

Guiding Idaho Committee House Idaho Collaborative Board

Meeting Minutes Thursday, December 19, 2024, 9-11am MST

Chair	Brady Ellis, Idaho Housing and Finance Association
Vice Chair	Vacant
Secretary	Heidi Sellick-Diaz, Idaho Housing and Finance Association
Voting Members Present	Chris Green, Region 1 Autumn Shafer, Region 2 John Stennett, Region 3 Alternate Randy Wastradowski, Region 4 Jared Mangum, Region 5 Dena Skinner, Region 6 Casey Mattoon, Boise CoC Mandy White, Lived Experience Patty Wheeler, Victims' Service Organization Jamie McDonald, HIV/AIDS Organization Erin Anderson, Housing Developer Daina Drake, Dept. of Corrections Emily Kesler, Dept. of Education Rico Barrera, Dept. of Labor Anna Johnson-Whitehead, US Dept. of Veterans Affairs
Voting Members Absent	Betsy Bowling, Region 3 Tony Tenne, Dept. of Commerce Dept. H&W – vacant
Advisory Members	None at this time
Others in Attendance	Cassandra Artukovich, Jesse Tree & Informing Idaho Chair Margie Potter, The Idaho Hispanic Foundation & Housing Idaho Chair Erika Switzer, Idaho Housing and Finance Association/Engaging Idaho Secretary Dyne Jones, Idaho Housing and Finance Association Jamie Simpson, Idaho Housing and Finance Association Joe Hightower, Idaho Housing and Finance Association John Gibbons, Idaho Housing and Finance Association Jordan Downey, Idaho Housing and Finance Association Shane Carlton, Idaho Housing and Finance Association Shawn Walters, Idaho Housing and Finance Association Sonali Thombare, Idaho Housing and Finance Association

Brady welcomed everyone and commenced the meeting at 9am. Heidi conducted board roll call.

SECTION A: Welcome New Board Members

Brady introduced himself to the new Board members as Idaho Housing and Finance Association's Community Housing Vice President and the HIC Board Chair. Chris Green replaced Larry Riley as Region 1's board representative. Chris has lived experience of youth homelessness. He has been a therapist at Heritage Health and is now their Psychiatric Services Director and Street Medicine Community Outreach Director. Chris' bio can be found in the Board Book. Jared Mangum replaced Amy Wuest as Region 5's board representative. Jared's bio will be sent out.

SECTION B: Homeless or Housing Anecdote - Mandy White

Mandy shared about the Avenues for Hope speaker David Ambrose, who spoke about his childhood homelessness. The holidays can be very hard for homeless who need comfort and joy, but do not receive it. She suggested giving hats, socks, showers, and other practical expressions of comfort. Brady shared that Avenues for Hope Campaign is put on by IHFA's Home Partnership Foundation to raise money for non-profit organizations throughout Idaho. There are about 100 non-profit organizations participating. There are \$370,000 dollars in match to incentivize donations. 1.7M has been donated, with a goal of 4M by December 31st.

SECTION C: Resolution 24-12-01: Approve Prior Meeting Minutes - Brady Ellis

This was the first consent agenda the HIC Board had performed. Brady explained that a consent agenda is to speed the process of voting on items which are minor or require little discussion. The intent is that board members review the resolutions beforehand and vote during the meeting. If there are concerns or need for discussion, the member can bring it up for discussion. The vote can happen with an amendment to the presented resolutions.

Minutes from September, the *Written Standards*, and the HIC's *Governance Charter* updates were submitted to the House Idaho Collaborative Board for approval. September Minutes can be found on pages 9-16 of the Board Book.

SECTION D: Resolution 24-12-02: Written Standards Update Approval- Shane Carlton

Changes to the *Written Standards* can be found on page 21 of the Board Book. Rico mentioned that the *Written Standards* ought to mention assistance is only available while funding and resources last.

SECTION E: Resolution 24-12-03: Governance Charter Updates Approval - Heidi Sellick-Diaz

Changes to the *Governance Charter* can be found on pages 39-40 of the Board Book.

Motion:	Mandy White
Second Motion:	Patty Wheeler
Vote:	None opposed
Motion Approved	

Resolutions 24-9-01 through 03 were approved with a change to the *Written Standards*. The *Written Standards* should include a note that assistance is based upon availability.

SECTION F: HIC Committee Reports – HIC Committee Representatives

HIC Committee Reports were shared by Committee Representatives and can be found in the Board Book. Items of note from the Committee reports are as follows:

Cassandra shared the PIT Count committee chose January 29th for the day of the PIT Count. Video training for volunteers is happening soon. Informing Idaho will be performing a Gaps Analysis for 2022-2023. The Gaps Analysis will evaluate component deserts, service and housing placement counts, CE queue clients being served in permanent housing, and a race equity examination. The hope is to have this Analysis done for the Strategic Planning Session. The LSA is almost done. John and Jamie are looking at an online data dashboard. Additionally, they are compiling a report of the HMIS User Survey results. There were few respondents.

Margie Potter, with the Idaho Hispanic Foundation, is the Chair of Region 3, and Housing Idaho. Housing Committee is struggling to record the units being added to the 100-unit goal system-wide. They only have 67 units recorded but believe all 100 have been met. Let your Housing representative know any units added to your inventory! The Housing Committee held 2 of their 4 Resource Sessions. You can find the Sessions on DOC TH and Advocacy and Lobbying on the HIC's website under "Initiatives: Resource Sessions & Videos" here:

<https://www.idahohousing.com/homelessness-services-programs/house-idaho-collaborative/>

The Housing Committee shared Legislator Ali Rabe is proposing a bill limiting the number of rental application fees a property manager may take based on their unit availability. It would also disclose to the applicant what criteria the manager will review for approval and require managers to base their fees on actual costs. The Committee believes the intent of the bill is that a landlord can only charge reasonable fees for two applications at a time until the unit is filled. The Committee was asked to track the bill and educate the HIC on how to help. Casey Mattoon heard this legislative session might introduce some statewide homeless bans. The HIC will need to pay close attention to the bills this round.

Erika Switzer presented that Engaging Idaho selected FindhelpIdaho.org as the main resource list for the HIC. The HIC encourages use of both 211 and Findhelp.org but hopes all partners will ensure their programs are accurate on Findhelp.org. The Committee has not begun using or promoting the use of Findhelp.org's backend for referrals but hopes to have that as a future goal. Heidi is assisting Regions 1,2, and 5 to spend their Department of Education grant funds. Engaging is looking into how to tell a story to the community besides Anchor Data Points. The HIC's Attendance for 2024 was above 50%, however there have been some longstanding vacancies for some regions. If no regional representative is on the HIC Committee, then that Coalition has no input. Nominations for Board Vice Chair and Lived Experience Representative are open through February 1st. Mandy is happy to continue as the Lived Experience Representative.

SECTION G: HIC Grant Updates – Jordan Downey & Joe Hightower

Jordan shared YHSI, YHDP, and the Foster Youth to Independent voucher updates. These can be found on page 61 of the Board Book. Both Idaho CoC's, OPH and the HIC, will work with

state departments and youth partners on their Coordinated Community Plan (CCP) between now and April of 2025, with continued revisions to the living document annually. TA site visits will begin in 2025 to garner feedback for the CCP. The YHDP local project competition will close in July 2025. Rico asked about the timelines of the youth grants. The YHDP has two-year projects. Successful two-year projects are eligible for renewal through the CoC Grant. The YHSI grant is open three years, from November 2024 to November 2027. It is a OPH and HIC co-operation grant. YHSI funds are for youth systems improvement for things like listening sessions and travel to conferences for YAB members. It is too early to tell how legislation will affect racial and gender equity efforts in these projects. Youth and the Youth Action Board (YAB) ought to be included in all planning levels for these grants. If you know any people 18-24 who have lived experience and would like to be involved, please send them to Nancyt@ihfa.org.

ESG, CoC, and Department of Education ARP-HCY Grant updates can be found on page 60 in the Board Book.

SECTION H: HIC Administrative Agency Quarterly Reports – Joe Hightower & John Gibbons

Joe shared the HIC Grant (CoC and ESG) Quarterly Report which can be found on page 88 in the Board Book. Highlights include this report has both ESG grants overlapping. Additionally, 592 clients exited from all programs. Region 3 received the most funding, but Regions 5 and 1 had the most awards. This report covers July 1, 2024-November 2024.

John shared the HMIS/CE Quarterly Report which can be found in the Board Book on pages 63-87. This report covers July through September of 2024. Highlights include increased exits to permanent housing, an ongoing trend of increased unhoused clients and fewer housed clients in RRH projects. The HMIS data does include duplication, meaning since clients are frequently served by projects in consecutive quarters, client counts from one quarter to the next are not counts of discrete groups of people. John clarified that the households “served” by Coordinated Entry (CE) means those who have been screened by CE. “Other permanent housing” is largely from “Emergency Housing Vouchers,” a project type which is ‘housing only’ and does not require disability. John clarified that the annual System Performance Measures measure which clients who exited to permanent housing destinations in the last 24 months have new entries to the homeless response system. Mandy said the short-term nature of RRH may contribute to returns to homelessness. The Gaps Analysis might be able to examine factors in returns to homelessness.

SECTION I: Roundtable – Brady Ellis

Mandy expressed concern that non-profits, landlords, and others do not understand the income limits for housing programs and how to calculate them. Particularly, partners need education on Tax Credit Program (PSH) and Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program (LIHTC). LIHTC does have different requirements about what is counted as income versus what is counted for HUD programs. Housing Idaho will need to figure out how best to educate the HIC on income limits and how to calculate them. OPH is working on the problem of programs and property management calculating limits differently. Casey will keep the Housing Committee posted.

Jared asked if anyone had experience transforming malls and other commercial spaces into micro units. Erin with The Housing Company have turning hotels into housing. Carrissa Connelly in Region 4 has converted a hotel into housing. Heidi will pass Carrissa’s email along.

Chris has experience with tiny homes. The LEP has often wondered why more commercial spaces are not being turned into housing. Jared is meeting with the city about a 4-story building.

Chris Green gave Region 1's Coalition update. The warming center has raised their minimum temperature to open from 28 to 33 degrees. Many partners donated to keep the shelter open. Heritage Health donated an AED device and training for clients in cardiac arrest. There are two new PSH units from SVDP from Redrock and Windemere. They are working on PIT Count. They gave 14 kids a Fantasy Flight to the "North Pole." Saturday they are holding a vigil for those who have lost their lives while homeless. 50-60 Christmas meals will be given today at Heritage Health. Chris Green will share a success story with Brady and Heidi.

SECTION J: TH-RRH & Funding Priorities – Shawn Walters

Shawn shared a presentation on Transitional Housing (TH)-Rapid Rehousing (RRH) joint project component with the Board. These slides can be found on pages 91-98 of the Board Book. The HIC does not have a TH-RRH component, though the YHDP may add this component. Many members expressed interest in learning more about successful populations, Idaho need, and potential impacts to adding TH-RRH. IHFA will collect more information and data to present at the next meeting.

SECTION K: Annual Strategic Planning Session – Heidi Sellick-Diaz

Due to time constraints, Heidi will send a survey to gather feedback from the board on dates, location, and method of the Annual Strategic Planning Session.

SECTION L: State of Homelessness in Idaho Report – Brady Ellis

This section was skipped due to time. Congratulations to Nancy Tuttle for winning the HIC/OPH joint statement for the State of Homelessness in Idaho Report and winning \$50 Amazon gift card! Heidi will send out the link for the sneak peek of the report.

SECTION M: LEP Recommendations 2024 – Mandy White

This section was skipped due to time. Heidi will send out the LEP Recommendations 2024 report for the board to consider.

Brady thanked everyone for coming and wished them Happy Holidays and Happy New Year. He adjourned the meeting at 11:03am.