2019 EHCY State Coordinators Meeting
Hosted by the
U.S. Department of Education & National Center for Homeless Education
Washington, DC

February 21, 2019
Coordinating the Federal Response

• The Council

• Council Policy Group

• Interagency Working Groups

• Performance measurement and accountability
National Initiatives Team
5 regionally based staff with expertise in state and local implementation

Our Regional Expertise

For the expert that covers your jurisdiction, contact Noel Prue: (202) 708-4663; noel.prue@usich.gov
Home, Together: Our Shared National Goals

- Ending homelessness among Veterans
- Ending chronic homelessness among people with disabilities
- Ending homelessness among families with children
- Ending homelessness among unaccompanied youth
- Ending homelessness among all other individuals
Areas of Increased Focus

• Increasing **affordable housing** opportunities
• Strengthening **prevention and diversion** practices
• Creating solutions for **unsheltered homelessness**
• Tailoring strategies for **rural communities**
• Helping people who exit homelessness to find **career success and economic mobility**
• Learning from the **expertise of people with lived experiences of homelessness**
Confronting and Addressing Inequities

• Developing our own and communities’ skills and capacity to apply a racial equity lens within our organizations and across our efforts to prevent and end homelessness

• Analyzing data regarding representation, access, and outcomes and identifying disparities and inequities

• Moving conversations forward without shortchanging need for internal work within ourselves and our organizations

• Connecting to and collaborating with other equity-focused efforts in communities
Structure for *Home, Together*

**Operational definition:**
Comprehensive response that ensures homelessness is prevented whenever possible, or if it can’t be prevented, it is a rare, brief, and one-time experience.

**Criteria and benchmarks:**
Essential elements of comprehensive systems and the outcomes those systems must be able to achieve.
Rare, Brief and One-Time: Essential Elements

Ensure homelessness is a rare experience
• Collaboratively Build Lasting Systems that End Homelessness
• Increase Capacity and Strengthen Practices to Prevent Housing Crises and Homelessness

Ensure homelessness is a brief experience
• Identify and Engage All People Experiencing Homelessness as Quickly as Possible
• Provide Immediate Access to Low-Barrier Emergency Shelter or other Temporary Accommodations to All Who Need It
• Implement Coordinated Entry to Standardize Assessment and Prioritization Processes and Streamline Connections to Housing and Services
• Assist People to Move Swiftly into Permanent Housing with Appropriate and Person-Centered Services

Ensure homelessness is a one-time experience
• Prevent Returns to Homelessness through Connections to Adequate Services and Opportunities

Sustain an end to homelessness
• Sustain Practices and Systems at a Scale Necessary to Respond to Future Needs
Home, Together: The Role of Education

• Strengthen the collection, reporting, and utilization of essential data sources (*Strategy 1.1.b*)

• Increase community capacity and state-level coordination to effectively **identify, target, and connect at-risk individuals and families** to local resources and opportunities that contribute to and strengthen housing stability (*Strategy 1.2.c*)
Home, Together: The Role of Education cont’d

• Encourage increased use of health, behavioral health, TANF, workforce, early childhood education, K-12 and higher education supports, and child welfare programs (*Strategy 2.4.c*)

• Support communities to increase access to and retention within high-quality education programs (*Strategy 3.1.e*)

• Strengthen coordination between early childhood, education, housing, employment, and homelessness services providers (*Strategy 3.1.g*)
Additional Resources

• *Home, Together*
• Homelessness in America series
• Preventing and Ending Youth Homelessness: A Coordinated Community Response
• Criteria and Benchmarks for Achieving the Goal of Ending Youth Homelessness
• Criteria and Benchmarks for Achieving the Goal of Ending Family Homelessness
• Early Care and Education (series)
• Case Studies: Building School/Housing Partnerships
• Case Studies: Higher Ed Partnerships
• Findings and Implications from Recent Reports and Data
Learn more

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