



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

1011 Plum Street SE • PO Box 42525 • Olympia, Washington 98504-2525 • (360) 725-4000  
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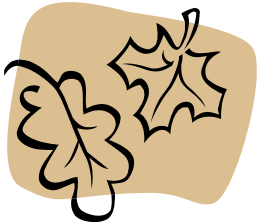
November 23, 2015

TO: CHG Grantees

SUBJECT: CHG Communications Issue #25

Here is your next installment of "CHG Communications." Please forward all information to your sub grantees. Contact your CHG program manager if you have any questions.

<b>Friendly Reminders</b>	<p><b><u>Partnering with Domestic Violence Providers</u></b></p> <p>The Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence reported to Commerce that many of their provider agencies were not aware that people fleeing domestic violence counted toward the new system wide requirement that 35% of people served are unsheltered homeless. Let us know how we can support your partnerships and communication with your domestic violence service providers so that everyone has the same information about this new policy direction.</p> <p><b><u>Grantee Forum Survey</u></b></p> <p>If you attended the annual <i>Grantee Forum</i> in October, the survey is still open to provide feedback. When you have two minutes, please take this brief survey so that we can plan for next year. Thanks in advance!</p> <p><a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GranteeForum2015">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GranteeForum2015</a></p>
<b>CHG Myth Buster/ CHG Program Policy Clarification</b>	<p><b>Myth:</b> Households enrolled in TANF that are being sanctioned are not eligible for EFH rent programs.</p> <p><b>Fact:</b> Households that are <b>enrolled</b> in TANF, even if they are being sanctioned, are eligible for EFH rent programs.</p> <p><b>Reminder:</b> You can pay January rent assistance at the end of December and include it in your December invoice. In fact, you can pay any month's rent during the end of the previous month. But it can be especially helpful at the end of the fiscal year or grant period!</p>
<b>Good Reading!</b>	<p>Laws that criminalize homelessness may be unconstitutional:</p> <p><a href="http://www.npr.org/2015/11/03/454249044/tide-starts-to-turn-against-the-crime-of-being-homeless">http://www.npr.org/2015/11/03/454249044/tide-starts-to-turn-against-the-crime-of-being-homeless</a></p>
<b>Point in Time Count</b>	<p>The Point in Time Count is <b>January 28, 2016</b>. The 2016 surveys will be released soon. Commerce is hosting training on the PIT Count in Olympia on <b>January 6<sup>th</sup></b> from 9:00 – 12:00. Contact Matt Mazur-Hart if you are interested or have any questions about the Count. Email: <a href="mailto:matt.mazur-hart@commerce.wa.gov">matt.mazur-hart@commerce.wa.gov</a>; Website: <a href="http://Commerce.wa.gov/PIT">Commerce.wa.gov/PIT</a></p>
<b>HMIS</b>	<p>The state has finalized the procurement effort and signed a contract with BitFocus, Inc.</p>

	<p>to replace the current state HMIS with new software. <i>Clarity Human Services</i> software is used in several other CoCs around the country, and we are confident that it is software designed to deliver an easy-to-use interface and quality reporting.</p> <p>The general plan is this:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. First, migrate legacy data – the state’s top priority is not losing all our years of great data collection</li> <li>2. Next, test out the new software reporting capability – we don’t want to do the work of putting data in unless we’re confident we can get data out</li> <li>3. Finally, learn and use the new software - an abundance of training and technical support will be available to you to help you turn off <i>Adsystem</i> and turn on <i>Clarity</i></li> </ol> <p>We expect HMIS Systems Admins in the King, Yakima and BOS CoCs to get trained on <i>Clarity</i> in the first few weeks of 2016, and to start training end users in the Winter and Spring of 2016. We’ll do our best to strike the right balance between going fast and doing it right. And, we’re open to suggestions on how to do it better all along the way.</p> <p>If you have any questions or concerns to raise, please contact Mary Schwartz (email: <a href="mailto:mary.schwartz@commerce.wa.gov">mary.schwartz@commerce.wa.gov</a>, phone: 360-725-2982). Our main focus for the next several months is helping everyone transition to the new HMIS software with success and, dare we say it?, joy.</p>
<p><b>CHG Team Favorite Winter Foods</b></p> 	<p>Kathy – Delicata squash baked with Fresno chilies and honey!</p> <p>Jeff—Thick soups and stews. Every day!</p> <p>Jessica – Chili and taco’s (my year round favorite!)</p> <p>Emily - Kartoffelsalat mit Würstchen</p> <p>Stephanie – pie (pumpkin, pecan, apple, pear...), hot cider spiked with mead</p> <p>Julie – Red beans and rice with cornbread.</p>

**ATTENTION:**

**FY16 Home Visiting Start-Up Funding Opportunity**



## Letters of Intent: Due Nov. 23, 2015

In late November, Thrive will release a new competitive funding opportunity for organizations interested in starting a home visiting program in their community. To help us plan for this opportunity, we are requesting letters of intent by Nov. 23 from all interested organizations.

Submit a letter of intent using this [form](#).

- Detailed instructions for completing the form can be accessed [here](#).
- Information about all of Thrive's funding opportunities can be found at <https://thrivewa.org/funding-opportunities/>
- For questions about this opportunity please contact [grantsmanager@thrivewa.org](mailto:grantsmanager@thrivewa.org).

