

**Full Continuum Meeting and Conference Call  
October 9, 2008, 10:30 a.m.**

**Conference Call Number:** 309/298-3682

**Meeting Location:**

Western Illinois Regional Council, Macomb, IL, phone (309) 837-3941.

**Attendance:**

***Meeting Location***

Eileen Worthington, Area 3 Homeless Liaison Project, Macomb  
Tammi Lonergan, MCS Community Services, Jacksonville  
Suzan Nash, Western Illinois Regional Council, Macomb  
Royal White, Western Illinois Regional Council, Macomb  
Anne Lobdell, Western Illinois Regional Council, Macomb  
Heidi Prather, Salvation Army, Quincy  
Lori Sutton, Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs/WIU, Macomb

***By Phone:***

Glenda Farkas, West Central Illinois Center for Independent Living, Quincy  
Al Coleman, Regional Office of Education #22 Homeless Liaison, Quincy  
Joanna Eidison, Samaritan Well, Macomb  
Melissa Holden, YWCA, Quincy  
Cindy Grawe, Madonna House, Quincy  
Cheryl Esselman, Two Rivers Regional Council, Quincy

**Agenda**

1. Welcome
2. Housing Provider Update/Personnel Changes
  - a. Western Illinois Regional Council (WIRC): WIRC is at 100% capacity on their transitional housing units. WIRC is working with the housing developer on the 45 units of affordable housing in Macomb. It is anticipated the developer will be closing on the property next week. The property is on the east end of Macomb. There will be 2-3 bedroom units built. Hopefully groundbreaking will take place this season. These units will be available for lease/purchase. The units are a tax credit project so they will be leased for 15 years. At the end of 15 years, the residents can purchase the units at a reduced cost. The city council has been very supportive of this project.  
  
Suzan noted that the HUD field office is proposing to eliminate the ability of CoC's to lease Housing Authority units. This will impact WIRC and MCS's transitional housing programs. It appears that Illinois is the only state considering this change.
  - b. Salvation Army (SA): SA has six residents today and one new cook.
3. HUD CoC Grant Application
  - a. Grant application is looking good. The grant is currently due Oct. 16; however, HUD did send a note out stating the deadline will be extended 7 days due to applicants affected by Hurricane Ike. The official date will be released in the Federal Register.
  - b. Exhibit 1 needs to be available to its community for inspection (i.e. by request or post on website) and notify community members and key stakeholders that it is available upon request. The final Exhibit 1 will be available on the WCICCC's website ([www.wciccc.com](http://www.wciccc.com)) under the meeting notice area.

- c. HUD sent e-mail notifying applicants with problems with DUNS numbers. The YWCA's application was affected by this problem, but the problem is fixed.

4. Issues to be addressed in upcoming year:

- a. Increasing HMIS coverage, coverage reported in 2008 application (non-DV beds)

	Individuals	Families	Overall	Notes
Emergency Shelter	0% (0/36 beds)	0% (0/12 beds)		Salvation Army is expected to join the system this fall
Transitional Housing	3% (1/35 beds)	63% (52/82 beds)		
Permanent Supportive Housing (McKinney-Vento funded housing only)	NA (No beds available)	100% (53/53 beds)		
Overall HMIS Coverage of Non-DV Beds			49% (106/218 beds)	HUD minimum goal 65%

HUD has a minimum goal of 65% coverage. Currently, we do not have any coverage in emergency shelters. Salvation Army is expected to join the system this fall. Transitional housing does have some beds covered, but not at the 65% level. MCS Community Services is looking at restructuring their grant in order to offer interested housing providers financial assistance to join the HMIS. Some expenses that can be covered include internet costs, software, computer, and/or data integration from existing software. If ran through MCS's CoC grant, then HUD picks up 80% and the local agency picks up 20%. Many agencies don't have the extra funds to join without some type of assistance. There's a lot of leg work that needs to be done to figure out how this HMIS expansion will work, from looking at costs to seeing which agencies have an interest.

- b. Discharge planning: this item has been in the grant for several years. HUD expects each CoC to demonstrate its progress in working with the appropriate local government entity to develop and implement a discharge planning policy for persons leaving publicly funded institutions or systems of care in order to prevent such discharge from immediately resulting in a person entering into the homeless system. There are four systems of care HUD ultimately wants to see protocols addressed: foster care, corrections, mental health, and health care institutions. The state has put together protocols for foster care (DCFS) and corrections. Our continuum needs to work with the local providers to see if protocols can be developed for the other two areas.
- c. Point-in-time (PIT) unsheltered counts: An actual physical PIT count needs to be done every other year. January 28, 2009 is the next PIT date. The National Alliance to End Homelessness had a broadcast of PIT counts in rural areas. South Carolina representatives discussed how they did the count in 2007 and have information on their web site. Lori will pull some of the info to share with WCICCC. South Carolina did a service-based count where for a two week period; they asked clients about housing issues, including homelessness. The Salvation Army in Quincy has a soup kitchen and a bread pickup that would be good to try this strategy. (The bread pickup is located at 732 Hampshire, Quincy, Monday thru Friday.) The SA in Jacksonville and Macomb may provide meals, two other possible areas to try the service-based count.

- d. Glenda and Lori will start making monitoring visits to HUD CoC-funded agencies. Glenda was able to acquire the monitoring document that HUD uses. Over the next year, all three entities will be visited. Each agency will set up a time for the visit; MCS will probably be the guinea pig.

Melissa discussed how beneficial the HUD Startup Meetings are for learning new information. Darrell and Nora are at these meetings. There is also a new HUD Desk Guide on the HRE website.

5. HMIS User Meeting with Deb Little is scheduled for Thursday, October 23, 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at Lincoln Land Community College in Jacksonville, IL. Lori will meet with Melissa to develop some questions/issues to be discussed and distribute it to MCS and WIRC to add additional comments. The new DHS EFS report will require a lot of modifications to our system.

6. New Business

- a. Supportive Housing Provider Association, Annual Meeting, Oct. 14, 2008, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., University of Illinois at Springfield, One University Plaza, Springfield. No one from our continuum is able to attend the meeting. There is a document that Lori will send to the coordinator for our continuum. A discussion took place in regards to answering some of the questions on the document.
  - i. **Continuums greatest unmet need:** WCICCC's greatest unmet need is a need for emergency shelters in our continuum. There is only one emergency shelter located in the eleven-county region. An additional need is funds to carry out the services needed.
  - ii. **Continuums greatest advocacy issue around developing permanent supportive housing:** WCICCC's greatest advocacy issue is extra funds needed to carry out the services to assist clients. Many clients have exhibited great difficulties living on their own due to lack of skills to maintain housing.

7. Calendar for Upcoming Year

- Nov. 13, 10:30 a.m. Steering Committee Conference Call
- Jan. 15, 10:30 a.m. Steering Committee Conference Call
- Feb. 12, 10:30 a.m. Steering Committee Conference Call
- March 12, 10:30 a.m. Full Continuum Conference Call
- April 9, 10:30 a.m. Steering Committee Conference Call
- May 14, 10:30 a.m. Steering Committee Conference Call
- TBA Full Continuum Meeting