

December 2008 RHTM Meeting Notes:
Region Five

In Attendance:

Carol Baker- PCFCS/Russell House, Sandy Wilson-MASW, Jennifer Graves- Comprehensive Human Services/The Shelter, Patti Magruder- MACA, Paul Nangole- Salvation Army, Vikki Pauley- Columbia H.A., Brooke Dawson- MO DMH-Comp Psych. Services, Edwin Cooper-MO DMH, James Chapman- Salvation Army/Harbor House, Lori Woods- Pathways, Kristin Baker- New Horizons, Jeremy Cheung- New Horizons, Pat Lockwood-CMCA, Ruth Adkins- Salvation Army, Major Katrina D. Mathews- Salvation Army, Hillary Unrein- MHDC, Mandy Fangmann-MHDC

CoC 2008 Application:

Mandy stated that the Balance of State (BoS) completed their recent 2008 application for awards to be announced in 2009. HUD expects to make award announcements in December, however, with the delay in the application process, there is no guarantee that it will be in December. Mandy reviewed the list of programs included on the BoS Continuum of Care (CoC) application. (*See Attachment*) Mandy explained that the first two programs are through the bonus funds that were available this round. Burrell Behavioral Health applied for the Samaritan Bonus which will house chronically homeless. Department of Mental Health applied for the Rapid Re-housing bonus funds to transitionally house families with children; approximately 30 families may be served in one year through this project. The next set of projects are the renewal grants, followed by the new projects. The last set of projects are the Shelter Plus Care grants. Mandy noted that the complete CoC application was for just over 5.3 million dollars. That amount includes the Shelter Plus Care programs, which are not competitively ranked with the other programs and the money does not come out of the Pro Rata Share that is available. Mandy said that if anyone would like more detailed information on any of these projects to please contact her and she can send the information- i.e. who they serve, where they are located, who to contact.

She informed agencies that are on the current application that the Governor's Committee to End Homelessness (GCEH) is planning a Technical Submission training, which is part two of the CoC application process. A Technical Submission requires agencies to write out more details on their proposed project, including budget items and goals, etc. Mandy said the goal is to hold the training in February, and that more information is to come.

Mandy announced that the GCEH is currently completing their annual report and needs assistance from agencies in the Balance of State. If your agency has press releases, articles, etc. regarding your efforts for the Point in Time Count or Homeless Awareness in your community please send a copy to Mandy to include in the report. You can send your documents via e-mail, fax, or mail; please send in before January 19th.

Point in Time Count:

Mandy announced that the winter count will take place on January 28, 2009. Most of the CoCs in the state are doing the count on this same date. The unsheltered homeless families and individuals that are counted must have been “unsheltered” within the 24 hours of January 28th. Mandy briefly reviewed the snapshot handout (*See Attachment*) and discussed the roles of a County Leader. Mandy explained that each County must complete the count as best fits their community; some might do a service-based count only, some may do a street count only and some might combine both. The PIT survey form that is used to collect information during the count was reviewed. Mandy explained doubled-up (on the survey), and noted that the GCEH is not reporting the doubled-up numbers as part of the unsheltered population, but rather it is a separate number that will be tracked. Mandy clarified that these individuals are not considered homeless by the HUD definition and agencies are not required to seek them out. The question was created to record those doubled-up individuals and families if agencies come across them on the day of the point in time count. Therefore, if volunteers happen to encounter someone that is doubled-up, to document it on question # 5. Sandy explained that the GCEH has noticed HUD moving this direction in looking at doubled-up and that the definition is currently under review for expansion.

Mandy passed around the sign-up sheet for County Leaders in Region Five. After the sheet was passed around, there were still counties that needed a leader, Mandy announced them to the group; they were Callaway, Camden, Gasconade, Maries, Miller, Moniteau, Montgomery, Morgan, and Osage counties. Heather explained that all Trust Fund agencies will be getting an e-mail for assistance with getting County Leaders, and Mandy will send out a request as well. Mandy asked for any referrals on who might be interested in taking on a County, and asked that she receive their contact information or have them contact her. Mandy also mentioned that the CoC staff are available for technical assistance with planning the count. Mandy mentioned that the PowerPoint documents are available online at www.mhdc.com, by clicking on the Community Initiatives link and then follow the Point in Time links. One PowerPoint is for Leaders and one is for training Volunteers. The survey form will also be posted online.

Mandy passed around a sample resource card that can be used as an identifier that volunteers are with the GCEH as well as a resource card to hand out during the count. Someone suggested adding blank lines to the card to include more local resource numbers, and possibly adding 211. The use of this card is optional; if a county leader feels that these would be beneficial for their volunteers, the CoC staff will mail cards to the leader upon request.

Mandy said that donations to hand out during the count are optional. Some leaders hold a donation drive for items to pass out during the count.

Needs Assessment:

Mandy explained the reason for the Needs Assessment (*See Attachment*)

and that this is the final draft of the report. Mandy said that the report will go to the Commissioners in April and will be included in the Governor's Committee to End Homelessness Annual Report.

2009 Regional Housing Team Meetings:

The Continuum and MASW Staff have put together a schedule for the 2009 year- this was passed out. We wanted to give advanced notice on meetings to allow everyone to block off their calendars. The time and dates have been set, locations will be announced...watch for your invitations to be mailed prior to each meeting. (*See Attachment*)

Resource Sheet:

Mandy talked briefly about a couple of items on the resource sheet. (*See Attachment*)

Shelter Plus Care:

Edwin Cooper said that they are accepting applications in Rolla. He briefly explained what Shelter Plus Care is. Vikki Pauley said that the Boone County S+C has vacancies. She also said that they will have a training in the last week of January for service providers.

Agency reports/announcements:

Mandy asked if anyone had any agency updates, announcements, or upcoming events that they wanted to mention. Heather announced that the 2009 Trust Fund applications were due on September 12, 2008. The staff recommendations to the Commission will be posted on MHDC's website on December 5, 2008. MHDC employees will then be on "quiet period" meaning that if an agency has a trust fund application in for review that no one can speak with them until the Commission meeting on December 12, 2008. Heather also discussed the recent Consolidated Plan hearings. She reported that the Consolidated Plan is a document that goes to HUD describing how the state will use HOME, HOPWA, ESG, CDBG, and Continuum of Care funds. The hearings are an opportunity for the Department of Economic Development, Missouri Housing Development Commission, Department of Social Services, and Department of Health & Senior Services to travel the state together presenting the Consolidated Plan and receiving feedback. Comments on the Consolidated Plan are welcome until December 15, 2008.

Jennifer Graves announced that the Comprehensive Human Services office moved to 1316 Parkade in Columbia.

Homelessness Awareness Day:

Sandy Wilson reviewed information from the recent Homelessness Awareness Day that the GCEH held in the State Capitol on 11/20/08. She thanked everyone that participated and attended the event. The GCEH had 60 posters submitted for the contest, with over

300 students working in groups and as individuals for the submissions. There were close to 110 people in attendance with 3 Legislators at the event. She encouraged suggestions for next year. A copy of the event program and pictures from the event were passed around.

HMIS Technical Assistance:

Everyone was dismissed and Sandy Wilson held an HMIS Technical Assistance meeting with enrolled HMIS users.