1. Call to order 2:00pm

- a. Welcome
- b. Attendance
- c. Review of Agenda
- d. Review of meeting minutes
 Motion to approve: No objections
- e. Next meeting: TBD



a. The purpose of this committee is to oversee the efforts and data provided by the ND VA homeless program with the goal of receiving support to move forward in the process of declaring functional zero for Veteran homelessness in the state of N.D. This would mean that the committee is in agreement that ND has established an effective housing crisis response system for Veterans.

b.

3. Feedback from USICH on benchmark and criteria data

a. Goal: Is the community able to identify all Veterans experiencing homelessness? USICH Feedback

Q: Are you working with the human service centers to identify homeless Veterans?

A: Yes –Communication with PATH(Projects assisting the transition from homelessness) workers is ongoing and they are invited to participate in Veterans By Name List.

Q: Tell us about the 11 unsheltered Veterans on your list.

A: In ND we have been tracking those that are UNSTABLY doubled up as unsheltered, given their unpredictable situations and harsh winters.

b. Goal: Is your community able to provide low barrier shelter immediately to any Veteran experiencing homelessness who wants it?

<u>USICH Feedback</u>

Q: Tell us more about emergency shelter in rural areas? Is there a low barrier option?

A: Yes, low barrier shelter available through emergency hotel funding from Supportive Services for Veterans and Families (SSVF) and the Department of Veteran Affairs (DVA).



c. Goal: Does your community have the capacity to assist Veterans to swiftly move into permanent housing (90 days or less)?

USICH Feedback

Q: Great job here! Veterans were housed in an average of 40 days.

d. Goal: Does the community have sufficient permanent housing? USICH Feedback

Q:Great job here! It looks like Veterans are being housed at a rate equal to the rate they are coming into the homeless system.

e. Goal: Are Veterans offered transitional housing only in limited instances? USICH Feedback

Q: What are options for transitional housing in rural communities?

A: SSVF and DVA can fund hotel stays for transitional housing in rural areas.

A: GPD in Fargo can be accessed by anyone in need across the state.

Q: If a Veteran from another part of the state wanted to access Grant Per Diem in Fargo, how would they get there?

A: The ND DVA and our local VSOs can aid with transportation (bus tickets, highly rural transportation grant, shuttle vans).

f. Goal: Have you ended long term and chronic homelessness in your community? USICH Feedback

Q: Tell us about the 11 chronic/LTH Veterans that are on your BNL

- 4 had been offered housing but initially declined (continue to be offered housing every 14 days)
- 2 had been offered housing but declined and instead chose to enter transitional housing (continue to be offered housing every 14 days).
- 5 had accepted an offer of permanent housing but remain homeless while waiting to move into the housing.

4. Continued focus and next steps:

- Unstably doubled up Veterans tracked, but no longer counted as unsheltered
- Continued BNL education / participation expansion
- Assure transportation for rural Veterans
- Easy access for rural Veterans to emergency shelter and transitional housing
- Engage and offer services to tribal areas while respecting tribal sovereignty.
- Landlord engagement and housing navigation
- Submit next 90 day look back of data
- Once approved by USICH, region by region approval to go public with declaration

5. Goal date for declaring an end to Veteran homelessness:

Early 2021

Committee Member Roll Call for 10/22/20 Meeting

ND Department of Veterans Affairs (NDDVA):

X Lonnie Wangen-Commissioner

ND Planning Committee to End Veteran Homelessness Chairman

701-239-7165

lwangen@nd.gov

Fargo Veterans Affairs Health Care Services (VAHCS):

X Diana Hall- Homeless Programs Supervisor

ND Planning Committee to End Veteran Homelessness Co-Chair

701-239-3700 ext. 3472

701-610-9230 (mobile)

Diana.Hall2@va.gov

X Samantha Navratil- Coordinated Entry Specialist

ND Planning Committee to End Veteran Homelessness Co-Chair/Secretary

701-239-3700 ext. 3483 Office

701-200-1013 (mobile)

Samantha.navratil@va.gov

ND Community Action Partnership (CAP) Directors

Andrea Olson- Executive Director, Fargo

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www.capnd.org

Chandler Esslinger- Statewide Program Director CAP ND

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ND Community Shelter Directors

____ Jan Eliassen- Director, Gladys Ray Shelter, Fargo

701-476-4117

JEliassen@FargoND.gov

Continuum of Care (COC)

X Shawnel Willer- ND COC Coordinator

701-328-8043

701-471-9926 (mobile)

smwiller@nd.gov

ND Association of County and Tribal Veteran Service Officers (NDACTVSO)

X Mary Vetter- President

Richland County

(701) 642-7807

maryvetter@co.richland.nd.us

ND Coalition for Homeless Persons (NDCHP) Andrea Olson- Executive Director, Community Action Fargo (represents CAP also) 701-232-2452 Ext 119 andreao@capnd.org www.capnd.org **ND Human Services-ND Homeless** X Nicole Berman-Behavior Health Division 701-328-8949 nberman@nd.gov **ND Housing Authority Directors** Jill Elliot- Deputy Director, Fargo Housing Authority 701-478-2551 jille@fargohousing.org Mark Austin, Minot Housing Authority Director markaustin@minothousing.com **ND Legislators ND Senate:** X **Kyle Davison-**Senator, Government and Veterans Affairs Chair 701-261-8703 (Mobile) kdavison@nd.gov Judy Lee- Senator, Human Services Committee Chair X (701) 282-6512 ilee@nd.gov https://www.legis.nd.gov/assembly/66-2019/committees/senate/human-services Dick Dever- Senator, Appropriations Committee- Lead for Human Services, NDDVA and Veterans Affairs X Budget. Chair of legislative veterans' caucus. Past GVA chair and Human Services member (701) 222-2604 ddever@nd.gov ND House: X Jim Kasper-Representative, Government and Veterans Affairs Chair 701-799-9000 jmkasper@amg-nd.com jkaspter@nd.gov

X Robin Weisz- Representative, Human Services Committee Chair

(701) 962-3799 rweisz@nd.gov

https://www.legis.nd.gov/assembly/66-2019/committees/house/human-services

https://www.legis.nd.gov/assembly/66-2019/committees/house/government-and-veterans-affairs

National Guard

X Warren Pauling (COL)

COL, EN, NDARNG NGND G1

W: 701-333-3013 C: 701-390-6608

warren.l.pauling.mil@mail.mil

X Al Palmer (General-Retired)- ND Air National Guard. Grand Forks area homeless

701-317-2284

apalmer310@outlook.com

<u>X</u> <u>United States Interagency Counsel on Homelessness</u>

Katy Miller

katy.miller@usich.gov

Veterans Home

___ Mark Johnson-Administrator 701-683-6501 mjohn@nd.gov

Family Health Care

<u>X</u> Pat Gulbranson – Chief Executive Director <u>Pgulbranson@famhealthcare.org</u>

FM Homeless Coalition

<u>X</u> Cody Schuler – Executive Director cody@fmhomeless.org

THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION! WE LOOK FORWARD TO GETTING MORE OF YOUR FEEDBACK AS WE WORK TOWARDS THE GOAL OF DECLARING AN END TO VETERAN HOMELESSNESS!

Welcome! 3rd ND Planning Committee to End Veteran Homelessness

Presenters:

Lonnie Wangen, ND Veteran's Commissioner

Diana Hall, VA Homeless Programs Supervisor, Fargo VA

Samantha Navratil, Coordinated Entry Specialist, Fargo VA

Planning committee members:

Andrea Olson, Executive Director CAP ND * Chandler Esslinger, Statewide Programs Director, CAP ND * Jan Eliassen, Director, Gladys Ray Shelter, Fargo * Shawnel Willer, ND COC Coordinator * Mary Vetter, ND Association of County and Tribal Veteran Services President * Nicole Berman, ND Human Services, Behavior Health Division * Jill Elliot, Fargo Housing Authority Director * Mark Austin, Minot Housing Authority Director * Kyle Davison, Senator, Government and Veterans Affairs Chair * Judy Lee, Senator, Human Services Committee Chair * Dick Dever, Senator, Appropriations Committee — Lead for Human Services, NDDVA and Veteran Affairs Budget. Chair of legislative Veterans' Caucus * Jim Kasper, Representative Government and Veterans Affairs Chair * Robin Weisz, Representative Human Services Committee Chair * Colonel Warren Pauling, ND National Guard * General Al Palmer, ND Air National Guard-Retired Katy Miller, United States Interagency Counsel on Homelessness * Cody Schuler, Executive Director FM Homeless Coalition * Pat Gulbranson, Chief Executive Director of Family Health Care * Mark Johnson, Administrator at the Lisbon Veteran's Home

AGENDA

2:00pm

Lonnie Wangen - Commissioner ND Dept. Vet Affairs

- Call to Order/Roll Call
- · Review of agenda
- Approval of meeting minutes 8/20/20

2:20 PM

<u>Diana Hall</u> - Homeless Programs Manager, Fargo VA Health Care System (VAHCS)

<u>Samantha Navratil</u> - Coordinated Entry Specialist Fargo VA

- Recap of benchmarks and criteria
- Discuss feedback from United States Interagency Council on homelessness
- Next steps and areas of focus

2:40 PM

Questions

2:55 PM

Lonnie Wangen - Commissioner ND Dept. Vet Affairs

- Closing statement
- Goal date early 2021
- Next meeting TBD

3:00 PM

Adjourn

PURPOSE OF COMMITTEE: Support for Declaration of Functional Zero

*Functional Zero: Does not mean there are no homeless Veterans in our state, but that as a state, with all our combined resources, we can make homelessness a rare, brief, and one-time occurrence.

Understand the goals that have been placed on us by the United States Interagency Counsel on ending Veteran homelessness.

Ask questions and give feedback on whether you agree that we are at a spot to declare functional zero. Do we have any gaps in our homeless crisis response system?

Committees' approval for VA to submit data to the United States Interagency Counsel on Homelessness for review.



United Stated Interagency Council on Homelessness

Feedback and questions regarding functional zero data

USICH QUESTIONS:

GOAL:

Is the community able to identify all Veterans experiencing homelessness?

Yes!

Q: Are you working with the human service centers to identify homeless Veterans?

A: Yes - BNL participation and statewide PATH calls (Projects assisting the transition from homelessness)

Q: Tell us about the 11 unsheltered Veterans on your list.

A: In ND we have been tracking those that are UNSTABLY doubled up as unsheltered, given their unpredictable situations and harsh winters.

GOAL:

Is your community able to provide shelter immediately to any Veteran experiencing homelessness who wants it?

Yes!

USICH QUESTIONS:

Q: Tell us more about emergency shelter in rural areas/Western part of the state? Is there a low barrier option?

A: Yes, low barrier shelter available through emergency hotel funding from Supportive Services for Veterans and Families (SSVF) and the Department of Veteran Affairs (DVA).

GOAL:

Does your community have the capacity to assist Veterans to swiftly move into permanent housing? (90 days or less)



USICH FEEDBACK

Q: Great job here! Veterans were housed in an average of 40 days from the time they accepted a housing offer. Continue to make this goal a priority.

GOAL:

Does the community have sufficient Permanent Housing?

YES!

USICH FEEDBACK:

Q:Great job here! It looks like Veterans are being housed at a rate equal to the rate they are coming into the homeless system.

Newly identified homeless Veterans across the state from 3/1/20 - 5/30/20 = 29

Veterans exiting homelessness across the state into permanent housing from 3/1/20-5/30/20 = 29

<u>GOAL :</u>

Are Veterans offered transitional housing only in limited instances.

Yes!

USICH QUESTIONS:

Q: What are options for transitional housing in rural communities?

A: SSVF and DVA can fund hotel stays for transitional housing in rural areas.

A: GPD in Fargo can be accessed by anyone in need across the state.

Q: If a Veteran from another part of the state wanted to access Grant Per Diem in Fargo, how would they get there?

A: The ND DVA and our local VSOs can aid with transportation (bus tickets, highly rural transportation grant, shuttle vans).



Goal: Have you ended all Chronic and long term homelessness among Veterans in your Community? Yes!

USICH FEEDBACK/QUESTIONS:

Q: Tell us about the 11 chronically homeless/Long term homeless individuals who were on your list:



- 4 had been offered housing but initially declined (continue to be offered housing every 14 days)
- 2 had been offered housing but declined and instead chose to enter transitional housing (continue to be offered housing every 14 days).
- 5 had accepted an offer of permanent housing but remain homeless while waiting to move into the housing.

Continued focus and next steps:

- Unstably doubled up Veterans tracked, but no longer counted as unsheltered
- Continued BNL education / participation expansion
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- Submit next 90 day look back of data
- Once approved by USICH, region by region approval to go public with declaration

QUESTIONS???



THANK YOU! WE APPRECIATE YOUR WILLINGNESS TO SIT ON THIS COMMITTEE!

Next Meeting: TBD

ND PLANNING COMMITTEE TO END VETERAN HOMELESSNESS October 22nd , 2020 2:00pm Zoom meeting

AGENDA

2:00 PM	 Lonnie Wangen-Commissioner ND Department of Veterans Affairs Call to order Review of agenda Approval of meeting minutes 8/20/20 Purpose of committee statement
2:10 PM	 Diana Hall -Homeless Programs Manager, Fargo VA Health Care System (VAHCS) Samantha Navratil-Coordinated Entry Specialist Fargo VA Health Care System (VAHCS) Recap Benchmarks and Criteria Discuss feedback from United States Interagency Council on Homelessness
2:40	Wrap up Questions
2:55 PM	 Lonnie Wangen-Commissioner ND Department of Veterans Affairs Closing statement Goal date early 2021 Next meeting TBD
3:00 PM	Adjourn

Members: Lonnie Wangen-NDDVA, Diana Hall-VAMC, Samantha Navratil-VAMC, Andrea Olson-CAP & NDCHP, Chandler Esslinger-SSVF, Mary Vetter-CVSO, Nicole Berman-Dept of Human Services, Jill Elliot - Housing Auth Fargo, Mark Austin-Housing Auth.-Minot, Senator Kyle Davison-GVA, Senator Judy Lee-H.Svcs, Senator Dick Dever-Past GVA and H.Svcs, Representative Jim Kasper-GVA, Representative Robin Weisz-H.Svcs, Col. Warren Pauling-NDNG, General Al Palmer NDNG (Ret.), Katy Miller-USICH, Pat Gulbranson -FHC, Mark Johnson-Vets Home, Cody Schuler-FMHC