

**HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
February 6, 8:00 - 10:00 AM
SLO County Government Center
4th Floor, Conference Room A**

MEMBERS PRESENT		MEMBERS EXCUSED	STAFF & EXTERNAL GUESTS	
Debbie Arnold Patty Beck	Scott Smith	John Ashbaugh Lee Collins	Laurel Weir Morgan Torell	Martin Meltz Nikki Streegan

AGENDA ITEM	REPORT/DISCUSSION	CONCLUSIONS/ACTIONS	FOLLOW UP
1. Call to Order	The meeting was called by Supervisor Arnold at 8:15am.		
2. Public Comment	none		
3. Action/Information/Discussion: 3.1 Discussion item: New Member Orientation and Membership Update	<p>Laurel Weir stated that the New Member Orientation would be held this afternoon for Patty Beck, Marie Chaney and Kristen Barneich. She announced that there were also two applicants for the vacant Faith-Based seat.</p> <p>Supervisor Arnold asked if only one person would be selected from the two. Laurel Weir answered yes but said the other person could still be involved with HSOC, particularly on HSOC Committees since non-HSOC members may ask to be appointed to Committees.</p> <p>Scott Smith said the faith-based community was important because they operate overflow shelters and raise money for Friends of Prado, etc.</p> <p>Laurel Weir said that Anne Robin had applied to replace Jeff Hamm's vacant County Govt. seat.</p> <p>Laurel Weir announced that the approved nomination for Jim Patterson, for the ECHO seat</p>		

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	<p>vacated by Tina Salter, would go to the Board of Supervisors on February 25. The nominating committee would be meeting in February to discuss other new applicants.</p>		
<p>3.2 Discussion Item: Briefing on 2014 HUD Continuum of Care Competition</p>	<p>Laurel Weir announced that the County's 2013 HUD Continuum of Care application was submitted on time.</p> <p>Morgan Torell said the main application was a two year application and would reduce the administrative burden they face d in the next year. The County would still have to do Requests for Proposals from the nonprofits wishing to renew or apply for new CoC funding.</p> <p>Patty Beck asked if the County was able to use the information from the 2012 application to fill out the 2013 application. Morgan Torell said somewhat, but HUD changes questions every year.</p> <p>Scott Smith said the two-year application would also lock us into two year old data, and if improvements were made, they wouldn't be counted by HUD. Morgan Torell agreed but said there would still be a 2015 Point in Time count and data from that would be provided to HUD in April 2015.</p> <p>Laurel Weir said this application incorporated new regulations under HEARTH act, including more of a focus on outcomes. It required more data and evidence than in the past, which HSOC should keep in mind so that performance could be monitored and tracked in future. HUD wantsto see a decrease in homelessness and an increase in the number of people placed into permanent housing who stay housed. She stated it was important to look at</p>		

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	<p>whether what we were doing was making a difference and if not, what could we do differently.</p> <p>Morgan Torell said that likely in the summer of 2015, we would fill out the next full application for the 2015/2016 fiscal year. Martin Meltz said that would give a target date of a year and a half to make improvements before the next application was due.</p> <p>Laurel Weir said the County RFP should be out this month for the case management proposal for 100,000 Homes.</p> <p>Scott Smith said it would be realistic to break down the number of homeless people housed per month, for example ten per month.</p> <p>Morgan Torell said HUD only counts number of beds dedicated to homeless that have services attached, she said there were currently 32 beds for permanent supportive housing for homeless. Morgan also said that a sheltered point in time count would be done the last ten days in January 2014 and how many beds we had then would be what was counted by HUD in terms of the number of permanent housing beds that we had for homeless persons.</p> <p>Supervisor Arnold asked if any of the new construction done by T-MHA or ECHO could be counted as beds. Morgan Torell stated that the beds have to be dedicated as beds for homeless people in order to be counted.</p> <p>Patty Beck asked if the people who would be counted in the enumeration would include those who were couch-surfing. Laurel Weir said that in</p>		

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	<p>the point in time count, HSOC followed the HUD definition, which meant they did not include couch surfers. Scott Smith said that the Vulnerability Index would prioritize the most vulnerable folks and create a waiting list with most vulnerable needed at top.</p> <p>Supervisor Arnold brought up that there was concern at the last meeting that chronically homeless single people were prioritized over families. Morgan Torell said beds dedicated to chronically are what HUD wants to see, but there are other funds available to families, such as ESG grant.</p> <p>Supervisor Arnold said it takes permanent supportive housing and services to create stability.</p> <p>Martin Meltz suggested Morgan Torell make a two page fact sheet with her above clarifications to be made available to HSOC and public. He also suggested having no less than 25 housed by January 2015, and the other 25 housed by summer 2015.</p> <p>Laurel Weir said permanent supportive housing comes with heavy case management, which would be reserved for the people who score highest across several levels of crisis. People with lesser levels of severity would be re-directed to rapid re-housing or other more appropriate housing.</p> <p>Morgan Torell outlined which things HSOC had been doing that likely scored well on the CoC application, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Our Continuum of Care governance structure was in line with what HUD wanted. 		

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	<p>2. CAPSLO and T-MHA agreed to dedicate their existing CoC-funded Permanent Supportive Housing beds to chronically homeless people whenever existing beds are vacated. HUD wants to see 100% of the Permanent Supportive Housing beds dedicated to chronically homeless persons.</p> <p>3. 86% of clients in Permanent Supportive Housing either stayed in housing or exited to other, permanent supportive housing.</p> <p>4. 91% of all people helped had mainstream benefits of some sort, such as healthcare.</p> <p>She suggested the following items that could be worked on to gain more points with HUD:</p> <p>5. Work on decreasing the homeless population.</p> <p>6. Focus on helping more people in CoC funded programs to gain employment income.</p> <p>Laurel Weir suggested partnering with members of the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) for the last item. Patty Beck asked if any HSOC members were part of the WIB. Laurel Weir answered Jennifer Kirn and Lee Collins.</p> <p>7. Morgan Torell said increasing non-employment income would also be a goal, HUD wanted at least 54% of clients to receive an increase in non-employment income from program entry to exit, and we had only 24%.</p> <p>8. Discharge planning improvement, more housing and long-term care resources were also needed so that people would not be discharged to homelessness.</p>		

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	<p>Laurel Weir stated that hospitals reported a majority of their discharge were routinely sent back to homelessness or shelters. Supervisor Arnold suggested better communication with discharge agencies such as hospitals could put us directly in touch with chronically homeless people being discharged. Patty Beck suggested a cross-collaboration where materials they need (such as beds, etc.) would be directly provided by a non-profit service provider.</p> <p>Morgan Torell said members of the community may be willing to sponsor each of the 50 chronically homeless individuals, a lot of people would want to help but won't know how. Scott Smith said arrangements could be made with local furniture stores to get items at cost. Laurel Weir mentioned that in another community, people donated money for Target gift cards and then the person being housed would be taken by case managers to Target to pick out home good for themselves. Scott Smith said HASLO has done an "adopt a room" program where people sponsored furniture for one room in the house.</p> <p>Patty Beck volunteered to contact thrift stores and see what they could make available for people. She suggested that it becomes a community investment once people donate and are involved. Martin Meltz suggested making a presentation to Chamber of Commerce and business community.</p> <p>Morgan Torell added more areas that HSOC could improve on to gain more HUD points:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. Some policies needed to be written for education, to make sure that all HUD-funded shelters educate homeless families about 		

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	<p>their McKinney Education rights, and all HUD-funded shelters have a point person assigned to ensure that school-aged homeless children at the shelter are enrolled in and attending school. In practice, the children are attending school, but HUD wants to see written policies to show there is a formal process in place for homeless children to attend school.</p> <p>10. Leveraging - HUD wants CoC programs to leverage at least 150%. This is in addition to the matching amount required.</p> <p>The 150% match is easier to achieve if McKinney funds are being used for construction of housing, rather than for service provision. HUD prefers to pay for housing and would like to see supportive services in CoC funded programs to be paid for by other agencies and other funding streams.</p>		
<p>3.3 Discussion item: Possible HSOC Restructuring and HSOC Planning for 2014</p>	<p>Laurel Weir asked for feedback on possible restructuring and suggested implementing a plan for 2014. She asked if setting goals should determine structure or other way around.</p> <p>Morgan Torell explained that a group called the Homeless Services Coordinating Council used to exist, which led to a lot of communication and excitement among agencies.</p> <p>Patty Beck suggested that every other month the committees could meet together, which would keep each other informed, and then every other month they could meet as work groups.</p> <p>Martin Meltz recommended keeping the Full HSOC and then one advisory group that meets once a month and more as working groups if needed. He</p>		

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	<p>also recommended getting more of the non-profit volunteers involved.</p> <p>Supervisor Arnold suggested each provider could provide announcements at Full HSOC and that can be used to facilitate communications between agencies that could help each other.</p> <p>Morgan Torell said the Homeless Services Coordinating Council would focus on one issue at a time, for example employment.</p> <p>Scott Smith said that task forces can be set up that are temporary instead of permanent sub-committees and agendas should be more focused on issues at hand.</p> <p>Supervisor Arnold suggested doing informative seminars at meetings, so that overloaded non-profit providers would make time to come.</p> <p>The group discussed combining all three committees, Housing, Supportive Services, and Finance and Data to meet once a month at the same time and in the same room instead of as three separate committees.</p>		
<p>5. Committee/Ad Hoc Committee Updates</p> <p>4.1 Housing</p> <p>4.2 Supportive Services</p> <p>4.3 Finance and Data</p> <p>4.4 Youth</p>	<p>Housing - Martin Meltz brought up Jerry Rioux's recommendations that were made at the Housing Committee meeting on Housing Element updates.</p> <p>Supportive Services, Finance and Data, and Youth committees were not discussed.</p>		
<p>Next Meeting Date</p>	<p>Next meeting date was set for April 4, 2014.</p>		
<p>Adjournment</p>	<p>Meeting adjourned at 10 am</p>		