February 2017

Welcome and introductions

Alyssa Murphy, Joselyn Pfliegier, Sarah Parsons, Dottie Kastigar, Liz Hagar-Mace, Sandy Wilson, Randy Sharp, Amanda Studler, Michelle Garand, Dena Sikoutris, Anthony Smith, Edwin Cooper, Jack Lipin, Amanda Wosman, Vickie Riddle, Jennifer Carther Dochler, Jeanette Mott Oxford, Katie Burnham Wilkins, Samantha Gamble Kintz, Chaunceia Mayfiled, Irene Agustin

On the phone: Tammy Walker, Bonnie, Reece, Donna Cash, Paul Dribin

Legislative update

Guest speaker: Jeanette Mott Oxford, Empower Missouri

Review of history, started in 1901, from 1933-2014 they were called the Missouri Association of Social Welfare

They have focused on issues like social welfare, affordable housing, etc.

Overall goals:

Empower citizens through education

Empower legislators with data and research

Empower volunteers with action steps

Monitor education and advocate at local, state and federal levels

Current efforts:

*Local level*: working on a campaign against illegal lockouts in St. Louis, working to get sponsorship on an ordinance

*State level*: Keep advocates informed regarding legislation filed in Jefferson City that impacts housing and homelessness, HB55 tax credits for homeless shelter donations (Rep. Muntzel); HB44 – prevailing wage on low income housing (Rep. White), HB 161 – low income housing tax credits (Rep. Davis), etc. (we will ask JOM to send her slides to see all of the current bills)

Discussion about pros and cons, ethical considerations, etc. of several bills including HB 161, HB 407 (suggestion to meet with Rep. Davis about the bill), etc.

Discussion about possibility of an invitation to Senator Nasheed and Senator Muntzel to attend our meetings.

Governor issued an Executive Order on Jan 25, 2017 to form a Governor’s Committee for Simple, Fair and Low Taxes that includes several house and senate members (see slides). Discussion that they are planning on holding public hearings. Discussion about how advocates are of two minds when it comes to using tax credits for housing, discussion about past arguments about tax credits.

*Federal level*: collaborate with the National Low Income Housing Coalition; consultation with Missouri Housing Development Commission; United for Homes work, etc.

Next Empower Missouri meeting is February 8th via conference call from 10:30-12/noon; review of call topics – information will be sent out via the GCEH list serve

Lunch break

Executive Committee update

*Executive Order*

Dottie Kastigar reports GCEH Executive Order was renewed, no changes made, approved “as is”

Discussion to clarify that we are no longer the governing body of the MO BoS, they have been working with TA and tha

*Transition Paper*

Plan was to get a transition paper to send to new administration

Liz Hagar-Mace has been working on it, difficult to get information into a 1 page document

Found a past document from 2009 (we referred to it as a placemat…it was created by Nathan at MHDC) and is a really nice document with GCEH history and information that we could update – could be printed for the governor and all new legislators. Liz has an electronic, editable version. Liz will send to the Executive Committee for review and updates.

*Philosophy guiding GCEH*

Jennifer Carter Dochler discussed the historical purpose of by-laws, quorum, etc. some of our practice were in part because of our committee being the governing body of the MO BoS. Provided an example of another state wide coalition she is a part of and how they do business – no quorum, they do have some key appointed committee members, however many non-appointed members are very active members, etc. There is no mandate that we have to have quorum, meeting minutes, etc. we can choose how we want to do business within guidelines from the Executive Order, bc we are under the Governor, we need to be nonpartisan but that doesn’t mean that agencies can’t advocate for specific issues on their own.

Discussion about focus on policy issues and subsequent discussion of what that would look like, specifically because we don’t have staff.

*Discussion on Meeting Logistics for 2017*

Sarah Parsons

Work on being solution focused instaed of problem focused

Look at how systems interact

Be a leader in combating homelessness instead of admin group

State departments are levers to create change

Focus on topics that are statewide (not specific to each CoC)

How do we logistically move these things forward?

Restructure: observation over last year was discussion was around MO BoS, but now that we have made that transition, the state wide committee no longer needs to focus on making decisions for BoS

Observation is that CoC leads find this forum very beneficial re CoC and HUD issues, is there a way to separate that. Solutions discussed at Exec Meeting – have CoC leads meet before the regular meeting (at 10AM, etc.)

Group discussion was that this could be a good solution, to have a separate meeting to discuss nuanced CoC information separately

Michelle Garand says they are adopting a similar format with their Springfield CoC, she got the idea from the state wide conversation

Specific discussion about when CoC leads could meet – what time? How much time? Feedback is that it might vary through the grant season. Reason they suggested it being before was to get the conversation out of the way before the regular meeting so it doesn’t come up during the regular meeting. 90 minutes is plenty of time. 10:30-12/noon for CoC lead meeting, then 30 minute lunch break, regular GCEH meeting is from 12:30-2:30PM. CoC leads will take their own minutes. Vickie volunteered to take minutes for the first few meetings to get things started.

Discussion about how to we truly be an advisor to the governor’s office? Could be a good first step for our restructure.

How often do we meet? Monthly?

Moving to a monthly meeting starting in March

No current need for standing committees

Do we need an executive committee?
If so, do we keep it as is?
If not, how do we restructure

Current executive committee:
President

Vice president

Secretary

Past president

HMIS lead

DMH

MHDC

Discussion that typically an executive committee is a president, vice president and secretary. The addition of past president, HMIS lead, DMH and MHDC was because of the governing of MO BoS. Discussion about how many of these roles no longer make sense with change made this year. We will look at structures when terms end at the end of 2017. Look at change in roles, setting the agenda for meetings, contact with the governor’s office, etc.

MHDC’s continued commitment

MHDC will continue with Project Homeless Connect, it has always been a MO BoS role and will continue

Samantha is the new Alyssa and will be heading up the PHC project

Alyssa will be Dustin’s equal with MO BoS

MHDC will keep the Missouri Homeless Symposium

MHDC will keep GCEH agenda logistics

Dottie created a new format with times for each topic, to help keep on track

Has some desired outcomes, action steps and who is responsible, etc.

List of topics to bring to each meeting and we propose 3 topics and we decide which one we want to focus on, try to get a speaker or expert to present on a specific topic for the next meeting, etc.

Policy topics that Sarah has received:
Sarah will send to Katie, see attachment

MHDC has been engaged with Carolyn Branham with the Nevada Housing Authority and the chair of NARO, Sarah will invite her to come speak with us.

Vickie would like to see Coordinated Entry as an agenda item. Two different discussions – CoC level vs. entire state. Making connections between health and housing. What are state wide policies that are needed?

Dottie suggests sending out the list and having people rank order them or add issues that are a priority but weren’t listed.

Agency updates can take up a long portion of the meeting; want to shift to having updates that relate to the discussion topic.

Is there a way to post agendas, meeting notices to the GCEH website? Instead of emailing out through the list serve. Sarah will be working on how to achieve this on the website.

MHDC to present on outcomes of Coordinated Entry Network Initiative CENI project

How can we evaluate state progress in ending homelessness?

Dottie – we have some state databases, state reports?

Michelle brings up their dashboard and how they can look at their success and failures

Do we look statewide?

Do we look by CoC?
Do we look by major communities?

Could report quarterly to the governor’s committee

Every single CoC looks at the same measures

Vickie suggested starting with some of the things we already have – Point in Time count, gap analysis, and report on moving toward Coordinated Entry. Look at things that are consistent throughout the entire state,

Sandy Wilson offered to put data together

Suggestion to reach out to Kurt Brewer w/ MOCAN to see what type of data he collects

Jeanette can contribute on ways to measures progress on policies

Dottie asked each agency to think about what data their agency collects that would go into the pool of information – send to Dottie what you are collecting by February 24th

Vickie suggested looking at functional zero as a measurement

Liz suggested sending out the Corporation for Supportive Housing for Toolkit for Engaging Public Housing

**Policy topics:**

o   Medicaid waivers for homeless

o   Intersection of health and housing- Medicaid to fund housing

o   Focus on statewide initiatives related to public resources such as Medicaid, TANF, and PHA

o   Multifamily homeless preferences

o   HUD portability policy

o   MO Health Net fees for missed appointments

o   TANF memo- flexibility-state plan revisions

o   VAWA- Nuisance ordinance guidance and harassment rule

o   Engagement with PHAs- prioritize people and decrease barriers

o   “Moving on” understanding and implementation of policy

o   Decriminalization of homelessness

o   State Advisory councils on early childhood education and care (SACs)

o   Equal Access Rule Training

o   State performance measures for ending homelessness

o   Recovery Housing- single family and multifamily

o   Fair Housing

o   Cost of homelessness

o   Engaging for-profit and other affordable housing providers

o   Landlord and property management engagement

o   Coordinated Entry- government and non-profit intersections