Preparing our Community Plan
to PREVENT and END HOMELESSNESS
January 10, 2018
Webinar Format

• Webinar will last approximately 1 hour
• Participants’ phone connections are “muted” due to the high number of participants
  – Questions can be submitted using the question or chat functions
• Your Participation
  – Open and hide your control panel
  – Submit questions as they come to you
  – Today’s presentation is being recorded and a link will be sent to you via email
Webinar Format

• Can you hear us? If not:
  – Make sure you called into the session via phone rather than using the computer for audio
  – Type your issue in the chat function
  – Log off and restart the webinar

• Other technology issues? Type your concern in the chat box and an organizer will try to help
Webinar Overview

Prepare for January Planning Retreat by reviewing:

• What it means to effectively end homelessness
• Aspirational prevention & homeless crisis response systems
• Plan goals & related best practices
• Q&A
An end to homelessness does NOT mean that no one will ever experience a housing crisis again.

Operational definition by U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness 2015
What does it mean to end homelessness?

Operational definition by U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness 2015

It means that every community will have a systematic response in place that ensures homelessness is prevented whenever possible or is otherwise a rare, brief, and non-recurring experience.
What does it mean to end homelessness?

Operational definition by U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness 2015

**Systematic response** must have **capacity** to:

- **Quickly identify** and **engage** people at risk of and experiencing homelessness.
- Intervene to **prevent** people from losing their housing and **divert** people from entering the homelessness services system.
- Provide people with **immediate access to shelter and crisis services without barriers** to entry if homelessness does occur, and **quickly connect them to housing assistance and services** tailored to their unique needs and strengths to help them achieve and maintain stable housing.
What does it mean to end homelessness?

**Federal Criteria & Benchmarks** – voluntary measures for

- Ending Veteran homelessness
- Ending chronic homelessness
- Ending homelessness for unaccompanied youth under 25
- Ending homelessness among families with children

**Criteria** = key *system practices or functions* (e.g., comprehensive outreach, low-barrier shelter)

**Benchmarks** = key *system performance* (e.g., avg time to housing)
EXAMPLE Federal Criteria
Ending Veteran Homelessness

1. The community has identified all Veterans experiencing homelessness
2. The community provides shelter immediately to any Veteran experiencing unsheltered homelessness who wants it
3. The community provides service-intensive transitional housing only in limited instances
4. The community has capacity to assist Veterans to swiftly move into permanent housing
5. The community has resources, plans, partnerships, and system capacity in place should any Veteran become homeless or be at risk of homelessness in the future
EXAMPLE Federal Benchmarks

Ending Veteran Homelessness

A. Chronic and long-term homelessness among Veterans has been ended
   ✓ Measure: No chronic/long-term homeless, limited exceptions

B. Veterans have quick access to permanent housing
   ✓ Measure: ≤90 day average time to permanent housing

C. The community has sufficient permanent housing capacity
   ✓ Measure: # exiting to permanent housing ≥ # newly homeless

D. The community is committed to Housing First and provides service-intensive transitional housing to Veterans experiencing homelessness only in limited instances
   ✓ Measure: # using srv intensive TH significantly less than newly homeless
ORGANIZE and OPTIMIZE SYSTEM consistent with guiding principles that fulfills core system functions and meets performance goals

optimization

An act, process, or methodology of making something (as a design, system, or decision) as fully perfect, functional, or effective as possible.

Merriam-Webster Dictionary
Our GUIDING PRINCIPLES

1. Homelessness as a crisis
2. Safe, stable housing
3. Self-determination
4. Reduce disparities, equity in outcomes
5. Individual rights
6. Community integration
7. Low barriers to shelter, services, and housing
8. Individualized assistance
9. Prioritize most vulnerable
10. Stewardship of public and private resources
CORE FUNCTIONS
Aspirational Homeless Crisis Response System

Shelter not needed tonight
DIVERT & PREVENT

Community-Based Systems, Programs, Resources

HOUSING CRISIS

Access to Emergency Assistance ("Coordinated Entry")

Safe, Appropriate, Temporary Shelter

Rapid Individualized Re-Housing Assistance

Individualized Stabilization Supports

HOMELESS CRISIS RESPONSE SYSTEM

HOUSING STABILITY

Shelter needed tonight SHELTER & RE-HOUSE
Inflow/system demand
Resources
Fidelity
Compliance
Sound management
Unable to secure housing on own

**Targeted Diversion & Homelessness Prevention**
GCH, LSS, VOAGO

Able to retain housing or gain new housing, bypassing shelter

**Emergency Shelter**
Family – YMCA, YWCA
Single Adult – LSS, MH, SE, VOAGO, YMCA

Able to secure housing on own within short period (~7-10 days)

**Rapid Re-housing**
Family – HFF, TSA, VOAGO, LSS
Single Adult – YMCA, VOAGO, LSS

Targeted to specific populations

**Transitional Housing**
Huckleberry House, Maryhaven, VOAGO

**Community-Based Permanent Housing**
(Market rate and subsidized)

**Community-Based Services and Supports**

**Permanent Supportive Housing**
Alvis, Equitas, CMHA, CHN, MH, N^^, VOAGO, YMCA, YWCA, VA

**Street Outreach**
Capital Crossroads, Maryhaven, Southeast, Mount Carmel, Huckleberry House, VA
COMMUNITY PLAN TO PREVENT & END HOMELESSNESS
5 population-specific goals
8 cross-cutting goals
VETERANS

Achieve and sustain an effective end to homelessness for Veterans
CHRONICALLY HOMELESS

Achieve and sustain an effective end to homelessness among people who are chronically homeless
FAMILIES & PREGNANT WOMEN

Achieve and sustain an effective end to homelessness for families & pregnant women
YOUTH

Achieve and sustain an effective end to homelessness among youth & parenting youth (under age 25)
POPULATION-SPECIFIC GOALS

SINGLE ADULTS

Achieve and sustain an effective end to homelessness for single adults
AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Assure people who are homeless or at-risk have access to affordable housing
Assure people disproportionately represented among those who experience homelessness have access to responsive, equitable assistance to offset structural barriers and biases.
EMPLOYMENT

Assure adults who are homeless or at imminent risk have coordinated access to employment opportunities and supports
BENEFITS

Assure adults who are homeless or at imminent risk have coordinated access to benefits for which they are eligible
INTEGRATED, CROSS-SYSTEM CARE

Assure families and individuals who are homeless or at imminent risk have coordinated access to integrated cross-system assistance

MENTAL, BEHAVIORAL, & PHYSICAL HEALTH CARE

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
HOMELESSNESS
PREVENTION

Assure people who are at-risk of literal homelessness have coordinated access to targeted homelessness prevention assistance
Aspirational Community-Based Prevention System

Risk for housing loss & literal homelessness

- Have other housing options and/or resources
- Housing loss in 30-60 days; No other options/resources
- Housing loss in <30 days; No other options/resources
- Housing loss in <14 days; No other options/resources

Homeless Crisis Response System

Targeted Homelessness Prevention

Community-Based Prevention ‘System’

- Community-wide access points
- Standardized, brief screening
- Triage and linkage to problem-solving, legal assistance, housing search & placement, financial assistance, other stabilization services

Access point
Questions
Resources

OPENING DOORS: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent & End Homelessness
https://www.usich.gov/opening-doors

USICH Tools for Action
https://www.usich.gov/tools-for-action

National Alliance to End Homelessness Solutions Toolkit
https://endhomelessness.org/ending-homelessness/solutions/