

KANSAS STATEWIDE HOMELESS COALITION AND KANSAS BALANCE OF STATE COC



ANNUAL REPORT 2020



Kansas Statewide
Homeless Coalition

KANSAS STATEWIDE HOMELESS COALITION

- KANSAS BALANCE OF STATE COC

WHO ARE WE?

The Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition, Inc. (KSHC) is a not for profit organization with six full time staff that is governed by a Board of Directors. Currently KSHC acts as the collaborative applicant for the Kansas Balance of State Continuum of Care (CoC). The CoC is a statewide membership made up of a diverse membership comprised of homeless individuals, service providers, faith-based groups, and government agencies.

Our work is to coordinate with communities throughout Kansas to provide advocacy, training, education, and support to end homelessness in Kansas. The KSHC also coordinates an annual point-in-time homeless count for 101 counties (excluding Shawnee county, Wyandotte county, Sedgwick county, Johnson county.) The KSHC provides support to the 8 regions in the 101 counties to help organize and coordinate regional meetings aimed at developing plans to address homelessness in each of the regions of the 101 counties.

WHAT IS A COLLABORATIVE APPLICANT?

The Collaborative Applicant is the eligible applicant designated by the Continuum of Care (CoC) to collect and submit the CoC Registration, CoC Consolidated Application (which includes the CoC Application and CoC Priority Listing), and apply for CoC planning funds on behalf of the CoC during the CoC Program Competition. The CoC may assign additional responsibilities to the Collaborative Applicant so long as these responsibilities are documented in the CoC's governance charter.

WHAT IS A CONTINUUM OF CARE?

According to HUD, a CoC is "a community plan to organize and deliver housing and services to meet the specific needs of people who are homeless as they move to stable housing and maximize self-sufficiency. It includes action steps to end homelessness and prevent a return to homelessness." HUD identifies four necessary parts of a continuum:

1. Outreach, intake, and assessment in order to identify service and housing needs and provide a link to the appropriate level of both;
2. Emergency shelter to provide an immediate and safe alternative to sleeping on the streets, especially for homeless families with children;
3. Transitional housing with supportive services to allow for the development of skills that will be needed once permanently housed; and
4. Permanent and permanent supportive housing to provide individuals and families with an affordable place to live with services if needed.

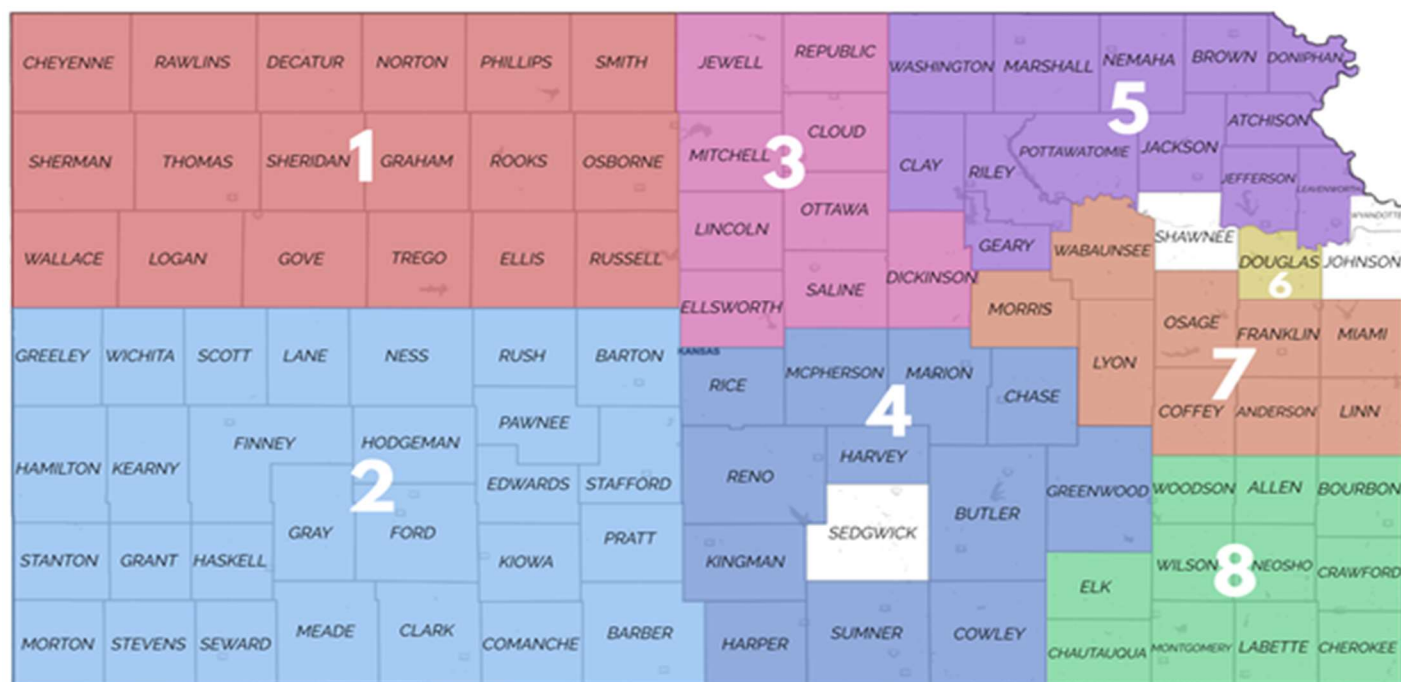
CoC's are tasked to track and manage the homeless community in their area. One of most important activities entrusted to CoC's is the biannual count of the homeless population and an annual enumeration of emergency systems, transitional housing units, and beds that make up the homeless assistance systems.

KANSAS BALANCE OF STATE SERVICE AREA



Kansas Statewide
Homeless Coalition

COC
BALANCE OF STATE



REGIONAL COORDINATORS

1

Northwest

Linda Mills
lmills@firstcallelliscounty.com

2

Southwest

Debbie Snapp
dsnapp@catholiccharitiesswks.org

3

North Central

Claudette Humphrey
chumphrey@ccnks.org

4

South Central

Megan Thompson
thompsonml@pvi.org

5

Northeast

Shanae Eggert & Casey Palmateer
seggert@kshomeless.com
cpalmateer@kshomeless.com

6

Douglas

David Tucker
dtucker@bertnash.org

7

East Central

Beth Waddle
bethwaddle@my-fathers-house.com

8

Southeast

Casey Brown
cbrown@catholiccharitieswichita.org

GOVERNANCE – KANSAS BALANCE OF STATE

HISTORY OF KANSAS BALANCE OF STATE GOVERNANCE:

Historically KSHC and the Kansas Balance of State Continuum of Care operated as one entity directed by one combined board. In 2020 as the CoC was in the process of a vendor search it became clear that basic operational guidance was not clear or available to determine processes within the CoC and the collaborative applicants' role was not defined. KSHC solicited assistance directly from HUD to create and adopt a governance charter to support the CoC.

The purpose of a CoC charter is to identify and describe how the KS BoS CoC (KS-507) will fulfill the planning duties of the Continuum of Care, as described in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD's) CoC Program interim rule (24 CFR Part 578).

Two HUD TA's established a community forum to determine what the charter would look like and how the CoC would operate in the future. This community led committee met weekly for over 12 weeks to determine the best governance model, steering committee design and representation, committee designs, memberships definitions and voting rights as well as defined the relationship between the continuum and the collaborative applicant, KSHC.

The governance charter allowed the adoption of the current HMIS Governance Charter and established key committees:

1. **Nominations and Membership Committee:** Will oversee membership applications and recruiting.
2. **Performance and Compliance Committee:** Determines CoC Program Funding priorities and process.
3. **HMIS Committee and sub committees:** Responsible for establishing policies, procedures and protocols to support operations and management of data and the HMIS system.
4. **Coordinated Entry Committee:** Responsible for developing CoC coordinated entry policies and procedures including monitoring protocols.
5. **Equity Committee:** Charged with defining and pursuing community-wide goals related to equity.

The governance charter also outlines that the CoC will select a collaborative applicant. KSHC, and the duties assigned to the HMIS lead, Kansas Housing Resource Corporation, KHRC.

WHAT HAPPENS NOW?

The new governance charter, available on the KSHC website www.kshomeless.com, was voted on by the continuum and adopted. The CoC will be represented by a steering committee that will be comprised of community stakeholders who will determine the future of the CoC. Applications for the steering committee and CoC membership will be forthcoming. Once the steering committee is seated there will be additional direction offered to establish the above committees and meetings.

2020 PIT/HOMELESS COUNT BALANCE OF STATE

Total Households and Persons	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven ^a		
Total Number Of Households	387	156	0	172	715
Total Number of Persons	456	264	0	223	943
Number of Children (under age 18)	67	74	0	15	156
Number of Persons (18 to 24)	39	25	0	54	118
Number of Persons (over age 24)	350	165	0	154	669

Gender	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven ^a		
Female	159	142	0	73	374
Male	297	122	0	150	569
Transgender	0	0	0	0	0
Gender Non-Conforming (i.e. not exclusively male or female)	0	0	0	0	0

Ethnicity	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven ^a		
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	407	229	0	196	832
Hispanic/Latino	49	35	0	27	111

Race	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven		
White	332	157	0	185	674
Black or African-American	52	44	0	27	123
Asian	1	0	0	0	1
American Indian or Alaska Native	29	16	0	4	49
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	1	0	0	1
Multiple Races	42	46	0	7	95

Chronically Homeless	Sheltered			Unsheltered	Total
	Emergency	Transitional	Safe Haven ^a		
Total number of persons	44		0	65	109

MEET THE KSHC STAFF:



Responsible for the day to day operation of the Coalition advocating across the state on behalf of homeless individuals and families.

Kate Watson - Executive Director



Oversees the programming support for the continuum of care, the collaborative application, committee representation and communication to and from the continuum.

Dawn R. Myers - CoC Program Director



Ensures the coordinated entry system is administered in accordance with HUD guidance and is accessible to all points of access statewide.

Shanae Eggert - Coordinated Entry Manager



Provides direct support to the coordinated entry process by supporting the coordinated entry manager, case managers and agencies with the process.

Casey Palmateer - CES System Admin



Oversees and maintains the HMIS system through direct support to case managers and agencies and collaborates with the HMIS Lead and HMIS chair.

Dylan Woods - HMIS System Admin



Provides direct agency administrative support, record keeping, accounting, payroll, website and other necessary dissemination of information

Lauren Clark - Executive Admin Assistant

THE KSHC AND COC YEAR IN REVIEW

STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR KSHC AND COC -

In February of 2020, the Strategic Planning committee met to address the goals, activities and outcomes and future of KSHC as well as the Kansas Balance of State Continuum of Care. The committee successfully secured a three year strategic plan that is available for review at <https://www.kshomeless.com/strategic-planning.html>

FOSTER YOUTH TO INDEPENDENCE INITIATIVE -

KSHC formed a committee to coordinate efforts between Public Housing Authorities, the CoC and then Department of Children and Families to create programming and a memorandum of understanding allowing Public Housing Authorities to apply for vouchers for Foster Youth to Independence programming. The program is a valuable asset to the CoC, PHA and DCF to end address homelessness among youth exiting foster care. It is anticipated this program and three MOU's will be signed at the beginning of this year.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE WORKGROUP -

Domestic Violence programming support is vital to the communities served by the CoC. In an effort to be inclusive of the needs for these organizations a DV Workgroup was convened to gather and share not only best practices, coordinate services, engage in coordinated entry but also to ensure these agencies have the support necessary to successfully house the clients served.

MAINSTREAM BENEFITS WORKGROUP -

In an effort to better coordinate services, strengthen referrals for mainstream benefits, educate and provide necessary agency support or training to encourage use and referrals of mainstream benefits in a statewide manner a Mainstream Benefits Workgroup was convened and will continue to ensure each client is receiving the support necessary to become self-sufficient and successfully achieve stable housing.

PRIORITIZING VETERANS

The CoC, through support of an Ad-Hoc Funding Priorities Committee/Workgroup made the determination that the best way to serve veterans and their families was to align housing efforts for veterans with our Federal SSVF partners. To accomplish this the CoC voted to prioritize veterans enabling them to be moved to supportive programming immediately from the Coordinated Entry list to a SSVF partner. This ensures veterans are maximizing programming available.

HOMELESS OR
FORMERLY
HOMELESS
INDIVIDUALS
WE NEED YOU!

If you have been homeless, or are experiencing homelessness, the CoC Steering Committee, Workgroups, and all committees supported by the CoC needs your voice and input. An important part of advocacy and successful programming requires hearing the voices of those served by our services. Please contact KSHC staff or committee member to join.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

KSHC FINANCIALS

Kansas State Homeless Coalition

BALANCE SHEET
As of December 31, 2020

	TOTAL
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
1000 Envista Checking 26273-5	106,840.33
1010 Business Shares 26273	6.52
1020 PayPal 26274	-22.95
Total Bank Accounts	\$106,823.90
Other Current Assets	
1100 Cash in Transit	-400.00
1500 Uncategorized Asset	-296.46
Total Other Current Assets	\$ -696.46
Total Current Assets	\$106,127.44
Other Assets	
Grants Due	0.00
Total Other Assets	\$0.00
TOTAL ASSETS	\$106,127.44
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Credit Cards	
2100 Visa	6,522.13
Total Credit Cards	\$6,522.13
Other Current Liabilities	
2050 Encumbered Expense Reserve	432.99
2200 Payroll Liabilities	-425.26
2201 Federal Taxes (941/944)	1,717.73
2203 KS Income Tax	1,126.62
2205 LC Garnishment	388.31
Total 2200 Payroll Liabilities	2,907.40
Total Other Current Liabilities	\$3,240.39
Total Current Liabilities	\$9,762.52
Total Liabilities	\$9,762.52
Equity	
3000 Opening Balance Equity	-5,485.37
3200 Unrestricted Net Assets	44,154.04
Net Income	57,696.25
Total Equity	\$96,364.92
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$106,127.44

2020 KSHC Funding Streams:

HUD Planning Grant:

\$121,912

HUD Coordinated Entry Grant:

\$168,734

Kansas Department of Aging and Disability Services:

\$64,000

National Low-Income Housing Coalition:

\$85,000



PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Joyce Stockham, MID-CAP, [Chair](#)
- Beth Waddle, My Father's House, [Vice-Chair](#)
- Donna Garwood, [Treasurer](#)
- Emily Wagner, MES, [Interim Secretary](#)
- Lori Howard, Centene Corporation
- Jill Jolicoeur, Douglas County
- Michael Aldridge, Douglas County
- Dr. Chiquita Miller, K-State Research Extension
- Andy Houlberg, Ashby House
- Sara Robinson, St. Francis Community Svcs



All alone we can do so little, together we can do so much”

~ Helen Keller

Thank you to our community partners that help KSHC and the Kansas Balance of State Continuum of Care accomplish our goals, live our mission and help those in need across Kansas.

A big thank you to:

Kansas Housing Resource Corporation - James Chiselom

Kansas Department on Aging and Disability – Melissa Bogart-Starkey

The National Low-Income Housing Coalition

Department of Children and Families

Bifocus - Support Team

HUD TA/Abt Assoc. – Stephanie Reinauer and Natalie Matthews

COORDINATED ENTRY UPDATES

In 2020 KSHC and KS BoS CoC moved from MAACLINK to Bitfocus Clarity Human Services for HMIS. At that time the Coordinated Entry List was moved to a manual list. Every region adjusted operations to operating a complex system manually while ensuring that to continue to serve homeless clients. The following is a breakdown of Coordinated Entry progress and activities for 2020:

- **July 10, 2020**, the Coordinated Entry Committee voted to transition assessment tools from the VI-SPDAT Version 1 to the VI-SPDAT Version 3.
- **July 15, 2020**, the Funding Priorities Workgroup moves to recommend Veterans as a Priority Population in the Coordinated Entry System.
- **July 20, 2020**, the CES Program Manager, Shanae Eggert, presents a policy draft to make Veterans a Priority Population to the Vets at Home Workgroup for comments and discussion.
- **July 24, 2020**, the Coordinated Entry Committee revised and approved ***CES Policies and Procedures Version 6.0*** (attached) that showed clear compliance (with links to the required CES Regulations) in the policies.
- **July 26, 2020**, a ***CES Transition Plan*** (attached) was published and distributed to the Regional Coordinators to assist in moving the Manual Version 1 VI-SPDAT list to a Manual Version 3 VI-SPDAT list.
- **August 2020**, trainings on the following:
 1. Major changes to the CES Policies and Procedures
 2. How to conduct the Version 3 VI-SPDAT assessments
 3. Guidance on the CES Transition Plan.
- **August 5, 2020**, the CES Program Manager, Shanae Eggert, develops a CES Version 3 List Template to assist the Regional Coordinators.
- **August 2020** HUD released the ***HMIS Programming Specifications for Coordinated Entry CE APR CSV***
- **September 10, 2020**, Casey Palmateer joins as a CES System Administrator.
- **September 24, 2020**, the Coalition CES Team begins Beta Testing the viability of conducting the VI-SPDAT over the phone.
- **October 7, 2020**, in consultation with the HMIS Steering Committee the Coordinated Entry Program Manager finalized a ***Coordinated Entry System – VI-SPDAT and Referral Process*** to provide further guidance to all CES Participating Agencies for conducting VI-SPDATS and receiving referrals.
- **October 8, 2020**, an MOU is established between the Coalition on behalf of the KS BoS CoC, Salvation Army and Catholic Charities to agree to refer all qualifying Veterans to SSVF Providers throughout the KS BoS CoC in the Coordinated Entry System.
- **October 14, 2020**, the Coalition CES Team began drafting a standard Regional Plan template to be implemented on a regional basis to allow for each region to determine their local processes and procedures. Every region will be able to edit this Regional Plan in any way as long as it remains in compliance with the CES Policies and Procedures and HUD Regulations.
- **December 20, 2020**, the Vets At Home Workgroup finalized the Veteran Prioritization Process.

HMIS UPDATES

HMIS VENDOR TRANSITION

KSHC was notified by MAAClink in 2020 that the HMIS system and services provided by them to the CoC would no longer be available. KSHC at the request of the CoC formed a HMIS Steering Committee and began a search for a new HMIS Vendor.

A formal RFP was released, and a selection process for a HMIS vendor implemented. KSHC hosted several community demonstration and question and answer sessions with each of the vendors and utilized a scoring rubric for each provider. After community input, scoring and demonstration, two primary vendors were selected to finalize programming and cost for each product. The HMIS Steering Committee entered contract negotiations and secured a contract to begin services June 1, 2020 with Bifocus for their HMIS product, Clarity. Once a vendor was identified and a contract secured it was necessary to determine the best process for migration of agency legacy data. The HMIS Steering Committee worked with Bitfocus to determine the best course of action to migrate quality data. A determination was made that to ensure quality data it was best to begin in the new system with new, clean data. To accomplish this only CoC, ESG, PATH and SSVF agencies were migrated into the system and legacy data for three years entered. The HMIS Steering Committee continues to work on legacy data, building the HMIS system for best use, HMIS and CES system admin support and other necessary tools to strengthen data collection, compliance and reporting,

SYSTEM ADMINS

A new HMIS vendor required that the system support for HMIS be brought in house or paid through contract to the vendor. Cost prohibited the support being secured with the vendor.

The HMIS steering committee determined it was best to bring support in house and allocate funding from the planning and coordinated entry grant to support these positions. Currently HMIS is supported by the Coordinated Entry System Admin and the HMIS System Admin.

Internal system admins have allowed immediate response, internal data quality controls and a firsthand knowledge and ability to correct any reports or data.

Who we served in 2020



Individuals Served

1,762



Households Served

1,111



Bed Nights

24,917

WWW.KSHOMELESS.COM

WE WANT YOU!

2021 means the CoC will be searching and seating the Steering Committee. Seats are available to a variety of stakeholders. A list of Steering Committee Seats open is available on the KSHC website. All interested in being a part of the process to strengthen the CoC and end Homelessness across Kansas are encouraged to apply!

Membership applications are now available to all individuals wishing to join the CoC as a member. A membership application is available on the kshomeless.com website and allows for three types of membership: General Membership, Voting Membership – Organizational Representative, Voting Membership – Unaffiliated Individual.

More information is available on www.kshomeless.com



OUR MISSION:

To be a catalyst for safe, appropriate and affordable housing for all Kansas in collaboration with all local, state and national partners.

FIND US ON:



Kansas Statewide
Homeless Coalition

A LETTER FROM THE COC PROGRAM DIRECTOR:

Dear CoC and Stakeholders,
I am not sure what we should call 2020. The most appropriate word might be challenging. Amid a pandemic our continuum and our agencies were rising to the challenge, showing up no matter what the circumstances and no matter the risk, to make sure our communities had the services and support they needed.

I would love to brag about all of the accomplishments our CoC made this year, but the reality is, the fact that our agencies showed up and served no matter the circumstances shows the strength of our CoC for today, tomorrow and forever. The upcoming year is only going to deepen the resolve of our members to continue to serve those who are in need, who are homeless, or those who are facing homelessness.

On behalf of all KSHC staff, we thank you for your dedication to our shared mission.

Dawn Myers,
CoC Program Director