

Regional Housing Team Meeting Minutes – Region 4
3/10/08

Meeting opened by Nathan Stock

Unmet Housing Needs - Nathan called for discussion of unmet housing needs in the area. These will be submitted to HUD in this year's Exhibit I. Several people contributed to the following list.

- Apartments accepting those with previous evictions so they don't become homeless/need to work with property management
- No plan for delinquent Utility Bills (catching up after winter)
- Homeless prevention funds (Can ask for extensions to avoid using up money if you have it saved up)
- Transitional Housing (some in Excelsior Springs)
- Re-Entry Housing (S+C and SHP can have drug felonies if they have been homeless at least one night)
- Foreclosure Prevention
- Mortgage Crisis
- Family Emergency Shelter
- Job Availability (Entry Level Positions)
- Transportation public/disability/evenings (None from Excelsior Springs)
- Income
- Hunger (Trenton 1 food pantry)
- Soup Kitchen
- No increase in TANF
- Community Action Agencies funds being cut
- Financial Literacy (30 minute session)
- Pay Day Loans shut down
- Health/dental care
- Lack of qualified daycares/daycare subsidies
- Property Management Firm

CoC Funding - Nathan discussed the Continuum of Care funding grants approved for the next year. Information also included the amount of funds received since 2002 statewide and through the Balance of State.

CoC Training - Nathan talked about the NOFA being delayed. It may not be released until April/May. Letters will be mailed when MHDC receives the notification. The two-day training session also will be delayed with tentative scheduling sometime in June. The meeting is mandatory for both days. The agenda for the meeting was covered. Nathan announced that the application will be online this year. Any agency applying needs a DUNS number and registration on Central Contractor Registration website (ccr.gov). MHDC staff will conduct a mandatory site visit for any new project proposal.

NFMCP - Heather announced the new grant MHDC received from the National Foreclosure Mitigation Counseling Program. This grant will be used for foreclosure counseling. She pointed out the four major target areas in Missouri: St. Louis, Kansas City, Joplin and St. Joseph. The money is subgranted to agencies not in target areas as well as target areas. Currently, Missouri ranks fourth in the nation in foreclosures. She reminded agencies to refer clients to the HOPE line for foreclosure assistance. A list of agencies subgranted is attached with these minutes.

MHTF - Heather briefly discussed the Trust Fund application process. She suggested to start checking the website in early June for the release of the NOFA. Applications are due Sept. 12th. Also, there is a proposal to change the funding priorities as follows: 1- Homeless Prevention, 2-Construction, 3-Home Repair, 4-Match Funds and 5-Rental Assistance.

PIT Count – Nathan thanked everyone for their involvement in the unsheltered point-in-time count. He notified everyone that 669 individuals were counted this year, an improvement over last year's data. An official report of the data will not be available until later. Nathan then opened discussion for the summer count. The group was interested in seeing numbers for summer compared to winter and concluded that July 15 would be a good day for the count to take place. Nathan called for volunteers to lead the count for the counties in the region.

MASW/HMIS - Sandy discussed the numbers for the Sheltered Point-In-Time count for the region and passed out the data received by HMIS. She also mentioned that HMIS will be conducting a two-hour training at the Continuum training session. She then brought up the need for awareness regarding the Missouri Housing Trust Fund. There is a bill caught up in appropriation that may not go to vote. It would be an increase to the recorder fees bringing more money to the trust fund. Agencies wishing to create awareness should complete the endorsement form provided.

Resources - Nathan discussed several resources including grant possibilities, a video addressing family homelessness and an upcoming HUD workshop.

Adjournment

Next meeting June 10th at 2 PM