

RICoC Standing Committees

The Rhode Island Continuum of Care (RICoC) has eight (8) standing committees made up of volunteers who help manage the Continuum's day-to-day operations. These committees assist the RICoC in its routine functions and may offer recommendations or advice to the Board. Below is a list of the standing committees, a brief description, their monthly meeting times, and relevant contact information for each committee. For more details about the RICoC Governance structure and additional information about each committee, please refer to the [RICoC Governance Charter](#).

All Committees meet virtually, through a video conferencing link. Anyone can join RICoC Committees. To join a committee and be added to the meeting invitation, you can reach out to the person listed under contact information for the committee you want to join. You can also contact CoC Planning staff (Sarah and Rosa, see below) to be added to the committee meeting invitations.

If you have questions about the RICoC or its Standing Committees, please contact the CoC Planning Staff: Sarah Saint Laurent, CoC Coordinator, ssaintlaurent@rihousing.com and Rosa Felix-Pichardo, CoC Planner, rfelix-pichardo@rihousing.com.

Constituent Advisory Committee

- **Meeting Time:** Third Friday of each month from 12:00 – 1:00 pm
- **Meeting link:** The Constituent Advisory Committee is intended for individuals who have lived experience of homelessness. If you are interested in participating in the committee, please contact the CoC Planning staff.
- **Description:** The Constituent Advisory Committee consists of representatives who have lived experience of homelessness or housing instability. The committee provides feedback and policy recommendations to the CoC to ensure that those with lived experience are fully integrated into the formal decision-making structure.
- **Contact Information:** CoC Planning staff

Executive Committee

- **Meeting Time:** Meets monthly, date and time varies by month
- **Meeting link:** The meetings of the executive committee are intended only for the Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Officer at Large. Others may join by invitation only.
- **Description:** The Executive Committee considers public comment and board and membership discussions from previous meetings to inform future meeting agenda planning, strategic planning, and follow up on items and identify next steps as needed. The Executive Committee also informs, designs, and implements the Board's Strategic Planning activities and Board retreats as needed and requested
- **Contact Information:** CoC Planning Staff

Equity Committee

- **Meeting Time:** First Monday of each month from 10:00 – 11:00 am
- **Meeting Link (Microsoft Teams Platform):**
 - [Join the meeting now](#)
 - Meeting ID: 296 889 796 602 6
 - Passcode: Wn2v8Ed9
- **Description:** The Equity Committee recognizes that people served by CoC programs have different starting points and needs. Some people need more or different resources and support than others. This committee develops resources, policies, and procedures to support the RICOC, its programs, and its recipient agencies in meeting the needs of all people they serve.
- **Contact Information:** CoC Planning staff

Governance Committee

- **Meeting Time:** Fourth Tuesday of each month from 1:00 – 2:00 pm
- **Meeting link (Microsoft Teams Platform):**
 - [Join the meeting now](#)
 - Meeting ID: 282 767 918 816 60
 - Passcode: s9Kv99TQ
- **Description:** The Governance Committee monitors the RICoC governance structure and evaluates how well it supports the RICoC's work. This committee recommends changes to the governance structure as needed and outlines how the RICoC Governance Charter should be edited to reflect their recommendations. The committee also oversees elections for the Board of Directors.
- **Contact Information:** Chair – Michelle Wilcox, mwilcox@crossroadsri.org

Grievance Committee

- **Meeting Time:** Quarterly meetings on the third Monday of the month from 1 pm to 2 pm. The meetings for 2026 will be held on January 26, April 20, July 20, and October 19.
- **Meeting link (Microsoft Teams Platform):**
 - [Join the meeting now](#)
 - Meeting ID: 271 192 247 037
 - Passcode: 7Xs9924j
- **Description:** The Grievance Committee develops and oversees the operation of grievance procedures for informal and formal grievances of constituents and provider agencies.
- **Contact Information:** Chair—RICoC Board Member, Mike Burk, mike.burk@dcyf.ri.gov

Recipient Approval and Evaluation (also referred to as the “Funding Committee”) Committee

- **Meeting Time:** Fourth Monday of each month from 2:30 – 4:00 pm
- **Meeting link:** Request the link to the virtual meeting from the RICoC Planning Staff
- **Description:** The Funding Committee works with the Collaborative Applicant to design and implement a consolidated application process for Rhode Island programs and projects seeking Continuum of Care funding. The Committee reviews and evaluates the performance of recipients of CoC funding and recommends actions to be taken against poor performers. The Committee also develops and oversees the operation of grievance procedures for agencies related to RICoC funding decisions, including grievances of agencies whose applications for funding have not been approved by the RICoC.
- **Contact Information:** CoC Planning Staff

Systems Implementation Committee: HMIS and CES

- **Meeting Time:** Fourth Wednesday of each month from 1:30 pm to 3 pm
- **Meeting link (Zoom Platform):**
 - [Join the meeting now](#)
Meeting ID: 860 4859 6231
Passcode: 851027
- **Description:** The Systems Implementation Committee: HMIS and CES is tasked with soliciting feedback on the RI CES and HMIS systems from constituents, providers, and cross-sector partners to inform RICoC Board recommendations. The committee monitors key performance indicators of the RI CES and HMIS systems and recommends actions needed to support their implementation, refinement, and ongoing performance.
- **Contact Information:**
 - Co-Chair – Eric Hirsch – ehirsch@providence.edu
 - Co-Chair—Michelle Taylor, MTaylor@CommunityCareRI.org
 - Staff, RICEH (HMIS Lead) – Maria Vargas, mvargas@rihomeless.org

Youth Action Board (YAB)

- **This committee is currently on hiatus and will resume meeting in Summer 2026.**
- **Description:** The YAB consists of youth and young adults, age 24 and under, with lived experience of homelessness and housing stability. The YAB advises the RICoC regarding its ongoing commitment to meet the needs of youth experiencing homelessness in RI and ensures that the voices of young people with lived experience of homelessness inform CoC policies and practices.
- **Contact Information:** CoC Planning Staff (see top of page 1 for contact information)