DISCHARGE POLICY

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 5, 2011 (revised June 3, 2013)

POLICY

This policy addresses discharge planning for a variety of population in the eight continua in Missouri, including, St. Louis City, St. Louis County, St Charles (St. Charles/Lincoln and Warren Counties), Springfield (Greene, Christian and Webster Counties), Joplin (Jasper and Newton Counties), St. Joseph (Andrew, Buchanan and DeKalb Counties), Kansas City (Jackson County) and Balance of State (101 Counties, not included in another continuum).

DEFINITIONS

I. HUD Definition of “Homeless”
According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), a person is considered homeless if they are living in places not meant for human habitation, such as cars, parks, sidewalks, abandoned buildings or on the street. In addition, persons are also considered homeless if:

- They reside in Emergency shelters.
- They reside in Transitional or Supportive Housing for persons who are homeless and who originally came from the streets or emergency shelters.
- They came from any of the above places but are spending a short time (up to 90 consecutive days) in a hospital or other institution.
- They are being evicted within 14 days from a private dwelling unit and no subsequent residence has been identified.
- They are being discharged within a week from an institution, such as a mental health or substance abuse treatment facility or a jail/prison, in which the person has been a resident for more than 90 consecutive days and no subsequent residence has been identified.
- They are fleeing, or are attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or life-threatening conditions that relate to violence, and the person has no other residence and lacks the resources or support networks to obtain other permanent housing.
II. Guiding Principles
In order to develop recommendations for this discharge policy, the following guiding principles were developed:

1. Homelessness is unacceptable in Missouri.
2. Efforts to secure permanent housing shall be made prior to being discharged from a state or public facility, such as a mental health facility, substance abuse treatment facility, long-term care facility or jail/prison.
3. If “temporary” shelter placement is unavoidable, the reasons for this should be documented.
4. If after having exhausted efforts to engage the client in a discharge plan, if the client continues to refuse services, the efforts will be noted.
5. If a client receiving out-patient services becomes homeless, the state or public facility should work actively with available community resources to locate suitable housing.

III. PROCEDURES

1. Adoption of Guiding Principles: All agencies and institutions serving the homeless population in Missouri shall adopt the guiding principles outlined in II, above.

2. Agency Adoption of Discharge Policy: All agencies and institutions within Missouri shall develop and implement a discharge policy that includes the following:
   a. Individual Discharge Plan: Where applicable or feasible, begin planning an individual discharge plan that includes client involvement and buy-in.
   b. Collaboration and partnerships: A variety of forms of partnerships and collaborations are needed to achieve an effective discharge planning system. It is the responsibility of each agency to partner and collaborate with other agencies in their Continuum of Care to ensure the best outcome for Missouri residents.
   c. Adequate information systems and tracking: Agencies receiving McKinney-Vento HUD funding are required to participate in the Continuum of Care Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). For agencies not required, HMIS is preferred, but not mandatory, in order to improve communication, facilitate access to resources, and track completion of the discharge plan. Please note that Domestic Violence agencies are exempt from this requirement, as described in the Domestic Violence disclosure rules.
   d. Integration of Community Resources: Agencies shall collaborate to reduce the duplication of services. Effective discharge planning procedures and policies shall be supported by all relevant community planning documents.
IV. FUTURE EFFORTS

Additional work is needed. Successful discharge planning policies to prevent homelessness are contingent upon identification of barriers and development of strategies to overcome those barriers. Some of the barriers identified by the committee include:

- Transportation
- Lack of Affordable and Accessible housing
- Access to SSI/SSDI and other benefits, including easier application or reinstatement in a timelier manner, both during and after release from incarceration.
- Money for medications
- Employment
- Domestic Violence Education
- High risk individuals, including, but not limited to, sex offenders, mental health clients, substance abuse and ex-offenders
Memorandum of Agreement
Governor’s Committee to End Homelessness
Discharge Policy

I, __________________________, hereby attest that I am authorized by my Agency and/or Continuum of Care, __________________________, to commit that my agency and/or Continuum of Care has reviewed the Governor’s Committee to End Homelessness Discharge Policy, and that my Agency will comply with this Discharge Policy, and that any policies and procedures developed, adopted and implemented by my Agency, will conform with this Discharge Policy. The Discharge Policy will be reviewed every three years by the Governor’s Committee to End Homelessness. Next review date is set for July 1, 2016.

For: __________________________
(Printed Name of Agency)

Signed: __________________________  Date: _________

Printed Name and Title: __________________________

Witnessed by: __________________________  Date: _________

Printed Name and Title: __________________________
MO Veteran Employment Program

Presented by:
Shams Chughtai
Veterans Program Manager
Purpose

- Provide employment services to eligible veterans and spouses
- Conduct outreach to locate and serve hard to serve veterans
- Work with employers to place job ready veterans
DVOP

Veterans’ Employment Services

- Disabled Veterans’ Outreach Program Specialist (DVOP)
  - Employment related services
  - Case management
  - Referrals to partner agencies
  - Federal hiring information
Significant Barrier to Employment

- Disabled Veterans
- Homeless veteran
- Recently separated
- Offender
- Lacking High School diploma
- Low-income
LVER

✓ Local Veterans’ Employment Representative (LVER)
  ✓ Business and community outreach
  ✓ Educate businesses and staff
  ✓ Outreach for Show-Me Heroes initiative
  ✓ Advocate for veterans
WOTC

Work Opportunity Tax Credit

- Federal tax credit for businesses (max $2400)
- Encourages employers to hire
- Ease transition from job to job
- Create high performance workplaces
- [http://jobs.mo.gov/wotc](http://jobs.mo.gov/wotc)
Examples of Criteria

- Short-term welfare
- Veterans receiving state assistance (i.e. food stamps)
- Vocational rehabilitation referral
- Supplemental Security Income recipient
- Ex-felon within 1 year of release & member of a low-income family
Missouri Job Centers

Full-service, One-Stop Missouri Job Centers
Missouri Division of Workforce Development
Job Centers’ address and phone on reverse

St. Louis Metro
Saint Louis County
SAINT LOUIS COUNTY FLORISSANT
SAINT LOUIS COUNTY NORTH OAKS
St. Louis City

Additional information about Missouri Division of Workforce Development services, contact a Missouri JobCenter near you. Locations and additional information are available at jobs.mo.gov or 888-720-JOBS (5627). Missouri Division of Workforce Development is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Missouri TTY Users can call 800-735-2966 or 877-389-2286 (P-411).
#TheNetBenefit Campaign

October 1, 2018
About Missouri Foundation for Health

Mission

To improve the health and well-being of individuals and communities most in need.

Equity | Integrity | Humility | Commitment
Missouri Foundation for Health is a resource for the region, working with communities and nonprofits to generate and accelerate positive changes in health.

As a catalyst for change, the Foundation improves the health of Missourians through:

- Partnership
- Experience
- Knowledge
- Funding
The Foundation serves 84 counties and the city of St. Louis.
Why Now?

Childhood Obesity  
Expanding Coverage  
Infant Mortality
Fall 2017:
Focus Groups & Statewide Survey

• Connect the dots across local services, community support, and federal programs.

• Stay focused on who the safety net actually serves.

• Talk about the community benefits of helping individuals and families in need.
The Net Benefit
#TheNetBenefit

Launched Tuesday, June 26
Our Goal

Educate Missourians about what we all need to lead healthy lives and help create stronger communities and a stronger state.
Our Message

Our communities are only as strong as our people. And our people—our families, friends, and neighbors—are strong when they have access to the food, shelter, health care, and economic support they need to lead healthy lives.

When Missourians have access to care and resources that help them meet their needs, they have the opportunity to live up to their potential, bringing limitless value to their communities and to our state.

When we look out for one another, we all see The Net Benefit.
Meeting Our Basic Needs

When we look out for one another, we all see #TheNetBenefit.
Materials

#TheNetBenefit
When we look out for one another, we all benefit.

Our communities are only as strong as our people. Our families, friends, and neighbors need access to food, shelter, health care, and economic support to lead healthy lives. It’s true no matter who you are or where you live.

When Missourians have the essentials for their well-being, they can live up to their potential and bring wellness value to our communities and our state.

“Too be successful in life means that you did the right thing to benefit people.” — Tony R. Rockensky

Food

When Missourians have access to enough nutritious food, they have the fuel they need to attend school prepared to learn, get to their jobs ready to be productive, and maintain their health as they age.

| Food Stamp Program, known as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) |
| Nearly 38% of SNAP beneficiaries are children. |

Shelter

Individuals and families can create stability, find new opportunities, and improve their lives when they have the protection that a home provides.

| Housing assistance, including the Missing Doors Teacher program |
| More than 600,000 Missourians are living in poverty and need housing assistance. |

Health Care

Access to health coverage through Medicaid and CHIP provides children the support they need to grow and thrive, helps older adults stay in their homes, and makes care affordable for people with disabilities.

| Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) |
| Nearly 15% of Missouri children are uninsured. |

Economic Support

For Missourians most in need, direct economic support offers a crucial boost. These programs help many older adults and people with disabilities cover the basics, like food and utilities.

| Missouri Foundation for Health | Nearly 15% of Missourians are low-income. |

Read our stories. And share your own. TheNetBenefit.org

#TheNetBenefit
When everyone has access to nutritious food, we all benefit.

Our communities are only as strong as our people. But too many of our families, friends, and neighbors don’t have access to the food they need to lead healthy lives. They have to choose between buying food or paying for essentials, like housing, transportation, and medical care.

These Missourians rely on a combination of federal, state, and local programs to fight against hunger. With this access to food, they have the fuel they need to attend school prepared to learn, get to their jobs ready to be productive, and maintain their health as they age.

“Food is a basic need. If your skin is burning, to eat food, you are not going to be any different to a child who has a high fever.” — Cathy Gardner

Nearly 38% of Missouri children are food insecure. Nearly 15% of Missouri children are food insecure at some point during 2016.

Nearly 38% of SNAP beneficiaries are children. Nearly 15% of Missouri children are food insecure. Nearly 15% of Missouri children are food insecure at some point during 2016.

Food Security Program, known as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

In Missouri, SNAP helps more than 645,000 Missourians who are struggling to put enough food on the table. It’s their first line of defense against hunger and gives them the chance to give back to the community. Every dollar of new SNAP benefits returns an estimated $1.60 in economic activity.

Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)

More than 118,000 Missourians participate in WIC, which provides affordable, nutritious food for pregnant women, mothers, and their children age 5 and under. WIC helps ensure our children have a strong start in life.

Food pantries, churches, and other local organizations

Local institutions and volunteers make up a crucial network of support across Missouri, supplementing federal programs to ensure our neighbors have access to nutritious foods in times of need.

Read our stories. And share your own. TheNetBenefit.org

Missouri Foundation for Health

a catalyst for change
Humans of St. Louis

July 4

“I attended a crisis intervention training and they talked about mental health. My wife works for the Division of Health and Senior Services, so we learn from each other and I try to figure out ways to help people the best I can without using the last resort of ‘Well, I guess I’ve got to put you in a jail cell for 12 hours,’ and as opposed to, ‘Hey, if you need help, let’s get you the help that you need.’ I try to watch for body language. Certain movements are indicators of... See More

50 Comments 80 Shares

June 26

“I had a refrigerator go out over the weekend. Came back home and had lost all of my food. And I had to go to the pantry. I’ve used it a few times. I don’t go every month. I’ve only used it when I really had to. We didn’t have food. We were down to canned goods and spices. Everything else in my refrigerator was lost. If it wasn’t for that, I don’t know what I would have done. I don’t like to borrow or get handouts either. But it’s good to know there’s somewhere you can go for... See More

8 Comments 14 Shares

Lisa Avery

I’m glad that pantry was there for you and glad that you used it. That’s what they’re there for. Hang in there.

Like • Reply • 6w

Don Duncan

There comes a time in many people’s lives when they need a hand. There’s no shame in it when you are in need. In return you can help others in the same situation by volunteering at the pantry or doing whatever you can to help another in need. Seems to be a lot of need in our world. We must pull together and help each other. Hoping for better times for you. Keep struggling. You only lose when you stop trying.

Like • reply • 6w
A Growing Team
Role of Partners

• **Amplify messaging** that positions the importance of meeting basic needs to lead a healthy life

• **Extend the message** to hard-to-reach communities

• **Collect and share stories of Missourians** - and communities - thriving as a result of access to care
Core Messages for Partners

Having access to enough nutritious food is critical to ensure Missourians have the fuel they need to attend school prepared to learn, go to their jobs ready to be productive, and maintain their health as they age.

Housing plays a critical role in our physical, mental, and emotional health. We know that when people have a safe, affordable place to call home, they are less likely to have unmet health needs.

Medicaid provides vital coverage for children—including those with special needs—who otherwise wouldn’t be able to get the care they need to grow and thrive. Medicaid also helps seniors stay in their homes and covers people with disabilities so they can afford their care.
The Net Benefit
Partner Launch Toolkit
June 2018

The Net Benefit
National Health Center Week Toolkit
August 12 - 18, 2018

The Net Benefit
Back-to-School Toolkit
August 2018
Who We Want to Reach

Missourians

- Beneficiaries, volunteers, and professionals
- Community leaders
- Voters across demographic and party lines
Storytelling

We are showcasing...

• How Missourians have found support in times of need.
• The role of dedicated professionals and volunteers who are helping their neighbors access food, shelter, health care, and economic assistance, and can speak to the importance of these supports in building strong communities.
• How communities are stronger when the individuals that make it up are strong.
"People are just hungry. They’ve lost jobs. They’re new to the area. They’re down on their luck for one reason or another. There’s no specific economic level. We see people of all statuses. It’s just people."

Sharon, Cape Girardeau
“I cried when I found housing in here because I was so happy to be on my own again. I had my own room. It was handicapped accessible. It’s the best thing that’s ever happened to me in my entire life outside of having my kids.”

Virginia, Columbia
“The only hospital here is shutting down completely. But we need it. So where will people go for health care? Cape. Poplar Bluff. About an hour or more away.”

Debra, Kennett
“I always tell people that when I was a child, I was hungry. Now, it’s like I’m reliving these programs, but I’m on the other side. I get to pay it forward.”

Karen, Sikeston
Keeping a Drumbeat…

July
July 26  Americans with Disabilities Act anniversary

August
Month  National Immunization Awareness Month
Month  Back-to-School
August 8-14  National Health Center Week

September
Month  National Childhood Obesity Month
Sept. 24-28  Malnutrition Awareness Month

October
October 1  Child Health Day
October 2-8  Mental Illness Awareness Month
October 8-12  National School Lunch Week
October 21-27  National Healthcare Quality Week
October 27  Make a Difference Day

November
Month  American Diabetes Month
November 11  Veterans Day
November 22  Thanksgiving

December
Month  Holiday season
December 3  International Day of People with Disability
Questions?
Contact

Courtney Stewart
Vice President of Strategic Communications
Cstewart@mffh.org
(314) 345-5505