



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: Thursday, March 2, 2017 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Location: ZA Room, 30 Muir Road, Martinez, CA 94553

Council Member Attendance:

Present: Gabriel Lemus (Chair), Teri House (Vice-Chair), Diane Aguinaga, Alejandra Chamberlain, Dan Sawislak

Absent: Gary Kingsbury

Staff Attendance: Jamie Jenett, Lavonna Martin, Jennifer Baha, Dana Ewing, Jenny Robbins, Contra Costa Health Services (H3); Amanda Wehrman, Meadow Robinson, Erica McWhorter, HomeBase

Public Attendance: Miguel Hidalgo-Barnes, John Eckstrom, Cecelia McCloy, Stephanie Bachelor, John Barclay, Anne Struthers, Claude J. Battaglia, Cathy McRoberts, Stephanie Stolak, Sarah Thomas, Samaa Gad, Melissa Stafford Jones, Nathalie Sterne, Klish Abbott, Melody Todd, Peter Brookes, Charlene Harris, Gwen Watson, Kibibi Columbus,

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Call to order by Gabriel Lemus, Chair

2. Approve Minutes (Action Item)

- Motion
- Statement of Motion:
 - We move to adopt the minutes from the January 20th and February 2nd Council on Homelessness Meetings
- Discussion:
 - The Council reviewed the minutes from the January 20th and February 2nd Council meetings
 - The Council moved to approve as amended
- Procedural Record:
 - Motion made by: Teri House



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- Seconded by: Dan Sawislak
- AYES: Gabriel Lemus, Teri House, Diane Aguinaga, Alejandra Chamberlain, Dan Sawislak
- NOES: None
- ABSTAINS: None
- ABSENTS: Gary Kingsbury
- Motion Carried

3. ESG Review and Recommendations (Action Item)

County ESG Funding Recommendations:

- Motion
- Statement of Motion:
 - We move to approve the County ESG Funding Recommendations
- Discussion:
 - ESG: Provides assistance to homeless populations through:
 - 1) Support/Case Management at Emergency Shelters
 - 2) Support for Rapid Re-Housing
 - 3) Prevention and
 - 4) Administration
 - There may be cuts in the future and if this happens, this will come back to council
 - Everyone applicant who applied is being recommended for funding (see below)

CCC Project No.	Applicant	Project Name	Outcome (for Amount Requested)	Contra Costa County			Total ESG	Total Budget	% Budget (ESG)
				Amount Requested	Amount Received in FY 2016/17	County Staff Recommendation for FY 2017/18			
Emergency Solutions Grant Projects									
17-01-ESG	Contra Costa Behavioral Health Services Homeless Program	Adult Interim Housing Program	Emergency shelter beds and wraparound services for 150 homeless.	\$108,365	\$108,365	\$108,365	\$108,365	\$2,071,106	5%
17-02-ESG	Contra Costa Behavioral Health Services Homeless Program	Callie House Youth Shelter	Emergency shelter beds and support services for 25 homeless youth.	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$497,228	2%
17-03-ESG	SHELTER, Inc. of Contra Costa County	Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing Program	Homelessness prevention and rapid rehousing services to 60 Extremely Low Income households in the Urban County	\$100,000	\$87,678	\$87,678	\$87,678	\$876,439	10%
17-04-ESG	STAND! For Families Free of Violence	Rollie Mullen Emergency Shelter	Emergency shelter and support services for 40 women and their children.	\$35,000	\$31,000	\$31,000	\$31,000	\$507,550	6%
17-05-ESG	Trinity Center Walnut Creek	Trinity Center	Hygiene/food services and day-use facility for 100 homeless clients.	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$12,500	\$809,375	2%
TOTALS				\$265,865	\$249,543	\$249,543	\$249,543	\$4,761,698	5%



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- Discussion Continued:
 - The Council moved to approve as amended
- Procedural Record:
 - Motion made by: Teri House
 - Seconded by: Diane Aguinaga
 - AYES: Gabriel Lemus, Teri House, Diane Aguinaga, Alejandra Chamberlain, Dan Sawislak
 - NOES: None
 - ABSTAINS: None
 - ABSENTS: Gary Kingsbury
- Motion Carried

ESG Review and Rank Committee

- Motion
- Statement of Motion:
 - We move to approve an ESG review and rank committee
- Discussion:
 - 5 representatives are needed in for the review and rank committee
 - Call for volunteers
 - Members will be: Gabriel Lemus, Teri House (Vice-Chair), Diane Aguinaga, Anne Struthers, and Stephanie Bachelor
 - The Council moved to approve as amended
- Procedural Record:
 - Motion made by: Dan Sawislak
 - Seconded by: Teri House
 - AYES: Gabriel Lemus, Teri House, Diane Aguinaga, Alejandra Chamberlain, Dan Sawislak
 - NOES: None
 - ABSTAINS: None
 - ABSENTS: Gary Kingsbury

Motion Carried

4. Filling of Vacant Council Seats (Action Item)

- Discussion:
 - Recommendations to fill 9 Council seats have been approved by the Family Human Services Committee and will be finalized March 14, 2017 by the Board of Supervisors
 - Vacancies: Tracy Cascio stepping down; The COH will be looking for a replacement for the veteran administration rep
 - 2 Council seats currently vacant: philanthropy rep, consumer/consumer advocate



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- By-laws Committee to review and clarify vacant seats

5. Council Retreat Action Plan (Action Item)

- Tabled until next meeting

6. H3 Community Housing Meeting

- H3 is conducting a quarterly community meeting on housing
 - Topics: Funding, program availability, how to access programs
 - Functions as an exchange of information among stakeholders
 - Interested in getting the full meeting schedule?
 - Email Jaime Jenett: Jaime.Jenett@hsd.cccounty.us
 - Next Meeting: May 16

7. Committee Updates

Coordinated Entry Committee Update:

- **Oversight Committee:** Reviews progress made by other committees; most recently reviewed communications materials and CE process flow
- **Communications:** Developing a toolkit for consumers and providers, and redesigning the website with a portal for Coordinated Entry
- **Policies & Procedures:** Reviewing and developing draft policies for prioritization and matching, PH matched, HMIS evaluation, marketing and training
- **Data Evaluation:** Reviewing and updating data evaluation procedures and determining data collection strategies and timeline
- **Prevention/Diversion Tool Workgroup:** Reviewing pre-screen options
- **Rapid Re-housing Referral:** Reviewing draft screening tool that will trigger VI-SPDAT assessment; continue discussion of referral by RRH funding stream
- **Emergency Shelter Referral:** Reviewing results of survey of all shelter programs regarding eligibility and prioritization; review turnover data; review draft prioritization tool incorporating survey, call sheet, PIT questions

Implementation Update:

- **Phase 1 (Launched Feb 27, 2017)**
 - CORE outreach teams mobilized
 - 3 teams – 2 daytime, 1 nighttime
 - 211 Call Center begins
 - 211 conducting referrals to CARE Centers and CORE teams
 - CARE Centers open with Housing navigation services available on-site
 - Concord, and Walnut Creek
 - Warming Center open at Concord CARE Center
 - Referrals from CORE team only
- **Phase 2 (May 2017)**
 - 211 implements Prevention and Diversion Screening and Referral services



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- **Phase 3 (September 2017)**
 - 211 begins centralized reservation system for direct placement into emergency shelter

HMIS Policy Committee Update:

- Data migration is underway to new Clarity system
- Meetings are currently underway with providers to determine what data to migrate, how to map data, and how to configure programs in new system
- The end-result is a data warehouse that will house medical data (EPIC), MH, AOD, and homeless data all in one system
- Prospective go live date: End of July 2017

Moving on Program Update:

- Program will provide Housing Choice Vouchers to formerly homeless individuals and families who have been in CoC-funded PSH, and who still need housing assistance but are capable of living on their own with minimal services
- HACCC, H3, and CoC provider representatives have been working on an MOU and Fact Sheet
- Once finalized, will reach out to housing providers regarding next steps for pilot

Ad Hoc Governance Cmte Update

- Meeting twice in March to review bylaws
- Recommended changes will be reviewed for possible adoption at April Council meeting

8. Built for Zero Update (Standing Item)

- Nationwide campaign to end Veteran and Chronic homelessness and achieve functional zero
- Functional zero means that the number of homeless people in the system is no more than the number of spots available to house them
- Progress Update:
 - 42% reduction in the Veteran By Name List between July 2015 and January 2017!!
 - Chronic By Name List increased between December 2016 and January 2017, possibly as a result of point in time count, and outreach teams, reaching and identifying additional chronically homeless individuals
- Housing Security Fund Update: \$18, 219 raised to date.
 - Go to <http://tinyurl.com/housingsecurityfund> to donate

9. Multi-Faith ACTION Coalition (MFAC) Update (Standing Item)

- Advocacy group focused on changing policy to eliminate poverty



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- Currently advocating for SB-54: Concerns how law enforcement engages with ICE
- Currently advocating for AB-60: Child care subsidies for low income families
- Events
 - Event hosted by FAME: Immigration Forum for Faith Communities, March 7, 2017
 - Event hosted by Contra Costa Racial Justice Coalition: Town Hall, March 11, 2017

10. Policy and Advocacy Update (Standing Item)

Federal Legislative Updates

HR 418 – Early Intervention for Veterans and Their Families:

- Introduced Jan. 10, 2017; bill would direct Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish \$2 million/3 yr. pilot program to test best service delivery methods for families of disabled Veterans
- Multi-service site grants would improve coordination of wellness and other services:
 - Mental health awareness & treatment
 - Housing and financial counseling
 - Employment assistance
- End of 3-year Pilot: Secretary would publish report of findings on mitigation of risks of becoming homeless, and best practices for improving access to supportive services
 - Latest Action: Referred to Subcommittee on Health Feb. 3, 2017

State Legislative Updates

AB 1406 – Homeless Youth Advocacy and Housing Program

- Introduced Feb. 17, 2017; this bill would create the Homeless Youth Advocacy and Housing Program under HCD.
- \$15 million on on-going basis for grants to CoCs that fund housing/advocacy-related services for youth experiencing homelessness.
- AB 1406 would build off efforts from HUD's Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program:
 - Requires CoCs to create a local plan to reduce youth homelessness (age 25 and under), offering housing opportunities and advocacy services related to foster care, CalWORKs, and disability benefits.
- Award grantees: Like HUD's Youth NOFA, up to 10 local CoCs eligible to receive funds; must demonstrate ability to provide housing assistance & supportive services to youth transitioning to self-sufficiency.



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- Latest Action: May be heard in committee March 21, 2017.

11. Nuts & Bolts

- Call to Action: Please promote the Housing Security Fund!
- Federal Budget: There hasn't been any clear signal of support for any specific HUD programs since the new administration has taken office
- A Call to Action: Reach out to your Congressional Leader to let them know how certain federally funded programs effect your community

12. Pin It

- April CoC Meeting Ideas?
 - Affordable housing panel discussion
 - Suggestion: Ensuring Opportunities: local campaign focused on "safety net services", they have recently identified housing as a priority
- Next Meeting: April 6, 2017
- CoC Quarterly Meeting: April 21, 2017