

Strategies

Action Steps

PRIORITY ONE: Housing – Closing the Gap		
Strategy 1.1	Establish dialogue between housing agencies and the Interagency Council	Action 1.1.1 Facilitate meeting with ICH, GFBCI, HUD reps, Housing Finance Authority, AAHRA (and others) to inform about activities of council, find out what housing agencies provide
		Action 1.1.2 Share meeting information with ICH and Policy Academy Teams
Strategy 1.2	Integrate the Continua of Care into the activities of the ICH and housing agencies	Action 1.2.1 Developing package/information for VISTAs to present/discuss with CoCs and to gather information from CoCs about their activities
		Action 1.2.2 Develop schedule and attend CoC meetings
		Action 1.2.3 Work with Housing Authorities to better understand their role within the CoCs during their State meeting
		Action 1.2.4 Work with CoCs to define their role within the ICH
Strategy 1.3	Further education and outreach	Action 1.3.1 Support educational programs on the housing first model.
		Action 1.3.2 Meet with CoCs to discuss housing issues
Strategy 1.4	Inventory of housing stock (including waiting periods)	Action 1.4.1 Work with CoCs to identify housing gaps
		Action 1.4.2 Partner with community leaders to map housing stock
Strategy 1.5	Maximize existing funding and identify additional resources	Action 1.5.1 Work with CoCs on how to have input on the Consolidated Plan
		Action 1.5.2 Expand partnerships (e.g., AHFA and Department of Mental Health)

PRIORITY TWO: To increase resources and access to services for individuals who are chronically homeless		
Strategy 2.1	Obtain additional data relative to individuals in Alabama who are chronically homeless	Action 2.1.1 Review data to identify service gaps
		Action 2.1.2 Review data to identify location and demographic data regarding chronically homeless
Strategy 2.2	Identify existing resources, improve access to services, and strengthen entire service delivery system	Action 2.2.1 Expedite access to SSI benefits - apply for SOAR Initiative and other SSI-related TA
		Action 2.2.2 Strengthen case management - identify opportunities and invite case managers to participate in trainings (e.g., SSI)
		Action 2.2.3 Establish workgroup to review promising practices identified within collaboration strategy
		Action 2.2.4 Develop a plan to disseminate promising practices, provide training for people across different systems, and evaluate the process and the outcomes
Strategy 2.3	Promote cooperation and service integration among providers	Action 2.3.1 Provide cross education through Alabama's communities regarding resources available to individuals who are chronically homeless
		Action 2.3.2 Maintain and develop ongoing education and networking among organizations providing services to individuals who are chronically homeless
		Action 2.3.3 Adopt a zero tolerance for policies and procedures leading into homelessness across the state
		Action 2.3.4 Identify and establish opportunities to increase services through interagency collaboration and additional funding resources (including MOUs)
Strategy 2.4	Develop new services	Action 2.4.1 Create workgroup to focus on services in rural and underserved areas
		Action 2.4.2 Review Alabama data about service gaps and needs

		Action 2.4.3 Examine State and Federal opportunities for funding (with old and new resources)
		Action 2.4.4 Work with existing efforts (e.g., Commission on Transportation, BlackBelt Commission, Strengthening Families Task Force)
		Action 2.4.5 Identify and assist with implementation of new services (e.g., transportation in rural and underserved areas)
PRIORITY THREE: To create an environment that supports collaboration, implementation, and funding to end chronic		
Strategy 3.1	Define and institutionalize relationship, roles, and responsibilities between ICH and Policy Academy teams	Action 3.1.1 Review Executive Order to ensure full and continued participation
		Action 3.1.2 Make recommendations to ICH about revisions to EO
		Action 3.1.3 Revise and integrate families and chronic plan
		Action 3.1.4 TA regarding structure of ICH/PA teams in other States
		Action 3.1.5 Convene first ICH meeting to examine structure, sustainability, etc.
Strategy 3.2	Identify existing and potential collaborative initiatives	Action 3.2.1 Identify stakeholders
		Action 3.2.2 Create communication network
		Action 3.2.3 Create profiles (services, funding, gaps)
		• Web site
		• State associations
		• Listservs
Strategy 3.3	Identify strengths and barriers to collaboration, implementation, and funding	Action 3.3.1 Utilize data
		Action 3.3.2 Educate funding sources

Strategy 3.4	Identify strategies to enhance partnerships, services, and blended funding	Action 3.4.1 Research other states' strategies
		Action 3.4.2 Identify promising practices
		Action 3.4.3 Create MOUs/MOAs
		Action 3.4.4 Adopt a zero tolerance for policies and procedures leading into homelessness across the state
Strategy 3.5	Develop promising practices brochure	Action 3.5.1 Identify and share promising practices in Alabama and other States (e.g., work VISTAs are already doing, SAMHSAs Web site, NAEH, TA from Policy Academy Initiative)
		Action 3.5.2 Create data/promising practices brochure and post on website
		Action 3.5.3 Identify appropriate format(s) - Web site, manual/technology
Strategy 3.6	Evaluate the current funding and maximize effective use of existing dollars	Action 3.6.1 Review/redesign policies/procedures
		Action 3.6.2 Encourage re-allocation of state/local funds
		Action 3.6.3 Insert appropriate allocation planning into existing planning activities (e.g., Consolidated Plan)
		Action 3.6.4 Develop incentives for community support
Strategy 3.7	Design mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation of outcomes	Action 3.7.1 Use of MOA
		Action 3.7.2 Service evaluations/performance measures
		Action 3.7.3 Review and revision of plan as necessary
PRIORITY FOUR: Data - Develop useful and meaningful data to construct an accurate picture of homelessness in Alabama		
Strategy 4.1	Identify existing data gathering activities	Action 4.1.1 Convene workgroup to look at existing data, survey instruments, collection mechanisms

		Action 4.1.2 Identify service gaps
		Action 4.1.3 Identify location and demographic data regarding chronically homeless
		Action 4.1.4 Tap into Technical Assistance regarding other States' activities
		Action 4.1.5 Partner with academic community (e.g., UAB, Auburn University)
		Action 4.1.6 Look at HMIS data
		Action 4.1.7 Pull information together and determine next steps (e.g., standardized survey, data clearinghouse)
		Action 4.1.8 Convene meeting with workgroup and ICH/Academy teams
Strategy 4.2	Conduct analysis of the cost of homelessness vs. provision of supportive housing	Action 4.2.1 Assess what cost information is already being collected and who's already looking at it (Universities, hospitals, AL Hospital Association)
		Action 4.2.2 Tap into TA regarding other States' activities
		Action 4.2.3 Determine what data is important to look at
		Action 4.2.4 Determine whether to intentionally add questions about cost to data collection efforts or create a new way to collect data
		Action 4.2.5 Implement activities and analyze data
Strategy 4.3	Develop a clearinghouse of data	Action 4.3.1 Compile data and create the clearinghouse
		Action 4.3.2 Education and use - MOU, legal issues
		Action 4.3.3 Performance measures and evaluation

PRIORITY FIVE: Education and Awareness

Strategy 5.1	Educate key stakeholders including legislators, state agencies, faith based community, private sector, providers and consumers	Action 5.1.1 Update materials developed for Executive Order and create a portable display panel
		Action 5.1.2 Display information and potentially present at upcoming homeless, Head Start, and fatherhood conferences
		Action 5.1.3 Continue to identify opportunities to present and display (e.g., CoC meeting, League of Municipalities)
Strategy 5.2	Create and implement an awareness/social marketing campaign	Action 5.2.1 Prepare standardized package of information and train people on how to deliver (e.g., Speakers Bureau)
		Action 5.2.2 Explore adapting current PSAs and working with universities to utilize facilities/resources
		Action 5.2.3 Approach local TV stations and radio about potential spots
		Action 5.2.4 Make materials available to local CoCs and others