

## **Mississippi Academy Notes**

January 29, 2003

### Day One

#### Needs/Haves

##### Needs

- Homelessness among people with disabilities
- Homelessness + employment ( job training, placement, outreach)
- Prevention
- Transitional age services (17-21)
- Aftercare
- Comprehensive Data Base (Certified clearinghouse)
- Employment Program
- Flexibility ( shelters/funding streams)
- Statewide assessment of capacity
- Statewide Needs Assessment

##### Haves

- MAP teams – flexible funding (making a plan)
- Constituency services line (referral system)
- Strong network of COC homeless providers
- Bringing non-HUD dollars into Mississippi
- PATH survey (partnerships already in place)
- Outreach through social workers preventions and how to tie to local resources (case managers)
- Leadership from the governor's Office

## **Mississippi Academy Notes**

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### Day Two

#### Wishes and Pluses

##### Wishes:

- Non-housing people not as familiar with the “specialized” terminology, services programs, etc.;
- Need more time to interact with the presenters/experts
- More clarity as to what is intended to come out of this process
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##### Pluses:

- Got to know each other
- Jesse Merrill
- Thursday's a.m. presenters
- Registration went well

### **Workshop Assignments**

2:00 p.m.

1. Use of Block Grant Funding: (Roger, Shirley, Vera)
2. VA: (Trish, WNDA)
3. HUD ( Michael, Lotita, Sam, Royal)
4. Medicaid (Sandra, Lucas, Gloria)

3:00 p.m.

1. Eligibility (Vera, Sandra)
2. D/C/Planning (Roger, Wnda, Trisha)
3. Housing Options (Lucas, Shirley, Gloria, Sam)
4. Department of Labor (Lotita, Royal, Michael)

### **MISSISSIPPI SWOT ANALYSIS REVIEW:**

#### **Strengths:**

#### **Weaknesses: (add)**

- Lack of Statewide housing clearinghouse
- lack of child care
- The perception of cultural insensitivity among service providers;

#### **Opportunities: (add)**

- Cultural Disparity Studies

#### **Threats (add)**

- Election year/stability

Guest Presentation: Ann Denton, President, Enterprise Foundation: Presentation on increasing housing stock for chronically homeless persons with mental illnesses: Ref: Housing First and Housing Ready as options for independent livening.

#### **Priorities/Goals**

- Create avenues for developing affordable and accessible permanent housing

- Conduct needs assessment/ inventory of services, housing, and structure of state delivery system to find out what exists (and determine geographical regions/ communities served) and create resource directory
- Create and implement coordinated mechanism of connecting programs and resources
- Enhance statewide coordination of three continuums
- Educating and increasing awareness among the public and elected officials
- Educating congressional delegation about federal regulations
- Review and remove internal and external barriers to accessing and providing services (e.g., transportation, eligibility, regulations, funding streams)
- Learn and build on what we've learned from development of the MAC (Mississippi Access to Care) plan (e.g., single point of entry)
- Eliminating duplication and enhancing coordination of case management services within and between agencies
- Develop integrated tracking system
- Create a forum of the involvement of the target population
- Enhance outreach efforts
- To expand HUD's definition of homelessness in order to include preventive services
- Affordable, available, and accessible housing

### Themes

1. Housing (2)  
 Developing Permanent housing  
 Affordable, available and accessible housing
  
2. Information & Data  
 Conducting Needs Assessment/Inventory /resource directory  
 Develop Integrated tracking system
  
3. Coordination/Collaboration (3)  
 Creating coordinated mechanism for connecting programs/resources  
 Statewide coordination of CoC  
 Learn and build on MAC plan
  
4. Education & Awareness (4)  
 Education and awareness of public officials  
 Learn and build on MAC Plan  
 Federal Regulations
  
5. Case Management (1)  
 Eliminate duplication and coordination of case management services
  
6. Consumer Involvement  
 Create forum for involvement for target pop

7. Prevention (outreach)

Expand HUDs definition of homelessness to include prevention;  
Enhance outreach efforts

8. (Removing) Barriers to Access

Review and remove internal and external barriers to access

**Goals**

1. **Case Management:**

Goal: **Eliminate duplication and enhancing coordination of case management services;**

Strategy (ies):

- Establish Coordinating Council on Case Management;
- Assessment of current CM systems in state;
- Develop uniform standards for CM;
- Develop education standards for CM

2. **Housing:**

Goal: **Ensure access to adequate affordable, available and accessible housing;**

Strategy (ies):

- Conduct inventory of existing housing stock;
- Partner w/public and private agencies to facilitate linkage to housing;
- Identify barrier to access;
- Explore other housing funding sources (i.e, National Housing Trust Fund, VA, other foreclosures for property.)

3. **Collaboration/Collaboration:**

Goal: **Create coordinated statewide service system**

Strategy (ies):

- Advisory Council of Homeless Providers; (Consumer member)
- Coordination of three Continuums; (MOUs, referral systems, etc.)
- Executive Order ( Task Force; include consumer or formerly homeless person,)
- Increasing collaboration between targeted homeless services and Mainstream resources/services

4. **Consumer Involvement**

Goal: **Increase consumer involvement in policy and program development**

Strategy (ies)

- Create forum of involvement for target population;
- Advisory Council
- Task Force
- Lobby for mandated involvement of current or former homeless consumers

5. **Information Data**

Goal: **Create a statewide Homeless HMIS to include targeted and mainstream Services;**

6. **Education Awareness**

Goal: **Increase education and awareness among policy makers and general public.**

Strategy (ies):

- Conduct sensitivity training for mainstream providers and public;

7. **Prevention (outreach)**

Goal: **Ensure Mississippi's Service Delivery System included prevention and outreach.**

Strategy (ies)

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8. **(Removing) Barriers**

Goal: **Remove barriers to mainstream and targeted services**

Strategy (ies)

- Examine statutory and regulatory laws to identify barriers.

## **Mississippi Academy Notes**

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Day Three

### **GOALS:**

1. **Case Mangement:** Eliminate duplication and enhancing coordination of case management services;

**Strategy #1:**

Establish and operationalize a subcommittee – ICC on case management

Action Steps:

- 1-1 AG will identify and convene meeting with current case management provider agency (ICC);

- 1-2 Establish consensus on a definition of case management;
- 1-3 Conduct gap analysis;
- 1-4 Conduct quarterly meeting to strategize about removing barriers
- 1-5 Determine hoe to tap into existing resources and models.

2. Housing: **Ensure access to adequate affordable, available and accessible housing;**

**Strategy #1:**

Conduct an inventory of existing housing stock.

Action Steps:

- 1-1 AG will identify existing resources—task them to bring to next meeting;
  - VA inventory (Paul Matens)
  - MDA (SAM)
  - HomeCorp (Ben)
  - PHA
  - HUD ( Don Connolly)
  - ECD (Bill Biden)
- 1-2 Compile directory and establish clearinghouse (HomeCorp)
- 1-3 Update directory on an on-going basis

**Strategy #2:**

Partner with/public and private agencies to facilitate linkages between mainstream services and housing.

Action Steps:

- 2-1 AG and 3 CoCs will identify agencies (including mainstream services providers)
- 2-2 Provide education for AG about housing options/resources
  - meeting w/external consultant
  - meeting w/local agencies
- 2-3 Identify incentives for “buy-in”
- 2-4 Create joint resolution for partners to sign
- 2-5 Explore/Identify barriers to accessing housing

**Strategy #3:**

Exploring capital resources

Action Steps:

- 3-1 Identify all existing funding sources and compile a list (used/unused)
- 3-2 Get in touch w/VA about foreclosed properties (Paul Matens)
- 3-3 Check TAC website [www.tacinc.org](http://www.tacinc.org) about utilization of Section 8 vouchers

- 3-4 Become knowledgeable of National Housing Trust Fund as a model, contact external consultants for tech. asst.

**3. Coordination and Collaboration: Create coordinated statewide service system**

**Strategy #1:** Advisory Council of Homeless Providers/consumers

**Action Steps:**

- 1-1. Coordination of three Continuums; (MOUs, referral systems, etc.)
- 1-2 Identify/Recruit members form DOC, MDA, Employment & Training Division, State Health Officers/Consumer, Aletha Burge (3<sup>rd</sup> Continuum) Faith Based Representative.
- 1-3 Executive Order (After report submitted)
- 1-4 Set date for next meeting (February 21, 2003 – 2:00 p.m. – Jackson Medical Mall)

**Strategy 2:** Coordination of three Continuums; (MOUs, referral systems, etc.)

**Action Steps:**

- 2-1 Set-up meeting of three continuums
- 2-2 Develop and execute MOU
- 2-3 Explore possibility of Joint HMIS
- 2-4 Formal presentation to Advisory group
- 2-5 Compile demographic information

**Strategy 3:** Increase coordination and Collaboration between mainstream and targeted service systems;

**Action Steps:**

- 3-1 Identify stakeholders with authority (DHS, mental health, health department, DOC. particularly w/statewide applications) MS primary health care assoc. (MPHCS)
- 3-2 Work w/ hospital association to determine # of homeless using emergency services;
- 3-3 Memorandum of cooperation @ joint funding, removing barriers, etc.,
- 3-4 Get letter from Governor;
- 3-5 SSA involvement
  - contact Paul Barnes about local representative to present at a meeting about SSA or for literature data;
  - explore grants from SSA for outreach w/homeless population
  - get SSA data on transient populations receiving SSI

**4. Consumer Involvement**

**Goal: Increase consumer involvement in policy and program development**

**Strategy #1:** Create forum of involvement of current or formerly homeless consumers in mainstream services statewide, including policy and program development:

Action Steps:

- 1-1 Identify mainstream services that include or are supposed to include consumers (mandated to or not);
- 1-2 Identify models for successfully including consumers;
- 1-3 Provide training for consumers to empower;
- 1-4 Find ways to provide support for involvement (i.e., stipends travel and/or access to computers, etc).
- 1-5 Try to have more than one consumer

**Added 2/21/03 at follow-up policy meeting:**

Review of listed Goals and Strategies identified in Atlanta: For the benefit of new members, Roger described the purpose of this group (Academy) as it relates to creating and or developing strategies for access to Mainstream Resources.

Goals: The group voted to add a 5<sup>th</sup> goal and to set action steps. This goal related to HMIS.

**Goal 5: Establish an information management system.**

**Strategy #1: Create or identify a secure and accessible statewide HMIS system;**

Action Steps:

- 1-1 set-up meeting with three Continuums in state to discuss creating a statewide system;
- 1-2 evaluate existing data tracking systems – ROMA, Service Point, etc. across the state;

Goal 6: Increase education and awareness among policy makers and general public;

**Strategy # 1: Conduct sensitivity training for mainstream providers and public.**

Action Steps:

- 1-1 Identify agencies most likely to come in contact with homeless Individuals;
- 1-2 Establish a training tool for each group on sensitivity issues;
- 1-3 Expand Academy to include criminal justice representation;

1-4 Create a statewide website linked with/to a credible source;

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m..