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DATE: December 18, 2015
TO: LWIB Executive Directors
FROM: Mike Beene, Director Workforce Services
CC: Workforce Services, Fiscal, CRC
RE: WIOA Changes to Homeless Definition

Background:

The definition of 'Homeless Individual' as it applies to the WIOA definition of 'Low Income Individual' and 'Barrier to Employment' is not the same as under WIA.

The WIOA definition at Sec. 3(24)(G) [Individual with a Barrier to Employment] and Sec. 3(36)(A)(iii) [Low Income Individual] is:

. . . homeless individual, as defined in in section 41403(6) of the Violence against Women Act of 1994(43 U.S.C. 14043e-2(6) or a homeless child or youth as defined under section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 1143a(2))

Two important changes in the definitions are:

1. Citation of the Violence Against Women Act
2. The specific section cited in the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act limited to children and youth

The impact of these changes is the removal of adults, in general, (except for the narrower inclusion of adult women) with the greatest impact being on determinations of Low Income status in determining priority of services for Title I Adult services.

Guidance:

Adult homeless individuals are very likely to be low income. However, under WIOA definitions documentation of 'homeless' will no longer document low-income for adults who are not otherwise covered by any applicable definition of the Violence Against Women Act.

Local Areas are left with verifying 'low income' for all other adult applicants using traditional wage and public assistance source documentation. As always, self-attestation is acceptable, when other means fail.

Policy guidance is forthcoming.

For questions or additional technical assistance, please contact Dennis Cooper @ (316) 771-6810 or dcooper@kansascommerce.com .

[15-01_Guidance_Ltr_1_6_16.pdf](#)