

Webinar Starting Shortly!

Let us know where you are!

1. Click the marker icon to open the annotation toolbar -top left.
2. Click the arrow then click on the State to mark where you are.
3. Click the arrow again to stop using it.



MI Balance of State COC webinar





Welcome

- We will do introductions based on where you are located in the state, starting in the UP
- Tell us your name, agency and role with Veterans
- Through this series, we want to hear from you about what is working, what is a challenge, what you are working on, concerned with.....

WebEx Technology: Communication

You are muted.



Have technology issues?
Type into the Chat box.

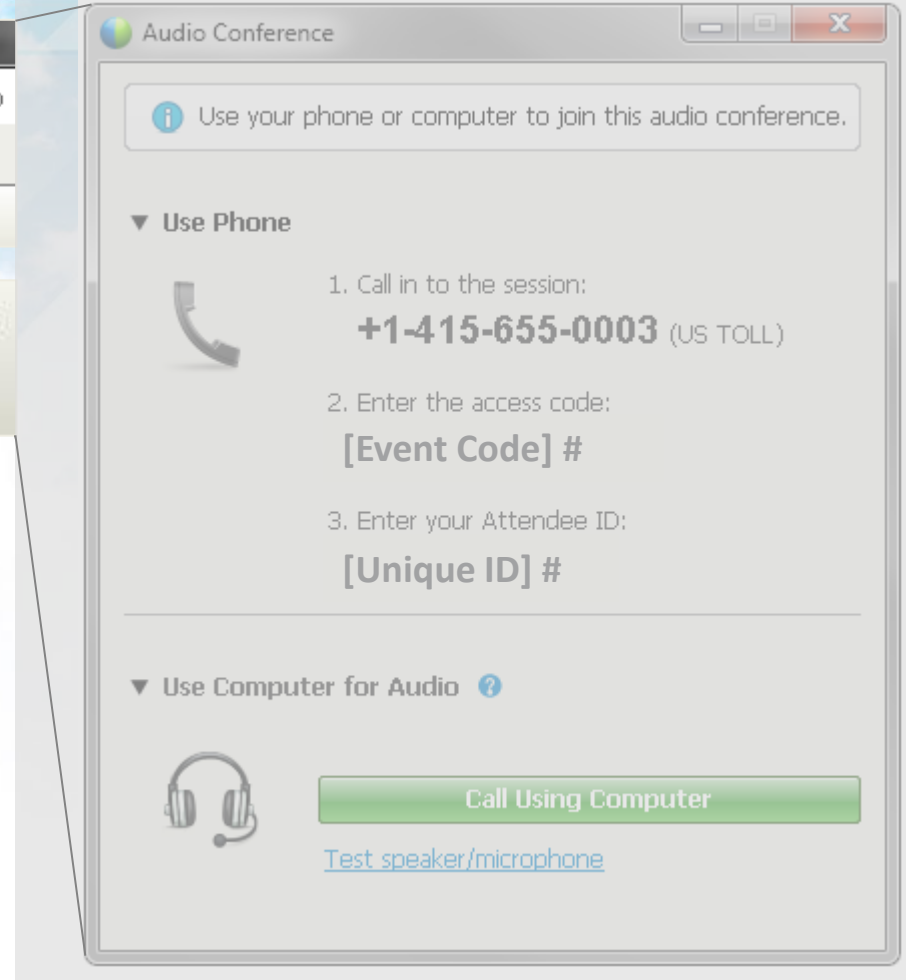
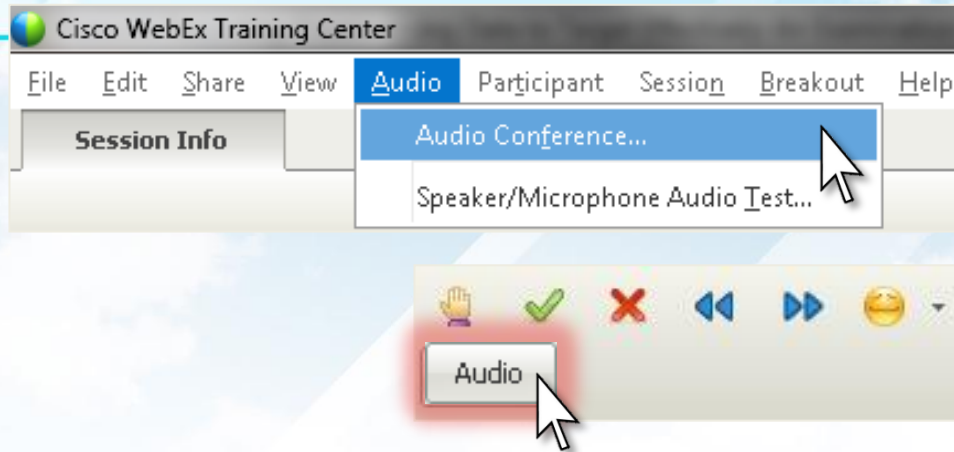
Click the icon to open.



Technology Issues


A screenshot of the WebEx chat interface. At the top is a blue header with a speech bubble icon and the word 'Chat'. Below the header is a list of participants. The first participant, 'Host', is highlighted in blue and has a mouse cursor over it. Other participants listed are 'Presenter', 'Host & Presenter', and 'Host, Presenter & Panelists'. Below this list is another participant, 'All Participants', also highlighted in blue. At the bottom of the chat window, there is a 'Send to:' dropdown menu currently set to 'Host'. Below the dropdown is a text input field with the placeholder text 'Select a participant in the Send to menu first, type chat message, and send...'. To the right of the input field is a 'Send' button.

WebEx Technology: Audio Troubleshooting



Can you hear us? If not:

Option 1 – chat to CSH Events and we will try to help

Option 2 – request approval to join via phone 

Option 3 – log off and restart the webcast

Questions Instructions

For QUESTIONS

?

- Please use the CHAT function to ask questions. Type your question to Lisa Chapman and press “Send”.

This is new technology platform, we are still learning!



MI BOS COC training and education Vets@Home webinars

This is the first of a series of 4 calls.

➤ The other topics are:

Importance of veteran team, Active List; Engagement and Outreach, Community examples; Achieving Success, Sustainability, Communicating achievements, loose ends.

➤ Facilitated by Vets@Home TA provider- Lisa Chapman- CSH

REVIEW OF AGENDA AND THE FOCUS FOR TODAY





Agenda today

- Federal commitment to ending veteran homelessness
- State of MI commitment-MSHDA
- Federal Criteria and benchmarks
- Getting started
- Questions? Comments....

Federal Partners Commitment to a National Goal



Prevent and end
homelessness among Veterans

Why is it important to focus on ending veteran homelessness now?



- Federal commitment & resources
 - SSVF, VASH, TA, GPD, COC
- State commitment, funding
- Veterans served and put their life on the line
- Focus on a segment of the homeless population, learn and translate to others

2016 Ending Veteran Homelessness Initiative

“The moral and patriotic duty is only part of the reason why ending veteran homelessness is so critical. As we all know, ending homelessness for our Veterans can also be a crucial first step, a proof point to show that we can end homelessness for everyone in this country.”- Michelle Obama

2016 Ending Veteran Homelessness Initiative

- Over the past few years, there's been tremendous progress in how localities are managing their homeless veteran population thanks to additional federal funding for VASH and SSVF.
- Michigan has housed 80% of their Veterans living in homelessness.
- Earlier this year MSHDA's Board approved \$750,000 to reach a functional zero by 12-31-16. With your help, we are confident that we can reach this goal in Michigan.

2016 Ending Veteran Homelessness Initiative

- Functional Zero is our goal: Functional zero is reached when the number of veterans experiencing homelessness within a community is less than the number of veterans being connected with permanent housing each month. In achieving this measure, a community has demonstrated the system and capacity to quickly and efficiently connect people with housing and ensure that veteran homelessness within the community will be rare, brief, and non-recurring.

2016 Ending Veteran Homelessness Initiative

- Grant parameters can be found in the NOFA – 75% of the grant going to financial assistance (prevention and re-housing), with a minimum of 60% going directly to rehousing leasing assistance.
- Relaxed income limits to 50% AMI
- Payment standard used – not the FMR

2016 Ending Veteran Homelessness Initiative

- Ending Veteran Homelessness requires the entire CoC Body.
- Capitalize on political support and good will from the city, county, landlords, etc.
- A Lead Worker is a must – a individual who champions and owns the responsibility of Functional Zero by 2017 is required.
- Focus on existing resources, plans, and your system capacity in-place for identifying (1) Veterans entering or returning to homelessness, and (2) Veterans at risk of homelessness.
- Establish meeting dates to achieve the goal.

2016 Ending Veteran Homelessness Initiative

- MSHDA is **not** asking for a by-name list.
- By-name discussions occur at the local level when/where appropriate.
- MSHDA does need the data on the chart below.
- To best serve the Veteran, always have him/her sign a release of information.

2016 Ending Veteran Homeless Initiative

Homeless Veteran Monthly Report

Local Planning Body (CoC) _____

Month _____

This monthly report captures information for the entire month. Please send the report via email to your Homeless Assistance Specialist by the 15th of the following month.

Total number of Veterans identified in previous month	Number of new Homeless Veterans identified this month	Number of Homeless Veterans housed during this month	Number of Homeless Veterans that refused housing this month	Number of Homeless Veterans currently seeking housing (in process with housing resources identified)	Number of Homeless Veterans that left services without housing (disappeared, unable to locate, etc.)
---	---	--	---	--	--

2016 Ending Veteran Homelessness Initiative

- Use the VI SPDAT
- Work with your HMIS Systems Administrator for data.
- Refer to SOAR if necessary.
- State and local data will be shown on the MSHDA web-site.
- Grant spend-down will be closely monitored.
- For CoCs that have declined offered funding, you have until May 30th to reconsider.
- Declined funds will be distributed to CoCs that have the fastest spend-down of their current grant. These decisions will be made in July.

Why Does a Common Definition Matter?

What gets measured gets done.

*What gets measured and evaluated
gets done well.*

What gets rewarded gets repeated.

- Articulates what the system aims to achieve
- Drives continuous quality & performance improvements
- Informs investment decisions, system gap analysis, policy changes
- Promotes service integration across systems



USICH “Operational Definition of an End to Homelessness”



An end to homelessness does not mean that no one will ever experience a housing crisis again. Changing economic realities, the unpredictability of life and unsafe or unwelcoming family environments may create situations where individuals, families, or youth could experience or be at-risk of homelessness.

An end to homelessness means that every community will have a systematic response in place that ensures homelessness is prevented whenever possible or is otherwise *a rare, brief, and non-recurring experience*.

USICH “Operational Definition of an End to Homelessness”



Specifically, every community will have the capacity to:

- **Quickly identify and engage people at-risk of and experiencing homelessness.**
- **Intervene to prevent the loss of housing and divert people from entering the homelessness services system.**
- **Provide immediate access to shelter and crisis services, without barriers to entry, while permanent stable housing and appropriate supports are being secured.**
- **When homelessness does occur, quickly connect people to housing assistance and services—tailored to their unique needs and strengths—to help them achieve and maintain stable housing.**

Federal Criteria Background



- Criteria and benchmarks were determined by federal partners (USICH, VA, HUD) and may be periodically updated to reflect new understanding
- For communities participating in *Mayor's Challenge* or that otherwise want *federal recognition*
- More specificity behind the elements that make up an operational end to homelessness
- <https://www.usich.gov/news/clarifying-the-federal-criteria-benchmarks>

Federal Partner Criteria



- What does it mean to end veteran homelessness?

Criteria:

1. Identified all Veterans Experiencing Homelessness
2. Provides Shelter Immediately
3. Provides Service-Intensive Transitional Housing in Limited Instances
4. Capacity to Assist Veterans to Swiftly Move into Permanent Housing
5. Resources, Plans, and System Capacity

Federal Criteria



1. The community has identified all veterans experiencing homelessness
 - All Veterans experiencing homelessness identified, enumerated, engaged
2. The community provides shelter immediately to any veteran experiencing unsheltered homelessness who wants it
 - Sufficient shelter capacity for any unsheltered Veteran who wants it, without unnecessary conditions
3. The community only provides service-intensive transitional housing in limited instances
 - Used only when Veteran prefers prior to PH placement; priority placed on using TH as short-term bridge

Criteria -cont'd



4. The community has capacity to assist veterans to swiftly move into permanent housing
 - Sufficient PH for all homeless Veterans (including those who choose TH);
 - Ability to assist Veterans to move into PH quickly and without barriers to entry, using Housing First approaches.

Criteria -cont'd



5. The community has resources, plans, and system capacity in place should any veteran become homeless or be at risk of homelessness in the future

Resources, plans, and system capacity in place for identifying

(1) Veterans entering or returning to homelessness in the future, and (2) Veterans at risk of homelessness.

- a) Routinely use multiple data sources and conduct comprehensive outreach and engagement to identify such Veterans.
- b) Adequate resources and capacity to prevent homelessness when possible.
- c) Adequate resources and appropriate plans, services to promote the long-term housing stability for Vets who have entered permanent housing.

Federal Partner Benchmarks

Benchmarks:

- A. Chronic Homelessness Among Veterans has been Ended
- B. Veterans have Quick Access to Permanent Housing
- C. The Community has Sufficient Permanent Housing Capacity
- D. Community is Committed to Housing First and Provides Service-Intensive Transitional Housing only in Limited Instances



Fed. Benchmark Specifications

– Additional Detail



Benchmarks: rev. 3- 10/1/2015 , Specs. Rev. 3 12/3/15

A. Chronic homelessness among veterans has been ended

No Veterans experiencing chronic homelessness, with exception of (1) any Veteran identified, offered PH intervention, but not yet accepted or entered housing, and (2) any Veteran that has accepted a PH intervention, but has not yet moved, and (3) any Veteran offered PH intervention but chose service-intensive transitional housing prior to PH.

- Continued outreach to Veterans experiencing chronic homelessness that have not yet accepted PH intervention offer;
- Continue to offer PH intervention at least once every two weeks.

Fed. Benchmark Specifications

– Additional Detail

Benchmarks, cont'd:

B. Veterans have quick access to permanent housing

- Average time identification to PH entry 90 days or less among all Vets who entered PH in past three months

Two exceptions/exclusions:

- 1) Veterans identified and offered PH intervention, did but not initially accepted offer, average only includes time from PH intervention acceptance until PH move-in, and
- (2) Veterans offered PH intervention but chose to enter service-intensive transitional housing prior to moving to PH
- Should also take into account and may need to be tailored, based on local housing market conditions



Fed. Benchmark Specifications

– Additional Detail

Benchmarks, cont'd:

C. The community has sufficient PH capacity

- Number of Veterans moving into PH is greater than or equal to number entering homelessness during continuous 90 day period preceding benchmark measurement

D. The community is committed to housing first and provides service-intensive transitional housing to veterans experiencing homelessness only in limited instances

- Number of Veterans entering service-intensive TH is less than number entering homelessness during continuous 90 day period preceding benchmark measurement



Federal Criteria Background cont'd

Communities should seek to achieve
as soon as possible :

- Achievement of criteria and benchmarks is an important *milestone* and represents achievement of minimum system qualities and performance that indicate homelessness among Veterans is rare, brief, and non-recurring
- Just as important to identify opportunities for *sustaining and institutionalizing* key practices/processes
- Use periodic monitoring, evaluation to determine if system practices, processes, and performance is at or above minimum level – implement corrective action as needed
- Federal review – request when criteria and benchmarks have been achieved. This is a process and you may be asked to continue work before federal confirmation.



Reviewing Current Status and Charting a Course



Review criteria and benchmarks with local partners to:

- Assure understanding of each criteria and benchmark
- Identify data needed from by-name list or other source(s) to measure benchmarks
- Determine or clarify local goals
 - Decide if federal criteria/benchmarks are also the community goals or if community has higher goals than fed minimum (e.g., measure length of time from ID to PH placement for all Veterans regardless of stay in TH)
- Identify gaps
- Create a plan: strategies, actions, timelines, owners to address gaps
- Identify priority areas for technical assistance

Use the *Federal Criteria and Benchmarks Review Tool* if helpful to document initial status and subsequent improvements

Federal Benchmarks Generation Tool v.1.2 01-13-2016

To Use: Enter an "End Date" and click "Calculate Benchmarks" for results. See *Instructions* tab for further guidance.

False

90 day look-back period:

<small>Start Date</small>	<small>End Date</small>
9/2/2015	

A. Have you ended chronic homelessness among Veterans in your community?

Target: Zero chronically homeless Veterans as of date of review, with exceptions indicated below.

Data Point

Total number of chronically homeless Veterans who are not in permanent housing as of end date above:		0
Exempted Group One	Total number of chronically homeless Veterans who have been offered, but not yet accepted a PH intervention offer and where the last PH intervention offer was within 14 days of the end of the 90 day look-back period (excludes Veterans also counted in Exempted Group 3):	0
Exempted Group Two	Total number of chronically homeless Veterans who have accepted a PH intervention offer, but not yet entered permanent housing and where the first acceptance of a PH intervention offer occurred during the 90 day look-back period (excludes Veterans also counted in Exempted Group 3):	0
Exempted Group Three	Total number of chronically homeless Veterans who have been offered a PH intervention, but have chosen to enter service-intensive transitional housing prior to entering a permanent housing destination:	0
Total Chronically Homeless Veterans - Total Number of Veterans in Exempted Groups 1, 2 and 3 =		0

A1

A2

A3

A4

Calculate Benchmarks

Benchmark A achieved?

Yes

How to get started

- Just do it!
- Don't wait for everything to be perfect-get all partners together who are involved in issue
- Think about who homeless veterans 'touch' in the course of a week, month
- Don't forget business owners, elected officials, Veteran service orgs, philanthropy, law enforcement, corrections, park service, soup kitchens, libraries, laundromats



Partner with all!

- Include major funders and Partners; city, township, county
 - VA, SSVF, VSO, PHA, housing orgs (PM, rental associations)
 - Don't forget employment and transportation, healthcare, child care, etc.
 - Determine what role they can play and form partnerships





QUESTIONS & ADDITIONAL DISCUSSION

Thanks for participating!

Please continue to join us for
upcoming calls: 4/22, 4/29, 5/6

We hope you continue to participate!

Feedback Welcomed! Feel free to reach out to me
with thoughts or questions:

Lisa Chapman- lisa.chapman@csh.org;

810.360.3305 cell

