

HOMELESS POLICY ACADEMIES: IMPROVING ACCESS TO MAINSTREAM SERVICES FOR PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

<http://www.hrsa.gov/homeless/>

The purpose of this site is to share information from the Policy Academies as well as information from the Federal Planning Committee. This includes materials from the Academies, post-Academy technical assistance information, and useful links to more information on the issue of homelessness.

Policy Academy 1: CT, IL, KY, MD, NJ, NV, OR, WA In November, 2001, the first Homeless Policy Academy entitled, "Improving Access to Mainstream Services for 'Chronically' Homeless Persons, Including Individuals with Serious Mental Health and/or Substance Abuse Problems," was held in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Policy Academy 2: CO, GA, HI, ME, NH, NY, Puerto Rico In April, 2002, the second Homeless Policy Academy entitled, "Improving Access to Mainstream Services for 'Chronically' Homeless Persons, Including Individuals with Serious Mental Health and/or Substance Abuse Problems," was held in Boston, Massachusetts. The US Department of Veterans Affairs was added to the roster as a sponsor for this Policy Academy.

Policy Academy 3: AR, AZ, FL, KY, MO, MS, NC, NM, SC In January 2003 a third Policy Academy, focused on chronic homelessness was held in Atlanta, Georgia.

Policy Academy 4: IN, KS, MA, MT, NJ, PA, RI, SD, TX, UT In May 2003, a fourth Policy Academy, focused on chronic homelessness, was held in Chicago, Illinois. The US Department of Labor was added to the roster as a sponsor for this Policy Academy.

Policy Academy 5: CT, DC, ID, NE, NV, OK, OR, VT, WY In October 2003, a fifth Policy Academy, focused on chronic homelessness, was held in Denver, Colorado.

Policy Academy 6: DE, IA, LA, MD, ND, OH, VT, Virgin Islands, WV, WI The sixth and final Policy Academy focusing on chronic homelessness convened December 9-11, 2003 in Miami, Florida.

Policy Academy 7: AZ, FL, IA, ME, MI, NH, NC, OK, Puerto Rico, TN A second Policy Academy focusing on families with children who are homeless convened January 27-29, 2004 in Miami, Florida.

Policy Academy 8: AL, AK, AR, GA, HI, KS, MN, PA A third Policy Academy focusing on families with children who are homeless convened May 20-22, 2005 in Houston, Texas. The US Department of Education was added to the roster as a sponsor for this Policy Academy.

Policy Academy 9: CA, CO, IN, MA, MT, RI, UT A fourth Policy Academy focusing on families with children who are homeless convened on November 1-3, 2005, in Anaheim, California.

In-State Policy Academies:

- Two mini-**Policy Academies for the Pacific Basin** focusing on individuals and families with children who are homeless convened on April 13-16, 2004 in Pago Pago, American Samoa, and on April 20-23, 2004 in Tumon, Guam (with a team from the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands participating).
- An **In-State Policy Academy** focusing on chronic homelessness convened April 28-30, 2004 in Olympia, Washington. National Learning Meeting As a result of the success of the Homeless Policy Academies and the desire to highlight outcomes and lessons learned from these academies, a National Learning Meeting was held on October 7-8, 2004 in Arlington, Virginia. Representatives from fifty-five States and Territories were in attendance. The objectives of this meeting were to:

1. Showcase innovative approaches that States/Territories have implemented
2. Provide opportunities for peer-to-peer technical assistance
3. Renew the States'/Territories' commitment to fully implementing their action plans.

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