

MINUTES
Kentucky Interagency Council on Homelessness Meeting
May 19, 2009

The Executive Committee of the Kentucky Interagency Council on Homelessness (KICH) was held on Tuesday, May 19, 2009, 10:30 a.m., Eastern time, Capital Plaza Hotel, Frankfort, Kentucky.

Executive Committee Members Present:

Carol Beth Martin, for Secretary J. Michael Brown, Justice and Public Safety Cabinet
Laurie Dudgeon, Acting Executive Director, Administrative Office of the Courts
Margaret Plattner, for Commissioner Ken Lucas, Department of Veterans Affairs
Vicki Goins, for Director Mary Lassiter, State Budget
Lisa Beran, for Chief Executive Officer Rick McQuady, Kentucky Housing Corporation
Janie Miller, Secretary, Health and Family Services Cabinet
Joseph Meyer, for Secretary Helen W. Mountjoy, Education Cabinet
Gerald A. Neal, State Senator, Kentucky Legislature
Geri Grigsby, for Secretary Joe Prather, Transportation Cabinet
Penny Young, Executive Director, Homeless and Housing Coalition of Kentucky

Executive Committee Members Absent:

Jesse Crenshaw, Kentucky Legislature

Steering Committee Members Present:

Davey King, Kentucky Housing Corporation
Brigid Adams, for Wendy Hayden, Department of Corrections
Barbara Banaszynski, Volunteers of America of Kentucky
Tom Beatty, Cabinet for Health and Family Services
Susan Best-McWain, Kentucky Disability Determination Services
Kip Bowmar, Executive Director, Community Action Kentucky
D.W. Bouchard, Executive Director, Hazard-Perry County Community Ministries
David Christiansen, Central Kentucky Housing & Homeless Initiative
Monica Davis, for Mary Marshall, Education Cabinet
Michael Denney, Director, Health and Family Services
Walter Derricks, Community Representative
Heath Dolen, Cabinet for Health and Family Services
Eileen Dougherty, Homeless and Housing Coalition of Kentucky
Jason Dunn, Cabinet for Health and Family Services
Lynn Flynn, Advocacy Liaison, Cabinet for Health and Family Services
Marlene Gordon, Director, Coalition for the Homeless
Joe Hamilton, Jr., Louisville Metro Government
Vivian Johnson, Education and Workforce Cabinet
Shelly Benge, Kentucky River Foothills Community Action Partnership
Mike Hurysz, Northern Kentucky Housing & Homeless Coalition, Inc.
Patrick McKiernan, Department of Veterans Affairs
Tina Messer, Administrative Office of the Courts
Mary O'Doherty, Kentucky Domestic Violence Association
Andy Patterson, Phoenix Health Center
Gerry Roll, Community Foundation of Hazard-Perry County
Jennifer Oberlin, Department of Local Government
Jennifer Weeber, Hazard-Perry County Community Ministries

Others Present:

Carl Boes, Kentucky Association Regional Programs
Bill Embry, Faith Community Housing
Tony McVey, WUKY

KHC Staff Present:

Amanda Hermann, Kentucky Housing Corporation
Katie Meyer, Kentucky Housing Corporation
Carol Anne Sell, Kentucky Housing Corporation
Laurent Houekpon, Kentucky Housing Corporation
Melissa Benton, Kentucky Housing Corporation
Paula Johnson, Kentucky Housing Corporation
Keli Reynolds, Kentucky Housing Corporation
Karen Quinn, Kentucky Housing Corporation

Chairman Senator Neal called the meeting to order. The purpose of this Executive Committee meeting is to review specified materials, coordinate policy across the state on homelessness, and add staff in agencies who work with housing and services to help provide housing and services and to the homelessness.

Senator Neal stated that it was a great opportunity for the Executive Committee and the Steering Committee to come together to deal with some of the issues in the reports. Senator Neal also congratulated the committees on the work they have been engaged in and accomplished. He also gave a little background in what he has been involved in regarding these kinds of issues at another level in various roles. He said they are very important to his community, and also the state at-large, and that he is sensitive to the issues that come before this committee.

Senator Neal stated the inaugural KICH meeting was held on January 27, 2009, marked the beginning of the ice storm and the beginning of an opportunity for KICH to move forward with the unification stated by the Executive Order that created KICH and supported by Governor Steve Beshear.

Joseph Meyer made a motion that the January 27, 2009 minutes be approved. The motion was seconded and approved.

Senator Neal turned the meeting over to Gerry Roll, KICH vice chairman, to present a Steering Committee Report. Ms. Roll stated that she is the vice chair of the Executive Committee by virtue of being the chair of the Steering Committee. She is a citizen of Hazard and Perry County and a friend. She is encouraged to see everyone here today as she was on the January 27 during the ice storm.

KICH is working together to solve homelessness, not to treat the symptoms. Homelessness is something the nation has been looking at for a very long time, and Kentucky has taken homelessness seriously for at least the last 15 years as an organized group. KICH lost a bit of traction over the last four or five years. KICH was seen as very innovative across the nation for a very long time. KICH lost that momentum; however, KICH is starting to regain the momentum now, which is very exciting for those working on the ground in communities across the Commonwealth.

Ms. Roll acknowledged that because of the members' willingness to participate on the Executive Committee, there have been at least 13 new Steering Committee members. The new members are pretty heavy hitters across the state in all areas of work that impact people, certainly those people who are as vulnerable as the homelessness.

As cabinet secretaries and cabinet liaisons, it is important that they encourage participation on the Steering Committee. It is very important because that is where KICH can make the changes that need to happen to all work together. Ms. Roll acknowledged there has been some good participation and she particularly wanted to recognize Jason Dunn and Tom Beatty with the Cabinet for Health and Family Services who have been part of KICH for a very long time. Their participation has helped KICH facilitate a lot of changes.

The Steering Committee has five subcommittees. They are all active and have good participation and work very hard.

Services Subcommittee works on an initiative called SOAR (SSI, SSDI Supplemental Security and Social Security, Outreach Access and Recovery Program), which allows for programs to come together to help people access the resources they are entitled to and resources that will help them.

Prevention Subcommittee is working on legislation to obtain identification cards for the homeless. In addition, Protect My Kentucky Home Program for people who are in or near foreclosure and is part of the stimulus package. The subcommittee also provided some of the recommendations for those stimulus funds. In addition, they review other issues to help prevent people from becoming homeless, particularly with the Department of Corrections (DOC).

Public Will Subcommittee is charged with helping people understand what homelessness means in Kentucky. It is just not mental illness. It is children in schools, their parents and grandparents. People in this room may have been homeless at some time. Public will helps people understand what homelessness is and helps to create the will to change it. A related issue is the Point-In-Time Count, on which there will be a report a little later.

Housing Subcommittee is working on a plan that will help address rental and permanent housing needs so everyone in Kentucky can have safe, decent, and affordable housing.

Data Subcommittee analyzes the homeless numbers and helps KHC with the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). The HMIS is nationwide and has been used in Kentucky for several years. Information is put into the system on a person who may show up at one of the shelters or for state services for assistance. With HMIS, they can be tracked each time they utilize services.

There are lots of opportunities for state government representatives, nonprofit entities, and residents to be involved in helping to stop homelessness and solve this problem. That is why the Executive Committee is here today and what the members will hear throughout the day.

In the packet members of the Executive Committee received today, there is a letter addressed to Governor Steve Beshear. This letter was drafted to address several items that were discussed during the inaugural Executive Committee meeting. All of these are imminent opportunities presented by the American Recovery and Reimbursement Act (ARRA) funding that is coming to Kentucky. Ms. Roll encouraged everyone to take a look because it would be open for discussion later in the meeting. The role of the Steering Committee is to be a liaison between those that serve the homeless, the Executive Committee, and state government.

Ms. Roll asked for any questions. Kip Bowmar, executive director for Community Action Kentucky, suggested that in the future items representing the Steering Committee be reviewed by the entire Steering Committee before being released. Ms. Roll stated that this suggestion was well received and noted.

After the January 2009 meeting, the Steering Committee created a Regulatory Barriers Subcommittee that was charged with preparing for today's meeting. At that meeting, during discussion, the issue was raised and asked, "What barriers?" "What regulations?" "What do you mean there are things going on across the cabinets that are preventing us from providing the very services that we think we are providing?"

The Regulatory Barriers Subcommittee has prepared examples of these barriers. Senator Neal stated that this presentation is broken down into five parts starting with Patrick McKiernan, with the Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs, on Criminal Justice Reform.

Mr. McKiernan stated that he is an enthusiastic member of the Steering Committee and appreciates Senator Neal's support today and thanked all members of the Executive Committee. When KICH met in the fall to talk about KICH's future, the idea was discussed about legislation and barriers that might be removed without going to the legislature for permission or to pass a law.

Mr. McKiernan praised Secretary Michael Brown of the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet and his staff. They realized that they needed to make changes to effectively support Kentuckians in various ways and to save money, while unclogging the justice system. This also provided some beneficial opportunities for KICH as well.

The Justice and Public Safety Cabinet created the Criminal Justice Reform Report and recommended 50 changes to reform the penal code. Of those, 40 changes were received favorably. Mr. McKiernan noted the items below that impacted KICH.

- *Eliminate enhancement for second or subsequent possession of drug paraphernalia.*
- *Permit expungement of records for simple possession of controlled substances, paraphernalia, etc., with set thresholds (e.g., treatment, time post-conviction).*
- *Modify the current possession of cocaine felony offense to a reclassification of a misdemeanor offense for all quantities under one gram.*
- *Review sex offender registrant residency restrictions.*
- *Amend KRS 218A so that the classification or penalty for a subsequent drug offense is not elevated one level.*

Mr. McKiernan also noted the support for the Recovery Kentucky Program. With Secretary Brown's Criminal Justice Reform Report, recommendations will also help reduce costs.

Other items of support are:

- *Maintain financial support and sustainability by continued legislative funding of substance abuse program expansion.*
- *Provide local incentives to increase the use of alternatives to incarceration.*
- *Increase funding for treatment and vocational programs.*
- *Increase institutional staff to prepare inmates for their release into the community. Also, increase staff subsequent to inmate release per parolee ratio.*

Mr. McKiernan stated as a follow up:

- A new partnership is being established with the Department of Corrections, Kentucky Housing Corporation, and KICH to provide SOAR training to DOC regional staff.
- On April 23, 2009, Governor Beshear announced a task force to study solutions to help former inmates reenter their communities and reduce the likelihood of recidivism.
- KICH appreciates the leadership that Secretary Brown has provided to the Cabinet for Justice and Public Safety, specifically on the reentry prison population that tremendously affects Kentucky, homeless shelters, and available state and federal resources. Mr. McKiernan asked Carol Beth Martin of the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet to relay this message to Secretary Brown and thank him and his staff for their work.

Senator Neal asked Ms. Martin the status of the recommendations. Ms. Martin stated that two of the five were passed in legislation and the complete list is available on their Web site. The majority would require legislative action and their Criminal Justice Council is working to have as many items as they can to the next legislative session. Senator Neal asked if the recommendations were on a timeline. Ms. Martin stated there was no timeline for the recommendations.

<http://justice.ky.gov/NR/rdonlyres/BDCF06C8-EA6D-458D-ABFB-AA7A92E787A4/0/CriminalJusticeReformSecBrown120108.doc>

Melissa Benton of Kentucky Housing Corporation will e-mail the Criminal Justice Reform Report to the Executive and Steering Committees and ask Secretary Brown for an update on the remaining recommendations.

Senator Neal suggested the creation of an executive summary to steer a person around the 50 recommendations. He thinks it will be a very useful tool if the Criminal Justice Reform Report coincides with the effort and how it will impact KICH.

Ms. Roll requested the Steering Committee create a report that ties the Criminal Justice Reform Report directly to KICH's effort to end homelessness, how this will impact the issue of homelessness in Kentucky, and what is deemed as the solution in this report towards homelessness. Senator Neal stated that putting the two together would provide KICH with a meaningful tool.

Mr. McKiernan stated that Senator Neal's suggestion is an excellent example of how the state cabinet/agencies can work together to develop policies around homelessness. He also stated that by talking about the regulatory barriers and making the changes within other departments can affect our ability to do a better job with housing and homelessness.

David Christiansen of the Central Kentucky Housing and Homeless Initiative asked if one of the Justice's recommendations was coverage for substance abuse from Medicaid. Janie Miller, secretary for Health and Family Services, wanted to follow up on Justice's recommendation and how it would affect homelessness stating that KICH needs to coordinate those efforts. Secretary Miller stated that Medicaid does not provide coverage for substance abuse. This is not a matter of legislation but a matter of funding and would require budgeting and require the state budget process. Secretary Miller suggested that KICH look at priorities. The issues regarding funding need to come together – having everyone on the same page – being focused on the issue. Senator Neal stated this was an excellent idea and observation and would be an excellent tool with which to move forward.

Ms. Roll stated that the Steering Committee meets every other month and the committees meet the off month before the Steering Committee. The Executive Committee meets twice a year. Senator Neal suggested that the information be ready for review by the Executive Committee's next meeting.

Senator Neal then introduced and stated that Tom Beatty and Davey King would provide a presentation on the Homeless Prevention Pilot Project.

Tom Beatty from the Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse in the Cabinet for Health and Family Services conducted a presentation on homelessness prevention. In the 2004 General Assembly, legislation passed that created a pilot project to address homelessness prevention for Kentuckians being discharged from prisons, mental health facilities, and children aging out of foster care or other homeless shelters. Thanks to this legislation, the Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse started receiving \$100,000 a year from the General Fund in 2005. In 2009, legislation passed that will continue maintenance of this program; however, it will not expand this program.

In this pilot project, the client begins receiving guidance and services six months before being discharged to address their individual needs, find housing, locate services, and ensure they receive treatment to be successful in the community. The following agencies are involved in this effort: Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Louisville Coalition for the Homeless, Family and Children First – Urban (Louisville) and the Lake Cumberland MH/MR Board Rural.

In 2007, the number served from state prison was 54; mental health, 22; foster care, 11, totaling 87. Out of the 87, 3 returned to jail, 4 returned to a hospital, and 84 are receiving community support with 75 in stable housing. The state saved \$297,849; mental health facilities saved \$58,000; and the homeless shelters saved \$355,875, for a total savings of \$711,715 by utilizing this \$100,000 pilot project. This Homeless Prevention Pilot Program is currently in the Lake Cumberland area and Jefferson County. The goal is to expand this program statewide to realize more savings.

Mr. King stated he wanted to follow up on Mr. Beatty's remarks about being discharged. Each year KHC prepares a Continuum of Care application for homeless program funding from the federal government. One requirement of that very extensive application process is that KHC identify that Kentucky is involved in discharge planning at different levels with the Department of Corrections, mental health hospitals, and children aging out of foster care or other homeless shelters. This past year and as in previous years, KHC has not been able to maximize the points on the application, because of a lack of adequate discharge planning as a systematic process across the state.

Mr. King recognized Marlene Gordon, director of the Coalition for the Homeless in Louisville stating she was the brain child behind the study. Ms. Gordon contracted with the University of Louisville to prepare this report over a two-year period, 2004 and 2005. This study has helped shed light on the cost of homelessness at least in Jefferson County. However, some things can be taken from the study and translated into other parts of Kentucky. The full study is very thorough and detailed available online at [The Cost of Homelessness](#).

He then referred to [The Cost of Homelessness](#) Study – Coalition for the Homeless, Louisville. They looked at the cost information for 7,180 homeless persons in Jefferson County. They divided the costs into two categories: system costs and community costs.

- System costs
 - Jails and Prison: > \$14M
 - Central State Hospital: > \$10.5M
 - University Hospital: > \$42M
- Community costs – shelters, physical health care,
mental health care: > \$21.9M

The cost figures at the system levels when a person is homeless totals \$66.5 million. This is a huge impact and drain on resources based in that community. Also, the persons being housed accessed those community services with the costs totaling \$21.9 million.

Mr. King stated the system and community costs for a homeless persons totaled \$88.8 million for Jefferson County. The people were homeless and had a host of other issues that had to be dealt with because of their homelessness. The system and community costs for non-homeless persons totaled \$21.7 million. There is a potential savings of \$67 million.

Mr. Beatty said that the Homeless Prevention Pilot Project is a pilot program to see if it would work and if the savings would be realized. It was pointed out that the savings cannot be realized unless the program is expanded statewide.

GOAL: To establish the Homeless Prevention Project as a permanent project to support institutional discharge planning.

Recommendations:

1. Present the Homeless Prevention Pilot Project as a recommendation to the Prison Reentry Task Force.
2. Direct more funds to the project expanding the services across the state.

Senator Neal stated that this is clearly a relationship between the different programs. Perhaps an assessment is needed to show how they impact each other in a limited resource environment. Even though the economics of the state for funding are not there, the foundation for these types of programs must be laid, to be in place, and ready to implement as an educational tool for the legislative process itself.

Senator Neal introduced Brigid Adams of Department of Corrections and Marlene Gordon of the Coalition for the Homeless to present a report on Identification Cards.

Ms. Adams said that the Department of Corrections (DOC) houses 21,316 offenders in prisons and jails. The current problem is the offenders are released from prisons without identification, which creates a whole host of issues for them to reenter the community.

The Social Security Administration will not issue a duplicate card without a valid birth certificate and a state-issued ID. The Transportation Cabinet will not issue a state ID without a valid birth certificate and a Social Security card.

One of the main requirements of their release is to obtain a job. They are also given a check for money that was on their account. They cannot open a checking account or cash their check unless they have an ID. A check cashing business may waive the rules without the ID, but receives a certain percentage of their check. Additionally, to obtain housing and utility services, they cannot get a Social Security card and, in many cases, they cannot enter public buildings.

Some of the concerns are how DOC identifies the offenders. They are identified through court records and pre-sentencing investigation reports, which are conducted on any felony offender. Finger prints are confirmed from the time they are arrested through entry into the prison system. Also, there are transfer documents from the jails to the prisons and now DNA is required to be collected on any felony offender.

The DOC currently releases the offenders with a letter of identification. The letter is either signed by the warden of the prison they are released from or their probation or parole officer. The letter includes a photograph and identifying information.

Only a few circuit court clerks accept the letter of identification as ID. Currently, there is a pilot project in Jefferson County with the circuit court clerk that provides funds for offenders to receive their birth certificates, as well as funds and actually IDs. These funds are provided by a Justice Systems Grant. However, offenders outside Jefferson County still face those challenges and offenders from other states have additional challenges and a much longer waiting period to obtain their identification cards, sometimes up to six weeks.

There are efforts in other states, Indiana, Ohio, and Virginia, that are actively assisting offenders in obtaining identification prior to release. In Indiana, the Department of Transportation goes into the prison system and shortly before the offender is released, issues a photo ID at the prison. Ohio has a green release identification card that looks like a driver's license, essentially with all the same identification. The offender can take this card to the local clerk's office to receive the official ID card. Virginia has a series of paperwork similar to what Kentucky provides the offenders upon release.

Ms. Adams stated that the need for collaboration is great, as well as to adopt an agreeable solution to meeting the identification needs of returning offenders. In many cases, obtaining an ID prior to release will prevent homelessness for some offenders. Also, the fee for homeless and/or returning offenders needs to be waived.

Ms. Gordon explained that four years ago they started introducing a bill for a photo ID initiative. It is a major problem for people who are homeless. They languish in shelters, and they cannot get a job or into a building without an ID. The request is for one free photo ID to anyone who is experiencing homelessness in Kentucky. After negotiations with the circuit court clerks, the fee is \$2 for an ID. During the past four legislative sessions, the bill passed the House, but never was heard by the Senate.

The South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles issues IDs to persons who are homeless with adequate documentation, as used at Stand Down. The Stand Down/Project Homeless Connect in Louisville is a one-day triage for the homeless to remove all barriers. The circuit court clerk's office participates. Joe Hamilton of Metro Government was instrumental in this program. Over 200 IDs were issued on that one day. There were 803 people who attended. Of that number, 697 intake forms were completed and of those 131 veterans were identified and 150 ID cards were issued with no problem.

By providing IDs more efficiently, the offenders are not staying in the shelters and waiting up to six to eight weeks, paying \$50 for birth certificates, therefore costing the shelters additional money. The shelters are the poorest of the poor and are paying for photo IDs and birth certificates for the homeless.

To deal with this issue, Ms. Gordon said they created a pilot program with the Jefferson County Circuit Court Clerk's office for two years to address the need and gather more data. There is no homeland security risk. But, there is a great need for these individuals and their families to have a photo ID. They will then take the issue back to the Legislature with this data and evaluation by the Jefferson County Circuit Court Clerk's office.

The goal is to ensure that individuals who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness have access to a state ID.

1. Establish MOAs between Department of Corrections, Transportation Cabinet, Social Security Administration, and Office of Vital Statistics.
2. Establish MOAs between KICH and Transportation Cabinet, Social Security Administration, and Office of Vital Statistics.
3. Deputize Department of Corrections staff to issue state IDs from the prison prior to release.
4. Waive fees for homeless individuals and returning offenders who are deemed indigent.

This would be the first systemic barrier for people to return to their community.

Senator Neal asked what committee the bill went to in the Senate. Ms. Gordon stated it went to the Transportation Committee of the Senate and was never heard. The issue was homeland security. Senator Neal asked Ms. Gordon to communicate with him. Laurie Dudgeon from the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) would like an opportunity to review the current draft to see if there is a specific problem that AOC can possibly address. Ms. Dudgeon would also like to meet with Ms. Gordon, Justice, and Transportation on the piece of legislation that is introduced at the next legislature session. Ms. Gordon stated that it was suggested they start with the Senate.

Ms. Roll said that the KICH Steering Committee would coordinate with the AOC and the Justice, and Transportation Cabinet to review and make any input needed to revise the photo ID legislation before the Executive Committee's next meeting in September.

Mr. Christiansen stated that KICH may need to look at forming a Legislative Committee that deals with the issues and to simply target implementation strategies for each one of those legislative issues. Being better organized and prioritizing these great ideas will alleviate issues falling by the wayside.

Senator Neal suggested that members of the Executive Committee review all issues prior to the September meeting in order to prioritize these issues and formulate a strategy.

Senator Neal introduced D.W. Bouchard of Hazard-Perry County Community Ministries to present a report on Resources to Homeless Shelters.

It is in the best interest of both homeless people and the Commonwealth of Kentucky to have a strong, highly trained, and effective homeless shelter infrastructure. Having a safe, secure, service-rich environment generates success for homeless participants. Early and effective interventions with the homeless are needed to help keep them out of the far more expensive alternatives, like hospitals and correctional facilities. However, homeless shelters throughout Kentucky lack resources and many operate with minimal staff and at financial deficits.

In previous shelters, they utilized the following three sources of revenue. One is the Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH), secondly is Targeted Case Management, and third is SSI State Supplement. He stated that the shelters in Kentucky do not have access to these funds because of barriers.

Historically, in Kentucky, the PATH funds go to the Community Mental Health Centers (CMHC) and do not reach the homeless shelters. Funds through Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)/(CMHC) provide services to people who are homeless, have a mental illness, and may also have substance abuse issues. In addition, shelters located in CMHC regions that do not apply for PATH funds have no access to these dollars. PATH funding could be used in shelters to conduct mental health assessments, noting that 40 percent are mentally ill, and to provide screening and subsequent referral for homeless populations. The use of these funds would result in strengthening the shelter system and increasing revenue for mental health services through additional referrals.

Mr. Bouchard referred to the second pot of money, Targeted Case Management (TCM), which is a component of the U.S. Medicaid Program. It provides case management services for assessment, plan of care development, referral, related activities, monitoring, and follow-up. Targeted populations may include mentally ill adults.

.Across the country, homeless shelters are accessing TCM to provide services to their clients. In Kentucky, Medicaid-funded TCM services are restricted to the 14 community mental health centers for chronically ill adults. This is not a federal regulation, but a state regulation.

Mr. Bouchard referred to a general assistance that is in some states and which is similar to Kentucky's SSI State Supplement Program. Since 1977, Kentucky has maintained State Supplementation of the SSI Benefit Program. State Supplementation payments are for SSI eligible aged, blind, or disabled individuals who have insufficient income to meet their needs for care in a licensed personal care home or family care home or who must purchase caretaker services to prevent institutionalization. Across the country, these funds are used to offset the expense of shelter stays.

State Supplement in Kentucky goes to support people at personal care facilities, family care homes, and caretaker-in-home environments, but not in shelters. These shelters provide a place for individuals and families to live and coordinate necessary services to end their homelessness. Again, these shelters and the homeless would benefit greatly with the access of State Supplement funds.

Mr. Bouchard said the goal is to strengthen financial resources to serve the homeless. The first recommendation regarding PATH is to remove the administrative/regulatory barriers to allow PATH dollars to flow into qualified homeless shelters: (Cabinet for Health and Family Services → Department for Mental Health Developmental Disabilities and Addiction Services → Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse). Secondly, Targeted Case Management (TCM) is to remove the administrative/regulatory barrier to allow interested and qualified homeless shelters to provide Targeted Case Management services: (Cabinet for Health and Family Services → Department of Medicaid Services). Thirdly, SSI State Supplement is to remove the administrative/regulatory barriers by expanding the list of qualified residential settings to include homeless shelters: (Cabinet for Health and Family Services).

Senator Neal stated that with PATH there has to be a reason for regulatory barriers. Mr. Beatty responded that his department has traditionally forwarded the funds to the CMHCs. This was done by partnering the CMHCs with the homeless shelters. In Lexington, they partner with the HOPE Center. In

Louisville, they partner with Phoenix Health Center. In northern Kentucky, they partner with Welcome House. So, there are some partnerships. There are also small programs in rural Kentucky with ADANTA. Mr. Beatty stated that some states have a large number of small programs and some states may have a small number of large programs. Kentucky is funding the areas that have the most people, which is the urban region. Ms. Roll stated that shelters are not allowed to compete for those funds and the funds are only passed through the CMHCs. The demand is unknown, because the shelters have been unable to compete for the funds.

Mr. Beatty stated that it would be nice to have the freedom to contract any provider who is willing to offer those services. For example, several years ago, his agency did a Request for Proposals of the funds for the entire state and only the original service providers applied. The demand is there, but there is a limited amount of funds.

Senator Neal asked if there was a solution. Mr. Bouchard stated his solution would be that they reexamine where these funds go. He does not believe that PATH and TCM are necessarily best served in the CMHC. PATH dollars would receive a bigger bang for the buck if utilized in a homeless shelter rather than in a CMHC.

Secretary Miller questioned Mr. Beatty of the amount of funds being \$430,000 and whether those funds are being spent. Mr. Beatty stated all funds are being used every year. She also stated that federal funds are allocated to CMHCs that apply for the funds. The program is encouraging because it deals with transitioning from homelessness. In Kentucky, there is a statutory scheme that basically creates the CMHCs as the agencies at the local level to plan and fund. The Department for Mental Health disburses the funds, as well as federal, state, PATH and other grant funds, to the CMHCs. The questions are: should the historic scheme that Kentucky operates through the CMHCs be changed and are there enough funds from the federal government to open it up?

Senator Neal asked what if it was sent it to the CMHCs requiring them to collaborate with the shelters. Senator Neal also stated the amount of the funds is an issue. How should the criteria be written to get the funds to the shelters that would be most effective? Mr. Bouchard stated that TCM funds from the federal government have criteria for the shelters, for the persons served for, and the activities funded. This criteria could also be used to allocate PATH funds. Putting these funds in shelters would make certain the homeless are being providing faster and more effective resources by a highly trained staff.

Secretary Miller stated that while she does not disagree with the concept in terms of standards and what the homeless shelters provide, there are two different issues. First, regarding PATH, Mr. Beatty has talked about collaboration when granting those funds to any potential applicants in any particular region. Any CMHC that receives these funds needs to demonstrate a partnership with local homeless communities serving those individuals more broadly. The second issue is outpatient mental health services. This is a Medicaid-coverable service under Social Security. State fund match is a requirement. Where is it coming from? It is an expansion of the program, because it is opening it up to additional agencies. In the past, criteria to use TCM funds have been tightened by those federal regulations to almost making it impossible to use. Secretary Miller stated they are waiting to hear the results. Medicaid has rescinded parts of the criteria rules, but it is still unclear what the qualified provider criteria would consist of to provide those services. This is a broader policy issue.

The SSI state supplementation program is 100 percent general dollars going to support basic aging, blind, and disabled individuals who live in three settings: family care homes, personal care homes, and living with caregiver relatives.

Senator Neal stated that these items should be part of a KICH educational program, perhaps even part of a legislative condition.

Senator Neal asked for questions. There being none, he asked for a motion regarding the recommendations.

Mr. Meyer made a motion to approve a recommendation to establish a regulatory barriers subcommittee. Carol Beth Martin seconded the motion and it passed.

1. Establish Regulatory Barriers Subcommittee to continue to review barriers.

Mr. Meyer made an additional motion to approve the recommended items two through five that they be reviewed by the Steering Committee after they review the Criminal Justice Reform Report.

2. Establish MOAs between Department of Corrections, Transportation Cabinet, Social Security Administration, and Office of Vital Statistics.
3. Establish MOAs between KICH, and Transportation Cabinet, Social Security Administration, and Office of Vital Statistics.
4. Deputize Department of Corrections staff to issue state IDs from the prison prior to release.
5. Waive fees for homeless individuals and returning offenders who are deemed indigent.

Penny Young, seconded the motion, and it passed.

After discussion, Lisa Beran made a motion for the Steering Committee to gather information and prepare an executive summary of the recommendations six through ten prior to the Executive Committee's September meeting. The Executive Committee can then prioritize the recommendations for legislative action. Ms. Young seconded the motion, and it passed.

6. Present Homeless Prevention Pilot Project as a recommendations to the Prison Reentry Task Force.
7. Direct more funds to the project expanding the services across the state.
8. Remove administrative/regulatory barrier to allow PATH dollars to flow into qualified homeless shelters.
9. Targeted Case Management (TCM): Remove administrative/regulatory barrier to allow interested and qualified homeless shelters access to Targeted Case Management.
10. SSI State Supplement: Remove administrative/regulatory barrier by expanding the list of qualified residential settings to include homeless shelters.

Carl Boes stated that the CMHC would like to voice how the system helps the community. Ms. Young would like to be on the committee to review and be able to report back to her members.

Senator Neal introduced Rosemary Luckett of Kentucky Housing Corporation to make a presentation on the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP). Ms. Luckett stated that the purpose of the HPRP program is to provide homeless prevention assistance to households who would otherwise become homeless and to provide assistance to rapidly re-house persons who are already homeless. With this stimulus money of \$1.5 billion and the previous allocation of \$1.5 billion, it has doubled the funds for homelessness to \$3 billion.

The grantees will receive: State of Kentucky	\$12,157,352
Louisville Metro	4,870,830
Lexington/Fayette	849,668
Covington	<u>679,522</u>
	\$18,557,372

The sub-grantees are the nonprofits or local governments.

Eligible uses of the stimulus funds:

1. Financial assistance is available for rental assistance, security/utility deposits, utility payments, and moving costs.
2. Housing relocation and stabilization services are available for case management, outreach, housing search and placement, legal services (not mortgage), and credit repair.
3. Data collection and evaluation
4. Administrative costs (up to 5 percent)

Ineligible uses of the stimulus funds: In general, any activity covered by other Recovery Act programs, including mortgages or legal fees associated with retaining a mortgage, child care, employment training, construction or rehabilitation, transportation, medical or dental care, and credit card bills.

Eligibility requirements for assistance are, homeless or at-risk and both of the following: no other housing options and no financial resources or support network to get or retain housing. Also, at or below 50 percent the area median income and have an initial consultation with a case manager. Would this individual or family be homeless but for this assistance?

Timeline for these funds:

May 18, 2009	Deadline to submit substantial amendment to the U.S. Department of Housing Urban Development (HUD).
July 2, 2009	Deadline for HUD to respond to substantial amendments.
September 1, 2009	HUD anticipates having all grant agreements executed.
September 30, 2009	Deadline for grantees to have all funds committed and contracts in place.
October 10, 2009	First quarterly report due to HUD.

The criteria to expend the funds are as follows: Two years from date of grant agreement, 60 percent of funds must be expended. Three years from date of grant agreement, 100 percent of funds must be expended.

Secretary Miller asked who will be able to access the funds. Ms. Lockett stated that current homeless providers, Area Development Districts, schools, resource centers and local governments will be able to access these funds. Ms. Lockett stated that this is three times the amount KHC normally receives. Ms. Gordon stated that these funds are for only three years and no new programs should be created that cannot be sustained.

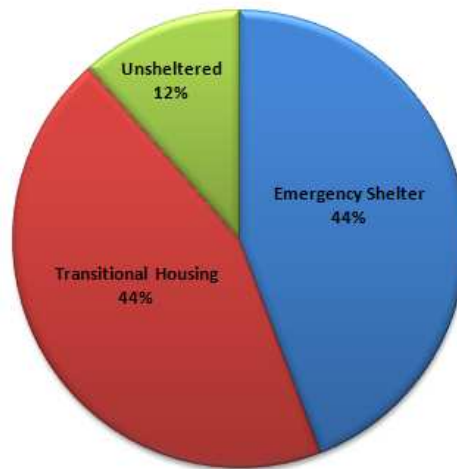
Senator Neal then introduced Davey King for his presentation on the Point-In-Time Count. Mr. King stated this is preliminary information and these figures and report will be presented by Governor Steve Beshear on May 29, 2009.

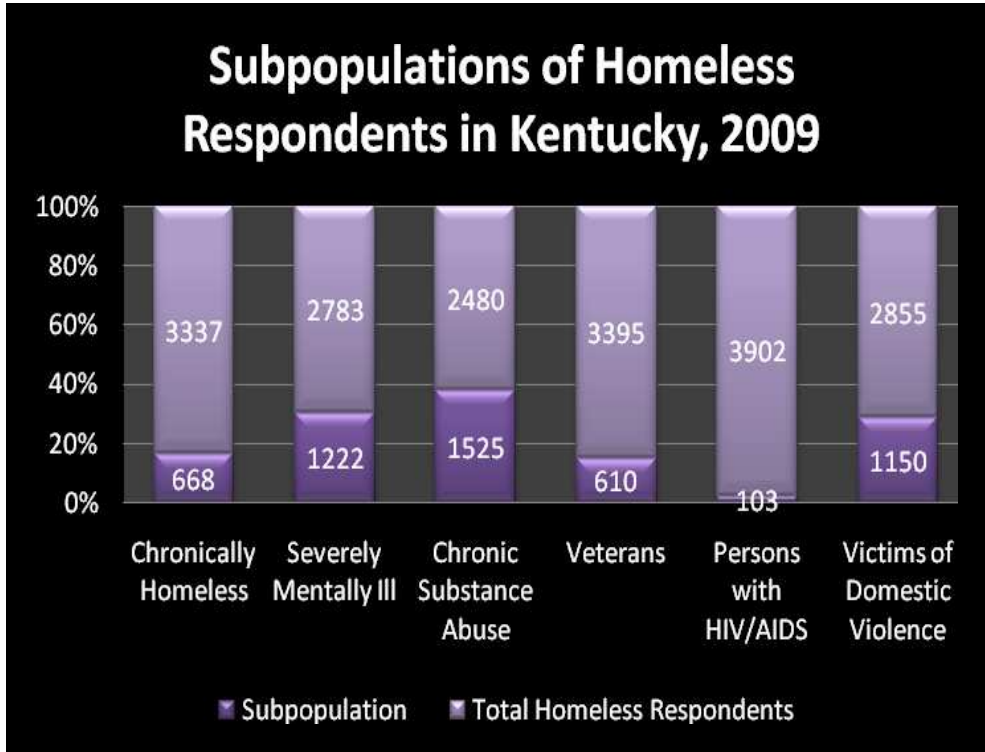
KHC is mandated by HUD every other year to conduct a Point-In-Time Count statewide of Kentucky's homeless. Kentucky conducts the count every year. Findings from the homeless count demonstrate the need for resources for housing and services for homeless persons in each community. The count also helps determine how much federal funding will be awarded from HUD for homeless programs. In addition, the count helps assess progress under *Kentucky's Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness* and provide important information for updating the plan.

KHC partners with Louisville and Lexington and for the Balance of State partners with the Continuum of Care regions. However, the 2009 Point-In-Time Count in the Balance of State was modified due to inclement weather. The sheltered count was conducted on Thursday, January 29, 2009, between 12 midnight and 11:59 p.m. The unsheltered count of the homeless took place on Thursday, February 19, 2009, between 12 midnight and 11:59 p.m.

Mr. King said that HUD defines chronic homeless as “an unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more **OR** has had at least four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years.” To be considered chronically homeless a person must have been on the streets or in an emergency shelter (not transitional housing) during these periods.

2009 Point-In-Time Count





Mr. King said that individuals surveyed may have dual diagnoses and have selected more than one of the categories.

**% Change
2008-2009**

Emergency Shelter
+32%

Transitional Housing
-4%

Unsheltered
-70%

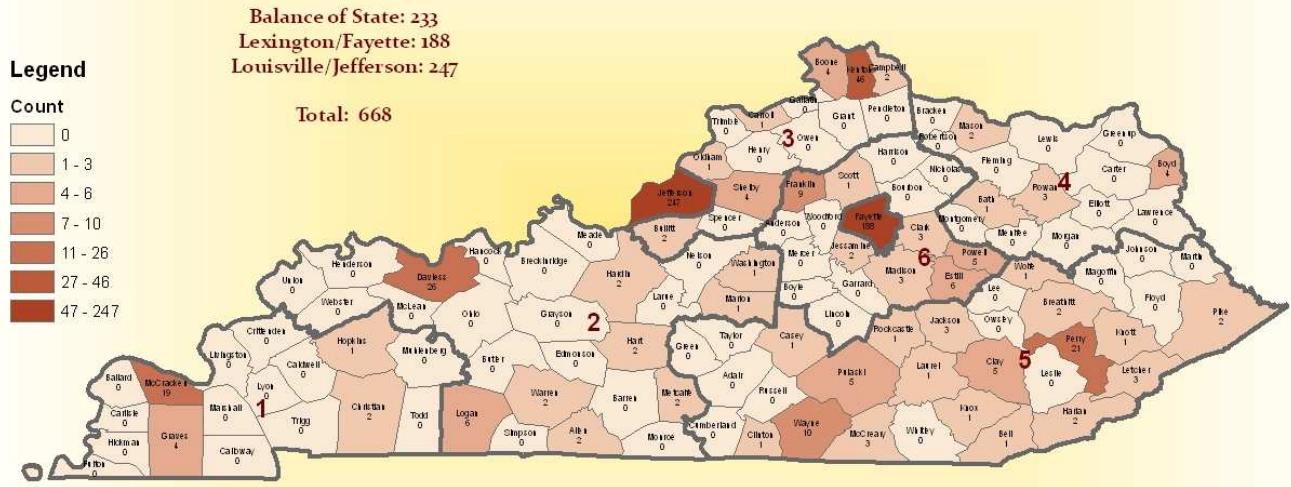
**Total Homeless
-21.5%**

Over the past two years, there have been lower numbers of homeless because of the inability to collect a full count.

2009 Kentucky Statewide Point-in-Time Count



Chronically Homeless Persons by County



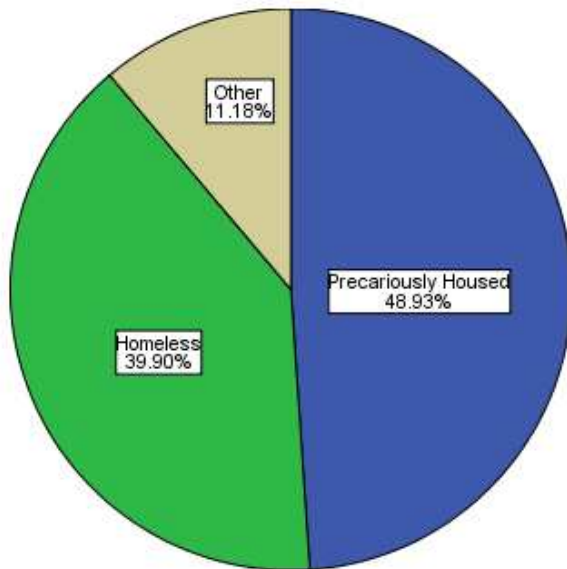
Note: The Point-in-Time Homeless Count is held annually. The count for 2009 was held on January 29 and February 19 due to a massive ice storm that affected most of the state.



Kentucky Housing Corporation
 April 20, 2009

As you can see on the map above, the number of chronically homeless in the golden triangle is considerably higher.

Make-up of Surveys Submitted in the Balance of State



The **Precariously Housed** definition included persons doubled-up, facing eviction, or living in substandard housing who could become homeless in the weeks ahead, which has the largest number of 48.93 percent of the chart and increased 4.4 percent from 2008.

The section **Other**, which is 11.18 percent, are those individuals who do not fit in.

The section of **Homeless** as defined by HUD is 39.90 percent.

The Department of Education has a broader definition of homeless and reports 17,700 students are homeless.

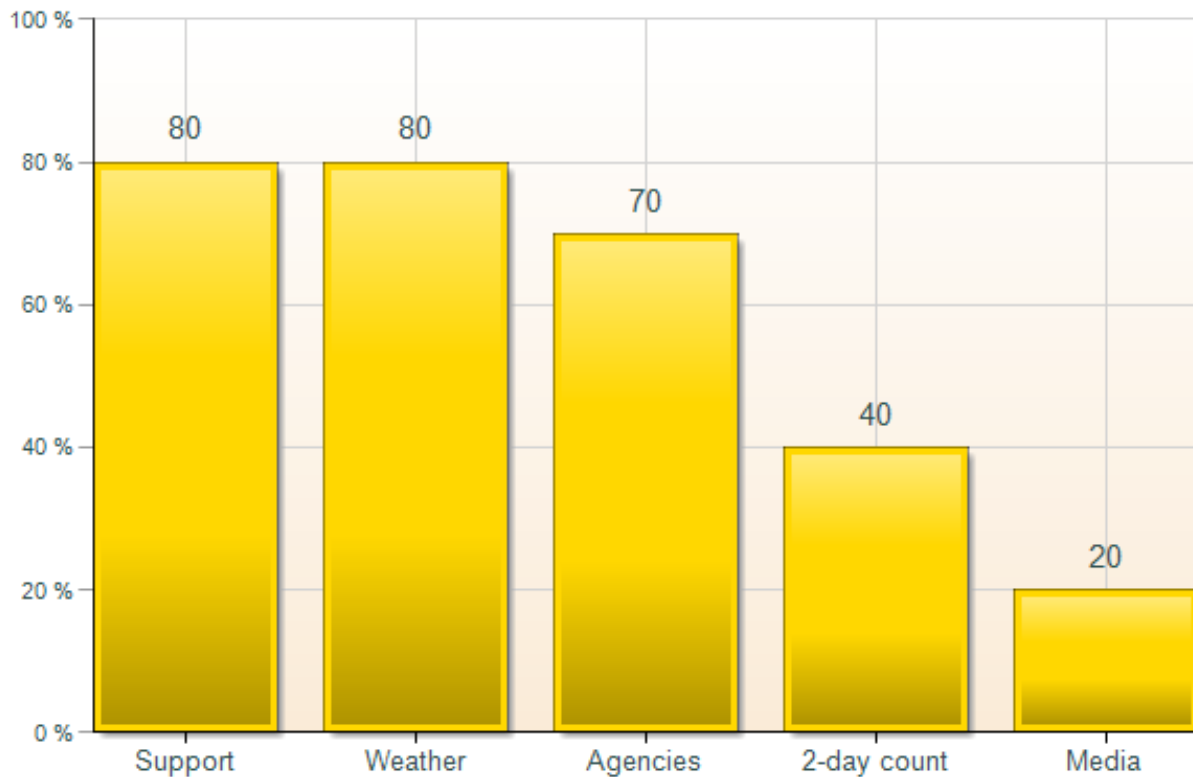
2008 -2009 total precariously housed % Change = +4.4%

Mr. King stated that in April 2009, the preliminary findings were reported to the Data and Public Will Subcommittees. The Public Will Subcommittee requested an assessment of the findings prior to the release of the PITC data. A survey of participating agencies indicated that 75 percent stated the ice storm had an impact on their count. Almost 30 percent state their agency was closed because of the storm. And, 78 of 124 respondents were not able to expand their geographic area.

In many cases, the volunteers were without power themselves as well as being misplaced. Some agencies were closed due to the storm, therefore having no services played a big part in the count. Some shelters had to be evacuated. There were power outages, roads closed, and shelters closed for long periods of time.

External Impacts

What series of factors might have impacted (positively or negatively) the 2009 Point-In-Time Count in your area? Additional feedback




Mr. King stated that the PITC Assessment resulted in the partners requesting a 62 percent increase for homeless services for more families.

Senator Neal asked why there was a decrease in the number of homeless. Mr. King responded that the ice storm played a big part in collecting the surveys. The momentum was up and the volunteers were ready to collect the data, but were delayed due to the ice storm. A second date of February 19, 2009 was set for the collection of surveys.

Mr. King stated that KHC and the Governor's Office are preparing talking points to introduce the 2009 PITC results. Senator Neal thanked Mr. King for the PITC presentation.

Mr. King stated that the 2009 PITC results and the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program information will be presented by Governor Steve Beshear at 10 a.m., Wednesday, May 27, 2009 in the state capitol in Frankfort.



Governor Steve Beshear,
Kentucky Interagency Council on Homelessness, and
Kentucky Housing Corporation
cordially invite you to attend a special event
unveiling a new, innovative homelessness prevention program and
updating the status of Kentucky's homeless population.
Wednesday, May 27, 2009, 10 a.m.

Senator Neal asked for other business and there was none. He asked for announcements. Ms. Benton stated that the Homeless and Housing Coalition will be having their annual conference in September in Lexington and has asked that the KICH Executive Committee meeting be held in conjunction with the conference.

Membership agreed that the KICH Executive Committee meeting in September will be held in conjunction with the Homeless and Housing Coalition annual conference.

There being no further business before the KICH Executive Committee, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully,

Paula R. Johnson

Paula R. Johnson