

CCEH Workshop Summary

From the 2018 National Conference on Ending Homelessness



How Taking A Systems Approach to Ending Homelessness in Rural Areas

A summary of this workshop by CCEH's Carl Asikainen.

This session was dedicated to expanding Coordinated Entry in rural areas from a COC perspective. The presentations were from West Virginia, Wisconsin and Georgia. There was a particular focus on how to identify partners on the ground in rural areas and how funding from a COC level has been used to bring in community level partners.

- Where to look in areas that have no identified leadership around the issue of homelessness? The Homeless Serving agencies, town level representatives, PIT volunteers, Police partners.
- Access to HMIS for new partners in Wisconsin was covered by a grant given at the state level so there was no new expense for this portion of the work of CE.
- Personal, in-community visits are most effective.
- If this work is perceived as top-down it will not succeed. All new partners are equal partners.