



COUNTY OF SOMERSET DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

27 Warren Street • P.O. Box 3000
Somerville, New Jersey 08876-1262
(908) 541-5756 • Fax (908) 575-3935
CommDev@co.somerset.nj.us
www.somersetcountynj.gov

Human Services Director
MOLLIE GREENE, MA

Community Development Director
KIMBERLY COWART

Aging & Disability Services
JOANNE FETZKO

One Stop Career Center
Juvenile Institutional Services
MONICA MULLIGAN

Operations & Planning
LISA FEDERICO

Richard Hall Community CHWC
NICCI SPINAZZOLA

Rutgers Cooperative Extension
LISA ROTHENBURGER

Veterans Services
PETER NIEMIEC

Volunteer Services
LAURIE ROOME

Youth Services
LINDA M. PORCARO

May 15, 2025 Continuum of Care meeting minutes

The May 2025 meeting, which took place virtually, via a Zoom conference call, was called to order and began at 11:02 am. The minutes from the March meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved.

Kim announced that Community Development received a \$90,000 increase (8.4%) in CDBG funding and a \$60,000 increase (9.7%) in HOME funding for PY2025. Since the CDBG and HOME Committees have already met and made their funding recommendations, those recommended amounts will be adjusted for applicants who did not receive full funding.

Henry Giron is graduating from Rutgers today.

Adam Marshall was the guest speaker. Adam is living in PH1 in Raritan, which is an Alternatives property. He has been living there for 2.5 months. Before living in PH1, he was living at the Somerville train station since 2021 and going to Richard Hall Mental Health Center for assistance. He had food stamps from Social Services and was eating at Freedom Trail. The free laundry service (Laundry Love) gave him an opportunity to wash his clothes.

He likes going to Freedom Trail, which is a “nice place” that “helps a lot of people.” He also likes that he has a home now, a place to shower regularly, and he finds it much easier to sleep now, which has improved his mental health and reduced his PTSD. He is working on getting his SSI, which was just approved, so he can buy some personal items, including a math book (he enjoys working on them). Reading is one of his favorite pastimes. He learned from his parents and teachers that it was a good way to “escape.” When he was homeless, he concentrated on reading.

Adam really appreciates all the help and support from everyone who has helped him get to where he is today. He said the best thing about being at PH1 is that “it’s quiet.”

Zufall received the Rural & Suburban Outreach grant from the DCA. The grant is to help identify where people experiencing homelessness (PEH) are, conduct outreach, provide intensive case management, and link PEH to shelter and housing. They are also hoping to provide transportation assistance. The goal is to get people off the street, into shelter, and help them navigate the “system,” which can be very challenging. Agencies and providers should reach out directly to Zufall to help connect someone who needs assistance. They are working on getting phones to give to PEH so there is an easier way to contact them. A lot of PEH do not have phones or easy access to one. The Street Medicine Team will be going out every Wednesday starting May 21, 2025 from 3:30-5pm. They will be providing medical care and assistance with transportation.

- Mission Statement -

The County of Somerset is committed to excellence and innovation in public service, promoting the well-being of all residents and communities by providing effective, efficient and responsive leadership.

Somerset County Is An Equal Opportunity Employer

Agency announcements will be sent via e-mail after the meeting and, as such, are incorporated as part of the minutes.

The meeting adjourned at 12:01 pm.

Attendees:

Kimberly Cowart
Jeremy Hirsch
Edward Prior
Henry Giron
Tamika Levels-Hood
Rheanah Johnson
Jillian Lombardozzi
Jennifer Guyette
Jaclyn Robinson
Joanne Hala
Herardine Lacrete
Tania Asmal
Kenya Lamarr
Adam Marshall
Christine Esposito
Leonor Salgado
Michelle Blanchfield
Charmaine McLawrence
Daniel Hohman
Krysta Kirlew

Carrie Ferraro
Paul Grzella
Steve Nagel
Lisanny Mendez Castillo
Kayla Ellis
Nancy Good
Dana Belo
Cynthia Walker
Carlos Cruz
Maria Marnell
Fresia Skoczypec
Mark Harding
Susie Suter
Cody Curatolo
Gema Diaz
Tim Barr
Victoria McSweeney
Scott Minchello
Jodi Miciak
Rita Mirabelli