

Governor's Committee to End Homelessness March 5, 2018
Office of USDA Rural Development, Suite 232
601 Business Loop 70 West, Columbia MO

Time

12:30-12:40

Welcome and Introductions

Lead Person

GCEH Chair

Jennifer Carter Dochler

Attendance:

Jennifer Carter Dochler, Missouri Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence

Ivy Doxley, Missouri Department of Social Services

Michelle Garand, Springfield/Greene, Christian, Webster Counties Continuum of Care

Liz Hagar-Mace, Missouri Department of Mental Health

Dottie Kastigar, St. Charles, Lincoln, Warren Counties Continuum of Care

Sarah Parsons, Missouri Housing Development Commission

Randy Sharp, St. Joseph/Andrew, Buchanan, DeKalb Counties Continuum of Care

Anthony Smith, South Region Representative - Family Counseling Center

Don Stamper, Missouri Department of Economic Development by phone

Tammy Walker, Joplin/Jasper, Newton Counties Continuum of Care by phone

Danielle Spradley as proxy for Bruce Franks, Missouri State Representative (D)

Evie Craig by phone

Kimberly Ohara – DSS FSD Community Services Block grant program

Edwin Cooper Missouri Department of Mental Health

Lacy Peterson, proxy for Sandy Wilson, Institute for Community Alliances by phone

Steve Whitson MHDC

Carolyn Stemmons Head start

LaTeacha Tigue, Philanthropist

Bob Rorah Boonville Housing Authority and president of Monahro

Jack Lipton by phone, Sts. Joachim and Ann

Nicole McCoy as proxy for Gary Busiek, The Salvation Army Mid-land Division by phone

12:40-1:55 Presentation

Cookingham Institute: Special Report on Serving [Homeless Students in Kansas City](#)

UMKC. The PowerPoint is linked on the agenda and is on the [GCEH website](#). Presenters Damon Guinn and Alex Fitzgerald with Cookingham institute of Urban Affairs within the school of management at UMKC. Purpose of the project see slide 3 of the PowerPoint. McKinney-Vento liaisons identified barriers and needs to carry out services in support of homeless students in public school. Two focus group sessions held in Nov 2016; 37 liaisons from MO and KS invited and 10 participated plus one school counselor.

Liaisons role is to ensure that students' educational rights are understood and intact and that they have referrals to services including healthcare, dental care and mental health.

Transportation for students is cited as the biggest challenge. Liaisons help resolve disputes due to migratory students to make sure transportation needs are being met. Biggest migration from Jackson and Wyandotte county.

National level survey results identified that 66% of liaisons time spent on identifying homeless students. (NCHE 2015) Hidden in Plain Sight Report stats from national survey of 504 liaisons cite that 90% of liaisons spending time on other tasks outside of the role as homeless liaison. 89% spend half their time or less on their responsibility as a homeless liaison

Barriers: insufficient resources (money, staffing and time) including funding for transportation to school and extracurricular activities for homeless youth. Also lack of engagement and coordination with community organizations, but when they are connected they are valuable to the family.

LGBTQ 40% of national homeless population, they are disproportionately represented and often victim of bullying in programs from other participants.

Recommended practices: Prevention and Early intervention including risk factor assessment

Coordinated community response, and one stop shop drop in centers. Drop in centers were more effective in engaging homeless youth into more intensive services and reintegration. Youth more likely to utilize a drop in center over an emergency shelter. More peer support and less likely to feel competition and alienation due to lower barrier access of drop in center. Synergy Services youth resiliency center in KC is a drop in center. Builds relationships in a comfortable setting.

Recommended Housing models: Host homes, Transitional living Programs, Rapid Re-Housing and non-time limited supportive housing. Host homes offer

opportunity to build relationships in a family like setting. Recommended that host homes be near schools.

Housing first model secures housing first then works on other needs such as substance use disorders, financial needs, mental health needs etc...

Local and National Liaisons agree that drop in center and one stop shops are most effective at engaging youth. **Impact Wednesday** is a program in Kansas City Kansas to help improve graduation rate; identified 1400 at risk students, created **1400 Diplomas** program and **Impact Wednesday** drop in center. Can enroll on site in Medicaid, TANAF, make healthcare employments and must take 4 required classes to get a housing voucher that will help with first month's rent and deposit. Collaborative approaches such as this one have good results.

2:00-2:15 Presentation

[MHDC: UMSL Homeless Study 2017](#) (Handout distributed and hyperlinked on the agenda for today) Presentation by Public Policy Research center at Univ. MO St. Louis. Typical homeless person in MO was an individual in a shelter. Majority with SUD (Substance Use Disorder), Mental Illness symptoms and or are Chronically Homeless. Challenges with the data due to conflicting numbers and this makes it difficult to estimate investment needed.

There is disproportionality in Urban areas; African Americans over represented in homeless population.

2015 COC's stats included young adults, a group not previously reported.

2:15-2:20

Ad hoc committee: Action Planning for 2018 by Ad Hoc Chair

Data subcommittee - ICA Dottie Kastigar

Please complete the survey. The survey link will be resent to everyone and will give two extra weeks to complete the survey.

The results will be reviewed at the next GECH meeting.

2:20-2:30

MC2 Committee Updates by CoC representatives

Springfield is applying for Homeless Youth Demonstration Grant Funds per Michelle Garand

Balance of state is also applying on behalf of rural areas – Steve Whitson

Jackson and Wyandotte county COC is applying per Damon Guinn

St. Louis county is also applying for the grant

Workforce Development is interested in partnering on the applicatin, as well as DSS (DYS, CD, DSS)

Juvenile Justice and Family Community Trust, which is the umbrella agency over all the community partnerships are also interested.

DSS is collaborating with MHDC to apply for the grant.

Agencies with state youth advisory boards have been asked to nominate a youth to participate on a state level board.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU's) have been sent to all partner agencies.

Steve Whitson (MHDC) said that efforts around Rapid Rehousing are elevating and phone calls with COC's are being scheduled. Reported that people being turned away from housing and shelter programs for not having photo identification. MHDC is advocating for lowering barriers including eliminating this policy requiring ID's, as housing first is the priority to end homelessness.

2:30-2:40

Old Business

- GCEH Discharge Policy

Only had time to briefly discuss and review Discharge policy. Goal of the policy is for agencies not to discharge people into homelessness, and this is best practice.

Question: Is this policy still being used and does it need to be revised? It was created by GCEH in 2011 and revised in 2012. Took almost 3 years to get state agencies to sign the policy.

Dottie Kastigar, reported hospitals are calling COC for people being discharged. These individuals are medically fragile, being set up in hotels, but they really need more support and or aftercare post discharge from the hospital due to their medical conditions

Randy Sharp reported the same and is concerned that their facility cannot handle the medical care needed by these individuals.

Limitations of this discharge policy is that is has reached a limited capacity of

partners including hospitals and there is not an enforcement piece; no agency is in charge of enforcing this policy and GCEH does not have the authority.

Dottie Katigar feels there is value in having the policy as a starting point. Can say to agencies “Are you aware that your agency/department has signed off on this discharge policy?”

Public Housing Authority (PHA) strategic plans, is this discharge policy being addressed in their plans?

Group does not think the policy is referenced in PHA strategic plans nor are they following a policy even similar. Typically court orders give client 10 days to evict, as it took about 90 days plus legal fees to get to the court hearing. PHA’s use attorneys to evict even though the client is most likely not represented by legal representation due to poverty and or not meeting requirements for legal aid.

Concern is that GCEH should not submit to HUD that housing authorities are using this policy if they are not.

This will be put on a future agenda because it is being submitted in documents sent to HUD. We ran out of time.

2:40-2:45

New Business

Meeting with Governor’s office with Jennifer Dochler Carter and LaTeacha Tigue, so more info to come on this.

Rep. Franks has proposed HB 1938 for homeless bill or rights

Carolyn Stemmons report out for MO Health Start Collaboration office - **The Missouri Head Start State Collaboration Office** hosted *Connecting and Building Relationships: Missouri Early Head Start, Head Start, Shelters, and Continuum of Care* on February 9th.

The meeting focused on deepening the relationships and partnerships among Early Head Start, Head Start, homeless shelters, and Continuum of Care (COCs) to address family homelessness. Partners discussed common interests, the strengths of one another’s agencies and how collaboratively they can build upon one another’s expertise and strengths to support developmentally appropriate environments that promote healthy development and family stability.

GCEH Chair and Vice-Chair

2:45 meeting adjourned

