



CHARLES D. BAKER, GOVERNOR

KARYN E. POLITO, LT. GOVERNOR

INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

ACTION PLAN MEETING – MAY 25, 2016 – COMMITTEE ON ELDER & CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS



MISSION

Develop an action plan to address chronic homelessness and homelessness among older individuals

WORK TO DATE

- Established which issues in the 2014 blueprint are still valid
- Gathered data about the target population and their needs
- Developed more specific action steps
- Coordinated with other ongoing work to ensure no duplication of effort
- Identified areas for innovation and demonstration



- Gathered data from CoCs to create a picture of elder homelessness
 - 1,411 chronically homeless individuals in shelter or on the streets
 - 6,959 elders in emergency shelter or transitional housing
- Created matrix of “elderly” definitions used for different housing and service programs
- Developed Authorization to Release Information form



RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ONGOING WORK

Homelessness Prevention

- Distribute Authorization to Release Form
- Move forward on reforms to Representative Payee system

Enhance Data Systems and Capacity to Utilize Information

- Develop a warehouse for integrating data about homelessness
- Collaborate with CoCs to track data about age during annual Point in Time homeless census
- Use CoC MA-HMIS data to determine unmet housing and service needs of older individuals

Build Housing and Service Partnerships

- Develop resource guides for specific geographic regions including sample forms
- Facilitate regional meetings to inform about best practices and encourage local partnerships



RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ONGOING WORK

Facilitate Access to Supportive Housing

- Create a by-name list of homeless elders
- Engage PHAs and housing owners to accept referrals of homeless elders into housing

Expand Housing and Service Options

- Promote Sustainability of rest home model
- Explore and replicate innovative housing and service models
 - Low-demand rest home model
 - Expanding CSPECH program
 - Facilitating access to services for chronically homeless elders in Boston



1. Secretary Alice Bonner, EOEa
2. Sarah Glassman, DHCD
3. Linn Torto, ICHH
4. Gerri McCafferty, Springfield Housing Authority
5. Joe Finn, MHSA
6. Mark Hinderlie, Hearth, Inc.
7. Fred Berman, National Center on Family Homelessness
8. Larry Gottlieb, Elliot Community Human Services
9. Eileen O'Brien, BMC- Elders Living at Home
10. Elizabeth Doyle, City of Boston, DND
11. Cheryl Kennedy-Perez, DPH/BSAS
12. Brooke Doyle, DMH
13. Tom Connolly, MA NAHRO
14. Diana DiGiorgi, Old Colony Elder Services
15. Greg Giuliano, Montachusett Home Care Corp.
16. Leslie Scheer, Elder Services of Cape Cod
17. Ayana Gonzalez, DHCD
18. Paul McPartland, DHCD
19. Cate Mingoya, DHCD
20. Tom Thibeault, Brockton Housing Authority
21. David Hedison, Chelmsford Housing Authority
22. Connie Donahue, Chelmsford Housing Authority
23. Kim Clougherty, DMH
24. Lindsey Tucker, DPH
25. Scott Taberner, MassHealth
26. Lyndia Downie
27. Emilia Dunham, MassHealth
28. Pooja Bhalla
29. Gene Mazzalla, Avon COA