



ARIZONA BALANCE OF STATE CONTINUUM OF CARE

VETERANS WORKING GROUP MEETING

1110 WEST WASHINGTON, PHOENIX, Suite 280

February 24, 2021 – 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

TOPIC	TOPICS/OUTCOME	
Call to Order Introductions	ADOH- Ryan Vernick AHC- Joanna Carr AZDVS- <i>Absent</i> CRN- Hillary Evans, Glorianna Vercruyssen HOHP- Kim Vandenberg JAVC- Pat Farrell Molina- Cinda Thorn	Primavera Foundation- <i>Absent</i> NHCP- Miguel Villalpando NAVAHCS- <i>Absent</i> SAVAHCS- <i>Absent</i> VA- Patrick Hazlett, Jeff Willgale, Jason Ramos, Karen Charles US Vets- Dave Mosier, Justin Price
Minutes approval from 01/06/2021	Miguel made a motion to approve the notes from the last meeting, Ryan seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.	
BNL Statewide Data Overview	<p>Joanna gave an overview of the veterans numbers statewide; the numbers are going up Hillary asked if it is know where veterans are accessing services; this is still being determined Glori mentioned the numbers are consistent month over month, so is the underlying issue that these veterans can't be found, or are there no vouchers, etc.</p> <p>Ryan – the coordination in terms of the process is perhaps unclear, so CRN has been tasked to identify all the veteran service providers in the BOS that are currently using HMIS. Is the organization's capacity and data entry pieces being completed, and can they be cross-referenced against the people who are being housed; is the successful housing outcome being appropriately follow-up with in HMIS. There seems to be a stagnancy in the movement of the data. There are a number of veteran service providers that are not using HMIS, so this data is not being captured for all agencies working with veterans. Nick Wood w/ Nation's Finest will use their network to try to compile a list of non-HMIS veteran service providers.</p>	
Review LCEH Lead Survey Results	Joanna gave an overview of why this survey was conducted; responses were received from Yuma, Gila, Cochise, and La Paz, although Jocelyn Muzzin and Joanna have been reaching out to the other counties without success.	
Discussion of Coordinated Entry access points at future Stand Downs	Often a county's BNL will reflect no veterans, but at a Stand Down, several veterans experiencing homelessness will be identified, so it was suggested that CE be conducted at the	

TOPIC	TOPICS/OUTCOME
	<p>Stand Down to try and capture these veterans' information in order to assist them with housing.</p> <p>AHC facilitated a Stand Down leadership meeting in January and presented the idea, and highlighted that AZDVS, as the major funder of these events, wants to move towards a focus on veterans experiencing homelessness through the Stand Downs; good feedback was received; AHC will be developing a process/guidelines for Stand Down leaders, so qualified HMIS data entry personnel can be in attendance.</p> <p>Glori brought up the possibility that there won't be enough time at the Stand Downs to be able to enter people in HMIS- data quality is still required. A few agencies have a set-up for entering data in HMIS at a Stand Down, but if your agency does not and would like to, contact CRN to ensure the correct "program" (street outreach vs. RRH) is set up in HMIS</p> <p>Kim brought up the concern that even if agencies are available for CE at a Stand Down, the veteran may not have their documentation or other paperwork with them at the event to make CE feasible.</p> <p>Cinda suggested multiple "stations" be available throughout the area, since a veteran who initially declined assistance may change their mind, so multiple stations would be more helpful than a single station at a distance (i.e. the person might change their mind again if the distance is too great, or if there is a line).</p>
Revisit Built for Zero Discussion	<p>The original proposal brought to the GAB was to focus efforts in the three highest veteran homelessness counties on the BNL (Coconino, Mohave, and Yavapai Counties)- due to the COVID-19 pandemic the GAB declined to pursue application but for the group to revisit the idea in the Spring of 2021. The application deadline is coming up in March. The sub-group met in January about revisiting this issue, and they discussed if pulling in lower veteran homelessness counties would be more helpful, since those with larger veteran populations are better able to have quality plans in place and able to produce quality data, whereas those counties with smaller veteran populations might actually be better able to utilize the tools that BFZ brings to the table.</p> <p>Ryan is uncertain if March is doable, since the commitment from whatever agency takes the lead is considerable, and getting the application ready by March is asking a lot.</p> <p>There is a BFZ "Light Touch" program that is offered free as a BNL starter kit- registration is due by March 4th.</p>
Discussion of Counties not represented in Veteran's Workgroup	Nation' Finest is compiling a list of contacts who are not using HMIS.

TOPIC	TOPICS/OUTCOME
Workgroup/Agency Updates	<p>JAVC- awarded a GPD grant from the VA; up to 25 slots are available; the Bullhead City council has passed an ordinance that will prohibit, without a permit, the handing out of food to veterans on public lands, starting May 1st; still getting an overflow from California and Nevada</p> <p>Kingman VA- the brand new Kingman Veteran Villas has 21 veterans in residence from a possible 42 units with 4 or 5 pending; a mobile COVID-19 vaccination clinic has been started, as well as Tuesdays and Thursdays at the clinic</p> <p>HOHP- about a year and a half ago a 10,000 square foot facility on five acres of land was donated by Horizon Health and Human Services of Pinal County- the first floor is almost renovated, and up to 10 units will be available (30 will be on the 2nd floor when renovated)</p> <p>Phoenix VA- moving forward with face-to-face outreach</p> <p>ADOH- has launched a new COC planning year with several new agencies coming on board; the 2020 HUD contracts will receive level funding instead of through a competitive NOFA; the registration for the 2021 NOFA is now open, and ADOH is trying for the 4th time to become a UFA; DES' ESG Round 2 is underway; the CDBG NOFA is still open with very few applications so far received (shelters and transitional programs can apply for facility renovations)</p> <p>AHC- applied for flex-funds through AZDVS for veterans needing up-front costs covered for assisted living situations, which was unsuccessful; held an information session for VASH social workers on using the extended care/geriatric systems; the DES' COVID-19 emergency rental assistance program just opened, and there is \$290 million from the US Department of the Treasury- claims can be back-dated up to 15 months to when the pandemic began, including up to \$500 for court costs/fees, and these funds require a disclosure by landlords that they waive the right to move forward with evictions (covering all counties in the BOS excluding Yuma County, which received its own funding)</p>

Action Items:

- AHC will work on developing guidelines for CE at Stand Downs
- AHC will send CRN the list of Stand Down dates
- Pat will send Ryan a flyer about the March Veterans Resource Fair being held in Mohave County
- Joanna will send the BFZ "Light Touch" registration information to the group
- Pat will send Ryan the link from the Bullhead City council meeting

	2021.01-06	2021.02-24
AZDVS	X	
AZHC	X	X
Catholic Charities		
Community Bridges		
CRN	X	X
JAVC		X
NCHP	X	X
NAVAHCS	X	
Primavera	X	
SAVAHCS	X	
US Vets	X	X
VA	X	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
DES= Arizona Department of Economic Security
DV= Domestic Violence
GAB= Governance Advisory Board
GEO= Geographic
GPD= Grant and Per Diem
HMIS= Homeless Management Information System

HOHP= Honoring/Hiring/Helping our Heroes of Pinal County
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
MOLINA= Molina Complete Care
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
UFA= Unified Funding Agency
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