

Policy Academy for State and Local Policymakers Improving Access to Mainstream Services for Persons Who are Homeless: Focus on Homeless Families with Children

*La Posada de Santa Fe
Santa Fe, New Mexico
November 26-28, 2001*

Agenda

Objectives:

- To assist State and local policymakers to develop an Action Plan intended to improve access to mainstream health and human services that are coordinated with housing for homeless families with children;
- To create and/or reinforce relationships among the Governor's office, State Legislators, key program administrators, and stakeholders from the public and private sectors;
- To provide an environment conducive to the process of strategic decision making; and
- To assist State and local policymakers in identifying issues or areas of concern that may result in a formal request for technical assistance.

Monday, November 26, 2001

3:00 p.m.	Registration	[Montana Ballroom Foyer]
5:00 p.m.	Working Dinner	[Montana Ballroom]

Welcome and Opening Remarks

- **Lynette Araki, Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)**
 - Videotape greeting from HHS Secretary Tommy G. Thompson
- **John Garrity, Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)**
 - Videotape greeting from HUD Secretary Mel Martinez
- **Lawrence Bartlett, Health Systems Research, Inc. (HSR), Facilitator**

Introductions of State Team Members, Faculty and Resource Persons Brief Presentations by Each Team

7:30 p.m.	Adjourn
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Tuesday, November 27, 2001

- 7:30 a.m. **Registration and Light Refreshments** **[Montana Ballroom Foyer]**
- 8:15 a.m. **Overview of the Day** **[Montana Ballroom]**
– Lawrence Bartlett
- 8:30 a.m. **Personal Account: A Formerly Homeless Mother Recounts What Helped Her and Her Children Get Out (and Stay Out) of Homelessness**
– Michele McNurlin, St. Elizabeth Shelter
- 8:45 a.m. **State Teams Response to the Personal Account**
- 9:30 a.m. **What We Know That Works: Identifying Evidence-Based Practices and Best Practices Models for Homeless Families – What Are the Policy Implications for States?**
– Phoebe Soares, Better Homes Foundation
- 10:15 a.m. **Elements of a Successful Action Plan/Charge to the Teams**
 - The Vision
 - The Reality Assessment
 - Priorities/Goals
 - Strategies/Tactical Plans
 - Action Steps/Work Assignments
- 10:30 a.m. **Break**
- 10:45 a.m. **State Team Session One: Vision Statement and Reality Assessment**
 - **Vision Statement** (finalized based on draft developed by State Team prior to Policy Academy)
 - ◆ Statement of purpose
 - ◆ Picture of Team’s ideal future (independent of current reality)
 - ◆ Reference point for all future decisions
 - **Reality Assessment**
 - ◆ Inventory/review of: current programs/activities, key challenges, previous policy actions, current political environment
 - ◆ SWOT Analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats)
 - ◆ Provide context
 - ◆ Identifies resources

12:15 p.m. **Working Lunch: Exploring Opportunities for Family Self-Sufficiency – Examining the Role of TANF and the Impact of Welfare Reform** **[Montana Ballroom]**

– Nancy King, Massachusetts Department of Transitional Assistance

1:30 p.m. **State Team Session Two: Reality Assessment (continued)**

2:30 p.m. **Break**

2:45 p.m. **State Team Session Three: Priority Setting**

- **Goal/Priority Setting**
 - ◆ Gaps between the Team’s vision statement and the current reality
 - ◆ Areas to focus energy and limited resources
 - ◆ Basis for planning, policymaking, and setting performance standards

Homework Assignment: State Teams are to prepare for tomorrow’s Poster Session by developing materials that depict your Team’s action planning-to-date including your written vision statement, reality assessment, and goals/priorities.

5:00 p.m. **Adjourn**

Wednesday, November 28, 2001

8:00 a.m. **Poster Session: Informal Exchange among State Team Members and Faculty** **[Montana Ballroom Foyer]**

9:00 a.m. **Overview of the Day** **[Montana Ballroom]**
– Larry Bartlett

9:05 a.m. **Making the Connection Between Housing, Services and Successful Outcomes**
– Ann Denton, Enterprise Foundation
– Mark Johnston, HUD

10:00 a.m. **Break**

10:15 a.m. **State Team Session Four: Tactical Planning**

- **Realistic Strategies/Tactical Plans**
 - ◆ Broad-ranging tactics requiring statewide or cross-agency efforts
 - ◆ Usually involves the combination of several courses of action
 - ◆ Should be directly related to Team’s goals and priorities
 - ◆ Includes identifying technical assistance needs

- 12:00 p.m. **Working Lunch: Facilitated Roundtable Discussions [Montana Ballroom]
on Specific Issues/Topics**
- 1:00 p.m. **State Team Session Five: Action Steps**
- Specific activities to be undertaken based on strategies
 - Required action from specific individual or entities
 - Considerations:
 - ◆ Who is responsible for coordinating each action?
 - ◆ Who is responsible for completing each action?
 - ◆ What resources are required?
 - ◆ What is the timeline?
 - ◆ Who will be affected?
 - ◆ How will success be measured (benchmarks)?
- 3:15 p.m. **State Team Report-Outs with Faculty Feedback**
- Teams outline their Action Plans
 - Discuss progress and key barriers/challenges identified during the Policy Academy
 - Discuss how the initial vision, priorities, strategies and/or action steps may have been reinforced or changed
 - Outline next steps and timeframes
- 5:15 p.m. **Wrap up and Next Steps**
- 5:30 p.m. **Adjourn**

Policy Academy for State and Local Policymakers
Improving Access to Mainstream Services for Persons Who are Homeless

sponsored by:

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families
The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
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Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Office of Community Planning and Development
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