

**U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness  
Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness**

**External Stakeholder Input Report: National Alliance to End Homelessness  
Open Forum Stakeholder Input  
February 12, 2010 Los Angeles, California**

**Attending:**

Don Andre, Campion Foundation  
Dan Baker, HHS/ACF  
Barbara Banaszynski, Volunteers of America, Inc.  
Jo-Ann Barbour, Preservation of Affordable Housing  
Kathleen Baushke, Transition House  
Steve Berg, NAEH  
Lindsey Bishop, Corporation for Supportive Housing  
Ann Brown, Oregon Housing & Community Services  
Mary Carroll, Oregon Housing & Community Services  
Cindy Cavanaugh, Sacramento Housing and  
Redevelopment Agency  
Donald Chamberlain, Sound Thinking  
Lisa Chapman, Corporation for Supportive Housing  
Jan Cicco, City of Pomona  
Elaine deColigny, EveryOne Home  
Dorit Dowler-Guerrero, Union Station Homeless  
Services  
Donna Dziak, Solid Ground  
Julie Eberbach, Iowa Institute for Community  
Alliances  
Beverley Ebersold, Corp. for Supportive Housing  
Claas Ehlers, Family Promise  
Sara Farnsworth, Union Rescue Mission  
Kevin Finn, Cincinnati-Hamilton County Continuum  
of Care for the Homeless, Inc.  
Charlene M. Flaherty, Corp for Supportive Housing  
Michele Fuller-Hallauer, SNRPC/COH  
Vicky Gee, Reliable Enterprises  
Mimielle Goulatte, SOAR, Inc.  
Lamont Hartman, Water of Life  
Cheryl Heesen, Family Service Association  
Liane Hirabayashi, Opportunities for Otsego  
Brad Hopkins, Denver Rescue Mission  
Judy Jenkins, PATH-LA  
Piper Kamins, Chrysalis  
Chuck Kieffer, Cloudburst Consulting Group  
Mike Kowalsky, HUD  
LoAn Le, Community Action Services and Food Bank  
Rebecca Lee, Multnomah County  
Betsy Lieberman, Building Changes  
Mike Lowry

Kelly Lupro, County of Orange  
Patricia Magnuson, Enterprise Community Partners  
Randy McCoy, The Kitchen, Inc.  
Debbie Michael, Transition House  
Jennifer Mirabile, Valley Oasis  
Kay Moshier McDivitt, Lancaster County Coalition to  
End Homelessness  
Denise Neunaber, NC Coalition to End Homelessness  
Angelina Nguyen, Housing Authorities of the City &  
County of Fresno  
Zed Null, CALIF-Communities Actively Living  
Independent and Free  
Zack Olmstead, Housing California  
Sophina Placencia, Waianae Community Outreach  
Becky Poitras, Hillcrest Transitional Housing  
Natalie Profant Komuro, PATH Achieve Glendale  
Sharon Rapport, Corporation for Supportive Housing  
Will Reed, City of Oxnard  
Bonnie Rhea, SOAR, Inc.  
Ralph Rogers, SOAR Network  
Leslie Sanchez, Los Angeles Services Housing Authority  
Denise Saturna, Come to the Fountain  
Christine Schanes, Children Helping Poor and Homeless  
People  
Debora Schreiber, Homeless and Housing Coalition  
Karol Schulkin, County of Ventura  
Erin Schwarzbauer, Minnesota Housing  
Marcia Shannon, Central Mass. Housing Alliance  
Susie Sinclair-Smith  
Angelina Smith-Wilson, Volunteers of America,  
Western NY  
Sharon Spane, Central Oklahoma Community Action  
Agency  
Kerry Steadman, SL County Community Resources &  
Development  
Melanie H. Stuart  
Norm Suchar, NAEH  
Louis Tallarita, CT Dept of Education  
Constance Tempel, Corporation for Supportive Housing  
John Turner, Region V Systems  
Carol Walter, CT Coalition to End Homelessness

Rich Hooks Wayman, NAEH

Jason Weller, Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness

Marge Wherley, Hennepin County Human Services

Danielle Wildkress, HomeBase

Aisha Williams, NAEH

Lisa Wolf, San Diego Housing Commission

Kira Zylstra, Solid Ground

*We thank you for your participation and apologize to anyone inadvertently left off this list.  
We tried our best to read the handwriting of each person who signed in for the meeting.*

#### **USICH Staff**

Jennifer Ho

#### **Meeting Summary**

Jennifer Ho welcomed the group and facilitated introductions. She then gave an overview of the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness and the framework for the Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness. The Plan will serve as a roadmap for joint action by the 19 Council agencies to guide the development of programs and budget proposals towards a set of measurable targets to pursue over a five-year period. USICH is centering its Plan on the belief – the moral foundation – “no one should experience homelessness—no one should be without a safe, stable place to call home.” There are five areas of concentration: Preventing and ending homelessness among 1) families with children, 2) youth, 3) Veterans, and 4) adults experiencing chronic homelessness; as well as 5) in the context of state and local communities, mobilize community participation, forge partnerships, and align resources.

The Council affirmed six core values to be reflected in the Plan:

- Homelessness is unacceptable.
- There are no “homeless people,” but rather people who have lost their homes who deserve to be treated with dignity and respect.
- Homelessness is expensive; it is better to invest in solutions.
- Homelessness is solvable; we have learned a lot about what works.
- Homelessness can be prevented.
- There is strength in collaboration and USICH can make a difference.

The Plan’s strategies will:

- identify and target to reach and match people with appropriate interventions;
- ensure access by people to needed programs, housing and services;
- retool crisis response to avert and shorten entry into homelessness;
- provide housing and supports;
- build opportunity such as jobs and education;
- enhance capacity in the service system to deliver quality; and
- document results.

The meeting facilitators introduced the World Café process, a conversational process that builds on previous conversations as people move between groups, cross-pollinate ideas, and discover new insights into the questions being discussed. Thank you to volunteers from Art of Hosting for their help to facilitate these conversations.

Small groups of three to five participants each discussed question one and recorded their key answers. After a short report-back session, the small groups were randomly re-mixed and the new groups discussed question two. The process was repeated for a discussion and recording of insights and answers to question three.

The questions for discussion:

1. What do we need to understand about the scope and causes of homelessness?
2. What should be the key goals and strategies of the plan that will take us toward that vision?
3. How can federal resources and practices be wisely aligned and cost-effectively applied to amplify our state/local work?

Before concluding the meeting, Jennifer outlined the next steps in the development of the Plan and attendees were thanked for their participation.

Following the meeting, the responses were categorized into themes. The percentage of comments for each theme is listed for each question followed by the text of every comment, listed alphabetically by theme. USICH has used our best efforts to ensure accuracy in capturing and categorizing comments.

**Question: What should be the key goals and strategies of the plan that will take us toward this vision?**

14%	Investment Target – Housing	Comments suggesting increased funding for housing solutions, including more affordable housing, housing vouchers, PSH, and other specialized housing models.
11%	Coordinated Federal Grants	Comments suggesting the need to pool funding, better coordinate funding applications and grant program regulations, or align grant restrictions across agencies.
9%	Coordinated Interagency Strategy	Comments that suggest a need for holistic and coordinated planning across Federal agencies and mainstream systems to better address homelessness.
7%	Data Collection and Reporting	Comments advocating for consistent and streamlined data collection and reporting requirements across agencies, including issues with HMIS.
7%	Technical Assistance (TA)	Comments related to the need for training and provision of technical assistance to improve use of federal resources and to disseminate effective strategies and best practices.
7%	Communication (external)	Comments highlighting the need for enhanced communication between Federal agencies and communities, concerted strategies to raise public awareness, the need to make information on programs widely available, and for coordinated messaging from agencies.
6%	Flexibility	Comments suggesting a need to maintain or enhance the flexibility and versatility of funding and programming for homeless services.
6%	System Design	Comments relating to the promotion of effective system practices or recommended ways of designing homeless systems or delivering homeless assistance.
5%	Investment Target – Regional Coordination/Planning	Comments pertaining to support or increased funding for regional coordination efforts and planning at the regional/local level.
4%	Investment Target – Education/ Employment	Comments suggesting a need for increased funding and resources for education and employment strategies for homeless people.
4%	Investment Targets – General	General comments advocating more funding/resources for programs, communities, or subpopulations.
4%	Mainstream System Accountability	Comments on the responsibility of mainstream systems to address homelessness, and those that pertain to assessment and removal of barriers that drive people to homelessness or complicate access to solutions.

4%	Performance-based Funding	Comments promoting greater accountability for local programs and grantees, investment in performance, and the shifting of resources away from poorly performing strategies and programs.
2%	Definitions	Comments requesting consistent definitions and common requirements to document homelessness and other related terms.
2%	Investment Target – Services	Comments indicating a need for increased funding for treatment services, early intervention, child-focused services, and life skills training for homeless people.
2%	Potential Revenue	Comments presenting ideas on new revenue sources that could be used to fund proposed interventions.
1%	Miscellaneous	A comment that does not fit it any of the thematic codes.
1%	Research	Comments suggesting areas where we need more research to inform strategy development of homeless assistance.
1%	Investment Target – Prevention & Rapid Re-Housing	Comments advocating for increased funding for prevention and rapid re-housing models.
1%	Vision of Success/Indicators of Success	Comments regarding statements or goals pertaining to what a successful homeless system would look like.

**Question: What should be the key goals and strategies of the plan that will take us toward this vision?**

A special ask to congregations nationally where at least one family will be embraced by each congregation and helped into housing.	Communication
Congress needs to be well-informed on limitations of federal programs.	Communication
Engagement with frontline staff (people working directly with the homeless population ) in the planning process	Communication
Get homeless/housing theme into mainstream TV shows! This will help build good will and bridge to political will that is required. Use multiple types of media to get a emotive response so people will want to see change.	Communication
Influence writers of TV shows to include themes to support the campaign.	Communication
More broadly available/transparent information about and access to federal resources and programs.	Communication
Marketing and alignment across silos. Making resources and access person-centered.	
Please be sure we are not talking to ourselves! We need to engage people who have been indifferent to homelessness, in particular, political leaders. Denver and San Francisco succeed because those mayors are engaged.	Communication
Positive publicity, PSA, movies	Communication
Promote an array of solutions that local communities can adopt including: (land banking to hold for affordable housing in perpetuity, promote innovation design (see American Planning Association standards, of course, build the will to support funding for housing subsidies on tax credits to landlords who rent below market	Communication
PSAs and education to decrease stigma and NIMBY. Stress financial benefit of housing and moral imperative.	Communication
Public education and awareness campaign exposing the real statistics of introducing homeless services and addressing stigma of mental illness, NIMBYism	Communication
Align federal partners regulations; more coordination for grantees.	Coordinated Federal Grants
Align prevention programs (FEMA, TANF, HPRP, CSBG) to reflect evidenced-based practices; need to know about who and what they need	Coordinated Federal Grants
Aligning definitions and funding requirements and communication between federal agencies.	Coordinated Federal Grants
Aligning funding across federal agencies to achieve some funding outcomes—keep doing cross agency coordination of funding (consolidated or joint grants).	Coordinated Federal Grants

Alignment and integration of housing and service funding.	Coordinated Federal Grants
Better coordination of government departments (coordinating services of HUD, HHS, Dept of Ed, DOL, USDA, VA, etc., synchronizing funding cycles, create a universal application for funding)	Coordinated Federal Grants
Consistent fiscal years for HUD programs.	Coordinated Federal Grants
Consolidate applications for federal resources. For example:(collaborative initiative to end chronic homelessness, unify application criteria and formatting and reporting, application process that allows different agencies to fund parts of programs based on the people who are served. A PSH project that serves 20% vets should be able to get a slice of the VA funding based on that single application, federal programs should run the local planning and coordination efforts. For example, VASH should prioritize vets through HMIS and local prioritization rather than picking their own tenants)	Coordinated Federal Grants
Coordinated, aligned funding streams to provide funding for housing and services. Encourage applications from agencies working together and discourage single agency applications; universal reporting.	Coordinated Federal Grants
Coordination among federal departs--HUD, DOL, SSA, Ed, etc.—to offer grants together. Synchronize funding cycles. Link housing services to education systems.	Coordinated Federal Grants
Coordination of housing and service dollars.	Coordinated Federal Grants
Federal subsidies should all have a common set of regs/requirements—with flexibility to decide locally how deep, long, etc. AND adequate pay to administer.	Coordinated Federal Grants
Give dollars directly to local governments, don't stop at states. Put local governments in charge.	Coordinated Federal Grants
Make all Federal/state funding contracts universal so limiting restrictions cannot hinder agencies with multiple grants under one heading (i.e., state HPRP, entitlement HPRP, etc.)	Coordinated Federal Grants
Simplify the application/reporting process for both clients and agencies. (more online, no wrong door, more flexible, data sharing, universal application for federal funds across agencies)	Coordinated Federal Grants
Streamline to common grant application forms, processes, and data collection.	Coordinated Federal Grants
Unified funding streams = linking housing and services funding for all populations, including case management, employment, and other services funding.	Coordinated Federal Grants
Whittle down applications to eliminate unnecessary/duplicative questions and reports.	Coordinated Federal Grants
Agencies dealing with high-risk populations should have authority and responsibility over clients' housing (child protection, behavioral health, corrections, hospitals, TANF, etc.) - (Work on housing is reimbursable for a range of funding sources (medicaid?!), must be in case plans, must be specifically assessed)	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Align priorities of federal agencies.	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Better tie in with TANF program.	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Cohesion between federal agencies and same standards and definitions between agencies.	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Create federal priority (like VA homeless end in 5 years) across other federal systems to create urgency and priority. HHS, TANF, and DOL for example. Families with multiple challenges.	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Performance measurement and accountability are key.	
Do more to align and promote alignment across mainstream resources. Hold agencies accountable for alignment of mainstream dollars or incentivize agencies that do align.	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Eliminate duplication of services so things are more streamlined at local level.	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Enough coordination and cross-fertilization by federal agency (Standard eligibility criteria, no wrong door, single point of entry, standard intake methodology, ease of access to service, housing, jobs)	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Federal emphasis on issues as priority to state and local government.	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Homeless "czars" to work on homelessness and prevention.	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Integration of funding sources—HUD and HHS. For example SSI eligible also eligible for 811.	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Leadership to pull agencies together.	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Single application for all benefits systems (TANF, SSI/SSDI, GA, etc.)	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Tie in of FQHEs and PSH	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Consistency in data collection requirements. Compare apples to apples ways to compare across country. Provide money for data collection and analysis.	Data Collection and Reporting
Consistency in data collection.	Data Collection and Reporting
Coordinated, aligned funding streams to provide funding for housing and services. Encourage applications from agencies working together and discourage single agency applications; universal reporting.	Data Collection and Reporting
Create common reporting tools to coordinate resources and creating centralized intake model.	Data Collection and Reporting

Data collection/reporting is universal (goes back to having universal contracts, so all data is comparable).	Data Collection and Reporting
Development of meaningful and useful data with clear methods and real-time reporting systems, to be able to make adjustments or change strategies.	Data Collection and Reporting
Fix the HMIS system across the board. This will help develop more collaboration.	Data Collection and Reporting
Funding and reporting data uniform requirements—state, local and federal (common regs/requirements, HMIS talks to each other across continua/statelines)	Data Collection and Reporting
Integration of data from various departments. Use same data elements and then use data.	Data Collection and Reporting
Issue every homeless person a flash drive with anti-virus protection containing all their vital info: med records, military info, insurance info, etc. Attached would be a tracking number that is not military ID or social security number.	Data Collection and Reporting
Make all HMIS systems universal so they “talk” to each other, regardless of continua location/state/region.	Data Collection and Reporting
Streamline to common grant application forms, processes, and data collection.	Data Collection and Reporting
Aligning definitions and funding requirements and communication between federal agencies.	Definitions
Alignment of definitions: What is homeless? Doubled up? On the street?	Definitions
Cohesion between federal agencies and same standards and definitions between agencies.	Definitions
Streamline eligibility requirements	Definitions
Allow for flexibility with the resources. Create common goals that can be met in many ways.	Flexibility
Balance of clarity about priorities. Block grants with geographically/local determination and clear outcomes.	Flexibility
Community Driven Programmatic Design	Flexibility
Federal regulations need to be lessened and more flexibility at the local level.	Flexibility
Federal subsidies should all have a common set of regs/requirements—with flexibility to decide locally how deep, long, etc. AND adequate pay to administer.	Flexibility
Flexibility with accountability (of funding); give local communities the ability to use funding in the way that works bests (fit the funding to the family, not the family to the funding)	Flexibility
Funding should have flexibility built in to allow local communities some discretion about how to target funds to greatest needs.	Flexibility
More flexibility, less red tape	Flexibility
Non-traditional approaches.	Flexibility
Develop an educational system to provide life skills and employment training to people at risk.	Investment target – ed/emp
Enough jobs. Homes with sweat equity. Do with, not for.	Investment target – ed/emp
Find more ways to subsidize wages.	Investment target – ed/emp
Jobs are available for homeless and recently homeless. Workforce systems should be supporting these programs.	Investment target – ed/emp
Life skills as a part of an educational curriculum.	Investment target – ed/emp
Provide employers a tax credit for hiring homeless.	Investment target – ed/emp
Wise employment and income strategies to match/align with homeless strategies.	Investment target – ed/emp
??? subsidies for housing.	Investment target – housing
A tax credit for landlords who lease property for homeless programs or homeless people being rapidly rehoused.	Investment target – housing
Create and locate housing units (new construction and existing units, strengthen relationships with landlords, money toward capital construction)	Investment target – housing
Enough affordable housing. Housing for everyone regardless with a safety net of supports.	Investment target – housing
Federal resources should be directed towards the parts of our programs that are harder to raise funds for privately—for example, affordable housing development.	Investment target – housing
Funding admin for public housing.	Investment target – housing
High tolerance/low barrier 24/7 emergency shelter (short-term with case management upon entry)	Investment target – housing
Housing as a right. Tax credits toward housing for unhoused people.	Investment target – housing
Increase the number of PSH and REALLY affordable housing units through development and vouchers.	Investment target – housing
More long-term subsidies so that people can be housed.	Investment target – housing

More long-term subsidies such as Section 8 to encourage development of PSH by developers using LI HTC funding. Without a long-term subsidy attached to the developer's LI HTC units, they do not want to include PSH units in their developments.	Investment target – housing
More rent assistance with process in place to target the deepest, longest-lasting subsidies to people with the most severe problems.	Investment target – housing
Prioritize and dedicate resources to the development of new affordable housing stock.	Investment target – housing
Promote an array of solutions that local communities can adopt including: (land banking to hold for affordable housing in perpetuity, promote innovation design (see American Planning Association standards, of course, build the will to support funding for housing subsidies on tax credits to landlords who rent below market	Investment target – housing
Quantification of housing production goals for the expansion of affordable housing nationall (500,000 to 5 million? Goal over next 5 years).	Investment target – housing
Section 8 reform? Incentivize short term.	Investment target – housing
Supportive housing	Investment target – housing
Sustainable communities (emphasis on culture, high-density-cluster housing to build community.	Investment target – housing
There should be a HOUSING AUTHORITY in each community—required to coordinate housing and must report back to the community.	Investment target – housing
Transitional housing that it truly transitional	Investment target – housing
True low-income affordable house (ie, fixed income)- (work with landlords to accept subsidies, more housing build for low income)	Investment target – housing
Use the development, redevelopment and ongoing operations of housing to target employment and skill development to the recipients of housing.	Investment target – housing
Resources for prevention; flexible use of funding; HPRP	Investment target – prevention & RR
All communities have ten-year plan in place, Federal strategy should make more resources available to small/rural communities to develop and implement their ten-year plans.	Investment target - regional coord/plng
Design an infrastructure that supports and sustains local collaboratives planning/ending homelessness	Investment target - regional coord/plng
Each region with a plan and inter-regional collaboration using same person to be a point communication.	Investment target - regional coord/plng
Fund Interagency Cooperation Collaboration (incentivization, write rules to encourage, data sharing)	Investment target - regional coord/plng
Inclusion of all providing homeless services within a community, particularly integration with faith-based	Investment target - regional coord/plng
Point persons regionally to facilitate communication cross-jurisdictionally and to monitor progress with engagement of key folks on a long-term basis.	Investment target - regional coord/plng
Whatis purpose of Continuum of Care? Utilize them differently or revitalize.	Investment target - regional coord/plng
Work with each state (providing TA) to create workable plans to end homelessness with concrete benchmarks and assignment of responsibility, as well as to create state ICHs.	Investment target - regional coord/plng
Benefits eligibility: Fund local staff to help people apply for the benefits they are entitled to (SSI/SSDI)	Investment target – services
Federally funded case management should always include housing stability as an eligible staff activity expense (e.g. MA) and case management for clients assessed at high risk of housing instability should include housing stability as a case goal.	Investment target – services
Fund service coordination above the line in assisted housing.	Investment target – services
More federal funding for supportive services, e.g., case managers in schools, links to employment, social security eligibility	Investment target – services
Administration allowances.	Investment targets – general
Food stamps to people with drug felonies.	Investment targets – general
Higher and consistent administrative allowance. CDBG is better tha SHP and ESG.	Investment targets – general
Invest in mass transportation connected to housing (strong mass transportation gives increased employment, housing, and income options).	Investment targets – general
Living wage over minimum wage	Investment targets – general
Mandated self-sufficiency wages for all people—consumers, staff.	Investment targets – general
More admin money.	Investment targets – general
Adequate health care.	Mainstream system accountability

Collaboration and coordination between systems (foster care, prison, mental health, veterans, homeless services) to implement discharge strategies for permanent solutions—a seamless system of service connections.	Mainstream system accountability
Connect TANF data to HMIS data. Allow quick identification of housing needs, ease access to housing program to TANF families, but get TANF to think about housing.	Mainstream system accountability
Create sufficient flexibility within implementing rules so agencies don't have excuses for not aligning. E.g., employment outcomes/targets can't preclude helping homeless.	Mainstream system accountability
Don't create niche programs that pit subgroups against one another. Create programs not just for "homeless" people; create programs that are effective for "hard to serve" populations. For example, existing programs such as workforce development should be held accountable for serving the homeless (and they don't currently do so effectively). We should not be going to Congress to ask for set-aside money for job development for the homeless.	Mainstream system accountability
Ensure access to public housing. Accountability of PHAs. Goals to address homelessness.	Mainstream system accountability
Federal budget programs such as SSDI for newly disabled people need to be more responsive to applications for assistance. Many folks lose housing due to inefficient process.	Mainstream system accountability
Attached stimulus +	Misc
Creating time limits for Section 8 vouchers to create turnover. Protections for elderly and disabled voucher holders.	Misc
Balance of short-term outcomes and long-term strategies. Funding commitment aligned with length of strategies, not tied to political change.	Performance-based funding
Eliminate disincentive to trading in underperforming McKinney programs and increase incentives to adopt evidence-supported practices.	Performance-based funding
Encourage and support collaborations among social service agencies.	Performance-based funding
Ensure accountability in local communities to responding to and design systems that keep families stable.	Performance-based funding
Feds require states to provide basic benefits Medicaid, TANF, Child welfare. Keeping families off streets—outcome requirements	Performance-based funding
Full transparency and accountability for dollars spent and positive measurable results.	Performance-based funding
Funding for programs (federal and state) which are data and outcome-driven.	Performance-based funding
Capitalization of NHTF in a lockbox.	Potential revenue
Capitalize the national Housing Trust Fund.	Potential revenue
National Housing Trust Fund	Potential revenue
Tie mortgage write-off (taxes) to get affluent communities to accept responsibility to build affordable housing (won't get mortgage write-offs unless you support affordable housing locally).	Potential revenue
Demo programs on frequent users.	Research
Document emerging best practices more quickly. Fund research earlier. Innovations in field are way in advance of research and EBP documentation. Market EBPs quickly and efficiently across all service and treatment disciplines.	Research
A coordinate intake system that has one process with access to information and services.	System Design
Agencies develop MOU's with one another so access to services can be provided immediately.	System Design
Connect TANF data to HMIS data. Allow quick identification of housing needs, ease access to housing program to TANF families, but get TANF to think about housing.	System Design
Consider the unique aspects of prevention programs which are vastly different consumers compared to chronic homeless populations; do not dump them together through funding; if Feds want to do Prevention, they must be comfortable with the abstractions and scope of potentialities that come with serving households who are at risk of losing their permanent housing; let go of trying to predict if the household would or would not knock on a shelter's door. Focus on stabilizing the working poor.	System Design
Create common reporting tools to coordinate resources and creating centralized intake model.	System Design
Data system that allows sharing across systems.	System Design
Document that we are using scarce resources well.	System Design
Include specific interventions/best practices for vulnerable populations—youth, veterans, persons with disabilities, victims of trafficking, and undocumented persons.	System Design
Step up process—start with short-term help and see if that works	System Design
Aggressively promote best practices at systems level: what are the key things systems can do?	Technical Assistance (TA)
Develop training system for people in the business of ending homelessness to provide access to best strategies, with assistance in orienting new staff.	Technical Assistance (TA)

Document emerging best practices more quickly. Fund research earlier. Innovations in field are way in advance of research and EBP documentation. Market EBPs quickly and efficiently across all service and treatment disciplines.	Technical Assistance (TA)
Increased use of technology to share best practices and program models (i.e., webcasts, webinars, etc.) that guide people how to use program resources effectively and efficiently.	Technical Assistance (TA)
Information and best practices available to all.	Technical Assistance (TA)
Provide best practice training for staff and state/local agencies.	Technical Assistance (TA)
Provide more opportunities regionally for agencies to learn, share best practices, give input on federal planning (like this conference offers, but free or reduced cost to limit costs for agencies who cannot afford to travel to NAEH)	Technical Assistance (TA)
Provide TA and capacity building	Technical Assistance (TA)
Provide TA to help agencies collaborate/strategize/plan to apply for coordinated funding.	Technical Assistance (TA)
Technical assistance on how to do systems change on a local level (CoC focus maybe)	Technical Assistance (TA)
Training and technical assistance to support the work in the field.	Technical Assistance (TA)
Work with each state (providing TA) to create workable plans to end homelessness with concrete benchmarks and assignment of responsibility, as well as to create state ICHs.	Technical Assistance (TA)
Service recipients play a key role in decision making process including setting key goals and strategies on national level.	Vision of Success/Indicators of Success

**Question: How can federal resources and practices be wisely-aligned and cost-effectively applied to amplify our state/local work?**

16%	Coordinated Federal Grants	Comments suggesting the need to pool funding, better coordinate funding applications and grant program regulations, or align grant restrictions across agencies.
11%	Data Collection and Reporting	Comments advocating for consistent and streamlined data collection and reporting requirements across agencies, including issues with HMIS.
10%	Coordinated Interagency Strategy	Comments that suggest a need for holistic and coordinated planning across Federal agencies and mainstream systems to better address homelessness.
9%	Flexibility	Comments suggesting a need to maintain or enhance the flexibility and versatility of funding and programming for homeless services.
9%	Technical Assistance (TA)	Comments related to the need for training and provision of technical assistance to improve use of federal resources and to disseminate effective strategies and best practices.
5%	Communication (external)	Comments highlighting the need for enhanced communication between Federal agencies and communities, concerted strategies to raise public awareness, the need to make information on programs widely available, and for coordinated messaging from agencies.
5%	Investment Targets – General	General comments advocating more funding/resources for programs, communities, or subpopulations.
5%	Mainstream System Accountability	Comments on the responsibility of mainstream systems to address homelessness, and those that pertain to assessment and removal of barriers that drive people to homelessness or complicate access to solutions.

5%	System Design	Comments relating to the promotion of effective system practices or recommended ways of designing homeless systems or delivering homeless assistance.
4%	Definitions	Comments requesting consistent definitions and common requirements to document homelessness and other related terms.
4%	Investment Target – Education/ Employment	Comments suggesting a need for increased funding and resources for education and employment strategies for homeless people.
4%	Investment Target – Services	Comments indicating a need for increased funding for treatment services, early intervention, child-focused services, and life skills training for homeless people.
4%	Performance-based Funding	Comments promoting greater accountability for local programs and grantees, investment in performance, and the shifting of resources away from poorly performing strategies and programs.
2%	Investment Target – Housing	Comments suggesting increased funding for housing solutions, including more affordable housing, housing vouchers, PSH, and other specialized housing models.
2%	Investment Target – Regional Coordination/Planning	Comments pertaining to support or increased funding for regional coordination efforts and planning at the regional/local level.
2%	Potential Revenue	Comments presenting ideas on new revenue sources that could be used to fund proposed interventions.
2%	Research	Comments suggesting areas where we need more research to inform strategy development of homeless assistance.
1%	Miscellaneous	A comment that does not fit it any of the thematic codes.

**Question: How can federal resources and practices be wisely-aligned and cost-effectively applied to amplify our state/local work?**

Congress needs to be well-informed on limitations of federal programs.	Communication
Create a dialogue between federal agencies and local communities (and Continuums of care). Often times, government agencies only link to communities is through reporting requirements and audits; it would be great to have more opportunities for conversation and putting a face to large government agencies.	Communication
More broadly available/transparent information about and access to federal resources and programs.	Communication
Marketing and alignment across silos. Making resources and access person-centered.	
Positive publicity, PSA, movies	Communication
Align federal partners regulations; more coordination for grantees.	Coordinated Federal Grants
Aligning definitions and funding requirements and communication between federal agencies.	Coordinated Federal Grants
Aligning funding across federal agencies to achieve some funding outcomes—keep doing cross agency coordination of funding (consolidated or joint grants).	Coordinated Federal Grants
Consistent fiscal years for HUD programs.	Coordinated Federal Grants
Consolidate applications for federal resources. For example: Collaborative initiative to end chronic homelessness; Unify application criteria and formatting for reporting; Application process that allows for different agencies to fund parts of programs based on the people who are served. A PSH project that serves 20% vets should be able to get a slice of the VA funding based on that single application; Federal programs should run through the local planning and coordination efforts. For example, VASH should prioritize vets through HMIS and local prioritization rather than picking their own tenants.	Coordinated Federal Grants
Coordinated, aligned funding streams to provide funding for housing and services. Encourage applications from agencies working together and discourage single agency applications; universal reporting.	Coordinated Federal Grants

Coordination among federal departments—HUD, DOL, SSA, Ed, etc.—to offer grants together. Synchronize funding cycles. Link housing services to education systems.	Coordinated Federal Grants
Coordination of housing and service dollars.	Coordinated Federal Grants
Easier access to funds for smaller agencies (and smaller communities).	Coordinated Federal Grants
Give dollars directly to local governments, don't stop at states. Put local governments in charge.	Coordinated Federal Grants
Simplify the application/reporting process for both clients and agencies. - More online - No wrong door - More flexible - Data Sharing - Universal application for federal funds across agencies	Coordinated Federal Grants
Streamline to common grant application forms, processes, and data collection.	Coordinated Federal Grants
Whittle down applications to eliminate unnecessary/duplicative questions and reports.	Coordinated Federal Grants
Align priorities of federal agencies.	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Better tie in with TANF program.	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Do more to align and promote alignment across mainstream resources. Hold agencies accountable for alignment of mainstream dollars or incentivize agencies that do align.	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Eliminate duplication of services so things are more streamlined at local level.	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Federal emphasis on issues as priority to state and local government.	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Homeless "czars" to work on homelessness and prevention.	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Leadership to pull agencies together.	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Tie in of FQHEs and PSH	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Consistency in data collection requirements. Compare apples to apples ways to compare across country. Provide money for data collection and analysis.	Data Collection and Reporting
Consistency in data collection.	Data Collection and Reporting
Create common reporting tools to coordinate resources and creating centralized intake model.	Data Collection and Reporting
Funding and reporting data uniform requirements—state, local and federal	Data Collection and Reporting
Integration of data from various departments. Use same data elements and then use data.	Data Collection and Reporting
Issue every homeless person a flash drive with anti-virus protection containing all their vital info: med records, military info, insurance info, etc. Attached would be a tracking number that is not military ID or social security number.	Data Collection and Reporting
Simplify the application/reporting process for both clients and agencies. - More online - No wrong door - More flexible - Data Sharing - Universal application for federal funds across agencies	Data Collection and Reporting
Streamline to common grant application forms, processes, and data collection.	Data Collection and Reporting
Aligning definitions and funding requirements and communication between federal agencies.	Definitions
Alignment of definitions: What is homeless? Doubled up? On the street?	Definitions
Streamline eligibility requirements	Definitions
Allow for flexibility with the resources. Create common goals that can be met in many ways.	Flexibility
Balance of clarity about priorities. Block grants with geographically/local determination and clear outcomes.	Flexibility
Create sufficient flexibility within implementing rules so agencies don't have excuses for not aligning. E.g., employment outcomes/targets can't preclude helping homeless.	Flexibility
Federal regulations need to be lessened and more flexibility at the local level.	Flexibility
Flexibility with accountability (of funding); give local communities the ability to use funding in the way that works best (fit the funding to the family, not the family to the funding)	Flexibility
Funding should have flexibility built in to allow local communities some discretion about how to target funds to greatest needs.	Flexibility
Non-traditional approaches.	Flexibility
Enough jobs. Homes with sweat equity. Do with, not for.	Investment target – ed/emp
Life skills as a part of an educational curriculum.	Investment target – ed/emp
Mandated self-sufficiency wages for all people—consumers, staff.	Investment target – ed/emp
Enough affordable housing. Housing for everyone regardless with a safety net of supports.	Investment target – housing
There should be a HOUSING AUTHORITY in each community—required to coordinate housing and must report back to the community.	Investment target – housing
Fund Interagency Cooperation Collaboration: - Incentivization, write rules to encourage data sharing	Investment target - regional coord/plng
What is purpose of Continuum of Care? Utilize them differently or revitalize.	Investment target - regional coord/plng
Benefits eligibility: Fund local staff to help people apply for the benefits they are entitled to (SSI/SSDI)	Investment target – services
Federally funded case management should always include housing stability as an eligible staff activity expense (e.g. MA) and case management for clients assessed at high risk of housing instability should include housing stability as a case goal.	Investment target – services

More federal funding for supportive services, e.g., case managers in schools, links to employment, social security eligibility	Investment target – services
Administration allowances.	Investment targets – general
Food stamps to people with drug felonies.	Investment targets – general
Higher and consistent administrative allowance. CDBG is better than SHP and ESG.	Investment targets – general
Invest in mass transportation connected to housing (strong mass transportation gives increased employment, housing, and income options).	Investment targets – general
Adequate health care.	Mainstream system accountability
Create sufficient flexibility within implementing rules so agencies don't have excuses for not aligning. E.g., employment outcomes/targets can't preclude helping homeless.	Mainstream system accountability
Ensure access to public housing. Accountability of PHAs. Goals to address homelessness.	Mainstream system accountability
Federal budget programs such as SSDI for newly disabled people need to be more responsive to applications for assistance. Many folks lose housing due to inefficient process.	Mainstream system accountability
Attached stimulus +	Misc
Balance of short-term outcomes and long-term strategies. Funding commitment aligned with length of strategies, not tied to political change.	Performance-based funding
Eliminate disincentive to trading in underperforming McKinney programs and increase incentives to adopt evidence-supported practices.	Performance-based funding
Funding for programs (federal and state) which are data and outcome-driven.	Performance-based funding
National Housing Trust Fund	Potential revenue
Tie mortgage write-off (taxes) to get affluent communities to accept responsibility to build affordable housing (won't get mortgage write-offs unless you support affordable housing locally).	Potential revenue
Demo programs on frequent users.	Research
Document emerging best practices more quickly. Fund research earlier. Innovations in field are way in advance of research and EBP documentation. Market EBPs quickly and efficiently across all service and treatment disciplines.	Research
Connect TANF data to HMIS data. Allow quick identification of housing needs, ease access to housing program to TANF families, but get TANF to think about housing.	System Design
Consider the unique aspects of prevention programs which are vastly different consumers compared to chronic homeless populations; do not dump them together through funding; if Feds want to do prevention, they must be comfortable with the abstractions and scope of potentialities that come with serving households who are at risk of losing their permanent housing; let go of trying to predict if the household would or would not knock on a shelter's door. Focus on stabilizing the working poor.	System Design
Create common reporting tools to coordinate resources and creating centralized intake model.	System Design
Universality of considering housing needs. If you are receiving federal money, you should incorporate housing.	System Design
Document emerging best practices more quickly. Fund research earlier. Innovations in field are way in advance of research and EBP documentation. Market EBPs quickly and efficiently across all service and treatment disciplines.	Technical Assistance (TA)
Increased use of technology to share best practices and program models (i.e., webcasts, webinars, etc.) that guide people how to use program resources effectively and efficiently.	Technical Assistance (TA)
Information and best practices available to all.	Technical Assistance (TA)
Provide best practice training for staff and state/local agencies.	Technical Assistance (TA)
Provide TA and capacity building	Technical Assistance (TA)
Provide TA to help agencies collaborate/strategize/plan to apply for coordinated funding.	Technical Assistance (TA)
Technical assistance on how to do systems change on a local level (CoC focus maybe)	Technical Assistance (TA)