



Interagency Commission on Homelessness Education and Outreach Committee

John Mendez, Chair, Leslie George, Co-chair

Date: 2/24/2016

I. Introduction

The Education and Outreach Committee acknowledges and thanks Jimmy Frazier-Bey, for serving as chair of this committee for one year. Jimmy remains an active member and his contribution was greatly appreciated in the forming and coordinating of this committee.

Second, we would like to welcome and acknowledge our new chair, John Mendez, who stepped into this roll January 2016.

The committee began this year with refocusing itself, its purpose, and defining their direction for the coming year. As HUD has declared 2016 “The Year to End Chronic Homelessness”, the committee took this to heart and focused on what role/support we could provide to make this happen. Moving forward, the team decided to accomplish the following goals this year:

- Participate in the annual PIT, assist with coordination of event and training of volunteers.
- Create a “user friendly” definition of Disability
- Create a standardized form to document a person’s disability, to be used by all CoC Housing Programs (currently each program has their own form)
- Partner with MCCH for the HOME Conference, with a presentation on the Definition of Chronic Homelessness and introduce the new form.

II. Accomplishments (July, 2015- February, 2016)

- All shelters, homeless outreach teams, and housing programs completed the PIT on January 28, 2016. The Education and Outreach Committee participation included a committee member leading each one of the four areas identified in the county. Training was held on the night of the 28th, with volunteers and staff conducting surveys and seeking the “unsheltered” from 9:00 pm to approximately 1:30 am.
- Developed a draft “Documenting Disability Form”, which has been sent out to the three primary housing providers for review.
- Communicating with MCCH to be a presenter at the HOME Conference.

III. Future Activities (March, 2016-June, 2016)

- **Complete final draft of “Documenting Disability Form”. Have form presented at CoC for support and approval.**
- **Participate at HOME Conference May, 2016**
- **Continue discussions on educating staff and community partners on the issues of homelessness.**

IV. Conclusion

The Committee continues to meet the first Monday of each month, 2:00 pm, at the Rockville Memorial Library-Office of Human Rights, 3rd Floor Mediation Room.