



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Community Services Housing Division  
Housing Assistance Unit  
[www.commerce.wa.gov/CHG](http://www.commerce.wa.gov/CHG)

## CHG Communications # 26

Please forward to your sub grantees and contact your CHG program manager if you have any questions.

**CHG Updates** Commerce released the **new CHG Guidelines** for the grant period 1/2016-6/2017. You can find them on our website [here](#). Revised forms for the new grant period will be available by January 1, 2016.

### **New CHG Guidelines Webinar**

Wednesday, January 6, 10 – 11:30 am

Learn about important changes and updates!

Register here: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5830701736922767617>

### **Save the Dates for Training**

We will include more information about the training opportunities in January.

- **CHG Administrators 2 Day Training for Lead Grantee staff**  
Monday February 29, 1 – 4:30 pm, continued Tuesday March 1, 8:30 – 3:30 pm
  - **CHG Direct Service Staff Training**  
Wednesday March 2, 8:30 – 3:30 pm
- OR*
- **CHG Direct Service Staff Training (repeated)**  
Thursday March 3, 8:30 – 3:30 pm

## CHG Thought Experiment

Share your ideas on how to screen people in!

Do you have eligibility criteria that might screen people out?

For example, does it make sense to have “desire or willingness to work” be an eligibility requirement for shelter? Or does it make better sense to require weekly meetings and build relationships once a household is in shelter and determine what’s next on their plan for housing stability? How about expanding the idea that weekly meetings could be with people the household identifies as a support for creating housing stability such as a minister, AA sponsor or friend?

Another example, does it make sense to have “will participate in chores” be an eligibility requirement for shelter? Or does it make better sense to have a shelter requirement that households participate in keeping the shelter clean and orderly?

Commerce wants to better understand how grantees are using eligibility requirements to “screen people in” so that they can get the help they need. Watch for opportunities in 2016 to provide your ideas and feedback.

## Point in Time Updates

The 2016 Point in Time Count is on January 28<sup>th</sup>. The forms and guidelines are on the [PIT website](#). Commerce is hosting two more regional PIT trainings for PIT Coordinators and others playing a prominent role in planning for the Count:

- December 17<sup>th</sup> – 11:00 – 2:30 (Mt. Vernon, WA)
- January 6<sup>th</sup> – 9:00 – 12:00 (Olympia, WA)

For more information, or questions about the PIT Count, please contact [Matt Mazur-Hart](#) at 360-725-2926.

## HMIS Training

Check this out for training opportunities!

[http://www.commerce.wa.gov/Documents/HMIS\\_Training\\_4th\\_QTR\\_2015.pdf](http://www.commerce.wa.gov/Documents/HMIS_Training_4th_QTR_2015.pdf)

## Opportunities

Want to learn abroad – expenses paid?!? NAEH released information and the application for the 2016 UK/US homeless services provider practice exchange. The applications are due January 6<sup>th</sup>.

[http://www.endhomelessness.org/page/-/files/Transatlantic%20Practice%20Exchange\\_Information%20%20Application.pdf](http://www.endhomelessness.org/page/-/files/Transatlantic%20Practice%20Exchange_Information%20%20Application.pdf)

### **Great Minds @ Work Webinar Series**

THE Worst Mental Health Disorder: STIGMA

December 17, 2015

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. PDT

Presenter: Mike Hudson, Washington Business Alliance

People who have been in treatment or are in recovery for mental health disorders have the highest rate of unemployment in Washington state of any other identifiable group. The vast majority of these individuals want to work. Many are highly educated, skilled and have significant work histories in virtually every profession, trade, occupation and, business yet only 1 in 10 have been able to find competitive employment. These individuals represent an extremely rich pool of potential employees, particularly for those employers with federal contracts and a requirement to increase the percentage of their workforce who are people with disabilities. So why are they having so much difficulty finding employment? One word: STIGMA

This webinar will define stigma, explain how stigma can take hold in your corporate culture and, demonstrate its impact in the workplace including the cost to your business in lost productivity. We will also bring awareness to the issue of self-stigma. **The ultimate goal of this webinar is to help you eliminate the Stigma of mental health disorders in your business.** To register for this FREE Great Minds @ Work webinar, go to: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2101300132305699074>

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After registration, you will receive email confirmation and the webinar log-in information. If you have questions or issues with registration, please contact Mike Hudson at [mike@urablellc.com](mailto:mike@urablellc.com); 360.671-9703

**Great Minds @ Work** is a joint project of the Washington Business Alliance and Washington State Division of Behavioral Health and

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# HMIS

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