KS BOS COC STRATEGIC PLAN

2023 - 2025

Written By

Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition

www.kshomeless.com

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ABOUT US

The Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition, Inc. (KSHC) is a not-for-profit organization with ten employees. KSHC is governed by a seven-member Board of Directors. Our work is to coordinate with communities throughout Kansas to provide advocacy, training, education, and support to end homelessness in Kansas.

KS BoS CoC Collaborative Applicant

KSHC serves as the Collaborative Applicant for the Kansas Balance of State Continuum of Care (KS BoS CoC), which covers 101 mostly rural counties.

As the Collaborative Applicant, KSHC is tasked with coordinating the Annual Point-In-Time (PIT) homeless count, the Housing Inventory County (HIC), and applying for the CoC funds on behalf of the CoC.

KSHC provides support to the KS BoS CoC by helping to organize and coordinate regional meetings aimed at developing plans to address homelessness in each of the 9 regions of the 101 counties.

In addition, KSHC serves as the Coordinated Entry Lead for the KS BoS CoC and through our partnership with Kansas Housing Corporation KSHC serves as the system administrator for the KS BoS CoC's Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).

Due to the diverse nature of our work, we are in the perfect position to gather the information, opinions and data to draft a two-year strategic plan for the KS BoS CoC.
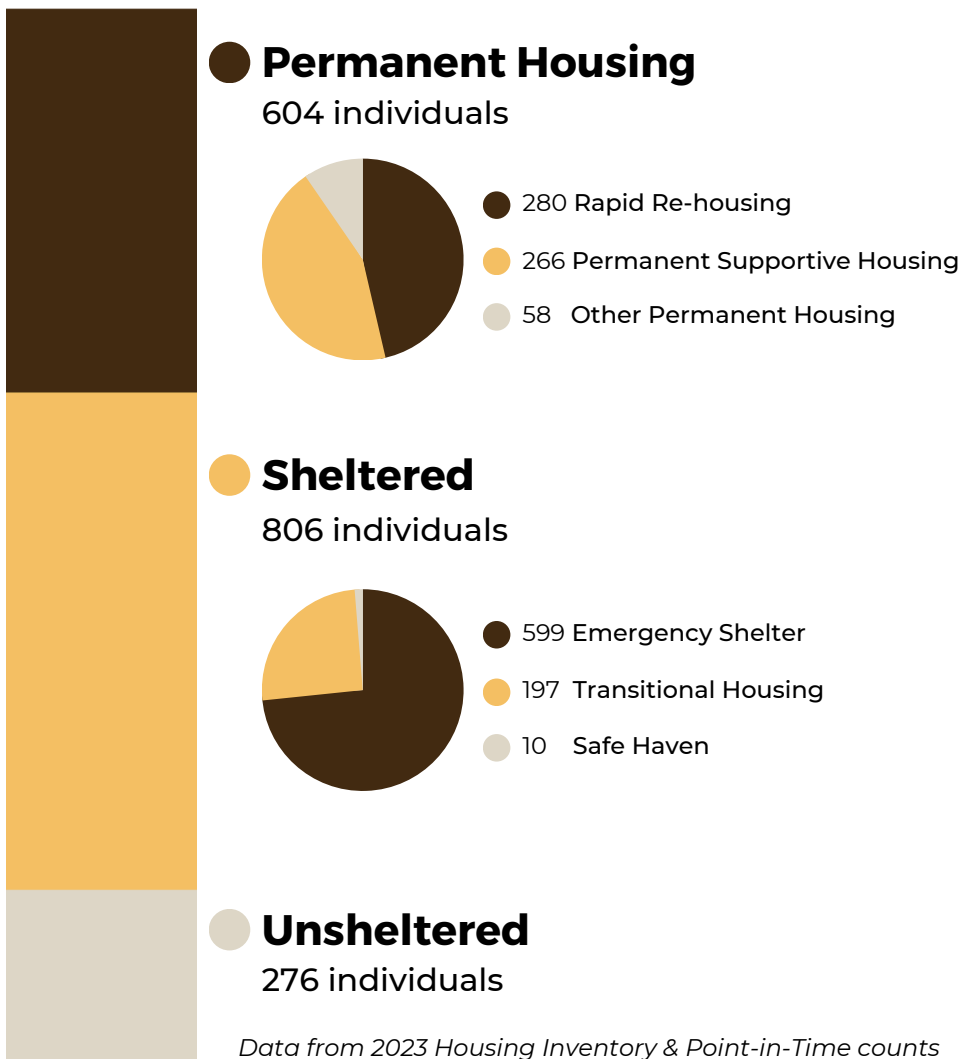
HOMELESSNESS IN KANSAS

In Kansas, the Kansas Balance of State Continuum of Care (KS BoS CoC) is a broad group of individual stakeholders and organizations who are engaged to end homelessness for all families and individuals throughout 101 counties through providing leadership and coordination of services and support, partnerships, and resource navigation.

DATA

The Point-in-Time (PIT) count is a count of sheltered and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness on a single night in January. HUD requires that Continuums of Care conduct an annual count of people experiencing homelessness who are sheltered in emergency shelter, transitional housing, and Safe Havens on a single night.

● Permanent Housing
604 individuals

- 280 Rapid Re-housing
- 266 Permanent Supportive Housing
- 58 Other Permanent Housing

● Sheltered
806 individuals

- 599 Emergency Shelter
- 197 Transitional Housing
- 10 Safe Haven

● Unsheltered
276 individuals

Data from 2023 Housing Inventory & Point-in-Time counts

THE COC IS RESPONSIBLE TO:

- Hold membership meetings
- Invite new members
- Adopt and update a Governance Charter
- Establish performance targets
- Monitor project and system performance
- Develop system-wide policies and procedures
- Plan and conduct an annual Point in Time (PIT) and Housing Inventory Count (HIC)
- Conduct an annual gaps analysis of homeless needs and services
- Consult with Emergency Solutions Grants recipients and Consolidated Planning jurisdictions
- Coordinate the delivery of services by operating a Coordinated Entry System.
- Complete an annual application for HUD CoC Funding.

DEVELOPMENT OF STRATEGIC PLAN

In October of 2022, the CoC Steering Committee advocated for the formation of a Strategic Planning Workgroup to create a 2023 to 2025 KS BoS CoC Strategic Plan and Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition began recruitment for membership.

From January 13th to February 13th, Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition as the CoC Lead Agency launched a CoC-wide survey to receive input on how the KS BoS CoC can improve our overall Homeless Response System in Kansas. This survey was targeted towards the following persons:

1. Community Members such as a person with lived experience of homelessness, community advocate, volunteer, a member of the faith community, member of the LGBTQIA+ community, persons living with a disability, elder/senior person, veteran and etc.
2. Homeless Service Provider such as a non-profit organization providing homeless assistance, organization providing homeless housing, victim service provider, youth homeless provider, and etc.
3. Mainstream Resource Provider such as a housing developer, healthcare provider, mental health care provider, substance abuse treatment provider, veteran provider, LGBTQIA+ service organization, criminal legal system, public/private funder, unit of local government, unit of state government, business community, media, and etc.

The survey was provided completely anonymously and did not collect individual names, organization names or identifying information to ensure honest and open feedback was provided.

The survey requested feedback in the areas of KS BoS CoC Governance, Membership, Partnerships, Committees, CoC Regions, CoC NOFO Process, the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), the Coordinated Entry System (CES), CoC Trainings, Direct Services, and Equity. Most sections allowed the respondent to provide feedback on which items the CoC was doing well in and which items that needed improvement in. Each question provided an opportunity to provide written feedback as well as a rating system.

Due to the various answers, the Strategic Planning Workgroup met from February 14th to April 27th to review the results and determine common themes to create Strategic Goals for this plan. On April 27th, the first draft was provided for review at the Strategic Planning Workgroup meeting. On Wednesday, May 3rd, the second draft was provided for review at the CoC Membership Meeting and was opened for public comment. The Strategic Plan was open for public comment until May 18th. The Strategic Plan was revised based on public comments, specific input from the agencies/entities that were assigned the objectives.

The CoC Steering Committee approved the 2023 to 2025 KS Bos CoC Strategic Plan on _____.

GOAL ONE
IMPROVE COMMUNICATION EFFORTS

Objective	Output	Assigned To	Timeline
Improve communication with providers, those experiencing homelessness and between all Kansas CoCs.	• Maintain and publish a list of CoC Member Agencies. • Maintain and publish a list of CES Access Points • Maintain and publish a list of Housing Providers with eligibility requirements and if they are low barrier (accepts animals, handicap accessible, etc.) • Create a Committee Chair workgroup to develop, goals, and performance measures of committees for committee charters and governance charter.	KSHC, CES Lead, Regional Coordinators, CoC Steering Committee	2023
Provide education to the KS BoS CoC.	• Provide education regarding CoC roles, responsibilities, membership, and on the collaborative applicant.	KSHC	2023
Provide regional based information.	• Clarify Regional Coordinator roles in the Governance Charter. • Update Regional Plans to include a detailed composition of the regional demographic, regional recruitment for membership/resource goals, and detailed information on agencies and partnerships.	CoC Membership, Regional Coordinators, KSHC	2023 - 2024
Provide clear information regarding the annual NOFO.	• Utilize plain language regarding information on the NOFO process and requirements to target non-CoC agencies.	KSHC	2023

GOAL TWO
IMPROVE KS BOS COC GOVERNANCE

Objective	Output	Assigned To	Timeline
Implement an onboarding process for New CoC Steering Committee Members	• **Provide a written process on how to become a CoC Steering Committee member.** • **Provide information/marketing to recruit CoC Steering Committee member.** • **Provide an optional training to new CoC Steering Committee members regarding roles, responsibilities and authority.**	**Nominations Committee, KSHC/CoC Steering Committee**	**2023**
Diversify CoC Steering Committee Membership	• **Evaluate and provide results of current diversity of the CoC Steering Committee in regard to age, gender, sexual orientation, race and ethnicity.** • **Recruit diverse representatives.** • **Increase non-HUD funded agency representatives.**	**Membership and Nomination Committee**	**2023**
Increase CoC Membership	• **Provide incentives and reasons to participate in the CoC, targeted towards non-homeless providers.** • **Track member participation in the annual CoC meetings and committees.**	**KSHC, Regional Coordinators, Committee Chairs**	**2023 and 2024**
Improve CoC Committee operations	• **Add requirements to CoC/ESG funded agencies into the CoC Written Standards.** • **Ensure all committees have a Chair and a Secretary.** • **Provide onboarding to Committee Chairs regarding meeting operations.** • **Implement a Committe Charter to describe each committee's roles, responsibilities, goals, and authority.**	**CoC Steering Committee, CoC Membership, KSHC, Committee chairs**	**2023 and 2024**

GOAL THREE
IMPROVE COC PROGRAMMING

Objective	Output	Assigned To	Timeline
Leverage mainstream resources for the regions.	**Increase Healthcare Partnerships and Services among CoC agencies.** **Increase Landlord Recruitment/Engagement across the CoC.** **Increase SOAR** **Increase partnerships with Housing Authorities to leverage housing.**	**Regional Coordinators, KSHC, Membership & Nomination Committee, KDADs**	**2023 - 2025**
Provide a System Wide Equity Analysis	**Evaluate equity outcomes for race, ethnicity, disability, LGBTQIA+, age, and gender.** **Evaluate regional funding levels vs. needs.**	**CoC Equity Committee, HMIS Oversight Committee, P & C Committee**	**2023 - 2024**
Establish a Case Management Workgroup	**Provide a meeting environment for Case Managers to lead trainings, education, provide information, share documents and case management practices.** **Cover basic case management practices such as assessing needs, wants, strengths, and preferences of clients. Creating viable plans to assist in referring, accessing, utilizing needed services and supports and etc.** **Cover targeted case management practices such as behavioral health, physical health, substance abuse, disabilities, crisis intervention, ADLs, overcoming barriers and etc.**	**KSHC (Destination Home Department), Case Managers**	**2023 - 2025**
Expand Program Intervention Methods	**Increase Street Outreach programs in accordance with the CoC Plan and the established goals to becoming a High Performing Community.** **Increase Emergency Shelter/Motel Voucher programs (HUD prefers non-congregate)** **Increase Housing programs (PSH, RRH, TH-RRH)** **Increase Supportive Service Only programs**	**The Entire CoC**	**2023 - 2025**

GOAL FOUR
IMPROVE FUNDING EFFORTS

Objective	Output	Assigned To	Timeline
Provide detailed information and training regarding the each NOFO.	• **What are the eligible project types and requirements?** • **What are the HUD directives?** • **How are points earned?** • **Provide one on one Technical Assistance to applicants after awards. (Required for CoC funded agencies).** • **Provide detailed information to committees and workgroups on how they can improve and collaborate on the NOFO.**	**P & C Committee, KSHC, Committee Chairs**	**Annually**
Continue to improve the CoC NOFO process	• **Establish a year-round process and tentative schedule with trainings, meetings and marketing.** • **Request all applicants to submit a feedback survey regarding all aspects of the NOFO.** • **Conduct a PPRN analysis on a regional level for funding perception.** • **Analyze the Annual Performance Reports, System Performance Measures in the GAP Analysis for the NOFO.** • **Expand Staffing Capacity for Collaborative Applicant.**	**KSHC, All CoC applicants, Regional Coordinators, P&C Committee, HMIS Admin**	**2023 - 2025**
Become a High Performing CoC	• **All CoC funded projects must expend at least 95% or more of their CoC funds.** • **Create project type priorities and communicate it to applicants.** • **Determine if funds should be used to provide homelessness prevention activities and develop a plan if approved.** • **Lower the Mean Length of Homelessness in the CoC.** • **Maintain a low rate of people returning to homelessness for 2 years.**	**The Entire CoC**	**2025**

GOAL FIVE
IMPROVE DATA AND REFERRAL SYSTEMS

Objective	Output	Assigned To	Timeline
Expand HMIS to non-HUD funded programs	• **Establish a plan to incorporate additional agencies/programs that assist those experiencing homelessness in HMIS.** • **Target agencies on the HIC to join HMIS to increase the CoC Score until at least 80% of ES, TH and PH.** • **Expand funding and staff capacity for HMIS and CES.** • **Determine capacity for services/programs for mainstream benefit referrals and outcomes.**	**HMIS Oversight Committee, CES Committee, Membership & Nominations Committee, P&C Committee, CoC Steering Committee**	**2023 - 2025**
Expand data collection and reporting.	• **Improve data collection for cities/counties during assessments and program enrollment.** • **Track program level services in HMIS.** • **Streamline Data Reporting** • **Revise the CES assessment, CES enrollment and prioritization process.** • **Expand funding and staff capacity for HMIS and CES.**	**HMIS Oversight Committee, CES Committee, CoC Steering Committee**	**2023 - 2024**
Expand data reporting methods.	• **Train agencies on how to run Data Quality reports, analyze it and fix errors.**	**HMIS Oversight Committee, Director of HMIS, HMIS Agencies**	**2023 - 2024**
Expand training efforts.	• **Provide trainings on key policies and procedures regarding HMIS/CES.** • **Provide trainings on data quality requirements.**	**HMIS Oversight Committee, CES Committee, Director of HMIS & CES**	**2023 - 2025**