



HSC Updates

Volume 1, Issue 1
1st Quarter Updates

October 2007

AEH Annual Conference

National Alliance to End Homeless (NAEH) Annual conference took place in Washington, D.C from July 9-11. This year's topic was 'Ending Homelessness: The Time is Now!' The goal of this conference was not only to educate, but to help providers work together and share their best practices.

This year's workshop topics ranged from every category related to homelessness. Whether agencies wanted to freshen their skills or learn something new, there was something for every type of agency at this year's conference. Topics included Design for Results: Developing a Ten Year Plan, Stop the Revolving Door: Jails and Homelessness, Keeping

Families and Children Housed: Emergency Prevention, Financing Affordable Housing: An Introduction, and Designing a Local Housing Subsidy Program.

An important part of the NAEH's goal is to build connections with state legislators. States were divided up in groups with State Captains and had scheduled tours set aside for them. NAEH's Capital Hill Day had attendees from the conference flooding the steps of Capital Hill encouraging their State Representatives and Senators to support bills that will help the homeless population.

This year's Keynote Speakers included the Honorable Barney Frank

[(D-MA) House of Representatives], the Honorable Jack Reed [(D-RI) Senate], the Honorable James R. Nicholson (Secretary, US Veterans Affairs), the Honorable Maxine Waters [(D-CA) House of Representatives], and Daniel H. Mudd (CEO, Fannie Mae Corporation). All of the speakers had insightful advice on how to better advocate for homelessness rights.

Visit the NAEH website at [Http://www.naeh.org](http://www.naeh.org) for training tools, research and more information on their upcoming events.

Cynthia Larcom, HSC Executive Director and Evie Craig, reStart Executive Director used this opportunity to update our legislative contingent regarding homeless issues and upcoming legislation. They were able to have meetings with:

Senator Bond and Staff

Representative Moore's Staff

Representative Graves and Staff

Senator McCaskill's Staff

Representative Cleaver's Staff



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SC Presents at Show-Me Fair Housing : Challenging Barriers

Cynthia Larcom, HSC's Executive Director presented at the Fair Housing Summit on September 25.

The Conference was sponsored by the City of Independence, the Human Relations Commission, the Community Development Department, Kansas City Regional Association of Realtors and the Truman Heartland Community Foundation.

Statistical Report

The Homeless Services Coalition of Greater Kansas City published their annual statistical report. This report displays the data received from the January and July 2007 Point in Time count. Data was collected from the five county metro area.

HSC would like to thank all of the agencies

that participated the count. With this data, we will be able to work together towards our goal of eliminating homeless.

Copies of this year's report and previous year's reports are available at the HSC office and will soon be on our website:

www.hscgkc.org

Did You Know?

- ...that 75.3% of the homeless individuals/families surveyed said they did not come to Jackson County already homeless?
- ...that the average monthly income for a homeless individual/family for 2007 was \$353.86?
- ...that 49.8% of homeless individuals/families stated that they became homeless because they were evicted?

Interns

Joe Coburn

Joe is a Masters of Social Work Administration and Advocacy Practice student at the University of Kansas.

While at his practicum with the Homeless Services Coalition, Joe will be creating advocacy handouts and designing evaluation tools for HSC. Another project that Joe is eager to assist with is the University of Missouri-Kansas City's Hunger and Homeless Awareness Week committee on their program planning.

Once his degree is completed, he would like to work with displaced people and either conduct research or analyze programs.

Scott Koertner

Scott is currently conducting an analysis of the HSC's point in time survey data. The responses related to questions about the health status will be focused, particularly to identify factors associated with identified health needs that are not being met. Results of the analysis will be used to conduct future data collection aimed at expanded our knowledge of the health status of the homeless population and the health care services they access.

Scott is completing his Master of Public Health from the University of Kansas Medical Center in May of 2008 and recently accepted a position as a Global Crisis Response Coordinator with Heart to Heart International in Olathe, KS.



Mayor Mark Funkhouser at the August 2007 HSC meeting.

HSC Membership Meetings

July

Rebecca Bradley
Missouri Veterans Commission

August

VA CHALENG

September

Presentation of Statistical Report

24 Hour Point in Time Census

SuperNOFA Monitoring

Tania's been monitoring the Continuum of Care funded programs. These visits are being conducted in order to:

- a) meet the established HUD requirement
- b) create an inventory of technical needs
- c) to help agencies learn how to self audit files for official HUD monitoring visits.

All of the programs that have been visited have done an excellent job keeping all of their documents up-to-date and in

order. Out of the eight programs that were visited, all have exceeded the standards the Homeless Services Coalition uses.

One of the issues that HUD audit reports are showing is the lack of homeless individuals on agency boards. HUD requires that a current or former homeless individual be a part of either the board of directors meeting or participate in an advisory council. This is to ensure that client voices are being heard and to shed a different light on potential success of programmatic changes.

A reminder for HUD funded programs: Make sure to keep all your files current and easily accessible!!

UPCOMING Events

November 15, 2007

"NO PLACE LIKE HOME" cocktail Party
3647 Belleview Avenue
5:30 pm – 8:30 pm

November 16, 2007

HSC Awards Ceremony
Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral
13th and Broadway
3:30 pm

November 15-16, 2007

SOAR Training
Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral
13th and Broadway
8:30 – 4:30 pm

Please contact the HSC office for tickets and information regarding these events.



VA CHALENG meeting presenters.

