

# AZBOSCOC News



Arizona  
Department  
of Housing

AZBOSCOC Contact: Karia Basta  
[karia.basta@azhousing.gov](mailto:karia.basta@azhousing.gov)  
(602) 771-1020  
[www.housing.az.gov](http://www.housing.az.gov)

## Coordinated Entry

Agencies are doing a terrific job embracing the coordinated entry system. We have nearly 800 VI-SPDATs entered into HMIS and many family VI-SPDATs that have been administered and are awaiting entry. Our hope is that the VI-F-SPDAT will be in HMIS soon. ADOH is monitoring turnover in projects to make sure that providers are prioritizing those with the most acute needs for

PSH. We know that coordinated entry and ensuring equal access to services regardless of which provider a client initially contacts, will lead to a significant reduction in the number of individuals and families experiencing homelessness. Thank you for all of your hard work in adopting this new process. Please remember to ALWAYS check the VI-SPDAT prioritization list for your county before

accepting a client into your project. If a client with a higher score is on the list, you should be looking at that client for entry. If you need help running the report, contact CIR at: [HMISsupport@cir.org](mailto:HMISsupport@cir.org).

For other questions about coordinated entry, contact Joy Johnson at: [joy.johnson@azhousing.gov](mailto:joy.johnson@azhousing.gov) or Anne Scott at: [anne.scott@azhousing.gov](mailto:anne.scott@azhousing.gov).

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*I haven't had the privilege of attending a seminar or training in ages where I learned as much as I did at Iain De Jong's "Excellence in Housing Based Case Management" training. I highly recommend that anyone interested in ending homelessness participate in this educational event! - Karia Lee Basta*

## Excellence in Housing-Based Case Management

The Excellence in Housing-Based Case Management training, organized by the Arizona Coalition to End Homelessness, was amazing. This new approach to housing services provides a road map to effective change for our clients. We thank the Arizona Department of Health Services Division of Behavioral Health Services for sponsoring the event which allowed Balance of State agencies with HUD

COG contracts to attend at no cost. The course, taught by Iain De Jong, outlined a pathway to change. To change our programs and the way we administer them we are urged to get out of the coercion, intimidation, and retribution mindset and get into the reasoning mindset. By following proven methods of housing services delivery we can guide those we serve towards a lifetime of housing stability. Thank

you to AZCEH and DBHS for offering this critically important training to homeless service providers!

*"A housing-based case manager is an organized and trained professional that acts as a positive change agent in holistically assisting individuals/families in achieving and maintaining housing, while concurrently promoting awareness and teaching strategies that reduce the likelihood of a return to homelessness in the future." - Iain De Jong*

## AZ Fair Housing Partnership

The Arizona Fair Housing Partnership was developed in March of 1998 by a group of organizations concerned with improving fair housing awareness in Arizona. On January 16, 1999, in commemoration of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., sixteen (16) organizations signed the first statewide Fair Housing Partnership Resolution Agreement. The first statewide fair housing summit was sponsored by the Partnership on April 7, 2000, Fair Housing Month. The Partnership has sponsored such a summit (now called Symposiums) every year in the month of April since 2000. The Symposiums touch on an array of topics, some controversial such as medical marijuana and desperate impact, but all informative, relevant, and timely. Booths are also set up at various

celebrations and community fairs to distribute information to housing consumers and housing professionals regarding fair housing. The AZ Fair Housing Partnership is a clearinghouse for information and assistance to those in need.

The current members of the Partnership include:

The cities of	Avondale	Goodyear
	Mesa	Peoria
	Phoenix	Scottsdale
	Tempe	Yuma

The AZ Department of Housing  
AZ Bridge to Independent Living  
Community Legal Services (*Mesa and Yuma*)  
US Housing & Urban Development  
Maricopa County  
Western AZ Council of Government  
AZ Association of Realtors  
Southwest Fair Housing Council  
AZ Fair Housing Center  
The AZ Attorney General's Office

*22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Statewide  
Conference on Ending  
Homelessness will be held  
in Phoenix at the Black  
Canyon Conference Center  
on October 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>.*



## HMIS

With the implementation of the new HUD Data Standards last year, we have been working with providers to address data quality issues brought about by the changes in data collection. Agencies utilizing HMIS should run data quality reports **monthly** to ensure that the agency is up-to-date on the collection

and timely entry of required data. The ART reports "0252 Data Completeness Report Card" in My Agency Folder and "Super DQ Reports" in the Common Reports Folder will help you in checking your data quality. Contact CIR at [HMISsupport@cir.org](mailto:HMISsupport@cir.org) or (602) 308-9605 if you need assistance.

### ADOH Special Needs Housing Manual

ADOH Special Needs Division has developed a housing manual that will now govern the way we run our homeless services. Please familiarize yourself with its contents.

Beginning July 1, 2015 all projects must be administered according to the guidelines of the manual.

## "Lessons From My Peers" by Albert Northrup



**Albert was a U.S. Vets client from 10/2011 – 11/2013**

I hope you understand  
What you have done for this  
Mixed up Man!

I started a year and a half ago now  
Knowing where to go!

Afraid, sad, angry, no purpose  
Not trusting Myself, hiding  
In shame, going insane –  
Not wanting myself to surface.

I knew I had to change –  
Letting go. Thoughts, memories  
Intoxicated, contaminated with  
Bad habits, abuse that held  
Me in their chains.

Having no trust – I found  
The guts to put my first step  
Forward – found my way  
To a new place.

I wanted to live, start  
A new life.

I beg God to help me.  
I thank you Lord I am  
Here you see.  
I am so glad you  
Guided me to the right people  
To help me.

I had to learn to think,  
Speak, to take responsibility.  
I was learning from everyone.  
They all had a part in  
Me improving.

My problems have dwindled,  
My life is more simple.  
I believe each day  
I'll be okay – you know  
I like it this way.

Who would believe this  
Happened to me  
Since you all gave  
Me a good start –  
I must work, Believe, want  
My life to stay this way.

Thank you Friends, Docs, Groups  
For being a part of my day  
Because this is what you mean  
To me Now today!