Heading Home SW MN: Goals for preventing and ending homelessness in SW MN:

Prevention
Fully utilize the two Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program in all 18 counties of our region.
Promote and utilize www.housinglink.org to share information between landlords and prospective tenants regarding affordable and income-based housing within our 18 county region.
Work with the Minnesota Department of Corrections Facility Reentry Coordinator and Prison Transition Fair Coordinators to educate prisoners being released to our 18 counties regarding resources that will help prevent them from becoming homeless.
Annually host a training by a regional work force center regarding employment resources and assistance available in our region.
For all site-based supportive housing units for long-term homeless in our region, have at least semi-annual meetings between property managers, owners, and service providers in an effort to increase communication and reduce evictions.
Housing with Services
Add permanent supportive housing units for homeless households with children whenever possible based on need within the region.
Chronically homeless families and individuals will be prioritized for entry in 100% of our permanent supportive housing beds.
At least 80% of permanent supportive housing participants maintain permanent housing for at least six months and 80% of those leaving transitional housing exit to permanent housing.
At least 20% of participants in HUD-funded programs will increase income from employment.
At least 54% of participants in HUD-funded programs will increase income from sources other than employment.
At least 56% of participants in HUD-funded programs will obtain mainstream benefits.
Conduct comprehensive site visits of all HUD-funded programs in our region during even numbered years.
Have all Homeless Assistance Providers ensure that all eligible and appropriate clients have applied for Section 8 housing vouchers, whenever Section 8 programs are accepting applicants.
System Change
Annually contact all school homeless liaisons in our Continuum of Care (CoC) regarding the rights of homeless students and inform the liaisons of the eligibility of homeless students for McKinney-Vento education services.
Have Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Task Force updates from the CoC coordinator at every CoC meeting. Have Wilder Research staff participate as needed at CoC meetings to give HMIS updates and answer questions. Address HMIS data quality issues on a quarterly basis.
Annually contact the mayors and sheriffs of Worthington, Hutchinson, Marshall and Willmar, all regional school homeless liaisons, Veterans Service Officers, and the Minnesota Department of Corrections, to remind them of the work of the CoC, and to ask for their assistance in the annual point-in-time homeless count.
Implement a well-advertised and easily accessed coordinated assessment system that covers the entire 18 counties, uses a common assessment form, regional intake hubs, and weekly updates about program openings in prevention, emergency shelter, transitional and permanent supportive housing programs and monthly updates about openings in public housing and Section 8 housing.
Communicate and collaborate with all regional county human and family services offices and all public housing and housing redevelopment authorities in our region toward the common goal of preventing and ending homelessness.
Annually publicize and open invitation new CoC / Heading Home Members and HUD Grant Applicants.
Community Engagement
Annually conduct two public events related to homelessness awareness and education (e.g. project community connect, sleep out, etc.).
Have one homeless or formerly homeless person participate in at least 80% of local CoC meetings.
Annually share Point in Time homeless data with newspapers in cities and counties where homeless households were found.
Annually have at least two CoC members attend Homeless Day on the Hill hosted by the MN Coalition for the Homeless.