

## **Balance of State Continuum of Care Membership Workgroup**

**Minutes: Conference Call, 2/7/13**

### **Attendance**

Jennifer Burch, Mohave County  
Valarie Donnelly, City of Yuma  
Jennifer Harper, Mohave County  
Michele Janke, CAHRA  
Joy Johnson, ADOH  
Shawn Niece-Pendergast, Open Inn

### **Follow-up from previous meeting**

- Last meeting the group discussed the AZ map and the need to verify who held regular COC meetings; confirmed that Santa Cruz does have meetings.
- Discussed starting a survey monkey but Shelly and Valarie did not get it started.

### **New discussion**

- In Region 1, Yuma and Mohave have good networks. Jennifer Burch runs the Mohave COC; she has 120 people on her list, covering almost all the HEARTH agency requirements, but only about 20-35 attend the quarterly meetings. Mohave is lacking law enforcement representation.
- CPS doesn't appear to attend meetings.
- Valarie contacted Gina Whittington and she is willing to lead a La Paz COC.
- Joy said Cochise County (Kathy Calabrese, Good Neighbor Alliance) is starting up again with COC meetings.
- At the Region 1 BOSCO meeting last week, Karia mentioned that Navajo and Apache had no meetings. The only agency Shelly found in Navajo County was NACOG; Shawn will contact them. Joy said Old Concho Community Assistance Center works in Apache and the director, Cindy Furrh, is on the Assessment committee. Shelly will contact her.
- Overall goal is building up membership across the board, while starting new COC's.
- Discussed Survey Monkey. The survey will include a list of agencies required and will ask which agencies are on local lists and of those, which ones are active.
- Marketing the COC is important. People not directly involved with homelessness need to understand that the COC is an important resource, even if they don't feel they have the time for meetings. A PowerPoint could provide general information on the COC with more specifics for certain areas (hospitals, law enforcement, etc.)
- Could ask active COC participants: why do you participate, what benefit do you get, what would you say to pull in the problematic areas, what are your success stories.
- Joy offered use of ADOH's Survey Monkey if the free version doesn't work for us.

### **For follow-up**

- As noted above, committee members will identify County representatives to begin the discussion on creating and/or expanding their COC's.

- Everyone will forward to Shelly an overview of the meetings held in their counties and their list of what agencies aren't represented.
- Valarie will ask her DES representatives if they can assist with finding someone in Mohave to attend the COC meetings.
- Shawn will send out emails to the group to remind people to work on this.
- Shelly and Valarie will start the survey. Send suggestions for questions to either of them.

**Next meeting:** 3/28 at 9:00