2017 VCEH Local Continuum of Care Assessment

By Luke Dodge, Americorps VISTA
Purpose

To assess perspectives on the Vermont Coalition to End Homelessness from Local Continua of Care across Vermont

To help the VCEH more clearly define its own role in relation to local CoCs

To identify new ways the VCEH can assist local CoCs in building capacity and meeting local goals
CoC Operations

Decision-making primarily consensus-based, though larger CoCs can be more formal.

Strongest CoCs are those that have been able to develop sustainable local leadership.

Most successful CoCs cultivating strong relationships between community partners, with legislators.
Membership and Attendance

- Need a diversity of organizations at the table, not just HUD-funded groups
  - System needs to include the whole community
  - Key to local advocacy in terms of promoting understanding importance of funding and programs
- Bringing peripheral community partners to the table
  - Only when necessary
  - Facilitates mobilization of support for new community initiatives and solutions
# Membership and Attendance Trends

## Consistent Attendance Necessary

- 211/United Way
- Community Action Agencies
- Economic Services
- Homeless Shelters
- Local Housing Authorities
- Landlord Liaison (If Applicable)
- Health Care Providers
- Pathways (If Applicable)
- Regional Housing Non-Profits
- Transitional/Supportive Housing
- Veterans Agencies
- Substance Abuse
- Youth Services

## Should Attend as Needed

- Consumers
- Department of Children and Families
- Homelessness Education Liaison
- Local Landlords
- Mental Health
- Workforce Development
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Values</th>
<th>Needs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Centralized Discussion of what’s happening around the state</td>
<td>Better understanding of what VCEH provides to the local level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding</td>
<td>Need to clarify our role</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legislative Updates/Statewide Advocacy</td>
<td>More attention to local culture and processes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Training and Webinars</td>
<td>Technical Support</td>
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<tr>
<td>Communication (Website, email list, etc.)</td>
<td>Communications/PR</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Needs</th>
<th>Values</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coordinated Entry</td>
<td>Better understanding of what VCEH provides to the local level</td>
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<tr>
<td>Information Sharing</td>
<td>Need to clarify our role</td>
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<tr>
<td>Advocacy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Technical Support</td>
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Local Perspectives on the VCEH

Self-Reported CoC Needs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area of Need</th>
<th>Number of CoCs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>More Money</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Training</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Assistance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Information Sharing</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strategic Planning</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advocacy</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Common Areas for Local Improvement

Need sense of purpose for Local CoC meetings

Strategic Planning

Membership and Outreach
  Increasing landlord involvement

Municipal Involvement

Inconsistent Participation

Inadequate Resources
What We’re Doing

Strategic Planning
Training
Communications
Information Sharing
A Few Notes

Thank you!

Where to find the report

Questions, Comments, Concerns?