



**Kansas Statewide
Homeless Coalition**

Tenth Anniversary
KANSAS STATEWIDE SUMMIT ON HOMELESSNESS & HOUSING
CELEBRATING THE PAST · PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE
October 29-30, 2009

**RAMADA INN
TOPEKA, KANSAS**

Registration and Continental Breakfast 8:00 am

**Be sure to join us in the Grand Ballroom for Continental Breakfast
and a morning chat with the information fair vendors!**

Thursday, October 29, 2009

Welcome and Opening Remarks 9:00-9:20

Regency Ballroom

Randy Crandall Chair of the Board of Directors, Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition & Deputy Director Homeless Services, Eastern Kansas Healthcare System, Veterans Administration
Norton Bonaparte City Manager of Topeka- serves as the city's chief executive officer, responsible to the Mayor and City Council for day-to-day operations of employees and budget.

Opening Plenary 9:20-9:50

Regency Ballroom

Ten Years of Homelessness

Michael Stoops, Director of Community Organizing, National Coalition for the Homeless

Keynote 9:50-10:30

Regency Ballroom

Michael German, National Team Leader, U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

**Visit our vendors and information tables in the Grand Ballroom
while enjoying a morning snack!**

1 Building Upon What We Know Now: Findings of the First Statewide Homeless Count & Planning for 2011

Luella Sanders, United Way of the Plains

The year 2009 marked the first time the five Continuum of Care (CoC) areas in Kansas coordinated their efforts to conduct the HUD mandated point-in-time count of persons experiencing homelessness. The number, characteristics, and living situations of people encountered during the 2009 Point-In-Time Count provides a snapshot of homelessness in Kansas. This presentation will highlight the key findings, along with some of the strategies used to standardize the approach and data analysis. Among the participating counties, standardization did not mean identical experiences. The diversity of Kansas counties is apparent in the wide range of population sizes and percentages living in urban, semi-urban, rural and frontier areas. Data comparisons will be shared that illustrate the similarities and differences between people who were chronically homeless in urban areas and those who were chronically homeless in rural areas. Preparations are already underway for the next statewide point-in-time count in January 2011. The success of the 2011 KPIT will depend again on community involvement. A summary of key roles and responsibilities will be shared. Opportunities and next steps for you to get involved and assist with the planning and/or implementation will be described. Participants will be able to:

- Understand the prevalence of homelessness in Kansas as documented in the 2009 Kansas Point-in-Time Homeless Count
- Understand the strategies employed to establish the baseline count of homelessness for Kansas
- Recognize the differences and similarities between persons experiencing chronic homelessness in rural and urban areas
- Identify opportunities to assist with the next statewide point-in-time count in 2011

2 Community Collaboration: A Strong Investment

Corrie Wright, City of Topeka and Jeff Karas, Topeka Rescue Mission

The City of Topeka and the Topeka Rescue Mission have partnered together to assist individuals experiencing homelessness through the new economic stimulus- HPRP

funds. Each presenter will discuss how their entity utilizes the strengths and weaknesses of the other to better serve the community. The collaboration helps maximize funds available and helps coordinate the use of key partners in its collaboration. This new collaboration has helped to jumpstart an important relationship that can be replicated in many communities. Participants will:

- Learn how to maximize funds and resources through collaboration
- Explore how to network with friends and family members to discover more resources
- View the big picture of past and present, and begin planning collaborative efforts to address needs of their communities in the future.

3 SOAR Across Kansas (SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access and Recovery)

Christy McMurphy, Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services -Disability and Behavioral Health Services

Christine Tompkus, Division of Human Services for Sedgwick County

Sherrie Watkins Alvey, Wyandot Center for Behavioral Healthcare

SOAR (SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access and Recovery) is a strategy that helps service providers increase access to mainstream benefits for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness through training, technical assistance and strategic planning. SOAR is a national program, recently implemented by Kansas SRS Disability and Behavioral Health Services, in collaboration with the Division of Human Resources for Sedgwick County and Wyandot Center for Behavioral Health Care; the program teaches case managers and others who work with homeless adults about the SSI/SSDI application process. The goal is to secure benefits for eligible individuals on the first application. Attendees will:

- Gain a basic understanding of SOAR and its national and state outcomes
- Gain a basic understanding of key elements of the SOAR initiative
- Receive an overview of SOAR Across Kansas Project

4 Community Housing Development Organizations: Partnering to Create Affordable Housing

Bradley Reiff, Kansas Housing Resource Corporation and

Barry McMurphy, Cornerstone of Topeka

Over the last couple of decades, nonprofits have been playing a rapidly expanding role in the production and operation of affordable housing and the delivery of services to low- and moderate-income families. They have taken over an increasing number of service delivery functions formerly conducted by government, and they are increasingly active in the physical development of low-income neighborhoods and revitalizing areas. The Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) program is one of HUD's most successful efforts at creating innovative affordable housing projects nationwide. By law, states and entitlement cities are required to set aside 15% of their annual HOME allocation for CHDO organizations to build and renovate affordable

housing. CHDO's are a terrific tool for communities and neighborhood organization to use in the revitalization of neighborhoods, the creation of affordable rental and home ownership opportunities, and to provide safe and affordable shelter for homeless and special needs populations. CHDOs can add significantly to the local affordable housing stock, and tend to be committed permanently to affordable housing, yielding long-term returns on the public investments in affordable housing. Session participants will gain answers to the following questions:

- What is a CHDO, and what can they do for us?
- How can our organization become a CHDO?
- How can we partner with experienced CHDOs to create affordable housing?

5 Civil Rights Organizing Project

Michael Stoops, National Coalition for the Homeless

The National Homeless Civil Rights Organizing Project (NHCROP) is a project of the National Coalition for the Homeless. " Our plan to prevent and combat the violation of homeless people's civil rights focuses on linking homeless individuals and families, and the grassroots efforts that they lead, into a national network in order fortify those local efforts and to strengthen cooperation. This plan will result in a coordinated sharing of strategies, a greater ability to fight effectively, and increased public awareness - all geared toward abolishing discrimination against people who are homeless."

Information Fair 12:00-12:15

Lunch Plenary 12:15-1:30

Regency Ballroom

America's Youngest Outcasts

Katie Volk, The National Center on Family Homelessness

Break Out Sessions: Series Two 1:45-3:00

6 Topeka Tour

Randy Speaker, City of Topeka

Join Topeka's assistant city manager for a informational tour of affordable housing projects and homeless service sites.

7 Creating Housing Opportunities

Lance Stone, Area Mental Health Center, Doug Wallace, Valeo, Brad Schmidt, Prairie View, Barry McMurphy, Cornerstone, Inc.

Strategies to create housing opportunities for persons with special needs are reviewed. Panel presenters represent communities that range from urban to frontier. Examples of housing opportunities created in different communities are presented, strategies for developing relationships with housing providers are reviewed, and tips on bridging the communication gap between the tenant and landlord are offered. Participants will:

- Discover housing options created in communities ranging from urban to frontier
- Receive tips on how to develop and maintain relationships with housing providers
- Identify how service providers can create a bridge between the tenant and landlord

8 Green Building for Sustainable Lives

Shara Gonzales, New Beginnings, Inc

What is "greenbuilding" and how can we incorporate it into a building project? "Why build green" will be explored with a look at cost vs. benefits, including ways to finance energy savings. Methods of green certification such as EnergyStar, LEED, and others will be discussed. Examples of projects built with "green" elements will be presented, including Tierra Verde which was the first "green built" project in the state and one of this year's **Ad Astra** awards for its innovation! Finally, how developing eco-friendly, sustainable housing, leads to added affordability for people and can lead to jobs and economic development in the future. The learning objectives are:

- Identify the benefits of building green
- Understand the process of building green
- Discuss where building green can take us in the future

9 Frontier and Rural Voice: Informing Policy & Practice Through Inclusion

Lee Flamik, Larned State Hospital and

Cheryl Holmes, University of Kansas-School of Social Welfare

Members of the Rural and Frontier Subcommittee of the Governor's Mental Health Services Planning Council will share information on the importance of including frontier and rural voices and how to do it. Despite the smaller population density, frontier and rural Kansas counties are not immune from the reality of homelessness. Understanding how the definition of frontier and rural can impact policy and service delivery can inform the system, thus helping to meet the needs of consumers, providers, policy makers, and community members. Session objectives are:

- Participants will learn why frontier and rural definition is important as it relates to homelessness
- Participants will learn how the inclusion of frontier and rural voice can make a difference in shaping policy and service delivery
- Participants will learn how to incorporate frontier and rural needs in their work.

10 VA Services For Veterans and Their Families Experiencing Homelessness and the US Interagency Council, Current Services/Further Plans

MichFrank Piper, Chief of Leavenworth Domiciliary & Director of Homeless Services VISN 15

Randy Crandall, Deputy Director of Homeless Services VISN 15

The Interagency Council is the only agency that coordinates the Federal Government's response to homelessness. USIACH helps coordinate the homeless service programming of the 20 member Federal agencies that meet regularly to coordinate programmatic and funding efforts, share information, reduce duplication, and assure that their agencies' resources are available and accessible to persons who are homeless. This unique role is created by statute. The Council also recommends policy changes to improve such assistance; and monitors and evaluates assistance to homeless persons provided by all levels of government and the private sector.

Nationally, there are 23 Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) that comprise "regions" of the nation served by the VA medical centers and outpatient clinics. VA hospitals in Kansas, Missouri, Southwest Illinois and Northwest Kentucky comprise the VISN 15 catchment area. Each of the 7 medical centers in this region provides programs that serve homeless veterans. Attendees will:

- Gain an understanding of the current efforts being made by the USIACH to coordinate the homeless services and programs of its 20 member agencies
- Obtain a basic understanding of the administration's commitment to develop and implement federal strategies to prevent and end homelessness
- Learn about current VA programs in VISN 15 to serve homeless veterans
- View current trends and successful strategies in the recent efforts to end homelessness among veterans

11 McKinney-Vento and the Rights of Students to Attend and Fully Participate in Public Schools

Tate Toedman, Kansas Department of Education

McKinney-Vento Homeless Children and Youth Act is reviewed, focusing on the definition of homeless students, their rights, and the role of the school district homeless liaison. Changes in services to homeless students over the past 10 years will be highlighted. Information regarding ARRA (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act) homeless funding will be discussed, including which districts are receiving ARRA funding. The session will also cover the role the Kansas Department of Education plays in working with homeless students. Participants will be able to:

- Demonstrate increased knowledge of the history and trends of federal legislation and homeless service provision in the Kansas Education system.
- Identify the current legal definition of "homeless students".
- Identify legal requirements and activities of school districts, and legal rights of homeless students.

**Visit our vendors and information tables in the Grand Ballroom
while enjoying an afternoon snack!**

12 Neighborhood Stabilization Fund and Community Development Block Grants

Ken Morgan, Kansas Department of Commerce

The Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) was established for the purpose of stabilizing communities that have suffered from foreclosures and abandonment. Through the purchase and redevelopment of foreclosed and abandoned homes and residential properties, the goal of the program is being realized. The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program provides annual grants on a formula basis to entitled cities, urban counties and states to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment, and by expanding economic opportunities, principally for low- and moderate-income persons.

13 Working with Children Experiencing Homelessness

Katie Volk, The National Center on Family Homelessness

The Director of Training from the National Center on Family Homelessness will share strategies and tips for programs and case managers, and an overview of an early childhood wellness program developed by the Center. The Center's wellness curriculum, entitled PEACH (Physical and Emotional Awareness for Children Experiencing Homelessness) is being implemented in shelters around the country, including Kansas City.

14 SRS 101 - Overview of Kansas Social and Rehabilitation Services

Carrie Hastings and Judy Kennedy, Kansas Social and Rehabilitation Services

SRS programs...what are they all about? How can they benefit the homeless children and families in Kansas? This session is an overview of SRS programs and state resources. Presenters will cover the topics of SRS Cash Assistance, TANF, Grandparents As Caregivers, General Assistance, and actions to support children and families across Kansas through the Head Start State Collaboration Office.

15 Zero Income Housing Availability in Rural Areas

Michael Resnik, USDA Rural Development

Rural Rental Housing Loans finance construction of rental housing for low-and moderate income individuals and families and cooperative housing for elderly or disabled persons. Rental Assistance enables low income tenants to pay no more than 30 percent of their income for rent. Participants will learn how to:

- Provide decent, safe and sanitary affordable housing
- Identify criteria for \$0 income to very low income households
- Determine if clients qualify for rental assistance

16 Five Stages in the Recovery Process: How We Relate To That Which Disables Us

Randy Johnson, Mental Health Association of the Heartland

Five Stages in the Recovery Process presents some common images and language for discussing recovery and introduces five basic stages in the recovery process that seem to speak to most people with recovery experience. Session objectives are:

- To educate attendees on the Five Stages in the Recovery Process
- To create a common understanding of the term "recovery"
- To convey that the use of common language in talking about recovery is important in the transformation in the mental health system.

17 Topeka Tour

Randy Speaker, City of Topeka

Join Topeka's assistant city manager for a informational tour of affordable housing projects and homeless service sites.

Community Reception 4:30-6:00

Join fellow participants and the host committee for hors' d'oeuvres, music and conversation in the Grand Ballroom and adjoining Atrium.

Dinner and Networking on Your Own 6:00 to ??

Enjoy dining and conversing with conference attendees at one of our capital city's restaurants! See the registration table for a list of local restaurant choices!

Continental Breakfast in the Morning!!! 8:00 to 8:30 am

Be sure to join us in the Grand Ballroom for Continental Breakfast and a morning chat with the information fair vendors on Friday morning!

Friday, October 30, 2009

General Session 8:30-9:00

Regency Ballroom

Updates from HUD!!!

Lora Routh, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Plenary 9:00-10:00

Regency Ballroom

Trauma Informed Care: A Personal Story

Tonier Cain, National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors

Break 10:00-10:15

Break Out Sessions: Series Four 10:15-11:30

18 Overview of Federal, State and Local Policy Priorities

Sarah Kahn, National Alliance to End Homelessness

Ending homelessness requires a strong response from all levels of government. This workshop will provide an update on federal, state, and local policies and new resources to address homelessness among families, individuals, youth, and veterans. Presenters will also discuss next steps in the legislative process and the action needed to move these issues forward. Participants will:

- Gain information about state, local and federal policy priorities.
- Increase knowledge of the legislative process
- Gain information about new and anticipated resources resulting from recent policy improvements

19 Homeless Services and the Police Department: The Cost of Doing Nothing

Brian O'Malley, Homeless Services Coalition of Greater Kansas City

A video and discussion about working with the police department. Social Workers and Police are often working with the same people but not working with each other. Both have important but very different roles to play in response to the homeless. The Kansas City Missouri police have worked closely with the Mayor's Task Force on Homelessness and produced a video presentation to raise the awareness of chronic homelessness in the community. This will be used as an example of how agency and law enforcement can be partners. Learning objectives for this session are:

- To gain an understanding of the unique role police have in addressing homelessness in a community.
- To identify how homeless service providers and police can work together toward common goals.
- To identify training opportunities to work collaboratively.

20 Plumb Place: A Transitional Housing Program for Women in Emporia, KS

Jill Wheeler, Plumb Place

21 New Continuum of Care Standards

Lora Rutt, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

HUD's Supportive Housing Division Director will update Kansans and provide more detail about the development of new regulations for the Continuum of Care process which represents the consolidation of various competitive programs for homeless services delivery.

22 The Basics of Trauma Informed Care Services

Tonier Cain and Joan Gillece, National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors

Trauma-informed programs and services represent the "new generation" of transformed mental health and allied human services organizations and programs who serve people with histories of violence and trauma. Trauma survivors and consumers in these programs and services are likely to have histories of physical and sexual abuse and other types of trauma-inducing experiences, and this often leads to mental health and other types of co-occurring disorders such as health problems, substance abuse problems, eating disorders, HIV/AIDS issues, and contact with the criminal justice system. Dr. Gillece and Ms. Cain will discuss trauma-specific interventions designed specifically to address the consequences of trauma in the individual and to facilitate healing. Attendees will receive:

- an overview of trauma
- definition and descriptions of Trauma Informed Care
- descriptions of some primary Trauma-Specific Interventions

Visit our agencies and vendor tables while enjoying a late morning snack!

23 CIT - Crisis Intervention Teams in Law Enforcement.

Steve McCorkhill, Shawnee Police and Bill Cochran, Topeka Police

An introduction and overview of the history of CIT and how it is utilized in the law enforcement community. Participants will learn:

- The History of CIT
- What CIT means in your community
- How to start a CIT dialogue in your community

24 No More Victims, Hope for the Homeless Support Group

Deborah Calhoun and Shirley Thompson

Support groups can be a wonderful asset to any program. This session will be led by peers currently utilizing the Shelter Plus Care program in Topeka. Objectives are:

- Educate participants on the importance of peer fun support groups
- Connect support groups to the bigger picture of preventing homelessness
- Inform the public on ways to empower homeless individuals in supporting one another.

25 Building the Political Will to End Homelessness

Sarah Kahn, National Alliance to End Homelessness

To continue making progress toward ending homelessness in the midst of the current recession, adequate federal and statewide investments in affordable housing and homelessness assistance are critical. Presenters will discuss advocacy strategies to build the political will necessary to secure needed resource. Participants will learn how to educate opinion leaders, host tours of local homeless assistance programs, and convince policymakers to support the mission of your organization.

- Learn the importance of building relationships with policymakers at all levels of government.
- Learn how to make policy improvements by using key advocacy strategies.
- Learn how to replicate key advocacy strategies in your community.

26 Transition in Place: Making Transitional Living Programs a Permanent Solution for Families

Mandy Chapman Semple, Manhattan Emergency Shelter, Inc.

Homeless Families present unique housing challenges that traditional subsidy programs are not designed to address. The Transition In Place model recently adapted and implemented by the Manhattan Emergency Shelter, Inc in Manhattan, Kansas demonstrates how transitional living programs can be designed to create permanent housing options for families. This presentation will also offer a candid examination of the challenges to adaptation, implementation, and operation of a scattered site transitional housing program as well as an opportunity to answer questions and brainstorm about the future of Transition in Place in Kansas communities. Participants will be able to:

- Understand the Transition in Place Model adapted by the Manhattan Emergency Shelter, Inc.
- Learn the basics of implementation and operation of a transition in place program.
- Brainstorm innovative ways to implement transition in place in your community.

27 Housing First - A Best Practice Model to Ending Chronic Homelessness

*Shelly Haupt, City of Wichita Housing and Community Services and
Christine Tomkus, Sedgwick County, Division of Human Services*

Housing First, The City of Wichita, and Sedgwick County developed their 10 Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness. Included in the Plan is the development and implementation of a Housing First Program. Housing First is a new approach to housing chronically homeless individuals, and simply means putting people without homes into housing, first. It is an alternative to the traditional approach of emergency shelter/transitional housing, which tends to prolong the length of time that persons remain homeless. It is premised on the belief that vulnerable and at-risk homeless people are more responsive to interventions and social services support after they are in their own housing, rather than while living in temporary/transitional facilities, or on the streets. The City of Wichita- Sedgwick County Housing First program is designed to serve chronically homeless single adults; that is single people over the age of 18 who have experienced either long term or repeated episodes of homelessness. During such repeated or long periods of homelessness, one may experience a disabling condition which may limit their ability to work or perform one or more activities of daily living. Examples include: mental illness, developmental disability, chronic physical illness, or diagnosable substance use disorder. Participants will be able to:

- Understand the concept and philosophy behind the Housing First program; an effective long term method to permanently house chronically homeless individuals.
- Learn the process and procedures of how the program works, and the steps a homeless individual takes to participate in Housing First.
- Develop an understanding of the cost benefits and overall impact Housing First has on the community.

Be sure to complete and return your summit evaluation form to the registration desk to get your raffle ticket for door prizes.

We want your feedback and ideas in designing NEXT year's summit!

Thanks to our Major Sponsors!!



**Kansas Department of
Social and Rehabilitation Services**

