

## **Regionalization of the Balance of State Continuum of Care (BOSCOG)**

**Objective:** Organize the 80 counties in the Balance of State Continuum of Care into no more than 20 regional groups

### **Purpose:**

- Simplified communication to local providers
- Streamlined administrative processes
  - Point in Time Count
  - Housing Inventory Chart
- Creation of coordinated intake “hubs” as outlined in the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program
- Initializing the shift from program-based performance to system-wide performance, in accordance with ESG program regulations

### **Basic Requirements and Expectations of Regions:**

- Convene a regional homelessness planning group to meet at least twice per year
- Coordinate Point in Time Counts and Housing Inventory Charts to ensure coverage of all counties within the region
  - These tasks should be coordinated through a sub-committee, designated for that purpose.
- Designate one representative to participate in BOSCOG Advisory Committee activities
- Create a regional Homeless Services Coordination Plan to fulfill requirements of the Homeless Crisis Response Program\* through ODOD

**Note:** These regions need not replace current local Continua of Care. ODOD encourages the continuation of local collaboration and in-depth community planning.

### **Regional Homeless Services Coordination Plan Essential Elements:**

- Development/adoption of a uniform intake assessment tool
- Inventory of available programs and services
  - Target population
  - Requirements
  - Available beds and services
- Uniform diversion policy (acknowledgement that shelter beds should only be used when absolutely necessary)
- Process for making referrals among organizations (supporting a "no wrong door" approach to service provision)

### **Process:**

- Plan should be developed collaboratively among the regional homeless planning group
- Lead by state-designated grantee
- Must include representation for every county in the service area and each local CoC within the service area
- All shelters applying for operation/service dollars through the Homeless Crisis Response Program must participate and agree to the plan

### **Timeline:**

*Map released for comment:* By Feb. 7

*Webinar:* Feb. 16

*Presented to Con Plan Advisory Board:* Feb 23

*Comment period ends:* March 7

*Final map released:* Mid March

*Regional Plan TA:* March – August

*Regional Plans due:* Sept 7

\*The Homeless Crisis Response Program will replace the Homeless Assistance Grant Program for Fiscal Year 2013. Details on these changes will be available from ODOD by March 30, 2012.