

Governor's Committee to End Homelessness

June 3, 2019

I. Welcome and Introductions

GCEH Chair, Jennifer Carter Dochler

Attendance:

Jennifer Carter Dochler, Missouri Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, Chair

Amanda Stadler, Community Partnership Springfield CoC

Anthony Smith, FCC Behavioral Health

Carolyn Stemmons, MO Head Start Collaboration Office - phone

Tammy Laws, St. Louis COC

Chiquita Small, Department of Health and Senior Services

Donna Cash, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

Dottie Kastigar, Community Council of St. Charles County

Edwin Cooper, Department of Mental Health

Sandy Wilson (Proxy for Jayna Gray), ICA

Jeanette Mott Oxford, Empower Missouri

Jennifer Carter Dochler, Chair, Missouri Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence

Jessica Hoey, Missouri CAN

Jessie Dryden, Common Sense

Lateacha Tigue, GCEH Vice Chair, Executive Director HottalkRadio Teacha's Kids LLC Tigue Media - phone

Liz Hagar-Mace, Missouri Department of Mental Health

Natalie Allen, Missouri Department of Social Services Children's Division

Tammy Walker, Economic Security Corporation of the Southwest Area, Joplin COC - phone

Amy Bickford, City of Saint Louis

Cassie Sipos-Haas, MHDC

Robin Smith, Joplin CoC

Brooke, MHDC

II. Action Plan Timeline, Review and Updates

Chair

- 1. a. Coordinated Entry (CE) System – The committee discussed that it is in place and provided feedback about usage. Both St. Charles CoC and DESE stated that it is being used and is helpful. The access points and highlighted links on website are user friendly and helpful. DMH continues to work on regular updates and links to pages. All regions are functioning with coordinated entry systems and this goal will be marked COMPLETE.
- 1. b. Strengthen linkages with state partners around the CE process. - Noted that there has been some progress, and need to document this activity better. It was also stated that this is somewhat of a moving target that will always have room for improvement. Next steps may include which state level partners are engaged in GCEH, and assess whether this has translated to local CoC partnerships, as well as identify who is missing from GCEH. A plan is needed to engage new partners in GCEH and at local level. Jennifer offered to provide a document of who has participated for the committee. Local CoC's will share their lists as well. This will be an August agenda item.
- 2. Availability/Access to affordable permanent housing. - Sara at Care Mo. stated that there isn't hard data on this. She can provide data describing the need to committee to begin assessing this. It was suggested to place data on the website. A national report is due to be released soon, and there is some information in the statewide study that can help with this. St. Charles noted this directly impacts rapid rehousing process and seeing increased challenges with weather related disasters, and a number of more options are needed.
 - Strategy to assess the impact of tax credit for developers. A lot of developers aren't applying because they can't make the deals work financially. It was suggested to include developers in the assessment process. In KC, and some rural areas, there is some engagement among developers. Need to work to engage at state level. A concern for gentrification of rural communities and smaller towns was noted as a caution when creating new housing options.
 - Strategy to provide feedback on consolidated plan - Although there is some ongoing feedback, the committee discussed providing formal feedback as a group. The idea arose to develop a statement of feedback in Q1 to use for the year in a PP slide that everyone could use as they had opportunity to share and advocate well with partners. The importance of consistent and accurate data was emphasized as well as the potential impact of not providing it. For example, stats like MO is 120K units short statewide compared to the housing need, could be shared more consistently and accurately. The statement or content for PP would be updated annually and the committee decided to start in 2020 with Care MO volunteering to help put together.
- 3. Stabilize households to prevent entry into the homeless delivery system using prevention, diversion, and reunification strategies
 - Strategy to align state and federal funding. – Needs to be broken down into smaller pieces to be actionable. Committee discussed idea of including new funding opportunities in email shout outs. Liz suggested a directory of funding opportunities

including some basic info and deadlines for applications. There is something like this for DV/SV providers.

- Strategy to Strengthen Discharge (DC) planning – The DC plan is updated and being circulated for signatures. Suggestion to create and distribute a resource tool about DC process and CE including data and info about access to help connect the dots for partners about their role in preventing homelessness. Dottie met with the Medical Director of SSM Health about reducing re-hospitalizations as a pathway to education and collaboration. Hospital discharges need speed and the CE does not meet that need. Discussed how people are assessed for diversion, prevention, shelter or medical respite can be improved. Moving forward a hospital Social Worker will attend staffings on cases with medical needs. Also attending St. Charles CoC to identify gaps in services and build bridge between providers. There is interest in what other states are doing. A 2018 Homeless Symposium highlighted medial respite and other successful measures covered by United Healthcare as an example of insurance companies investing in programs to prevent increased spending associated with ER visits and re-hospitalization. Clarified tool versus educational document. Suggestion to create ‘tool’ with description and talking points as guidance to engage partners in DC planning conversation. More work to be done here. MC2 will start work on this and bring it back to decide if work will continue in the full committee or in subcommittee. Note to add some information about DC policy patient rights following hospital stay or foster care rights information. This can also be another opportunity to engage partners in local and statewide work around how to implement and operationalize DC Policy.
- Strategy to share best practice information on homeless prevention and diversion – Basic level is complete. There as been approval of prevention standards. The question was asked, how are standards being used and how is fidelity ensured? Brooke at MHDC stated that it is included in resources, funded webinars, desk guide and 1:1 TA conversations. There is no new information about diversion best practices. This goal will be marked COMPLETE.
- **4. Use data to evaluate statewide progress and report on results** – Data subcommittee formed and point in time online dashboard available.
 - Strategy to engage stakeholders to share and review data – Dottie would like to see ongoing data, CD, DOC – look back period, what’s missing, needs update. MO Poverty report, next one 2/2020. BoS is working on mapping overlay of unsheltered count vs. shelter available statewide.
- 5. Strategy to develop a statewide “Dashboard” on Missouri progress to end homelessness – Email shout outs 1-2 times per month. Sharing other resources needs improvements including successes and progress. Currently doing well sharing current meeting materials and presentations.
 - Strategy to share opportunities for progress, promote resources and highlight successes and progress – Email and website more effective for this group than basecamp.

- Strategy to share and promote performance measurement tools, assessments, sample MOUs, and evidence based best practices - Suggested to share things like Housing trust fund performance measurement tools etc.
- Strategy to share data indicators of progress, spotlight successes around the state, and share best practice information on ending homelessness with key stakeholders – Suggestion to do a quarterly or monthly local CoC highlights rotating around the state. Jennifer stated this is possible through email shout outs and group needs to get more information to Dirk. Exec team will also adjust agenda to better capture successes and new resources.

III. Subcommittee Updates

- MC2 – Former Chair Sarah Parsons has shifted her focus to disaster relief and Cassie Sipos-Haas is the new rep and chair. Brooke shared that they will be pushing out the upcoming NOFA.
- Statewide Data Committee – Will need a new chair and co-chair later this month.
- Warming/Cooling Shelters – The team has drafted a narrative of ‘how to’ for those interested in becoming a warming/cooling shelter for extreme weather. Requested sample documents such as operating manuals, volunteer applications, volunteer guides, safety measures etc from existing successful programs to add to resources. Contacted all listed in United Way and noted many are public spaces such as libraries who didn’t know they were designated as such, and some were day programs. The team is looking into how to expand into overnight services. Please email Dottie, Amanda or Jessie with any information on existing programs, especially those that are faith based or informal and may not be listed in other places. Need more information for St. Louis City, St. Louis County and Kansas City specifically for extreme weather.

IV. Old Business

- April Meeting Minutes – Amanda Sadler attended in person, not by phone. Motion was made to accept minutes with changes noted and passed unanimously.
- Discharge Policy Progress – Joplin CoC signed at last meeting. CD is moving through signature process and Natalie is working with DYS to sign as well. Hospital Association met with Jennifer and have range of perspectives. Hospital Association is interested in data about homelessness impact on health outcomes with the goal of better informing and connecting local hospitals to understand the needs of this population.
- 2019 Point in Time Statewide Data – Bringing together data currently, need KC data to complete statewide dashboard. Appreciation to ICA for support with this.
- Street Outreach written standards will be made available for 30 day public comments and brought to this committee for approval in August meeting.

V. New Business

- End of Session Legislative Updates – Housing Rights for people with DV/SA/Stalking victim status would prevent private landlords from discriminating, evicting or denying tenancy and allows early lease termination without formal documentation of victim status. May be provided by law enforcement, DV staff or medical professionals. SB1 expands offenses eligible for expungement. HB 899 did NOT pass which would reduce the number of days to move upon eviction from 10 to 5. 10 days is already the lowest in the country. It would also close the window of opportunity for appeal. Something to watch for in future sessions. Mo Community Action Network opposed this bill as well.
- Nominating Committee – Chair of this committee is term limited to 2 years and ends at the end of 2019. New officers will need to be elected including Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary. Goal is to vote in October to allow for a transition period with new officers beginning in January. Motion to form nominating committee with Jennifer Carter- Dochler as chair was made, seconded and passed unanimously. She offered to talk about these positions with anyone who is interested. If anyone would like to volunteer for the committee, please email Jennifer.

VI. Announcements

- DMH – Regional Housing Conferences focused on housing First are coming up and are free of charge. Fliers provided.
- DESE – Students attending summer school who lost housing due to severe weather McKinny Vento eligible going into the 2020 school year.
- MHDC – For CAC allocated funding – Contact Cassie Wilson about the Emerging Solutions Program.
- ESG 2020 Funding Cycle on MHDC website. A training webinar will be held in late June – mid July. When applying it will be important to highlight the impact on the agency and ability to spend the money.