COMMITTEE TO END HOMELESSNESS KING COUNTY

All Things CEH

an Update on CEH & Community Initiatives

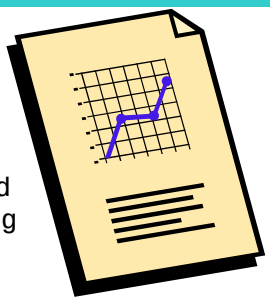
for December 2009

BREAKING NEWS AND INFORMATION

If you have an item of interest for the CEHKC community, please contact Kristine Gullin at kristine.gullin@kingcounty.gov

LOCAL NEWS & ACTION

2009 Progress Report for the Homeless Housing and Services Fund



The 2009 Progress Report for the Homeless Housing and Services Fund (local document recording fees HB2163 and 1359) is now available. These funds were created in 2005 and 2007 by the state legislature to help communities implement the Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness. This report provides information and data on the 29 projects that were up and running prior to the end of 2008. Projects start at different times and represent awards from three funding rounds. As a result, you will see that some are further along than others. The projects are serving a variety of populations in King County and all test different housing and service strategies for helping people who are homeless secure and maintain permanent housing. The report can be found on the King County website at www.kingcounty.gov/housing.

2010 Census

Preparations are under way to ensure every resident of Seattle is counted in the 2010 Census. Many community representatives are serving on the Seattle 2010 Complete Count Committee and are playing a critical role in helping Seattle reach communities that have been undercounted in the past. The majority of the undercounted populations in the last Census were people of color, immigrants and refugees, homeless people, and people with low incomes. The Census determines which states gain or lose representation in Congress and the amount of state and federal funding communities receive over the course of the decade. The 2010 Census will directly affect how more than $400 billion is allocated annually to local, state and tribal governments and will help shape decisions about future funding allocations.

If you want to help ensure that your community is counted, there are several ways to help.

- **Sponsor an Employment Recruitment Training Site**. The Census Bureau will be hiring more than 1,400 community people to work as "enumerators." Let us know if you have space available in your facility and can sponsor some enumerator testing sessions.
- **Sponsor a Questionnaire Assistance Center**. The Census Bureau is looking for accessible sites (a small private office) for a walk-in center that will be used to help people in completing their Census questionnaires.
- **Identify 'Be Counted' Sites**. Help identify public locations where people who believe they were not counted or didn't receive a Census questionnaire in the mail can pick one up.

If you're able to help, please contact Kenny Pittman, Office of Policy and Management, at 206-684-8364 or kenny.pittman@seattle.gov or Beverly Yapp, Seattle Human Services Department, at 206-684-0117 or beverly.yapp@seattle.gov.

McDermott Place Grand Opening December 12th!

The Low Income Housing Institute celebrates the grand opening of McDermott Place, 12740 – 33rd Ave NE Seattle, on **December 12th from 10am to noon**. McDermott Place will provide 75 permanent affordable units in the Lake City neighborhood for homeless individuals, with 38 of the units designated specifically for veterans. Please visit http://www.kingcounty.gov/socialservices/veterans/NewsFeatures.aspx to read the complete press release.

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Funding

RFI for Homeless Youth Employment Services

The City of Seattle Human Services Department (HSD) is offering experienced organizations an opportunity to request an investment to provide employment services to homeless youth and young adults, ages 15-22. The total available investment for employment services is $315,729 of City of Seattle General Funds and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) McKinney/ Vento Supportive Housing Program for March 1, 2010 – November 30, 2010. **Deadline for investment proposal submittals for this RFI is 5:00 p.m. on December 11, 2009.** Please review the RFI document at http://www.seattle.gov/humanservices/funding/ for the submission process and requirements. For more information, please contact Diane Pien at diana.pien@seattle.gov or 206-386-1142.

CEH COMMITTEE UPDATES

Governing Board

Co-Chairs: Dan Brettler and Kurt Triplett. Staff: Bill Block (bill.block@kingcounty.gov) and Laird Heia (Laird.Heia@kingcounty.gov). Meeting dates vary: Time: 8:30am – 10:30am. Location: YWCA Opportunity Place. Meeting Summaries of previous Governing Board meetings are available at www.cehkc.org

Recent Meeting: September 23, 2010

Reviewed 2Q Dashboard, current progress and challenges, McKinney application update, adopted Joint Legislative Priorities and CEH State Legislative Agenda, provided feedback on Funders Group work plan reports, nominated Monte Bridges, Superintendent and CEO of the Puget Sound Educational Service District (PSESD) to the Board, and began discussion around the question: "At what point of client progress does the homeless system stop its work?"

Upcoming Meeting: January 27, 2010, 8:30am – 10:30am
YWCA Opportunity Place – 2024 Third Ave, Seattle

Draft Agenda Topics: State Legislative session update. Other items TBD.

Interagency Council (IAC)

Co-Chairs: Stephen Norman and Sue Sherbrooke. Staff: Bill Block (bill.block@kingcounty.gov) and Laird Heia (laird.heia@kingcounty.gov). Typical Meeting Schedule: 1st Monday of the month, 2:00pm – 4:00pm, rotating locations (Seattle, Bellevue, Renton). Meeting summaries of previous IAC meetings available at www.cehkc.org

Recent Meeting: November 2, 2009

Katy Miller, KC Department of Community and Human Services, provided a review of the HHSF 2009 Progress Report that was recently presented to the King County Council. You are also able to view it online: www.kingcounty.gov/housing.

Bill Block, Project Director for CEH relayed information about the Hansen Dam Flood planning, specifically around sustaining people who are homeless in the Kent Valley. When possible, please raise the alert to those involved in emergency management in your areas to provide information on staging areas now.

Debbi Knowles, KC DCHS presented on the King County Family Homelessness Project (Gates Funded Initiative), specifically on the Housing Stabilization model. As background, the first stage of the King County Family Homelessness project is the landscape assessment, currently 100 pages long, which will be synthesized and widely distributed once it is complete. All the work builds on the Ten-Year plan strategies, drawing on current systems that are in place They are now developing the strategic plan that identifies specific strategies for filling the gaps and enhancing the systems identified in the first phase. Once the Plan is approved by the Gates Foundation, additional resources will be made available to help pay for the costs associated with bringing about the improved system changes identified in the Plan.

Housing Stabilization Model: To begin, families enter the system through a common point of entry and assessment or through an array of community members as a result of outreach/prevention efforts. Stabilization services would be

provided whether families come in through the common point of entry or through outreach/prevention efforts – before they are homeless.

The plan is to use knowledgeable, well trained, culturally competent intake specialists to assess each family's housing and service needs to determine the level of housing crisis they are experiencing. Those who are determined to be at a low risk of homelessness are linked to the appropriate community and mainstream services for assistance and do not enter the housing stabilization system. Those who are deemed at a high-risk of homelessness or are already homeless are quickly connected to an appropriate agency within the housing stabilization system for help.

The Funders Group Coordinated Entry for Families workgroup, which works closely with and shares workgroup members from the King County Family Homelessness workgroup, meets on a weekly basis and is pulling together the process flow and assessment tool for coordinated entry. The coordinated entry system will build on an existing infrastructure, like 211, where the initial intake assessment would occur. If enough "red flags" are raised in the initial 211 assessment, families will be set up with an appointment at a regionally considerate HUB, co-located in an existing agency, where another trained intake specialist will work with them through the next level of intake assessment.

Several Rapid-Re-housing demonstration projects funded by HPRP Stimulus funds from the County and City of Seattle and currently underway will use the newly developed assessment tool. Lessons learned from the use of the assessment tool with these projects will then be built into the final assessment tool for the King County Family Homelessness project. The Funders Group Coordinated Entry for Families workgroup will provide a proposed final plan by the end of the year.

All families, regardless of how they are assessed, are connected with a "housing stability" case manager working at one of the participating service agencies. This case manager works with the family to develop a plan for housing stabilization. Families that are at-risk of homelessness are provided with the appropriate level of assistance to remain housed or assisted to find a more stable housing situation. Families who are homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless are assisted to access non-time limited stable housing. In these situations, "housing search" specialists may work with the case manager and family to perform housing search and other related duties – with the ultimate goal, regardless of magnitude of intervention, to help families stabilize their housing. Stable housing includes: subsidized housing with or without services, non-subsidized housing with or without services, and permanent supportive housing. Interim housing is also an option if it fits the specific needs of the family. Again, the goal is to have a flexible system that provides the support and services that are needed to stabilize a family.

Housing stability case management is responsive to each family's needs and ebbs and flows during times of challenge and stability. It also connects families to additional community and mainstream support services that help them to maintain housing stability. Stable families that are seeking increased economic self-sufficiency are supported to connect with mainstream economic self-sufficiency services systems.

HMIS

The compliance status based on data input into Safe Harbors from January to September 24, 2009 shows: 84% of Emergency Shelter, 100% Safe Havens, 84% Transitional Housing, 60% of Permanent Supportive Housing data has been collected. The "Percent of Selected Data Collected by Program" report is generated monthly and sent to agencies to review and validate. It includes demographic data only and there are some challenges around the Data Integration agency numbers that are currently being worked. Though the percent of data collected is significantly improving, there is still a great deal of work to be done in the area of data quality. Safe Harbors will be working with agencies to make these improvements and agencies are encouraged to ask for assistance where needed.

Planning for Funding Expirations

Bill Block and Cheryl Markham framed the discussion of process/priorities/and decision making around funding expirations. The discussion highlighted the complexity of the data gathering process – even to simply determine which fund sources should be included and which should not. We will use all the time we have (approximately one year until the first set of funding decisions based on expirations/renewals, will be in front of us) with great efficiency in order to be appropriately prepared.

Upcoming Meeting: December 7, 2009, 2:00 – 4:00pm
Saint Mark's Episcopal Cathedral 1245 – 10th Ave E, Seattle

Draft Agenda Coordinated Entry for High Needs Chronically Homeless Single Adults

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Topics: report; Landlord Liaison project update; cross-county advocacy and outreach; state legislative update.

Consumer Advisory Council (CAC)

Chair: Rotating Staff: Bill Block (bill.block@kingcounty.gov) and Kristine Gullin (kristine.gullin@kingcounty.gov). Typical Meeting Schedule: 3rd Wednesday of the month, 6:00pm – 8:00pm at Plymouth Congregational Church. Meeting summaries of previous Consumer Advisory Council meetings available at www.cehkc.org

Recent Meeting: November 18,2009
Planning for the December 9th LGBTQ focus group. Recruitment discussion.

Upcoming Meeting: December 16, 2009 6:00pm – 8:00pm
Plymouth Congregational Church – 1217 Sixth Ave, Seattle

Draft Agenda Topics: Recap of the LGBTQ focus group, recruitment. Future CAC agenda topics and goals.

Single Adults Committee

Chair: Steve Roberts (steveSroberts@comcast.net) and Bill Block (bill.block@kingcounty.gov). Typical Meeting Schedule: Single Adults will meet quarterly in 2009, 2:30pm – 4:00pm at YWCA Opportunity Place, 2024 Third Ave, Seattle.

Recent Meeting: November 16, 2009
Discussed Client Care Coordination program, prevention for single adults, the employment initiative and Landlord Liaison Project.

Upcoming Meeting: TBD
YWCA Opportunity Place – 2024 Third Ave, Seattle

Families Committee

Co-Chairs: Doreen Cato & Dan McDougall-Treacy. Staff: Laird Heia (laird.heia@kingcounty.gov). Typical Meeting Schedule: quarterly or ad hoc from 10 am to Noon. FUTURE MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT WELLSPRING FAMILY SERVICES, 1900 Rainier Ave South.

Recent Meeting: October 5, 2009
Presentation on the King County Family Homelessness Project by Debbi Knowles, King County Department of Community and Human Services (KC/DCHS), Program Manager for the Project and Janet Salm, KC/DCHS.

Upcoming Meeting: Monday, January 25 (4th Monday), 2010, 10 – 12pm
Wellspring Family Services, 1900 Rainier Ave South.

Draft Agenda Topics: King County Family Homelessness Project work around the Continuum of Care to Housing Stability Plan, strategies and sequencing; final review of Coordinated Entry for Families.

Youth and Young Adult Committee (YYA)

Co-Chairs: Mike Heinisch, Brooke Scharnke Staff: Marci Curtin (marci.curtin@seattle.gov). Typical Meeting Schedule: 2nd Wed of the month, 2:00pm – 4:00pm, usually at the 2100 Building but may rotate.

Recent Meeting: November 18, 2009
Reviewed "Theory of Change" for addressing Youth Homelessness. Discussed: funding concerns and their long term impact, co-chair structure and nominations, plan for YYA presentation to the IAC.

Upcoming Meeting: December 9 meeting **CANCELLED.**
Next meeting **January 6 (NOTE DATE CHANGE)**, 2010

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2:00pm – 4:00pm
2100 Building – 2100 – 24th Ave S, Seattle

Draft Agenda Topics: Review and finalize the upcoming YYA presentation at the January IAC meeting.

Public Relations

Chair: Sherry Hamilton (sherry.hamilton@kingcounty.gov). Typical Meeting Schedule: 1st Tuesday of the month, 3:30pm – 4:30pm, Chinook County Office Building.

Upcoming Meeting: December meeting **CANCELLED**
Next meeting in January.

Legislative Advocacy

Co-Chairs: Marilyn Mason-Plunkett and Barbara Langdon. Staff: Bill Block (bill.block@kingcounty.gov). Typical Meeting Schedule: 2nd Tuesday of the month from 8:30am – 10:00am, DESC/DSHS shared building
2009 State Legislative Agenda

Upcoming Meeting: December 8, 2009, 8:30am – 10:00am
DESC/DSHS Shared Building – 2106 Second Ave, Seattle

Draft Agenda Topics: Coordination with other agendas; common messaging.

RELATED COMMUNITY MEETING UPDATES

Seattle King County Coalition on Homelessness (SKCCH)

The General meeting is the 3rd Thurs of each month, 9:00am -11:00am at E Cherry YWCA. Most attendees are providers or homeless community members and other concerned folks are welcome. Several standing committees also meet regularly (families with children; youth & young adults, single adults; advocacy). Learn more and sign up for meeting reminders at www.homelessinfo.org

Upcoming General Meeting: December 17, 2009, 9:00am – 11:00am
East Cherry YWCA – 2820 E Cherry Street, Seattle

Agenda Topics: SKCCH and WA Coalition for the Homeless priorities for the 2010 Legislative Session. Planning for Housing and Homelessness Advocacy Day (2/12/10) in Olympia. King County legislators will be present to speak about specific legislative proposals. Topics include: including people who are homeless as a protected group under Washington's Hate Crimes Law; reforming the Becca Bill; replicating the 1811 Eastlake Project in other parts of the state; increasing our WA State Housing Trust Fund.

Upcoming SKCCH Events:

SKCCH Racial Justice Initiative, Thursday, December 3, 2009, 12:00pm-1:30pm, Plymouth Housing Group 2113 Third Avenue, Seattle. Racial Justice in my agency, Part I: Staffing & Staff Training. For more information, please contact tconnor@plymouthhousing.org
Homelessness 101: Youth and Young Adult Homelessness, Wednesday, December 9, 2009, 6:00pm-10pm. To register and for additional information, please send first and last names, mailing address and preferred training date to homelessness101@gmail.com
SKCCH's Final 2009 Quarterly Case Manager Training, Thursday, December 10, 2009, 9:00am-11:00am, Plymouth Housing Group, 2113 Third Avenue, Seattle. Topic: Immigration: struggles, rights, and resources. Presenters include staff from Northwest Immigrant Rights Project. **FREE!** But please pre-register by sending full name, agency, and contact information to Dan Wise dawn@ccsww.org by Friday, December 4th or call (206) 228-4065

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Interfaith Task Force on Homelessness (ITFH)

The ITFH works among, between, and within the faith community and seeks to create the political will to end homelessness using targeted education, outreach and advocacy. Typical Meeting Schedule: 3rd Wednesday of the month, 12:00pm -1:30pm at St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral. Contact: Bill Kirlin-Hackett at itfh@comcast.net or call at (425) 442-5418.

Upcoming Meeting: December 16, 2009, 12:00pm – 1:30pm
Saint Mark's Episcopal Cathedral 2nd Floor Conference Room
1245 – 10th Ave E, Seattle

South King County Forum on Homelessness

Contact: Jason Johnson, City of Kent JaJohnson@ci.kent.wa.us. The SKC Forum on Homelessness meets the 1st Wed. of every month at 9:00am – 10:30am at the Kent Senior Activity Center to 1) keep South county service providers in touch with one-another; 2) share resources with / for SKC service providers; 3) receive updates and announcements of new or future projects; 4) to help bridge the disconnect between the homeless and services. Most attendees are planners or providers, though anyone is welcome to attend. SKC Forum on Homelessness web address: http://www.ci.kent.wa.us/humanservices/index.aspx?id=2728

Upcoming Meeting: December 2, 2009, 9:00am – 10:30am
Kent Senior Activity Center – 600 E Smith Street, Kent

Eastside Homelessness Advisory Committee (EHAC)

Contact: Arthur Sullivan ASullivan@bellevuewa.gov or Sharon Anderson sanderson@ci.kirkland.wa.us. EHAC coordinates homeless housing & service activities in East King County. Most attendees are planners or providers; though anyone is welcome. Typical Meeting Schedule: 2nd Thursday of the month, 2:00pm – 4:00pm, (NOTE: new time)First Presbyterian Church of Bellevue, 1717 Bellevue Way NE (just south of 520)

Recent Meeting: November 12, 2009
Update from Sophia Way (14-15 women housed to date) and St. Andrews Housing Group Project (additional 165 homeless units for individuals and families); special presentation on flood/H1N1 preparation from Public Health, Emergency Preparedness and KC/DCHS which included inviting the eastside shelter providers to participate in the current Seattle shelter meetings. Update from CEH. EHAC subgroup workplans review.

Upcoming Meeting: December 10, 2009 2:00pm – 4:00pm
First Presbyterian Church of Bellevue – 1717 Bellevue Way NE, Bellevue

University District Service Provider's Alliance Service Provider Team

Contact: Lindsey Nutting udsp.spt@gmail.com U-District Service Provider's Alliance share information relevant to working with homeless youth and young adults, program updates, and neighborhood updates. A service provider debrief follows each meeting. Typical Meeting Schedule: 2nd Wednesday of the month, 11:00am – 12:30pm, Street Youth Ministries Drop In, 4540 – 15th Ave NE

Upcoming Meeting: December 9, 2009, 11:00am – 12:30pm
Street Youth Ministries Drop-In – 4540 – 15th Ave NE, Seattle