



HOMEPAGE

Continuum of Care

Regional Committee on Homelessness

Collaborating to end homelessness in the Valley of the Sun

January 2001

REGIONAL HOMELESS PLANNING KICKS OFF

In June 1999, the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development requested that the Maricopa Association of Governments assume responsibility for year round planning for homeless issues in the Valley, and ensure that a regional grant application was submitted to HUD for funding for homeless programs. Upon the MAG Regional Council approval, a year round homeless planning and application process began.

to develop the essential application information. Cannon and Gill, consultants funded by a grant from the Stardust Foundation, facilitated the effort.

Committee Efforts

Between January and June, Cannon and Gill and MAG facilitated approximately 50 meetings with providers and advocates, former homeless people, and representatives from the business, religious and government sectors. These individuals worked together to develop a common understanding of homelessness in our Valley and to pull together the essential data elements and programs to include in the HUD application.



January 2000 Kick-off Meeting

About 150 community members gathered in January 2000 for a homeless planning kick-off meeting, hosted by Tempe Mayor Neil Giuliano, then-chairman of the MAG Regional Council. The attendees expressed support for a region-wide planning process and a cooperative grant application to secure HUD funds for Valley homeless programs.

Grant Application Submitted

On May 29, 2000, Mary Gill, of Cannon and Gill, shipped the HUD application well ahead of the deadline. We would like to thank Cannon and Gill for their excellent work in pulling together the people and information necessary to complete the application in a very tight time frame. HUD is expected to announce the results of the grant application in late December 2000.

The Continuum of Care Regional Committee on Homelessness, a policy-level group, was formed, as were several technical subcommittees

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The Honorable
Frank X. Gordon,
Chairman



CONTINUUM OF CARE REGIONAL COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS MEMBERS

The Honorable Frank X. Gordon
Chairman

The Honorable Jan Brewer
Vice Chairman

Riann Balch
Jodi Beckley
Mike Bielecki
The Honorable Patti Bruno
The Honorable Dennis Cahill
Tom Canasi
Patrick Chorpenning
The Honorable Sandra Dowling
Cathy Eden
Guy Mikkelsen
Terry Goddard, ex officio
Mary Lou Hanley
Sheila Harris, PhD
Edmundo Hildalgo
The Honorable Bill Jaffa
Ryan Johnson
Don Keuth
Sanford Kravitz, PhD
Anne Lipp
John Logan
Paul Luna
Carol McCormack
Sara Moya, PhD
The Honorable David Ortega
Rev. Fran Park
Beth Rosenberg
Jannah Scott
The Honorable Joan Shafer
The Honorable Tom Smith
The Honorable Richard A. Sousa
Louisa Stark, PhD
Margaret Trujillo
Jonathan Weisbuch, M.D.
The Honorable Mary Rose Wilcox
Barbara Williams
The Honorable Cody Williams
Diana Yazzie Devine

FROM THE CHAIR

We hope you enjoy the first issue of the newsletter published by the Continuum of Care Regional Committee on Homelessness. The newsletter will serve as one method of sharing information on the activities of the Regional Committee. It will also provide information on how you can join in this Valley-wide effort to help with homelessness prevention and to help homeless individuals and families resolve the challenging issues that cause them to lose their homes.

I am impressed and encouraged by the high level of interest and commitment of so many people in the Valley to examine how best to provide services across Maricopa County. Over 30 community members serve on our Continuum of Care Regional Committee on Homelessness, representing elected officials from state and local governments, the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, homeless advocates and service providers, the religious community, Arizona State University, the business community and the Governor's Office. With representatives from such a broad array of interests, we can make significant progress to solve this problem in our community.

Our Regional Committee was formed for two purposes:

- ◆ to institute a year round planning

process to address homeless issues in the Valley, and
◆ to ensure submittal of a regional application to HUD for Stewart B. McKinney Act funds, which provided over \$15 million to our provider agencies last year.

Funding for this planning and application effort will be provided by the Arizona Department of Commerce; the cities of Phoenix, Scottsdale, Tempe, Mesa, Glendale, Gilbert, Chandler and Peoria; Maricopa County; and the Arizona Community Foundation. My personal thanks go to these organizations for enabling us to secure the needed support to carry out our important mission.

The work of our active subcommittees is described in this newsletter, which will be published quarterly. It is our hope that this regional effort will bring people to the table to develop realistic and effective solutions to homelessness in the Valley of the Sun. Please look at the schedule of meetings included in this newsletter and participate in this effort. It is our goal that people from across the Valley join with us to develop these recommendations, so that all of our neighbors can enjoy the wonderful quality of life in our region.

The Honorable Frank X. Gordon
Former Chief Justice,
Arizona Supreme Court,
Regional Committee Chairman

AFTER THE APPLICATION: THE NEED TO CONTINUE

After submission of the application to HUD in May 2000, the Continuum of Care Regional Committee on Homelessness determined to carry on the year-round planning process and to prepare well in advance for the FY 2001-2002 application for Stewart B. McKinney Act funds.

Under the Chairmanship of former Chief Justice Frank Gordon, and Vice Chairmanship of Maricopa County Supervisor Jan Brewer, the policy level committee continued to meet over the summer. Its purpose was to develop recommendations to stabilize the planning process in order to maintain the momentum developed from January to June 2000.

Three subcommittees have been formed: Planning, Application and Finance. Under the direction of Finance Subcommittee Chairman Mike Bielecki, Office of the Governor, a contract was executed with the Department of Commerce. Funds were supplied by local and county governments, along with the Arizona Community Foundation. These funds were secured in October 2000, allowing the planning and application work to proceed.

TWO ACTIVE SUBCOMMITTEES FOCUS ON SPECIFICS

Planning Subcommittee:

Under the leadership of Chairman Tom Canasi of Tempe, the Planning Subcommittee provides the structure for the year-round planning process. This Subcommittee has suggested modifications to the mission, vision, values and goals of the continuum of care process developed last year during the application period. The Subcommittee will oversee a best practices study for the Valley, funded by HUD and conducted by HomeBase, a San Francisco consulting firm, to be completed by Summer 2001. The subcommittee will also contribute technical assistance and implementation strategies.

Many Valley service providers contributed to the application effort last year within a very compressed time period. The Planning Subcommittee and Regional Committee revisited the application documents and compared them with similar efforts from across the country. A few revisions resulted and will form the foundation of this regional effort.

Application Subcommittee:

Riann Balch, Executive Director of the Arizona Coalition to End Homelessness, chairs the



Tom Canasi,
Planning Subcommittee
Chairman

Application Subcommittee, which held its first meeting November 1, 2000. This subcommittee will develop the necessary material for the federal application to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for Stewart B. McKinney Act funds. They will also revise and simplify the local Request for Proposals and provide training to agencies that intend to submit a project for funding.

The subcommittee will develop a timeline at its December 6 meeting in order to include service providers, consumers and advocates in the application planning and development process. The subcommittee will use the materials developed during last year's application process as the basis of their work. They propose to convene fewer meetings than last year, to maximize the time allowed for providers to formulate their input and recommendations.



Riann Balch,
Applications
Subcommittee
Chairman

PEOPLE YOU MAY BE HEARING FROM:

Technical Assistance for the Application and Process

We are pleased to have extensive assistance this year in developing our application and the year-round planning process. Some of the following folks may contact you for information. Here is a short description of their role:

HomeBase:

HUD has arranged to have HomeBase, a San Francisco consulting firm, assist Planning

Subcommittee efforts to determine best practices for a service delivery system design and linkage, with recommendations on improvements for our region. Representatives of HomeBase may contact committee members or provider agencies for information.

Ybarra, Pedrini and Barnes:

This consulting firm has been retained by the Collaboration for a New Century to gather and provide the inventory of beds and services for the homeless in the Valley. The Collaboration for a New Century is a group composed of downtown



business people, clergy and local governments. One of their efforts is to develop a downtown Phoenix housing plan. The inventory will be used both for our HUD application and for the downtown plan. The consultants are starting with last year's information and seeking additional information on shelters/beds provided by churches, which may not have been included previously in the bed counts. They are also seeking information on services to homeless persons.

You may be contacted by Gloria Ybarra or Bruna Pedrini for information. If you have information you wish to include in the gaps analysis, contact Bruna or Gloria at 602-277-1199. They will appreciate your help, as will we—this information is an integral part of the HUD application.

John Epler:

Many of the service providers will remember John Epler from last year's application process. A former HUD employee, John translated the HUD information into action steps for us. He also provided assistance to individual agencies that submitted projects for the last cycle funding. John will provide that same assistance this year. We will schedule several visits to the Valley for his help.

DID YOU KNOW?

- ♦ There are 6,789 beds available in the Valley for homeless children, adults, elderly people and families.
- ♦ There are an additional 465 emergency winter overflow bed.
- ♦ There is a gap of 6,791 beds.
- ♦ Families with children constitute one-third of the Valley's homeless population.
- ♦ Children under the age of 18 without families constitute 5% of homeless individuals.

Michael Dollin—Urban Design Associates:

Under contract with Maricopa County, Michael Dollin is developing an architectural design concept for a homeless campus site. There is some community interest in developing a co-location of services for homeless individuals at such a site. Michael is designing a conceptual model for this type of service delivery option.



VISION AND MISSION

Vision for the Regional Committee

"We, the participants in the Homeless Continuum of Care planning process in Maricopa County, are committed to ending homelessness for individuals and families by ensuring that all residents have their basic needs met,

including but not limited to nourishment, health care, employment and recreation, are provided with opportunities to achieve self-sufficiency, and live in permanent, safe, quality and

affordable housing. We envision an integrated system of effective services, which are guided by collaboration and enhanced by technology."

1999 Vision—developed by Providers, approved by Regional Committee

Mission for the Regional Committee

"To provide regional leadership and direction in addressing the issues of homelessness in Maricopa County."

1996 MAG Homeless Plan—Approved by the Regional Committee

Values for the Regional Committee

The Continuum of Care Regional Committee on Homelessness, recognizing that values are the core beliefs that shape our vision and guide our actions, adopts the following value statements:

Mission for the Regional Committee

"To provide regional leadership and direction in addressing the issues of homelessness in Maricopa County."

1996 MAG Homeless Plan

- homeless people should be safe and secure;
- homeless people should have a choice of service options which are delivered effectively and accountably;

- services should lead to stability, responsibility, self-sufficiency and promote community integration;
- comprehensive, valley-wide services should be easy to access, consistent, continuous, respectful and sensitive to diversity;
- collaborative efforts to plan for and provide housing and services will maximize limited resources and build lasting and effective partnerships.

1999 Values—developed by Providers, approved by Regional Committee

MEETING SCHEDULES

January 2001

- 3 **Application Subcommittee** – 1:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.
Offices of Arizona Coalition to End Homelessness,
Steele Commons
1735 North West Grand Avenue, Phoenix
- 11 **Planning Subcommittee** – 2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m. *
Tempe Public Library, Board Room, 2nd Floor
3500 South Rural Tempe
* Meeting date and time are change from regular
schedule
- 25 **Continuum of Care Regional Committee on
Homelessness**
11:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m. Kick off lunch
Wyndham Buttes

February 2001

- 7 **Application Subcommittee** – 1:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.
Offices of Arizona Coalition to End Homelessness,
Steele Commons
1735 North West Grand Avenue, Phoenix
- 12 **Planning Subcommittee** – 1:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m. *
Tempe Public Library, Board Room, 2nd Floor
3500 South Rural Tempe
* Meeting date represents a change.
- 22 **Continuum of Care Regional Committee on
Homelessness**
1:30 p.m.-3:00 p.m.
MAG Saguaro Room
302 N. 1st Avenue, Suite 200, Compass Bank
Building.



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