



United States Interagency Council on Homelessness

Preventing and Ending Homelessness in the United States

Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness

Public Comment Fact Sheet

The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) has provided unprecedented opportunities for public comment into the development of the Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness. USICH provided the framework and principles to all key stakeholders for public comment prior to the drafting of the Plan. USICH has invested significant resources and time to secure public comment into the development of the Plan. This comment period has occurred from early February through March 22, 2010 and included participation from:

Regional Stakeholder Forums

Region 1 Regional ICH	2/9/2010	Boston
Region 1 Community	2/9/2010	Boston
Region 2 Regional ICH	2/9/2010	New York
Region 2 Community	3/5/2010	New York
Region 5 Regional ICH	2/22/2010	Chicago
Region 5 Community	2/22/2010	Chicago
Region 6 Regional ICH	2/23/2010	Dallas
Region 6 Community	2/23/2010	Dallas
Region 9 Regional ICH	3/2/2010	San Francisco
Region 9 Community	3/2/2010	San Francisco
Region 10 Regional ICH	3/3/2010	Seattle
Region 10 Community	3/3/2010	Seattle
Total		652 participants

Other Stakeholder Forums

NAEH Leadership	2/10/2010	Los Angeles
NAEH Invitation	2/11/2010	Los Angeles
NAEH Open Meeting	2/12/2010	Los Angeles
Congressional staff	3/12/2010	Washington, DC
Total		125 participants

Stakeholder Conference Calls

Mayors Conference Call	3/9/2010	
National Health Care for the Homeless Council		
Consumer Advisory Board	3/10/2010	
Total		83 participants

Listening Sessions with Workgroups

Chronic Homeless Workgroup	2/18/2010	
Community Workgroup	2/19/2010	
Families with Children	2/17/2010	
Veterans Workgroup	2/25/2010	
Youth Workgroup	2/17/2010	
Total		59 participants

Written Comments

From organizations/individuals/community experts unable to attend workgroups

Total **16 participants**

TOTAL **935 participants**

Online Comment Forum

USICH created an interactive website (<http://fsp.uservoice.com>) for the public to comment on the different themes of the Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness. HUD also posted a guest blog entry by Executive Director Barbara Poppe that invited people to comment on the site. The online comments and activity surpassed our expectations:

- The site attracted 7,734 visits
- 2,318 individual comments were recorded

Newsletter Announcements

Three separate electronic newsletters were sent to a distribution list of over 19,000 advocates, consumers, experts, and local/state/federal government officials announcing the stakeholders meetings and online comment forum:

- February 12, 2010 – announcement of stakeholder meetings
- March 1, 2010 – announcement of online comment forum
- March 8, 2010 – reminder and extension of comment period to three weeks

Speeches/Presentations/Advertisements

- Executive Director Barbara Poppe invited conference participants to the stakeholder meetings and online comment forum in two keynote speeches
 - National Alliance to End Homelessness' Annual Conference – February 12, 2010
 - HUD-VASH Case Management Models Conference – February 24, 2010
- Deputy Director Sharon Price invited conference attendees to visit the online comment website at the annual United Way Conference on March 20, 2010
- An advertisement was placed in eight of the North American Street Newspaper Association newspapers inviting comments via the online input forum
 - A conservative estimate for this circulation is 154,600