

AZ BOSCOG Statewide Annual Meeting

Wednesday, September 21, 2016

Attendees:

Karia Basta, *AZ Department of Housing*
Joy Johnson, *AZ Department of Housing*
Glennifer Mosher, *AZ Department of Housing*
Michele Meyerkorth, *AZ Department of Housing*
Candee Stanton, *Consultant*
Kathy Calabrese, *Good Neighbor Alliance*
Jennifer Thornton, *City of Sierra Vista*
Bob Pilcher, *Southern AZ Veterans Affairs*
Scott Gary, *Ohio Development Services Agency*
Laurence Goshen, *CIR*
Camie Rasband, *Catholic Charities*
Lauren Randel, *Catholic Charities*
Danelle Valenzuela, *ADHS/DBHS*
Reanna O'Brien, *CIR*
Julie Montoya, *Sharon Manor*
Wendy Villareal, *Achieve*
Shannon Braman, *Achieve*
Suzanne Payan, *CAHRA*
Dianna Guerrero, *CAHRA*
Melissa Legate, *CAHRA*
Bob Graham, *American Red Cross*
Mike Hutchison, *Horizon Human Services*
Michelle Schreiber, *American Red Cross*
Krystal Semmons, *Catholic Charities*
Dorine Prine, *Gila County*
Cindy Furrh, *OCCAC*
Chantel Padilla
Jennifer Burch, *MCHA*
Rhonda Lee-James, *City of Yuma*
Megan Lee, *Pasadera*
Nikki Hoogendoorn, *City of Yuma*
Stephanie Knox, *DES*
Heather Patel, *City of Apache Junction*
Leila DeMaree, *City of Casa Grande*
Barbara Mikkelsen, *HealthChoice*
Carole Benedict, *U.S. Vets*
Alfred Edwards, *DES*
Joann Hatton, *ADHS/DBHS*
Nancy Kiflemariam, *City of Phoenix*
TJ Howard, *CBI*
Julia De los Reyes, *WACOG*
Patti Scott-Lopez, *Cenpatico*
Elizabeth da Costa, *Community Bridges*
Eliza Loudon, *Catholic Charities*
Valarie Donnelly, *WACOG*
Michele Thomas, *CIR*
Shantae Smith, *CIR*

Karia Basta started the meeting at 1:46 p.m., welcomed everyone and thanked us for attending. We then introduced ourselves.

2016 NOFA Update ~ Karia Lee Basta

The NOFA is done. All three (3) continuums submitted on September 13th (a day early). Karia reviewed the ranking. (Please see attached.) We applied for \$4.1M including three (3) reallocations and one (1) bonus. The Guidance Center decided to not reapply so the funds were reallocated. HUD did not require Planning to be ranked; hence, it is at the bottom of the list.

Focus on Youth ~ Karia Lee Basta

HUD continues to place an emphasis on youth homelessness and the BOS PIT numbers have never been very high. Is this because we do not have a high population of youth experiencing homelessness or do we not have a lot of youth providers and don't know how to reach out to this particular population? There is a \$33M HUD NOFA for Youth Homelessness Demo Program with a due date of November 30th. Karia reached out to the RHYS providers in Mohave and Coconino Counties to see if they are interested in applying. ADOH would be willing to submit an application for the entire state if all youth providers collaborated, if the NOFA allowed. The HUD definition of Youth Homelessness will be used.

SOAR Training ~ Joy Johnson

Joy distributed the two (2) attachments. SOAR stands for SSI/SSDI Outreach Access and Recovery. Pam Heine is our SAMHSA TA Coordinator. When you are SOAR trained, you are expected to:

- ✓ Assist our participants;
- ✓ track the applications in OAT (On-line Application Tracking).

Adam Robson is the SOAR lead for the state; Joy is the lead contact person for the BOSCOG. However, there are local leads as well. There are seven (7) classes in the on-line course. The goal of the BOSCOG is:

- ✓ for each county to have a least one (1) person SOAR trained;
- ✓ for each agency under contract to have a least one (1) person SOAR trained.

There is a list being created of social security contacts but you must be SOAR-certified to get that list. A SOAR-trained person is able to assist the client and save decision making time by submitting a complete application. It was discussed that you need to work with the doctors to get a clear definition/definite length of disability. It is also important to let the applicant complete the paperwork in their handwriting, if at all possible. Being SOAR-trained, you are the advocate for the client. Joy will be working with the leads in the different areas and establishing leads where needed. TA is available if needed.

HMIS ~ Glennifer Mosher

The key to HMIS is measuring. Measuring should be done whenever there is a change. HUD states if you receive federal funds, you are required to enter data into HMIS. Some of the benefits to using HMIS include:

- ✓ counts of clients;
- ✓ priority decisions;
- ✓ standardized intake
- ✓ OUTCOMES!

Glennifer emphasized exit interviews need to be completed. It is also important to get the ROI completed during intake. Good data is an integral component of receiving funding. HMIS training

videos are available as well as on-site training from CIR. Data standards will be changing as of October 1st so current clients will need to be updated. New forms, etc. will be distributed by September 30th. Prior living situation is a big change; this will assist in determining chronic homelessness. Service Point will be releasing a new version in the spring of 2017.

ESG ~ *Stephanie Knox*

New contracts went into effect on July 1st covering eight (8) of the thirteen (13) counties. HUD performance standards have been adopted. Data will be reviewed monthly vs. quarterly. Exits to permanent housing and increased income are two (2) of the goals. A participant survey has been providing great feedback. What do you do when there is less than a four percent (4%) vacancy rate and housing costs are going up? It was recommended to work with the PHAs to get subsidies. Director Traylor is looking at creating a landlord mitigation fund that would assist in funds needed above the security deposit for damages. If you have a rental program, you can go over FMR if you provide rent reasonableness documentation. There is a concern that some landlords are requiring non-refundable administrative fees/deposits. Specific information is needed and we will look into it.

Veterans ~ *Karia Lee Basta*

The effort to end veteran homelessness has hit a plateau. After trial and error, it has been determined HMIS is the best way to get a by-name list. TA funds are still available. Four (4) RRH contracts were awarded from ADOH within the BOSCOG and will go into effect October 1st. These will serve a minimum of 195 households. BOSCOG desires that RRH be operated the same way throughout all the programs in the BOSCOG. A meeting will be scheduled with DES, ADOH and RRH providers to discuss, define and write the policies and procedures.

PIT ~ *Karia Lee Basta*

Another PIT count will be conducted at the end of January 2017. Only a few months away and planning begins now. BOSCOG is seeking local leads. There will be training. The VI-SPDAT will be included again. If you are interested in participating on the PIT committee, please e-mail Karia (karia.basta@azhousing.gov) or Candee (candee.stanton@gmail.com).

Another View - Ohio BOS ~ *Scott Gary*

Scott provided an overview of how Ohio BOSCOG is structured. The state, though smaller than Arizona, is divided into eighteen (18) regions for the BOS. Each region elects a representative that sits on the board. The COG board is the primary policy and decision-making body. Additional committees and workgroups assist in carrying out the work of the COG. Accountability is a key factor to success. Coordinated Entry is used for:

- ✓ common intake;
- ✓ prioritization;
- ✓ HMIS (service transactions recorded).

Telling the story through data is crucial. The board meets every two (2) months and then a yearly one (1) day retreat. The steering committees meet every month.

Local COC Model ~ *Karia Lee Basta*

Karia reviewed the attached PowerPoint. The local representatives will be attending an all-day meeting in Phoenix every quarter (January 19th, April 20th, July 20th and October 17th). You do not have to be a COC-funded agency to attend or to be the local representative. The regions will have common goals and common performance measures. Within the next thirty (30) days, each region needs to submit the name of their representative. A survey monkey will be sent out in the coming weeks to assist in building the scope of work. The BOSCO lost money because we are not meeting performance measures and not working together with all providers. Communities locally need to step up to the plate and work together. BOS areas need to work harder to prove their worth to HUD. Tools and templates will be available. The goal is to get you what you need to succeed.

Karia thanked everyone for their time and attention and concluded the meeting at 5:00 p.m.