**YUMA COALITION TO END HOMELESSNESS**

**Strategic Planning Committee**

**Meeting Minutes**

Vision: The Yuma Coalition to End Homelessness is committed to assisting individuals and families who become homeless or are at risk of becoming homeless to gain housing stability, self-sufficiency and improved quality of life. Toward this end, over the next ten years, the Yuma Coalition to End Homelessness will implement and expand a comprehensive Continuum of Care to prevent and end the tragedy of homelessness.

**DATE: Tuesday, July 22nd 2025**

**Time: 2:00pm-3:00pm**

**LOCATION: Achieve Human Services**

**3250A East 40th Street, AZ 85365**

**ZOOM**

Welcome and introductions

1. Call meeting to order 2:12pm
2. **Attendees:**

Lucia Wilson- Achieve

Elvis Kost- Achieve

Carmen Gardea- APS

Miguel Villalpando- NCHP

Nidia Herrera- AZ@work

Diana Ortega-First Thing First

Stephanie Espinoza- HHW

Jorge Herrera –RCFBzH

1. **Summary**: The discussion centered on strategic planning for addressing homelessness in the community, focusing on the strategic plan for 2025-2026. Lucia Wilson outlined key benchmarks, such as reducing first-time homelessness and maintaining high retention rates in permanent supportive housing. She expressed concerns about potential funding cuts and the political climate's impact on initiatives, emphasizing the need for coordinated efforts among local agencies. The conversation highlighted the importance of community engagement and accurate data collection to effectively tackle homelessness.

Data sources for system performance measures were discussed, with Lucia referencing tools like Tableau and the Arizona Department of Housing. Diana Ortega emphasized the necessity for collaboration among organizations, particularly those with access to the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). Challenges faced by outreach agencies in data entry and ensuring the inclusion of unsheltered individuals in housing lists were noted. The need for accurate reporting and the establishment of SMART goals to enhance organizational capacity and documentation of efforts were also highlighted.

Lucia proposed bi-monthly community-based outreach meetings to improve engagement and referrals to coordinated entry assessment locations. The need for better outreach to the homeless population was stressed, along with the importance of identifying partners for outreach efforts in underserved areas. The discussion included the status of Housing America and the cooperative building initiative that promotes homeownership through "sweat equity." Lucia advocated for a comprehensive approach to first-time homelessness, including rapid assessment protocols and prioritizing individuals in urgent need of housing services, while also emphasizing the importance of communication and collaboration among local agencies.

1. Updated Strategic Plan:

a. Pick 2 action items to be worked on Strategic Plan throughout the year

b. Picked 3 action plans to work on: PIT Count, First Time homelessness PSH

Retention

c. Provided action plans and target dates for completion.

d. Updated Strategies/Anticipated Outcomes:

1. Follow ups:
   1. Update numbers of 2025 PIT Count on Strategic Plan
   2. Reach out to Comite Bienestar (Las Brisas Sunset Apartments)  
      Fabi (928)502-9575
   3. Reach out to Housing America: [ygalindo@hacorp.org](mailto:ygalindo@hacorp.org) (928)627-4221 Yolanda invite to speak at LCEH Conference in November
   4. Lucia Wilson will finalize the selection of two benchmarks for the strategic plan for 2025-2026 based on recent discussions and data.
   5. Diana Ortega will explore the possibility of creating SMART goals to enhance the capacity of organizations involved in coordinated entry.
   6. Lucia Wilson will document the outreach efforts and ensure that the information about available services is disseminated to the community.
2. Meeting End : 4:15pm
3. Next Meeting scheduled 8/19/25 @2:00pm