

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

SAVE THE DATE!

Housing and Homelessness Advocacy Day is February 12, 2010 in Olympia and is a great opportunity to meet with your elected officials, network with fellow advocates, and attend workshops to become a more effective activist. Together we can change the conversation in Olympia and ensure that access to affordable housing is **preserved**. We will urge our lawmakers to **protect** resources such as Operations and Maintenance funding for Housing Trust Fund developments and GAU and tell them to **rebuild** our safety net by passing revenue as part of a balanced budget. [Register now!](#) Contact Michael Kelly, Mobilization Coordinator, 206-442-9455 x 203, Michael@wliha.org.



New Resource Website for Youth Programs: www.findyouthinfo.gov

This Web site was created by the Interagency Working Group on Youth Programs (IWGYP), which is composed of representatives from 12 Federal agencies that support youth programs. The site provides interactive tools and other resources to help youth-serving organizations and community partnerships plan, implement, and participate in effective programs for youth. Included are youth facts, funding information, and tools to help you assess community assets, generate maps of local and federal resources, search for evidence-based youth programs, and keep up-to-date on the latest, youth-related news.

The 2008 Safe Harbors Homelessness Management Information System (HMIS) Report is available. HMIS is central to our community's Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness. Since January 2008, all City of Seattle, United Way and King County-funded homeless services agencies have been required to participate in Safe Harbors. Safe Harbors, a project of Seattle, King County and United Way, is managed by the Seattle Human Services Department. Data from Safe Harbors will be used to shape policy around ending homelessness and inform partners' funding decisions. In 2008, 161 homeless programs fully participated in Safe Harbors. To see a copy of the most recent Safe Harbors report, click [here](#). For more information about Safe Harbors, please contact Sola Plumacher at 206-733-9404 or sola.plumacher@seattle.gov.

National News

House Approves \$1 B for NHTF. December 16, the US House of Representatives passed H.R. 2847, the Jobs for Main Street Act. The bill aims to create jobs and improve unemployment benefits. The bill would redirect unspent money from last year's Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP) to provide \$1 billion in initial funding of the National Housing Trust Fund (NHTF), as well as \$65 million for project-based vouchers. The project-based vouchers would be distributed in conjunction with NHTF dollars. H.R. 2847 would also provide \$1 billion for the Public Housing Capital Fund and also aims to extend unemployment benefits by providing an increase of \$41 billion to fund a six month extension of unemployment insurance. The legislation will now move to the full Senate. For more information go to <http://www.endhomelessness.org/>

Funding Opportunities

The King County Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS) is pleased to announce the release of a **Request for Proposal (RFP) for its Outreach to Minority and Women Veterans Project**. DCHS is accepting proposals from agencies to provide outreach services to connect minority and women veterans to veterans' benefits, services and other resources in a culturally appropriate manner. The purpose of this project will be to locate, identify, engage and refer minority and women veterans and their families, to veterans benefits, services and resources, and

other regional housing, health and human services available to them, providing advocacy and follow-up as needed. An RFP application packet is available on the Levy's website at:

<http://www.kingcounty.gov/operations/DCHS/Services/Levy/LevyRFPs.aspx> . You may also receive an application packet by contacting: Marcy Kubbs at marcy.kubbs@kingcounty.gov or calling (206) 263-9102 during business hours. A pre-proposal conference will be held January 20, 2010 from 9:30 am - noon at 401 Fifth Avenue, Room 115, Seattle, WA 98104. All applications need to be received by **4:30 p.m. on Friday, February 19, 2010.**

Events & Volunteer Opportunities

Special Thanks to all of you volunteer participants with the **Warm for Winter 2009 Project**. Warm for Winter would like to thank all of you gifted and creative knitters, crocheters, hat and scarf makers who have kindly contributed this Warm for Winter season. Thanks to all of your efforts 6,750 handmade hats and scarves were generously gifted to needy individuals across four counties.



January 20, 2010 – 1:00pm to 3:00pm, PSKS, 1814 Summit Avenue, Seattle, Lawyers Fostering Independence

All parents between 17 and 23 are welcome. If you are or have been in foster care or kinship care, you may be able to have a lawyer write your child's parenting plan for free. Young people need to RSVP for an accurate head count for lunch. Adults can come with them if it makes them more comfortable as well as their children. RSVP to Elaine Simons at e_simons@psks.org or (206) 726-8500 #1.

SKCCH 2010 One Night Count

Thursday-Friday January 28-29th 2010: The 2010 One Night Count of People who are Homeless (Street Count takes place VERY EARLY on Friday morning!) Everyone wants to know how to help with the One Night Count! SKCCH is immensely appreciative of the intense community support for the One Night Count. People willing to volunteer in South, East, and North King County, should contact the SKCCH office (206) 357.3149. (Note: all Seattle Count Teams are full.)

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

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: December 7, 2009

McKinney

The IAC received a review of 2009 McKinney Application submittal which included a total request for approximately \$21.7 million which includes 64 Supportive Housing Program (SHP) renewal projects (approximately \$14.7 million); 2 Shelter Plus Care grants (approximately \$5.4 million); and 2 Permanent Housing Bonus Projects (just under \$1 million). \$1.43 billion (essentially the same as announced in 2008) are available nationally for 2009.

HMIS

In 2009 the number of programs submitting data to Safe Harbors HMIS increased to 85% from 70% in 2008. In addition, this year Safe Harbors will be participating in the Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) which is worth an additional two bonus points in the McKinney Application. *(For those who don't know, AHAR is a report to the U.S. Congress on the extent and nature of homelessness in the U.S. The report is prepared by HUD and provides nationwide estimates of homelessness, including information about the demographic characteristics of homeless persons, service use patterns, and the capacity to house homeless people. The report is based primarily on HMIS data about people who experience homelessness during a 12-month period).*

Data Quality:

The primary challenge has been based on the transfer of data from Safe Harbors 1 to Safe Harbors II. Annually, HMIS provides an assessment for the CoC on Universal Data Elements for our annual One Night Count. Universal data elements include basics that all people have, for example: race, ethnicity, gender, etc. Safe Harbors 1 (2008 and before) allowed agencies to enter "don't know" (meaning the client tells you they don't know) and "refused" (client knows but won't inform) to answer any of these questions. The original HMIS data standards notice did not allow for don't know and refused responses. Based on this information, Safe Harbors II was developed without the "refused/don't know" categories. In the summer of 2009 HUD released new data standards and DID allow for the "don't know" and "refused" categories – which created a greater problem. When data from the old system transferred over to the new system, these fields didn't have a place to land, therefore causing null fields which decreased our data quality in several categories from the year prior.

A meeting will be set up by the Seattle Human Services department to answer any additional HMIS questions by IAC members and their Safe Harbors teams. In addition, HMIS will be on the IAC agenda each month to provide information on the system and its successes and challenges; and to receive feedback from IAC members on where improvements can be made.

Coordinated Entry via Client Care Coordination for High Need Chronically Homeless Adult Individuals

Lorri Cox, Project Manager for the program, shared the work currently being done to establish a coordinated entry system for high need chronically homeless adult individuals. The goal of the program is twofold: 1) to provide effective pathways for getting high need homeless adults (including those who are frequent users of public systems and those who are highly vulnerable) into appropriate supportive housing; and 2) to support the improved health and residential stability of chronically homeless individuals.

To achieve the goal, the team is creating a continuum of housing options that recognizes provider expertise for serving particular groups, e.g., criminal justice recidivists with mental illness and co-occurring disorders, that matches individuals to the permanent supportive housing placement that is best able to meet their needs; identifying gaps in the ability of current programs to meet client specific needs, e.g., nursing/medical; and making recommendations for future funding investments.

To date, an inventory of individuals who are high utilizers is under development. An initial high-utilizer list for the LIHI/SMH McDermott Place lease up was developed by querying regional data systems for homeless people and high utilization. Regional data systems include MHCADSD's mental health system for people enrolled in the RSN and who are coded homeless; King County Jail bookings (does not code homeless, but this allows for review of jail use among the homeless identified in the other systems. Municipal jails are not included in the query at this time); Sobering



All Things CEH

an Update on CEH & Community Initiatives

for January 2010

Center; and Psychiatric inpatient and psychiatric emergency services data systems.

The MHCADSD's Privacy Officer continues to pursue discussions surrounding the development of data sharing agreements with Harborview, Safe Harbors, Healthcare for the Homeless Network and the Department of Veteran's Affairs. Particularly important will be the inclusion of Harborview emergency department data to identify homeless people who are making frequent use of the Emergency Department.

A goal of Client Care Coordination (CCC) is to ensure that a balance of high-utilizers and the most vulnerable chronically homeless individuals are housed appropriately; that the right housing and services fits with the individual. The group of vulnerable individuals may be found on the Harborview high-utilizer list and in shelters, but not other traditional system lists. With appropriate data sharing agreements in place, and/or individual releases of information to Client Care Coordination, the future list will be a master list that combines high-utilizers and vulnerable individuals.

Housing Inventory: A first draft Housing Inventory was developed and distributed to funders and providers. The Funder's Production Report was used to identify all new units coming online in 2009 and 2010. Data categories include funding sources, target population(s), Chronic Homeless (CH) units, and the mechanism by which units for CH are to be filled. AHA, Compass, DESC, PHG, SMH, Transitional Resources and Valley Cities have provided information for all new and some existing units; LIHI and Community House Mental Health have also agreed to submit housing data. The inventory will be updated as new information becomes available from funders and providers as a result of 2009 NOFA awards.

Coordinated Lease up Process: A draft lease up protocol has been developed and presented to funders for feedback and approval. The purpose of the proposed protocol is to assure that when funders invest in supportive housing for chronically homeless people that they (the funders) have a voice in and sign off on the specific target population to be housed. Because multiple capital and service funders are typically involved in a given project, following this simple protocol will help assure that concerns and discrepancies are addressed as early as possible in the process. The intent is to assure that both funders and project sponsors have a shared, agreed-upon plan for the given project's target population and eligibility criteria.

Overall, the purpose of the program is to develop a master database to be able to fit people into the best fit of housing and services.

Landlord Liaison Project

Mona Tschurwald, Program Director for the Landlord Liaison Project (LLP), YWCA Homelessness Initiatives, educated the IAC on the work progress in the program. The goal of LLP is to increase access to both private market and non-profit owned rental housing for persons moving from homelessness to permanent housing throughout King County who have barriers that have prevented them from securing housing on their own.

The primary strategy of the project is to create incentives for landlords to relax their screening criteria for homeless people with barriers to accessing permanent housing. Barriers may include poor credit, criminal history or past evictions as examples.

Benefits to landlords participating in LLP include: vacant units filled with people who want to succeed in housing and have support through local social services agencies, access to LLP's 24 hour call-in line in case of problems, rapid response to concerns by partnering agencies and the YWCA, access to training, risk reduction funds for damages to a unit and a clear understanding of tenant funds to cover move-in costs, short term rental assistance and eviction prevention.



All Things CEH

an Update on CEH & Community Initiatives for January 2010

LLP by the Numbers: LLP currently has 39 partnering agencies/programs. Each agency/program receives an orientation when accepted into the program that covers expectations as a partner, client application process, and financial assistance forms and process. We have 103 households currently housed which include 196 different individuals. 41 households are currently active with the LLP team in housing search. We have served an equal amount of families and single adults. 71% of households are chronically homeless or have been homeless for a long period of time. 51% of all households have received some type of financial assistance from LLP. 19% of all households are veterans. We have 67 landlords/property management companies signed on as partners with LLP. This allows us access to 151 properties ranging from large, multi-unit apartment complexes to single family homes. We have been involved in 52 interventions/mediations (38 different households) with landlords and case managers with housed clients.

History and Future of LLP: LLP has been in operation for one year. The first task was developing the many materials needed to implement the program. In January 2009, LLP distributed information to the social service community with an invitation to apply to be a partner agency/program with LLP and held informational meetings. In December 2008, LLP began recruiting landlords throughout King County to partner with LLP and received their first client referrals in February. The first client households were housed in March 2009.

Because LLP is a new program we have sought feedback from providers and landlords throughout the process. We heard clearly from providers that two years of intensive case management prevented many agencies from participating in LLP. In summer 2009 we reduced the two year case management requirement to one year to allow more agencies to participate.

One of the trends we are clearly seeing with LLP is the increasing number of interventions we have been involved in. LLP staff anticipates that as tenants reach the end of their one year of case management the LLP team will be called upon more and more to intervene in order to prevent loss of housing. The LLP team has been extremely responsive to landlords' calls and is usually the first line of response when a problem arises.

The LLP wants to continue to find ways to serve those who are homeless who currently cannot participate in the program. We know that there are homeless individuals/families that have barriers which prevent them from obtaining permanent housing. Many do not need case management services to be successful in permanent housing. Our hope is to be able to serve those homeless households while ensuring that landlords continue to have support if problems arise.

Outreach and Advocacy

South County: Lynette Hynden, IAC member and Human Services Manager for the City of Federal Way, briefed the IAC on the work South King County (SKC) providers and planners are doing in the area of advocacy. Specifically, work groups have been developed to help move the SKC work forward in the areas of increasing the number of day centers and shelter beds; increasing the public and political will; and homeless housing development

East County: On behalf of Emily Leslie, IAC member, Karen Williams, Suburban Cities Outreach Director for the Housing Development Consortium (HDC) and the Eastside Homelessness Advisory Committee (EHAC) Outreach and Advocacy co-chair, reviewed the EHAC 2010 Advocacy Work Plan. The primary focus for the team in 2010 is to educate the local elected in the eastside cities on the subject of homelessness and housing affordability; work towards preserving municipal funding for homeless and affordable housing; ; participate in city planning, development, and ordinance activities; reach out to community, service and faith organizations; support local,



All Things CEH

an Update on CEH & Community Initiatives for January 2010

county, and state advocacy actions.

State: Bill Block, Project Director for the Committee to End Homelessness discussed the collaboration between CEH, Washington Low Income Housing Alliance (WLIHA), United Way of King County (UWKC) and Washington State Coalition for the Homeless (WSCH) to address our state legislative issues. The greatest current challenge is the state budget which shows a \$2.8 billion deficit. Within the overall state budget of approximately \$35 billion, only \$7.7 billion can be shifted around. The balance of the funds are mandated. The budget comes out on Wednesday and will be dire. In addition, the county is facing structural budget deficits.

Upcoming Meeting: January 11, 2010, 2:00pm – 4:00pm
Renton City Hall - 1055 S Grady Way, Renton

Draft Agenda Topics: Presentation by the CEH Youth and Young Adult committee on current best practices for helping homeless young adults; Combined NOFA awards, HMIS; nominations of new members.

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: December 16, 2009

Welcomed new member Ariyetta, a single mother from the eastside. Heard feedback on the LGBTQ focus group held on December 16th. Planned for 2010 including meeting discussions and membership recruitment strategies.

Upcoming Meeting: January 20, 2010, 6:00pm – 8:00pm
Plymouth Congregational Church – 1217 Sixth Ave, Seattle

Draft Agenda Topics: Membership Recruitment, Governing Board meeting, Funding Renewals and IAC CAC Representative Nomination.

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.

Upcoming Meeting: February 15, 2010, 2:30pm – 4:00p,
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 WELLSRING FAMILY SERVICES, 1900 Rainier Ave South.

Upcoming Meeting: Monday, January 25 (4th Monday), 2010, 10:00am – 12:00pm
Wellspring Family Services - 1900 Rainier Avenue S, Seattle

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.

Upcoming Meeting: January 6, 2010, 2:00pm – 4:00pm ***Note date change***
2100 Building – 2100 – 24th Ave S, Seattle

Draft Agenda Topics: Review and finalize the upcoming YYA presentation at the January 11th 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: January 5, 2010, 3:30pm – 4:30pm
Chinook Building – 401 Fifth Avenue Room 526, Seattle

Draft Agenda Topics: Review and finalize the upcoming YYA presentation at the January 11th IAC meeting.

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

Recent Meeting: December 8, 2009
Focused on coordination with Washington Low Income Housing Alliance, Washington State Coalition for the Homeless and United Way.

Upcoming Meeting: January 12, 2010, 8:30am – 10:30am
DESC/DSHS Shared Building – 2106 Second Ave, Seattle

Draft Agenda Topics: Preparation for session; coordination of Advocacy Day.

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: January 21, 2010, 9:00am – 11:00am

East Cherry YWCA – 2820 E Cherry Street, Seattle

Agenda Topics: BED BUGS! The Bad, the Ugly, and what can be done.
Also: U.S. Census Bureau plans for counting people who are homeless March 29-31 2010: Counting people in transitional housing and emergency shelters.

Upcoming SKCCH Events:

Wednesday, January 27th, 2010: SPECIAL TRAINING for staff at family emergency shelter providers participating in SKCCH's 24 Hour Family Turn Away Survey during the 2010 One Night Count. During the first hour of SKCCH's Families with Children Committee meeting (1/27/09 9.30-10.30 a.m. at E. Cherry St. YWCA), we will review the survey form and answer questions. Please make sure that at least one person from your agency attends. Questions? Please contact virginia@homelessinfo.org.

Thursday, January 28th 2010: Racial Justice Brownbag: Racial Justice in my agency, Part II:



COMMITTEE TO
END HOMELESSNESS
KING COUNTY

All Things CEH an Update on CEH & Community Initiatives for January 2010

Service Delivery. At Plymouth Housing Group (2113 Third Ave. in Seattle), from noon to 1.30 p.m. Contact Tara Connor tconnor@plymouthhousing.org for more information.

Thursday-Friday January 28-29th 2010: The 2010 One Night Count of People who are Homeless (Street Count takes place VERY EARLY on Friday morning!) Everyone wants to know how to help with the One Night Count! SKCCH is immensely appreciative of the intense community support for the One Night Count. There are two ways to help support the One Night Count:

- 1. Volunteer to Count.** People willing to volunteer in South, East, and North King County, should contact the SKCCH office (206) 357.3149. (Note: all Seattle Count Teams are full.)
- 2. Help make the One Night Count matter 365 nights and days a year!** Work with SKCCH and our members and allies to build public and political understanding of homelessness. Attend "Beyond the One Night Count" Advocacy 101 workshops on Saturday, February 6th, 2010. We will highlight top issues in Olympia and you'll take action during the workshop. RSVP TODAY by calling (206) 357-3149 or sending contact information to bonc@homelessinfo.org.

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: January 20, 2010, 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: January 6, 2010, 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: December 10, 2009
Workgroups met to continue work on their plans. Received reports on sub-teams. Encourage One Night Count participation.

Upcoming Meeting: January 14, 2010 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: January 13, 2010, 11:00am – 12:30pm
Street Youth Ministries Drop-In – 4540 – 15th Ave NE, Seattle