



ARIZONA BALANCE OF STATE CONTINUUM OF CARE

VETERANS WORKING GROUP MEETING

1110 WEST WASHINGTON, PHOENIX, Suite 280

October 28, 2020—10:00 am – 12:00 pm

TOPIC	TOPICS/OUTCOME	
Call to Order Introductions	ADOH- Ryan Vernick AHC- Joanna Carr AZDVS- Cameron Johnson DES- Alfred Edwards CRN- Hillary Evans, Danielle Fischer, Yolanda Flores	JAVC- Pat Farrell NHCP- Maribel Najar, Nancy Zatarain, Tianna Cann Nation’s Finest- Nick Wood SAVAHCS- Jocelyn Muzzin VA- Patrick Hazlett, Jolene Cook, Karen Charles
Minutes approval from 09/16/2020	Cameron made a motion to approve the notes from the last meeting, Nick seconded the motion; motion passed with Yolanda abstaining since she didn’t attend the previous meeting	
BNL Statewide Data Overview	Jocelyn gave an overview of the BNL Statewide Data Overview; Pat feels the numbers are higher than reported in Mohave and La Paz Counties, mainly due to a lot of the veterans are Native Americans who do not seek out assistance as frequently as others- after the next Stand Down he will know more, and data will improve as JAVC gets onboard with HMIS. Hillary explained a lot of the self-identified veterans are never verified and there is no way to contact them to get more information, so they may not qualify as a veteran for the BNL	
Discussion of the BOS Veteran’s Workgroup proposed Mission and Purpose Statement	Ryan described the background and read out the drafted Mission and Purpose Statement- input was given by attendees to refine the statement, which will be put on the meeting agendas moving forward. Pat motioned to approve with proposed changes, Maribel seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously	
Additional Data Points and BNL Quality	<p>Joanna met with the HMIS team and they advised that trying to define data points to improve accuracy is something that needs to be done AFTER the first step of identifying all veterans experiencing homelessness. This guidance comes from the USICH Criteria and Benchmarks for Achieving the Goal of Ending Veteran Homelessness. An accurate BNL must be accomplished before the data can be refined. Jocelyn suggested identifying which counties HAVE done a good job of identifying all veterans experiencing homelessness, so they can move to the next step instead of being held back by the counties who have not accomplished the first goal.</p> <p>Steps that need to be done before data points can be analyzed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify which communities are attending the Veterans Work Group meetings and which counties are not represented</li> </ul>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify which communities have quality BNLs</li> <li>• Identify what can be done to improve BNL quality</li> <li>• Identify who is not currently entering into HMIS</li> </ul> <p>This will help move towards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identifying all veterans experiencing veteran homelessness within the BoS (Criteria 1 of the USICH guidance on ending veteran homelessness)</li> <li>• Then can start to deep dive on the data to create change ideas to move towards ending veteran homelessness</li> </ul> <p>Specific next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify who is not attending the bi-monthly meetings. Representation is required from all 13 counties. <b>Jocelyn will contact those counties with no participation and ask for meeting participation. Ryan will pull a list of BNL recipients and provide to Jocelyn.</b></li> <li>• <b>A meeting will be set up in November with these individuals to discuss how to improve the BNL quality.</b> The BFZ quality BNL tool will guide this meeting</li> <li>• <b>Nick and Ryan will meet to identify who in the BoS is not entering data into HMIS.</b></li> </ul> <p>From here, outreach will be conducted to pull organizations into the effort. Nick/Ryan will seek help from Shane in this effort.</p>
Workgroup/Agency Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>AZDVS</u>: the Military Family and Relief Fund for Arizona’s military families stationed in Arizona with needs related to deployment; Veteran Toolkit to assist with tool purchase for veterans seeking employment</li> <li>• <u>Catholic Charities</u>:</li> <li>• <u>ADOH</u>: the two new HUD-funded DV projects are getting underway; a new PSH project was also awarded in Gila County to CBI; no definitive word from HUD regarding if there will be a NOFA or a 2021 PIT count; CCSNF projects are coming to a close, and the shelter supply distribution round two has been completed</li> <li>• <u>NCHP</u>: year 7 of the SSVF project just closed on September 30<sup>th</sup>; even with heavy outreach to apartment complexes, homeless prevention activities did not increase much percentage-wise due to COVID-19</li> <li>• <u>CRN</u>: the housing crisis hotline (through 211, which is active 24/7) serves Greenlee, Gila, Graham, and Santa Cruz Counties, so pass the word that this is available; flex-funds are available for security deposits, pet deposits, financial assistance (one time only) for anything that could be preventing a person from accessing permanent housing; for veterans that do not qualify for SSVF, there is a rental assistance fact sheet with phone numbers for the entire state at <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/1nl6IpMBiDOZ2DWNXzNW9Z-ryKkFa2qAvYH337h3_1qs/edit">https://docs.google.com/document/d/1nl6IpMBiDOZ2DWNXzNW9Z-ryKkFa2qAvYH337h3_1qs/edit</a></li> <li>• <u>AHC</u>: stand down events are continuing but with precautions being taken</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>NAVAHCS</u>: the VA has HUD VASH and GPD projects in Kingman, and there is one on the Prescott campus that will be revamping historic housing into housing for veterans as well as building new housing on vacant land owned by the VA</li> <li>• <u>VA</u>: the Kingman VA is trying to find veterans who qualify for the project-based housing that is being built, the first units of which will be finished next week (pending inspections); has asked ADOH to waive the SPDAT score requirement; the VA has a nurse-practitioner conducting flu shot clinics</li> <li>• <u>Nations Finest</u>: has received word that the VA, for the SSVF program, in January, will be re-implementing the homelessness threshold screening- updates will be issued every week</li> </ul>
ADJOURN	

Action Items:

- **Jocelyn will contact those counties with no participation and ask for meeting participation.**
- **Ryan will pull a list of BNL recipients and provide to Jocelyn.**
- **A meeting will be set up in November with these individuals to discuss how to improve the BNL quality.**
- **Nick and Ryan will meet to identify who in the BoS is not entering data into HMIS**

Topics for Next Meeting (01/06/21):

Hillary will demonstrate the Maricopa Association of Government's Outreach mapping tool

	2020.01-22	2020.02-26	2020.04.29	2020.06-24	2020.09-16 <small>(rescheduled from 08/26/20)</small>	2020.10-28
AZDVS			X	X		X
AZHC	X	X	X	X	X	X
Catholic Charities	X	X	X	X	X	
Community Bridges			X	X	X	
CRN	X	X	X		X	X
JAVC	N/A	N/A	N/A	X	X	X
NCHP	X	X	X	X	X	X
NAVAHCS	X	X	X	X	X	X
Primavera	X					
SAVAHCS	X	X	X	X	X	X
US Vets		X	X			
VA	X	X	X	X	X	X
VRCA/America's Finest	X		X		X	X

### Commonly used acronyms:

ADOH= Arizona Department of Housing	NCHP= National Community Health Partners	VBC= Veteran Benefits Counseling
AHC= Arizona Housing Coalition	NAVAHCS= Northern Arizona VA Health Care System	VFW= Veterans of Foreign Wars
ALIP= Arizona Landlord Incentive Program	NOFA= Notice of Funding Available	VISN= Veterans Integrated Service Networks
AZBOSCCC= Arizona Balance of State Continuum of Care	OVC= O'odham Veterans Celebration	VI-SPDAT= Vulnerability Index- Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool
AZDVS= Arizona Department of Veterans' Services	PHA= Public Housing Authority	VOCA= Victims of Crime Act
BFZ= Built For Zero	PIT= Point-in-Time Count	VRCA= Veterans Resource Centers of America
BNL= By-Name List	Primavera Foundation	
Catholic Charities Community Services	PSH= Permanent Supportive Housing	
CBI- Community Bridges, Inc.	RFP= Request for Proposals	
CCSNF= Crisis Contingency Safety Net Fund	ROI= Release of Information	
CE= Coordinated Entry	RRH= Rapid Rehousing	
CoC= Continuum of Care	SAVAHCS= Southern Arizona VA Health Care System	
CRN= Crisis Response Network	SMI= Serious Mental Illness	
CRRC= Community Resource Referral Center	SPDAT= Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool	
DV= Domestic Violence	SPM= System Performance Measures	
GAB= Governance Advisory Board	SSA= Social Security Administration	
GEO= Geographic	SSDI= Social Security Disability Income	
GPD= Grant and Per Diem	SSI= Social Security Income	
HMIS= Homeless Management Information System	SSVF= Supportive Services for Veterans Families	
HUD= U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development	TA= Technical Assistance	
JAVC= Jerry Ambrose Veterans Council	TH= Transitional Housing	
LCEH= Local Coalition to End Homelessness	TIP= Transition in Place	
LIHTC= Low Income Housing Tax Credit	US Vets= U. S. Veterans Initiative	
MAG= Maricopa Association of Governments	VA= U.S. Department Veterans Affairs	
MFRF= Military Family Relief Fund	VASH= Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing	