

Contra Costa Inter-Jurisdictional Council on Homelessness

Friday, June 14, 2013, 10:00-12:00

MINUTES

- I. Presentation on Homelessness along Waterways in Contra Costa County**
 - a. By Saneta Devuono-Powell, UC Berkeley PhD candidate
 - b. Types of encampments
 - i. Old-Timers (less visible, built into natural environment, less likely to self-identify as homeless, more organized social structure with a leader and therefore easier to access and communicate)
 - ii. Newcomers (short-term dwellings, others are more long-term but move around, more transient housing types, more visible, less investment in dwellings, less social structure)
 - iii. Veterans (1 or more inhabitants, harder to find, more remote, more resistant to outreach)
 - c. Barriers
 - i. Shortage of housing
 - ii. Pets
 - iii. Relationships (single-sex housing, housing that doesn't accommodate non-familial social structures)
 - iv. Legal Status (sex offenders)
 - v. Employment Status (main source of income is recycling, and the crews go out at night, so shelter is not viable option)
 - vi. Dislike of shelters (negative experiences, being around substance abuse), people, and bureaucracy
 - d. Jurisdictional Issue
 - i. Cleanups not effective because encampments move between jurisdictions of cities, counties, water districts, and Caltrans
 - e. Recommendations
 - i. Consistency and Seasonality (policies should be predictable and take advantage of seasonal patterns)
 - ii. Collaborative Strategy
 - iii. Vertical and Horizontal Integration
 - f. Strategies
 - i. Garbage Collection – targeting old-timers who recycle for living, CCCFCD and Outreach can provide transportation vouchers in exchange
 - ii. Abatements – targeting new-timers and old-timers – provide shelter in locations that are most ecologically sensitive
 - iii. Housing Vouchers – targeting old-timers

- iv. Landscaping
- v. Consistent rules and implementation necessary to reduce crime
- g. Note from Robin Heinemann and Edi Birsan: Concord Police is adopting a new enforcement-centric program, with more details to follow

II. Point in Time Count 2013

- a. Lavonna Martin introduced the new infographic illustrating the results of our 2013 Point-in-Time Count
 - i. Reflects the final PIT Count numbers
 - ii. Presents the information in a way that is more accessible and compelling for CCICH members

III. Introduction of Coordinated Assessment

- a. HomeBase provided an introduction to Coordinated Assessment and how it will affect Contra Costa County
- b. Questions from CCICH to consider moving forward:
 - i. What to do with potential clients with criminal histories
 - ii. Address whether there might be disincentive to provide information for fear it will end up harming them and having services denied

IV. Updating our Plan to End Homelessness: Timeline and Process

- a. HomeBase provided an update on the Strategic Planning Process
- b. Next Steps
 - i. Scheduling a Stakeholder Summit to decide the planning process and identify key issues to focus on
 - ii. May need to adjust the schedule based on when the NOFA comes out
 - iii. Need very advance notice and a broad timeframe; July is year-end for a lot of programs, and when a lot of folks take vacations, so we may have to schedule the meeting for later in the year (e.g., early fall)

V. Other CCICH Business

a. Homeless Programs Has Moved!

- i. Address: 1350 Arnold Drive, Suite 202, Martinez
- ii. Main phone number: 925-313-7700

b. Update on CCICH Executive Committee Vacancies

- i. Sean Blomquist no longer able to serve in Faith-Based Provider seat

c. Housing Authority Voucher Program Update

- i. Housing Authority representative unable to attend
- ii. The Housing Authority has shown a willingness to support us in this initiative, but due to sequestration, there is some uncertainty about how and when in the future we'll be able to do this

d. Behavioral Health Integration Update

- i. Soon moving into next phase of integration work

- ii. Recommendations about how to move forward into implementation phase of integration will be discussed by the Steering Committee at July 1st meeting

e. Concord Naval Weapons Station Update

- i. Ana Cortez was designated as CCICH representative on the Collaborative's Board, attended the last meeting
- ii. Finalized bylaws, being circulated among all members for approval
- iii. Update from Edi Birsan: By end of next year, December 2014, should have the sale mechanism in place, with first sale in January-March 2015
 - 1. First area to be targeted will be 300 acres
 - 2. Some concern among Concord City Council members about the possibility of squatting amongst the 200 or so bunkers on-site.

f. SSVF Program Update

- i. Up for more than a year, helped over 200 Veterans
- ii. Grant has been renewed for coming year
- iii. Currently looking into helping Veterans that have been incarcerated, especially in light of AB 109