



Coordinated Entry

Rural /BoS Learning Community

January 20, 2016

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Introductions & Overview

- Logistics
- Introductions
 - Matt White & Kelli Barker, Abt Associates
 - Irene Peragallo, CSH
 - Carla Solem, Coordinator for NW & West Central MN CoCs
 - Sophia Checa, Texas BoS System Change Specialist
- Coordinated Entry Core Requirements
- Community Perspectives
- Questions & Discussion



BoS/Rural Coordinated Entry Learning Community

Learning Community Objectives

- Provide targeted and refined CES TA and resources to BoS/Rural CoCs (build new or translate existing TA resources so that they are more relevant to BoS CoCs)
- Build a peer support network for BoS staff and multi-jurisdictional CES implementers
- Identify knowledge gaps and capacity building opportunities for BoS CoCs.
 - Recommend further TA products, resources, and approaches to improve the effectiveness of crisis response systems in BoS jurisdictions.



HUD's Guiding Principles for Coordinated Assessment

- ***Reorient service provision***, creating a more client-focused environment.
- ***Identify which strategies are best for each household*** based on knowledge of and access to a full array of available services.
- ***Link households to the most appropriate intervention*** that will assist the household to resolve their housing crisis.



Poll Question #1

Which stage of CES implementation best describes my CoC/rural area?

1. Exploring requirements, promising approaches, applicable design elements but haven't fully started implementation.
2. Begun implementation and now learning what works and what doesn't for my region.
3. Implemented core requirements and now refining the approach.



Core Operational Components

1. Defined Access
2. Standardized Assessment
3. Prioritization Criteria
4. Coordinated Referral



Access – HUD Requirement

Access – Coordinated entry point into the CoC system of care.

Baseline approach...

- covers the geographic area of the CoC
- easily accessed by individuals and families seeking homeless or homelessness prevention services.
- well advertised.



Written policies and procedures must document fair and equal access.



Poll Question #2

Which model of access does your CoC/region use?

1. Single Point of Access
2. Multi-site Centralized Access
3. No Wrong Door
4. Assessment Hotline



Assessment – HUD Requirement

Assessment - document the needs of individuals and families seeking housing or services.

- Must use a comprehensive and standardized assessment tool



HUD does not require the coordinated assessment to determine **eligibility**.



Poll Question #3

What assessment tool/process is your CoC considering or using? (HUD does not prescribe the use of a specific assessment tool/protocol.)

1. My CoC has adopted the VI-SPDAT.
2. My CoC is considering the VI-SPDAT (or a version of it).
3. My CoC will use an assessment tool that is not the VI-SPDAT.
4. My CoC hasn't made a final determination yet.

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Prioritization – HUD Requirement

Prioritization – CoC must use coordinated entry process to prioritize households for access to housing and services

- Prioritization must be based on a specific and definable set of criteria, documented in written standards



HUD encourages CoCs to adopt the prioritization process in the ***Prioritization Notice***, ensuring PSH resources are made available to the highest need people in the CoC



Referral – HUD Requirement

Referral provided for housing and/or services for individuals and families experiencing a housing crisis.



CoC must establish written standards for administering projects, including eligibility criteria.



Common Rural Challenges

- Difficulty establishing system goals across large geography
- Many CoCs have **very limited emergency shelter services** available
- Support **services** minimal or very difficult to access
- Challenges implementing a meaningful **case review/conferencing** process
- Lack of access to **housing units**
- Challenges hiring program **staff**
- **By-name List** development is difficult; often fragmented
- **Housing First**: interest and curiosity, but lack of clarity of local application/ relevance due to lack of housing stock; some emerging practices are promising

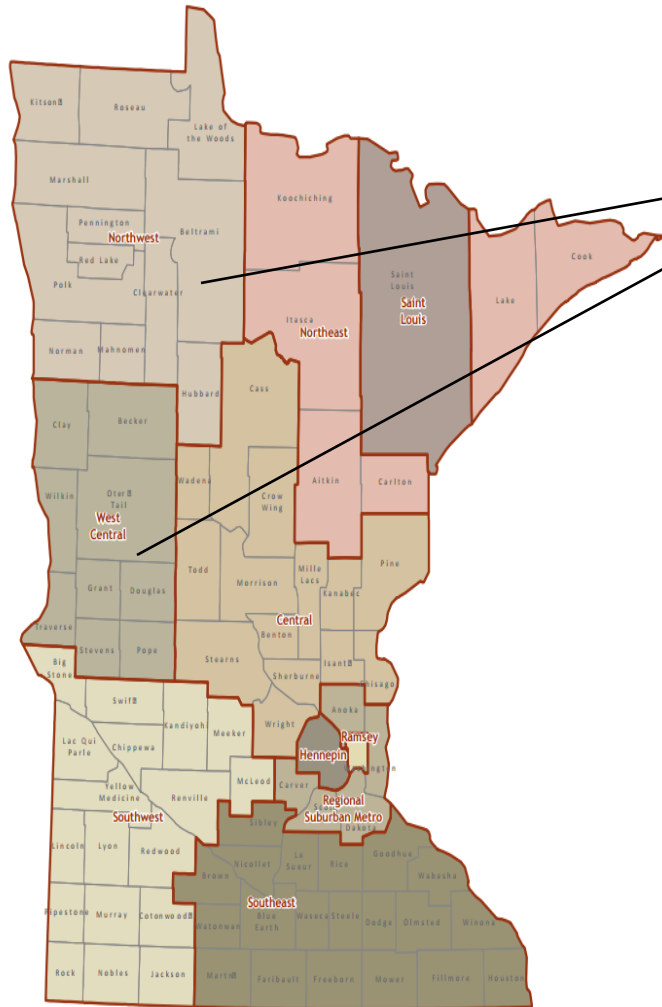


Carla Solem (MN) & Sophia Checa (TX)

1. Provide a bit of CoC/community context.
2. What are the most challenging aspects of Coordinated Entry implementation and operation for your CoC?
3. What resources or tools would be most helpful to address your identified barriers?

Geographic Nature of the CoC

Minnesota's Continuum of Care Regions

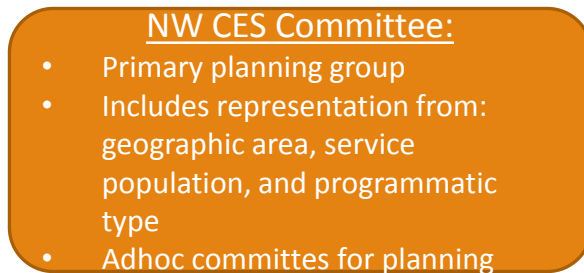


Statistics:

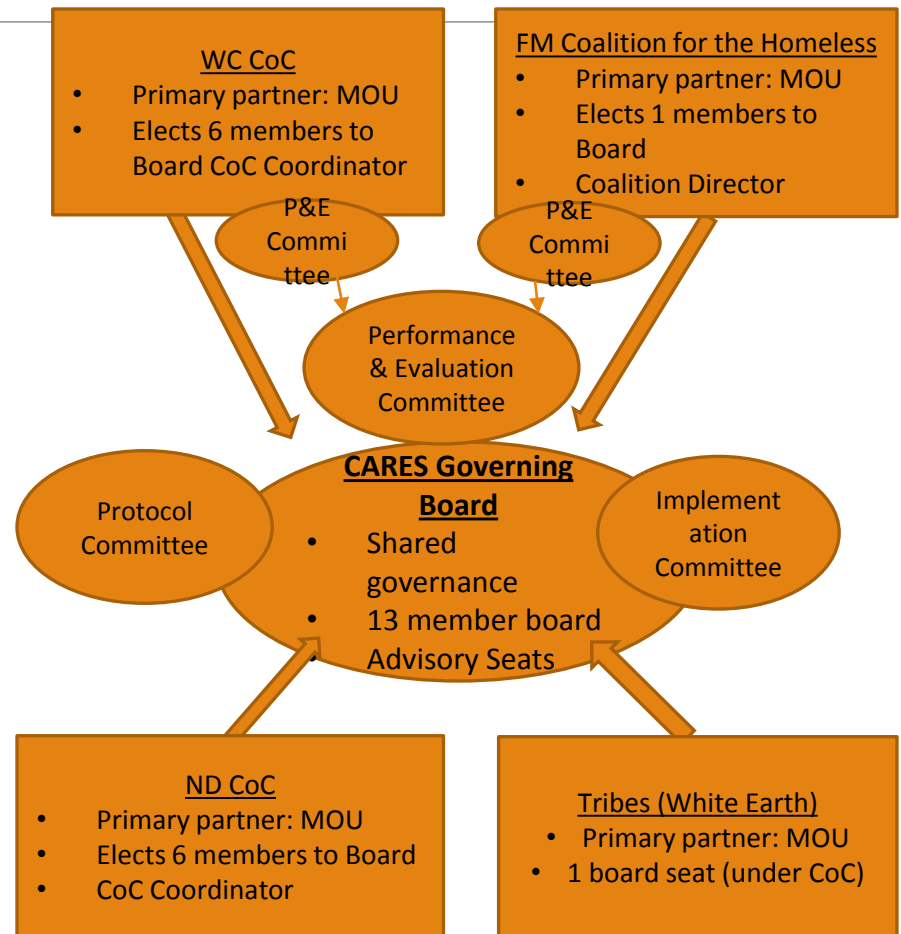
- 2 Continua (out of 10 in MN)
- 22 Counties (out of 87 in MN)
- 3 Tribes
- Biggest City is only 38,000
- Smallest town is under 100
- Home to the 3 most impoverished counties in the state.
- 7 Community Action Agencies

Organizational Structure of CES Planning

NORTHWEST



WEST CENTRAL



What CES elements have been designed & implemented?

CES Elements	Northwest	West Central
Prioritization	Pilot – DV & Youth, PSH	Since Feb 2014
Standardized Tools: Diversion (refer to mainstream resources, ES, or Prevention Services)	Since March 2015	Since October 2014
Standardized Tools: Prevention	Since March 2015	Since January 2015
Standardized Tools: Housing Access VI-SPDAT	Piloting	Since Feb 2014
Comprehensive Barriers Assessment - SPDAT	Not required	Strongly recommended
Outreach	Limited to VA & Youth	VA & Housing Navigators
Housing First & Barrier Free policies	Since June 2014	Since October 2013
Emergency Access	In process of designing	Pilot
Inclusive: Designated Access points covering geographic and all populations/sub-populations		
HMIS in Coordinated Entry	N/A	VI-SPDAT & referrals only

Most challenging aspects of CES implementation

1. 2 Planning Regions: Balancing autonomy & uniqueness w/ 2 planning regions.
 - 2 agencies & 1 Tribe serve both regions
 - unique needs of each region
 - Cross jurisdictional referrals
 - Communication
2. Geography differences
 - Distance challenge for planning
 - Extreme rural and small metro
 - No shelter or available housing in some areas
3. Limited resources
 - Limited Coordinator time to plan, implement and evaluation
 - Agency time/resources – especially small rural agencies (1 staff)
 - Insufficient or delayed technology

What resources or tools would be most helpful to address our identified barriers?

- Start-up/Planning Grant
- Website
- Funding for CES Coordinator
- Technology



Texas Homeless Network

Helping communities end homelessness

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Questions & Discussion



CES Learning Community for BoS/Rural CoCs

CES Learning Community webinars/calls...

- 3rd Wednesday of each month throughout 2016
 - 3:00pm – 4:00pm (Eastern Time)/12:00pm – 1:00pm (Pacific Time)
- Future topics
 - Managing by-name lists
 - Finding affordable housing (engaging landlords)
 - Connecting households to mainstream resources
 - Others?