



ARIZONA BALANCE OF STATE CONTINUUM OF CARE

VETERANS WORKING GROUP MEETING

1110 WEST WASHINGTON, PHOENIX, Suite 280

January 6, 2021 – 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

| TOPIC | TOPICS/OUTCOME | |
|----------------------------------|--|---|
| Call to Order/Introductions | ADOH- Ryan Vernick AHC- Joanna Carr, Shane Groen AZDVS- Cameron Johnson CRN- Hillary Evans, Cheyenne Grabiec, Yolanda Flores Glorianna Vercruyssen Primavera Foundation- Frank Real | NHCP- Miguel Villalpando, Maribel Najar NAVAHCS- Brandi Sonderegger SAVAHCS- Jocelyn Muzzin VA- Cara Gaukler, Patrick Hazlett, Rebecca Ligori, Jessica Taylor US Vets- Dave Mosier |
| Minutes approval from 10/28/2020 | Shane made a motion to approve the notes from the last meeting, Hillary seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously | |
| BNL Statewide Data Overview | The group discussed HMIS and BNL data, including how each area completes entering the homeless vets and the challenges they have | |
| Review LCEH Lead Survey Results | <p>Only four responses were received, but those that did respond showed there is a lot of diversity where communities are at with entering data, tracking veterans, engaging with stand-downs, and the referral process. Joanna and Jocelyn will be contacting the counties that did not respond to the survey in order to follow-up with them and get their input. The goal is to get all counties with LCEH groups to have a representative join the bi-monthly veterans meetings as well. Of the four that completed the survey:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cochise County- unclear if the BNL has input from all service providers working with veterans; they have Case Conferencing but no Stand Downs • Gila County- no mechanism for tracking veterans experiencing homelessness; Case Conferencing is conducted when needed but no veteran service providers are attending; there are no Stand Downs in the county • La Paz- has strong coordination with veterans through a referral service, but all agencies keep their own lists that aren't shared; well engaged in Stand Downs • Yuma- has a BNL but don't have an agreed mechanism for referrals; not all service providers attend LCEH meetings or Stand Downs <p>There isn't a standardization of approach to address veteran homelessness, which is important as a continuum. It's also important to try to streamline the process by talking to all the counties and how they manage veterans experiencing homelessness.</p> | |

| TOPIC | TOPICS/OUTCOME |
|---|--|
| Discussion of Coordinated Entry access points at future Stand Downs | <p>In Yuma, NCHP was at the Stand Down but found that people don't want to stand there and fill out the paperwork; people may be attending for the free handouts but aren't as receptive to housing resources at that point. It doesn't mean having someone there to fill out a VI-SPDAT isn't beneficial, but there might not be as many outreach opportunities as anticipated.</p> <p>Counties with street outreach programs could attend Stand Downs to at least make contact for completing the paperwork at a later date, if they can get contact information.</p> <p>It may be beneficial to invite Stand Down coordinators to this meeting for discussion on this topic.</p> <p>Guidelines for how to engage veterans' providers needs to be developed.</p> |
| Revisit Built for Zero Discussion | <p>If the group wants to revisit bringing a request to join BFZ to the GAB, the application deadline is in a couple of months. A BFZ workgroup (Brandi, Hillary, Joanna, Jocelyn, Patrick, Ryan, Frank, Miguel) will convene on January 22nd at 10 a.m. to review last year's proposal and will email it to the larger group for feedback before submitting to the GAB. CRN sent out a PowerPoint and a YouTube video explaining how clients get on and off the BNL (this will be a helpful point in being able to reconcile data for why clients aren't on the list that should be or why clients are continuing to stay on the list). Community Solutions provides an overview of the work they can lead under the BFZ initiative.</p> |
| Discussion of Counties not represented in Veteran's Workgroup | <p>Each county will be contacted and encouraged to appoint attendees to participate in the bi-monthly Veterans meetings.</p> |
| Workgroup/Agency Updates | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AHC gave a legislative update on the eviction moratorium and new funding allocated to help with impacts from COVID-19; AHC, Maricopa County, and the VA have been having discussions around veterans needing a higher level of care- the group has applied through AZDVS for funding to meet a small portion of this need in the form of providing financial assistance to help with assisted living for those who cannot get into other housing programs because their needs are too high but who have the income to sustain it once in- these funds would be available statewide; the gap still remains, then, those who need a higher level of care but who don't have sufficient income; the social worker from the VA is willing to provide training how these sorts of programs could work, so let Joanna know if you are interested in this training • The AZDVS Military Family Relief Fund is available for veterans facing financial hardship with up to \$20,000 available per qualified veteran; TIP is also available to help homeless or at-risk veterans obtain and keep housing |

| TOPIC | TOPICS/OUTCOME |
|---------|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CRN's 211 team is working to create an Eviction Prevention network; in coordination with Amazon's web services they have developed an app that will tell people what legal services are available in their area, what moratoriums or restrictions are in place, and will connect them to rental assistance or CE services • ADOH is in the process of submitting a formal exemption request to HUD for the 2021 PIT count; there are no NOFA updates; a new Special Needs Administrator has been hired- Olivia Gutzman has worked for Primavera and UMOM and will be starting on January 11, 2021 |
| ADJOURN | |

Action Items:

- Shane will mention adding Coordinated Entry points at his Stand Down leadership meeting next week and will email the results of this discussion to the group.

| | 2021.01-06 |
|-----------------------|------------|
| AZDVS | X |
| AZHC | X |
| Catholic Charities | |
| Community Bridges | |
| CRN | X |
| JAVC | |
| NCHP | X |
| NAVAHCS | X |
| Primavera | X |
| SAVAHCS | X |
| US Vets | X |
| VA | X |
| VRCA/America's Finest | |

Commonly used acronyms:

ADOH= Arizona Department of Housing
 AHC= Arizona Housing Coalition
 ALIP= Arizona Landlord Incentive Program
 AZBOSCCC= Arizona Balance of State Continuum of Care
 AZDVS= Arizona Department of Veterans' Services
 BFZ= Built For Zero
 BNL= By-Name List
 Catholic Charities Community Services
 CBI- Community Bridges, Inc.
 CCSNF= Crisis Contingency Safety Net Fund
 CE= Coordinated Entry
 CoC= Continuum of Care
 CRN= Crisis Response Network
 CRRC= Community Resource Referral Center
 DV= Domestic Violence
 GAB= Governance Advisory Board
 GEO= Geographic
 GPD= Grant and Per Diem
 HMIS= Homeless Management Information System

HUD= U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
 JAVC= Jerry Ambrose Veterans Council
 LCEH= Local Coalition to End Homelessness
 LIHTC= Low Income Housing Tax Credit
 MAG= Maricopa Association of Governments
 MFRF= Military Family Relief Fund
 NCHP= National Community Health Partners
 NAVAHCS= Northern Arizona VA Health Care System
 NOFA= Notice of Funding Available
 OVC= O'odham Veterans Celebration
 PHA= Public Housing Authority
 PIT= Point-in-Time Count
 Primavera Foundation
 PSH= Permanent Supportive Housing
 RFP= Request for Proposals
 ROI= Release of Information
 RRH= Rapid Rehousing
 SAVAHCS= Southern Arizona VA Health Care System
 SMI= Serious Mental Illness

SPDAT= Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool
 SPM= System Performance Measures
 SSA= Social Security Administration
 SSDI= Social Security Disability Income
 SSI= Social Security Income
 SSVF= Supportive Services for Veterans Families
 TA= Technical Assistance
 TH= Transitional Housing
 TIP= Transition in Place
 US Vets= U. S. Veterans Initiative
 VA= U.S. Department Veterans Affairs
 VASH= Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing
 VBC= Veteran Benefits Counseling
 VFW= Veterans of Foreign Wars
 VISN= Veterans Integrated Service Networks
 VI-SPDAT= Vulnerability Index- Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool
 VOCA= Victims of Crime Act
 VRCA= Veterans Resource Centers of America