - Scott will review it for Amy
- Weinberg will ask homeless providers to apply
- As of this morning there are 65 apps totally \$2.4 Million. Suggesting max of \$75K, though collaborative projects could get more. Expect majority to be \$10-25k in grants.
- How are decisions being made?
 - Collaborating funders review all the apps, have a call to discuss, making their own decisions based on their criteria.
 - Baltimore's Promise is backbone, to facilitate and streamline applications and reporting
- Is there a space to highlight the priorities of the homelessness services and Journey Home?
 - That can be done, and it is a responsive fund. The driving factor is COVID response, and emergency needs. Encouraging partners to apply will highlight those needs.

Update from MOHS – Hannah

- Last week they moved over 150 people into hotel rooms from 3 main shelters to protect those at highest risk.
- Completely relocated the single men's shelter as well as the men at Pinderhughes to new shelter at Greenspring to help with social distancing.
- They are working with Health Department on a protocol and guidance to respond to exposures. It is only a matter of time before we have an outbreak in a shelter or other congregate care environment.
- Continuing risk mitigation and planning.
- Hannah will be meeting with Jerrienne soon to discuss mid- and longer-term strategies, like best use of ESG funds. There will be a number of gaps, such as how to provide permanent housing. Will have better sense of direction in next week or so.

Update from Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD)- Amy

- Amy spoke with Michael Braverman at DHCD
- There is \$13 million coming from CDBG. Steve Janes will be responsible for that.
- Planning to use majority of those on eviction prevention and rent support when hold is lifted (currently set for June 8)
- Thinking about targeting resident in three layers:
 - People in public housing – Baltimore Housing will absorb those outstanding rents
 - Residents in housing supported by Low Income Tax Credit – DHCD can identify these people
 - Market rate affordable rentals. Don't have way to access these people. Need to have a plan.
- Amy will Check in with Matt the Public Justice Center to see what they are thinking
- We will try to get a representative from DHCD on one of our calls to talk about the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. Michael said they may have to re-prioritize that fund in light of COVID.

- Hannah is also planning to talk to DHCD
- Terry will talk with Tracey Barbour-Gillett about foreclosure prevention folks/ any discussion about this on community investment side.
- CAP Centers are closed, but that's another point of access for people.

Review of YHDP Commitments

Funder	Interested?	Tentative Amount	Earliest Commitment Date	Notes
Abell Foundation	Yes	\$200,000	June 16 Board Meeting	Aiming to commit upfront; spread over 2 years
Casey Foundation	Yes	\$75,000	Already Budgeted	
France-Merrick	Yes	TBD	TBD	Interest depends on project
Weinberg Foundation	Yes	\$450,000	June 12 Board Meeting	Aiming to commit upfront
Maryland Legal Services Corporation	No	N/A	N/A	Funds legal services. 5 Current YHDP projects may not include legal services.
Venable	Maybe	TBD	TBD	
Krieger Fund/Fund for Change	Maybe	TBD	TBD	
	Total	\$725,000		

You can also review other funding commitments in the [Google Doc](#).

Discussion about Recommended Shifts

Because of the realistic nature of our current COVID-19 landscape, the following are recommended shifts to FTEH-Baltimore:

- Create two subcommittees with a focus on the following two areas:
 1. **YHDP** (staffed by Sara and another member of FTEH-Baltimore)
 - Work in partnership with the YHDP Advisory Committee, the Youth Advisory Board and MOHS to develop a complimentary funding strategy with interested private funders
 - Think about continued support of a youth homelessness services ecosystem
 - Terry will be involved in this subcommittee
 2. **COVID Recovery** (staffed by Amy and another member of FTEH-Baltimore):
 - Influence CDBG and ESG Funds
 - Develop a post hotel housing plan- funding to house as many individuals as possible after COVID?
 - Scan environment/partner grantees- what is the longer-term impact of COVID?
 - Develop diversion program/eviction prevention
 - Redesign homeless services system post COVID
 - Buffy will still in on these calls
- Will alternate topics each week, with YHDP on 4/24; COVID on 5/1 and Full group on 5/8