

Charter for the Montgomery County Your Way Home Advisory Council

Revised May 25, 2017

Article I – Name

The name of the organization shall be the Montgomery County Your Way Home Advisory Council (Advisory Council).

Article II – Purpose

Your Way Home Montgomery County is a public-private partnership that improves the housing stability, economic security, and health of people experiencing or at imminent risk of homelessness. Our vision is to make the experience of homelessness in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania rare, brief, and non-recurring.

The purpose of the Advisory Council shall be to advise the County Commissioners and Department of Health and Human Services in the following areas:

- Advise Montgomery County on issues affecting people experiencing or at risk for homelessness, including low-income families and single adults, school-age children, unaccompanied youth aged 18-24, veterans, seniors, people fleeing domestic violence or abuse, people with disabilities, medically frail individuals, recent immigrants, trafficking victims and other vulnerable populations
- Advocate for equitable strategies, programs, policies and partnerships that will have a positive and lasting impact on ending homelessness
- Participate in Your Way Home planning activities
- Provide input to other Your Way Home partnership entities, including the PA-504 HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) Governance Team and service/population specific community-based Advisory and Action Teams
- Help align mutually reinforcing activities between and within systems, sectors and organizations throughout Montgomery County that touch the lives of people experiencing homelessness and help empower them to exit from homelessness to permanent housing with stability
- Embrace Your Way Home’s housing first philosophy
- Represent, respect and value diverse and inclusive viewpoints
- Serve as Your Way Home champions, allies and supporters

Charter for the Montgomery County Your Way Home Advisory Council

Revised May 25, 2017

Article III – Office

The office of the Advisory Council shall be the Montgomery County Office of Housing and Community Development.

Article IV – Composition

- A. The Advisory Council shall consist of such number within a range of twenty-five to thirty.
- B. At least one member of the Advisory Council should have lived the experience of homelessness.
- C. For the purpose of Advisory Council composition, the basic categories of membership are:
 - a. Your Way Home contracted service providers
 - b. Your Way Home philanthropic and community partners
 - c. Affordable housing providers
 - d. Directors and administrators of Montgomery County government departments and offices
 - e. Representatives of other organizations that serve Montgomery County residents experiencing homelessness, including but not limited to municipalities, health systems, police departments, and K-16 school systems
 - f. General public
- D. Additional members may be added at the discretion of Montgomery County.
- E. The usual term of membership on the Advisory Council shall be two (2) years. However, members may be re-appointed for one additional two-year term.
- F. In no instance shall an Advisory Council member serve for more than four (4) consecutive years.

Article V – Meetings

- A. The Your Way Home Advisory Council meets twice annually for a half-day, once in the Spring and once in the Fall.
- B. Meeting shall be held at such times and places as the Advisory Council shall decide.
- C. Special meetings may be called by the Advisory Council Chair at such times as are found necessary.
- D. Written notice of regular meetings shall be provided to all Advisory Council members via email. For special meetings, notification shall be given not less than five (5) days before the date of the special meeting. The notice of a special meeting shall include the purpose of the meeting.
- E. Members of the Advisory Council who miss two (2) regular meetings within a calendar year and whose absences are unexcused, shall receive written notice of their removal from the Advisory Council.
- F. Advisory Council members are encouraged but not required to participate in other Your Way Home partnership teams and events.

Charter for the Montgomery County Your Way Home Advisory Council
Revised May 25, 2017

Article VI – Order of Business

The order of business for regular meetings may be as follows:

- A. Call to Order
- B. Approval of Minutes
- C. Program Office Administrator for Housing and Community Development’s Report
- D. Old Business
- E. New Business
- F. Policy Discussion and Recommendations
- G. Adjournment

The order of business at any meeting may be altered at the discretion of the Chair or the Program Office Administrator for Housing and Community Development.

Article VII – Officers

- A. The Your Way Home Advisory Council will have an honorary Chair whose purpose is to represent the Council at public events and provide input to the Council meeting agendas and member experience.
- B. The Chair will serve a two-year, nonrenewable term of office.
- C. The Founding Chair will be appointed by the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services.
- D. Future Chairs will be put forward by the Office of Housing and Community Development and elected by the Advisory Council through a simple majority vote.

Charter for the Montgomery County Your Way Home Advisory Council

Revised May 25, 2017

Article VIII – Quorum

The quorum for a meeting of the Advisory Council shall be at least fifty (50) percent of the non-vacant seats on the council.

Article IX – Amendments

The charter shall be reviewed every three years by the full membership and, if necessary, amended with a simple majority vote.

Advisory Council Members for 2017 - 2018

William Brown, Jr., President & CEO, Advanced Living Communities

Sunanda Charles, Executive Director, Norristown Hospitality Center

Richard Cirko, Executive Director, VNA Community Services

Linda Donovan-Magdamo, Executive Vice President, Resources for Human Development

Felicia Flora, Captain, Salvation Army of Norristown

Virginia Frantz, *Chair*, President and CEO, The Montgomery County Foundation, Inc.

Dr. John J. George, Executive Director, Montgomery County Intermediate Unit 23

Pam Howard, Administrator, Montgomery County Program Office of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Early Intervention

Meredith Huffman, Executive Director, Genuardi Family Foundation

Joel Johnson, Executive Director, Montgomery County Housing Authority

Russell Johnson, President, CEO, HealthSpark Foundation

Crandall O. Jones, Municipal Administrator, Borough of Norristown

Diane Kiddy, CEO, Carson Valley Children's Aid

Robert Larkin, Landlord

Marianne Lynch, Executive Director, Habitat for Humanity of Montgomery County

Bill Motsavage, Executive Vice President, Valley Youth House

Barbara O'Malley, Director, Montgomery County Department of Health & Human Services

Dr. Kevin Pollock, President, Montgomery County Community College

Mark Talbot, Chief of Police, Norristown Police Department

Jonathan B. Weiner, Assistant Vice President, Philanthropic Specialist, Wells Fargo

Barbara Wilhelmy, Executive Director, Pottstown Cluster of Religious Communities

Salvatore Venezia, Citizen Representative

Director, Montgomery County Department of Commerce (TBD)

Executive Director, Keystone Opportunity Center (TBD)