

## NC 507 Charter Review 2022

### “How we got to the proposed Charter”

NC 507 Charter states: *Collaborative Applicant Proposes revisions to this governance charter, to ensure compliance with all procedures and policies needed to comply with HUD requirements and with HMIS requirements, including a code of conduct and recusal policy for the NC 507 CoC Governing Board members and any person acting on behalf of the NC 507 CoC Governing Board.*

**June 17 and 24, 2022:** Meetings with CoC Coordinator, COC Chair, Vice Chair, and 2 Executive Committee members to discuss if there is a need to revise, and if yes, begin soliciting suggestions for revisions

**June 28, 2022:** Public Comment to Charter added to website. Included two options for submission: email to staff or submission via web to allow for anonymity.

**July 1, 2022:** Collaborative Consultation with HUD TA, topics discussed: CoC Charter Revisions process, CoC monitoring by Collaborative Applicant

**July 11, 2022:** Collaborative Consultation with HUD TA, topics discussed: CoC Charter Revisions process, CoC monitoring by Collaborative Applicant, CoC strategic planning specific to unsheltered

**July 11, 2022:** CoC Member Mtg. Informed membership of public comment – including anonymous option.

**July 22, 2022:** Public Comment Period for Charter closed

Collaborative Applicant compiled suggestions, revisions, and comments for presentation to the Governing Board on July 28, 2022 and again on August 8, 2022 for presentation to the full NC 507 Membership for adoption.

Presentation to Governing Board on July 28, identified a number of items considered for revised Charter. They included:

- Grammar & Clarity – committees, member types, HUD requirements
- Consistent language throughout, ie: NC 507 CoC naming convention
- Executive Committee if it does not have 50% + 1 of its seats filled, the NC 507 Governing Board will fulfill the role
- Organizations may only have 1 seated Committee chair at a time – limits undue influence on the Executive Committee
- Governing Board Chair, at their discretion can declare a "closed session." Considerations for closed sessions include conflicts-of-interest and confidentiality
- Recommend NC 507 CoC Membership mtgs move to once a quarter – every other meeting would be in person
- Added CoC-EOC Committee
- Operating Year: Jan 1-Dec 31
- Review of agenda and request for topics to appear board and / or committee agendas
- Grievance Policy

All suggestions were considered. There were no “material” changes or requests for “material” changes to the Charter.



## **NC 507 Continuum of Care Governance Charter**

**Amended July 12, 2021**

**Amended August 8, 2022**

Proposed 2022 Charter



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Proposed 2022 Charter



## Article I. Purpose and Duration

### Section I. Purpose

The purpose of the NC 507 CoC is to create a collaborative, inclusive, community-based process and approach to plan for and manage homeless assistance resources and programs effectively and efficiently to end homelessness in the jurisdiction as specified in the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), 24 CFR Part 578, Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act: Continuum of Care Program. The Governance Charter identifies the composition, roles, responsibilities, committees, and processes involved in the planning and programming of the Wake County CoC. Additionally, the NC 507 CoC serves as the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) recognized decision making body for the Continuum of Care Rule 24 CFR 578, Subpart B, entitled "Establishing and Operating a Continuum of Care."

### Section II. Duration

HUD regulations (24 CFR part 578.7(5)) require CoCs to review and update their governance charters annually. The NC 507 CoC will review, update, and approve this governance charter at least annually. Amendment of the charter requires a vote of the NC 507 CoC membership at a regularly scheduled membership meeting.

## Article II. Mission, Vision, and Values

### Section I: Mission

The NC 507 CoC plans, develops, and implements comprehensive and coordinated strategies across funding sources and systems to address homelessness in Wake County.

### Section II: Vision

The vision of the NC 507 CoC is to ensure that homelessness is rare, brief, and non-recurring. We will achieve this vision through our shared values and actions.

### Section III: Values

**Housing First:** We recognize that housing is a human right and will not require pre-conditions for access to housing.

**Trauma-Informed:** We will use trauma-informed practices in how we work together and serve people experiencing homelessness.

**Equity and Justice:** We work to eliminate discrimination so that race, ethnicity, gender identity, or sexual orientation are not predictors of who becomes homeless or predictors of outcomes within the homeless system. We are committed to re-envisioning just systems to prevent and end homelessness.

**Leadership by People with Lived Experience:** We will be accountable to people experiencing homelessness and ensure there are meaningful and accessible ways to participate in shaping decisions.



**Transparency:** We believe in being transparent with people experiencing homelessness and our community.

**Efficiency:** We implement efficient systems that help people experiencing homelessness get housing as quickly as possible because every day a person spends unhoused is a day too many.

**Collaboration:** We know working together is better than working alone.

**Client-Driven:** We believe that people experiencing homelessness are experts in their own lives and that service providers' role is to support strengths and overcome barriers.

### **Article III: CoC Membership**

#### Section I: Definition

The CoC is made stronger through the participation of broad and diverse Members. Membership in the CoC is open to any individual or organization that embraces the mission, values, and goals of the CoC.

Organizations and unaffiliated individuals residing or working within Wake County may be members of the CoC. The NC 507 CoC will actively recruit by connecting with community members on a regular basis and making regular calls for new members through various forms of correspondence for a broad and inclusive membership including, but not limited to persons with lived experience of homelessness, nonprofit homeless assistance providers, victim service providers, faith-based organizations working to reduce homelessness, local governments, businesses, funders, advocates, public housing agencies, school districts, social service providers, mental health and substance use agencies, healthcare providers, universities, affordable housing developers, landlords, and criminal justice providers.

The NC 507 Membership, Governing Board, and Collaborative Applicant all serve as the communitywide champions on issues related to homelessness and the effort to achieve functional zero, effectively ending homelessness by providing leadership around homeless efforts and policy, forming and maintain effective partnership, increasing public awareness and relations, fundraising to support effective strategies and leading advocacy efforts.

#### Section II: Voting

The following levels of membership exist:

- Non-Voting Members
- Voting Members

#### *Non-Voting Members*

Any person or organization who attends at least one meeting per calendar year is considered a Non-Voting Member in good standing of the NC 507 Continuum of Care. Non-Voting Members may choose to receive information from the NC 507 CoC including, but not limited to, meeting notices, Continuum of Care meeting minutes, and Continuum of Care reports. To remain in good standing, Non-Voting Members must attend at least one meeting per calendar year to maintain their membership.



### *Voting Members*

To become a voting member of the NC 507 CoC, an individual or representative of an agency must be a member of the NC 507 CoC in good standing, be located or provide services in the CoC's geographic area and complete a NC 507 CoC Voting Member Application Form. Each application will be reviewed and approved by the CoC Nominations Committee following CoC-approved application standards. Once the application form has been approved and the attendance requirements met, the Collaborative Applicant will notify the person/agency of their voting status. There is no minimum or maximum number of voting members on the NC 507 CoC.

The following types of voting members exist:

### *Organization Voting Members*

An agency/organization may apply to receive voting status after attendance at one Continuum of Care meeting. An agency/organization may identify two (2) persons who may vote on behalf of the agency/organization. Only one (1) representative of an agency/organization may cast a vote on each action. If neither representative can attend a duly called meeting, the organization may, with prior notice to the Collaborative Applicant, designate a proxy. Designations of proxies to conduct business should be rare. If a Continuum of Care voting member is unable to routinely conduct business, the agency/organization should seek to assign representation to another individual.

Voting members must attend at least 75% of CoC meetings in a calendar year to remain active as voting members.

### *Individual Voting Members*

An individual who does not work for or represent an agency/organization may be an individual member. An individual may apply to become a voting member after attendance at one Continuum of Care meeting.

In the case that individual members make up more than 40% of the total CoC membership of both organization and individual voting members present for a vote, the total votes of the individual members will be proportionally weighted so that they do not count for more than 40% of the total CoC membership's vote on any proposed action.

## Section III: Membership Duties

Duties shall include:

- Advise CoC Board on policies via committee participation
- Recommend funding priorities to the CoC Board
- Vote on CoC governing issues such as revisions to the CoC charter

## Section IV: Meetings and Communications

The NC 507 CoC Governing Board will call meetings of the full NC 507 CoC membership at least twice annually. The Collaborative Applicant will announce the date, time, and location of the CoC meetings at least 5 days in advance. Results of actions taken at a CoC meeting shall be published on the website within 7 days. If the meeting is scheduled to take place virtually, a link to the meeting will be provided with the published notice.

Special Governing Board requests / appeal can be made by submitting an email to the collaborative applicant CoC coordinator at: [hello@partnershipwake.org](mailto:hello@partnershipwake.org). The request / appeal



should include the nature of the request (who, what, where, why, and / or when). To be included on the agenda the request should be made within 7 days of the Board meeting.

The CoC Membership will receive information about CoC goals, plans, and operations via a variety of means including a newsletter, notices, agendas, and minutes of committee and CoC Board meetings, all posted on the CoC website. All current and archived information will remain on the website readily accessible to interested parties.

Attendance at meetings of the Board and Committee meetings will be open to any interested person *to observe*.

#### Section V: Action without Meeting

- The Board or Committee may take an action without a meeting, provided:
- The action is within its authority,
- it is approved via email or conference call (or letter when email is unavailable),
- it is approved by a 2/3 majority of all then-seated Board or Committee members who are entitled to vote on the matter and meet quorum requirements,
- the Board or Committee explains the urgency of acting without a meeting.

#### Section VI: Recruitment

The NC 507 CoC will publish and appropriately disseminate, in conjunction with the Collaborative Applicant, an open invitation at least annually for persons within the NC 507 CoC area to join as new CoC members. The Collaborative Applicant will document recruitment efforts.

## **Article IV. CoC Governing Board**

### Section I. CoC Governance Model

The Governing Board is the policy-setting and decision-making body for the CoC, which is responsible to the CoC membership to fulfill its HUD-defined responsibilities as defined in this charter. The Governing Board is responsible for overseeing the planning, coordination of resources, and evaluation of results for the community. The Governing Board is empowered to create standing committees and ad-hoc working groups to achieve community goals. The Governing Board will look to recommendations from its committees and workgroups to develop sound policies and practices that meet the needs of the community.

### Section II. Roles and Responsibilities of the Governing Board

The responsibilities required of the CoC by HUD in the Interim Rule and local requirements are assigned to the Governing Board as outlined below:

- Engage community leaders to develop and oversee implementation of comprehensive strategies to reduce and end homelessness in Wake County.
- Assess the performance of the CoC; identify gaps; develop and implement strategies to address gaps and improve the overall CoC performance, including overseeing the implementation of best practices.
- Consult with the Collaborative Applicant and HMIS Lead to follow and update the Governance Charter as needed.



- Recommend to the CoC membership for a vote, any amendments as they arise.
- Receive recommendations on the recipient and sub-recipient performance targets appropriate for population and program type, along with performance and outcomes of ESG and CoC programs.
- Approve the CoC HMIS data privacy plan, data security plan, and data quality plan.
- Establish priorities that align with local and federal policies for recommending projects for CoC related grant funding.
- Coordinate with the Collaborative Applicant on any other funding related to CoC activities or funding.
- Call meetings of the full CoC membership, at least semiannually
- Appoint committees and workgroups to facilitate the work of the CoC.

### Section III: Size and Membership of the NC 507 CoC Governing Board

The Board will consist of no more than 22, and no fewer than 15 members, all of whom will have one vote. In keeping with the CoC's values, the CoC will work to ensure diversity in experience and representation on the board regarding racial and ethnic diversity, disability, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, history with the criminal justice system, income, and education. No single organization may hold more than one seat on the Board. The following seats represent stakeholders that are either appointed, nominated, or elected:

**Four (4) jurisdictional/public housing organizations will have permanent seats with representatives to appointed by their organizations:**

- City of Raleigh Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) entitlement jurisdiction
- Wake County Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) entitlement jurisdiction
- City of Raleigh Housing Authority
- Wake County Housing Authority

**Six (6) System Partners will be nominated by the Board Nominating Committee:**

- Up to six System Partner Representatives, such as but not limited to representatives from school districts, medical providers, mainstream benefits or service providers, faith representatives, business representatives, criminal justice, and court systems.
- If any of the permanent members named in the section above choose to not join as CoC Board members, additional System Partner spots may be designated.

**Six (6) members will be elected by CoC organization members to represent the following homeless system service providers:**

- Domestic Violence
- Coordinated Access/Day Programs
- Shelter
- Permanent Housing





- Two flexible seats

**Four (4-6) members who are currently or formerly experiencing homelessness will be elected by people with lived experience.** Board Members who represent homeless or formerly homeless individuals will not count toward an organization's total unless they hold management positions within those agencies.

The CEO / Executive Director of the Collaborative Applicant will be a nonvoting member of the Board. The Collaborative Applicant seat will not count towards a meeting quorum.

#### Section IV: Process for Board Member Selection

The CoC is committed to a diverse and inclusive Board in terms of race, gender, sexual orientation, immigration status, and other factors. The Membership / Nominating Committee will be charged with monitoring diversity of the Board and undertaking efforts to recruit a diverse membership. All members of the NC 507 CoC Governing Board will demonstrate a professional interest in, or personal commitment to, addressing and alleviating the impacts of homelessness on the people of the community.

#### Section V: Terms of Office

The members of the NC 507 CoC Governing Board shall serve two-year staggered terms so that the Board membership does not turn over all at once. The Governing Board will have two officers (Chair and Vice Chair), who will be selected by the members of the Board for two-year terms. Any member of the Board may serve as an officer. Board officers may serve up to two consecutive terms.

#### Section VI: Meeting Frequency

The Governing Board will decide how frequently to meet, but, in no event, shall the Board meet less frequently than every other month to conduct the business of the CoC. The Governing Board shall establish a published meeting schedule of regularly scheduled meetings before the start of each calendar year. The first Governing Board seated under this Charter shall establish a regular meeting schedule at its first meeting. Meeting schedules and agendas will be posted on the CoC website by the Collaborative Applicant. Agendas will be published at least 5 days in advance of a Board meeting.

#### Section VII: Vacancy, Removal, and Resignation

In the event of an Elected Seat vacancy, the members of the NC 507 CoC Governing Board will elect a successor to hold the vacant seat for the remainder of the term of the person vacating the seat. At the end of the term, a regular election will be held as described in this charter. In the event of an Appointed Seat vacancy, the Appointed Entity must appoint an individual designee to fill the vacant seat.

Members of the NC 507 CoC Governing Board may remove a Board member (nominated or appointed) who is absent for two (2) regularly scheduled Board meetings in any twelve-month period. Unexcused absences from special meetings will generally not be considered in this calculation but may be included as appropriate. Absences are considered excused if the CoC Board Chair is notified within 8 hours of the meeting via phone, e-mail, or letter.

NC 507 CoC Governing Board members (elected or appointed) may also be removed by a  $\frac{3}{4}$



vote of the NC 507 CoC Governing Board then-seated for cause including but not limited to:

- Failure to perform Board duties
- Failure to comply with this Charter and/or applicable policies
- Engaging in conduct that constitutes a conflict of interest
- Engaging in behavior that causes harm to the reputation of the NC 507 CoC

Such seats will then be filled through the process described above under vacancies.

Unless otherwise provided by a written agreement, any member of the NC 507 CoC Governing Board may resign at any time by giving written notice to the Chair. Any such resignations will take effect at the time specified within the written notice or if the time is not specified in the written notice, it will take effect upon its acceptance by the NC 507 CoC Governing Board.

#### Section VIII: Voting and Quorums

A meeting quorum will consist of 50% +1 of the sitting CoC Governing Board members. Attendance at a meeting is defined as in person or via telephone/video when available. Votes may also be held and confirmed by the same quorum via email, for time-sensitive situations. At the discretion of the Governing Board Chair, a "closed session" may be called to protect or maintain confidentiality.

#### Section IX: Code of Conduct/Conflict of Interest/Recusal Process for Continuum of Care Board

No member may participate in or influence discussions or resulting decisions concerning the award of a grant or other financial benefits to the organization that the member represents or to themselves as individuals. Therefore, any individual participating in or influencing decision making must identify actual or perceived conflicts of interest as they arise and comply with the letter and spirit of this policy. Disclosure should occur at the earliest possible time and if possible, prior to the discussion of any such issue. Individuals with a conflict of interest should recuse themselves from discussion and voting on any issue in which they may have a conflict.

The Continuum of Care will approve a Conflict-of-Interest Policy annually.

Written disclosure statements will be reviewed and signed by each member upon joining the board, any time conflicts of interest change, and annually. Members will not be permitted to participate in any discussion or vote until the statement is on file. All voting members shall have the right to recuse themselves from voting on the matter without providing an excuse.

#### Section X: Operating Year

The operating year of the NC 507 CoC follows a calendar year, commencing on January 1st and ending on the 31st day of December.

## **Article V: Committees**

### Section I: Standing Committees

The work of the CoC is extensive, and there are many responsibilities that a single entity, cannot effectively manage on its own. Therefore, the CoC, through its Governing Board, will establish committees (on-going) and time-limited workgroups to facilitate the work of the CoC. Each committee and workgroup will have a clear purpose, publish agendas and minutes, and communicate its findings, recommendations, and concerns to the Governing Board.

In establishing committees, the Governing Board will include categories of expertise and/or stakeholder groups it desires to include on each committee. The Nominations Committee of the



NC 507 CoC will be charged with seeking individuals to fill these slots and then presenting the names and qualifications to the Governing Board, which will vote to approve them.

Committee membership should reflect the diversity of the community. To the extent feasible, persons with lived experience and at least one Board member should be part of every committee. Committees will be open to persons (CoC members, Collaborative Applicant staff, and others) who have expertise and interest in the subject matter of the committee, as well as persons with lived experiences. Committees may elect a chair, subject to ratification by the Board, except for the Nominating Committee, which will be chaired by the Vice-Chair of the Governing Board. To limit undue influence of the Executive Committee, Organizations may have only one person chair a committee simultaneously.

Standing committees shall include but not be limited to:

#### Executive Committee

The Executive Committee will be composed of the NC 507 CoC Governance Board Chair and the Chair of each the Governance Committees. The Executive Committee is responsible for ensuring that members and committees are fulfilling their responsibilities in compliance with governing documents (especially the conflict-of-interest policy), funder requirements, and legal statutes. It sets the agenda for CoC Governing Board meetings and CoC Membership meetings. The Executive Committee will receive written grievances as noted in Section VIII of this Charter and review and respond to the grievance within fifteen business days of the grievance. The Executive Committee also convenes ad hoc committees for specific tasks and/or special issues.

Should the Executive Committee not have 50%+1 seats filled (4 seats), the Governing Board will fulfill the requisite task.

#### Funding Review Committee

The Funding Review Committee reviews and ranks project applications for the CoC Program and other approved funding for recommendation to the CoC Governing Board. Collaborative Applicant staff will create and recommend a fair and transparent process that includes a documented grievance process and recommends the scoring and ranking criteria for projects eligible for funding under the CoC Program to be approved by the funding review committee. Scoring and review committee members are approved by the CoC Governing Board. Homeless services agencies receiving or requesting CoC funding are prohibited from participating in this committee.

#### Nominations Committee

The Nominations committee receives, review and recommends persons to serve on the NC 507 CoC Governance Board and its committees. The Nominations committee engages in recruitment activities to engage as many and diverse stakeholders in the CoC as possible. This committee works in collaboration with CoC Governing Board to develop any qualifications for membership in CoC entities as deemed necessary.

#### Coordinated Access System Committee

The committee for the Coordinated Assessment System (CAS) provides macro-level oversight of the coordinated assessment system. The committee, in coordination with the Coordinated Assessment (Centralized Intake) administering agency, troubleshoots issues and makes recommendations to the CoC Governing Board and the full CoC membership on any macro-level changes for system improvement, such as significant changes to policy and prioritization of people



experiencing homelessness, CE Policies and Procedures, and Written Standards. This committee must include representation from the CoC Collaborative Applicant.

#### Data Advisory Committee

The Data Advisory Committee identifies needs for HMIS training and reviews HMIS reports to be submitted to funders such as HUD or ESG jurisdictions. This committee is also responsible for reporting periodically on the status of data completeness and other data quality measures to the CoC Governance Board and the CoC Membership. The members on the data advisory committee regularly review data policies and procedures and provide recommendations on how system-wide data performance can be improved. In collaboration with the HMIS Lead, the committee will ensure the completion of the Annual Gaps Analysis and complete system and project-level performance evaluation and data monitoring.

#### Lived Experience Committee (new)

The CoC recognizes that due to societal and institutional inequities that people of color are disproportionately affected by homelessness and poverty. The CoC believes that there should be no decisions about us, without us. We are committed to ensuring decisions, resources, and participation are not only diverse, including race, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, religion, ethnicity, age, neurodiversity, disability status, housing status, citizenship, but are also implemented equitably to the people and areas that are disproportionately affected by homelessness and poverty.

The Lived Experience committee will provide the consumers' perspective to committees, workgroups, and the Board.

#### Racial Equity Committee (TBD)

The Racial Equity committee evaluates the NC 507 CoC policies and data related to racial equity. The purpose of this committee is to ensure that equal access to safe and affordable services and housing is the norm for African Americans, Indigenous people, and Latinx peoples. This committee will also monitor the extent that these populations are overrepresented in the homelessness system, recommends policy changes based on data and best practices, creates, and supports system partnerships, and develops plans and processes to assess whether the CoC's policies and resource allocation decisions are positively impacting inequities among homeless individuals and families in the community.

#### CoC – EOC

The primary role of the CoC-EOC is to assist and oversee the management of “emergency” events as they arise. Activation would be determined by the set guidelines and protocols that are set forth by this committee and approved by the NC 507 CoC. The benefit of having such a system in place would be to have a unified command structure and communications strategy for large scale events or events where multiple people/agencies are impacted. The overall objective would be to establish a scalable standard response structure that would be approved through the CoC and its partners. This work would also consider existing structures and policies and expand on those where feasible to develop the standard guideline.



## Article VI: Collaborative Applicant

### Section I: Selection Process

Once the CoC Governing Board is in place, the Governing Board will develop a written, transparent process to select and approve a Collaborative Applicant for a five-year term with the understanding that a Collaborative Applicant may be selected more frequently if there are performance concerns.

The Raleigh Wake Partnership to End and Prevent Homelessness serves as the Collaborative Applicant for the NC 507 CoC.

### Section II: Role

The Continuum of Care must designate a legal entity that is also a Continuum of Care Program eligible applicant to serve as the Collaborative Applicant. The Collaborative Applicant is responsible for administering a fair, consistent, and transparent funding process; and collecting and combining the required application information from all Continuum of Care Program funded projects within the geographic area. The Collaborative Applicant is also responsible for submitting the annual application to HUD for Continuum of Care Program funding and to apply for Continuum of Care Planning dollars. These and any additional responsibilities are documented in the Continuum of Care Collaborative Applicant Memorandum of Understanding.

Before the submission of the annual application to HUD for Continuum of Care Program funding, the Collaborative Applicant must submit a final draft of the application to the CoC Governing Board for approval. Depending on the timing of the submission to HUD, the CoC Governing Board and Collaborative Applicant will create a timeline for submission to the Continuum of Care. The Collaborative Applicant in Wake County will also provide staff and leadership to the various committees and workgroups that constitute the CoC.

Serve as staff to the CoC Governance Board, its active committees and the CoC Membership providing technical assistance, research, policy guidance, and other duties as requested and assigned. Execute recommendations of the NC507 Continuum of Care Governance Board, committees, and work groups.

### Section III: Responsibilities

The responsibilities of the Collaborative Applicant include:

- Propose revisions to this governance charter, to ensure compliance with all procedures and policies needed to comply with HUD requirements and with HMIS requirements, including a code of conduct and recusal policy for the NC 507 CoC Governing Board members and any person acting on behalf of the NC 507 CoC Governing Board.
- In consultation with recipients of Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds within the CoC's geographic area, establish and operate a coordinated access system that provides an initial, comprehensive assessment to ensure prioritization and matching of the needs of individuals and families to housing and services.
- In consultation with recipients of ESG funds within the CoC, draft written standards for the CoC Governing Board approval and providing for CoC assistance.
- Monitor the performance of CoC and ESG recipients and sub-recipients annually.





- Evaluate and report the outcomes of ESG and CoC projects to HUD and the CoC Governing Board, at least annually.
- Facilitate on-going coordination among CoC components.
- Strategize to maximize efficiency in service provision.
- Coordinate training of staff implementing CoC projects.
- Identify best practices to implement in the CoC and educate CoC member agencies about best practices. Assist in the customization and standardization of these practices for the CoC.
- Consult with the CoC Governing Board to facilitate effective leadership of the CoC.
- Coordinate the implementation of a housing and service system within the CoC's geographic area that meets the needs of homeless individuals and families. At a minimum, such a system encompasses the following:
  - Outreach, engagement, and assessment
  - Shelter, housing, and supportive services
  - Prevention strategies
- Plan for and conduct, at least annually, a point-in-time count of homeless persons within the CoC geographic area that meets HUD requirements, including a housing inventory of shelters, transitional housing, and permanent housing reserved for homeless persons, in general, and chronically homeless persons and veterans, specifically, as HUD requires.
- Conduct an annual gaps analysis of the needs of homeless people, as compared to available housing and services within the CoC geographic area.
- Provide the information required to complete the Consolidated Plan(s) within the CoC geographic area.
- Consult with State and local government ESG recipients within the CoC geographic area on the plan for allocating ESG funds and reporting on and evaluating the performance of ESG recipients and sub-recipients
- Develop and assist with the execution of a plan for the NC 507 CoC Governance Board to address public education on homelessness; advocacy at the state and local level on housing and homelessness issues; and policy recommendations to state or local governments in the CoC region.
- Develop and annually refine a performance assessment process that is aligned with the HEARTH Act and Mayors' Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness, and support implementation of the HEARTH Act by sharing all relevant information, offering technical assistance and support to all CoC and ESG funded programs.
- Design, operate and follow a collaborative process for the development of a CoC application to HUD.
- Submit the final application in response to the CoC Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA).



- On behalf of the Governing Board, holding meetings of the full CoC membership, with published agendas at least semiannually.
- CoC committees and workgroups, including assistance with the preparation of agendas and minutes, meeting materials and communications, maintaining records, and distribution lists.
- Assisting the CoC, through its committees and workgroups, to develop performance targets and evaluate performance.

#### Section IV: Evaluation

The Governing Board will hold the Collaborative Applicant accountable for performance through a Memorandum of Understanding that is reviewed and updated annually. Any member of the Governing Board with a conflict of interest shall not participate in the annual review of the Collaborative Applicant. Only the Collaborative Applicant will be eligible to apply for CoC planning funds through the CoC grant process. These funds will be used, as directed by the Governing Board, to provide dedicated staff and resources, and to undertake planning projects, to support the work of the CoC.

### **Article VII: HMIS Lead Agency**

#### Section I: Selection Process

With the adoption of this Governance Charter, the Governing Board, through its Data Advisory Committee, will become responsible for guiding the CoC's selection of an HMIS Lead Agency and support monitoring HMIS operations in the CoC's geographic area. The Committee will keep the Governing Board apprised of HMIS concerns and will make recommendations to the Board concerning issues of policy and participation. The Data Advisory Committee will develop a process to select and approve a new HMIS Lead, as applicable.

#### Section II: Roles and Responsibilities

The Raleigh Wake Partnership to End and Prevent Homelessness serves as the HMIS lead agency in the NC 507 CoC and currently represents the CoC on all HMIS related obligations.

The HMIS Lead and the local System Administrator:

- Ensure that projects meet national and local data quality objectives
- Ensure that the CoC has an HMIS data privacy plan, security plan, and data quality plan
- Document compliance project rules and record requirements
- Ensure that the HMIS is administered in compliance with HUD requirements
- Ensure consistent participation by CoC and ESG recipients in HMIS
- Ensure that the CoC has a successful and operational HMIS
- Coordinate efforts to encourage non-HUD funded projects to participate
- Report out all HUD submission, including but not limited to PIT, HIC, and System Performance Measures prior to submission.



#### Section IV: Evaluation

The Governing Board will hold the HMIS Lead Agency accountable for performance via the monitoring work performed by the Data Advisory Committee. There may be an annual review of the HMIS Lead Agency.

### **Article VIII: Grievance and Appeals**

#### Section 1: Grievance and Anti-discrimination

NC 507 CoC affirms that people who wish to file a grievance have the right to do so without retaliation from the party accused or any associated representative. Retaliation includes, but is not limited to; harassment, intimidation, violence, program dismissal, refusing to provide services, use of profane or derogatory language to or in reference to the complainant, or breach of contract. If any party feels aggrieved by an action or decision of the Board, its committees, lead agencies or any other group governed by this Charter, the aggrieved party should first comply with any written grievance or appeal policy that may exist for that process, entity, or group.

Absent a written grievance or appeal policy, or if the aggrieved party is not satisfied with the outcome or if the aggrieved party fears retaliation at the program level, a complaint can be filed with NC 507 CoC via Raleigh Wake Partnership to End Homelessness staff at [hello@partnershipwake.org](mailto:hello@partnershipwake.org) or 919-443-0098. Raleigh Wake Partnership to End Homelessness staff will document the grievance and notify the Executive Committee within two of business days of the grievance. The NC 507 CoC Executive Committee will review the grievance and respond to it within fifteen of days from when the grievance was filed.

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