

## **Governor's Committee to End Homelessness**

**January 7, 2019**

### **I. Welcome and Introductions**

**GCEH Chair, Jennifer Carter Dochler**

Attendance:

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

Lateacha Tigue, Philanthropist, Vice Chair

Anthony Smith, FCC Behavioral Health

Carolyn Stemmons, MO Head Start State Collaboration Office

Tammy Laws, Gateway Housing First

Chiquita Small, St. Louis COC

Don Stamper, Department of Economic Development

Dottie Kastigar, Community Council of St. Charles County

Edwin Cooper, Department of Mental Health

Heather Hofford, Homeless Services Coalition of Greater Kansas City

Jack Lipton,

Jayna Gray, Proxy for Sandy Woson, ICA

Sarah Owsley Townsend, Proxy for Jeanette Mott Oxford, Empower Missouri

Jessica Huey, Missouri CAN

Jessie Dryden, Common Sense

Katie Burnham Wilkins, Veteran's Administration

Ken Chapman, Department of Corrections

Liz Hagar-Mace, Missouri Department of Mental Health

Melissa Wilding, State of Missouri Veteran's Commission

Michelle Garand, Community Partnership of the Ozarks

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

Paul Dribin,

Randy Sharp, Interfaith Community Services dba InterServe, St. Joseph COC

Sarah Parsons, Missouri Housing Development Commission

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

Amy Beckford, City of St. Louis – Department of Human Services Homeless Divisio

## **II. Review: Home, Together – Federal Plan to Prevent Homelessness    Exec. Committee**

- Noted national successes on page 4 from 2010 – 2017 including 13% reduction in homelessness, 46% fewer homeless veterans and 27% reduction in families with children. Sarah offered a reminder that the work of this committee is important and making a difference.
- Q. Have any of the COC's adopted the plan and how are they using data to measure progress? Discussion – St. Louis City, Springfield, are considering adopting. Others have upcoming meetings where it will be considered among leadership teams and partners. Heather – They are updating written standards and incorporating specific pieces into these.
- Noted increase in areas of focus of sub populations on page 4. And their alignment with Missouri's existing plan.
- Q. Should this committee use measures on Page 8. As benchmarks for the 2019 report to the Governor, as recommended guides for our work, or our primary outcomes? Discussion – It seems logical to align Missouri's outcome measures with Federal priorities. Possibly include goals from each COC in annual report. Many of the data points can be collected fairly easily from a point in time count, but there is a delay in reporting, which means the numbers aren't typically real time data. May need to come up with an alternate data collection method. Including these measures is an opportunity to calibrate our data with federal priorities. This committee formed a workgroup at a previous meeting to work toward more quality and accurate real time data. This workgroup may be able to help pull together all COC data to have a better statewide picture.
- Q. How to we make education and awareness part of this committee's ongoing work? Discussion – Suggested creating an infographic at a glance sheet including important metrics and 2-3 most important needs/priorities that could be used in various settings like conferences and advocacy opportunities with legislatures. Should be updated annually.
- Q. Does this committee want to adopt the Federal Plan as is or with additions/changes? Discussion – Recommended to add more specifics to Missouri to make it more meaningful to Missouri and something with built in accountability including measurable deliverables to define progress. There was some consensus that this document reads as suggestive, not to dictate all activities but more as guiding principles which gives space to tailor practice to Missouri's population. Suggestion was made to add a state annex to describe Missouri practice. Consensus to adopt as guiding principles and connect to Missouri's action plan. Jennifer will work on aligning the two documents for comparison, to identify any discrepancies and bring back to the group for review at next meeting. Jessie committed to pull together best and promising practices for the group's review as well.

### **III. Discharge Policy**

**MCADSV, Jennifer Carter Dochler**

- Reviewed changes of renewal date, and additional detail about VAWA. A motion to accept the changes was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.
- Discharge plan requires some ongoing work to ensure it is signed by core group of agencies, COC's and spread to additional local and state partners as well as managing and tracking additional signatories and update process. Intent of the document was clarified to have two main purposes. 1. To meet federal requirement that a policy is included. 2. To increase accountability to it over time as statewide and local partners sign on and employ practices in alignment. It was agreed that this should remain a standing item on the agenda for the time being. State agencies will bring to their appropriate designees for signatures and submit to Jennifer when signed. Also notify Jennifer of any changes or additions to the document or when shared with additional partners.

### **IV. Subcommittee Updates**

- MC2 – No meeting held
- Warming/Cooling Shelters – Dottie K chairing and reported that a phone conference was held to create a basic outline of information to be gathered. Goal is to have a draft of collected information in the next few months. Subcommittee goal is to develop a plan for coordinated contact and access to shelters. Next Phone conference is on 1/10 at 8:30am. Others are invited to join, contact Dottie for information. Dottie to send Jennifer committee member list.
- Statewide Data Committee – Held a call for initial planning. Meetings scheduled for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month from 9-10am. Next meeting is on January 24<sup>th</sup>.
- Jennifer will include committee rosters in meeting materials in the future.

### **V. Old Business**

- December Meeting Minutes – Jessie noted a correction to her name from Jessica. Motion was made, seconded and passed with correction unanimously.
- HUD Point In Time Count is on January 30<sup>th</sup>. COC's coordinated to complete on same date. A tip sheet will be sent out to school homeless liaisons in preparation.

### **VI. New Business**

- Partial Federal Shut Down Impact – DV drew down funds in advance in anticipation of shut down and are funded for the next month. HUD grants are expiring and although 2019 awards were accounted, the contracts were not fully executed, and therefore funding for rents will not be available at the end of January. Section 8 and project based federally subsidized are in jeopardy as well. Projects may be able to advance from reserve accounts if they have them. Residents could very well be facing displacement, possible homelessness and continued challenges with late fees, eviction on their record etc. Empower Missouri is available for consultation if people need help messaging for media purposes.

- Future Topic – Opioid Programming. Suggestion to invite a successful local program to share. EPIC in St. Louis through Behavioral Health will be contacted.
- Meeting Frequency – Jenifer and Sarah shared the challenges of managing the workload of leading this committee among their full time responsibilities. Asked the group to consider meeting less frequently. Concerns expressed about meeting quarterly causing a loss of momentum. Group was open to meeting every other month with subcommittees meeting on the alternate months. This could address the original concern while maintaining momentum and engaging more people in subcommittee work. Liz with DMH offered resources to help with administrative tasks. Liz, Sarah and Jennifer will meet to discuss this possibility and report back to the group.

## **VII. Announcements**

- Funding is not available for the April Symposium and it has been cancelled.