



# Opening Doors

*Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness :: 2010*



**2011**  
**Kansas Housing Conference**





# Overview

- ⑩ USICH
- ⑩ Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness
- ⑩ Plan Implementation
- ⑩ Call to Action
- ⑩ State Interagency Council on Homelessness
- ⑩ Resources
- ⑩ Q&A



# USICH Core Purpose

- ⑩ **Make an impact**: maximize the effectiveness of the Federal Government's contribution to preventing and ending
- ⑩ **Coordinate**: coordinate the federal response to homelessness
- ⑩ **Partner**: create national partnership at every level of government and with private sector to end and prevent homelessness



# Vision



⑩ **No one** should experience homelessness.

⑩ **No one** should be without a safe, stable place to call **home**.



# Goals & Targets



Finish the job of ending **chronic homelessness** in **5 years**



# Goals & Targets



Prevent and end homelessness  
among **Veterans** in **5 years**



# Goals & Targets



Prevent and End Homelessness for  
**Families, Youth, and Children** in  
**10 years**



# Goals & Targets



Set a path to ending all types of  
homelessness



# The Plan

## Increase leadership, collaboration, and civic engagement

1. **Provide and promote collaborative leadership** at all levels of government and across all sectors to inspire and energize Americans to commit to preventing and ending homelessness.



# The Plan

## Housing, Housing, Housing

**2. Provide affordable housing** to prevent and end homelessness.

- ⑩ Permanent supportive housing
- ⑩ Rapid Rehousing
- ⑩ Affordable housing



# The Plan

## Employment and Income

**3. Increase economic security** for people experiencing or most at risk of homelessness



# The Plan

## Health and Stability

**4. Increase health and stability** of vulnerable populations.



# The Plan

## Retool the crisis response system

**5. Transform homeless services to crisis response systems** that prevent homelessness and rapidly return people who experience homelessness to stable housing

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# Implementation Activities

- ⑩ Veterans and their families
- ⑩ Other families with children
- ⑩ Unaccompanied youth



# Veterans and their families

- ⑩ VA understands the new face of OEF/OIF Veterans
- ⑩ Increased focus on female Veterans and their families in DOL's HVRP program
- ⑩ Collaborative work to review barriers to mainstream programs for Veterans with families
- ⑩ Education and VA working together to ensure VA has information about educational rights of homeless children
- ⑩ Interagency push for PIT
- ⑩ Number of VASH vouchers helping Veteran families



# Collaboration - VA

- ⑩ VA Medical Centers have developed local VA 5 Year Plans; working with local stakeholders
- ⑩ USICH Council project: Improving access to mainstream programs for Veterans and their families
- ⑩ Education and VA: working together to improve understanding of the educational rights of homeless children
- ⑩ HUD and VA: improving data collection and reporting through 2011 PIT; Vets AHAR; HMIS



# Other families with children

- ⑩ Significant work on 10K Housing Choice Vouchers despite Congressional decision
- ⑩ Weekly interagency engagement
- ⑩ Common vocabulary discussion
- ⑩ HPRP
- ⑩ Engaging Education's state coordinator and local liaisons about local and state involvement



# Unaccompanied youth

- ⑩ USICH: increasing understanding through program visits and focus groups
- ⑩ Youth signature initiative: concept development
- ⑩ HUD and HHS: improving data collection and reporting through 2011 PIT; HMIS/RHYMIS
- ⑩ Significant dialogue among federal agencies and stakeholders
- ⑩ More interagency collaboration for foster youth and youth leaving juvenile justice



# Call to Action

- ⑩ Commit to goals and focus on results
- ⑩ Take action
- ⑩ Be active partners



# State Interagency Council on Homelessness

**Purpose:** coordinates the state-wide response to homelessness and helps insure alignment of state-wide and local plans with the vision, values, objective and strategies of Opening Doors.



# Purpose of a State Council

- ⑩ **Create** a state plan to prevent and end homelessness that assesses overall needs, coordinates resources, and promotes national best practices.
- ⑩ **Recommend** policy, regulatory, and resource changes needed to accomplish the objectives outlined in the state plan.
- ⑩ **Ensure** accountability and results in implementation strategies.
- ⑩ **Create a state wide partnership** with local government through Continuums of Care and Ten Year Planning Councils.
- ⑩ **Promote** a research-driven, performance-based, results-oriented plan and implementation strategy.
- ⑩ **Sustain** a non-partisan approach to address homelessness.



# Establishing a State Council

Establish a State Interagency Council on Homelessness through:

- Executive Order of the Governor
- Executive Order and Legislative Action
- Legislative Action



# Council Membership

## Stakeholders

- Faith-Based Representatives
- United Way and Philanthropic Groups
- Local Federal Officials
- Business and Corporate Representatives
- People with first hand experience of homelessness (currently or formerly)
- Local Continuum of Care Representatives
- Providers of Homeless Services, including Veteran - serving Groups
- State Advocacy Group Members



# State Council: Development of a State Plan

## Key Elements

- ⑩ Develop measurable goals to end homelessness
- ⑩ Create and coordinate statewide data collection and reporting system
- ⑩ Design collaborative inter-agency initiatives on institutional re-entry
- ⑩ Map out a state-wide production plan for permanent, supportive housing
- ⑩ Coordinate goals and tasks of Balance of State Continuum of Care with local continuums
- ⑩ Promote systems integration (e.g. health services and housing supports) to increase effectiveness and efficiency



# Relationship with Local Plans

State takes on issues beyond reach of local plans:

- ⑩ State wide data: HMIS
- ⑩ Prisoner re-entry policies
- ⑩ Coordination of state housing resources
- ⑩ Guide overall production of permanent supportive housing
- ⑩ Insure alignment of local plans with national strategies such as Housing First
- ⑩ Policy guidance to rural and small community plans



# Q&A

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# Q&A

[www.usich.gov](http://www.usich.gov)

[Michael.German@usich.gov](mailto:Michael.German@usich.gov)