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INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

ACTION PLAN MEETING – JUNE 30, 2017 – COMMITTEE ON ELDER & CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS



MISSION

To prevent, reduce and end elder and chronic homelessness through data-driven strategies that include: earlier intervention, improving access to supportive housing and collaboration with groups addressing housing supply.





- Held multiple “surge” events in Boston for chronically homeless elders resulting in over 100 people linked to housing and support services
- Developed an estimate of the unmet need for housing for chronically homeless individuals
- Collaborated with MassHealth to expand CSP benefits for Chronically Homeless individuals into the MCO and Senior Care Options plans
- Worked with DHCD to award funds to innovative housing models linking elder service programs to public housing and private affordable housing
- Sponsored multiple regional meetings among elder service agencies and LHAs, and elder service agencies and Continuums of Care to cultivate partnerships and expand best practices



RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ONGOING WORK

- Develop a data warehouse for integrating homelessness data
- Develop an estimate of the unmet need for housing for elder homeless individuals who are not *chronically* homeless
- Collaborate with MassHealth to expand CSP benefits for Chronically Homeless individuals into the PACE and OneCare plans
- Facilitate additional regional meetings to inform communities about promising practices and encourage local partnerships in the New Bedford, Lynn, and Cape areas
- Explore implementing a homeless preference in Section 202 Senior affordable housing
- Develop an Authorization to Release Form to be used by MassHousing properties as a means of identifying tenancies at risk