

Meeting Notes
February 22, 2008

State Advisory Council on Homelessness

Attendees: Chris Lowell, Annie Conant, Steve Washington, Kathy Wahto, Judith Gidley, Tom Pennella, Terry Weber, Judith Combes, Joe Ingram, Steve Gaulke, Gary Williams, Jean Kim, Nola Renz, Lael Duncan, Kim Eads, Shannon Walker (for Lisa Salmi), Marilyn Highberg, Melinda Dyer, Megan Karch

Interested Parties: Mia Wells, Frank Jose,

Guest: John Concannon, Jim Madsen (DSHS/JRA), Joel LaSalle (DSHS/JRA), Corinne Mason (DSHS/JRA)

CTED Staff: Caryn Horn

Opening Remarks and Introductions:

Terry Weber (ESD) and Steve Washington (HUD) were introduced as new members. Other introductions were made around the table.

Approval of Meeting Notes from Last Meeting:

The Council moved, seconded, and passed a motion to accept the meeting notes from the last meeting as written. The ICH/AHAB meeting noted in the meeting notes did not take place.

Discussion and Vote on SACH Bylaws:

The new bylaws were reviewed and changes were made to III.A, Terms of Office. It now reads "All voting members' terms of office shall be for four years. Members can serve no more than two consecutive terms." The Council moved, seconded, and passed a motion to accept the bylaws as corrected. Since the Membership Committee was approved in the bylaws, volunteers for the committee are Mia Wells, Joe Ingram, and Chris Lowell. The Council currently has three vacancies.

Point in Time Count:

Okanogan, Whatcom, Clallam, Yakima, Thurston, Benton/Franklin, and King Counties reported on their point in time counts.

State Agency Review of Legislative Issues:

Issues before the Legislature were reviewed. The first two bills signed by the Legislature were housing related.

ICH Update:

The meeting between AHAB and ICH did not take place due to turnover on the ICH. New members are Lisa Salmi from the Department of Health, Sandy Miller from the Employment Security Department, and Mary Leftridge Byrd is still the representative from the Department of Corrections. A motion was made, "That we re-request that the Governor put forward a request to OSPI to appoint a representative to the ICH", seconded, and passed.

Member Updates:

- Melinda announced that Feed the Children is providing back packs and GA has organized a drop site for OSPI.
- Marilyn recommended that there be a representative from Spokane County on the Council.
- Shannon reported that DOH is working on safety standards in shelters without restricting beds.
- Kim noted that GA has resources that can be used for shelters, so the shelters need to contact them.
- Lael announced that upon completion of the Bounce Back course, attendees' deposits are waived at the PUD. The local hospital where Lael works as a commissioner is working on a plan to insure the uninsured for one year to reduce emergency room visits.
- Steve Gaulke announced that faith-based organizations sponsored three extreme weather service shelters. Indian Alley now has housing and services due to a partnership with churches.
- Judy announced the Eldon Vail is the new DOC Secretary. Prison and Community Correction systems are now one, called Correctional Operations.
- Terry noted that ESD is producing a training video on how to work with people with convictions.
- Tom announced receipt of a Gates grant for seven providers of youth services. Out of seven states, Washington and Idaho were chosen to provide vouchers for mentoring of youth of incarcerated parents.
- Steve Washington is working to expedite the McKinney applications. Please contact him if you feel yours is delayed. HUD has approved waivers for source documents from counties affected by flooding to expedite assistance. HUD is holding a workshop June 2 or 9, tentatively at the Lacey Community Center, called "Getting Your Seat at the Table." This is to assist new organizations determine how they can receive funding from HUD.

Disaster Recovery:

1. Four action groups have been formed to work on improving response to disasters. CTED Housing and Community Services are working with the DSHS led Health Action Group. The focus will be on what could be done better during disasters for the homeless and the agencies trying to assist the influx of homeless, including the temporary large shelters opened just for the disasters.

At the next meeting we will discuss how we can be better prepared for the next disaster.

JRA Presentation:

DSHS's Juvenile Rehabilitation Administration (JRA) gave a presentation on what they are about. As clarification, a juvenile on probation is under county supervision. A juvenile on

parole is under JRA supervision. JRA focuses on service and intervention, with other priorities being violence reduction and re-investing in youth.

SACH MEETINGS FOR 2008 ARE APRIL 11, JULY 11, AND SEPTEMBER 19.

WSCH ANNUAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD MAY 7-9 IN YAKIMA. REGISTRATION IS OPEN ONLINE AT WWW.ENDHOMELESSNESSWA.ORG.