



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

MEETING MINUTES

The Contra Costa Council on Homelessness provides a forum for communication and coordination about the implementation of the County's Strategic Plan to prevent and end homelessness, and for orchestrating a vision on ending homelessness in the County, educating the community on homeless issues, and advocating on federal, state, and local policy issues affecting people who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness. The Council provides advice and input on the operations of homeless services, program operations, and program development efforts in Contra Costa County. Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Council.

Date, Time: Tuesday, October 4, 2016, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Location: Sequoia Room, 50 Douglas Drive, Martinez

Council Member Attendance:

Present: Louise Bourassa, Tracy Cascio, Alejandra Chamberlain, Teri House (Vice Chair), Brenda Kain, Gary Kingsbury, Doug Leich, Gabriel Lemus (Chair), Dan Sawislak, Valerie Sloven, Joseph Villarreal

Absent: Diane Aguinaga

Staff Attendance: Jamie Jenett, Lavonna Martin, Dana Ewing, Contra Costa Health Services; Tara Ozes, Amanda Stempson, HomeBase

Public Attendance: Jennifer Baha, Peter Brooks, Mark Boucher, Ryan-Thomas Brown, Mallory Boykin, Donna Colombo, Thomas Fulton, Araceli Garcia, Leslie Gleason, Joy Hedgepath, Taylor Lopez, Felton Mackey, Natalie Siva, Stephanie Storall

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Gabriel Lemus, Council Chair

2. Approve Minutes (Action Item)

- Motion
- Statement of Motion:
 - We move to adopt the minutes from the August 30th Council on Homelessness Meeting.
- Discussion:
 - The Council reviewed the minutes from the August 30th Council meeting. The Council moved to approve as amended.
- Procedural Record:



COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING MINUTES

- Motion made by Teri House
- Seconded by Doug Leich
- AYES: Louise Bourassa, Tracy Cascio, Alejandra Chamberlain, Teri House (Vice Chair), Brenda Kain, Gary Kingsbury, Doug Leich, Gabriel Lemus (Chair), Valerie Sloven, Joseph Villarreal
- NOES: None
- ABSTAINS: None
- ABSENTS: Diane Aguinaga
- Motion Carried

3. Homeless Awareness Month Planning

- Jaime Jenett, CoC Planning and Policy Manager, Homeless Services, gave an update on the planning for the November Community Forum and talking points for City Council visits.
 - Previous open houses held during Homelessness Awareness week have not been well-attended so no open houses this year.
 - Coordinated Entry: Health, Housing and Homeless Services staff will schedule a series of provider trainings on the new coordinated entry system and possibly community education forums.
 - Tentatively 3 during the day for service providers; possibly evening conversation for the general community will take place near public transit.
 - Department of Education have asked each county's liaison to coordinate with the Communications Department to use social media to inform about homelessness for K-12.
 - Fact sheets and city/county resolutions can be made available by the Contra Costa County Office of Education.
 - City Council Visits: Council on Homelessness members signed up to speak at November City and Town Council meetings. COH members will speak during public comment to provide an update on homelessness. Health, Housing and Homelessness staff will provide talking points to COH and community members. November 1st, Council on Homelessness board members Teri House, Gabriel Lemus, Tracy Cascio, and Joseph Villarreal will present an update on homelessness and promote November 12-20 as National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness week to the Board of Supervisors.
 - Other Council members are asked to come to the meetings in the morning to support; presentations are to last 3-5 minutes.
 - Possible ideas: Have one filmed presentation for City Council meetings.
 - Presentation Dates/Times: Several Councils meet on Tuesdays; will need to coordinate with election day and Thanksgiving.
 - Possible topics in speaking points:



COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING MINUTES

- a. Housing Security Fund – easy way to discuss what the County needs and is looking for (Landlords, etc.);
 - b. Discussion of potential future service sites;
 - c. Also, info on K-12 for particular cities.
 - o Together We Give
 - Pamela Singh, a member of the Zero:2016 Outreach and Engagement Committee is organizing a “Together We Give” event on November 19th for community members to donate needed items to homeless service providers. More details at www.togetherwegive.org
- Presentations to City Councils & Boards of Supervisors:

4. Council on Homelessness Seat Vacancies

- Jaime Jenett, CoC Planning and Policy Manager, Homeless Services, gave an update on Council on Homelessness seat vacancies.
 - o Available seats: Behavioral Health Representative, Community Member Seat #3, Consumer/Consumer Advocate, Government Seat #1, and Health Care Representative.
 - o Plan is to gather as many interested persons together for assessment by a nominated committee to fill available Council seats.
 - o Interested applicants are being encouraged to attend Council on Homelessness meetings to observe meetings and meet Council members.
 - Please direct those interested in Council seats to contact Jaime at jaime.jenett@hsd.cccounty.us

5. Committee Updates

- Jaime Jenett, CoC Planning and Policy Manager, Homeless Services, gave an update on the Coordinated Entry (CE) System and the Moving On Program.
 - o Request for Proposals - Awards: This September, awards for the Coordinated Entry RFPs were announced, and grantees met to develop partnerships. Grantees and other HUD funded partners will meet at a Kickoff meeting to develop an implementation plan.
 - o Coordinated Entry Kickoff Planning Meeting: Key providers in community will meet with grantees to understand how pieces of Coordinated Entry will work; Workgroups will break out to discuss details.
 - Kickoff is scheduled for October 19-20th.
 - o Moving On Program: This Pilot Program is for participants who are ready to graduate from Permanent Supportive Housing to Housing Choice Vouchers.
 - Initial target is 50 vouchers, and aim is for participants to be able to transition in place;



COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING MINUTES

- Working on determining participant and location eligibility, as well as capacity for people with more intensive needs to get services.

6. Zero:2016 Update

- Jennifer Baha, Zero: 2016 Coordinator, Homeless Services, provided an update on Zero:2016 campaign progress, and Action Camp.
 - Veteran By Name List: Data on Veterans on by name list from January 2015 to August 2016 shows an increase in housed veterans compared with in-flow and returns to homelessness; goal to have 117 on by name list by December 2016.
 - Collaboratives: One of the communities participating has seen a 31% reduction in number of actively homeless. The goal is to reduce that number on list by another 25% by the end of this year. Input also goes to Coordinated Entry System.
 - Creation of Housing Security Fund: A draft flyer has been posted to the website. The Richmond Community Foundation is working on developing a crowd-sourcing fund to receive donations. The minimum donation for disbursement is \$10,000, but the goal is to have at least \$50,000. The plan is to eliminate barriers to housing, but the Housing Security Fund will incentivize renting by mitigating financial losses for landlords.
 - The Contra Costa Housing Security Fund can be found at <http://bit.ly/1ScFnLN>
 - Action Camp: Last Action Camp – Contra Costa is doing well according to meeting goals, much due to Veteran service providers.
 - Coordinated Entry - Housing Navigator: Outreach teams are still going to encampments, and will assist in locating Veterans for the Housing Navigator; evening outreach teams will coordinate with law enforcement to connect Veterans to warming centers.

7. Health Care for the Homeless/Consumer Advisory Board Update

- Linae Young, Health Care for the Homeless, gave an update on HCH program developments.
 - Services: Mobile sites are active throughout the community, as well as walk-in clinics for homeless/at risk, as well as ambulatory clinics and a respite center. Dental services are also offered at Concord shelter.
 - Update: HCH received the Medication Subsistence Treatment grant for a program in collaboration with the Behavioral Health Division, and is now expanding from three days to five days a week at seven clinics, to accommodate the influx of patients. There will be a nurse monitoring patients in the treatment program.
 - Outreach: Medical outreach going every Wednesday to encampments, with a Mental Health clinical specialist, who can sign



COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING MINUTES

people up with Medi-CAL, and a nurse. After receiving a new machine, they can offer ultra-sounds to see if patient needs emergency attention. HCH has also acquired a new mobile unit, and is currently getting a logo and licensing, which will expand services and sites; will happen in the next two weeks.

- Mental Health Clinical Specialist: HCH is looking for applicants to fill a vacant Mental Health Clinical Specialist position.

8. MFAC Update

- Doug Leich, Multi-faith ACTION Coalition, provided an update on MFAC activities.
 - MFAC: Collaboration of members from 50+ faith communities dedicated to reducing poverty in Contra Costa, with task forces particularly addressing housing (as well as food, jobs, health, education)
 - Housing Security Fund: In addition to crowd-sourcing, MFAC is appealing to congregations to consider raising funds within congregations as special offerings, as additional fundraising efforts.
 - Landlord Outreach Presentations: MFAC is asking for units to rent to formerly homeless, and talking about coming HSF as risk mitigation, but have not been able to reach landlords with more than a few units. The plan is changing outreach to go to service clubs.
 - AB 2406: Bill passed unanimously in legislature; Junior Accessory Dwelling Units (JADUs) make it a lot easier and cheaper to add housing.
 - MFAC met with Representatives from Concord concerning a pilot program to encourage development of JADUs.

9. Policy and Advocacy Opportunities

- Tara Ozes, HomeBase, provided an update on the Concord Naval Weapons Station, as well as federal policy and legislative updates.
 - Concord Naval Weapons Station (CNWS): The CNWS Homeless Collaborative met September 21st in a joint meeting with the EBHO Concord Committee, and discussed the recent hiring of Rachel Flynn by Master Developer Lennar. Flynn is the former Director of Planning and Building in Oakland, and will oversee planning and entitlement of the CNWS starting Oct. 3rd.
 - Community Advisory Committee: On Sept. 13th, the Concord City Council approved the selection process and schedule for appointment of members to the community advisory committee for the Development Phase One Property of the Community Reuse Project. Applications were due Sept. 26th, and appointments will be made in November.



COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING MINUTES

- Federal Legislative Updates: Bills introduced in the past months that affect homeless programs have focused on supporting Veterans (S.3249 & H.R.5407) and victims of domestic violence (S.3164 & H.R.5401).
 - Landlord Accountability Act: This bill would prohibit discrimination against holders of Section 8 vouchers; however, this bill may not have much impact, there are other ways to get around it these provisions.
- Notice of Proposed Rulemaking - SSA AME Definition:
 - The Social Security Administration is proposing to include Physician Assistants and Licensed Clinical Social Workers as sources of Acceptable Medical Evidence.
 - This would help SSI/SSDI applicants get approved more quickly, and may reduce appeals.
 - The rule will focus more on consistency and content of opinion and less on the source of the opinion.

10. Nuts & Bolts

- Project Homeless Connect – Next Week:
 - 55 service providers are scheduled to attend, and the DMV will be doing IDs for youth. Libraries are distributing the flyer with transportation information from Multi-Service Centers with pick-up times. Kinders will provide lunch.
 - Service Providers may bring supplies, and can be distributed or provided at tables.
- Trinity Center – Evening program opening Nov. 12th: Trinity is looking for two additional staff members for evening and overnight, and janitorial service (professional) for Winter Shelter Dec. 12th through March 30th, (between 6:45-7:45pm).
 - Also looking for a 12 passenger van, and staff to drive; registration deadline is Oct. 15th.
 - Job description to email out; also, Thanksgiving meal on Thanksgiving Day.
- Contra Costa Interfaith Housing – Families in Supportive Housing Program: CCIH has identified 6-7 units, and is coordinating with CE and is looking for Chronically Homeless families; Case Manager hired has experience with high risk families.
- Letters of Support: Congressman Mark Desaulnier's office can provide letters of support for pending grants. To contact the Richmond Office, call (510) 620-1000; to contact the Walnut Creek Office, call (925) 933-2660.
- White Pony Express: A small task force wants to launch mobile showers, and is looking for places that will allow dumping of grey water; approached by church in Pittsburgh, but don't know if plumbing can handle it. Jaime Jenett from Health Housing and Homeless Services is working with White Pony to answer waste water disposal questions.



COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING MINUTES

- Goodwill – Step Up Program: Update – Step Up program supplements salaries for 1-6 months for employees employed with CalWORKS, etc.
- SSVF – Prevention and Diversion funds still available: Planning meetings are happening once monthly (3rd Wednesday) to go over by-name list; if interested, email Natalie Siva or Brenda Kain.
- Hosting a “Pad” Homeless Women’s party: Need supplies (feminine hygiene and clothing), and asking for Housing Security Funds donations; email Teri House at terihouse@comcast.net.

11. Pin it

- Presentations for City Councils at the next meeting, Nov. 3rd.
- Next CoC meeting, Friday October 21st in ZA room at 30 Muir.