

## BOSCoC Regional Meetings: Spring 2015

Karia Basta welcomed everyone and introductions followed. Karia asked how many were attending for the first time. If there were first time attendees Karia explained how the state is divided into five (5) regions and that the meetings build on each other so please continue to attend.

Committee reports were verbally delivered. If a member of the committee was present, they delivered an update and in absence of a committee member, Karia gave an update.

**HMIS** committee finished the Policies and Procedures. A reminder was given about using the most recent Client Acknowledgement Form. Just a reminder that the 2014 HUD data standards released were implemented on time which was October 1<sup>st</sup>. At the last committee meeting CIR presented their newly developed online training which a presentation is also on the agenda for the regional meetings. Data sharing is the next big project the committee will be working on. As Karia reminds people, it has been done, we want to do it so it is a matter of working out the appropriate documents that will be signed and which data elements will be shared by all, which ones between need to know agencies etc.

**Membership** is working on obtaining MOU's with all the local networks of care and continuums. Cochise County is starting up their COC again and signing the MOU is on their first agenda! Both Dave Wolf of Mohave County, chair of the membership committee, and Gina Whittington of WACOG, are working on establishing a local COC in La Paz County and Anita Baca, Director of the Cochise County PHA and Chair of the BOSCOG Governance Advisory Board is working to initiate a local group again in Santa Cruz County.

**Coordinated Assessment** is now Coordinated Entry and a presentation is later on the agenda. Governance Advisory Board met Monday, April 20<sup>th</sup>. Please refer to the minutes posted on the ADOH website. This committee helps oversee the continuum so responsibility does not fall totally on ADOH. The next meeting is scheduled for July.

**Point In Time Count:** The PIT was conducted the last week of January. For those who were sheltered it was the night of Tuesday, January 27<sup>th</sup> and for the unsheltered count it was conducted for three (3) days, January 28<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup>. There was a lead agency with a designated staff for every county. Karia delivered an overview of the data.

**Fair Housing:** JoAnn Reyes of the Southwest Fair Housing Council gave an overview of what fair housing is about, how important it is to have training and how the Council can assist with free training around the state. She handed out a packet of information both in English and Spanish. Her co-worker, Francis Villa, gave a short presentation on their program called *Don't Borrow Trouble* about avoiding foreclosure and what assistance is available, at the Show Low and Cottonwood meetings.

**CIR:** At all the meetings CIR staff gave a PPT presentation o the new HMIS On-Line Training. The courses are set up by series such as HMIS 100, 102, 103, ESG 300, 302, 203, SSVF 300, 301, 302, etc. There is an online training calendar <http://www.cir.org/hmis/training.html> and certificates will be emailed upon successful completion of a class and or series of classes. CIR made it very clear that this is not replacing onsite training. However, it may assist someone getting started, act as a refresher course especially on an activity that one does not access daily and is available 24/7!

**AZ Coalition to End Homelessness:** Joan Serviss attended three (3) of the regional meetings, Florence, Cottonwood and Parker, to talk about AzCEH. This is a statewide program that provides leadership in an effort to end homelessness through advocacy, education and coordination with local communities. There is an upcoming training in Tucson, *Tools of the Trade: How to connect your caseload to benefits*, being held Wednesday, April 29<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 – 4:00. Then Joan asked everyone to mark their calendars for an upcoming training in June. Iain De Jong will be returning to teach a one day course on *Excellence in Housing Based Case Management*. The schedule is as follows:

- Monday, June 15<sup>th</sup> - Maricopa County
- Tuesday, June 16<sup>th</sup> - Benson
- Wednesday, June 17<sup>th</sup> - Yuma
- Thursday, June 18<sup>th</sup> - Kingman
- Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup> - Cottonwood

And last but not least the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Statewide Conference on Ending Homelessness will be held in Phoenix at the Black Canyon Conference Center October 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015. The coalition's website is <http://www.azceh.org>.

**ESG Update:** In Cottonwood and Parker, Stephanie Knox, ESG Coordinator with Department of Economic Security, gave an update on ESG. She stressed how important it is to get reports and invoices in on time, how distribution of funds is derived and that for now the Self-Sufficiency matrix will be staying in place and is completed at entry, at six (6) months and at program exit.

At this point in the morning there was a break and in Benson, Cottonwood and Parker, HMIS Refresher Training was conducted in another room. There was only one (1) HMIS data entry person at each of the meetings in Show Low and Florence and HMIS training was not needed.

**CoC:** The operating manual has undergone some additional revisions and a webinar will occur in conjunction with the manual's release for all sub-recipients. Once finalized, the manual will be on the ADOH website with hyperlinks to the attachments.

Karia presented a PowerPoint on Coordinated Entry which included a slide showing the Prioritization Report and Chronic Homeless numbers for each separate region that was run on Friday, April 10, 2015. Definition was reviewed, along with the components, the necessity of completing a VI-SPDAT on everyone. Karia reminded everyone that the VI-SPDAT is a survey and not the beginning of the assessment process. The group talked about Diversion and that it too is a service and helps some people connect with their resources to resolve their housing crisis. It is about housing for all. Get the right household to the right program at the right time to end their homelessness, based upon evidence of strengths, understanding of needs and housing status.

Also during the course of the meeting a SOAR update was presented and everyone was encouraged to open up their own SSA account by going to "my social security". This is not just for clients but each and every one of us needs an account including those we serve.

There was a call for agency announcements and a reminder that the next meeting will be in July. It will focus on DATA and what it can do for you!