

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO.
ESTABLISHING THE KANSAS INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS**

WHEREAS, the State of Kansas is dedicated to the health, safety, and security of all its citizens; and is committed to ensuring that all Kansans have access to appropriate, safe, decent, accessible, and affordable housing of their choice; and

WHEREAS, the State of Kansas recognizes the adverse affect that homelessness and near homelessness has on individuals and families; and that homelessness creates barriers to safety, health, education and full productive participation in one's community; and

WHEREAS, consistent with the Governors' initiative for state government to work smarter and more efficiently while serving Kansans, it is imperative that a comprehensive and coordinated effort be developed so that strategies to alleviate and end homelessness in our State are implemented.

NOW THEREFORE, I create the Kansas Interagency Council ("Council) on Homelessness and direct the heads of the following state agencies and instrumentalities, or their designees, to participate in the Kansas Interagency Council on Homelessness: Kansas Department of Aging; Kansas Department of Commerce; Kansas Department of Corrections; Kansas Department of Education; Kansas Department of Health and Environment; Kansas Department of Labor; Kansas Department of Social & Rehabilitation Services; Kansas Development Finance Authority, including the Kansas Housing Resources Corporation; Kansas Human Rights Commission; and Kansas Juvenile Justice Authority.

In addition the following organizations are invited to have a representative on the Council: the Veterans' Administration, the independent living centers for persons with disabilities, Kansas Legal Services, Health Care for the Homeless, Kansas Association of Community Action Programs, the Kansas chapter for the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved, Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition, Kansas Coalition Against Sexual and Domestic Violence, the Topeka Rescue Mission, Inter-Faith Ministries' and Catholic Charities.

The purpose and charge of the Council shall be to:

1. The Council shall draw upon existing resources to identify and prioritize efforts to prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless.
2. The Council is to engage in planning activities to ensure that the resources of each State agency are utilized in the most efficient and effective manner to support the goal of the elimination of homelessness.
3. The Council shall identify and utilize federal, state and other funding opportunities to address and alleviate homelessness within the State.
4. The Council shall work to identify causes and effects of homelessness in Kansas and make recommendations to policy makers and other interested parties.

The President of the Kansas Development Finance Authority, or designee, shall convene and preside over the meetings of the Council. The Council will meet as determined by the chair of the Council.

This document shall be filed with the Secretary of State as Executive Order No. ____ and shall become effective immediately.

Governor Kathleen Sebelius