

HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL
Housing Committee
October 21, 2014, 3:00-4:30pm
Department of Social Services
3433 S. Higuera
Room 356

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	STAFF & GUESTS	
John Ashbaugh Bob Kelley Martin Meltz Anne Wyatt	Scott Smith Dee Torres Shirley Wright Jim Patterson Patty Beck Dana Cummings Marianne Kennedy	Laurel Weir Dana Lilley Tim Waag Pearl Munak Esther Castillo (PATH/SSVF) Xavier Mack (VA) Danielle Lancon (VA) Sue Warren Mark Lamore	
AGENDA ITEM	CONCLUSIONS/ACTIONS		FOLLOW UP
1. Call to Order and Introductions of Guests	Chairman Ashbaugh welcomed the group and attendees introduced themselves.		
2. Public Comment	<p>Martin Meltz said there was an article in the paper about the airport land use commission planning area. He suggested asking the City Council to require housing there for extremely low income people and asked that it be added to the agenda for the next Housing Committee meeting.</p> <p>Chairman Ashbaugh stated that there is a meeting tonight for the Housing Element Update. Anne Wyatt stated that there is a huge disconnect between what the City sees as affordable housing and what this Committee defines that as.</p> <p>Sue Warren stated that one issue she has had with clients is that landlords want the tenant to have three times the income for rent.</p> <p>Mark Lamore from TMHA gave an update on the 50 Now program: two case managers have been hired, a</p>		

	<p>therapist and an RN, and one other fell through so CAPSLO is working on finding this case manager. 6 out of the 50 on the list have already received a voucher. The timeline for housing placement is being held back by the fact that there is only one HASLO inspector for whole county</p>		
3. Approval of Minutes	<p>Marty Meltz asked to add the phrase "where he submitted a question" to his remark under the "Public Comment" section.</p> <p>Dana Lilley asked this his name be added under "Staff and Guests" in attendance.</p>	<p>Motion: Marty Second: Bob Kelley Minutes approved unanimously with changes</p>	
ACTION/INFORMATION/DISCUSSION			
4.1 Landlord Outreach, Housing Navigators, and Coordination of Referrals	<p>Laurel Weir stated that there are now several sources of funding available for housing, but that means expanding housing stock is now more vital than ever. At CAPSLO there was a meeting this morning and they discussed ideas for this including: customer service standards (regular contact with landlords to intervene before problems arise), and common messages for Landlord outreach, (a subcommittee will be working on this).</p> <p>Groups will have Housing Navigators to help find housing, but we need everyone to help outreach to landlords. Another sub-committee is working on a Coordinated Assessment flowchart tool that delineates how to route clients appropriately to effectively use the resources available.</p>	<p>Chairman Ashbaugh excused himself to attend a Special City Council meeting and Bob Kelley took over as Chair in his absence.</p>	
4.2 Efforts to Address Veteran Homelessness	<p>There is a Nationwide effort called Zero 2016 (related to the 100K Homes campaign), with a goal of ending Veteran Homelessness by the end of 2015. VA, HASLO and TMHA have all signed on to take this on. HMIS will be used to track progress. 35 additional HUD</p>		

	<p>VASH vouchers will be out in December. There are currently homeless Vets who have vouchers and are looking for housing. SSVF will now be available for non-chronic homeless Vets. We will need to look at ways to work together to use all o these resources efficiently.</p> <p>Xavier Mack from the Los Angeles VA HUD VASH program stated that they are willing to partner with our area to help end veteran homelessness. Danielle Lancon will be relocating here from the LA program to assist and can be reached if help is needed.</p> <p>Xavier Mack provided a summary of how the VA structures its system of medical facilities. The VA has divided the country up into regions, called "VISNs" (Veteran Integrated Service Network). The VISNS include a main hospital and ambulatory care outpatient centers in the geographic area covered by the VISN. San Luis Obispo County is part of the Greater LA VISN. The Greater LA VISN includes CBOCs (Community Based Outpatient Clinics), including one in Santa Maria that provides help for medical, mental health and social work. Doctor Lennon there is very well known for homeless street outreach as well. There is a CBOC in SLO, but it is smaller and has fewer services than the clinic in Santa Maria.</p> <p>Laurel Weir noted that veterans can get primary care from CBOC, but when they need to see certain specialists or have major surgery, they are often referred to the VA Medical Center (VAMC) in Los Angeles. Some advocates have reported that veterans sometimes do not identify themselves as veterans because they fear they will turned away from other health care programs and sent to the VAMC in LA. Also, for homeless veterans who do want to access care locally, they are sometimes concerned about the cost of transportation to the clinic.</p>		
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	<p>Bob Kelley stated that Vets can get discounts for bus fare etc. once they get a Veteran ID card and could use help advertising this.</p> <p>Martin Meltz asked about shared housing options for Vets. Xavier Mack stated that if a landlord was willing to take vouchers, you could have up to 6 people sharing a home legally, and not all of them have to have vouchers or the same kind of vouchers. Mobile homes and RV rent also qualify as long as they are habitable. The mobile home space is not paid for however.</p> <p>Esther Castillo provided a description of SSVF (Supportive Services for Veterans Families) program currently operated by People Assisting the Homeless (PATH). SSVF pays for deposits for VASH clients and help those that do not qualify for HUD VASH, as well as assistance getting into housing.</p> <p>Mayor's Challenge: Xavier Mack provided a summary of the Mayor's Challenge to End Homelessness. Mayor's are being asked by the VA to consider pledging to try to end veteran homelessness in their city by the end of 2015. A number of mayors around the country have signed on to this, including LA. She stated that she is willing to reach out to cities within San Luis Obispo County for this initiative. Martin Meltz said that if they can provide information regarding this it can be given to each Mayor and they can be called to action in support of this program.</p>		
<p>4.3 Strategic Planning Updates and Discussion</p>	<p>The Supportive Housing Consortium asked if the Strategic Planning meeting could be moved back to January in light of all the new programs that are being rolled out. Martin Meltz suggested looking at "innovative programs" over the next year as their Strategic Planning goals, including tiny home concepts, campground concepts, and home share concepts.</p>		

4.3 Discussion of Possible Tiny Housing Advocacy	Martin Meltz asked how tiny housing could be used as a solution. He mentioned Haven for Hope in San Antonio and they use a campground for tents. He suggested using existing land that has been purchased and is waiting to be built on in the mean time for this.		
4.4 Planning Department Updates			
4.5 Round Table: Update on Low Income Housing Development and Finance Activities			
5. Future Discussion/Report Items:	<p>Laurel Weir also suggested coming up with a housing unit construction goal as well.</p> <p>Bob Kelley suggested bringing a builder to a Housing meeting to give feedback on what would convince them to rent to these clients.</p> <p>Bob Kelley asked that this be included on the agenda for the next Housing Committee.</p>		
6. Next Meeting Date::	November 18, 2014		
7. Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 5:00pm by Bob Kelley.		