Welcome/introductions

End of Session Legislative Update

* Legislative update
* Fair Housing issues
* Other

GET MINUTES TIL HERE FROM SARAH PARSONS

Discussion about updates

Gary – loss of the tax credits would be huge for future housing projects

Dottie – MHDC has provided support with their set asides

Jeanette shared the objection she has heard from Senator Krowl – price per unit, example is a Habitat for Humanity project in Cape where the whole house was $58,000 vs some projects where a unit is much, much more

Dottie – discussion about costs associated with projects, consultants, etc.

Irene suggested talking with Cynthia Duffy w/ St. Louis City CoC board of directors and an agency that has worked with LITECH; comment about cost of homelessness vs. cost of affordable housing. LITECH has been helpful in the city of St. Louis; also mentioned St. Patrick’s Center as a user of LITECH units.

Jeanette last chance for public testimony is in Springfield, MO on June 7th, she will send it to Sarah Parsons to distribute, also is available on the Empower Missouri Affordable Housing Task Force website

Fair Housing

Jeanette shared about Senate Bill 43, did pass and is on the Governor’s desk. It is a bill that reforms Missouri’s Human Rights statute, eliminates whistleblower protection, etc. There is more info on the Empower Missouri Affordable Housing and Homeless Taskforce website. HUD has sent a letter of concern during the hearing process and noted that Missouri could lose 1.2 million dollars bc we’d be out of compliance with the Fair Housing Act. This also creates a potential danger of losing 65% of the staffing at the Human Rights Commission. Can go on the Governor’s website and click the “Get Involved” tab to send him a message.

Question: Who was the bill’s sponsor

Answer: The bill’s sponsor is Senator Gary Romine from Farmington, MO

Federal legislative issues

Trump’s budget would eliminate funding for the National Housing Trust Fund, there is a letter that agencies can sign on to and you can message Jeanette at Jeanette@empowermissouri.org for more information. They will have a thorough briefing about federal legislative issues on the next Empower Missouri Affordable Housing and Homelessness Task Force call on June 14th at 10:30AM.

Introduction for Representative Kevin Corlew from Kansas City, MO, District 14

District is in the Northland area of Kansas City, along I-29 corridor

Statewide performance efforts/data around ending homelessness (part 2):

* Missouri Children’s Division – Ivy Doxley
* Missouri Department of Social Services – Jeriane Jaegers-Brenneke

Missouri Children’s Division

They get data from the following places:
Hotline – staff use a tree; homelessness is a condition associated with neglect, but is not it’s own category; not able to get good data because of this

They do follow up on the hotline calls

4 possible follow up:
1- nothing to do, assess situation and no follow up is needed

2- worker can provide on the spot services, but no need to open a case

3- worker goes out and offers services in the home but doesn’t feel a need to remove children, open a case for 30-60 days

4-in extreme cases, worker goes out and children do need removed and

Data is tracked when case is open and when the court has removed a child

Look at reason case was opened

Conditions associated with the removal

13,500 youth in foster care, 8% or about 1,000 youth are associated with homelessness or inadequate housing, unsanitary housing conditions

Ivy does not feel like this data is accurate bc the primary conditions are physical or sexual abuse and thinks workers may not be capturing all of the mitigating factors or conditions involved with the removal of a child from the home

Often youth are transient, staying at motel, living with friends, etc.

She does not feel that the data they have when they 1) open a case or 2) remove a child fully captures the families they are working with who are homeless or youth who are homeless

Reviewed *NYTD or National Youth in Transition Database* handout – see attachments

Data is reported 4 times a year

Data listed on this handout is for the last data collection for Missouri (and the rest of Region 7)

Dottie asked are they just surveying youth who aged out of the system? Ivy says they are either currently in care or have aged out, survey is sent to them electronically to them on their birthdate

Katie Burnham Wilkins asked – do they get a good response rate? Ivy says their required response rate is 65%; so they do a lot of calling, following up, especially with the youth who age out; federal funding is tied to meeting this requirement.

Reviewed *Homelessness: Youth Formerly in Foster Care Families with Young Children, Runaway and Homeless Youth* PowerPoint – see attachment

Key highlights:

* Being homeless as a child increases the risk of entry into foster care
* Can delay reunification if the family is still homeless
* Youth who age out of foster care are at high risk of homelessness
* Focus is on ending youth homelessness, looking at 1) stable housing 2) permanent connections (permanent connection means a non paid adult really reduces risk) 3) education or employment 4) social-emotional well being
* Families experiencing domestic violence are at higher risk

Vickie suggested that Nancy Thoma and/or their office could reach out to the Kansas City Youth Homeless Taskforce for data specific to the Kansas City area bc they have exact numbers, not just projections

Dottie commented that child welfare is a major reason why homeless families don’t self-identify, bc they are afraid of having children removed from the home

Donna Cash wanted to point out that teachers and homeless coordinators in public schools are mandated reporters

Ivy shared that youth and family homelessness is a focus for Children’s Division in Region 7; on page 5 shared two approaches: Housing First and Rapid Re-Housing

Dottie – how can we engage local Children’s Division staff in local Continuum of Care? Ivy can provide contact info for regional managers to connect with local management and workers. Dottie asked could Children’s Division send a letter to staff to encourage them to participate? Ivy is very open to this. Contact is Ivy Doxley @ ivy.doxley@dss.mo.gov

Missouri Department of Social Services

Jeriane brought three handouts, see attachments

Income maintenance programs:
Temporary Assistance

Food stamps

MO Health Net for kids, families and pregnant women

MO Health Net for aged, blind and disabled

LIHEAP or Low Income, Home Energy Assistance Program

They do not have a definition of homeless, if a client says they are homeless, they mark it down with no verification, so doesn’t distinguish doubled up vs. unsheltered, etc.

In the past when someone would call in and report homelessness, they referred them to United Way 211 but since working with Sarah Parsons and the CENI project, they changed their hotline process and script and they refer in the CENI Region 8 and 10 counties to the Coordinated Entry process.

Unduplicated data by county

The programs where the data came from are at the top

Cases vs. persons are bc you can have 1 food stamp case w/ 4 people in a family

Question: are you homeless?

Specific questions:

HL or Homeless?
HS or Homeless shelter?
DA or Drug and Alcohol Facility?
HH or Halfway House?

Vickie made request for updated numbers w/ breakdown of each category bc HUD does not identify drug and alcohol facility as homeless.

Sandy – to clarify when is the question asked? At entry or a recert? Jeriane the answer is both.

Irene – asked about discrepancy from March and May numbers, Jeriane says the report is from whatever was in the system at those dates.

There is an error in the statewide totals.

Discussion about how we would expect DSS numbers to be higher bc there is no criteria or certification on the homeless questions we ask.

Vickie shared another differential for the data is that for PIT we count unsheltered and emergency shelter but doesn’t capture the children identified via the homeless liaisons in pubic schools.

Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act – not sure if this would be a good resource but they could be a good partner for the statewide homeless coalition

Old Business:

* Mission/values update review and vote to approve

Vickie Riddle moves that we adopt the mission and values statement

Sandy Wilson seconds motion

Reverend Daryl Gray shared he thinks it sounds like a great mission statement

 Sandy shared that there was a past questions about whether the Gov office had created our past mission, the answer is that they did not

Dottie refreshed people that we reviewed other state’s mission statements to see what we could adopt

Katie Burnham Wilkins suggests removing the United Nations term from the values – she originally suggested this bc the United Nations Commission on Human Rights identifies housing as a basic right but that may not need referenced in this document

Jessica Hoey - some of them are written as action statements and some are just statements, for consistency and grammar we should choose one

Edwin Cooper suggests we continue to make edits and then vote

Gary Busiek suggests

Vickie Riddle withdraws her motion

Vickie Riddle motions we approve the mission

Sandy Wilson seconds

Katie Burnham Wilkins completed roll call, 20 votes for yes to approve the mission statement

Dottie asked that committee make edits and comments to values and email them to the GCEH secretary, Katie Burnham Wilkins; committee will take edits and will bring draft for review and approval at the July meeting

New Business

* Vote to approve Balance of State Review committee slate

Sarah Parsons shared that the MO BoS CoC governance is close to being complete but they will need help from the GCEH for this round of funding. The review committee will review all application put forth to HUD for the CoC

Proposed review committee for MO BoS CoC NOFA:

Vickie Riddle

Randy Sharp

Shawna Eubanks

Jennifer Carter Dochler

Donna Cash

Ivey Doxley

Alice Stiever

Sandy shared from proposed names, 5 have shared previously, 2 new members

Dottie shared information about the process: HUD puts out the NOFA, community agencies apply through the local CoC, 8 different processes go on throughout the state with each of the 8 CoCs; this is for the MO BoS CoC. Agencies will apply, each CoC has a Rank and Review Committee to review the applications and score applications through an objective process and then as a group submit a rank order and ultimately HUD makes the decision.

Vickie shared that none of the review committee can include staff from the agencies who will receive funding.

Reverend Grays asked how are people selected to be a part of the Rank and Review committee?
Vickie shared that in KC, they try to invite people who are involved in homelessness and knowledgeable but are not staff at funded agencies. She shared examples of the backgrounds of their review committee. Looking for individuals with homelessness remediation expertise but no agency affiliation.

Amanda Statler motions to approve

Anthony Smith makes a motion to approve the slate of

Edwin Cooper seconds

Katie Burnham Wilkins took roll call, 20 members voted to approve

Other business:

No July meeting, will meet again August 7th

Member announcements:
Sandy Wilson shared one staff member in their Kansas City office is moving into a data analyst position and will be working with 5 CoCs; she will start coming to the GCEH meeting; they are also filling a position in St. Louis for a system administrator

Alyssa LaVelle shared all BoS meeting is June 14th and they will be voting to approve their governance charter, you can contact Alyssa for more information

Sarah Parsons shared that there was a federal declaration of disaster for the flooded areas in the state of Missouri, MHDC has been tapped to chair the Disaster Housing Recovery Committee. Make sure clients are getting hooked up with FEMA if they have been affected by the floods.

Edwin Cooper shared that the DMH the Supportive Housing Institute is wrapping up next week and will be presenting proposals next week