**Baltimore City’s Housing Committee Meeting Minutes**

**May 1, 2023, 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM**

Attendees:Dr. Monica McCall, Kane Levings, Patrick Miles, Dianne Blevins, Andrea Vincent, Beth Bullard, Diane Dressler, Michael Bullis, Sharonda Huffman, Tim Wiens, Sarah Hochbaum, Andy Krauss, Lauren Silverstone

1. **Welcome**

a. Review of minutes from March 6, 2023

2. **Andrea Vincent – Remote Support Services**

* Remote Support Services entails delivery of support from a virtual location. Trained staff engage with individuals through a device. They can call staff 24/7 by phone, tablet, or other device.
* They help individuals live safely in their home. They can complete check-in calls for any reason. Check-in calls can be scheduled per individual’s needs.
* They recently became certified for DDA’s Community Pathways and Community Supports waivers.
* They cover all of MD.
* They have their own PCP.
* Remote support is billed separately from the device. It depends on how many hours they receive per day. There are maintenance fees. Staff will install the device and teach individuals and staff how to use the device. They are the only fee for service covered by waiver.
* Contacts: Beth Bullard: [bbullard@safeinhome.com](mailto:bbullard@safeinhome.com) (lead contact for MD) and Andrea Vincent: [avincent@safeinhome.com](mailto:avincent@safeinhome.com).

3. **Kane Levings – Disability Rights Maryland – Legislative Updates and Housing Discrimination Issues**

* $14 million in funding to help individuals access counsel for eviction cases.
* Limits summoning of law enforcement to terminate a lease.
* Bill for notification of rent increase. For annual leases, a 90-day notice is required. For month-to-month leases, a 60 day notice is required.
* MD has Source of Income Discrimination protection. It is not a federal law.
* Source of Income Discrimination protection includes protection from voucher recipients to earn 3x the rental rate.
* Some counties have laws that require landlords have a rental license to take tenant to court for eviction. The state law would apply to those jurisdictions for protections.
* Legislation has passed for the establishment of a statewide voucher assistance program. $10 million is being put towards a program that prioritizes individuals with disabilities.

4. **Updates on DDA Rent Subsidy and Technology** –**Diane Dressler**

* There is no definitive start date.
* Issues have been resolved with MOU.
* Expected to start in the new fiscal year.
* Money from the previous fiscal year will be transferred for the DDA Rent Subsidy.
* Individuals can still be placed on the wait list.
* Individuals will need to add Housing Support Services to their PCP. The provider can then add them to the DDA Rental Subsidy Program waitlist.
* MIH is partnering with DDA to support them as a Technology First State.
* Andy Krauss and Sharonda Huffman will collaborate with Michael Bullis regarding MIH’s website accessibility.
* MIH will update our calendar with training and events including DDA’s Tech Tuesdays discussing assistive technology.
* Michael suggested MDTAP as a reference.
* MIH recently released a newsletter. Kindly sign up for our upcoming newsletters.

5. **Moore - Miller Transition Plan and Collaborations – Tim Wiens**

* MIH was named in Moore/Miller Transition Plan.
* MIH submitted a proposal to Moore administration. The proposal includes investing in affordable housing. MIH named agencies to partner with, including: DHCD, MDOD, and Department of Transportation. [MIH Transition Plan Response](https://mih-inc.org/news/mih-offers-thoughts-on-moore-miller-transition-report/)
* MIH would have staff in the buildings to assist with complaints and assist with social inclusion work.
* The plan is to partner with private developers in regions throughout the state.
* MIH would assist in filling units and do social inclusion work in buildings. MIH proposes that we would help fill units, half with voucher recipients and half that would be supported with other funds.
* This lends itself to remote support services.

6. **Baltimore Inclusionary Housing/Budget Hearing Dates – Sharonda Huffman**

May 9, 2023, 5:00 PM – City Hall, vote on housing bills.

May 22, 2023, 5:00 PM – Final vote on bills.

* Set aside units for very low income individuals.
* Targeting individuals with 60% of Area Median Income.
* Provide the public an opportunity to comment on their action plan draft.

7. **Taxpayers Night – Dianne Blevins**

* Dianne provided testimony.
* Baltimore City needs to be compliant with the ADA and Fair Housing Act.
* There are a lot of buildings that are not accessible.
* We need train leaders and contractors to work with individuals who have disabilities.

8. **Michael Bullis**

* The Council will have more autonomy and can control their own finances.
* A three-year state plan for independent living is required.
* They will do more work with needs assessments.
* There are 13 members across different agencies.

9. **Transitional Youth Outreach**

* MIH wants to build bridge between transitioning individuals and services.
* Inform individuals of independent living options.

**10. Next Meeting**

* **In person on July 10th at The Arc Baltimore.**