

**HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL**  
**Homeless Services Coordinating Committee**  
**January 17, 2017 9-10:30am**  
**Social Services SLO, room 356**

<b>MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	<b>MEMBERS ABSENT</b>	<b>STAFF &amp; GUESTS</b>	
Janna Nichols Joe Madsen Abby Lassen Mariam Shah Grace McIntosh Dee Torres Patty Beck Marcia Guthrie	Aurora William Joe Gossner	Laurel Weir Jessica Lorange Ivana Yeung Abby Lassen Amelia Abernathy Lisa Fraser	
<b>AGENDA ITEM</b>		<b>CONCLUSIONS/ACTIONS</b>	<b>FOLLOW UP</b>
1. Call to Order and Introductions of Guests	Janna welcomed the group and made introductions.		
2. Public Comment	<p>Mariam raised a question about a recent Board of Supervisors vote in February regarding the upcoming 2017-18 budget priorities. Mariam asked for more information and clarification. Dee recommend that the HSOC discuss this issue.</p> <p>Dee asked about whether the Safe Parking Program was still operating and if so, if there were any plans to close it in the near future due to the changes that will be happening as a result of the new Center. Grace indicated that the Safe Parking is operating and will not be closed nor will case manager programs end, but there would be some changes due to Coordinated Entry. It was recommended that this issue be placed on the agenda at a later date to allow for discussion.</p>		
<b>ACTION/INFORMATION/DISCUSSION</b>			
3. Consent item: Approval of Minutes		Joe motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Janna. The minutes were approved unanimously, with Mariam	

<p>4.1 Discussion Item: M.A.S.H. Event Updates</p>	<p>Laurel reported that the first annual Coastal MASH Event in Morro Bay took place February 27, 2017. 43 people attended the event. Participants were surveyed after the event and they were pleased with the event. Among the agencies who reported results, THMA reporting making 13 appointments, the DMV issued 11 IDs, and 15 cellphones were given out to eligible persons.</p> <p>The next MASH event is scheduled for San Luis Obispo on May 25, 2017 from 10am-2pm at the Veterans Hall, located 801 Grand Ave. SLO. Laurel informed the group that the Department of Social Services has been pilot testing same day CalFresh application approvals at the events.</p>	<p>abstaining.</p>	
<p>4.2 Discussion Item: Warming Center Updates</p>	<p>Lisa informed the group that Tim Harness had been organizing the warming center being operated at St. Williams Church in Atascadero and that it had been going well overall. The church has stepped up to help support the warming center. ECHO works as a fiscal agent as well as the insurance entity. The Atascadero warming center has been opening later than others (starting at 8 p.m. instead of 5 p.m.) and that has provided some challenges.</p> <p>Lisa also reported that Tim's group is looking into starting a transitional shelter in North County using a rescue mission model. Laurel explained that the rescue mission model is a faith based model and is typically funded with only private funds and usually requires clients to participate in religious activities.</p>		

<p>4.3 Discussion Item: 2017 Point in Time Count</p>	<p>Grace shared that the SLO warming center has provided 1400 bed nights, and been open on 43 nights, serving an average of 33 people per night.</p> <p>Janna shared that the South County warming center has been provided 1740 bed nights, and has been open 65 nights.</p> <p>The center has served an average of 35 people per night. The center will be closing the end of March. Janna explained that the costs have been higher this year due to request by the landlord to have paid staff on site and the significant increase in the number of nights which they been been open. There have been some additional food costs as well as security services. A major cost has also been the laundry services for cleaning the sleeping bags. The county, cities and community funding has helped provide funding.</p> <p>Janna explained that 5Cities Homeless Coalition is looking for a new location for the center for next year, as this is the last year the landlord will allow them to operate at the current location. They have looked into using churches in the past but will have run into barriers in the past. Mariam suggested for April that the cities declare a shelter crisis and designate a facility to have coverage for participants after the closing of the regular warming center.</p> <p>Laurel informed the group that the street count occurred on January 30, 2017 with volunteers going out all over the county. The surveying piece happened after the count and is ongoing. The surveying is done to provide demographic information.</p> <p>In previous years we have used homeless guides to</p>		
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<p>4.4 Discussion Item: Community Group and Ad Hoc Committee Updates and need for new Chair for Ad Hoc Committee</p>	<p>survey. This year we sent teams out surveying using an app on smartphones. The apps included the VI-SPDAT and people will be scored for possible 50 Now eligibility. Veterans who were identified during the survey who were willing to be contacted about veterans housing options were connected to staff from local Supportive Services for Veteran Families programs. Department of Social services staff also participated in the surveying and took CalFresh applications from homeless persons on the streets who were interested in obtaining CalFresh benefits. .</p> <p>The surveying was more challenging this year, due to the storms, which resulted in encampment clearings in the months before the count and also resulted in clients being less visible on the day of the count. This has prolonged the survey process.</p> <p>Homeless persons have been more reluctant this year than in previous years to take part in the survey. People report being afraid that the information about the location where they were staying would be reported to police. Laurel noted that while the information is not reported to law enforcement and has never been reported in the past, the fear remains.</p> <p>The work with the contractor, Applied Survey Research (ASR) went well. The results will be out at a later date. The report will likely come out in late June or July.</p> <p>Abby shared with the group that there is a task force that is focusing on how to help newly housed individuals increase the amount of income they receive from employment. Joe Madsen is also part of this task force. The last meeting happened in the end</p>		
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<p>4.5 Discussion Item: Legislation and New Regulations Updates</p> <p>4.6 Vital Signs presentation to the Board of Supervisors</p> <p>4.7 Bringing Families Home Program</p>	<p>of February. There is no next meeting date yet. There will be a Doodle poll sent out to check availabilities of those interested in attending future meetings. In the next few months, Joe will be touring a program in Bakersfield that works to help homeless persons obtain employment.</p> <p>Janna shared on behalf of Aurora William, that she is leading an effort that will be looking into how other communities have created sobering stations.</p> <p>Janna also reported that Marty Meltz has been chairing a committee about displacement. Janna asked the group if anyone would be interested in stepping into the role that Marty had played as the new Ad Hoc committee chair. Marty's work was to open a community conversation. Lisa Fraser has offered to take the lead in terms of addressing displacement issues in the North County. Dee indicated she may be willing to be the person focused on South County.</p> <p>Patty explained that there has been some new legislation about creeks that goes into effect next year. There will be more pressure to move encampments. Laurel will look into the legislation further and report back.</p> <p>Janna asked to postpone this discussion. The new Vital Signs report has been published. ASR did the presentation to the Board about it last week.</p> <p>Laurel explained that the state has created a new pilot program to provide some short term housing and case management assistance to Child Welfare System (CWS) involved homeless families where the families have done everything needed to reunify but where homelessness is preventing reunification by the</p>		
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4.8 Community Resource Card	<p>courts. All counties have been invited to send a letter of interest, which the County of San Luis Obispo has done. The State will invite a small number of counties to apply. We will know if we were invited to apply by the end of this month.</p> <p>If the County were invited to apply, the Board would still need to approve the program before the County could agree to accept the funds.</p> <p>Abby shared that the resource card is updated and is now on the HSOC website.</p>		
5. Future Discussion/Report Items:	<p>Revisit the items discussed above.</p> <p>Dee would like to have a conversation about visions and outcomes.</p>		
6. Next Meeting Date:	March 28, 2017 at DSS room 356 9-10:30am		
7. Adjournment	Janna adjourned the meeting at 10:30am		