

## HOUSING FOR THE HOMELESS CONSORTIUM MEETING

**10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

December 7th, 2016

AmericInn, Chamberlain, SD

1981 East King Street

### 10:30 – 11:00 Welcome/Introductions

The meeting began with introductions of all who were in attendance. The 51 attendees are listed below.

### **UPDATES:**

#### Youth Homeless Demonstration Project/Rural Youth Peer Network

The Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) is an exciting new initiative designed to reduce the number of youth experiencing homelessness. HUD released the YHDP NOFA in late August and accepted applications until November 30. Communities could apply only through their local Continuum of Care, and ten communities will be selected to participate. Four of those communities will be rural - South Dakota applied as a rural community. The CoC, VOA, OST, RST, Rapid City School District, and Minnehaha County Health and Human Services came together as a steering committee and put together a great application.

The Ten Communities will have access to the following:

- \$33 million dollars set aside for YHDP projects, where each community can apply for between \$1 million and \$15 million
- The opportunity to implement new and innovative project models
- Dedicated teams of technical assistance (TA) providers to advise the planning and implementation of the coordinated community plan

YHDP projects will have two year grant terms and after the initial 2 year grant for this program the money awarded would be funneled back into our CoC. The projects may be renewed under the Continuum of Care program if they meet statutory requirements.

The Ten selected communities will commit to the following:

- To collaborate with a broad array of partners including a youth advisory board and the local or state public child welfare agency
- Develop a coordinated community plan to prevent and end youth homelessness and submit it to HUD within six months
- Participate in a demonstration program evaluation to inform the federal effort to prevent and end youth homelessness

We have a fantastic steering team, who all worked very hard to put together this application. It was an honor to work with such a talented group of people who work so hard to prevent and end homelessness in our state! Announcements of the ten selected communities will be made in January or February.

#### **Rural Youth Peer Network**

Our CoC was recently selected to take part in the Rural Youth Peer Network. The purpose of the Rural Youth Homelessness Peer Network is to develop the capacity of communities in rural areas to provide non-time-limited supportive housing to youth age 18-24 experiencing homelessness and housing instability. The Rural Youth Peer Network provides an opportunity for rural communities and providers

to come together to identify the need, build capacity to implement solutions, and develop projects within their communities to create non-time-limited supportive housing opportunities for youth. The purpose and framework of the Peer Network has been informed through Opening Doors. Specifically, this Peer Network responds to the current capacity of rural communities and the limited national understanding of the need and solutions for youth experiencing homelessness in the following ways:

- Increasing community understanding of youth homelessness
- Ensuring accurate counts of youth in the 2017 PIT
- Ensuring youth are involved in all aspects of youth homelessness planning and efforts
- Understanding of non-time-limited supportive housing as an effective intervention

## Vets@Home Updates

SDHHC has been participating in Vets@Home technical assistance since June 2016. The CoC Vets@Home group is currently made up of 17 people from across the state. A fundamental component of this group is to identify best practices, key strategies and action items to implement and end homelessness for veterans in South Dakota. The group has created a masterlist, is deciding on a universal assessment tool, and has organized teams for case conferencing. The workgroup meets every other week and continues to address confidentiality and transfer of information issues. Our masterlist has approximately 100 veterans listed and data indicates that we are meeting the benchmarks for getting them rapidly rehoused. The Vets@Home TA is providing us with a method of identifying and assessing the risks of subpopulations such as veterans, youth and chronically homeless.

## CoC Committee Discussions — Purpose/Formation/Membership

Coming Soon - Committees:

In order for our CoC to be the most effective we need to breakdown the roles into specific committees. These committees should aim to meet 1-2 times per month with updates at each SDHHC meeting.

Examples of Possible committee ideas:

**Membership Committee** - This committee is charged with recruiting and retaining a wide range of organizations into membership.

Possible 2017 Goals

- Develop an action plan to recruit and maintain agencies
- Create a membership application

## Youth Committee

This Committee works to assess the unaccompanied youth population and develop a plan to address their needs.

Possible 2017 Goals

- Youth PIT
- YHDP
- Rural Youth Peer Network
- Youth Advisory Board

## HMIS Committee

The HMIS committee is made up of different types of homeless service programs that operate within the CoC. They will meet to collaborate/discuss the needs and challenges of everyday use of the system and work to come up with helpful solutions.

#### Possible 2017 Goal

- Effective Data Entry
- Recruit New Users

#### **Veterans Committee**

A fundamental component of this group is to identify best practices, key strategies and action items to implement and end homelessness for veterans in South Dakota. The group has created a masterlist, is deciding on a universal assessment tool, and has organized teams for case conferencing. The workgroup meets every other week and continues to address confidentiality and transfer of information issues.

#### Possible 2017 Goals

- Have a working Masterlist
- Establish Case Conferencing procedures

#### **Advocacy Committee**

The Advocacy Committee conducts activities to advocate for the homeless and to educate the public about issues pertaining to homelessness.

#### Possible 2017 Goals

- Legislative Day

#### **11:00-12:00 Domestic Violence Presentation by Kathy Rutten**

Kathy explained the dynamics of DV victims who are homeless as compared to other homeless. She also presented on VAWA and confidentiality vs HUD confidentiality and why that can be a struggle with ESG grantees.

#### **12:00-1:00 LUNCH**

#### **1:00 – 1:45 SWA Presentation – PIT Count Methodology**

Molina Richards with Sicangu Wicoti Awanyakapi (SWA) presented on the methodology and results of their last 2 PIT counts.

#### **1:45-3:00 Point-In-Time Count and Housing Inventory Training –**

On January 24 we will be conducting our annual Point in Time (PIT) count which will help us to better understand the scope of homelessness in South Dakota. In the past we have sent volunteers out into the streets armed with clipboards and paper. This year we are going electronic. Using only paper:

- The process of compiling counts from multiple paper sheets is labor intensive and error prone.
- There is a significant delay between when the paper surveys are completed and when the results can be tabulated;
- Paper forms are incapable of preventing a count volunteer from straying outside of his or her designated count area;
- With paper, there is no real-time communication between count administrators and volunteers. This can contribute to poor data quality as issues can persist throughout the night of the count and not be recognized until the count is over

We have chosen to utilize SimTech Technologies and their Counting Us application to perform our count this year.

#### How Does it Work:

Survey data is gathered from count volunteers who have installed the Counting Us app from the App Store or Google Play. This data is posted to the Regional Command Center where count administrators can monitor the annual homeless census in real-time. After explain the app a test count was performed

and participants got to see the results on the displayed command center. To learn more about the App you can visit SimTech's website at <http://pointintime.info/>.

### 3:00-4:00 Town Hall – Items of Interest or Concern from your community

Eric Kunzweiler - ICAP – ICAP will be starting Rapid Rehousing on February 1<sup>st</sup>!

Bill Fahrenbruk – VA Black Hills – They are getting more vouchers and contracting with residents on reservations.

Melanie Bliss – Community Activist/Retired Homeless Coalition – It has been a tough year and she wishes season's blessings for everyone.

Bill Ziegler – Sioux Falls Housing – They have hired a new Director, but he has not yet signed a contract. This should happen mid-January. They currently have a four year waitlist with HOPWA having 1.5 years.

Brett Johnson – Minnehaha County Health and Human Services – Their team interviews 10-15 homeless families per week. They are going to be changing things up a bit in Health and Human services in the coming year.

Andrea Denke – Community Health of the Black Hills – Their homeless coalition in Rapid City may be fizzling out. At this time they are lacking a chair and co-chair. Their tiny house project is moving forward. Rapid City is currently seeing an increase in public access to healthcare.

Lysa Allison – Cornerstone Rescue Mission – They are full with 40 people sleeping on the floor. They currently have a budget deficit and are in need of funding. The mayor is a big proponent of their cause and has written them into the city budget.

Karen Feterl – Mitchell Area Safehouse – They just completed their Christmas Spirit fundraiser. Their 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Project Connect is scheduled for the day of the PIT count. Thirty families are in the Adopt a Family for Christmas.

Melissa Jungemann – VOA – They are concentrating on the Youth Count this year.

Carly Huber - DWU – They have a class that is interested in participating in the count this year. Thirty students will be available to help.

Darci Bultje – ROCS – Their Executive Director is very ill. They really want to work to make this year PIT count great. They are hunting for funding to match their ESG grant due to their decrease in HOF. Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) is ready to help again this year with taxes. No one should have to pay to get their taxes done.

Jesse Bailey/Joseph Tielke – Yankton Homeless Shelter – Their shelter nights have doubled – they increased in capacity from 9-50 beds with their new building. They have a new program with the drug court and will be announcing the shelter's new name when they have an open house. Currently they have nowhere to shelter unaccompanied youth, but they are working on it! They have some new staff and are planning to combine the PIT with a connect this year. With a lack of transportation for their clients to Sioux Falls, they are looking into options to overcome that barrier.

Amy Carter – Children's Inn – Intake is up 8%.

Dawn Sikkink – Beacon Center – They have done a lot of school presentations and hired another PT staff. They also recently did a sell-a-song fundraiser.

Roger Jacobs – HUD – Dr. Ben Carson was named the new HUD secretary. HOF – 2013 passed to HTF and next year there is very little money. Please get information to your legislators about how important these funds are. Roger will be doing an interview with public broadcasting on why there is an increase of 35% in family homelessness. Anyone with answers to why this is happening please forward that on.

Pat Gallagher - NESDCAP – They are excited to help with the PIT count this year!

Maria Krell – Bishop Dudley – The men’s side of the shelter is consistently at capacity (80). The women’s side is holding at 9-10.

Christina VanDeWetering – DVN – They are at capacity regularly (2 families and 1 single). They are currently fundraising to find a bigger place. They have raised \$40,000 of the \$200,000 that they need!

John Olson – Rapid City Police Department – They are new to the CoC and just looking to see where they can contribute. They can offer a different perspective and can share the effects of homelessness.

Barb Garcia – Rapid City Community Development – The Rapid City Fire Department and EMT will also be joining the CoC!

Attendees:

Karen Feterl – Mitchell Area Safehouse  
Melissa Jungemann – Volunteers of America  
Teena Conrad – Cornerstone Rescue Mission  
Lysa Allison – Cornerstone Rescue Mission  
Andrea Denke – Community Health of the Black Hills  
John Olson – Rapid City Police Department  
Barbara Garcia – Rapid City Community Development  
Caitlin Nissen – Behavior Management Systems  
Dave Strohmayer – ROCS – Mitchell  
Tom Steinback - ROCS – Yankton  
Becky Sieh – ROCS – Lake Andes  
Ruby Reiner – ROCS – Lake Andes  
Darci Bultje – ROCS – SDCAP  
Bill Fahrenbruck – VA Black Hills  
Jordan Walsh – VA Black Hills  
Laurie Theilmann –Western Dakota CAP  
Greg Essary - Western Dakota CAP  
Sandy Hollandsworth - Western Dakota CAP  
Doug McCuddin – Sioux Falls Vets Center  
Molina Richards – SWA Corporation  
Joseph Tielke – Yankton Homeless Shelter  
Arleen Weerheim – Interlakes Community Action  
Cindy Dannenbring - Interlakes Community Action  
Dawn Sikkink – Beacon Center  
Denise Ragels – Beacon Center  
Jesse Bailey – Yankton Homeless Shelter

Amy Carter – Children’s Inn  
Jennifer Humphrey – DSS/Department of Behavioral Health  
Christina VanDewetering – Domestic Violence Network and WC  
Maria Krell – Bishop Dudley  
Stacey Tieszen – Minnehaha County Homeless Advisory Board  
Kami Marts – Missouri Shores Domestic Violence Shelter  
Pat Gallagher – NESDCAP  
Sara Reynolds – Rosebud Sioux Tribe  
Jennifer Eastman-Knox – Rosebud Sioux Tribe  
Roger Jacobs – HUD  
Karen Cordie – Sioux Falls VA  
Cathleen Cronk – Sioux Falls VA  
Paul Miller – Sioux Falls VA  
Amy Radke – Sioux Falls VA Student  
Melanie Bliss – Community Activist  
Lisa Schrader - Oglala Sioux Lakota Housing  
Eric Kunzweiler - Interlakes Community Action  
Tammie Denning - Interlakes Community Action  
Brett Johnson – Minnehaha County Health and Human Services  
Thomas Stange – LCBHS  
Bill Ziegler – Sioux Falls Housing  
Bill Podhradsky – Dev. Disabled  
Carly Huber – DWU  
Eric VanMeter – DWU Campus Pastor