

STATE OF COLORADO Homeless Families Action Plan

¹PRIORITY ONE: Obtain baseline data to capture numbers and situations to better create and allocate resources to those specific situations.						
Strategy(-ies)	Action(s)	Manager¹	Implementer²	Expected Outcomes	Benchmarks	Completion Date (Estimated)
Strategy 1.1 Create a comprehensive database that includes public, private, non-profit resources, services and housing for the homeless population.	Action 1.1.1 Explore with Mile High United Way the possibility of including such resources and services in their 211 system.	Tracy D'Alanno Tom Luehrs	Mile High United Way and 211 Sites	Expanded 211 Database of information about public and private services available	Agreement to move forward secured.	April 15, 2006
	Action 1.1.2 Inventory public services and resources for inclusion in the 211 systems.	Kathi Williams, Division of Housing	MHUW and 211 Sites	Comprehensive list of public assistance programs collected from across state departments.	Full list completed.	December 31, 2006
	Action 1.1.3 Increase awareness of this new resource.	Interagency Homeless Council-Education Committee	MHUW, 211 centers, KCNC 4, Interagency Council	Increased public awareness about the availability of 211.	PSA's developed and aired.	March 2007
Strategy 1.2 Implement a comprehensive HMIS Data System.	Action 1.2.1 Create a standard definition for the homeless populations in Colorado.	Tom Luehrs, Bob Holmes, Tom Powers, Tracy D'Alanno, Dana Scott	MDHI, IACH, CDE, BOS, and Homeward Pikes Peak	Improved collaboration and coordination across homeless service delivery system.	Standard definition created and agreed upon.	June 30, 2006
	Action 1.2.2 Supplement HMIS data with data from non-participating providers.	Tracy D'Alanno	Kevin Turntine, Tracey Stewart, Anne Beer DOH, SHHP, CCH,	Comprehensive view of homelessness statewide.	HTML/XML crosswalk developed and implemented.	August 30, 2007
	Action 1.2.3 Incentivise non-participating providers.	Kathi Williams	DOH, SHHP, CCH	Higher HMIS participation	Increased user rates.	January 1, 2007
	Action 1.2.4 Develop measurable outcomes for data being collected.	John Parvensky, Jennifer Perlman, Kevin Turntine	CCH, SHHP, Pikes Peak United Way, CDHS	Standardized outcome management across systems.	Integrated outcome management system with HMIS.	March 1, 2007
	Action 1.2.5 Aggregate, analyze, publish and disseminate data from HMIS.	Tracy D'Alanno, Anne Beer, Tracey Stewart, Kevin Turntine	CCH, SHHP, Pikes Peak United Way	Increased incentive for provider participation based upon information learner and availability of information.	Reporting capacity within HMIS developed.	April 15, 2006

Progress to Date	Barriers and/or Situational Changes	Immediate Next Steps (including potential technical assistance needs)
1.1.1 Initial meeting held with MHUW on March 6. 1.2.4 Collaboration with City of Denver Homeless Plan on outcome management plans. 1.2.5 Initial capacity for reporting developed March 1, 2006.		Follow-up meeting needed with Alicia and Rich at MHUW.

¹ The Manager is the individual responsible for coordinating each action.

² The Implementer is the individual (or entity) responsible for carrying out each action

PRIORITY TWO: Target Housing Resources For Homeless Families To Get Them Into Appropriate Long Term Housing As Quickly As Possible						
Strategy(-ies)	Action(s)	Manager	Implementer	Expected Outcomes	Benchmarks	Completion Date (Estimated)
Strategy 2.1 Develop Rapid Re-entry/Housing First approach for homeless families.	Action 2.1.1 Identify and address barriers that prevent families from moving from shelter to housing.	John Parvensky	CCH, IACH - Family and Children Committee	Barriers identified and potential solutions established.	Barriers identified Solutions identified	July 1, 2006
	Action 2.1.2 Provide technical assistance to shelter providers on developing “rapid re-entry” approach.	John Parvensky	John Parvensky – Policy Academy TA IACH – Family and Children Committee	Reduced incidence of length and frequency of family homelessness.	Pilot programs expanded and developed.	January 2007
	Action 2.1.3 Target rental assistance to support “rapid re-entry” programs.	Kathi Williams and Chris Highnam, Finessa Ferrell	DOH, SHHP, IACH – Family and Children Committee	Increased resource for homeless families	Project identified and implemented.	May 1, 2006
	Action 2.1.3 Identify family population types who are not appropriate for housing first approach and develop alternative housing with wrap around services.	Kathi Williams, Chris Highnam, Finessa Ferrell, Dana Scott	IACH – Family and Children Committee CDHS, SHHP, DOH, CCH	Continuum of homeless housing developed for homeless families.	Models developed Funding found	December 31, 2006
Strategy 2.2 Increase resources to support Housing First Model.	Action 2.2.1 Create incentives for housing developers/housing authorities to target units and rental assistance to homeless families. (TBRA & Section 8)	Kathi Williams and Chris Highnam	IACH – Housing Committee	More units available for housing first projects.	Pilot program developed. Increased participation from HA’s.	October 2006
	Action 2.2.2 Leverage TBRA and TANF resources to house homeless families in rural communities.	Kevin Richards, Chris Highnam, Kathi Williams	CDHS, DOH, SHHP	Increased collaboration between CDOHS and Local Affairs	Pilot projects identified.	July 1, 2006

	Action 2.2.3 Re-direct money from hotel vouchers to create long term housing options.	John Parvensky	CCH, County Human Service Departments	Reduced length of homelessness among families.	New policies developed and implemented.	July 1, 2007
	Action 2.2.4 Ensure adequate emergency shelter/services until family can move into long-term housing. (using TANF or other resources)	Kevin Richards, Chris Highnam, John Parvensky, Kathi Williams	CDOH, CCH, DOH – IACH Housing Committee	Increased emphasis on homeless prevention increased access to mainstream benefits.	Pilot projects identified.	July, 2007
Progress to Date		Barriers and/or Situational Changes		Immediate Next Steps (including potential technical assistance needs)		

PRIORITY THREE: Develop a seamless, coordinated, interagency process that improves access to mainstream services for homeless families and unaccompanied youth. (Incorporates participation in the seamless process from local communities, business community, faith-based agencies.)						
Strategy(-ies)	Action(s)	Manager	Implementer	Expected Outcomes	Benchmarks	Completion Date (Estimated)
Strategy 3.1 Increase easier access to the array of public and private services needed by homeless families.	Action 3.1.1 Use assistance center approach as a diversion option as well as an appropriate placement locator process.	Tracy D'Alanno, John Parvensky, Booker Graves	IACH – Family Committee CCH, CDHS, DOH	Homeless prevention services expanded. Decrease in family homelessness.	Diversion options identified. Diversion services offered at assistance sites.	April 2007
	Action 3.1.2 Create a “One Stop” Family Assistance Center Model – including education, employment, Food Stamps, training, Work force Center, etc...	Booker Graves, Kevin Richards,	IACH – Family Committee	Increased access to mainstream resources coordinated with private and faith based services.	Research into models completed, ideas developed, pilot projects started.	December 1, 2007
	Action 3.1.3 Create “Family Connection” teams include public/private to help mentor families to achieve success.	Tracy D'Alanno	IACH Family Committee	Wrap around services available to homeless families.	Teams developed and placed at assistance centers.	December 1, 2007
	Action 3.1.4 Blend housing practices and funding sources i.e. career development, job training, TANF, Food Stamps, Medicaid, SSA/SSI, etc...	Jaime Gomez,	IACH Family Committee and Housing Committee	Blended funding streams smooth access to public, private and faith based services.	Opportunities to blend funding identified.	December 1, 2007

	Action 3.1.5 Provide technical assistance & training for homeless providers to build greater capacity.	Tom Luehrs, John Parvenksy, Bob Holmes	Continuums of Care	Increased provider capacity and collaboration in homeless service delivery.	Training developed. Training conducted.	December 1, 2007
	Action 3.1.6 Increase the educational awareness, access and stability of homeless children and youth by coordinating and collaborating with CDE, local school districts, service providers, other government agencies and community groups.	Dana Scott	CDE, IACH Family and Children Committee	Increased housing stability among homeless families with school age children.	Homeless families provided intensive case management and services. Decreased movement of homeless students between schools during the school year.	June 1, 2007
Progress to Date		Barriers and/or Situational Changes		Immediate Next Steps (including potential technical assistance needs)		
3.1.1 Initial meeting held. TA needs identified. Research started.						

PRIORITY FOUR: Recommend the development of a comprehensive statewide homeless plan that incorporates the family homeless plan.						
Strategy(-ies)	Action(s)	Manager	Implementer	Expected Outcomes	Benchmarks	Completion Date (Estimated)
Strategy 4.1 Develop a comprehensive statewide homeless plan that incorporates the family homeless plan with the existing plan for chronic homelessness.	Action 4.1.1 Conduct regional forums to promote inter-jurisdictional & regional cooperation.	Kathi Williams	IACH and DOH	Information about community priorities and needs gathered throughout the state.	Regional forums conducted.	August 2006 - December 2006
	Action 4.1.2 Identify elements of the existing plan for chronic homelessness that are appropriate for homeless families & children.	Tracy D'Alanno,	IACH, SHHP, DOH	Identification of goals that could be incorporated across plans.	Crosswalk developed.	October 2006
	Action 4.1.3 Define and incorporate homeless family prevention activities in the state plan.	Chris Highnam	IACH- Family Committee, SHHP and CCH	Increased emphasis on homeless prevention reduces homelessness	Decrease in homelessness throughout the state.	December 6, 2006

	Action 4.1.4 Develop an education and advocacy plan.	Chris Roe, Lynn Shine	IACH Education Committee	Plan developed and agreed upon	Finished plan adopted by Council.	July 1, 2006
	Action 4.1.5 Partner with stakeholders to support development of the plan.	Chris Roe	IACH Education Committee	Community investment and participation secured.	Stakeholder participation in plan.	Ongoing
	Action 4.1.6 Identify timelines and funding sources for the plan.	Kathi Williams,	IACH			
Progress to Date		Barriers and/or Situational Changes		Immediate Next Steps (including potential technical assistance needs)		
1. Short summary of chronic plan and family plan completed. 2. Grid developed that analyzes state and local plans across major goals/priorities.						

ⁱ MHUW – Mile High United Way
CDHS –Colorado Department of Human Services
DOH – Colorado Division of Housing
SHHP – Supportive Housing and Homeless Programs
CCH – Colorado Coalition for the Homeless
IACH – Colorado Interagency Council on the Homeless
CDE – Colorado Department of Education
MDHI – Metropolitan Denver Homeless Initiative