



CoC Planning New/Emerging Session



Welcome and Introduction

Facilitator

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Learning Objectives

- Communicate HUD's expectations for CoC planning
- Share strategies for effective CoC planning
- Help CoCs understand how to leverage the planning process to support local planning goals
- Provide opportunities for:
 - Local information sharing
 - Peer-to-peer learning
 - Feedback to HUD

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Session Overview

- HUD expectations for CoC planning
 - Characteristics of strong planning processes
 - Fundamental components of strategic planning
 - Recommended strategies
- CoC Case Study on responding to challenges in strategic planning
- Facilitated discussion to share ideas and feedback

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Lora Routt
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Background

- **Congressional and Administration focus:**
 - Resource Allocation Accountability and Performance Measurement
 - Annual Progress Report (APR)
 - Data to demonstrate CoC outcomes
 - Homeless Management Information Systems
 - Permanent Housing Solutions
 - Chronic Homeless Initiatives
 - 30% Permanent Housing set-aside
 - Shelter Plus Care renewal set-aside

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Characteristics of Strong CoC Planning Structure

- Strong leadership
- Broad collaboration and coordination
- Transparent decision-making
- Year-round process
- Strong communication

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Collaboration and Coordination

- Engage broad range of partners with influence over resources and policies that affect homelessness
 - PHAs, local governments, State Policy Academy agencies, homeless agencies, mainstream agencies, private and public funders, etc.
- Improve coordination to maximize impact and resources and minimize duplication across various planning efforts related to homelessness
 - Consolidated Plan, Ten-year Plans, Discharge Planning efforts, etc.

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Strategies for Improved Coordination

- Share information about each system, available data sources, needs, vision, opportunities for mutually-beneficial activities
- Identify people to facilitate coordination and service integration
- Jointly sponsor a periodic needs assessment or shared project

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Fundamental Components of CoC Planning



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Needs Assessment Strategies

- Conduct annual or biennial point-in-time counts (street and shelter)
- Interview providers, clients, and other stakeholders about needs and causes of homelessness
- Evaluate HMIS data for year-round demand and program utilization
- Analyze point-in-time and HMIS data sources to understand trends in client characteristics and needs
- Review research to determine which service strategies are most effective for the people experiencing homelessness in your CoC
- Understand local program effectiveness

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Goal-setting Strategies

- Set a broad, shared vision with specific goals related to the major groups who experience homelessness in your CoC
- Identify outcomes to document your progress
 - Reduce the # of people living on the streets
 - Reduce the length of time people stay in shelter
 - Minimize (eliminate) recidivism
 - Other measures that relate to the functionality of the system (modeled after HUD's National goals)
- Establish targets (%s) for your outcomes

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Integrating HUD's National Indicators into CoC Planning

- HUD's FY07 Government Performance Results Act (GPRA) Homeless Assistance Program indicators:
 - Create 4,000 new permanent housing beds for chronically homeless persons
 - At least 71% of persons who move into HUD's permanent housing projects remain housed for at least 6 months
 - At least 61.5% of persons who leave TH projects will move into permanent housing
 - The rate of employment for homeless clients exiting homeless assistance programs is expected to be 18% or better
 - At least 395 CoCs will have a functional HMIS

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CoC Action Plan Strategies

- Keep your CoC action plans focused and doable.
- Create a multi-year plan of specific tasks to reach your goals.
 - Define 1, 5, and 10 year measurable achievements (generally outputs)
 - Identify lead person responsible for each task

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CoC Action Plan Discussion Questions

- Do programs need to be created, expanded, or refined to achieve CoC-defined outcomes?
 - How will you make funding decisions?
 - How will you monitor program outcomes?
- Do others share goals? Can you leverage their help?
- Based on the causes of homelessness identified, which systems do you need to work with to prevent homelessness?
- Are there regulatory or administrative barriers that affect access to mainstream services and benefits?
Can you negotiate formal access to other service systems to meet homeless clients' needs?
- Where can you secure resources to implement plans?

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Strategies for Identifying Resources

- McKinney-Vento funding alone cannot address all unmet needs
- CoC planning should focus on:
 - Outlining CoC-level estimates of resources needed to implement the plan and a coordinated approach to secure funds
 - Securing multiple funding sources (local, state, private, other federal) to meet needs
 - Targeting and/or reallocating CoC grant funds to housing

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Potential CoC Grant Resources

- **Samaritan Initiative**
- **Pro Rata Need (PRN) Utilization**
 - **Available preliminary PRN**
 - CoC utilizes available PRN for new projects
 - **Reassign PRN**
 - CoC adjusts renewal projects; creates available PRN by reducing or eliminating renewal projects to fund new projects
 - **Hold Harmless PRN Reallocation**
 - All renewal projects are for 1 year and
 - 1 year renewal burden exceeds preliminary pro rata need
 - CoC reduces or eliminates renewal projects to fund new permanent housing projects

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Considerations when Using CoC Grant Funding

- **Projects need to be ready – ducks lined up:**
 - Realistic sites considering availability, zoning, NIMBY, environment
 - Realistic financing
- **CoC funding should not be used as “first money in” to secure other commitments**
 - HUD Appropriations Act requires funds to be obligated within 2 years and spent within additional 5 years

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Exhibit One as a Tool for Strategic Planning

- The application reflects the components of strategic planning
 - Count homeless populations and subpopulations and gather client-level data, determine unmet needs
 - Define 10-year plan, objectives and action steps
 - Establish project funding priorities
 - Identify unexecuted grants to ensure that resources are being used effectively
 - Measure performance against objectives

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Resources

- HUD's Homelessness Resource Exchange **Coming Soon**
- Site to Feature CoC Forum Materials
<http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/homeless/hre/index.cfm>

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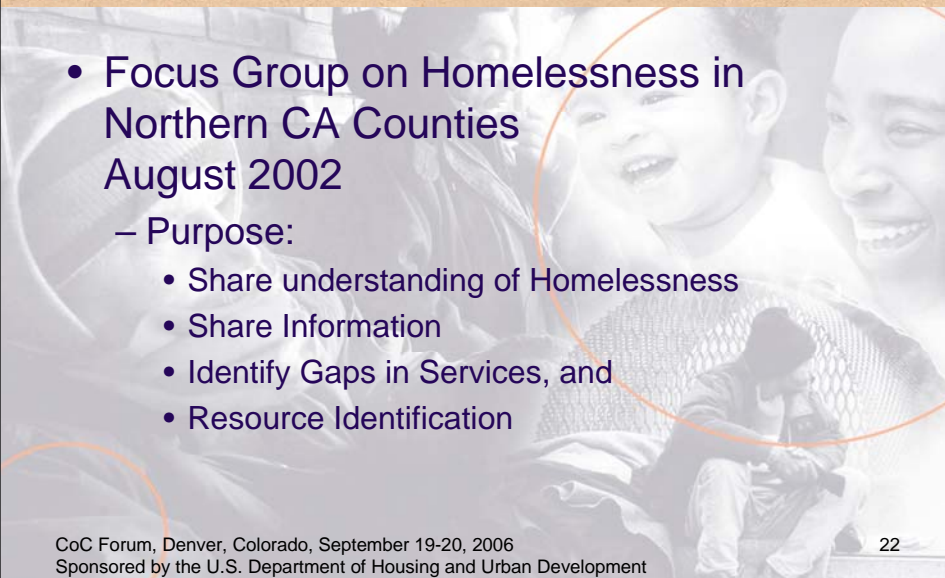

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Dos Rios
Continuum Planning

- Focus Group on Homelessness in Northern CA Counties August 2002
 - Purpose:
 - Share understanding of Homelessness
 - Share Information
 - Identify Gaps in Services, and
 - Resource Identification

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Issues Explored

- Who are the homeless?
- What are the causes of homelessness?
- What are the needs of the homeless?
- Who is responding to those needs?
- What services are available?
- What are the gaps in services?

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Goals for a Successful Continuum

- Meet Year Round
- Coordinate Activities and Services
- Common Goals and Objectives
- Improved Services to Homeless
- Obtain Funding
- Shared Hard Work

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Dos Rios Structure

- Steering Committee – Representative from each County
- Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) Committee
- Survey Coordinating Committee
- Discharge Planning Committee
- Mainstream Resources Committee

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Questions for Facilitated Discussion

- What are the unique challenges you face as a New/Emerging CoC in planning?
- How have you worked to overcome these challenges?
- What resources has your community devoted to CoC Planning?
- What are you doing to ensure that the projects selected for funding will help achieve your CoC goals?
- How is your CoC planning being coordinated with other related planning efforts?

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