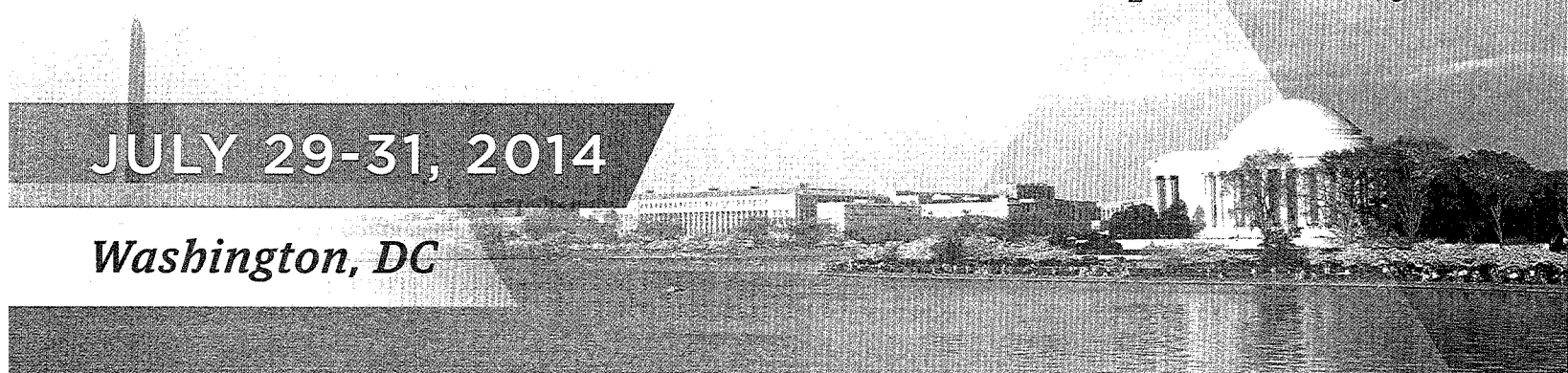


2014 *National Conference* *on* **ENDING** **HOMELESSNESS**

and Capitol Hill Day

JULY 29-31, 2014

Washington, DC



2014 *National Conference* on **ENDING** **HOMELESSNESS** *and Capitol Hill Day*

JULY 29-31, 2014

Renaissance Washington DC Hotel
999 Ninth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001

Join us in Washington, DC this July for an informative and productive conference, Capitol Hill visits, and for a chance to meet and collaborate with likeminded individuals who are working towards the shared goal of ending homelessness in America.

The National Conference on Ending Homelessness will feature sessions on rapid re-housing, planning your homelessness system, advocacy; and will include national experts who will share how they are working to end homelessness for veterans, families, and youth. Capitol Hill Day will give attendees the opportunity to meet with their Members of Congress on the Hill and advocate preventing and ending homelessness.

For more information about the National Conference on Ending Homelessness, Capitol Hill Day, and to register online please visit the conference website listed below.

If you would like a registration form emailed or faxed to you, please contact Jaime Colman at 202-942-8294 or jcolman@naeh.org.

Register Now!

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2014 National Conference on Ending Homelessness

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Conference-at-a-Glance

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Tentative Agenda

The conference agenda is tentative and subject to change. Please visit the conference website frequently for updates! Workshop descriptions will be posted soon.

WORKSHOP TRACKS

Workshop tracks are designed to guide participants who are interested in a given topic through a progressive set of workshops. Each workshop in a track will build on the previous one, resulting in a complete as possible picture of that issue.

This years' conference will offer an array of workshop tracks which will be listed here once they are available.

Monday, July 28, 2014

Pre-Registration - 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, July 29, 2014

Registration - 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Pre-Conference Meetings- 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Lunch on Own- 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Opening Plenary with Keynote Speaker - 1:00 p.m.-1:45 p.m.

Nan Roman, President and CEO, National Alliance to End Homelessness

Workshops I - 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

1.1 Partnering to Support Young Children and Their Parents

Over the last few years, the federal government has expanded its investment in early childhood development programs, such as the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visitation Program, to improve the wellbeing of some of the nation's most disadvantaged young children. This workshop will examine how homeless service providers and systems can partner with early childhood development providers to quickly re-house young children and their families who are homeless, and use a holistic response to help them stabilize.

1.2 Preventing and Shortening Homelessness for Youth

Youth sleeping on the streets or in other dangerous locations are at particular risk of experiencing physical and sexual violence, exposure to drugs, possible recruitment into gangs, and sexual exploitation. This workshop will focus on strategies to identify and intervene with youth before a runaway or homeless episode. Workshop speakers will focus on possible identification and intervention points within homeless and mainstream systems as well as community models that can be easily identified by youth who may be in need.

1.3 Targeting and Preventing Homelessness

Prevention and diversion, when used strategically and targeted properly, can assist households in maintaining their current housing and avert homelessness entirely. Using this intervention can greatly reduce the disruption to a household's life and may reduce the number of people entering into homelessness and the homelessness system. This workshop will focus on cost-effective implementation of diversion and prevention strategies, as well as relevant research.

1.4 Medicaid 101: The Basics for Homeless Advocates

Some vulnerable adults and children may be newly eligible for Medicaid services. This session will outline Medicaid eligibility and benefits and the intersections with other low-income health care programs. Presenters will also provide a foundation for understanding how Medicaid services are reimbursed.

1.5 Right Sizing Your Homeless Assistance System

As community leaders focus on creating a system of service that is geared toward both meeting consumers' needs and high performance standards, the issue of how to "right size" the homeless assistance system becomes critical. This workshop will discuss strategies and tools that communities can utilize to analyze the effectiveness of their current system and determine the strategies and interventions to create the most effective system for the community.

1.6 Improving Local Data on Youth Homelessness

To date, there are very limited data on the scope and needs of unaccompanied homeless children and youth. There are, however, multiple data collection strategies that are already in place—RHYMIS, HMIS, and, beginning in 2013, youth-targeted point-in-time (PIT) counts. This workshop will focus on strategies for improving local data on homeless youth, including conducting reliable youth PIT counts and incorporating surveys into the count.

1.7 Non-Chronic Homelessness Among Single Adults: An Overview

Each year, point-in-time counts show that the majority of homeless individuals are not chronically homeless. Yet resources are generally not targeted toward this group. Speakers in this workshop will discuss characteristics of non-chronically homeless individuals, including length of stay in the homeless assistance system, and practical targeted strategies.

1.8 Transatlantic Practice Exchange: Lessons from Across the Pond

This year the Alliance and Homeless Link jointly offered a Transatlantic Practice Exchange program, through which five U.S. homeless assistance providers traveled to organizations in the United Kingdom (UK) to learn about best practices there. During this workshop, Exchange participants will provide an overview of their experiences and lessons they learned in their practice areas of focus, including youth homelessness, rapid response, coordination and assessment strategies, hospital discharge practices, comparisons of Psychologically Informed Environments and Trauma Informed Care, and serving people with complex needs.

1.9 Communities and Veterans Affairs Working Together

Ending veteran homelessness in a community may hinge on collaborations between public agencies, communities, and private organizations. The U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) has emphasized the need for partnerships on the community level. The new 25 Cities Initiative is one example of work being done to develop coordinated assessment, data sharing, and communication between VA medical centers and Continuums of Care. This workshop will highlight communities where this is already happening, show best practices, and take a closer look at work to improve the partnership between VA medical centers and local Continuums of Care.

1.10 The Framework for Ending Family Homelessness

How can your community end family homelessness? This workshop will provide a broad overview of the policy and practice strategies that are helping communities to end family homelessness with a particular focus on rapid re-housing, coordinated assessment, and targeted services. The workshop will highlight communities that have made progress in reducing family homelessness.

1.11: Person-Centered Options for People in Recovery

For people with substance use problems, permanent housing is an important factor in recovery. However, preferences regarding supports and services received while in housing vary by person. This workshop will focus on housing and voluntary service models and will cover person-centered strategies for helping people experiencing homelessness to pursue their recovery goals.

1.12 Fair Housing and Olmstead: Implications for Ending Homelessness

Housing providers and others operating U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development programs for low-income populations must comply with federal civil rights provisions including the Fair Housing Act and Americans with Disabilities Act. In this workshop presenters will discuss application and enforcement of key requirements, including aspects of the Supreme Court's Olmstead decision and implications for communities.

1.13 Providing Rapid Re-Housing for Survivors of Domestic Violence

Rapid re-housing has proven to be an effective and beneficial model for survivors of domestic violence. This workshop will focus on the core elements of providing rapid re-housing to survivors, discuss safety planning for survivors and staff, and share experiences with the specific challenges this population may face. Speakers will also discuss the impact rapid re-housing has had on their program or community's capacity to serve survivors.

Workshops II - 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

2.1 Working with TANF Agencies to End Family Homelessness

The Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program provides states with resources to help low-income families achieve greater self-sufficiency. This is often an underutilized resource in the effort to end family homelessness. This workshop will examine how homeless service leaders have successfully persuaded TANF officials in their community to reallocate TANF resources locally to help families escape homelessness.

2.2 Systemic Responses to Youth Homelessness

Youth homelessness is best addressed through a comprehensive response that includes crisis services, a variety of housing opportunities, and developmentally appropriate assistance. This workshop will examine communities that have successfully developed a systemic response to youth homelessness and review emerging frameworks for responding to the needs of youth.

2.3 Addressing Substance Use

Many housing and support options for people with substance abuse issues are reserved for chronically homeless people. In this workshop, participants will learn about strategies for serving individuals who are not chronically homeless, but are dealing with substance use problems. Emergency shelter and permanent housing options for this population will be included.

2.4 The Federal Budget: What Is Congress Doing to Address Homelessness?

Congress has made and will continue to make many funding decisions this year that will have important implications for efforts to prevent and end homelessness. This workshop will provide participants with an update on what current funding levels mean for homeless assistance programs. Presenters will review key budget decisions, where we are in the budgetary process, and how you can make an impact on critical upcoming funding decisions through advocacy.

2.5 Going to Scale: Utilizing PHA Resources to End Chronic Homelessness

Many communities are coming closer to ending chronic homelessness, but there is still work to be done. The clearest path to creating enough permanent supportive housing to end chronic homelessness involves partnering with Public Housing Agencies (PHAs). In this workshop, presenters will describe collaborations with PHAs to expand the supply of supporting housing, including the creation of new housing, and the use of housing vouchers to free up existing permanent supportive housing units.

2.6 Strategies for Individuals with Employment Barriers

Employment is an important component of housing retention and stability for many households that exit homelessness. However, formerly homeless people with disabilities and people re-entering the community from institutions such as correctional facilities face unique barriers to employment. Speakers will present on effective vocational models and resources to support employment for these populations.

2.7 Getting Technical with Coordinated Assessment

Coordinated assessment requires the development of several important documents and standards to function properly. This workshop will provide tips on developing strong system-wide prioritization standards that lay out who should receive which services, and policies and procedures that can help guide successful implementation of coordinated assessment.

2.8 Funding Efficiently: Using Data to Allocate and Reallocate Resources

Communities are always interested in allocating their resources efficiently; however, it is challenging to identify which programs are the most effective and efficient. This workshop will provide examples of how to use data to determine which programs in your community are most efficient and how you should reallocate resources.

2.9 Good Governance: The Essential Elements

Effective governance is essential to unite homeless services providers, manage and measure performance, and set the tone for a systemic focus on ending homelessness. This workshop will discuss how to develop each of these pieces that are so vital to a strong governance structure.

2.10 Housing and Serving Undocumented Immigrants

Identifying and providing assistance to undocumented immigrants is complicated by a number of barriers, including questions about legal eligibility for programs, language, and cultural differences. Presenters will discuss legal restrictions on resources, including federal programs. They will also examine options available to programs serving undocumented immigrants experiencing homelessness, including those who are survivors of domestic violence.

2.11 Rapidly Re-Housing Veterans Using SSVF

The Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) grant is the popular and effective rapid re-housing program for veterans. Funding for this program has continued to increase at the scale necessary to house all the homeless veterans in most communities. This workshop will highlight the overall vision of this program, emerging best practices, and proper implementation and program design.

2.12 Core Components of Rapid Re-Housing: An Introduction

The core components of rapid re-housing, developed by the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs, include housing search and landlord negotiation, financial assistance, and rapid re-housing case management and services. This workshop will provide an introductory overview of rapid re-housing and the core components and will feature some exemplary programs.

2.13 The Role of Faith-Based Groups in Ending Homelessness

Many faith-based groups across the country provide meals, shelter, and services to people experiencing homelessness. This workshop will explore the ways in which faith-based groups can coordinate with homeless assistance systems in their communities to ensure that their efforts have the greatest impact in ending homelessness. Presenters will cover effective strategies including creating partnerships between homeless assistance providers and congregations to rapidly re-house and mentor families.

2.14 Improving Emergency Shelter

In this workshop, emergency shelter providers will discuss how to establish inclusive emergency shelter policies, incorporate rapid re-housing principles, and ensure high standards of health and safety. The workshop is designed for shelter providers who wish to improve the way they serve families and individuals.

Meet and Mingle - 6:15 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.

The Meet and Mingle is an opportunity for conference attendees to network. There will be a cash bar and light fare.

Wednesday, July 30, 2014

Continental Breakfast - 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Registration - 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Workshops III - 9:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

3.1 Creative Strategies for Building Landlord Partnerships

A key component of successful rapid re-housing programs is creating and maintaining strong partnerships with a variety of private and public landlords. This workshop will cover strategies that housing specialists have used to develop these relationships, including marketing techniques, incentives, and shared housing options.

3.2 Research on Rapid Re-Housing

As rapid re-housing becomes more of a staple in community responses to homelessness, data on effectiveness of the model has begun to accumulate. This workshop will present a history of evidence for rapid re-housing as well as new and emerging research on the model. Particular attention will be paid to research that compares rapid re-housing to other available intervention models.

3.3 Ending Homelessness for Everyone: Harm Reduction in Housing

Substance use is not uncommon among persons experiencing homelessness, and yet, it is not a reason for a person to remain homeless. Adopting a harm reduction model can help a program end homelessness for more families and individuals and can decrease the number of ejections from a program. This workshop will focus on the core tenets of the harm reduction philosophy as well as feature program providers who have successfully adopted a harm reduction model for individuals, families, and youth.

3.4 Increase Your Resources: Making the Case for More on Capitol Hill

This year, as in the past, advocates working to end homelessness will have to fight for every dollar of federal funding. Ensuring that Congress understands the key role homeless assistance programs play in our communities is an important part of this process. In this workshop, presenters will discuss the importance of advocacy in ending homelessness, key strategies for working with Members of Congress, and messaging that works in the current environment. Both seasoned advocates and those new to federal advocacy are encouraged to come and share their strategies and thoughts.

3.5 Putting the Pieces Back Together: Family Intervention for Youth

Family conflict is the most frequently identified cause of youth homelessness. Research shows that family intervention is an effective strategy for youth returning home and exiting homelessness. Participants in this workshop will learn how family intervention models are used to reconnect runaway and homeless youth to their families or other caring adults.

3.6 Strengthening Housing and Health Care Connections

In a changing health care landscape, communities are finding new ways to integrate resources and service strategies to improve lives of vulnerable community members. This workshop will highlight communities that have successfully integrated housing and health care to re-house people who have been homeless for long periods and have significant health care needs. Presenters will explore implications and potential issues for local system changes that can have an impact on ending chronic homelessness.

3.7 Homelessness in the Media: The Journalist's Perspective

Have you ever wondered why a particular story about homelessness ends up in the news or why the issue is covered in a certain way? In this workshop, journalists will provide their perspective on the issue of homelessness. Speakers will discuss their own reasons for writing about homelessness and the media's role in telling stories about the issue and the people it affects.

3.8 A Conversion Conversation: Retooling Transitional Housing

Providers and community leaders across the country are exploring options for retooling their transitional housing programs in order to improve overall performance. Presenters will cover the journey these communities took to successfully change their programs, including their challenges, solutions, and

successes. This workshop will highlight communities that have retooled their transitional housing resources to increase rapid re-housing resources and the conversion of buildings to new uses.

3.9 This Is What Ending Veterans Homelessness Looks Like

How will the homeless assistance system for veterans look as the number of veterans experiencing homelessness approaches zero? This workshop will explore this scenario and how a crisis response system for veterans should be structured to meet the emergency housing needs of veterans. Presenters will describe the roles of prevention, shelter, rapid re-housing, and permanent supportive housing.

3.10 Introduction to System Thinking

Developing an effective community-wide response to homelessness, which is in the best interests of providers and consumers, requires thinking beyond individual programs and understanding systems. This workshop will teach communities how to pull disparate partners together through system visioning and planning exercises.

3.11 Connecting Youth with Education and Employment Opportunities

Education and employment opportunities can provide youth with stability and a platform for a successful future. Homeless youth may miss on some of these opportunities. This workshop will discuss strategies for reconnecting youth with education and employment, including developing partnerships with local employers, employment resources, and educational institutions.

3.12 Sexual Exploitation: Intersections with Youth Homelessness

For many homeless youth, the dangers of sexual exploitation are a sad fact of life. Youth providers should be aware of these dangers, their consequences, and overall impact on youth experiencing homelessness. In this workshop, presenters will provide an overview of sexual exploitation and discuss how to identify survivors, provide appropriate housing, and keep survivors safe.

3.13 Strategies to Develop and Strengthen Your Continuum of Care

It can be challenging to ensure that all of the key players in a community are engaged in planning and implementation of initiatives to end homelessness. This workshop will provide strategies to strengthen Continuums of Care, including engaging key stakeholders to collect and share data, participate in systems planning, and coordinate services to meet HEARTH Act objectives.

3.14 Prioritization Decisions: Strategies for Targeting Resources

With limited resources, communities have to prioritize what assistance households experiencing homelessness receive. This workshop will present strategies for identifying which households need assistance most and should be targeted for resources. It will also describe existing assessment tools and help communities identify what targeting strategies are best for them.

Lunch with Keynote Speaker - 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Secretary Shaun Donovan, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Washington, DC

Workshops IV - 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

4.1 Continuum of Care Partnerships to Link People With Public Benefits

Access to health care and income support can contribute greatly to housing stability, especially for vulnerable people with disabilities in low-income families and communities. This workshop provides an overview of resources and strategies for homeless assistance agencies to help people connect with benefit enrollment efforts. Successful partnerships with SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access and Recovery (SOAR) and Medicaid enrollment programs will be featured.

4.2 Taking Rapid Re-Housing to the Next Level: Strategies for Ramping Up

Is your community already doing rapid re-housing? Do you need to do more? This workshop is designed for communities that have already implemented rapid re-housing and are looking for ways to increase their rapid re-housing capacity. Workshop speakers will discuss strategies to identify funding sources and build systemic support to expand rapid re-housing in your community.

4.3 Successful Rapid Re-Housing in High Cost Rental Markets

Implementing rapid re-housing in high cost rental markets requires communities to be strategic and creative in their approaches. Providers that have met this challenge "head on" with creativity and ingenuity will share their experience in making rapid re-housing work, in spite of high-cost rents.

4.4 Implementing a Coordinated Assessment Process

Many communities are in the process of developing and implementing a coordinated assessment process. In this workshop, experts will identify challenges in implementing coordinated assessment and recommend strategies for overcoming those challenges. Topics will include reducing eligibility barriers, referral strategies, overcoming resistance from partners, creating policies and procedures, and using coordinated assessment as a platform for systems change.

4.5 Where Does State Policy Fit in Your Advocacy Playbook?

Medicaid programs, the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program, and targeted supportive housing investments all play a role in ending homelessness, and are driven in part by state policy decisions. Presenters in this session will share their expertise in developing and following state advocacy plans and discuss current priorities for state homeless coalitions.

4.6 Housing and Service Models for Homeless Youth

Youth experiencing homelessness have a variety of needs and there is great variability in youths' ages, development stages, and abilities and desire to live independently. This workshop will examine the continuum of housing and service responses intended to meet the varied needs of homeless youth. Workshop speakers will discuss transitional housing, both scattered site and single site; host homes; permanent supportive housing; and rapid re-housing.

4.7 Promoting Housing Stability for Older Foster Youth and Their Families

The Fostering Connections for Success Act allows states to use federal resources to extend foster care for youth until age 21. This workshop will examine how states are using extended foster care to design and expand developmentally appropriate housing and service options for youth age 18 to 21. Workshop speakers will also discuss how child welfare agencies and homeless service systems can collaborate to reduce homelessness among youth and young parents exiting foster care.

4.8 Funding Outcomes: Using Performance-Based Tools to Rank and Fund Projects

HUD's Continuum of Care funding process is increasingly relying on performance and outcomes. This workshop will provide examples of performance-based project ranking tools to help prioritize projects for funding from the Continuum of Care or other resources.

4.9 HUD-VASH: Housing Every Last Chronically Homeless Veteran

As of 2013, there were approximately 25,000 chronically homeless veterans. These veterans can and should be served by the joint-Department of Housing and Urban Development, Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing voucher program (HUD-VASH). This workshop will cover effective program models, targeting, and engaging community partners and case management services to ensure we address the needs of this vulnerable population.

4.10 Homelessness and Jails: Ending the Cycle

Communities spend millions of dollars on a few individuals that cycle through jails and the homelessness system. This workshop will feature communities that have implemented CSH's FUSE model, which increases stability of the highest users of these systems and reduces the use of multiple crisis services, resulting in better outcomes and more effective use of public funds.

4.11 Integrating Data and Sharing Research to End Veteran Homelessness

The estimated number of homeless veterans has declined by more than 24 percent since 2010, according to the 2013 point-in-time count. As we rapidly approach the 2015 goal date for ending homelessness among veterans, analyzing critical data and research will be more important than ever to help us realize this goal. Presenters will discuss the changing face of veteran homelessness as well as new program models and outcomes.

4.12 Moving on from PSH: Next Steps for the Individual, Program, and Community

As individuals' and families' lives stabilize in permanent supportive housing (PSH), some decide they no longer need or want the supports provided, and move on to other living situations. This workshop will examine how programs can help individuals and families smoothly transition out of PSH units as well as how programs and communities can strategically target the use these turnover units and vouchers.

4.13 The Role of HUD Housing Programs in Ending Homelessness

Mainstream housing programs are crucial to end homelessness. This workshop will review the Housing Choice Voucher and other affordable housing resources available through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Workshops V - 2:45 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.

5.1 Building Community Will: Working at All Levels to End Homelessness

Ending homelessness requires a community-wide effort, involving all levels of government and a variety of stakeholders. This workshop will explore ways to engage and advocate to local, state, and federal leaders to ensure your community has the resources it needs to achieve the goal of ending homelessness. Presenters from key communities will discuss how they built the necessary political will and leveraged their achievements to advance their missions.

5.2 Integrating Youth, DV Survivors, and Other Populations into Coordinated Assessment

A coordinated assessment process should facilitate access to homeless assistance for any population that needs it. For some, like youth and domestic violence survivors, there are often special accommodations and protections that have to be in place. In this workshop, presenters will describe strategies for incorporating these populations and others into a coordinated assessment process.

5.3 Department of Veteran Affairs: Questions and Answers

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is redoubling efforts to meet the goal of ending veteran homelessness by 2015. This workshop will allow members of the community, grantees, and other providers to have direct access to VA leadership, planners, and researchers who are at the forefront of this effort.

5.4 Lessons on Housing and Serving Vulnerable Youth from California's THP+ Program

When California expanded foster care to age 21, it became one of the largest funders of housing programs for transition-age youth in the country. This workshop will focus on the lessons that can be translated from California's THP+ program to organizations that serve homeless youth. Workshop speakers will examine the models of transitional and independent housing and how they can help youth ages 18 to 24 who are not employed and have no credit or tenancy history.

5.5 Decreasing Moves after Housing Placement

Once households are placed into housing, programs often find that they need to be placed into another housing unit due to eviction, code or lease violations, or overcrowding. This workshop will discuss strategies for unit retention and decreasing the instability that leads to possibly disruptive additional moves for households.

5.6 Five Keys For Better Performance in Homeless Assistance Systems

Improving performance in a homeless assistance system requires effective collaboration between a strong governance structure, homeless assistance providers, and funders. This workshop will feature leaders who have achieved striking results in communities, and will reveal the five keys to developing and maintaining a high-performing homeless assistance system.

5.7 Tackling Advanced Issues in Rapid Re-Housing

Bring your toughest rapid re-housing questions and most difficult challenges to this workshop! Learn from other practitioners who may have faced similar issues and developed strategies to address them. Undertake real-time problem solving with colleagues from around the country.

5.8 The Role of Peer Support in Ending Homelessness

Structured peer groups and peer support opportunities are an integral part of homeless assistance programs. This workshop will focus on how to create positive peer support opportunities for a variety of populations who experience homelessness, including youth, young parents, and individuals struggling with substance use and recovery.

5.9 Research on the Efficacy of Housing First

Housing First is a low-barrier, person-centered housing model for anyone, including people with psychiatric disabilities and co-occurring disorders. Since its development, the model has been replicated nationally and internationally, and research and evaluation have repeatedly shown it to be effective in ending chronic homelessness. Speakers in this workshop will present research on the effectiveness of the Housing First model.

5.10 Implementing Rapid Re-Housing for Single Adults

Single adults who are not chronically homeless represent a large portion of people experiencing homelessness. While rapid re-housing is routinely thought of as an intervention for homeless families, it can help individuals as well. Workshop speakers will discuss strategies for successfully re-housing individuals and creative ways to improve the effectiveness of the intervention.

5.11 Funders: Influencing Change in Your Community

Funders play an important role in determining what programs and services communities provide. This workshop will discuss how private funders can promote system change by supporting the collection and implementation of good data, as well as the overall systems change process. Presenters will share community examples and successful strategies.

5.12 Providing Affirming and Welcoming Services to LGBT Youth

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) youth are over-represented among young people who experience homelessness. This workshop will examine tools and strategies that providers are adopting to ensure that all of their services to at-risk and homeless youth are supportive, welcoming, culturally competent and appropriate for LGBT youth.

Thursday, July 31, 2014

Continental Breakfast- 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

Registration - 8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Capitol Hill Day Visits - 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Workshops VI - 9:15 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

6.1 Perspectives of People Experiencing Homelessness

In this workshop speakers who have experienced homelessness and other homeless advocates will explore the concerns and needs of consumers of homeless services. They will explore a range of topics ranging from the trauma of becoming homeless, the experience of homelessness, the difficulty of accessing services, and ways the homeless assistance system could be more consumer oriented.

6.2 Successful Strategies for Implementing Rapid Re-Housing for Youth

Youth experiencing homelessness continue to constitute a sizable portion of the homeless population and communities often do not have the resources to meet their needs. This workshop will examine which youth might benefit from rapid re-housing, and promising program models that meet a youth's housing and unique developmental needs and increase communities' capacity.

6.3 Improving Your Shelter System and Crisis Response

Community leaders across the country are grappling with how to evaluate and improve their shelter and crisis response system. This workshop will explore how to move from a collection of programs to a system, including key metrics to measure, and incorporating effective outreach, rapid re-housing, and coordinated assessment.

6.4 Q&A with HUD: The Inside Scoop on Homeless Assistance Programs

Officials with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) will be on hand to answer questions about HUD homeless assistance programs and address specific details of HEARTH Act implementation. Topics to be addressed will include the Emergency Solutions Grant program, point-in-time counts, the Continuum of Care program, data standards, and outcome measures. Attendees should come prepared with questions on these topics.

6.5 The Future of Veteran Transitional Housing

The Grant and Per Diem (GPD) program has long been the workhorse in the approach to ending veteran homelessness. Changing resources and opportunities suggest that new roles are emerging for GPD providers. This workshop will explore new ideas about how GPD can concentrate on housing homeless veterans who need longer term transitional programs or those who may have special needs.

6.6 Housing Related Financial Assistance and Case Management

The various ways to implement and structure housing related financial assistance, including progressive engagement models and other financial assistance structures, are flexible and successful rapid re-housing strategies, but present challenges for structuring programmatic budgets. This workshop will discuss planning financial assistance, as well as providing home-based stabilization case management.

6.7 Helping People Living With a Serious Mental Illness Avoid and Escape Homelessness

This workshop will examine strategies to reduce homelessness among people living with a serious mental illness. Workshop speakers will explore targeted outreach strategies, prioritizing people with severe disabilities for permanent supportive housing, and innovative partnerships with mental health and law enforcement personnel. Workshop speakers will also address homelessness prevention efforts for people exiting institutional care.

6.8 New Research on Homeless and Runaway Youth

Quality research on youth homelessness aids in the development of effective practice and policy. In this workshop, researchers will present the findings from recent studies as well as key policy and practice implications. Topics that will be covered include the effectiveness of family intervention, service use, and trauma among homeless youth.

6.9 Streamlining Funding to Better Address Homelessness

A community's homeless assistance system is supported by multiple funding sources. This workshop will discuss how funders can agree on goals, strategies, and methods to align funding streams and reduce overlap. It will also cover how joint or collaborative funding can accelerate progress in a community's work to end homelessness. Presenters will also discuss performance-based contracting.

6.10 Improving Health and Housing Outcomes: Care Coordination Models

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) provides the opportunity to improve health outcomes, improve the experience of health care for individuals, and reduce the costs to programs by integrating housing and health care. This workshop will focus on how programs can leverage housing and Medicaid financing of services to integrate primary care health services and improve access to mental health, substance use treatment, and oral health services. Presenters will also highlight how programs can increase access and enrollment in Medicaid for their clients.

6.11 Partnering with Child Welfare Agencies to Address Families' Housing Needs

Most of the families served by child welfare agencies are very poor and many face dire housing challenges, including homelessness. Poor housing and homelessness may contribute to the risk that children will be removed from the home and to delays in reunifying families. This workshop will examine how child welfare agencies can address the housing needs of the families they encounter and, in doing so, improve their own performance in preserving and reunifying families while helping to reduce family homelessness.

6.12 Homeless Assistance Systems in Rural Communities

Developing an effective homeless assistance system in rural communities creates unique challenges, including limited resources, siloed providers, and vast geographic areas of coverage. This interactive workshop will provide the opportunity to explore creative strategies that rural communities are using to meet these unique challenges. Attendees from balance of state Continuums of Care and rural communities will have the opportunity to discuss solutions they have implemented in their own communities and to troubleshoot and brainstorm around ongoing challenges.

6.13 Veteran Employment Programs: Evidence Based Practices

Veterans have particular barriers and difficulties to overcome in today's changing job market, but also have a lot to offer perspective employers. This workshop will focus on the unique skills, assets, and characteristics that veterans bring to the workplace and the barriers and, in some instances,

discrimination that veterans face. New solutions and program approaches, in particular the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and the U.S. Department of Labor grants and programs that are focused on veteran employment will be covered.

Lunch with Keynote Speaker - 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Capitol Hill Day Visits (continued) and Report Back Sessions* - 2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

**If you're interested in receiving more information about the Capitol Hill Day Visits, please email [Julie Klein](#). Also - make sure to visit the [Capitol Hill Day website](#)!*

Workshops VII - 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

7.1 Using the Learning Collaborative Model to Promote Organizational Change

A Learning Collaborative is a model that helps communities create system-level changes by providing a forum for service providers to improve their rapid re-housing programs, while being supported by their peers and experts. This workshop will provide an overview of the model, including a step-by-step process of how to implement an effective learning collaborative. Communities that have participated in the learning collaborative model will share their experiences.

7.2 Best Practices in Housing and Serving Aging Populations

Many communities are still searching for the right response to ending homelessness among their aging population. This workshop will provide an introduction to how to serve and house this population appropriately and effectively.

7.3 Integrating Employment Strategies into Rapid Re-housing (*Please note this workshop time is 1:00pm-4:00pm*)

Unemployed consumers and consumers without income can be successfully housed through rapid re-housing, but may need increased support once housed to increase their income. Come to this workshop to learn how agencies have successfully integrated employment strategies into their rapid re-housing programs.

7.4 Medicaid 201: The Business End of Services in Supportive Housing

This session explains Medicaid payment structures and policies as they might operate in housing and health care partnerships. Managed care models and state Medicaid waivers will be examined, along with effective approaches to financing health care services and other Medicaid supports in supportive housing settings. Workshop speakers will highlight existing networks with supportive housing providers.

7.5 Crisis Response Systems for Youth

Much like single adults and families, youth require a crisis response system that can quickly respond to a housing crisis as well as return them to family or housing as quickly as possible. This workshop will discuss how emergency shelters geared toward minors and older youth, doubling up or sharing housing, and family intervention can intertwine to effectively house youth in their moment of need.

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