

HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL
Full HSOC COMMITTEE
May 21, 2014, 1:00-3:00pm
SLO Vet's Hall
801 Grand Avenue, San Luis Obispo
Lounge Room

MEMBERS PRESENT		MEMBERS ABSENT	STAFF & GUESTS	
Scott Smith	John Ashbaugh	Debbie Arnold	Laurel Weir	Amy Christey
Kristen Barneich	Glenn Marshall	Rod Youngquist	Nikki Streegan	Tyler Corey
Christine Johnson	Jim Copsy	Shelly Higginbotham	Denise Rea	Heinz Hubner
Christina Bearce	Dana Cummings	Dee Torres	Larry Feldt	Martin Meltz
Jim Patterson	Marie Chaney	Steve Martin	Morgan Torell	Dana Lilley
Patty Beck	Wendy Tyree	Marianne Kennedy	Emily Jackson	Kelly Hannula
Lee Collins	Thomas Clough		Jim Griffin	Grace McIntosh
Jennifer Kirn	Jessica Thomas		Bill Watt	
Shirley Wright	Anne Robin			
AGENDA ITEM			CONCLUSIONS/ACTIONS	FOLLOW UP
1. Call to Order and Introductions of Guests		Scott Smith the acting Vice-Chair presided as Chair in the absence of Supervisor Arnold. He welcomed members and guests and introductions were made.		
2. Public Comment		<p>Martin Meltz presented the updated Community Resource cards that are now also available in Spanish. He encouraged everyone who has been involved with Dee Torres to write letters to the CAPSLO Board in commendation of her efforts with the homeless.</p> <p>Grace McIntosh said that June 2 CAPSLO will be shifting to a sobriety based model and all clients will be tested for drugs and alcohol. Those who are positive will be suspended from CAPSLO services for 30 days, at which point they can return and be admitted if they follow a reinstatement plan.</p> <p>Lee Collins stated concern that this shift in CAPSLO's procedures may result in discharging the most vulnerable homeless. Jim Griffin also stated concern that CAPSLO's new policy may lead to a stigma against the homeless with substance abuse issues.</p>		

	<p>Dana Cummings announced that the Veterans Stand Down that occurred last weekend was a success and 136 of the 188 Vets that showed up were signed up for services, which was more than last year.</p> <p>Heinz Hubner stated that there is misinformation about the fact that Hope's Village has acquired 10 acres of land and in fact they have not. They need cooperation from the City or County to help them acquire this land and make their small homes possible.</p> <p>Bill Watt announced that ECHO has expanded from 31 to 50 beds and have a wing for children. They are now at full capacity.</p>		
3. Approval of Minutes	Minutes were approved without changes.	Motion: Lee Collins Second: Jim Copsey Motion approved unanimously	
ACTION/INFORMATION/DISCUSSION			
4.1 Action Item: Recommend allocation of 2014-2015 County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds, and County General Fund Support (GFS) for countywide Homeless Services Programs	Morgan Torell said that CDBG, ESG and GFS funding for County homeless services will receive less cuts than last year. For example the ESG funding will receive a 2% cut instead of the previous 6% cut. She requested input from HSOC on the 2014/2015 program year and asked that HSOC support staff recommendations. If approved they would go to the Board of Supervisors on June 3. The recommendations for funding were voted on and approved as written.	Motion: John Ashbaugh Second: Dana Cummins Motion approved with abstentions from Jim Patterson and Christina Bearce	
4.2 Action Item: Vote to approve the proposed approach and funding strategy for the 2015 Point-in-Time Count and Survey	<p>Nikki Streegan provided a staff report and announced that she will now be responsible for administering the Continuum of Care funding from here on out as Morgan is changing job responsibilities and will be stepping down from Continuum of Care related work.</p> <p>A Point in Time count will be conducted in January of 2015 in order to assess the size and needs of the local homeless population and to insure compliance with Federal guidelines. The Planning Dept. is requesting</p>		

	<p>input for the approach to the count, which in the past cost \$50K and utilized 2 contractors, ASR for data collection and analysis, and CAPSLO for volunteer coordination and implementation. Staff is recommending 1 contractor this time around and suspects that since some of the work from last time can be re-used the cost could be lower, hopefully by as much as \$10K. They would like to release an RFP for the contractor and then see what kinds of proposals are made. Some of the money would come from HSOC funds and they propose the rest could come from the County and/or each jurisdiction, possibly based on population.</p> <p>Laurel Weir stated that performance measurement is important to HUD and the PIT count will be used to measure progress in addressing homelessness. It will also provide usable data to cities, which can give them a reason to invest in it. She also indicated that HSOC would be asking for relatively small contributions from the cities, likely ranging somewhere between \$1000-\$4000, perhaps based on a formula such as population.</p> <p>Patty Beck said that populations in each city may not be proportional to amount of funding they have available and suggested getting feedback from cities first.</p> <p>Jim Patterson suggested HSOC representatives should talk to their respective City Councils and urge them to contribute.</p> <p>Christine Johnson responded that they would need this proposal now in Morro Bay in order to include this need in budget hearing talks which are upcoming.</p> <p>Martin Meltz advocated for the cost sharing model.</p> <p>Dana Cummings asked how HSOC funds would then</p>		
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	<p>be replenished. Dana Lilley answered that in the past they were funded by cities, non profits, the County and medical providers who would gain from HSOC's work, but that this requires transparency with allocation.</p> <p>Jim Griffin asked why it cost \$50k and where the money went. Laurel Weir answered that \$25K went to the consulting firm to conduct statistical analysis, as well as to pay small stipends to homeless guides and surveyors and also to provide small incentives to the homeless persons who participated in the survey. The other \$25k went to the nonprofit agency and a subcontracting agency that recruited volunteers and implemented the project.</p> <p>Scott Smith suggested we survey neighboring Continuums of Care on what their counts cost and how they implemented them. Nikki Streegan said she had done this and costs ranged between \$9,000-\$50,000 with the lower end costs being from Continuums where County staff performed most of the work, concluding that neighboring costs are comparable.</p> <p>Jim Copsey encouraged Staff to give cities specific costs and information on where it goes and how it will be beneficial to them, including that there is no alternative funding source.</p> <p>The group voted on the item and agreed to move forward with the RFP with HSOC contributing part of its funds.</p>	<p>Motion: Jim Copsey Second: Jim Patterson Motion approved unanimously</p>	
<p>4.3 Action Item: Vote to approve the proposed modifications to the structure of the Homeless Services Oversight Council (HSOC)</p>	<p>Laurel Weir made a presentation regarding the suggested restructuring of HSOC to increase effectiveness and reduce time constraints. She stated the following responsibilities of HSOC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 Year Plan • HUD Continuum of Care oversight body 		

- Performance measurement for both of these

The Ad Hoc Restructuring Committee looked at current performance and structure of other CoC structures to inform the new suggestions. One element that most high performing CoCs had that HSOC lacked was a committee to evaluate benchmarks called a Strategic Planning committee, which she suggested be added. The restructuring proposal went to all HSOC sub-committees and received the following feedback.

Feedback:

- There is a need to plan and monitor progress towards goals
- Most of the current standing committees are needed but can be more efficient and meet less frequently
- Ad Hoc groups can be developed for targeted tasks
- More input from providers is needed and meetings should be more action oriented
- There is a need to engage more volunteers and clients

Recommendations:

- Create a Strategic Planning Committee to set and evaluate benchmarks against HUD goals
- Use Finance and Data committee to report progress on these benchmarks
- More fully engage partners/organizations
- Use Ad Hoc working groups to accomplish target goals
- Re-establish the Homeless Services Coordinating Council
- Decrease meeting frequency
- Add a Public Outreach and Communication Committee to support benchmark activities and address NIMBY issues

	<p>Next Steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approve this restructuring proposal and amend the By-Laws accordingly <p>Martin Meltz encouraged each HSOC member to serve on at least one sub-committee, encouraged them to get other people with expertise involved and to communicate info back to their constituencies. He also advocated for awareness of HSOC.</p> <p>Wendy Tyree also encouraged increased communication with service providers and clients at the ground level.</p> <p>The group voted on and approved the item.</p>		
4.4 Information Item: Presentation of Full Services Partnership Homeless Outreach Information	Joe Madsen from T-MHA presented data from the HOT team (Homeless Outreach Team) that works with County Behavioral Health to bring severely mentally ill who are homeless back into services. There are 7 people on the team including two Supervisors and 2 full time employees. They engaged 300 adults of which 69 are now receiving full services. They have now secured housing placements for 19 people with full services. They have a 90% success rate for people retaining housing for 6-8 months and work with the CAT team regularly to find appropriate places for clients.		
4.5 Information Item: Homeless ACTION Folio and request for collaboration with HSOC	Laurel Weir announced that they will be requesting HSOC feedback and will be discussed in the Finance and Data committee's next meeting if any members are interested in attending or sending reps with their ideas.		
4.6 Information Item: Conflict of Interest Form	Laurel Weir provided a Conflict Disclosure form and asked all members to provide information on Boards or other affiliations that may present a conflict of interest for certain votes.		
4.7 Information Item: New HSOC website	Laurel Weir presented the new HSOC website which can be found at www.slohomeless.com and asked that members provide feedback. She announced that it		

	would be launched June 2 but is already live for viewing.		
5. Committee Reports	<p>Lee Collins said all Finance and Data committee reports had been made during the meeting.</p> <p>Jessica Thomas said the Ad Hoc Youth Committee has collected 55 surveys this far and extended the deadline to June to include surveys from the shelters. They will bring findings to the Full HSOC at a future meeting.</p> <p>Patty Beck said the Supportive Services committee has continued to discuss discharge to homelessness from institutions and also discussed changes at CAPSLO and the impact they will have.</p> <p>John Ashbaugh stated that the Housing committee had a presentation on micro housing presented by Marilyn Farmer and they are continuing to track city Housing Elements as they are released and whether or not they include HSOC recommendations.</p>		
6. Future Discussion/Report Items	Lee Collins announced that 30,128 people have signed up for the Affordable Care Act through DSS in our County, which is 1 out of every 9 people.		
7. Next Meeting Date	July 16, 2014		
8. Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 3:07 by Scott Smith.		