



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, February 7th, 2019, 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Location: Concord Library Community Room, 50 Douglas Drive, 2nd Floor, Martinez, CA

Council Member Attendance:

Current Members Present: Candace Collier, Alejandra Chamberlain, Miguel Hidalgo-Barnes, Bradley Lindblom, Manjit Sappal, Gabriel Lemus, Teri House, Dan Sawislak, Patrice Guillory

Incoming Members Present: Doug Leich, Manuel Arredondo, Leslie Gleason, Lynn Peralta

Absent: Deanne Pearn

Staff Attendance: Jaime Jenett, Natalie Siva, Jenny Robbins, Contra Costa Health Services (H3); Erica McWhorter, Emily Firgens, HomeBase

Public Attendance: Robert Nelson, Denise Clark, Kimberly Krisch, Jenna Ellcins, Gerardo Ramos, Claudia Nelson, Janette Kennedy, Michael Fischer, Leslie Gleason, Kim Jinnett, Colleen Isenberg, Alejandra Sanchez, Claude Battaglia, Elvia Osorio-Rodriguez, Jill Ray, Nicholas Carter, Trudie Giordano, Nicol Palmer, Annie Scouten, Michelle Krasowski, Joy Hedgepath, Alvin Reece, Monica Shipal, Stephanie Stobell, Karen Erickson.

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Approve Minutes (Action Item)

- Motion
- State of Motion:
 - We move to adopt the minutes from the November 1st Council on Homelessness Meeting.
- *Discussion*
 - *The Council moved to approve.*
- *Procedural Record:*
 - *Motion made by: Bradley Lindblom*
 - *Seconded by: Miguel Hidalgo-Barnes,*
 - *AYES: Candace Collier, Miguel Hidalgo-Barnes, Bradley Lindblom, Manjit Sappal, Gabriel Lemus, Teri House, Dan Sawislak*



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- *NOES: None.*
- *ABSTAINS: Patrice Guillory, Alejandra Chamberlain*
- *ABSENT: Deanne Pearn*
- *MOTION APPROVED*

3. Committee Updates (Jaime Jenett)

- Heads up H3 along with Homebase are working to streamline the CoC committee structure. A survey will go out soon to the Council and Community asking for feedback on what they would like to see.

4. FY2018 HUD Continuum of Care Awards (Erica McWhorter)

- Contra Costa received all renewals with FMR increases along with the DV Bonus Project -- Esperanza RRH and the CoC Planning Grant.
 - In previous years, the CoC has received more Bonus funding but this year Bonus funding was organized a bit differently.
- Overall amount of ARD increased with FY18 awards
- Doug: The type of projects is listed by the name and you'll see that 15 projects are PSH, so a lot of this funding goes to PSH.
- Teri: Can we do a three paragraph analysis of the strategy used with Review & Rank this year, an analysis of risk, how we strategized this time, the results of this, and any changes/recommendations we might make for next year?
- Dan: Is the reason for why the DV project was funded was because it was more of a priority for HUD?
 - Erica: HUD set aside \$50M for the entire country to fund DV bonus projects. But, HUD could determine whether to select your project with DV money or they could put your other Bonus funding toward it.
- Miguel: Was there anything done to capture the thought process by the R&R committee?
 - Erica: Yes, there are minutes as well as a full orientation to those meetings and usually at least one member who carries over on the panel, so there is some institutional knowledge that's passed along.
 - There's also a full packet and presentation by H3 that provides insight on what happened last year and what may happen this year along with priorities.
 - We also have a scoring tools committee. When we decide on how to choose/rank these projects it's based on a rubric and the rubric can change each year. This rubric is discussed and designed through the scoring tools committee.
- Manuel: Who are the members staying on the Council?
 - Everyone you see but Doug still needs to be confirmed.

5. Office of Education Data on Homelessness (Alejandra Chamberlain and Denise Clarke)



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- Education for Homeless Children & Youth (EHCY)
 - Grant funded program by the State Department of Education, and we apply every 3 years.
 - All county Office of Ed and any district with 50+ children who are homeless are eligible to apply
 - Grant's focus is on identification, enrollment, attendance and success in school for homeless children and youth.
 - Provide TA and professional development to school liaisons.
 - Also provide funding to large districts (Antioch, Mt. Diablo, and West Contra Costa).
- Different definition of homeless for schools: Defines a homeless designation as children who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.
- 3 largest districts in terms of homeless students: West Contra Costa, Antioch, Mt. Diablo
 - San Ramon, Pittsburgh have experienced large increases relative to their size
- Usually hover around 2,500 homeless students for the county. This is just the 18 districts. We are starting to work with charter schools (have about 40-60 students in charter schools that they're tracking).
 - Also are tracking the 0-5 data from HMIS.
- Doug: See count for CCOE? Does CCOE have schools?
 - Denise: Yes, we have about 7 sites technically.
- Patrice: Do these counts look at individual students?
 - Denise: These are only individual files. And the law only requires schools to update it every year.
 - Alejandra: Districts are required to identify families once per year. However, they should be calling families to verify current status each new year.
- Teri: Sees an opportunity for CDBG to help with what you're doing. Would like to arrange a meeting with 3 largest districts and your office to see how CDBG could help support what you're doing.
 - Alejandra: The districts would like additional assistance; only WCCUSD applied for funding from the state.
- Patrice: I like the idea of leveraging CDBG; all school districts have gone through new budget project through local control. And districts with concentrations of free & reduced price lunch, ELL, and foster youth get additional funding.



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Homeless not on there yet. Opportunities for districts to be smarter how to use funding.

- Alejandra: Agree we should be more strategic.
- Denise: Working on LCAP technical assistance and the office is getting funding for this.
- Alejandra: This is all federal funding. The state doesn't contribute money directly for homeless children in schools the way that foster youth have dedicated funding.
- Denise: of all the districts and COEs that apply only about 50% get funded.
- Temporarily doubled up is 75% (highest) and where we provide the most assistance to the districts.
- Biggest barrier: Lack of outreach and awareness among students and families of their educational rights. Through supplemental funding students can get assistance with transportation to school. Books, clothes, anything they need for schools is responsibility of the district.
- Rights: Continue to support them in attending the school they were at before becoming homeless. Also have immediate enrollment (School of Residence)
 - Placement based on the best interest of student.
- Alejandra: Encourage anyone who is experiencing homeless in the District to tell the district Homeless Liaison.
- Jaime: Has there been legislation around this?
 - Denise: Have been working on it since 2008. State Coordinator has been asking for dedicated state funding. Have resources coming down for youth and a lot of foster resources but that's not the same.
- Teri: Can we have the slides sent around?
- Community Member: Is it all self-identified?
 - Alejandra: Trickiest part and is really about how the question is asked.
 - Denise: Do a lot of outreach and assist with how to ask and push districts to recertify/follow-up and give updated data.
- Community Member: What is the age definition?
 - It's K-12 so it's 18 but if they have an IEP its 22. But we also collect 0-5 data
- Bradley: How does this data match up with Youth PIT Count?
 - Denise: As of this year, we're looking at hitting the same number if higher.



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- Miguel: If you identify a child who is homeless, are you then reaching out to parents and making sure they're VI-SPDATed and in HMIS?
 - Denise: Really challenging. Can't share information. Districts would have to opt in.
 - Jaime: Need to connect people to resources and get the word out through the schools about services available in the community.
 - Jenny: Appreciate the Office of Ed pulling this data because it's really helpful for us.
 - H3 working to pull these different data sets together (HMIS, Ed, Hospitals) to conduct a youth needs assessment.
 - Hoping by May to do a symposium where we can present this data and identify the types of services/needs.
 - Community Member: Other counties are doing surveys (VI-SPDAT) by referring people to centers to gather that data.
 - Alejandra: It's not that the surveys can't be done at the schools but that the Liaison cannot complete the survey while they're on the job. Districts are starting to refer and inform more families on the PIT Count, but cannot administer the survey during their work day. The VI-SPDAT would have to be completed by someone who has been trained to do that.
 - Denise: If you want to connect with someone in your district/geographic area then reach out to me and I can connect you.
 - Manuel: Health care system, both pediatric & internal medicine, would love to have someone to inform if we're worried about the health of a child.
 - Denise: We do have all the liaisons on our website and a lot of other resources.
 - Alejandra: Sit on the Council because to represent and remind the community that Contra Costa does not have places for our youth who need shelter/homes. There are still resources that we need.

6. CORE Outreach Presentation (Michael Fischer)

- 2017 CORE Outreach comes on board and were nested in H3. Went from one or two CORE Teams to 8 Teams. Will have 2 night teams up and running with the Richmond Warming Center coming online. Richmond/San Pablo Team contract ready to be signed. Hope to have it up and running by March. Other new teams include the HDAP team, Public Works, and BART Team.



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- CORE Data (January 2017 - December 31, 2018)
 - Assisted 4,972 and have had 22,946 contacts
 - More contacts leads to more success
 - 4,031 were living in places not meant for habitation
 - 66% increase in seniors/elderly
 - 61% admitted to having a disabling condition
 - 80% of the people they contacted made <\$1,000/month
 - Removed 86,977 pounds of trash +10,000 pounds from January
- Shelter Placement
 - County shelters operating at 118% capacity year round. CORE made over 1300 placements.
- Consumer's Story 2008-Today
 - Spent over \$17 million in emergency services
 - CORE team helped place and replace the consumer in shelter; after 5 months sober he was placed in PSH, helped him get settled in and learn how to live independently.
- Bradley: Shout out to H3 to help with getting the San Pablo/Richmond team off the ground.
- Miguel: Comparing the \$17.7M on the one person compared to HUD award this year of \$15M you see the benefit to taxpayers in these services.
- Miguel: 61% self-identify as disabled. What is your rapport with the Mobile Health Crisis Response Team?
 - Michael: Every time we use it is successful. Also collaborating with County's AOT
 - Jenny: Also have state dollars from HMIOT. And H3 and Behavioral Health (BH) are putting together services to supplement BH services through CORE, Shelters. Starting in June/July will have 2 CORE teams who are social workers and also co-locate Social Work Masters students.
- Alejandra: Conversation around a Youth CORE Team?
 - Jenny: Discussion of HEAP funds potentially being a nexus for this.

7. Contra Costa HOME/CDBG Consortium Needs Assessment (Teri House)

- Working with Gabriel on a new Consolidated Plan.
 - The Consolidated Plan is 5 year planning document that aids all jurisdictions that get HUD funding in planning for this funding.
 - Working on plan for 2020-2025.



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- An important part of developing this plan is getting input from community members on how this money should be spent. Examples include:
 - Build new affordable housing or rehabilitate housing; improve or construct public facilities in lower income areas; help people age in place; employment and training; and, a variety of services to lower-income individuals.
 - First step is having a consultant prepare an in-depth statistical review of the County's housing stock, demographics, etc. This will be available in May 2019.
 - Work closely with 3 housing authorities in the County (CCCHA, Richmond, Pittsburgh).
 - Work closely with H3 on homeless needs portion of the plan
 - We have a survey that can be taken online and also have hard copies of the survey. It's available in Spanish and English.
 - There will also be focus groups as well.
 - Last time we did this survey we had 570 responses. Hoping to have 1,000 responses.
 - Survey includes info about what is the ConPlan, how you heard about survey, demographics, community they are responding to, first two pages are about homelessness and perceived need for types of homeless services, public utilities needs and services, housing services, economic development services.

8. Point-in-Time (PIT) Count Update (Jaime Jenett)

- 2019 PIT Count:
 - Increased volunteers, sties, and community partners involved.
 - Worked with School Districts and liaised with schools to get data and try to get them to do surveys with clients or call 211 to do the survey over the phone.
 - Had elected officials visit encampments.
- Hoping the data will be out late April. CORE was collecting data electronically this year so hoping that makes it faster.

9. Call for Community Topics (Doug Leich)

- Are there any topics or presentations that the community would like the Council and H3 to consider including this year?
 - Pipeline and interaction between incarceration and homelessness.



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- Employment, precarious work, living wage, and accessing data on the working poor.
- Whenever you have suggestions let Jaime know or bring them up at a Council meeting.

10. Concord Naval Weapons Station Update (Erica McWhorter)

- Specific Plan will be released in April or May of 2019 and will have time for public comment. Will likely bring that back to the Council then.
- Navy transfer of property almost complete and City of Concord will receive land conveyance in 2020 near North Concord BART.
 - Anticipate breaking ground in 2023-2024.
 - Similar reuse project in Treasure Island has been going since the 1990s and are just getting started.
- Homeless Collaborative Update
 - Includes service providers and affordable housing developers
 - Collaborative's Legally Binding Agreement (LBA):
 - It includes 16 acres with 260 units for persons experiencing homelessness with services.
 - 1/16/19: Homeless Collaborative met with City of Concord to discuss LBA and on 2/7/2019 the Collaborative met to plan upcoming discussions.
 - Doug: The Concord Reuse Project has a website with lots of information on this project.
 - Miguel: If we're looking for funding this seems like something that could be paired with NPLH. Is that something that's being discussed?
 - Erica: Yes, that type of funding but not NPLH specifically because this is a much longer-term project and NPLH has a shorter spenddown window.

11. March 2019 Council Meeting (Action Item) (Jaime Jenett)

- The timeline for the new Council member approvals is first, Family and Human Services Committee will meet on 2/25 and the 6 names of incoming Members will be discussed, and hopefully approved. This then goes to the Board of Supervisors for approval. So, at the earliest the Council Members will be approved is 3/5 but more likely 3/12.
- The question is to wait to do the March Council meeting and the Council Retreat?
 - Yes, but try to make it a Thursday



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- Possible dates include: 3/14, 3/21, 3/28 (and 3/28 runs right up to April COH).
 - Will focus on 3/21
- Motion
- State of Motion:
 - We move to reschedule the March 7, 2019 Council Meeting to align with the Council Retreat and after the Council Members are approved (date TBD).
- *Discussion*
 - *The Council moved to approve.*
- *Procedural Record:*
 - *Motion made by: Teri House*
 - *Seconded by: Gabriel Lemus*
 - *AYES: Candace Collier, Miguel Hidalgo-Barnes, Bradley Lindblom, Manjit Sappal, Gabriel Lemus, Teri House, Dan Sawislak, Patrice Guillory, Alejandra Chamberlain*
 - *NOES: None.*
 - *ABSTAINS:*
 - *ABSENT: Deanne Pearn*
 - *MOTION APPROVED*

12. Community Announcements

- Adam Poe - Managing Attorney at Bay Area Legal Aid
 - We will be launching a weekly housing clinic in Richmond around March. Will be eligible to Richmond residents only. Will be sending out info very soon.

13. Pin It

14. Adjourn Meeting – Doug Leich