

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

**for the Iowa Council on Homelessness/
Balance of State CoC**

About Us

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HomeBase is a nonprofit public interest law firm that provides legal and technical assistance. We work on the local, state, and national levels to support communities in implementing responses to homelessness.

Alissa Weber and **Matt Olsson** are HomeBase staff who provide technical assistance for HUD, particularly for HUD's Homeless Assistance Grant programs.

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Framing Concepts

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- Complexity of ending Iowa homelessness requires expertise from broad array of stakeholders
- Governance (i.e., how we organize) Goals
 - ▣ Representative and inclusive, but not overly burdensome
 - ▣ Focus on performing key functions and achieving outcomes
 - ▣ “System” orientation
 - ▣ Accountability

Current Governance Structure

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Iowa Council on Homelessness

- **Roles**

- State Advisory Body
- Continuum of Care (“CoC”): Iowa Balance of State

State Advisory Body

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- Drives the state-wide response to homelessness
 - ▣ Assesses overall needs, coordinates resources, and promotes national best practices
 - ▣ Typically done through a state plan to prevent and end homelessness
- Recommends policy, regulatory, and resource changes to accomplish objectives outlined in state plan

State Advisory Responsibilities

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- Create State Plan to End Homelessness
- Promote State Plan and evaluate progress
- Monitor Plan implementation
- Provide an annual progress report on the Plan to the Governor and Legislature
- Disseminate information (e.g., data and best practices) to educate state officials and the public regarding issues related to homelessness
- Create a website that provides information on Council activities, copy of Plan, membership and minutes
- Host an annual conference on homelessness

CoC Responsibilities

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Overall Responsibilities

- ❑ Operating the CoC
- ❑ CoC planning
- ❑ CoC oversight, performance evaluation and monitoring
- ❑ Applying for CoC Program Funding

Operational Duties

- ❑ CoC governance and management
- ❑ Homeless system and project-level performance
- ❑ Coordinated entry
- ❑ Written standards for CoC Program assistance

TA Efforts to Date

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- Interviews with Stakeholders & Worked Closely with Executive Committee regarding:
 - ▣ Clear understanding of current governance structure (including strengths and challenges)
 - ▣ Roles and responsibilities of ICH/Committees
 - ▣ Identifying governance priorities

Governance Strategy Session

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- Governance Purpose and Best Practices
- Interagency Council and Balance of State CoC Governance Models from other Communities
- Overview of Current Iowa Governance Structure
 - ▣ Roles and Responsibilities
 - ▣ Current Governance Priorities
- Activity to Identify Opportunities for Governance Realignment

Please Join Us From 12:30 - 3:00 P.M.!