

HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL
Full HSOC COMMITTEE
January 21, 2015, 1:00-3:00pm
SLO Vet's Hall
801 Grand Avenue, San Luis Obispo
Lounge Room

MEMBERS PRESENT		MEMBERS ABSENT	STAFF & GUESTS	
Debbie Arnold	Jessica Thomas	Jim Reed	Laurel Weir	
Sheila Blake	Patty Beck	Bob Kelley	Martin Meltz	
Kristen Barneich	Bull Chaney (Alt)	Rick Gulino	Erica Stewart (United Way)	
Jim Patterson	Danielle Veatch	Jennifer Kirn	Ernie Miller (Paso Cares)	
Anne Robin		Christine Bearce	Morgan Torrell	
Christine Johnson		Amy Christey	Emily Jackson	
Grace McIntosh		Theresa Scott	Lee Collins	
Marianne Kennedy		Dana Cummings	Abby Lassen	
John Ashbaugh		Shirley Wright	Joe Madsen	
Mariam Shah				
AGENDA ITEM			CONCLUSIONS/ACTIONS	FOLLOW UP
1. Call to Order and Introductions of Guests		Supervisor Arnold called the meeting to order at 1:07pm.		
2. Public Comment		none		
3. Approval of Minutes		The minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and approved without changes.	Motion: Jim Patterson Second: Anne Robin Motion approved unanimously	
ACTION/INFORMATION/DISCUSSION				
4.1 2015 Point in Time Count Update		Laurel Weir updated HSOC on requirements for the Point in Time (PIT) Count and the status of current preparation. Applied Survey Research, who is the lead contractor will be working with four agencies that will help coordinate the count in their region: 5 Cities Homeless Coalition (South County area), Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo (San Luis Obispo area), El Camino Homeless Organization (North County), and the Estero Bay		

	<p>Alliance for Care (Coastal Region). New for this year's count is how we handle the rural areas and that we are asking the cities not to do "sweeps" of homeless encampments, as an accurate count is essential to documenting the number of persons who are homeless, both sheltered and unsheltered, when we are seeking federal, state, or private assistance to create more housing and services.</p> <p>Kristen Barneich, City of Arroyo Grande, asked about needs for assistance in the count and whether police assistance would be helpful. Laurel Weir stated that ASR believed we had an adequate number of volunteers and guides.</p> <p>Sheila Blake, City of Pismo Beach, asked what the time frame was for the count. Laurel Weir indicated that the count occurs generally between 6am -9am in the morning to avoid double counting those who have just left the shelter.</p> <p>Laurel Weir provided more information on the PIT count and the follow-up surveys that would be done based on the size of the original count.</p> <p>John Ashbaugh talked about his experience in doing this previously including finding demolished camps and it was a real eye opener.</p> <p>Jessica Thomas discussed the Youth count effort, which is part of the PIT Count, and noted that the school districts would also contribute data to the count. Laurel Weir reminded the group that a different definition of homelessness is used by the schools for Department of Education purposes, but</p>		
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	<p>that they would only submit data for the count for homeless, school-aged children who met the HUD definition.</p> <p>Scott Smith (HASLO) asked about the survey information regarding household definition and needs for planning. Laurel Weir answered that better information on household size can be obtained from the school's data when there are school age children.</p> <p>Abby Lassen stated that the homeless guides are really critical to finding the people who are homeless and it is a big area to cover.</p>		
<p>4.2 ESG and CDBG Recommendations</p>	<p>Morgan Torell provided an overview of the recommendations for funding for Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds and the process for arriving at those recommendations. The County announced the funding last year and applications were submitted to the County in the Fall. An HSOC Ad Hoc Grant Review Committee then met in January and made funding recommendations. The full HSOC will vote on those recommendations today and then the Planning Department will forward the HSOC recommendations to the Board for final action, likely in April/May.</p> <p>She noted that we did not have the final information from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regarding total funding available to our County, but there is a 5% cut expected in the CDBG funding and no change in the ESG and County General Fund. Staff is requesting that we authorize staff to make any proportional adjustments should the funding amounts change, so that they don't have to come back to HSOC for minor adjustments. The</p>	<p>Motion: John Ashbaugh Second: Patty Beck Abstentions: Grace McIntosh, Jim Patterson, and Marianne Kennedy as representatives for groups who are recommended to receive funding.</p> <p>The motion passes with 3 abstentions.</p>	

	<p>funding for the existing shelter groups is recommended to continue but with a shared reduction at 4% and no cut to the Link, as they do not receive any other types of funding. The Grant Review Committee chose not to fund one applicant - North County Connections (NCC)- since the grant proposed relatively high operating costs for a small amount of people, and providing funding to NCC would have resulted in cuts to other programs who serve many more clients for less cost.</p> <p>Supervisor Arnold asked that HSOC consider how to help the request from North County Connections (NCC). While she was disappointed that it wasn't funded she recognized the concerns with the grant requests and not impacting the other existing programs. She asked for HSOC's support of a separate grant using discretionary county funds up to \$20,000 to allow the programs at NCC to continue. Bull Chaney spoke to the good work that NCC does, not just for the homeless but for a broader group in the community. Pat Beck spoke to the skills of NCC, which has a focus on dealing with sobriety, and can support this request since it would not result in cuts to other existing programs. Emily Jackson, County Admin Office spoke about how possible additional funding could occur and the need to try to get support from the cities as well.</p> <p>John Ashbaugh made a motion to approve the recommendations per staff report and to support Supervisor Arnold's request to support up to an additional \$20,000 beyond existing support for NCC to keep the type of services that NCC can provide, without taking funding away from the existing</p>		
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	<p>program. Supervisor Arnold also reminded the group that the facility at NCC also serves as a warming and cooling station for the community.</p> <p>Kristen Barneich (AG) asked how long NCC has been there. Supervisor Arnold answered that it has been for many years and was supported by the community and has never heard of any problems. Bull Chaney spoke about the merits of the NCC program and its role in reducing problems in the community.</p>		
<p>4.3 HSOC Membership and Leadership</p> <p>4.3.1 Recommendation for New HSOC Members</p>	<p>Laurel Weir discussed the recommendations of the Nominating Committee and stated that there were 3 open seats. The proposed nominees were Tracy Schiro, representing Department of Social Services, Jessica Thomas, representing Schools K-12, and Dee Torres, who would serve as an interested community member.</p> <p>Anne Robin made a motion to approve the nomination and submit to the Board of supervisors. Jim Patterson seconded.</p> <p>Bull Chaney said he applied for the HSOC non-profit position that was available but it was submitted a day late. Laurel Weir responded that she would work with him to complete the process to shift from alternate to full representative and that will come back to HSOC at a later date.</p>	<p>Motion: Anne Robin Second: Jim Patterson Abstention: Grace McIntosh Motion approved with 1 abstention.</p>	
<p>4.3.2 Nomination for Vice Chair and Chair of the Finance and Data Committee</p>	<p>Laurel Weir and Supervisor Arnold discussed the responsibility for Full HSOC Vice Chair position and the meeting time required. Marty Meltz suggested Christine Johnson (City of Morro Bay) as a possibility. After answering questions concerning the position, Grace McIntosh nominated Christine Johnson as Vice Chair and received unanimous support.</p>	<p>Motion: John Ashbaugh Second: Christine Johnson Motion approved unanimously</p>	

4.4.3. CALWORKS Housing Support Program

Department of Veterans Affairs to help rapidly re-house homeless veterans. CAPSLO and the 5 Cities Homeless Coalition in partnership with the Good Samaritan Shelter were awarded three year grants under this program.

Grace McIntosh (CAPSLO) indicated that they are just getting started. She is excited that the staff working on this project are all vets themselves and so they understand veteran needs and can build trust with vets. CAPSLO's program will be able to provide rental assistance for about 4 months to each household and will also provide supportive services. The goal is to stabilize the veteran household in housing so that they will be able to afford the rent on their own after the subsidy ends.

Laurel Weir summarized the funding provided through this grant, which lasts until the end of June. They are looking for landlords who will be willing to rent and the grant provides services and case managers to work with landlords on any problems that might arise. Grace McIntosh indicates that they have placed 7 clients so far from the 79 referrals they have received from DSS thus far. Laurel Weir indicated that DSS hopes to reapply and keep this program going past the original 6 month timeframe.

John Ashbaugh asked questions related to employment opportunities to help clients achieve a continuing source of income. Lee Collins spoke about the employment One Stop Shop, the Welfare to Work Extended Subsidized Employment program, and child

<p>4.4.4. Other Permanent Supportive Housing and Rapid Re-Housing</p>	<p>care support services.</p> <p>Laurel Weir discussed the Klaproad Rapid Re-housing project occurring through the 5 Cities Homeless Coalition. Marianne Kennedy indicated that the Women’s Shelter Program is part of the Klaproad grant and have a part time case manager to get people into housing along with support from The Link. This is a two year program.</p> <p>Erica Stewart, United Way, noted the scarcity of available, affordable rental units and the need to create or identify more units in order to help these programs succeed.</p>		
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<p>4.5 Warming Center – Proposed Ad Hoc Committee</p>	<p>Laurel Weir discussed the resolution from the Paso Cares organization, calling on HSOC to form an Ad Hoc Warming Center Committee to help create Warming Centers in all regions of the County. Ernie Miller, from Paso Cares talked about his group’s efforts to create a Warming Center in Paso Robles. He indicated that finding an appropriate place where the owners would be willing to allow them to operate a Warming Center has been difficult.</p> <p>John Ashbaugh made a motion to create an Ad Hoc Committee. The motion was seconded by Jessica Thomas. The committee will include Abby Lassen, Grace McIntosh, Marty Meltz and Kristin Barneich (and maybe John Ashbaugh) to bring back recommendations on how to proceed at the next HSOC meeting.</p> <p>Mariam Shah said that it might be helpful to have a one page summary on how to make a Warming Station occur to help smaller cities such as Grover Beach.</p>	<p>Motion: John Ashbaugh Second: Jessica Thomas Motion approved unanimously</p>	
<p>4. Next Meeting Date</p>	<p>The next Full HSOC meeting is scheduled for March 18th from 1-3pm.</p>		
<p>5. Committee Reports</p>	<p>Housing Committee:</p> <p>John Ashbaugh briefly summarized the proposal to hold a meeting to reach out to landlords for housing. More information will be provided at the March meeting.</p> <p>Homeless Services Coordinator, Laurel Weir, indicated that the first meeting of the new Homeless</p>		

	<p>Services Coordinating Committee, (which will replace the former Supportive Services Committee), will be a joint meeting held in conjunction with CAPSLO's Homeless Services Advisory Committee. The Committee will meet quarterly and meetings will be held in different locations within the county to encourage participation from smaller service providers, interested community members, and clients.</p>		
<p>6. Adjournment</p>	<p>John Ashbaugh motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jessica Thomas.</p>		