

**Missouri Interagency Council to End Homelessness
Meeting Minutes 4/4/2022**

Attendance

Aidan Rich – MHDC	Kathryn Stefanowycz
Amanda Stadler - DMH	Kayla Lansdown - Family Guidance Center
Amber Smith - Empower Missouri	Kelli Kemna – DMH
Amy Bickford – St. Louis City CoC	Laura Miller - DSS
Angela Webb- CCSOMO	Marqueia Watson – Kansas City CoC
Ann Benson - Independence Housing Authority	Michelle Garand - Springfield CoC
Anthony Smith – BOS CoC	Naurico Bush
Carolyn Stemmons – MO Head Start	Penny Williams – DHSS
Collaboration Office	Randy Sharp - St. Joseph COC
Chessa Dixon	Shannon DiMaggio- ReStart
Coleen Neil – United Way 211	Sheila Mendez - Community Missions
Dottie Kastigar - St. Charles CoC	Sonia Campbell - St. Joseph CoC
Gary Busiek – Salvation Army	Tamara Wright – USICH
Janelle Williams – MCADSV	Teresa Gerard - Guardian Group, LLC
Jill Richardson – DMH	Tom Epling – DSS
Jimmy Shannon – MoDOT	Wes Dent - Hillcrest Transitional Housing
Jodi Flurry – St. Joe CoC	

Guest Presentation – USICH: Federal Strategic Plan to End Homelessness

Tamara Wright with USICH explained U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness efforts to identify challenges faced by people experiencing homelessness across the nation. USICH is focused on challenges faced since 2016, including racial disparities among people experiencing homelessness and the development of a Housing America initiative by the end of the year. USICH has hosted multiple listening sessions across the country to gather input from service providers, partners, and people with lived experiences to guide the development of the strategic plan, which will be released later this year. MICH members asked questions about how the USICH effort can help with issues in Missouri.

Old Business

- February 2022 MICH meeting minutes were approved as presented.

New Business

- MICH Executive Committee: New MICH leadership was approved by the council with unanimous approval. Tom Epling was approved as secretary to finish Kelli Kemna’s term through October 2022.
- Strategic Planning: Executive Committee recommended dedicating June MICH meeting to strategic planning- membership was in agreement and discussed logistics.

Committee Updates

- MC2, Dottie Kastigar: Discussion focused on developing creative solutions that may help better shelter more vulnerable Missourians during extreme winter cold. Members spoke about the challenges of addressing obstacles that can limit participation and of issues with staffing. There was also discussion of updating the Coordinated Entry directory.

Funding Updates

- MHDC HUD Programs Supervisor Aiden Rich reported that MHDC funding programs are running smoothly and updates are available at MHDC's MO Housing Resources website - <https://www.mohousingresources.com/>
 - ESG – Cassie Sippas Haas has returned; ESG questions can be directed to her. CAPERs are due 4/29 and the 25% spending deadline is on 4/30.
 - ESG CV – Currently reviewing payment requests and updating desk guidance to match program modifications and compliance.
 - HERO award letters went out this week.
 - HOME- ARP – MHDC hosted listening sessions- thank you to everyone that attended. The next step is the release of their draft allocation plan and public hearings for that.
 - MHTF Grant Year started 4/1
 - MOHIP first quarter Grant Year just ended
 - SAHFR applications for homeowners (mortgage assistance) is now live.

Member Updates/Announcements:

- SOAR/PATH Programs - Jill Richardson with the Missouri Department of Mental Health explained how the SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access and Recovery (SOAR) program can help support people experiencing homelessness with accessing federal benefits. She also spoke about the Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) which provides services through contractors to Missourians struggling with serious mental illness that severely limits major life activities who are in danger of becoming homeless.
- Legislative Updates – Sarah Owsley with Empower Missouri spoke to members about Senate Bill 1106.