

Continuum of Care

Wake County Board of Commissioners and Raleigh City Council Meeting

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Overview

- **Braiding the full housing continuum**
 - From At risk/experiencing homelessness
 - Prevention
 - Diversion and Flexible Funding
 - Temporary Shelter
 - To Housing Stabilization
 - Vouchers and Rental Assistance
 - Housing Navigation
 - Affordable Housing Development



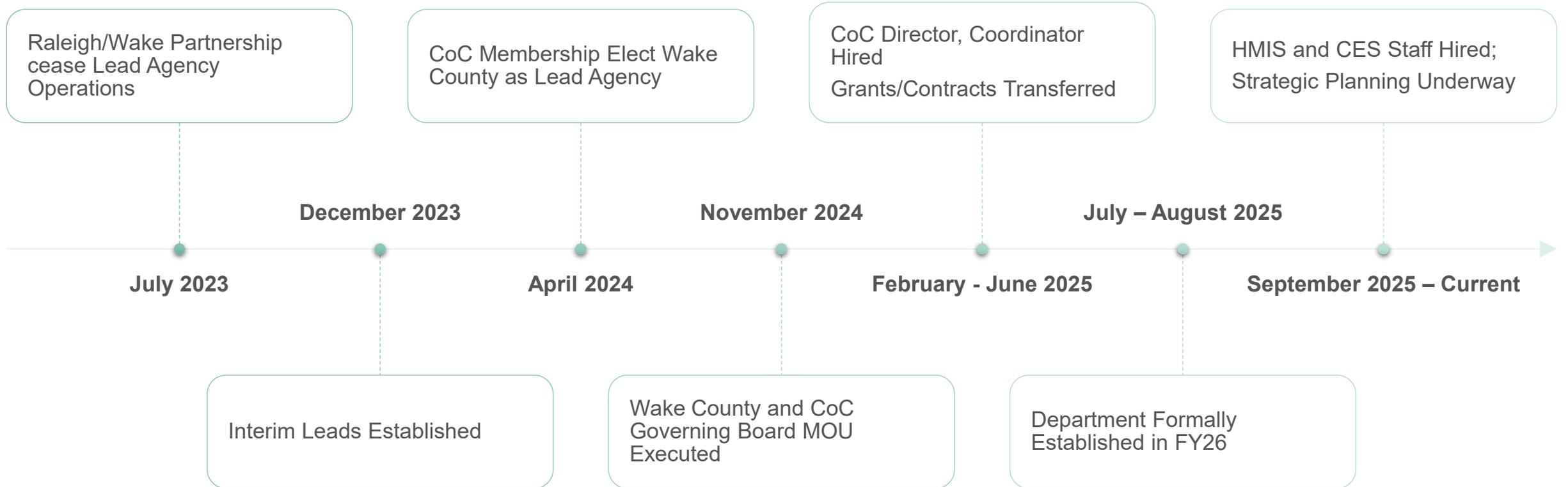
CoC Background & Update

What is the CoC?

- HUD Continuum of Care program;
- Local geography and network of homeless services, housing providers, and community partners;
- Lead Agency responsible for duties outlined in CoC [Interim Rule](#).

The vision of the Wake County CoC is to ensure that homelessness is rare, brief, and non-recurring.

Brief History & Timeline of Wake CoC



Housing Stability Coalition (2023-24)

[Joint Task Force on Homelessness Recommendations]

- **Eviction Committee**
- **Temporary Homeless Shelters**
- **Non-Congregate Shelter**
- **Coordinated Entry Revitalization**

Roles & Responsibilities

- **HUD Defined Roles**

- Collaborative Applicant (CA)
- Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)
- Coordinated Entry System (CES)

- **Additional MOU and CoC Charter Defined Roles**

- Staff to CoC governance structure
- Strategic Planning
- Progress Reporting

CoC Lead Agency Core Services

Collaborative Applicant (CA)

- Coordination, collection, submission and monitoring of all CoC Program Competition components, including project applications and CoC planning funds.

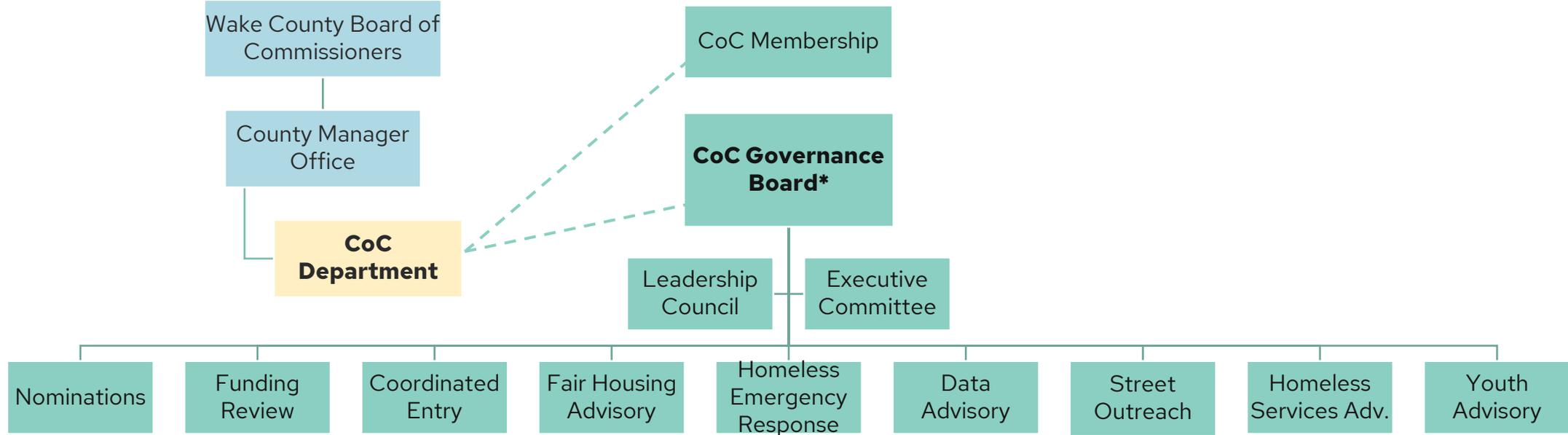
Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

- Administration, management, and operation of the HMIS, including privacy, security, end user training and reporting requirements.

Coordinated Entry System (CES)

- Administration, management, and operation of the process to standardize access, assessment, prioritization and referral to housing and services.

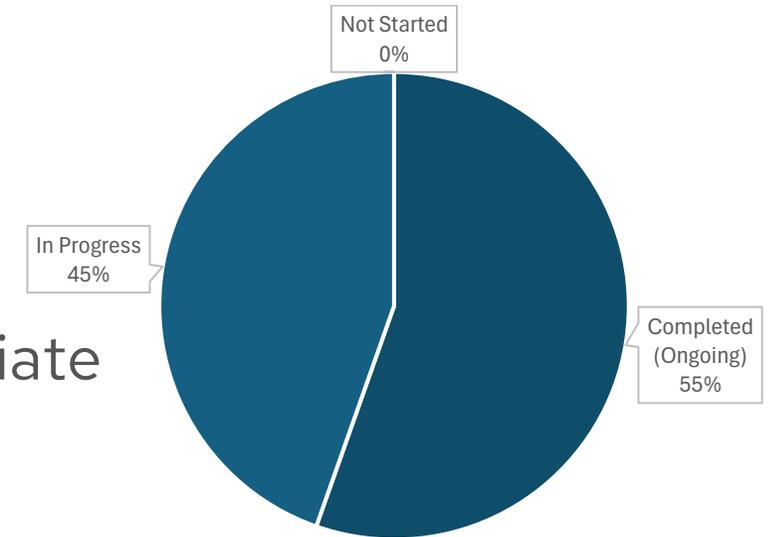
Wake CoC Structure



*CoC Board established in congruence with § [24 CFR 578](#): Establishing the Continuum of Care.

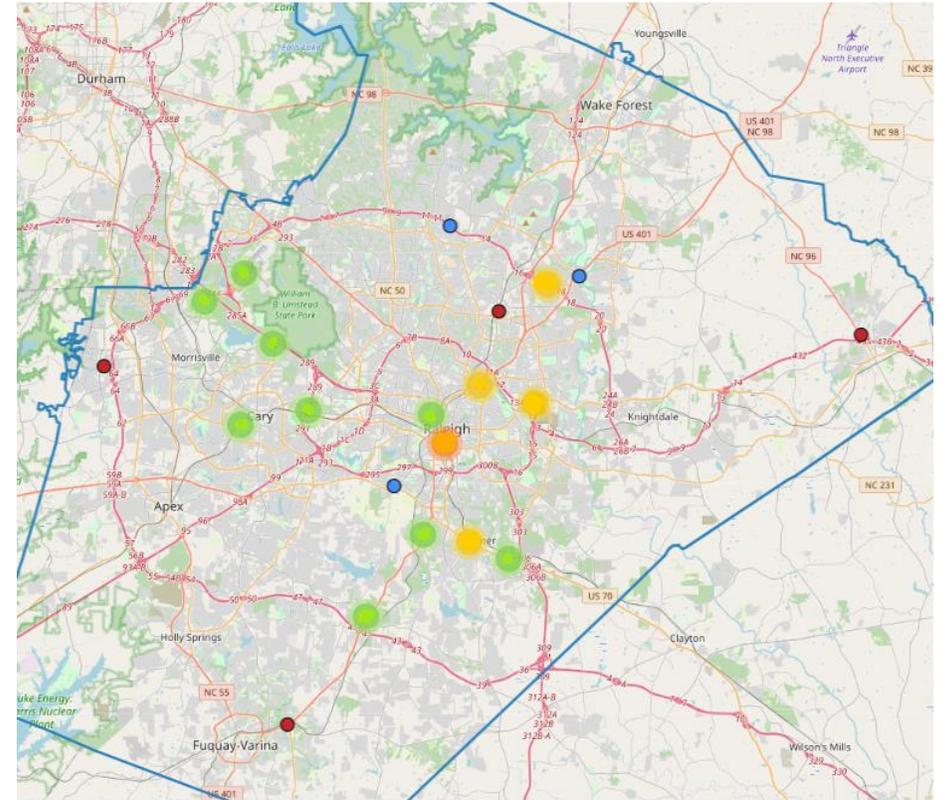
CoC Lead Agency Status

- **Lead Agency MOU includes 65 requirements, roles and responsibilities.**
- **Overview**
 - Onboarded 6 of 9 staff in FY26 leading to immediate system improvements.
 - Successfully transitioned all Lead Agency CoC Grants.
 - Preparing launch of initiative to end homelessness and virtual access.
 - Developed and/or updated CoC policies, White Flag Response Plan, etc.
 - Facilitated state and federal funding competitions.



State of Homelessness

Source*	
Point in Time	<p>1,127 people experiencing literal homelessness on single night (January 22, 2025)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 287 unsheltered • 876 individuals + 251 persons in 69 households
By-Name List (90-day)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single individuals: ~1600 (25% chronic) • Households: ~450 (8% chronic)
Federal Fiscal Year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual Count of Persons Served: 5,141 • First Time Homeless: 3,873



*2025 Point in Time results and Federal FY24. Results from 2026 and FY25 are under analysis. By-Name-List covers most recent 90 days of activity.



Shared Initiative to End Homelessness

Strategic Alignment



Wake County Strategic Plan

Community Health and Wellbeing
Goal 2: By 2029, make homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring by reducing the number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness by 10% from 2024 levels.



City of Raleigh Affordable Housing

Create 1,345 Affordable Housing Units, to Significantly Reduce Unsheltered Homelessness by 2030.



Simultaneous Efforts

Youth Homelessness System Improvement (YHSI) and Veterans Affairs (VA) One Team

Background & Approach

- **CoC needs assessment and system modeling to identify**
 - The gap in resources to meet the need and make sustainable progress
 - Cost of managing versus reducing homelessness
 - Opportunities to leverage existing programming and local proof of concept

Unsheltered Homelessness Response

- **Consistent engagement, triage and direct to housing encampment response.**

Need/Demand	Annual Point in Time Count ~300 unsheltered individuals
Opportunity	Standardize unsheltered homeless response strategy (piloted through City of Raleigh) through coordinated street outreach and dedicated housing .

Immediate Interventions

- **Equip shelters with the ability to quickly triage, divert new cases, and facilitate rapid exits from shelter to housing.**

Need/Demand	Approximately 3,525 households are new or returning to homelessness each year <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 92% only use shelter and stay average of 38 days• 36% of those who exit return within 6 months
Opportunity	Builds on Bridge 2 Home program offering flexible financial assistance and creative problem-solving to reduce long term homelessness.

Integrated Care

- **Specialized support for complex care needs and targeted permanent housing for chronic and long-term homeless.**

Need/Demand	Approximately 475 households chronic and long-term homeless ~ 60% of long-stayers indicate a disabling condition
Opportunity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Informed by unsheltered pilot and permanent housing efforts for highly medically vulnerable (i.e. King's Ridge).• Leverage resources available under behavioral health, opioid settlement and other system intersections (medical respite, etc.)

Implementation & Next Steps

- **Plan to mobilize** community, business, health care and faith-based partnerships while enhancing infrastructure of existing service providers.
- **Focus** on time-limited rental assistance, services, housing navigation, and diversion, rapid exit strategies.
 - Updating cost and resource modeling.
 - Program design to prepare for implementation.

Implementation & Next Steps



February – Roadshow to introduce key components



March – Share draft plan open for public comment



April – Final review and CoC governance vote



May (Ongoing) – Program design, implementation and evaluation



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