



April 2, 2018

**Office of USDA Rural Development, Suite 232
601 Business Loop 70 West, Columbia MO
(888) 251-2909 Access Code: 4098935**

I. Welcome and Introductions - Lead Person Jennifer Carter Dochler GCEH Chair

Attendance:

Jennifer Carter Dochler, MO Coalition against Domestic and Sexual Violence, Chair
Ivy Doxley, Missouri Department of Social Services Children's Division, Secretary
Michelle Garand, phone, Springfield/Greene, Christian, Webster COC
Liz Hagar-Mace, Missouri Department of Mental Health
Randy Sharp, St. Joseph/Andrew, Buchanan, DeKalb Counties Continuum of Care
Don Stamper, phone, Missouri Department of Economic Development
Tammy Walker, phone, Joplin/Jasper, Newton Counties Continuum of Care
Lacy Peterson, phone, Institute for Community Alliances
Sandy Wilson Institute for Community Alliances
Steve Whitson, MHDC, and proxy for Sarah Parsons today.
Carolyn Stemmons, Head start
LaTeacha Tigue, phone, Vice- Chair, Philanthropist
Jack Lipton, phone, Sts. Joachim and Ann
Katie Burnham Wilkins, Veteran's Administration
Cassandra Kauffman, phone, Mental Health Board, STL Continuum of Care
Edwin Muhammad, City of St. Louis Homeless Services Division
Natalie Allen, phone, Missouri Department of Social Services Children's Division
Donna Cash, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Amanda Stadler, phone, Springfield Continuum of Care
Chiquita Small – Department of Health and Human Services
Annie Herson, phone
Irene Agustin, St. Louis City Continuum of Care
Jeanette Mox-Oxford, phone, Empower Missouri
Evie Craig phone, Restart and KC Continuum of Care

II. MO CAN 2018 Poverty Report presenter Sarah Hackman MO Community Action Network and Missourians to End Poverty

Info was emailed out to the group ahead of time and can be found on GCEH website under meeting documents and a hard copy given to group

If your organization would like the graphics emailed to you, please let Sarah Hackman know S.Hackman@communityaction.org. This document is also downloadable at CommunityAction.org.

5 elements of poverty introduced:

1. Economic and Family Security
2. Education
3. Food and Nutrition
4. Health
5. Housing and Energy

- MO Population is 5,911,099
- 14% of Missourians live below the Federal poverty level
- 826,358 live at or below 100% poverty level
- Asset poverty is the notion of poverty to include how much of a financial cushion a household has to weather a financial crisis i.e. car repairs, job loss, medical emergency
- No person in U.S can obtain average housing based on minimum wage
- All states that have Medicaid expansion except Alaska, has a poverty rate of 9.9%

III. GCEH Discharge Policy Discussion – lead by Jennifer Carter Dochler and Liz Hagar-Mace. This document is listed in the consolidated plan.

History from Liz Hagar-Mace – workgroup developed almost 10 years ago. Took about 3 years to develop and get discharge policy approved. Last reviewed 6 years ago. Started development of this policy due to HUD grant application requirement; this policy met the criteria, but the group never developed an implementation plan and there is no enforcement piece to the policy. GCEH voted and adopted this policy. This ended up being a philosophy and set of guiding principles, signed off by state agencies and all of the COC. DMH, DESE, Dept. Health, and Dept. Corrections all signed. Public Housing and Missouri NAHRO did not sign, but would be good to approach them again.

MO Hospital Association was never approached, and is a needed partner due to significant issue today of hospitals discharging into homelessness. Could hospitals commit to better coordination of services with homeless resources and other resource providers? In a few areas, hospitals are communicating better than in the past, per Katie Burnham Wilkins (VA). Can the “coordinated entry” play a role in improving collaboration on this discharge policy? Part of the issue is that many organizations such as hospitals do not know about the coordinated entry system.

Concerns expressed that there’s a lot of turnover at these agencies, and any tweaking may prevent them signing off again. But also, with turnover do they know about this policy and therefore is it not being implemented. We don’t know who is following this policy at this time.

Discharge Policy Next steps:

1. GCEH team, please review the document, suggest any tweaks. This document may need revision since we have coordinated entry process now. Is homeless definition still accurate?
 2. Need feedback from GCEH group before the May meeting, please send your feedback to Jennifer Carter Dochler before next GCEH meeting, and this will be added to the agenda for MC2 meeting in May 2018. Please answer the following questions:
What's working in this policy?
What's not working?
How is it being used?
What changes need to be made, if any?
 3. Need to identify which agencies signed the original document. Steve Whitson at MHDC will follow up on this.
 4. Develop ideas on how can we promote and communicate this policy to old and new partners? We may have different results now that we have coordinated entry? Local education and collaboration efforts will be needed. (Idea given to create a discharge packet to give to partner agencies; any ideas for what would go in this packet?)
 5. We still need an implementation plan. Idea, how can we get this adopted as an institutional policy that will be trained and followed as an expectation for practice?
 6. Review idea to create an annual communication sent from GCEH with a reminder of this discharge policy and additional tools to help support the practice.
- IV. **MC2 Committee updates** –hope to have rapid re-housing project wrapped up in 4 phone calls per Steve Whitson.
- Youth Homelessness Demonstration Grant – Springfield and KCMO and Balance of state is applying for the rural component of the grant.
- NOFA (Notice of Funding Available) is coming out for COC (Continuum of Care) soon
- Housing inventory count- 5 COC's used the online portal for the sheltered side and gave good feedback on the portal.
- V. **Old Business** – March meeting minutes were presented. Please review and let us know if there are any corrections. A few corrections were suggested and minutes were approved with those changes

VI. **New Business-** Homelessness Symposium is this week April 3 and 4th at Camden on the Lake in Lake of the Ozarks. Several GCEH members in the room will be attending. Approximately 150 will be in attendance. Registration tomorrow at 8 am.

Jeannette Mox Oxford, Empower MO sent a Power Point of slides and a briefing of a few bills in the General Assembly currently around housing and homelessness. HB1429 and SB 591 and SB 590 have all been filed.

A planning call is Friday April 9th for National Action Week of Housing – Our homes our voices. Please join if you are interested with National Housing commission.

VII. Member Announcement/Updates

Child Advocacy Day is April 3

NAEHYC (National Association for Education of Homeless Children and Youth).

National conference is looking for presenters on topic of homelessness, proposals due April 12, being held Anaheim California

VIII. Meeting Adjourned 2:15 pm