

## THE REGIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS AND HOUSING



### *Together we:*

Identify common problems,  
search for useful solutions

### *Collectively we participate in:*

- ◆ Policy development
- ◆ Training
- ◆ Information sharing
- ◆ Action strategies
- ◆ Program design

**WELCOME**

OCTOBER 17, 2008

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

### **1. Legislative and Budget News**

*California ESG budget cuts; Congress and The Housing Trust Fund; McKinney-Vento reauthorization progress; Runaway and Homeless Youth changes. What does it all mean for your agency?*

### **2. Homelessness and the Economic Crisis: the Actual Impact—What's the bottom line?**

*In April, the National Coalition for the Homeless published a report claiming that the mortgage crisis has led to increase of homelessness. In the wake of Congress' financial bail out for Wall Street, come discuss what's really happening in your community. How should we advocate for changes? What can we do now in our local community?*

### **3. E-Snaps Debrief**

*Share your thoughts, frustrations, and hopes for next year.*

### **4. New Proposed Governance Structure and Standards for HMIS**

*Over the past 10 months, HUD has convened specialized workgroups to review the current HMIS Data and Technical Standards and develop a comprehensive set of recommended revisions. HUD revealed these recommendations at the 2008 National HMIS Training in September. Learn what is happening and give your feedback.*

### **5. The Five Fundamentals to Prevent & End Homelessness**

*An assembly of national organizations has launched the "Five Fundamentals to Prevent and End Homelessness Campaign," an effort to challenge candidates for public office at all levels and branches of government to pledge to include the prevention of and end to homelessness among their public policy priorities. Just in time for the election, get involved with this campaign!*

**6. Half in Ten: From Poverty to Prosperity**

*Half in Ten is a strategy to reduce poverty in the United States by 50 percent within 10 years. Learn about this new collaborative effort, how it has the attention of Congress, and how it may help our work.*

**7. Bid Farewell to Karen Gruneisen**

*Help us give Karen Gruneisen a warm farewell as she moves to Episcopal Community Services of San Francisco after 8 years of working at HomeBase.*

**8. Reminders and Brief Updates.**

- *Housing California's Creating Community 2008: Planting Ideas, Growing Solutions is December 8-10, 2008 in Los Angeles at the Wilshire Grand.*
- *The next Regional Steering Committee meeting is January 23, 2009.*
- *The National Alliance to End Homelessness' National Conference on Ending Family Homelessness is February 11-13, 2009 in San Diego at the San Diego Hotel & Marina.*

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**Possible 2009 Meeting Topics:**

- Hear about the amendments that Congress recently enacted for the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), which expand the definition of disability. How will these changes impact your agency?*
- Discuss best practices, focusing on a number of initiatives through SAMHSA and HUD that were tested in the Bay Area and nationally. What can we learn from these initiatives both about how to end homelessness and how to secure additional funding?*
- Follow the plight of homeless veterans, both those returning from Iraq and Afghanistan and those who are now seniors. How can we work more effectively with the Veteran's Administration to meet their needs?*
- Analyze and comment upon the new, draft HMIS standards. What kind of feedback should we send in response to these changes? What kinds of changes will need to be made at the agency, community, and regional levels?*
- Learn how communities are implementing the biannual homeless count, improving data collection year round, and using data to shape policy. How can you improve your data? What are the best ways to share this information?*
- With renewed interest in homeless families through the Rapid Rehousing money, come learn about 2009's NOFA grantees for these pilot projects. What are they doing? How can you integrate some of their best practices?*