

## Housing for the Homeless Consortium Meeting

December 9, 2015

AmericInn Hotel, Chamberlain, SD

Attendees introduced themselves. The list of attendees follows the minutes.

### Point-In-Time Count (PIT)

- Lisa Bondy stated the PIT will take place January 26, 2016 over a 24 hour period.
- She discussed with the group the importance of the count and getting accurate data. These numbers can be used by all communities for planning purposes and for future funding and programs in their communities.
- Stacey Tieszen is the Coordinator in Sioux Falls and Barb Garcia is the Coordinator in Rapid City. Lisa would like other individuals to step up to take the lead in their communities so we can get data from all counties in the state. If you are interested please contact Lisa.
- Statistical information is available from Lisa from past years along with information of what counties did not respond at all.
- Resources to contact in your community: Churches; law enforcement; Clinic/Hospital; Shelters; State Agencies. If agencies provide services in multiple counties (such as CAP agencies), please report on all counties. Contacting other agencies is very important since Lisa no longer sends letters and forms to the churches, jails and other community organizations.
- Lisa went through the PIT forms. Some of the most common errors she sees are:
  - Staff/volunteer box is not completed
  - Demographics of the person being surveyed
  - Family vs. Single vs. Homeless Youth
  - Where are you sleeping tonight? If shelter, have to complete what shelter
- Amy Carter asked if the children staying in her shelter are considered homeless. Answer: yes because they are waiting to go home or to foster care.
- The definition of homeless youth is written on the instructions page of the count forms.
- This year a veteran addendum form has been added to the count forms. This form will help to quickly determine if the veteran is eligible for benefits/services. The individual's full name and full social security number will be required to make this determination. If the individual will not share their social security number, we still want the survey.
- The Policy and Advisory Committee has decided to survey the doubled up population also in March over a 30 day period. Lisa Bondy will send out an email reminder about this.
- Lisa is available to talk to any groups/communities regarding the PIT, please contact her if you have any questions. If you have any contact information in the communities where no response was received please pass that information along to Lisa also.
- Jamison Hild with the RC VA clinic asked how we "sell" the idea of why communities should participate. Lisa indicated, the overall incentive for all communities to participate in the PIT is to benefit the state. We need the participation to call this a "statewide count".
- There was discussion of adding a press release and an awareness campaign. Some members felt when this was done in the past some people chose to "hide" on the day of the count. The question was asked what was done differently to get the high participation in 2013 and should we do the same thing again? (I think we should strike this because looking back over the surveys, this is not an accurate statement, nor does it answer how we got more counties to participate. Housing Inventory Chart (HIC):
  - HIC is for agencies that shelter people; ESG Rapid Re-Housing beds included.
  - Only facilities that have beds "dedicated" to homeless individuals and families need to be counted on the HIC (no detox, treatment facilities or motels paid for by the individual and persons in VA-funded Mental Health Residential Treatment Program – Domiciliary Care (VADOM)).
  - Need to record the physical addresses for all homeless facilities

- There are separate forms for separate programs: Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, Permanent Supportive Housing
- New Inventory = if you created additional beds
- Under Development = If you have beds being developed that will not be available under after January 31.
- The last question of the forms asks how many people were in the above beds on the night of the count = this number has to match the number of surveys completed. If the person refused to be surveyed need to add them to the count form.
- The question was asked if agencies include Security Deposit Assistance Program and Housing Opportunity Fund clients under the Permanent Supportive Housing form. Added to the question is if you have no ongoing contact with that person how would you know if they are still in the unit on the day of the count. Answer: You have to be able to document your numbers so if you do not have contact with the individual any longer you would not include them.

### **2015 Continuum of Care Application**

Lisa Bondy discussed some changes HUD has made in the 2015 CoC Competition. HUD is tasking the SD CoC with ensuring discharge planning policies for Hospitals, Jails, Foster Care; ensuring adults and children are advised of educational services while staying in shelters; how the CoC will work towards ending veteran's homelessness, chronic homelessness, family and youth homelessness; ensuring how homelessness is not criminalized and reducing the number of individuals and families who become homeless for the first time.

- We have 7 renewal applications.
- We need everyone's help to complete the specific objectives in the application. This is not a Policy and Advisory Committee job this is a CoC job.
- Stacey Tieszen reiterated that these are required questions in the application and we have to know this information collectively for our state.
- There was discussion of using survey monkey to send out 3-5 questions at a time so agencies could relay what is happening in their communities.
- In 2016 we HAVE TO get help and input from the CoC!

### **Ten Year Plan – Stacey Tieszen**

- The Policy and Advisory Committee (PAC) met prior to the CoC meeting. They are the governing board over the CoC.
- The PAC discussed which areas of the Ten Year Plan we can get done and get moving forward. The PAC and CoC need to be solution oriented moving forward. The following items were decided by the PAC:
  - They will provide technical assistance to the consortium – make everyone aware of the money available; help to write grants
  - Need to get the state excited and people engaged in the CoC
  - Need to create committees to work on specific topics. These committees need to meet and get things done. Committees should be created for the following: Discharge planning; affordable housing; media blitz
  - Are CoC members willing to participate in speaking engagements in their communities? Discussed this is a good idea but we need to make sure we are ready to answer questions that come up and what our plan is to help solve the issue
  - We need to have a list of topics available for members to discuss with their city leaders and legislators
  - Barb Garcia is hosting a poverty simulation for the legislators in Pierre on January 27<sup>th</sup>

### **Vets@Home – Technical Assistance**

- Lisa Bondy stated we have this available until March.
- They will help us create homeless preferences

### **2016 Homeless Summit**

- Scheduled June 21-22, 2016 at Cedar Shores in Oacoma
- Lisa asked for suggestions of topics and speakers be sent to her. Melanie Bliss nominated Barb Garcia to speak at the summit.

### **2016 Legislative Day**

- Barb Garcia with Rapid City Community Development will be holding a Poverty Simulation for the State Legislators at the Ramkota on January 27<sup>th</sup>. Barb is looking for volunteers to run the booths. If you are interested, contact [Barb Garcia](mailto:Barb.Garcia@rcgov.org) -Barbara.Garcia@rcgov.org .

### **PAC Elections**

- This will take place at the March meeting.

### **2016 Homeless Consortium Meeting Dates (subject to change)**

March 16, 2016 – Pierre

June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 – (Statewide Homeless Summit) – Chamberlain

September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016 – Pierre

December 7, 2016 - Chamberlain

### **Attendees:**

Jamison Hild, VA Black Hills

Bonnie Jameson, Department of Health

Tammie Denning, ICAP

Christy VanDeWetering, Domestic Violence Network & Wholeness Center

John Fette, SD Veterans Affairs

Lisa Gruhn, Penning County Housing

Karen Feterl, Mitchell Area Safehouse

Kathy Rutten, SD Network

Jane Wuestewald, River City Domestic Violence

Denise Ragels, Beacon Center

Dawn Sikkink, Beacon Center

Amy Carter, Children's Inn

Caitlin Nissen, Behavioral Management Systems

Teri Corrigan, Behavioral Management Systems

Brian Griffith, Community Health Center of the Black Hills

Lorraine Polak, SDHDA

Gloria Miller, Black Hills Special Services

Brett Johnson, Minnehaha County Human Services

Melanie Bliss, Advocate

Maria Krell, Bishop Dudley Hospitality House

Stacey Tieszen, Minnehaha County Human Services

Barb Shoup-Anderson, Department of Social Services

Barb Garcia, City of Rapid City

Bill Ziegler, Sioux Falls Housing

Lisa Bondy, SDHDA

Denise Albertson, SDHDA