



***San Luis Obispo
Countywide 10 Year
Plan to End
Homelessness***

We envision a future in which the housing and comprehensive services necessary to remain housed are available for all, affording everyone maximum self-sufficiency, and the opportunity to be productive and participating members of our community

**HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL
Executive Committee Meeting Agenda**
February 15, 2017 1-3 p.m.
*County Government Center, Fourth Floor Board Room
1055 Monterey Street, San Luis Obispo, CA*

1. Call to Order and Introductions
2. Public Comment
3. Consent Item: Approval of Minutes
4. Action/Information/Discussion:
 - 4.1 Discussion Item: Update on Mobile Assistance and Services addressing Homelessness (MASH) events
 - 4.2 Discussion Item: Warming Center Updates
 - 4.3 Discussion Item: 2017 Point in Time Count Update
 - 4.4 Action Item: Vote to recommend the Homeless Services Oversight Council support the County Department of Social Services request for funding under the State of California's Bringing Families Home grant
 - 4.5 Discussion Item: HSOC Spring Planning Meeting
5. Committee Reports
6. Future Discussion/Report Items:
7. Next Meeting Date: TBD
8. Adjournment

**HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL
 HSOC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
 December 21, 2016, 1:00-3:00pm
 New Government Center 4th Floor Board Room**

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	STAFF & GUESTS	
Debbie Arnold Anne Robin Janna Nichols Joe Madsen	Tracy Schiro John Ashbaugh Kristen Barneich	Jessica Lorance Laurel Weir Ivana Yeung	
AGENDA ITEM		CONCLUSIONS/ACTIONS	FOLLOW UP
1. Call to Order and Introductions of Guests	Debbie Arnold welcomed the group at 1:12pm and introductions were made.		
2. Public Comment	Laurel shared with the group that U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has announced the funding awards for the 2016 Continuum of Care competition. HUD requires all communities to place all of their renewal and proposed projects into one of two tiers. Projects in the first tier are more likely to be funded; projects in the second tier must compete in the national competitions for funds. At least one project must be in the second tier for each community. All of our Tier 1 projects were funded, with one project received slightly less funding than expected. The Tier 2 project, which would create 4 new permanent supportive housing beds, was funded.		
ACTION/INFORMATION/DISCUSSION			
3. Review and Approval of Minutes 4.1 Discussion Item: Update on Paso Robles Efforts to Acquire California Youth Authority Property	Laurel shared with the group the video tour of the California Youth Authority Property as well as a copy of the letter. Steve Martin has drafted a letter to the State to request the State surplus the California Youth	Anne made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Janna. The group unanimously voted to approve the minutes.	

<p>4.2 Discussion Item: Update on Mobile Assistance and Services addressing Homelessness (M.A.S.H.) Events</p>	<p>Authority property in Paso Robles and give it to the community for a multi-service site, possibly including housing and homeless services. John Peschong is also in support of this request. The intent is to get this letter sent and meet with a group from the state in January to discuss. Any organizations interested in supporting the use of this site please let Mayor Martin know. Please send all letters of support to Mayor Steve Martin. The group discussed the possibility of setting up transportation near the property.</p> <p>Laurel informed the group that the North County MASH event took place in October, with 100 in attendance. The turnout might have been even more if it hadn't been for the upcoming rain that evening.</p> <p>The event was sponsored by the County Department of Social Services (DSS), in collaboration with CenCal Health, the Animals in Need Fund. Many organizations helped make the event successful. Ride-On provided transportation to the event from several locations around the North County. Animals in Need Fund donated about \$4000 in services. Community Health Centers were in attendance providing flu shots. Veterans services and Transitions Mental Health Association also provided services. DSS provided same day CalFresh applications and General Assistance applications. General Assistance applications are only taken at the San Luis Obispo office so this helped North County homeless persons to more easily access the assistance. The next MASH event will be Feb 27, 2017 1-4pm at the Veterans Hall in Morro Bay. Four events are scheduled for next year, one for each of the four regions of the County.</p>		
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<p>4.3 Discussion Item: Warming Center Updates</p>	<p>The group discussed the north county warming centers in Paso Robles and Atascadero. The Paso Robles Warming Center is operating and can hold around 12-15 participants overnight. The Atascadero Warming Center opened for the first time on Sunday, December 18. Tim Harness is the lead organizer for the Atascadero Warming Center, which is being hosted at St. Williams Church. Tim is conducting volunteer trainings every Saturday morning at the Link's office in Atascadero. The South County Warming Center is also in operation. Janna shared with the group that due to a stipulation by the landlord that staff needs to be hired this year to help run the center. The South County center will likely be open through Christmas and New Year's. There have been more people coming to the 5 Cities Homeless Coalition office for services due to the warming center. New clothes are offered at the warming center in south county as well. Janna shared that this year they have been averaging 20 participants per night. Of those 20, about 3 persons a night are over the age of 65. There has also been a camp of women that came in together.</p>		
<p>4.4 Discussion Item: Preparation for 2017 Point in Time Count</p>	<p>Laurel informed the group that the contract with Applied Survey Research would be going to the Board for consideration on January 10. A website has been developed to help with volunteer sign up. The veterans groups will be following up with veterans identified during the count who were interested in being contacted about veterans services.</p> <p>This year, the survey will be conducted using a smart phone app, which will help with data collection. The</p>		

<p>4.5 Discussion Item: Update on HomeShare SLO</p> <p>4.6 Discussion Item: HSOC Membership</p>	<p>date for the count is January 30 and the surveying will be Jan 31-Feb 3. The weeks after that will be used for site surveying. We are collecting non-cotton socks as an incentive for the surveys. Please contact Laurel with sock donations.</p> <p>Laurel shared with the group that everything is coming along. The first volunteer training was on the 13th. The funding is in from the supervisors, and other cities. Contracts have been signed with the background screening provider. The first few home share providers are partially signed up. A website designer is working on the website. The goal is to start matching folks by the end of January. Persons seeking housing will be required to have a minimum income of about \$1200 per month. That minimum income may change eventually.</p> <p>A new member training will take place in February for all the new persons appointed to the HSOC. The HSOC will also be voting in January for the various HSOC leadership positions.</p>		
<p>5. Committee Reports</p>	<p>Anne shared with the group that the Housing Committee discussed inclusionary housing policies and the possibility of using incentives to promote the development of more affordable housing. The more in-depth discussion was tabled until a future meeting about additional ideas.</p> <p>Laurel informed the group that Scott Smith shared with the group at the Housing committee meeting that Housing Authority of San Luis Obispo(HASLO) has issued a notice for landlords who are interested in project based VASH vouchers. Scott explained that</p>		

	<p>most section 8 vouchers are tenant based, meaning the voucher is assigned to a person, who then looks for a unit. With a project based voucher, the apartment is specified and the voucher remains with the apartment instead of with the tenant.</p> <p>The deadline is January 6 for applications. The application can be found on the HASLO website. Existing units can qualify. If anyone can think of additional landlords who might be interested, please contact Scott.</p> <p>Joe Madsen shared that the employment work force group is meeting tomorrow. The group is looking at different ideas as well as opportunities. The focus is on permanent housing as well as employment.</p> <p>Janna informed the group on behalf of the Coordinating Committee that Marty Meltz is heading up a new Ad Hoc committee for camp displacement discussion with local police and law enforcement. Aurora William is also heading up a task force to look at the possibility of starting sobering stations in our county. This could help clear up the hospital and jail costs.</p>		
6. Future Discussion/Report Items:	<p>Laurel will bring a follow up to the group about the Point in Time Count after it occurs.</p> <p>The county is training staff to have a CAT team. Laurel would like to have a member from this team come talk to the HSOC and get them more involved.</p>		
7. Next Meeting Date:	February 15, 2017		
8. Adjournment	Supervisor Arnold adjourned the meeting at 2:41pm		

**HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
ACTION ITEM
FEBRUARY 15, 2017**

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 4.4

ITEM: Vote to recommend the Homeless Services Oversight Council support the County Department of Social Services request for funding under the State of California's Bringing Families Home grant

ACTION REQUIRED: Recommend that the Homeless Services Oversight Council vote to support the County Department of Social Services request for funding under the State of California's Bringing Families Home grant program.

SUMMARY NARRATIVE:

On June 27, 2016, the Governor of California signed into law Assembly Bill (AB)1603, a bill which made certain statutory changes to state laws pertaining to human services programs. One of the programs authorized by AB1603 was the Bringing Families Home Program. This program would award funds to counties to provide housing related services and supports to a selection of child welfare involved families who have completed all the requirements on their court ordered family reunification plan but cannot reunify with their child or children because the parents are homeless.

On January 10, 2017, the State of California's Department of Social Services announced that funding for the Bringing Families Home Program would be made available and invited counties to submit initial requests for a three-year funding period under the program. On February 10, 2017, the County of San Luis Obispo Department of Social Services (DSS) submitted a preliminary Request for Funding in the cumulative amount of \$863,094 for Fiscal Years 2016-2019.

The funding would be used to provide Rapid Rehousing assistance to help reunite homeless families who are participating in child welfare services and who have completed their court-ordered safety plans and have been determined appropriate for reunification. Assistance may include security deposits, short-term rental assistance, and case management. In addition, the Housing Authority of San Luis Obispo has offered seven Housing Choice Vouchers for homeless families being reunified with Bringing Families Home funding, provided that case management would be available to the families being assisted to help them address housing barriers. These vouchers would be used to assist families who could not otherwise be stably housed without long-term housing subsidies.

The State is requesting that applicant counties include a letter of support from the local Continuum of Care. Due to the timing of the initial submission, DSS is asking the Executive Committee to indicate preliminary support and recommend the full Homeless Services Oversight

Council be asked to vote to support the proposal at its regularly scheduled meeting on March 15, 2017.

Next Steps

The State will review all Requests for Proposals submitted and select counties that will be invited to submit a full proposal to the state for consideration. After proposals are submitted, the State will review the proposals and award a total of \$10 million to the selected counties. Should the County's proposal be approved by the State, the proposal will need to be considered and approved by the County Board of Supervisors before the County can accept the grant.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Should the County be invited to submit a full proposal and should the proposal be approved at or below the proposed funding level, the County would receive up to \$863,094 from the State of California. In addition, should the County be awarded the funding, the Housing Authority of San Luis Obispo has committed to provide seven vouchers over the three-year period, valued at \$229,680, to help meet the matching requirement for the grant. Up to \$633,414 in matching funds would be provided from the Realignment grant received by the County.

Should the County receive the grant to reunite homeless families more quickly, the amount of time that children in assisted families spend in foster care may be reduced, resulting in decreased foster care costs for the County, the State, and the federal government. The amount of the decrease will depend on the type of case, the number of children in each family and the overall decrease in time children spend in foster care.

STAFF COMMENTS:

No additional comments.