

July 2014 BOSCoC Regional Meeting Minutes

Meetings started at 9:00 am and Karia Basta welcomed everyone and introductions were made.

HMIS committee is working on policies and procedures. They hope to have a working draft available by the meeting in October as it must be presented and voted on. A copy will be e-mailed before the meeting.

Coordinated Assessment: Iain De Jong will be here August 11th for a week of SPDAT training. This training is very interactive and is free. Karia explained again for everyone what SPDAT is: an evidence informed approach to assessing an individual's or family's acuity for services and housing. Mr. De Jong developed the tool and conducts training across the country. Participation for the training is free and all are encouraged to attend. This is the tool the BOSCOC is adopting as part of Coordinated Assessment.

Governance Committee: This committee helps oversee the continuum so responsibility does not fall totally on ADOH. The meeting notes from the June 13th meeting are on the ADOH website. Another meeting will be scheduled around the time the NOFA comes out.

Membership Committee: A member of the membership committee will be going out to group meetings or to help establish groups so homelessness can be discussed and to get folks involved in the CoC. There are two (2) counties that have no meetings that touch on homelessness so another approach will be needed. The committee developed a PowerPoint to be used at local meetings and it was presented at the regional meetings in order to receive feedback. Joy Johnson presented the PPT in Florence, Jennifer Burch presented in Parker and Camie Rasband presented in Cottonwood. Karia presented at the other two meetings. We discussed what other points can be added to the PowerPoint to get more people involved. Suggestions included:

- ✓ providing food! 😊
- ✓ finding local stories and sharing them.
- ✓ clients are with many agencies; use the common goal to interact with the agencies to get all services needed.

The presentation needs to be shared to get homelessness in front of the communities. To this end, Karia distributed information that can be retrieved from HMIS. We need to improve on entering information into HMIS on the homeless so we can get more usable reports. Everyone is encouraged to use HMIS.

Point In Time Count: This will occur the entire week of August 18th. We have a lead for every county. It will be decided locally when is the best time to do the count while keeping in mind logistics and ways to avoid duplicating. Candee Stanton reviewed the "Overview of Point In Time Count Process".

Training will be on August 6th via webinar. Surveys are meant to be completed through an interview process, not distributed for the person to complete. We reviewed the survey to provide feedback to ensure it is user friendly. Candee will use the suggestions to update the survey.

AZ Coalition to End Homelessness: This is a statewide program that provides leadership in an effort to end homelessness through advocacy, education and coordination with local communities. Joan Serviss and Ashley Schulte presented a PowerPoint on the coalition. Voter registration is encouraged as you can be homeless and still vote. One of the focuses of the coalition to increase financial assistance for ending homelessness is restoring the Housing Trust Fund. The coalition's website is www.azceh.org.

HMIS: An update on HMIS was provided. The 2014 HUD data standards have been released and must be implemented by October 1st. Training will be done in September. HMIS is very happy to come to the communities to do training. Data quality reports can be pulled from HMIS. APR can be done as well but time is needed to make sure data is "cleaned up". Please do not wait until the day before to ask for an APR. The interim status has been implemented. It is important to use the "back date" when information is entered into HMIS.

ESG Update: Anyone funded with ESG dollars, the contracts ended June 30th; invoices are due by July 15th.

Consolidated Plan: A new 5 Year Consolidated Plan is in the works. Input can be made during a public hearing or via e-mail. Comments on the plan are highly encouraged.

Housing First: This is not a program but is an approach, a philosophy, to housing. Housing First is a way to provide housing without a lot of restrictions. Services are provided for folks to succeed. "Bed" and "placement" is not housing as client does not have control of the key. Immediate access to housing with minimal preconditions is needed. Karia stated that this will be an ongoing discussion.

CoC: The operating manual has been formatted but needs a few questions answered. There will be training after the manual is vetted with sub grantees. It is to establish consistency with how everyone runs a program. Once finalized, the manual will be on the ADOH website with hyperlinks to the attachments.

211 ended its 24/7 operation and is now available only 7:00 am – 6:00 pm Monday through Friday as far as actually talking with someone. The website is still 24/7 as well as the phone prompts.

The HUD funding announcement is out and all projects on Tier 1 and Tier 2 were funded.

Next meeting will be the state wide meeting held in conjunction with the Arizona Coalition to End Homelessness Conference October 21 and 22nd. Meetings generally ended at noon.