AZBoSCoC LCEH Meeting Minutes

March 28, 2019

Local Coalitions:

Apache/Navajo Counties

OCCAC: Marilyn Johnson, Kevin Davis

Cochise County

Good Neighbor Alliance: Kathy Calabrese, Jennifer Vokins

Community Partners: Terrance Watkins

Coconino County

Catholic Charities: Camie Rasband, Bre Williams

Gila County: Malissa Buzan

La Paz County: ABSENT

Mohave County: ABSENT

Pinal County

CAHRA: Suzanne Payan

Yavapai County

US Vets: Carole Benedict

Yuma County: ABSENT

Strategic Partners/Stakeholders:

ADE: Alexis Clermont	**DV Shelter:** ABSENT
ADOH: Karia Basta	**NAVAHCS:** Ryan Louis
AHC: Joanna Sagar	**Northern RBHA:** ABSENT
AHCCCS/PATH: Danelle Valenzuela	**SAVAHCS:** ABSENT
AZDVS: ABSENT	**Southern RBHA:**
CRN: Glorianna Vercruyssen	AzCH: Cristina Benitez
DES: Betsy Long, Mayra Gomez	**VA:** Jeff Willgale

Staff:

ADOH: David Bridge, Joy Johnson, Melissa Swain

Consultant: Candee Stanton

Everyone was welcomed, and the meeting started at 9:17 a.m. Introductions were performed.

General Housekeeping

The rosters that each LCEH submits are important, since HUD asks for proof that different agencies and entities are meeting and are involved in the process. Candee has given guidelines on the required (Excel spreadsheet) format to submit this information so it can easily be adapted and reported to HUD. The roster also gives the level of interest and level of commitment of attendees.

Each County is required to have regular meetings, and needs to create their own CE system that has to be compatible with the overall systems that are in place. David passed out a Strategic Action Plan document that can be used as a template.

> *Action Item:* **Each County needs to fill in the pertinent information and forward to David by the middle of June.**

The GAB is required to aggregate the results into an overall document for the entire Continuum.

LCEH Progress Reports:

Apache/Navajo
- The DV shelter is now online, and will help get the local meetings coordinated

Cochise County
- Meetings are every other month
- Working on Case Conferencing guidelines
- Added a Housing 101 component to the CoC meetings in the hopes of adding stakeholders

Coconino County
- Working on the transition plan for the executive team
- Focusing on getting the policies written and in one place
- Added recovery core and probation to Case Conferencing, and still working on the CE Workgroup to try get them involved in Case Conferencing and have everyone work together efficiently
- Working on filling in missing ROIs in HMIS

Gila County
- Did not report

Pinal County
- Still need to work towards an efficient system, mainly due to inconsistent attendance; will be meeting with David to help strategize

Yavapai County
- Maintaining good membership
- Completed Strategic Plan at the end of January for the 2019 year
- Prescott has enacted some money-generating projects such as downtown parking meters to fund homeless programs

- Arizona Youth Partnership opened a youth shelter
- Both Verde Valley and Sedona have their own day centers
- New developments in Sedona are contributing money to the city for affordable housing
- Case Conferencing and CE is going well
- Cottonwood opened up a cold-weather shelter

Strategic Partner/Stakeholder Updates:

AHCCCS/PATH
- The PATH grant will be issuing an RFP with possible opportunity to expand coverage with a planned implementation by January 2020

Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES)
- Homeless services have been expanded with Cornerstone Mission for work in the La Paz area
- A new grant writer has helped apply for a senior homelessness grant, and DES is willing to share collaboration for grants to avoid competing against each other
- The Hunger Relief program has hired a new SNAP outreach position

Arizona Department of Education (ADE)
- 2,800 students are unaccompanied in Arizona's school districts; 21% are staying in shelters, 7.4% stay in hotels/motels, and 2.5% are unsheltered

Arizona Department of Housing
- An RFP was released for a $60,000 RRH project in La Paz County; proposals are due April 26, with target funding date of June 1
- Will be continuing the RRH program starting July 1, with an emphasis on connecting people with employment or increasing benefits from the beginning of the housing process
- The ALIP program is in limbo since Catholic Charities withdrew as administrator; it is a valuable tool to retain landlords in the program when damage is done to their property by a person from the BNL. Pending the Director's approval, the onus of compiling complete packets and fielding inquiries would fall on the individual programs, with ADOH's accounting department sending the reimbursement payment. Training will be provided if the program is reinstated

Arizona Housing Coalition
- See Diversion training, below

Crisis Response Network/HMIS
- The Coalition for Compassion and Justice shelter in Yavapai County, and the West Yavapai Guidance Center recently came on board with HMIS. AZCH is the RBHA for southern Arizona and will go live on HMIS on 04/01/19.
- A summary of the statewide satisfaction survey was presented, the responses to which will help steer HMIS development and administration.

- The BNL still needs the ROI field to be cleaned up; by the end of April, any individuals without an ROI will have their private information hidden and data will be "un-shareable" between programs.
- The PIT count unsheltered data has been collated and HMIS will run a report on the system-wide sheltered data which will be added to non HMIS sheltered date to complete the federal HUD report.
- ADOH officially recognized the 12 CoC agencies/projects who achieved 100% data quality for all of 2018.

Southern RHBA
- AZCH will begin entering data into HMIS on 04/01/19.

Veterans- Northern VA
- Mohave County was recently awarded additional HUD VASH vouchers
- Met with the Mohave County Board of Supervisors to have 49 vouchers converted to project-based to try to support a new development with LIHTC funding
- Working with US Vets and Catholic Charities, obtained additional GPD funding for a TIP program in both Coconino and Yavapai Counties
- The Prescott VA has put together a proposal called an Extended Use Lease, so when there are vacant or under-utilized properties on federal VA sites, they can put out a call for developers to rehabilitate the sites to house veterans; the initial proposal has been approved, so after holding community meetings, there will be a written proposal to solicit bids
- Suicide prevention training is available; contact Ryan if interested (ryan.louis@va.gov)
- There is a need for low-income assisted living for an overlooked segment of the VA population who are elderly and unable to live on their own but who do not qualify for long-term care

Action Item: **David will send Jezreel with AZDVS a note regarding possible gap funding for senior veterans and eligibility for AZ veterans' homes.**

Veterans- Phoenix VA
- If there are questions about a veteran's status, call the CRRC (602-248-6040) from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and have them look it up
- There is a NOFA for aftercare for GPDs, located at https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/docs/GPD/CM_NOFA_03212019.pdf
- Squares 2.0 is a tool that can help provide direction regarding veteran eligibility

SOAR Presentation/Update:
Joy gave an overview of what SOAR is and how it is a process to speed up the submission and approval process to help homeless persons obtain SSI/SSDI income so they can remain sheltered. Of non-homeless people applying for benefits, only 28% make it successfully through the process, and

appeals can take more than a year. Those who are homeless trying to apply for benefits without SOAR have only a 10-15% success rate, and those with SMI have an even lower rate of success. Using SOAR, for 2018, nationally the success rate was 65% with only 100 days on average until approval. Of those who appealed a denial, another 42% were successful with an average of 140 days until approval. Arizona's overall initial SOAR success rate is 59% with an approval average of 166 days.

Those who take the SOAR training are offered the chance to attend the Leadership Academy, and local leads are lacking but are critical for promoting SOAR and being a first line resource for questions from SOAR-trained facilitators. The next Leadership Academy is in Milwaukee, Wisconsin from June 18 through 20, and the final one is in Seattle, Washington from September 10 through 12; expenses will be paid by SAMHSA.

One of the new things SAMHSA has approved is a child SSI curriculum; until recently, SOAR was only available for adults.

Arizona State University social work students are possibly going to be offered SOAR as an elective, and after training could be placed as interns in different agencies throughout the state for completing SOAR applications.

The SOAR training can also be used as Continuing Education credits for currently licensed social workers.

CoC contracts require each agency to have on staff a SOAR-trained staff and a mandatory entering information into OAT.

Diversion/Rapid Resolution Training:
The intention of this training is to educate on Diversion as a strategy, with Rapid Resolution (limited to veterans) being one part of the larger housing focus. Diversion can be defined as a strategy to identify possible non-HUD-funded homeless solutions within a client's circle of their own resources or other available resources, and making a plan and following up/keeping in contact to make sure it works. Rapid Resolution is defined as providing funds to allow a person experiencing homelessness to use other resources not commonly funded, such as staying with family members rather than waiting for a highly-sought-after apartment to become available. Conversations around Diversion should happen throughout the process, not just once and then never mentioned again. One statistic generated by OrgCode Consulting, Inc. is that 30-40% of individuals accessed into homeless programs could have been diverted.

The Diversion initiative planned for the BoS is set for three phases, with four geographic areas on which to focus: Flagstaff, Kingman/Bullhead City, Show Low, and Prescott. Phase 1 is community meetings (by the end of May), phase 2 is train the trainer (between June and August), phase 3 is rolling

out the training to the communities (in August and September), and phase 4 is continually identify champions to embrace leadership, for researching national funding resources, and to continually engage the community in refresher training (ongoing).

<u>PIT Update</u>
Candee passed out the preliminary PIT Count results and gave a summary of the findings, which are due to HUD by April 30.

David gave a synopsis of the update for last year's NOFA, and the timeline for this year's submission.

With no further business, the meeting was concluded at 3:01 p.m.

COALITION	2018.11-15	2019.03-28
Apache/Navajo	X	X
Cochise	X	X
Coconino	X	X
Gila	X	X
Graham	No local coalition	No local coalition
Greenlee	No local coalition	No local coalition
La Paz		
Mohave		
Pinal	X	X
Santa Cruz	No local coalition	No local coalition
Yavapai	X	X
Yuma	X	

STAKEHOLDERS

	2018.11-15	2019.03-28
ACESDV	X	
ADE	X	X
ADVS	X	
ADVS	X	
AHCCCS/PATH		X
AZ Housing Coalition		X
Crisis Response Network	X	
DES	X	X
NAVAHCS	X	X
Northern RBHA	X	
SAVAHCS		
Southern RBHA	X	X
VA	X	X

Commonly used acronyms:

Achieve= ACHIEVE Human Services, Inc.

ADE: Arizona Department of Education

ADOH= Arizona Department of Housing

AHC: Arizona Housing Coalition

AHCCCS= Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System

ALIP= Arizona Landlord Incentive Program

AZBoSCoC= Arizona Balance of State Continuum of Care

AZCH= Arizona Complete Health

AZDVS: Arizona Department of Veterans' Services

BNL= By-Name List

CAHRA= Community Action Human Resources Agency

Catholic Charities Community Services

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

ESG= Emergency Solutions Grant

GAB= Governance Advisory Board

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

NAVAHCS= Northern Arizona VA Health Care System

NOFA= Notice of Funding Available

OAT= Online Application Tracking

OCCAC= Old Concho Community Assistance Center

PATH= Project Assistance in Transition from Homelessness

PIT= Point-in-Time Count

Primavera Foundation

PSH= Permanent Supportive Housing

RBHA= Regional Behavioral Health Authority

RFP= Request for Proposals

ROI= Release of Information

RRH= Rapid Rehousing

SAVAHCS= Southern Arizona VA Health Care System

SMI= Serious Mental Illness

SNAP= Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program

SOAR= SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery

SSDI= Social Security Disability Income

SSI= Social Security Income

SSVF= Supportive Services for Veterans Families

TA= Technical Assistance

US Vets= U. S. Veterans Initiative

VA= U.S. Department Veterans Affairs

VASH= Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing

VAWA= The Violence Against Women Act of 1994

VI-SPDAT (Vulnerability Index- Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool

VOCA= Victims of Crime Act

WACOG= Western Arizona Council of Governments