

## VA Provider Committee Call Minutes

October 9, 2015

*Members Present:* Karia Basta (ADOH)  
Jody Frederick (Veteran's Administration)  
Danna Auriana (Veteran's Administration)  
Miguel Villalpando (National Community Health Partners)  
Jean Littlehale (Catholic Charities)  
Skye Biasseti (U.S. Vets)

*Guests:* Chris S. Pitcher (ICF International)  
Michele Meyerkorth (ADOH)

Karia welcomed everyone and started the meeting at 2:04 p.m. Roll call was taken.

There were no additional agenda items for this meeting.

### **Vets@Home Technical Assistance:**

The VA has a goal to end veteran homelessness by the end of 2015. Karia applied for technical assistance on behalf of the BOSCOG and the COG was chosen to receive 120 hours and three (3) site visits to provide TA to the COG to end homelessness for veterans. The technical assistance can be used up to March of 2016 but the focus is on efforts between now and the end of the year. There is already a "25 City" program in Phoenix and Tucson focusing on ending veteran homelessness that has provided:

- training and boot camps;
- assistance with Coordinated Entry (entering directly into VI-SPDAT);
- a two (2) day workshop that brought the community together.

What we will be focusing on with the technical assistance is to:

- trouble shoot and break down barriers;
- identify veterans;
- house veterans.

We have a lot of information in HMIS and through the use of the VI-SPDAT. Once Chris is informed from the HUD field office as to the direction to go, we will be able to get started to serve the veterans. The technical assistance is not meant to usurp the efforts already made but

to enhance them. The BOSCOG is challenged by the size of the state and lack of services in some of the more rural areas but with a united effort, we will end veteran homelessness.

**Agency Updates:**

**Skye (US VETS):** The program side of U.S. Vets is reorganizing. They are working hand in hand with the VA liaison and have monthly meetings with VRC to do case consults to find the right resources for each person. They have also applied for twenty (20) emergency veteran beds.

**Jean (Catholic Community Services):** For the last fiscal year, there were 133 in RRH and 157 in homeless prevention. There has been a lot of turnover so there will be some training on VI-SPDAT so more folks can enter information. They are working with VRC and are looking for a new case manager in Prescott.

**Miguel (National Community Health Partners):** They completed 202 cases in the last fiscal year.

**Jody/Danna (Southern VA):** They met their measurement for using vouchers and are working closely with the PHA. They have two (2) Peer Support Specialists covering the hours of 6:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. to work with the veterans. They also have two (2) Social Workers going to Red Cross and Primavera to assist with referrals.

**Data Sharing:**

It was voted unanimously at the BOSCOG Statewide Meeting to share data through HMIS. There is more information in the minutes from the meeting.

**Unsheltered Count:**

The NOFA came out and is due November 20<sup>th</sup>. We are applying for \$4.2 million. There was discussion at the Governance Advisory Board meeting on doing an unsheltered count in January as it earns the COG points. The Board voted to do the count in January and let each area decide if they would like to conduct a summer count.

**AHAR Report:**

This report looks at data by quarter and goes to Congress. There is a separate section on veterans. Once this report is finalized in December, it will be distributed.

There were no other items to discuss. Karia wished everyone a great weekend. The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.