

Randy McCoy is MACCH's perfect match

Written by Megan DeBoer
Photo courtesy of Ben Phillips

Randy McCoy wears many hats – community advocate, baseball enthusiast and most recently, executive director of the Metro Area Continuum of Care for the Homeless (MACCH).



With more than a decade of knowledge in homelessness advocacy, MACCH is a natural fit for McCoy. After learning of the executive director opening, it didn't take much convincing for McCoy to submit his resume and make his first venture to Omaha for an interview.

Born and raised in small-town Ozark, Missouri, McCoy graduated from what is now known as Missouri State University. From 1993 to 2003, McCoy worked as a production manager at Sara Lee Baking Group until the facility closed. Instead of transferring to an alternate location, McCoy decided to jump on the opportunity to escape the corporate world. From there, he entered the nonprofit sector where he has been ever since.

For nearly 15 years, McCoy has worked for a Springfield, Missouri homeless service provider agency, The Kitchen, Inc., dedicated to preventing and ending homelessness in the community.

While there, McCoy explored different roles such as case manager, grants administrator and director of housing. He also gained experience working with Springfield and Arkansas Continuum of Care in a variety of duties ranging from a provider perspective to the continuum of care.

As executive director, McCoy has big plans for MACCH. First, McCoy's focus is expanding and improving the coordinated entry system, with hopes to kick off the project in June. This includes identifying people on the streets and providing equal access to shelter and housing assistance.

McCoy's second initiative with MACCH is to continue to form meaningful partnerships with other agencies that have similar missions – preventing and ending homelessness in the

community. He believes collaboration is a vital part of success for nonprofit organizations and lives by a classic philosophy: teamwork makes the dream work.

"No matter how big you are, no matter how many programs, you can't end homelessness by yourself," he says. "You get the best of the best at the table and find ways to work with them to provide services and meet the needs of the people you're trying to help."

In a world full of uncertainties, McCoy says permanent housing for those in need provides the foundation for everything else in life and opens the door to a life of long-term security. He refers to Maslow's hierarchy of needs such as the primary components of safety and shelter.

"While you're on the streets, you lack that protection," McCoy says. "You may have a place to sleep for one night but you don't have long-term stability."

When McCoy isn't busy changing lives, you can find him cheering for the Boston Red Sox, listening to jazz or adventuring outdoors. He says he looks forward to better weather so he can go to a Storm Chasers baseball game, the Henry Doorly Zoo and Jazz on the Green.

McCoy says he's excited about exploring the city and becoming an even better advocate for the community.

"I was really happy in moving up here," McCoy says. "There are so many new experiences."

McCoy says he's eager to work with MACCH and views this collaboration as an opportunity to work with a community that is "on the verge of doing really great things."