

Interagency Council on Homelessness

May 9, 2007

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Yakima, Washington

Attendees:

Alfie Alvarado Ramos, Deputy Director, Department of Veteran's Affairs

Blake Chard, Deputy Secretary, Department of Social and Health Services

Will Graham, Assistant Director for Housing, Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development (ICH Chair)

Mary Leftridge Byrd, Deputy Secretary, Community Corrections Division, Department of Corrections

Mary Looker, Primary Care Office Manager, Department of Health

Absent: Kari Burrell, Senior Policy Advisor, Office of the Governor

Theo Yu, Office of Financial Management Kathy DiJulio, Assistant Commissioner for Operations Division, Employment Security Department

Guests: None.

Staff: Annie Conant, CTED; Tedd Kelleher, CTED; Anee Brar, ICH staff; Cathy Cochran, DSHS.

Legislative Updates

HB 1359: Affordable Housing for All

The new legislation charges \$8 in recording fees of which 90 percent goes *directly* to local governments thereby almost doubling the amount that local governments receive to implement Ten Year Plans. CTED will receive 10 percent or approximately \$1.3M which will go directly into the HHAA (2163) fund however the name of the fund has been changed to Home Security Fund.

HB 1922: Independent Youth Program

The legislation provides \$1M for the biennium to provide case management and housing services for youth aging out of the foster care system. Approximately 50 youth ages 18-23 will be served.

ESSB 6157: Offender Re-entry

Department of Corrections (DOC) and local governments are encouraged to collaborate in establishing networks and providing services to offenders returning to the community. CTED and DOC are required to address offender risks and deficits thoroughly assessment and the provision of programming such as education, employment services and treatment. CTED's Housing division will provide housing to assist offenders in their transition from prison to the community.

ICH Re-entry Workgroup Pilot Proposal:

The ICH workgroup, represented by staff members from DOC, VA, DSHS, and CTED initially had three pilot proposals, however two of three pilot proposals will be implemented under recently mandated legislation. The remaining pilot proposal recommended for ICH's consideration is based on Pierce county's low barrier, supportive housing for all encampment residents. A primary goal of this program would be to stably house no more than 50 "hardest to serve" residents including those with significant substance abuse, mental health issues, and criminal justice problems for up to three years using HGAP funds for housing.

Next steps:

Ten Year Plan Update

CTED staff have been updating the Ten Year Homelessness Plan, due at the end of July. Updates were shared with ICH with a focus on strategies 1, 2, 11 and 12. Discussion was focused on whether the state wants to put more resources into self sufficiency because that changes some of the assumptions. As a next step, ICH members were asked to consider this question and tailor each of the 18 strategies with action steps and review estimated needs and costs per strategy.

Next Steps:

- In May, establish a staff workgroup to review the updated strategies and provide feedback on needs and cost models of the strategies
- ICH members will review the updated plan in June and June
- Solicit feedback and input from AHAB, SACH and WSCH in June
- ICH will approve the plan in July

The ICH met with members of the WSCH Board in the evening. Each ICH member provided an update and collaborative opportunities being pursued. The WSCH Board was satisfied with the progress of the ICH so far. Meeting summary to follow.