



State of Washington

State Advisory Council on Homelessness
Interagency Council on Homelessness

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Lael Duncan
SACH Chair

SACH/ICH Meeting Summary

Thursday, April 20, 2017

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Hilton Hotel, SeaTac Washington

Kirsten Jewell
SACH Vice Chair

Tedd Kelleher
ICH Chair

SACH Appointed Members Lael Duncan, Kirsten Jewell,
Linda Olsen, Lona Hammer, Melissa Taylor, Donna Batch, Shelia Babb
Anderson

Theresa Slusher
ICH Vice Chair

SACH Guests Susan Olson, Kirk McClain, Jason Reittereiser

ICH Agency Representatives

Tedd Kelleher, Department of Commerce

Theresa Slusher, Economic Services, DSHS

Sherrie Flores, Children's Administration, DSHS

Melodie Pazolt, Behavioral Health Services, DSHS

Jon Brumbach, Health Care Authority

Donald Lachman, Department of Veteran Affairs

Bob Story, Department of Corrections

Erin Frasier, State Board of Community & Technical Colleges

Melinda Dyer, Office of Superintendent of Instruction

Guests

Jim Theofolis, A Way Home

Emily Harris-Shears, Building Changes

Tomaso Johnson, Kendra Gritsch, Washington Coalition Against
Domestic Violence

John Demboski, HUD

Ben Miksch, United Healthcare Community Plan

SACH and ICH met separately from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.

SACH Meeting Summary:

- **New Member Orientation** Lael and Kirsten provided a new member orientation, which included a review of the Executive Order and State Homeless Strategic Plan, Overview of the Homeless Housing System and Funding, Counts of Homelessness and Why Homelessness is Increasing.

- **Election of new Chair.** SACH members nominated Kirsten Jewell to serve as the new Chair. Per the SACH Executive Order, a recommendation will be forwarded to the Governor's Office.
- **Discussion of ICH Requests** The ICH Chair and Vice Chair suggested SACH consider two items for their annual work plan. 1) Explore state's role in supporting Tiny Houses and other small house options to address homelessness. A White Paper by Community Frameworks on Tiny Houses is attached to this meeting summary. This is a hot topic and the state needs direction on an appropriate response. 2) Identify best practices for law enforcement when working with homeless populations. This continues to be a hot topic in our state whether it is around encampments or the sidewalk bans.
- **Additional Meetings** Members agreed on two conference calls before next July's in person meeting - May 18 and June 15 10 a.m. to 12 noon to continue the discussion of the ICH requests and explore other areas/direction the Council wants to champion. The Governor releases his budget annually in December so letters recommending specific action need to be completed in late fall.

ICH Meeting Summary

- **ICH Work in Strategic Plan** Tedd reviewed the Homeless Housing Strategic Plan Goals, which are open for revision for the next several months. Theresa encouraged agencies to look for alignment with the state's plan during strategic planning back in their own agency. The group discussed Goal 3.2.4 which states that Commerce will "work with state agencies to determine the counts of people unsheltered whose housing is the direct responsibility of state agencies". Discussion included a comment from a guest that public systems should not discharge to homelessness. With that value, the group talked about creating a picture of how each agency's work intersects with homelessness. Examples cited included the TANF program having around 900 cases in a month coded as living unsheltered and Corrections having rent vouchers to assist a portion of those exiting secure housing. The group saw value in working with Commerce and providing data to create this view. The group agreed that once we create that view of how ICH agencies intersect with homelessness, they could inform future agency request decision packages.
- **By-name Lists** Ian Kinder-Pyle presented an update on the work the Balance of State Continuum of Care by-name lists to rehouse Veterans experiencing homelessness. Theresa and Tedd talked about a desire to do the same for the Families with Children subpopulation of people experiencing homelessness. By-name lists are considered a best practice in the nation and were one of the factors that made the two 100 Day Challenges conducted in 2016 in Washington state successful.
- **Legal Review of Working Across Systems** Members discussed by-name lists and the barrier to working across systems created by lack of direction on how to maintain confidentiality of all clients and safety for those whom domestic violence poses an added risk. Tedd proposed to draft language that ICH agencies can submit to their AAG

requesting an opinion on how this work can be done across systems with appropriate releases and protections in place for all populations. The desire would be to have the AAGs coordinate an opinion rather than each agency receiving a separate opinion. The group agreed on moving forward with that approach.

Domestic Violence Housing First Demonstration Evaluation

Dr. Cris Sullivan from Michigan State University shared an outline of her upcoming research to determine how Housing First affects housing stability and safety. Data collection includes interviewing survivors every 6 months over 18 months, comparing those who receive Housing First versus services that are more “typical.” Dr. Sullivan’s hypothesis is that survivors receiving Housing First will show greater improvement over time compared to other survivors on housing and financial stability, safety, quality of life, mental health and substance misuse.

Affordable Housing Advisory Board (AHAB) Update

Emily Grossman provided an overview of the AHAB and specifically an update on the HART team’s work as a response to the Governor’s request earlier this year. You can find updated materials here: AHAB [web page](#), HART [web page](#)

The [Housing Needs Study](#) will be updated in 2018.

SACH and ICH Work Plan Presentations

Chairs reported out on the morning meeting discussion and next steps.

Next regular meeting, July 20, 2017 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Sea-Tac Hilton

[ICH and SACH webpage](#)

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