

## **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