

Coordinating Committee to End Homelessness (CCEH) Meeting Minutes



July 20, 2011
Portland Housing Bureau

Facilitated by: Shannon Singleton
Prepared by: Mary Welch
Reviewed by: Steering Committee & CCEH

Present: E.V. Armitage, Dorene Binder, Kimberly Black, Stacey Borke, Mellani Calvin, Jennifer Chang, Linda Craig, Ryan Deibert, Dustin DeWitt, Christina Dirks, Louise Dix, Sally Erickson, Theresa Guerrero, Pam Hester, Liv Jenssen, Laura Koperstein, Ledena Mattox, Michael Mellick, Molli Mitchell, Michael Moore, Rachel Payton, Rachel Post, J. Workman- Purvine, Arianne Roy, Mike Savara, Erika Silver, Shannon Singleton, Barry Joe Stull, Rene Sutherland, Cynthia Thompson, Amanda Waldroupe, Lynne Walker, Gloria Willis

I. Introductions

Special Guest: Paul Carlson, Regional Coordinator, US Interagency Council on Homelessness

There have been recent changes to the federal laws and the national strategy to end homelessness with a goal to reach all homeless populations. The prevention and rapid re-housing program has had a big impact and Congress has deemed it an extremely successful program. Portland was one city in particular that released funds quickly. This type of funding is seen as the direction for the future and for creating a united strategy for families who need housing.

II. Updates – Sally Erickson

2011 Point in Time Count of Homelessness in Portland/Multnomah County

The Point in Time Street Count was a successful collaboration of the City of Portland and Multnomah County. A PHB consultant, Kris Smock, wrote the report and overall we saw a 7-9 % increase in homelessness. This increase is likely due to using better methodology, covering more ground and the recession. An interesting highlight to the report is the fact that most homeless are no longer concentrated in the downtown area. This will be important when doing future jurisdictional planning. Another important fact is that 50% of the homeless population suffers from a disabling condition, 12% are veterans and 35% are women who have experienced domestic violence. Communities of color were also overrepresented in the homeless population.

The report is available at: <http://www.portlandonline.com/phb/index.cfm?c=43985>

III. NIH Homeless Women's Study – Devan Crawford, University of Nebraska, Lincoln

This report summarized the data collected to increase understanding of mental and substance use disorders among homeless women. Ms. Crawford spoke about how women move in and out of homelessness, consequences of homelessness for women and minor children in their custody and the monitoring of women's health, HIV-risk and HIV-testing behaviors. The study was conducted in Omaha, Portland and Pittsburgh and some different results were found in Portland than in the other two cities. For instance, the amount of time women had been homeless was much longer on average, the age of homeless women was higher on average, and a much higher percentage of homeless women slept in camps than in Portland than in the other two cities in the study. Also, there was a higher percentage of

homeless women working in Portland than in the other cities and a higher percentage had traded sex for money.

The overall goal of the project was to support measurement and design preparation for a multi-site, longitudinal application to investigate health disparities among homeless women over time. The authors of the study would appreciate feedback and ideas for things they may have missed the first time around.

The

IV. 2011 CCEH Awards Presentation – Nick Fish & Deborah Kafoury

We took time to congratulate the 2011 CCEH Award winners Mellani Calvin, Joan, Jenkins, Ledena Mattox, Shannon Singleton, Lynne Walker and CCC's Employment Access Center Program. The commissioners presented each with an award and they were able to say a few words about their work with the homeless community and those in need.