



***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
Homeless Services Coordinating Committee (HSCC) Agenda
June 21, 2016, 9-11 a.m.
New Life Church, 990 James Way,
Pismo Beach, CA**

1. Call to Order and Introductions of Guests
2. Public Comment
3. Consent Items:
 - 3.1 Approval of Minutes
4. Action/Information/Discussion:
 - 4.1 Discussion Item: Appointment of Committee Members
 - 4.2 Discussion Item: 2015 U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care Competition Results and Discussion
 - 4.2A Action Item: Approve an amendment to the Continuum of Care Policies and Procedures Manual to conform with HUD Notice CPD-14-1012 regarding orders of priority for permanent housing and recordkeeping requirements, and direct staff to implement the amendment.
 - 4.3 Action Item: Develop a 2016-17 Work Plan for the HSCC
 - 4.4 Discussion Item: Community Group and Ad Hoc Committee Updates
5. Future Discussion/Report Items:
6. Next Meeting Date: TBD
7. Adjournment

HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL
Homeless Services Coordinating Committee
April 27, 2015, 9:30-11:00pm
Social Services Department
Room 101

| MEMBERS PRESENT | MEMBERS ABSENT | STAFF & GUESTS | | |
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| Patty Beck Martin Meltz Janna Nichols Sheila Blake Theresa Scott Anne Robin | | Laurel Weir Jessica Lorange Kevin Reeder Joe Madsen Abby Lassen Pati Garcia Bob Ellis Rod Youngquist Ivana Yeung Tephiny Jones Sue Warren Richard Morrison Larry Feldt | | |
| AGENDA ITEM | | | CONCLUSIONS/ACTIONS | FOLLOW UP |
| 1. Call to Order and Introductions of Guests | Janna made introductions and welcomed the group. | | | |
| 2. Public Comment | <p>Martin shared with the group a proposal to have the HSCC split into sub-committees or working groups like: mental health, detox, decriminalization, mentor program, jobs centers, warming shelters, overnight shelters, crisis, showers, storage, transportation, haircuts, family connecting, laundry, safe place for the day. Martin recommended that the HSCC look at these topics in the future.</p> <p>Theresa Scott shared the issue of patients transferring out of care and the transition is difficult. Some of the people are homeless. Theresa recommended that the group address this issue.</p> | | | |

| ACTION/INFORMATION/DISCUSSION | | | |
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| 3. Consent item: Approval of Minutes | | | |
| 4.1 Discussion Item: Upcoming one-day services events in South County | <p>Laurel informed the group of the next MASH event was tentatively scheduled for May 24, 2016 in South County. We are currently reaching out to service providers to see who would be interesting in participating. We are hoping to have the key agencies that were requested by clients. Services likely to be offered are: medical assistance, counseling, vision, bike repair, child care, haircuts, showers, massage, pet services, clothing, substance abuse, cell phones, ID cards, etc. Martin shared the concern of a community member in south county about the animals belonging to the homeless clients not having their vaccines. Animal services was invited to the event to provide the services. There will be a similar event for youth on June 4, 2016. If anyone is interested in possibly participating please let Laurel or Jessica Lorance know.</p> | <p>Patty made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Martin and all were in favor.</p> | |
| 4.2 Discussion Item: Winter 2015-16 Warming Center Updates wrap up | <p>Janna reported to the group that the organizations that operated warming centers this past winter met to discuss the warming centers from last winter. There was discussion about standardizing policies throughout the warming centers. There was discussion of a facebook page for announcements about openings. Additional outreach was also spoken about. There has been a fact sheet that was passed around about each warming center that indicates transportation and logistics about the center. There will be fact sheets created for next year's warming centers as well. Please send Laurel feedback about the fact sheet to improve for next year's season. The group also explored additional ideas or options for pets.</p> | | |

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| | <p>Paso Cares was the first warming center to open. That was the first warming center in recent winters in Paso Robles. In Morro Bay, a Warming Center was opened for the first time and was open on Monday nights only. The group in Morro Bay is actively looking to find another facility to have more open days next year.</p> <p>The 5 Cities Homeless Coalition has been discussing moving their warming center from the County Department of Social Services Office to a church in Arroyo Grande. It is currently being researched and discussed.</p> <p>Patty recommended that the north county warming centers also look at new locations that might allow pets.</p> <p>Theresa suggested that HSOC help find a way to incentivize different owners with possible housing in the area to offer up their space. Laurel shared with the group the affordable housing option presentation created by Anne Wyatt and the housing committee. The goal of the presentation is to educate the local governments and entities and agencies to look at expanding affordable units from tiny homes, shared housing, granny units, multifamily housing, etc. Anne shared with the group bill AB2442 Holden does offer incentives to builders. Patty revisited the possibility of offering up camp grounds as a possibility for those uninterested in utilizing warming centers. Laurel informed the group that if there are needs for the warming centers for next year in terms of funding, HSOC should be brought information about the needs and that should happen by early summer to give enough time. Patty recommended that a sub-committee come together as a working group to plan for Warming Centers next winter and offered to chair the group.</p> | | |
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| <p>4.3 Discussion Item: Encampments- challenges, clearings, and preventing displacement or alleviating displacement when prevention is not possible</p> | <p>Laurel shared with the group that the encampment clearing issues were brought up in a previous meeting and that it had been requested that the committee discuss challenges and what could be done to prevent or alleviate displacement. Laurel opened the room up for discussion. Martin commented that rapid rehousing was available under the ESG programs. Those living in the encampments should be eligible for them.</p> <p>Janna reported that Grover Beach had a meeting last night about the displacement of a large encampment near a train station. Martin shared the main reasons given for the displacement: The encampment near 4th street was cleared due to estuary protection and community safety due to crime and community complaints. Also, the city was planning to develop that piece of property.</p> <p>Martin shared that the government, police and fire departments were looking for suggestions or guidance on how to deal with the issues. Martin suggested opening up a working group to prepare possible solutions to these particular issues. Janna also shared behavioral issues were a concern that cities gave for encampment clearings, such as causing fires, drug use, etc. There was a suggestion at the meetings that the possibility of rehabilitation would be preferable instead of constant ticketing since the ticketing approach has not helped.</p> | | |
| <p>5. Future Discussion/Report Items:</p> | <p>Janna suggested sub-committees or working groups for specific future meeting goals. She also recommended formalizing the list of topics to look at and prioritizing the topics. There also has been a request about working groups to be made for</p> | | |

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| | warming centers and encampment issues. | | |
| 6. Next Meeting Date: | TBD | | |
| 7. Adjournment | Janna adjourned the meeting at 11:00am | | |

**HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL(HSOC)
HOMELESS SERVICES COORDINATING COMMITTEE
ACTION ITEM
June 21, 2016**

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 4.2A

ITEM: Recommend HSOC approve amendments to the Continuum of Care Policies and Procedures Manual to conform with HUD Notice CPD-14-1012 regarding Continuum of Care Orders of Priority for Permanent Housing and Recordkeeping Requirements.

ACTION REQUIRED:

Approve an amendment to the Continuum of Care Policies and Procedures Manual to conform with HUD Notice CPD-14-1012 regarding orders of priority for permanent housing and recordkeeping requirements, and direct staff to implement the amendment.

SUMMARY NARRATIVE:

In July 2014, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) published suggested guidelines for CoCs to use when deciding how to prioritize dedicated permanent supportive housing beds for the most needy chronically homeless persons. HUD strongly urged Continuums of Care to adopt and use HUD's recommended priorities to inform placement of clients into non-prioritized permanent supportive housing beds, and to ensure compliance with recommended recordkeeping requirements. This guidance may be found on HUD's website at <https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Notice-CPD-14-012-Prioritizing-Persons-Experiencing-Chronic-Homelessness-in-PSH-and-Recordkeeping-Requirements.pdf>.

The guidance recommends that for CoC funded permanent, supportive housing beds set aside for chronically homeless persons, communities establish an order of priority as follows:

1. "Chronically Homeless Individuals and Families with the Longest History of Homelessness and with the Most Severe Service Needs."

Severe service needs are defined in the guidance as follows:

- i. History of high utilization of crisis services, which include but are not limited to, emergency rooms, jails, and psychiatric facilities;*
or
- ii. Significant health or behavioral health challenges or functional impairments which require a significant level of support in order to maintain permanent housing*

The guidance requires that severity of needs be verified either through administrative records or through the use of a standardized assessment tool such as the Vulnerability Index-Services Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT).

2. Chronically Homeless Individuals and Families with the longest history of homelessness
3. Chronically Homeless Individuals and Families with the most severe service needs
4. All Other Chronically Homeless Individuals and Families

The guidance also recommended establishing the following priorities for CoC funded permanent housing beds that are not dedicated to chronically homeless persons:

1. Homeless Individuals and Families with a Disability with the Most Severe Service Needs.
2. Homeless Individuals and Families with a Disability with a Long Period of Continuous or Episodic Homelessness
3. Homeless Individuals and Families with Disability Coming from Places Not Meant for Human Habitation, Safe Havens, or Emergency Shelters
4. Homeless Individuals and Families with a Disability Coming from Transitional Housing

Additionally, the guidance recommended the CoC supplement its recordkeeping in the following ways.

1. Maintain meeting minutes showing the adoption of these priorities or amend the CoC's governance charter to incorporate these priorities.
2. In written policies and procedures, reference the standardized assessment tool, such as the VI-SPDAT, that will be used to measure severity of needs.
3. Incorporate these standards into written policies and procedures pertaining to coordinated assessment and referral for CoC funded permanent supportive housing.

Adopting the orders of priorities may help to increase the San Luis Obispo County Continuum of Care's competitiveness in the annual CoC funding competition. In the 2015 CoC Program competition, HUD awarded six points (out of 200 points possible) to communities that had adopted and were implementing HUD's orders of priorities.

RECOMMENDED AMENDMENT:

Replace the first sentence amendment to the CoC Policies and Procedures manual section entitled "Determining and Prioritizing which Eligible Individuals and Families will Receive Permanent Supportive Housing".

"When a permanent, supportive housing bed becomes available in a CoC funded permanent, supportive housing program, the CoC subrecipient must use the orders of priority set forth in Notice CPD-14-1012 published by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) when determining whom to place in the available unit.

"For purposes of determining severity of needs of chronically homeless persons, the VI-SPDAT would be the coordinated assessment tool used to prioritize persons for permanent supportive housing. Health care facilities, including psychiatric health care facilities, and law enforcement officers making referrals would not be required to assess clients using the VI-SPDAT but would be required to provide written documentation of a high history of utilization of crisis services. Such utilization must be verifiable using administrative records."

BUDGET/FINANCIAL IMPACT:

No cost to the HSOC is anticipated. Adopting the orders of priorities may increase the County's score in the 2016 CoC funding competition, which may protect existing funding and make any applications for bonus funding more competitive.

STAFF COMMENTS:

All currently funded subrecipient agencies receiving CoC funding for permanent supportive housing have committed that they will prioritize such beds for chronically homeless persons as the beds become available. As a result, if this action item were passed, those programs would be required to prioritize homeless households with the longest history of homelessness and most severe needs, as measured by an assessment tool, per the HUD guidance.

The CoC has already taken some practical steps to implement the orders of priority. The County's 50 Now Program currently uses the VI-SPDAT to identify and prioritize persons with the most severe service needs for the 50 Now Program. Last Fall, CoC-funded permanent supportive housing providers also agreed to use the VI-SPDAT for beds that came available in the future. Additionally, ESG subrecipient agencies recently met and are considering the use of the VI-SPDAT as the CoC's Coordinated Entry assessment tool. Thus adoption of the orders of priorities would be consistent with some of the changes that have previously been made and are planned for prioritizing CoC-funded PSH.