



State of Washington

State Advisory Council on Homelessness  
Interagency Council on Homelessness

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

Lael Duncan  
SACH Chair

Kirsten Jewell  
SACH Co-Chair

**SACH/ICH MEETING SUMMARY**  
**Thursday, January 21, 2016**  
**10:00am to 2:00pm**  
**Red Lion Hotel SeaTac, Washington**

**SACH Appointed Members Attending** Lona Hammer, Lael Duncan, Melissa Taylor, Joe Ingram, Tedd Kelleher, Linda Olsen, Debbie Paul

**SACH and ICH Agency Representatives Attending** Mireya Beltre, Department of Social and Health Services Children's Administration, Donald Lachman and Mary Forbes, Department of Veteran's Affairs, Jim Harms, Department of Corrections, Jim Baumgart Governor's Office, Tedd Kelleher, Department of Commerce, Theresa Slusher, Department of Social and Health Services Economic Services, Gary Kamimura, Employment Security Department, Kim Justice, Office of Homeless Youth, Jon Brumbach, Health Care Authority

**Guests** Kate Baber, Washington Low Income Housing Alliance, Cary Retlin, Vulnerable Families Partnership, Katy Miller, United States Interagency Council on Homelessness, MA Leonard, Affordable Housing Advisory Board,

**Commerce Staff** Kathy Kinard, Lori Salzer

**Governor's Policy Office Update**

Jim Baumgart discussed the Governor's policy office focus on the need to maintain the existing trust fund housing stock and make investments to preserve the aging units across the state. Jim also discussed the need to continue funding the trust fund and explore alternative housing such as congregate living and the tiny homes movement. The Governor's office is also interested in conversions of single family homes to multi-occupancy, expanding crisis and triage beds and services.

**ICH Final Recommendations**

Tedd Kelleher reviewed the recommendations which have been sent to the Governor's office. Next steps will be identified at the April meeting.

**Medicaid Waiver Update**

Jon Brumbach outlined recent activities with the Medicaid Waiver / 1115 Waiver approval and implementation for a targeted Medicaid benefit for supportive housing services.

Link to the Medicaid Transformation website:

[http://www.hca.wa.gov/hw/Pages/medicaid\\_transformation.aspx](http://www.hca.wa.gov/hw/Pages/medicaid_transformation.aspx)

Link to the posted transformation project ideas:  
[http://www.hca.wa.gov/hw/Pages/mt\\_initiative1.aspx](http://www.hca.wa.gov/hw/Pages/mt_initiative1.aspx)

Link to the CMS policy bulletin regarding supportive housing:  
<https://www.medicaid.gov/federal-policy-guidance/downloads/CIB-06-26-2015.pdf>

#### **100 Day Challenge Update**

Cary Retlin reviewed the information sent to the state's Consolidated Homeless Grant contractors about a campaign sponsored by the Vulnerable Families Partnership (VFP) to end family homelessness in 100 days. The VFP is a collaboration funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to improve outcomes for families at risk of homelessness. The primary members of the partnership are the Governor's Office, DSHS, Building Changes, and Commerce. The 100 Day Challenge to End Family Homelessness is the last project the Vulnerable Families Partnership is overseeing with the Gates grant. Participants

#### **Office of Homeless Youth Update**

Kim Justice provided an overview of activities to date which include forming the advisory committee, transferring contracts from the Department of Social and Health Services and building relationships with youth service providers across the state. A handout provided during her presentation is attached to the end of this document.

#### **Washington Low Income Housing Alliance Legislative Agenda**

Kate Baber provided an overview of the agenda and activities to date.

Link to the agenda:  
[http://wliha.org/sites/default/files/2016%20Legislative%20Agenda%20FINAL\\_1.pdf](http://wliha.org/sites/default/files/2016%20Legislative%20Agenda%20FINAL_1.pdf)

**Next Meeting: Thursday, April 21, 2016**  
**10:00am to 2:00 pm**  
**Sea-Tac, WA**

## Office of Homeless Youth (OHY)

### Overview

#### Authorizing legislation:

*Second Substitute Senate Bill 5404, Homeless Youth Prevention and Protection Act of 2015 (RCW 43.330)*

#### Priority areas for addressing youth and young adult (YYA) homelessness:

- **Stable housing:** Every homeless youth should have a safe and healthy place to sleep each night until permanency can be reached. Every family in crisis should have appropriate support as they work to keep their children housed and safe. Every homeless youth discharged from a public system of care in our state will not be discharged into homelessness.
- **Family reconciliation:** All homeless youth should have access to services that support reunification with immediate family. When reunification is not possible, youth should be placed in the custody of DSHS.
- **Permanent connections:** Every homeless young adult should have opportunities to establish positive, healthy relationships with adults, including family members, employers, landlords, teachers, and community members.
- **Education & employment:** Every homeless young adult should have the opportunity and support they need to complete their high school education, pursue additional education and training, and access employment.
- **Social and emotional well-being:** Every homeless youth and young adult should have access to both behavioral health care and physical health care. Every state-funded program for homeless youth and young adults must demonstrate a commitment to youth-centered programming.

#### Measurable goals:

- Decrease the number of homeless YYA by identifying programs that address the initial causes of homelessness.
- Increase permanency rates among homeless youth by decreasing the lengths and occurrences of youth homelessness caused by a youth's separation from family or a legal guardian.

#### Program Transfer:

Street Youth Services, HOPE Centers, and Crisis Residential Centers are transferred from Children's Administration within the Department of Social and Health Services to the OHY.

#### Advisory Committee:

- An advisory committee shall be formed to provide guidance and recommendations to the OHY regarding funding, policy, and practice gaps within and among state programs.

- The committee is comprised of 12 members including: at least two legislators, at least two parent advocates, at least one representative from law enforcement, service providers, and other stakeholders.
- Committee members are appointed by the Governor with the exception of legislators.

**Criminal Justice Training Program:**

The OHY must establish a statewide training program on homeless youth for criminal justice personnel to include:

- o Identifying homeless youth
- o Laws governing intersection of law enforcement and homeless youth
- o Best practices for approaching and engaging homeless youth

**Key dates:**

- **March 1, 2016:** Advisory Committee must have its first meeting
- **December 1, 2016:** OHY must submit a report to the governor and legislature with recommendations for policy, funding, and best practices in the five priority areas and recommendations to address funding, policy, and practice gaps in the state system.