



Housing Connect

HOUSING CONNECT
JASPER AND NEWTON COUNTY COC



Shonna Greninger, Housing Resource Coordinator

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Housing Connect Office is located at Economic Security Corporation


302 Joplin Ave.

Joplin, MO 64801

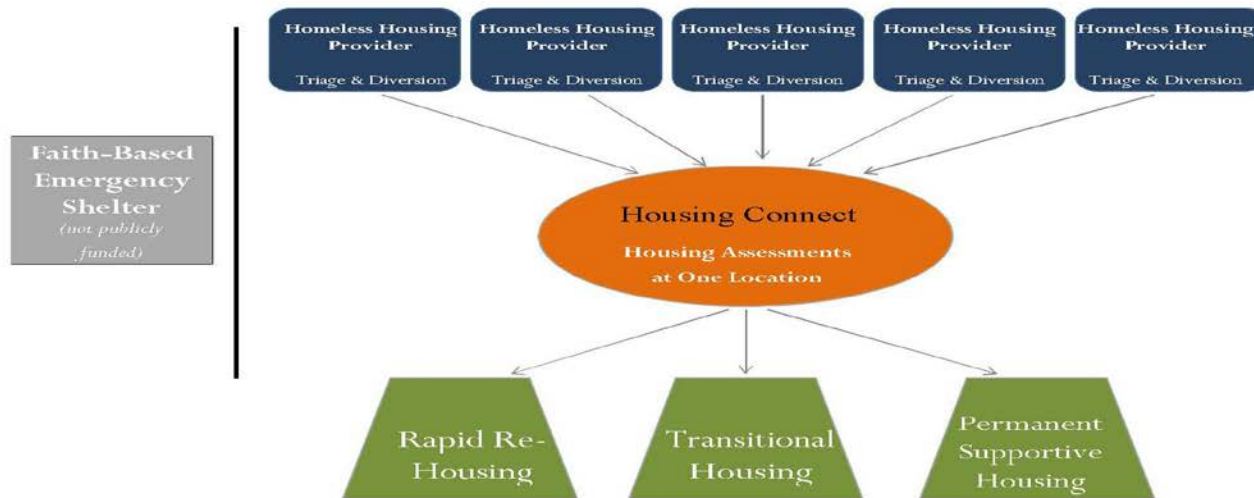
Email: sgreninger@escswa.org

Hours: Monday- Thursday 8:00-4:00

PLANNING

- Our CoC received HUD technical assistance.
 - Our HUD T&TA provider traveled to Joplin and facilitated a two day meeting on Coordinated Entry.
 - Our planning took nearly a year.
 - Partner Agreements were signed with agencies who will fill their openings from Housing Connect.
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Joplin Coordinated Entry Model



Roles:

Homeless Housing Provider

Triage & Diversion

Designated Homeless Housing Providers will act as the front door of the coordinated entry process and provide triage to assess basic eligibility for CE as well as diversion to prevent households from entering the homeless system. Referrals to prevention resources will be provided as determined by triage assessment.

Lead CE Organization

The Lead Organization will complete a standardized assessment with people in need of homeless housing resources who meet Categories 1 and 4 of the HUD Homeless Definition. Households will be assigned a vulnerability score that determines the most appropriate housing referral.


Homeless Housing Project Type

All CoC and/or ESG funded rapid re-housing, transitional housing and permanent supportive housing projects will receive referrals exclusively through the coordinated entry process.

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TOOLS

- VI-SPADT 2
- Two Prescreening questions
- Google Doc
- Service Point (HMIS)

STAFFING / FUNDING

- The Homeless Coalition applied for and was awarded a United Way grant of \$50,000.
 - MOU between Economic Security Corporation and The Homeless Coalition to provide fiscal oversight and supervision.
 - Our original office was located at the Community Clinic and was later moved to Economic Security Corporation's central office.
 - Some funding was secured through the City of Joplin to partially pay for staffing costs for year two.
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KICK-OFF

- Housing Connect began November 10, 2015.
- We ran out of housing opportunities within a month and have carried a prioritization “waiting list” ever since and update it weekly.
- Our focus was just Joplin in the beginning and later expanded to include our whole service area which is Jasper and Newton County.




ITEMS NEEDED FOR APPOINTMENT

- Driver's License or state ID for everyone over the age of 18
- Social Security card for everyone in family
- Proof of homelessness (letter from shelter)
- Proof of chronic homelessness (more documentation)
- Proof of income
- Proof of disability

All documents are scanned into the HMIS.



CHANGES SINCE WE STARTED

- We now require all documents before a person is ready for housing.
 - Time limits to get documents. (90 days)
 - If we have no contact with a person for 30 days they will be taken off the prioritization list.
 - Shonna now identifies and refers people to programs that have openings.
 - The Veteran By Name list is updated and maintained through Housing Connect.
 - Assess individuals who attend our Project Homeless Connect events.
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CHALLENGES

- Lack of housing opportunities within programs.
- Lack of funding in general for operation of system.
- Lack of affordable housing.
- Lack of case managers.
- Google Doc.
- Need for flexible funding for prevention and diversion.



STATISTICS

- 581 Assessments were completed from 11/10/15– 3/28/17
- 359 individuals and 222 families
- 142 individuals were housed on their own (with case management assistance or increased wages) or have moved away to be closer to support systems.
- 100 individuals or families have been housed through Housing Connect.
- 22 assessments in Neosho.
- As of March 28th - Housing Connect has 85 individuals/families on the list.
 - 25 individuals/families in the process of being housed with agencies
 - This leaves 60 individuals /families that still need to be housed
 - 24 individuals/families are ready to be referred (all documents are turned in)

Coordinated Entry Network Initiative- CENI

Balance of State Continuum of Care



BoS Coordinated Entry History

- ▶ Early 2015: National Perspectives & Guidance
- ▶ Late 2015: Strategy and approach-Start Small, Scale Up
- ▶ Early 2016: Coordinated Entry Sub-committee
- ▶ Throughout 2016: CE Regional Committees & Leaders Are Forming
- ▶ Late 2016: Coordinated Entry Network Initiative (CENI)
- ▶ Early 2017: CENI Pilot Regions Eight and Ten hit the ground running
- ▶ Current: Technical Assistance to Scale Coordinated Entry System by January 23, 2018

Challenges

- ▶ 101 Counties

- ▶ Almost half of Missouri's total population resides in BoS covered areas-49%

- ▶ Geographic Diversity

- ▶ 90% of Missouri's total land area is in the BoS
 - ▶ Small towns under 100 people, large cities of more than 110,000

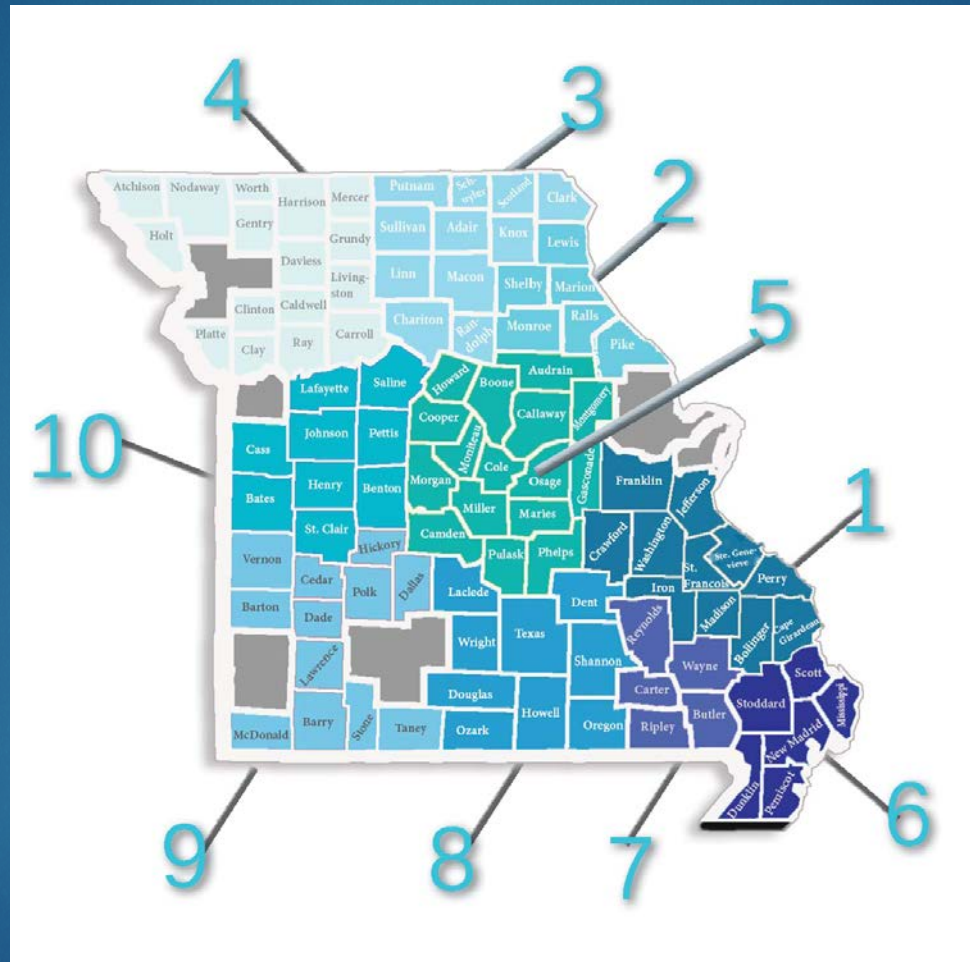
- ▶ Service Providers

- ▶ Time & Travel Distances

Solution: CENI

- ▶ The Coordinated Entry Network Initiative is a collaboration between Missouri Housing Development Commission, Department of Social Services, Department of Health and Senior Services, Department of Mental Health and Department of Corrections in two regions of the Missouri Balance of State Continuum of Care to implement a successful Coordinated Entry System.
- ▶ The goals and objectives are to help provide a more efficient process for those experiencing homelessness or housing crisis's to access homeless service delivery systems, identify cross-sections of service utilizers and homelessness between the agencies listed above, and provide data to better understand homeless assistance and housing services needs within Missouri.

CENI Regions



Successes

- ▶ Region Eight:

- ▶ Brandi Sutherland
Ozark Action Inc.
710 East Main
West Plains, MO 65775
417-256-6147 ext. 294
bsutherland@oaiwp.org

- ▶ Region Ten:

- ▶ Roxanna Parker, Program Director
Pettis County Community Partnership
1400 S. Limit, Ste. 29
Sedalia, MO 65301
660-827-0560
pccp2@att.net

Questions?