

**HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL
 HSOC FULL COMMITTEE: SPECIAL MEETING
 November 18, 2015, 11:00-3:00pm
 Including the Fall Planning Retreat
 Veteran's Hall: Lounge Room
 801 Grand Ave San Luis Obispo, CA 93405**

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	STAFF & GUESTS	
Christine Johnson Amy Christey Jim Patterson Theresa Scott John Ashbaugh Mariam Shah Grace McIntosh Sheila Blake Dee Torres Jessica Thomas Anne Robin Tracy Schiro Marianne Kennedy Kristen Barneich	Jennifer Kirn Dana Cummings Shirley Wright Danielle Veatch Christine Bearce Steve Martin Rick Gulino Patty Beck	Ivana Yeung Jessica Lorange Morgan Torell Laurel Weir Marty Meltz Mike Ostash Caroline Hall	
AGENDA ITEM		CONCLUSIONS/ACTIONS	FOLLOW UP
1. Call to Order and Introductions of Guests	Christine Johnson welcomed and introduced everyone as acting co-chair.		
2. Consent Items: Approval of Minutes		Review was tabled.	
ACTION/INFORMATION/DISCUSSION			
3.1 Discussion Item: 2015 Homeless Point in Time Count Presentation	Laurel Weir gave an overview of the Homeless Point in Time Count, which provides a snap shot of the homeless population on a single night. The count is conducted every two years. All regions of San Luis Obispo County are included. The count is done within a 24 hour time period. San Luis Obispo County saw a decline in the single		

<p>3.2 Discussion Item: San Luis Obispo County 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness and the Federal plan to end homelessness (called “Opening Doors”)</p>	<p>night count from 2186 persons counted in 2013, to 1515 persons in 2015 (a 31% decrease).</p> <p>PIT Count results are one of the factors that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) considers in the competition for McKinney-Vento Continuum of Care funds. A decline in the number of homeless persons is considered a positive result by HUD and will make a community’s application more competitive for CoC funding.</p> <p>The Count also showed a decline in the number of chronically homeless persons counted. Laurel noted that this may have been due to new programs or additional resources that became available since the 2013 count, including the 50Now program, the HUD-VA Supportive Housing program, Sunny Acres, etc.</p> <p>Most other counties in Southern California also saw decreases in their PIT Count, with the most notable exception being Los Angeles County, which saw a large increase from 2013 to 2015.</p> <p>Laurel Weir gave a brief overview of the Federal plan to end homelessness, called “Opening Doors” The plan was updated in 2015. The plan sets goals for the federal government and also influences homeless assistance programs across multiple federal agencies by affecting grant requirements, grant competition priorities, and program guidances.</p> <p>The federal plan sets forth specific goals for ending homelessness among subpopulations: ending veteran homelessness by 2015, ending chronically homelessness by 2017 and ending family homelessness by 2020. Those subpopulation goals have been making their way into the HUD Continuum</p>		
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<p>3.3 Discussion Item: 2015 Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Availability CoC requirements- Implications for Future Rounds</p>	<p>of Care (CoC) Notices of Funding Availability (NOFA) requirements. Almost 1/5 of the points available for the current CoC NOFA will be awarded based on how the community is working towards these goals. John Ashbaugh noted that the City of San Luis Obispo had endorsed the goal of ending veteran homelessness. He explained that the federal government’s definition of ending veteran homelessness didn’t mean that communities would never have homeless veterans again but when homelessness occurred, it should be rare, brief and non recurring. This definition of ending homelessness is also referred to as getting to “functional zero.”</p> <p>San Luis Obispo County’s plan was created ten years ago, prior to the creation of the federal plan. The San Luis Obispo County plan’s aligns with many of the federal plan’s strategies. It has not, however, been updated to reflect certain goals found in the federal plan, such as timelines for ending homelessness among various subpopulations.</p> <p>HUD Continuum of Care funding is made available through a national competition. Changes made by the HEARTH Act required HUD to use performance measurement as a factor in making the grant awards. HUD has been gradually integrating this change into the Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA).</p> <p>To be more competitive , our CoC must follow the new guidelines that are issued each year on top of the previous guidelines, rules and plans. This may mean HSOC needs to look at different planning for the future.</p>		
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	<p>New factors affecting points include looking at whether a community has reduced first time homelessness by finding out who is at risk of becoming homeless and assisting that population. Also, 60 points will be awarded to communities that have taken certain steps to implement the timelines for ending homelessness among subpopulations, as set forth in "Opening Doors".</p> <p>HUD has begun penalizing communities that are not "low barrier." Low barrier is defined as not requiring people to have an income, nor requiring them to be clean and sober before they can receive services.</p> <p>HUD also wants communities to prioritize permanent housing based on scores from standardized assessment tools such as the VI-SPDAT and on the length of time that someone has been homeless (persons who have been homeless the longest time should receive priority over similar scoring persons who have been homeless for shorter periods of time.</p> <p>We will need assistance from law enforcement and healthcare providers in order to be successful in identifying and assessing persons who have been homeless for the longest period of time and who are the most vulnerable.</p> <p>Anne suggested that as a collective group, there could be grant and funding assistance other than funding from Continuum of Care for the smaller and newer nonprofit organizations with similar goals.</p> <p>John Ashbaugh stepped in as acting chair at 1:16pm.</p>		
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<p>3.4: Action Item: Endorse the timeliness of the federal “Opening Doors” plan pertaining to ending homelessness for veterans, chronically homeless persons, families and youth, and all other persons (available online at http://usich.gov/opening_doors/) and assign Ad Hoc working groups to develop recommended target numbers and timelines</p>	<p>Opening Doors is the federal plan to end homelessness. HUD is in charge of the Continuum of Care funding and bonus funding that many local programs apply for every year. HUD is asking that our CoC endorse the following timelines for ending homelessness among subpopulations: Ending veteran homelessness by 2015, ending chronically homelessness by 2017 and ending family homelessness by 2020.</p> <p>If the CoC adopts these timelines, there would working groups established for each subpopulation to come up with a realistic time frame and plan.</p> <p>Laurel and John asked the group which sub-committee would be interested in being the Ad-Hoc committee moving forward toward the “Opening Doors” plan. Finance and Data committee will be in charge of collecting the data and monitoring. The HSCC committee will be the acting Ad-Hoc committee responsible for setting goals and timelines. The already existing groups that are already working on these goals will need to report to the Ad-Hoc committee about their results. The HSCC may need to meet more frequently to accomplish this task.</p>	<p>Anne Robin made a motion to endorse the timelines of the federal “Opening Doors” plan, seconded by Grace McIntosh. All those present voted in favor with no “no” votes and no abstentions.</p>	
<p>3.5 Action Item- Create an Ad Hoc Continuum of Care Competitiveness Committee to examine recommendations of “Opening Doors”</p>	<p>Laurel Weir reported that the CoC generally receives only six weeks from the time the NOFA is announced to when the completed application must be submitted. Because of the short time line, it is difficult to make any mid-course corrections.</p>	<p>Dee Torres made a motion with a second from Kristen Barneich. All those present voted in favor with no “no” votes and no abstentions.</p>	

<p>document, and identify suggested action steps for the HSOC</p> <p>3.6 Action Item- Rank 10 Year Plan priorities for the HSOC in 2016</p>	<p>To be more competitive, some jurisdictions have created CoC “Competitiveness Committees” to look at recent guidances and the Opening Doors plan to identify steps the CoC could take to do increase competitiveness.</p> <p>Dee and Sue both expressed interest in joining this committee. Marty Meltz recommended that everyone inform their colleagues who would be interested in joining this committee.</p> <p>Members and the public in attendance were shown the priorities from the County’s 10 Year Plan and were asked to identify steps that had already been taken to implement each area, then identify steps that could be taken. Participants were given a chance to view each of the priorities along with the completed and suggested steps identified by participants. They were then asked to rank the top priorities for the HSOC for 2016.</p> <p>The ranking is as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Create more permanent housing and affordable housing 2. Implement housing first model 3. Increase supply of short term housing 4. Creating comprehensive, integrated, flexible system of care 5. Centralize and streamline access to support 		
<p>4. Public Comment</p>	<p>Marty Meltz shared with the group that California government code allows political subdivisions including counties, to declare a shelter crisis when there is a threat to public health and safety because of a lack of shelter. The code allows political subdivisions to allow those in danger to take shelter</p>		

	<p>in their facility without codes as barriers. Marty would like that this information be distributed broadly. John Ashbaugh recommended that the information be passed along to the boards and noted that Warming shelters are being set up in North and South County.</p> <p>Dee Torres shared that there is national conference on Housing First from March 22-25, 2016 in Southern California and encouraged people to attend. The conference is co-sponsored by Pathways to Housing and the Downtown Emergency Shelter Corporation. Dee will be presenting at the conference.</p> <p>Laurel shared that there will be a national conference happening in January 2016 focused on homeless women. The convening will be held at USC. Also, the National Alliance to End Homelessness will be holding a conference on homeless families and youth from February 18-19, 2016 in Oakland.</p> <p>Los Osos is doing their clothes and wishes drive this year.</p>		
5 . Committee Reports	NA		
6. Future Discussion/Report Items	NA		
7. Next Meeting Date	January 20, 2016, 1:00pm-3:00pm		
8. Adjournment	John Ashbaugh adjourned the meeting at 2:54pm		