



December Regional Housing Team Meeting
Southeast Region 7
December 1, 2009
Minutes

(Handouts: PITC Report, Resource Sheet)

In Attendance: Kris Bowlby-VA, Rita Cooksey-UGRM, Kelli Ibrahim-Ripley County Public Housing, Sandra Jackson-VA, Greg Kirk-UGRM, Margaret Moore-SEMO Christian Restoration Center, Melissa Morgan-Ripley County Crisis Shelter, Laura Williams-FCC, Sandy Wilson-MASW, Heather Bradley-Geary-MHDC, Jessica Kejr-MHDC, Karen Smith-SCCA, Debbie Collins-Probation and Parole, Mary Scott-Ozark Family Resource Center

Heather asked for a volunteer note taker. Laura Williams volunteered to take notes.

Governor's Committee to End Homelessness (GCEH) Updates:

- SOAR Committee
No update at this time
- Re-Entry Committee
Debbie Collins gave an update. The 'job fair' is held every other month with approximately 23 community resources available for the participants. There have been anywhere from 17 to 98 people attend the event.
- Awareness Committee
 - Homeless Awareness Day
Sandy gave the update. Homeless Awareness day was held in the state Capitol Rotunda on November 19, 2009. The annual poster contest was very successful with 317 posters submitted from approximately 500 students. Every child received a certificate for participating in the contest. It was also noted that there was an increase in the number of High School students who submitted posters. Many of the posters were on display during the event as well as on a PowerPoint presentation. You may view the slide show on the MASW web site at www.masw.org. At the conference this year three workshops were available 1) HEARTH Act; 2) Raising Homelessness awareness in your community and 3) Educational needs and rights of homeless children in Missouri. The handouts from the workshop are available at the MASW website as well. Please submit any suggestions to Jenni Miller.
- Project Homeless Connect Committee
 - Branson Project Homeless Connect
Heather gave the update. The first Project Homeless Connect event August 2009, in Columbia, Missouri was very successful. This is one day event provided services to homeless individuals. Some of the services available were housing applications, driver's license, hair cut, pet care/supplies, HIV screening, mental health screening,

Social Security cards, ID's, birth certificates, food/clothing, hot showers, message, washer/dryer, and ability to send cards to family and friends. There is more information located on the web site at <http://www.projecthomelessconnectcolumbiamo.com/>. The next Project Homeless Connect will be held in Branson, Missouri possibly in October 2010 but a date has not been confirmed. There was a discussion of possibly having a local Project Homeless Connect in the Poplar Bluff area with local resources.

CoC Updates:

- Application Submission
Heather gave the update. The Balance of State application has been submitted to HUD. There are new requirements for those receiving funding: the agency must attend 3-4 RHTM meetings, participate in the PIT count, send one copy of APR Technical Submission to MHDC and participate in a once a year agency visit.
- Annual Report to the Governor- Media
Please send all information on homelessness in your community to Jenni Miller so it may be submitted to the Governor with the Annual Report for the GCEH.
- 2010 RHTM schedule
A schedule of meetings was handed out to all who attended the meeting. The schedule is also posted on the web site at http://www.mhdc.com/ci/regional_housing_team_meetings.htm.

Point in Time Count (PITC)

- Sandy gave the update. The winter PITC will be on Wednesday, January 27, 2010. All agencies receiving funding must participate. A sign-up sheet was passed around to indicate the area in which you wanted to coordinate for the count.
 - Summer Count Report.
Heather gave the update. The Summer Count Report was handed out and we reviewed the material. A copy of the 2009 Summer PIT count is available on the MHDC web site. It was noted that the HEARTH Act was passed which expanded the definition of homeless to include those who are doubled-up. There will be final regulations released in May. No one should use this definition yet.
 - Winter PITC date.
Heather gave the update. January 27, 2010 will be the next PITC date. When you are completing surveys please use one survey per person or family. Also, use the HUD definition of homeless not the DESE definition.
 - Leaders for the Count.
A list was sent around for leaders to sign up for an area to be counted. MHDC web site had a tool kit available for leaders on how to conduct the count.
Sheltered count – Sandy will pull the information for sheltered count from HMIS. If anyone knows of a church or other agency that provides shelter please let her know so she may call and see if they housed someone on the night of the count.
Unsheltered count – Please see MHDC web site for information on how to perform the count. Contact Jenni Miller with any questions regarding the unsheltered count.

HMIS Updates:

- HPRP

Sandy gave the update. If you have applied and get HPRP funding you should already be trained on HMIS. Training will continue and the schedule is posted on the MASW web site. If you have registered for training please be sure you attend that training. For additional information on HPRP you may go to the Federal website <http://www.hudhre.info/HPRP/> or the Missouri Department of Social Services web site at <http://www.dss.mo.gov/arra/>.

- MHTF agencies with Homeless Prevention funds

Sandy gave the HMIS update. If you receive Homeless Prevention funds it is mandated that you be enrolled in HMIS. All agencies participating in the meeting are enrolled. A training schedule will be available. Data input will be similar to what is currently being done with a few changes. Heather announced the timeline for MHTF funds: December 11, funding staff recommendations will be posted; December 18, recommendations presented to Commission for approval; December 21 the final recipients will be posted; and early January 2010 HMIS will contact the agencies. There will be a training for funded agencies.

Resource Sheet

- Heather pointed out key resources, the National Alliance to End Homelessness, Ameren Corporation Charitable Trust and employment opportunities at the 2010 U.S. Census Bureau.

Agency Reports/Updates

MHDC – Heather reported the Missourians to end Poverty had a Poverty Summit in June 2009. The MEP group has set up Community Empowerment Collaborations around the state to meet regionally. For more information on your coordinator please visit the MACA website.

UGRM – Rev. Kirk reported the new building will be complete in mid January 2010. They have received the Federal Home Loan money for the renovations. The new renovations will increase the capacity of the number of people they can serve. They will have a state-of-the-art kitchen facility, larger dining area and an area with computers for the residents. The mission will have an area for those individuals who want to stay and make life changes and an area for those who just need a place to stay for a short period of time. Tours of the new facility were conducted. HPRP funding has been approved. There are very specific guidelines on who will be served with this funding. There will be more information to follow. There are still a few more Christmas boxes available you must sign up at the mission. The guidelines require you to live in Butler County and meet USDA guidelines.

Probation and Parole/ Community Correction Center – Debbie Collins reported their facility houses approximately 52 males and 8 females currently they have 40 people. The Community Correction Center is not a locked down facility it is a place to help people get back on their feet.

SMCAA- Energy assistance grants for elderly and disabled are available.

FCC – no report

MASW – There will be 2 staff positions available at MASW and they must reside in the Jefferson City area. These are not remote positions.

Ozark Family Resource Center – Melissa reported that they will have HPRP funding available. They are HMIS certified. She explained the segments of their agency. There is the Ozark Family Resource Center with the Ripley County Crisis Center that has the Child Advocacy, Women’s Crisis Center and a housing component. The housing component is relatively new and it has the HPRP funds and SHP funds along with the shelter. The shelter is going to be moving into a larger facility which was donated to the agency.

Veterans Administration – Kristina asked all agencies to please refer all Vets to the VA.