

**STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA**  
**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**  
**CHARLESTON**  
**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 9-04**  
**By the Governor**

**WHEREAS**, the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness was established to develop and implement a national strategy to end homelessness through interagency, intergovernmental and intercommunity collaborations; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness is fostering the creation of state interagency councils to continue its mission at the level; and

**WHEREAS**, homelessness denies a segment of our population the basic human need for adequate shelter and is one of the nation's most challenging domestic issues; and

**WHEREAS**, a several state agencies and service providers offer programs and services for persons experiencing homelessness; and

**WHEREAS**, by working together these agencies and providers can more effectively address the problem of homelessness through coordinated program development and delivery of essential services; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to assure that all related activities and programs are operated in an effective and efficient manner with optimal utilization of federal, state and private funding;

**WHEREAS**, collaboration between various federal, state, and local departments and agencies is needed to achieve a complete delivery of services.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I BOB WISE**, pursuant to the authority vested in me as Governor of West Virginia, do hereby **ORDER** that:

1. The West Virginia Interagency Council for the Homeless [Council] is hereby created.
2. The Council, a State Government interdepartmental and service provider group, shall coordinate the development, delivery, and oversight of programs and services for the State's homeless.
3. The objectives of the Council shall be to improve existing programs and services, initiate new programs and services, maximize the use of available resources and enhance collaborative efforts among agencies in State Government and providers of services for the benefit of the homeless.

4. The Council shall create a statewide plan with short-term and long-term strategies to end homelessness, prioritize the strategies, promote the plan, and evaluate its progress.
5. The Council, in its coordination capacity, will oversee the development and implementation of statewide goals and objectives for programs designed to benefit homeless persons and those at risk of becoming homeless.
6. The Council shall be appointed by the governor and composed of the following members, who shall serve at the will and pleasure of the Governor. The Governor, at his discretion, may appoint additional members to the Commission.
  - a. Two representatives of the Senate of West Virginia.
  - b. Two representatives of the West Virginia House of Delegates.
  - c. The Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Resources or his/her designee.
  - d. One representative of the Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity.
  - e. One representative of the Governor's Workforce Investment Division, West Virginia Development office, Bureau of Commerce.

- f. One representative of the Community Development Block Grant, West Virginia Development Office, Bureau of Commerce.
- g. One representative of the Bureau for Children and families, Department of Health and Human Resources.
- h. One representative of the Bureau of Public Health, Department of Health and Human Resources.
- i. One representative of the Bureau of Medical Services, Department of Health and Human Services.
- j. One representative of the Bureau of Behavioral Health Services, Department of Health and Human Resources.
- k. One representative of the West Virginia Housing Development Fund.
- l. One representative of the Department of Military Affairs and Public Safety.
- m. One representative of the Division of Veterans Affairs, Department of Military Affairs and Public Safety.
- n. One representative of the Department of Education.
- o. One representative of Rehabilitation Services, Department of Education and the Arts.

- p. One representative of the West Virginia Coalition to End Homelessness, Inc.
  - q. Two representatives of the homeless community who are now experiencing, or have experienced, homelessness.
  - r. One representative of each of the three Congressional districts who serve the homeless and/or their families.
7. A chairperson shall be selected by the Governor.
  8. The Council shall present to the Governor a plan of action no later than August 15, 2004.
  9. The Council shall continually review the progress in achieving its goals, oversee various cooperative agency efforts, update and change programs and services when necessary, and report all endeavors to the Governor.
  10. The Council shall report its progress to the Governor and both Houses of the Legislature prior to the first day of December each year.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

DONE at the Capitol, in the City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the third day of May, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Four, and in the One Hundred Forty-First year of the State.

[Signature]

GOVERNOR

[STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA SEAL]

By the Governor

[Signature]

SECRETARY OF STATE