

**Missouri Interagency Council to End Homelessness
Meeting Minutes 2/5/2024**

Attendance

Amanda Stadler, DMH	Kelli Kemna, DMH
Amber Cundiff, Bureau of HIV, STDs, Hepatitis	Kimberly-Ann Collins, State Rep (St. Louis City)
Anthony Smith, FCC	Kristin Burkett
April Redman, Callaway Cares	Krystal Chapman
Bandi Kolbe	Kylee Verbeck, The Kitchen Inc.
Beatrice Stewart, Flourish	Kylie Strough, United Way of Greater St. Joseph
Becca Clemons, Home State Health/Show Me Healthy Kids	Linda Hamer, Burrell Behavioral Health
Becca Jones, VAC	Loretta Kincaid, Community Counseling Center
Becky Poitras, Metro Lutheran Ministry	Marqueia Watson, Greater KC Coalition to End Homelessness
Cade Moberg, Burrell Behavioral Health	Megan Garrett, Harmony House
Carolyn Stemmons, Head Start State Collaboration Office	Michelle Hastings, Preferred Family Healthcare
Chasity McCourt, CMC/InterServ	Misha Smith, Empower Missouri
Christian Freeman, BOS CoC	Monica Ezue
Colleen Neil, United Way 211	Nathaniel Meece, CPSEMO/ Missouri Balance of State CoC
Conrad Hake, Love Columbia	Nikki Caraveo, Caraveo Case Management LLC
Crystal Wood, A Hand of Hope	Paula Clay, Missouri Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development
Dana Cayen, Burrell Behavioral Health	Rachel Davis
Dereon Hill, EMAA	Rachel Luebbering, Southwest Missouri Coalition of Charities
Drew Geer, MHDC	Sandy Wilson, ICA
Dylan Cain, MHDC	Sarah Wilson, Missouri Hospital Association
Emily Bravo-, Salvation Army	Senica Smith, VAC
Emily Fessler, CPO/MO-600 Springfield CoC	Shammy Johnson Preferred Family Healthcare
Glenna Wilson, Truman VA	Sonia Campbell. Catholic Charities
Hannah Mitchell, MHDC	Susan Cox, Catholic Charities of Southern MO
Janelle Williams, MOCADSV	Tammy Walker, ESC/Joplin CoC
Jennifer Baker, MHDC	Tana Miller, Burrell Behavioral Health
Jennifer Von Bohland, United Healthcare	Tera Bock, DESE
Josiah Melzer	Teri Kluesner, Gibson Center for Behavioral Change
Kaitlyn Poepsel, ICA	Theresa Ogelsby, The Kitchen, Inc.
Kari Utterback, Columbia/Boone Public Health and Human Services	Yolanda Redd- DAEOC
Karly Smith, MHDC	
Kathy Henderson, Sts. Joachim and Ann Care Service	
Kaysie Searcy	

Program Standards for ESG Funded Programs- Drew Geer, MHDC

MICH (then the Governor's Committee to End Homelessness) worked to develop written standards for MHDC's ESG program components (Emergency Shelter, Homeless Prevention Rapid Rehousing, and Street Outreach) in 2018-2021. These written standards were developed within work groups comprised of funded agencies, stakeholders, and CoC leadership from across the state. MICH approved the standards and then asked each individual CoC to adopt them as well; CoCs may have their own standards that are more stringent.

HUD is requiring that MHDC provide measurable standards for the ESG program with their submission of the federal Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER). Because these performance standards align with the written standards that MICH previously adopted, MHDC would like to coordinate with MICH on the development/addition of the performance standards. At this time, HUD has not identified specific performance standards.

MHDC presented baseline measures to work groups comprised of ESG grantees and MICH Executive Committee members; measures were adjusted based on work group feedback. Performance goals are based on outcomes over the last 3 years. Data is based on information that agencies are already collecting; no extra data collection will be required. Outcomes on performance measures will not impact funding awards for the ESG 24 or ESG 25 program years.

Drew presented each component standards with changes highlighted to MICH membership at the meeting and a list of individuals who participated in each feedback group.

MICH Feedback/Discussion:

- Suggested language change to include that information will be collected from relevant Comparable Database (in addition to HMIS).
- Suggested language change for consistent/clear wording regarding optional goal setting compared to required minimum standards
- Suggested language change to allow for ESG entitlement communities
- Suggested language change for Emergency Shelter to include expectation of positive exit destination, not just shortened time in Emergency Shelter.
- Discussion to clarify how data collection occurs within exiting report frameworks.
- Discussion on CoC leadership involvement in standard development. Over last few years, several CoCs have developed program performance committees who are working on standards around System Performance Measures.
- Discussion on time frame for obtaining and incorporating additional feedback within capacity and timeline constraints.

End consensus is that MHDC will host an additional feedback session for CoC leadership and existing work group members and MICH will vote on final approval via email. If you have ideas

on specific leadership from your CoC that should be involved please contact MICH Chairperson, Sandy Wilson.

Old Business

Bylaws

MICH Executive Committee has been reviewing bylaws and has gotten very minimal feedback from membership on updates. To ensure representative input from membership and adequate review, the Executive Committee will reach out to individual members to create a work group to review and update the bylaws. The target timeline will be to present a draft of the bylaws at the May meeting and then vote to approve the bylaws at the following meeting. Anyone interested in this work group should contact MICH Chairperson, Sandy Wilson.

2023 Annual Meeting Feedback

Executive Committee thought event was successful and got positive feedback from attendees. There were 60 in person attendees and 11 virtual. The panels were designed to increase connection between CoCs and state agency leadership. The panels accomplished that and showed there is a need for facilitating additional opportunities for collaboration. Executive Committee will be using this theme and feedback to develop agendas for MICH 2024 meetings. Topics elevated at the meeting include rural homelessness, HMIS, CES (updating assessment tools and reciprocity agreements between CoCs), cross training between CoC and state agencies (specifically with DESE Homeless Liaisons) and improved integration of CoC initiatives into the broader work of MICH. Historically, CoC discussions were separated from the larger MICH meetings because of the level of nuance and minutia.

New Business

2024 Meeting Schedule

2024 meetings will be on May 5, August 5, and November 4 with an additional in-person annual meeting. Executive Committee will look at creating a work group to plan the annual meeting.

Legislative Updates – Misha Smith, Empower Missouri

SB 1336

In 2022 HB 1606 passed that included language that criminalized homelessness. This bill was over-turned because the language related to homelessness was included in a non-related bill. This year SB 1336 was filed; it has been assigned to committee but does not have a hearing scheduled yet. This bill includes similar language to HB 1606 that makes sleeping, camping, or living outside on state-owned land a misdemeanor and reallocates funding from constructing affordable housing to short term housing, emergency shelters, and encampments. Language was provided by the Cicero institute. Empower MO is reaching out to housing providers, partners, and individuals with lived experience across state for assistance with educating legislators. They are finalizing talking points and fact sheets to help with educating on the impact of the bill and have an upcoming training on talking with legislators. More information

on this initiative is available at <https://secure.everyaction.com/ uWxZ5t7fU6LG7zgM2-AvQ2>. State Rep Collins recommended individuals discuss this bill with their legislative representatives.

Empower MO is hosting an advocacy week in March. More information is available at <https://empowermissouri.org/week-of-action/>.

Misha can be reached at misha@empowermissouri.org

Funding Updates

MHDC – Drew Geer

Housing Stability and Eviction Diversion Program (HSED)

The HSED 2023 grant year ended on December 31st, 2023 and HSED 2024 began January 1st, 2024.

The Missouri Housing Trust Fund (MHTF)

The MHTF grant for FY2023 ends March 31, 2024 with close out and final back-up due April 30, 2024. The FY2024 begins April 1, 2024. Funding decisions for FY2024 will be released in early February.

The Missouri Housing Innovation Program (MoHIP)

FY2024 started January 1, 2024. The first quarterly deadline is April 1, 2024 with the 25% spending deadline being May 1, 2024.

Home Repair Opportunity Program (HeRo)

Applications are closed for FY2024, and award announcements are coming soon.

The Affordable Housing Assistance Program (AHAP)

AHAP is currently accepting Production Credit applications through April 30, 2024 for the 2024 Fiscal Year.

Emergency Solutions Grant

ESG-24 Q1 just ended on 1/31/24. The 50% spending deadline is April 30th, 2024. The ESG-25 NOFA and application will likely be released and open sooner this year.

Update/Announcements

SOAR Leadership Academy - The national SOAR TA Center hosts SOAR Leadership Academies for individuals that are interested in leading efforts to expand SOAR in their communities. There is one spot open for a Missouri attendee at a session in 2024. Anyone that is interested should contact Amanda Stadler at amanda.stadler@dmh.mo.gov

MOCADSV – Missouri Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence will host a two day housing foundations training for Victim Service Providers in April to help them better understand homeless services and how homeless services relates to violence prevention. For more information contact Janelle Williams at JAWilliams@MOCADSV.ORG.

BOS – The Balance of State CoC has developed a Youth Action Board that is developing a plan to address youth homelessness. Anyone interested in joining or learning more should contact youthplan@moboscoc.org.

HUD CoC FMR Rates – Kelli Kemna, DMH

It is our understanding from conversations with HUD that the due date for the NOFO competition dictates which FMR is utilized in the respective NOFO grant awards. The 2023 competition ended 9/28/23 (in Federal Fiscal Year 2023), meaning CoC grants awarded for FFY 23 (usually start in calendar year 2024) are awarded the FY23 FMR rates. PHAs can use the FY24 rate beginning October 2023 and can request an exception to pay rents above FMR. This results in CoC clients being screened out of housing opportunities because PHAs can pay higher rent amounts than CoC grantees and CoC grant budgets don't have capacity to fund rental increases for clients that are currently housed. A system level solution is for HUD to end the NOFO competition at least 3 days later to allow grants to be funded at the FMR rate that matches the year they are operating in. Some CoCs across state are discussing advocating for this change with their respective field offices. Group decided it would be appropriate for MICH to also send letter to Missouri HUD field offices regarding this.