



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, September 5, 2019, 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Location: 50 Douglas Drive, 2nd Floor, Martinez, CA

Council Member Attendance: Manuel Arredondo, Doug Leich (Chair), Lindy Lavender (Vice Chair), Lynn Peralta, Leslie Gleason, Teri House, Deanne Pearn, Bradley Lindblom, Tony Ucciferri, Alejandra Chamberlain, Gabriel Lemus, Dan Sawislak, Patrice Guillory, Tracy Pullar, Manjit Sappal

Absent: Candace Collier

Staff Attendance: Lavonna Martin, Erica McWhorter, Jaime Jenett, Shelby Ferguson, Contra Costa Health Services (H3); Amanda Wehrman, HomeBase

Public Attendance: Jill Ray, Art Rogers, Reggie Sironen, Taylor Kimber, Rynn Schumacher, Noralee Gipner, Michelle Mackewich, William Goodwin, Lori Goss, Stephen Krank, Rosina Shipman, Trudie Giordano, Dawn Morrow, Andrea Foti, Ana Vay, Rosa Claire Berin, Juan Carlos Florez, Ruth Goldberg, Claude Battaglia, Renata Pierce, Kyle Dunson, Carey Gregg, Dana Zuzzette

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Public Comment

- a. None

3. Approve Minutes (Action Item)

- a. Motion made by Lynn Peralta
- b. State of Motion:
 - We move to adopt the minutes from the August 8th Council on Homelessness Meeting
- c. *Discussion*

- None.
 - *The Council moved to approve.*
- d. *Procedural Record:*
- *Motion made by Lynn Peralta*
 - *Seconded by Leslie Gleason*
 - *AYES: Manuel Arredondo, Doug Leich (Chair), Lindy Lavender (Vice Chair), Lynn Peralta, Leslie Gleason, Teri House, Deanne Pearn, Bradley Lindblom, Tony Ucciferri, Alejandra Chamberlain, Gabriel Lemus, Dan Sawislak, Patrice Guillory, Tracy Pullar, Manjit Sappal*
 - *NOES: None.*
 - *ABSTAINS: None*
 - *ABSENT: Candace Collier*
- e. *MOTION APPROVED*

4. COH Vacancies (Action Item)

- a. Presented by Jaime Jenett
- Jaime identified two seats expiring 12/31/19: Public Safety #1 (Bradley Lindblom) and Reentry Provider (Patrice Guillory)
 - Start recruiting for open seats now
 - Nominating committee must meet before November 7, 2019 COH meeting
 - Nominating Committee provide recommendations and COH will vote on November 7, 2019
 - Recommendations from COH will be brought to Family and Human Services (FHS) committee of Board of Supervisors (BOS) on November 13, 2019
 - If FHS approves recommendations, names will go forward to next available BOS meeting
 - Council will start with new members in place in January
- b. Jaime introduced the possibility of moving Manuel Arredondo from Health Care Representative Seat to Behavioral Health seat as it may be a better fit for his education/training/experience and opens up Health Care Representative seat for someone more medically oriented
- c. Motion made by Teri House
- d. State of the Motion
- To approve moving Manuel Arredondo, LCSW from Health Representative seat to open Behavioral Health seat.
- e. *Discussion*
- *None*
- f. *Procedural Record*
- *Motion made by Teri House*
 - *Seconded by Bradley Lindblom*

- *AYES: Manuel Arredondo, Doug Leich (Chair), Lindy Lavender (Vice Chair), Lynn Peralta, Leslie Gleason, Teri House, Deanne Pearn, Bradley Lindblom, Tony Ucciferri, Alejandra Chamberlain, Gabriel Lemus, Dan Sawislak, Patrice Guillory, Tracy Pullar, Manjit Sappal*
 - *NOES: None.*
 - *ABSTAINS: None*
 - *ABSENT: Candace Collier*
- g. Jaime identified the need to form a Nominating Committee to review applications and recommend representatives for each seat to the Council on Homelessness.
- h. Motion made by Teri House
- i. State of Motion
- Elect Alejandra Chamberlain, Doug Leich and Lindy Lavender as Nominating Committee Members
- j. Discussion
- k. Procedural Record:
- *Motion made by Teri House*
 - *Seconded by Dan Sawislak*
 - *AYES: Manuel Arredondo, Doug Leich (Chair), Lindy Lavender (Vice Chair), Lynn Peralta, Leslie Gleason, Teri House, Deanne Pearn, Bradley Lindblom, Tony Ucciferri, Alejandra Chamberlain, Gabriel Lemus, Dan Sawislak, Patrice Guillory, Tracy Pullar, Manjit Sappal*
 - *NOES: None.*
 - *ABSTAINS: None*
 - *ABSENT: Candace Collier*

5. CoC program Competition 2019 Priority Listing

- a. Presented by Amanda Wehrman, Homebase
- b. Provided Background on HUD funding nationally
- c. Presented Estimated Available Funding
 - Annual Renewal Amount: \$15,430,571
 - Permanent Housing Bonus available (new money): \$771,000
 - Domestic Violence bonus available (new money): \$417,000
 1. Nationally \$50m was made available for DV focused projects. Each CoC has amount they are eligible to apply for. Contra Costa was eligible for \$417,000 and no one in Contra Costa applied for that pot of money.
 - CoC planning: provided to Collaborative Applicant to help support full system. For our CoC, that amount is \$462,000
 - Total money eligible for: \$16.2m this year for housing/program, \$16.6 if you include CoC planning money
 - HUD divides funding pools into two tiers:

1. Tier 1 projects will be funded by renewal funding and considered likely to be funded.
2. Projects placed in Tier 2 are competing for Bonus funding and subject to a national competition and are considered more at risk. National scoring process includes looking at where the CoC ranked it in their own Review and Rank process
3. Housing First

d. Discussion

- Doug: Why did our community not apply for DV funding? Anything we could have done differently to have increased chances that we've had a project of this kind?
- Deanne: Would encourage providers to work more closely with HB. Providers check in with each other during the process trying to hedge bets because it requires a lot of work to put together proposals. Providers don't have the whole picture so she's asking for coordinated convening with providers for a strategy session with HB support when next NOFA comes out to make sure not missing opportunities. Had they known, they would have pulled something together.
- Doug: Understand challenge of limited time to pull together application
- Tony: Is DV bonus part of CoC funding package?
- Amanda: It's separate but if we got it, it would become part of annual renewal. Don't get much advance warning about whether or not we'll have an opportunity next year. HUD tends to drop hints in Spring.
- Deanne: HB must have known that there were no DV projects. Can they ring the bell for providers to apply if there are no applicants?
- Erica: Can HB explain the risks of putting forward a project for DV money?
- Amanda: No risks putting forward a DV project. National competition for the DV bonus. Projects that are part of that competition scored based on CoC score, demo test rated need and quality/strength on provider. Shifted more to weight on applicant quality. Complexity- where a DV project is ranked in priority listing, if not funded by DV, is treated as regular new project and could bump other things below the listing
- Lindy: What DV project was funded last year?
- Amanda: Shelter, Inc.'s DV focused Esperanza Rapid Rehousing program was protected in this process b/c hasn't started yet

e. Review and Rank Process:

- Review and Rank panel included Bradley, Doug, Teri and Tracy
- Aug 26/27 review and rank team met
 1. Used council approved rubrics
 2. 20 renewal and 5 new projects. 21 ranked in priority listing
 3. Reviewed data and narrative responses
 4. Interview component

- Priority Listing is ranked list of projects
 1. Per local process, renewal projects with less than 1 year of data are ranked at bottom of Tier 1 to protect them. HMIS and CES renewal projects also as bottom of Tier 1 as necessary components.
 2. List of initial Ranking was shared with all applicant agencies to provide opportunity to appeal. No appeals received.
 3. New projects:
 - 1 bonus : CES Expansion selected for inclusion for full amount of bonus available.
 - 4 PSH bonus projects not selected to add to the Tiering
 - Dan: Is there a separate supportive housing bonus?
 - Amanda: One for CoC and one for DV. Under CoC, can apply for all housing types and CES.
- b. Tier 1 and Tier Two explanation
 - Size of Tier 1 is larger than years past: 94% of renewal plus 100% of first time renewal projects.
 - Tier 2: Destination Home straddling 2 tiers. The way HUD handles straddling projects: whatever portion in tier 1 is funded. Portion in tier 2 is subject to national competition. If both parts awarded, gets awarded as one whole project. If tier 2 not funded, HUD determines if smaller project can scale down and function. Reach RRH, renewal project, was ranked in Tier 2 is renewal project. CES Expansion is in bottom of tier 2. CC does well in national competition so usually get 1-2 projects in tier 2. Full application is due to HUD by end of Sept and communities typically hear back in November
- f. Motion made by Patrice Guillory
- g. State of Motion:
 - We move to approve the FY2019 recommended priority listing of CoC Program projects
- h. *Procedural Record:*
 - *Motion made by Patrice Guillory*
 - *Seconded by Manjit Sappal*
 - *AYES: Doug Leich (Chair), Lindy Lavender (Vice Chair), Lynn Peralta, Teri HouseBradley Lindblom, Alejandra Chamberlain, Gabriel Lemus, Patrice Guillory, Tracy Pullar, Manjit Sappal*
 - *NOES: None*
 - *ABSTAIN: Tony, Deanne, Leslie, Dan*
 - *ABSENT: Candace Collier*
- i. *MOTION APPROVED*

6. Homelessness Awareness Month

- a. Presented by Jaime Jenett, H3

- b. Proposed activities in October
 - i. Community Forums on Homelessness hosted by cities/community agencies
 - 1. Potentially bring PhotoVoice images from last year to events
 - 2. Martinez, Concord and Richmond interested in hosting forums
 - ii. Toolkit: Plans to re-design and distribute toolkit with upcoming events, volunteer opportunities and community agency donation needs
 - iii. Suggestion to Add family/youth focus with data and resources
- b. Proposed activities in November
 - i. Proclamations declaring November as Homelessness Awareness Month at City Council/BOS meeting
 - 1. Community members sign up for public meetings and H3 will facilitate solicitation of proclamation from each City/Town and coordinate logistics including development of proclamation
 - 2. COH members sign up to be anchors for public meetings
 - 3. BOS presentation scheduled for November 5, 2019, 9:00 am
- c. Awards Categories for COH awards
 - i. Outstanding Landlord
 - ii. Outstanding volunteer
 - iii. Outstanding jurisdiction
 - iv. Innovative project/program
 - 1. Nominations due September 27th
 - 2. Review Committee will review nominations and present recommendations at October 3, 2019 COH meeting
- 2. Meetings with local/state/federal elected officials
 - a. H3 will identify COH members and community members interested in meeting with Supervisors, state and federal elected officials and provide logistical support including meeting scheduling, provision of talking points and training prior to meetings.
- 3. Media
 - a. Discussed possible media opportunities including Op Ed for November, which was not recommended by CEI department.
 - b. Can bring back drafts/ideas to October meeting.

7. System Report Out: Annual report, System Map and CES Update

- a. **CES Update:** Presented by Shelby Ferguson, H3
 - **Staffing:**
 - 1. CES Program Specialist is starting this month
 - 2. 5 mental health interns coming through Behavioral Health are sited at CARE Centers
 - 3. A second Rapid Resolution specialist has joined Bertha to help with Adult Protective Services contract

- **New Programming**

1. Explanation of Homeless Mentally Ill Outreach and Treatment Program HMIOT

- a. Partnership between H3, Public Health and Behavioral Health
- b. Funding used to bolster BH services across homeless system of care (CORE, CARE, shelters)
- c. Increase clinical capacity within CORE program, CARE centers and shelters with addition of MH clinical specialists, CORE staff and clinical interns
- d. Impact to connect individuals to a health home and housing through coordinated care efforts across health services

2. **Explanation of Adult Protective Services Home Safe grant**

- a. Contract is to provide Rapid Resolution services to 15 clients identified by Adult Protective Services over 2 years
- b. Teri: How does someone enter APS network?
- c. Lynn: Clients who are active in EHSD APS program (older adults who are victims of abuse or neglect) are eligible for this program. There are approximately 300-350 APS cases annually and case managers are asked to identify those may benefit from prevention services and those that are homeless. APS social worker is doing a prevention Vulnerability Index (VI) screening and flagging people for Rapid Resolution. Just launched July 1. California DSS Housing bureau is funder \$750k grant funding for the program.
- d. Leslie: Will they be part of the community queue for housing resources?
- e. Jenny: A large portion of the money is going to housing subsidies to help people avoid homelessness, so hopefully these clients never become homeless and therefore don't need to be on the community queue.
- f. Leslie: Will people currently benefitting from Housing Choice voucher be eligible for this? If hoarder, for example, might lose voucher.
- g. Jenny: This is only for people who have open APS cases.
- h. Tony: Also losing a voucher may also be caused by DV. Goes back to missed opportunity to screen people for intervention before losing housing.

- **Provider Updates**

1. Trinity temporary location at 1300 Boulevard Way in Walnut Creek until Mid-November. Switch to St. Paul's commons location in November
- **Housing Updates:**
 1. St. Paul's Commons is an affordable Housing project that includes 9 units of PSH being filled through Coordinated Entry and 9 MHSA units. Unit sizes are studios and 1 BR. Will open in November 2019.
 - a. Non PSH/MHSA units include 23 Project Based Vouchers through the Housing Authority of Contra Costa County which is compiling a waiting list.
 - b. RCD is developer and John Stewart Company is the property manager. HOME and CDBG money going for the project as well.
 2. **Mainstream vouchers**
 - a. Housing Authority of Contra Costa County got 55 Mainstream Housing Choice Vouchers in 2019 and they're all assigned
 - b. National NOFA is out 162 more vouchers are for non elderly disabled household: can be in TH and RRH (at risk of homelessness), be under 62 at time of certification and be disabled.
 - c. There is \$300m available nationwide and the most any applicant can get is \$3m per grant.
 - d. HACCC, in collaboration with H3 and Housing Consortium of East Bay applied. This NOFA is highly competitive. Last year asked for 100 vouchers and got 55
 - e. Tony Ucciferri: HACCC is in shortfall again as of Sept 1 so can't issue any more vouchers for the end of the year. They're likely to be in shortfall again in Jan. Another NOFA Called Moving On has a rolling deadline and HACCC will apply for that too- it will incorporate various housing options to give people in TH and PSH Housing Choice vouchers so they can move on to subsidized housing with less services attached.
 - **Provider Highlight**
 1. **Housing** Navigation: CCIH and Probation Collaboration
 - a. There is a new Housing Navigator funded by the Probation Department assigned to work only with people on Probation who are struggling with housing
 - b. Housing Navigator has active caseload 30 with 5 in emergency housing and 10 successfully housed since the program started in May 2019.

- **Success Story re Rapid Resolution/Adult Protective Services (APS) Collaboration**

1. 74 yo woman was housed with a Housing Choice Voucher but asked to leave her residence within a month.
2. APS referred her to Rapid Resolution
3. Client didn't know how to find a new place and had 4 pets (pets were her only form of emotional support)
4. Hume Center (Rapid Resolution staff) and APS partnered to find a senior apartment in Pittsburg that would accept 2 of her 4 pets.
5. APS paid for move in cost.
6. Took 4 weeks to resolve this situation, the client never became homeless and there was minimal disruption to her life
7. Jenny: We are seeing other departments like Probation and APS begin to invest money in our Coordinated Entry system because they are seeing so many of their clients struggle with housing issues. There is no real roadmap for what these partnerships should look like. The State is pushing money down and we are all trying hard to identify what the needs and gaps are and identify partners to work with.

b. HEAP Update: Presented by Lavonna Martin, H3

- HEAP is one time money the state dropped into every community last year based on 2017 PIT. Our community received \$7.19m and we had a big community process last year to determine the best way to distribute the money. State determined that at least 5% had to be spent on Youth services/housing.
- Decision was to divide up the majority of it geographically based on 2018 unsheltered count and then set aside \$1m for youth . Two opportunities approved during the community process were a) a youth focused CARE Center and b) expanding CORE teams for youth. No \$ dedicated to CORE teams in that priority setting
- Initial decision was to develop a youth CARE center but big question was WHERE given that youth are spread across the county. As time has gone on, it's become clear that developing a new Youth CARE center with the \$1m for may not be feasible with short timeframe the state has given to spend down the funds. Running out of time and know there is great need.
- H3 did an internal temperature check on timing, asking "how do we make sure we spend the youth HEAP setaside in the way we intended, which is to create front door into system of care for youth?"

- Now looking at creating a mobile front door. Youth are mobile, couch surfing, on college campuses, on high schools, etc. Investing in a single brick and mortar site may not meet their needs. Instead, looking at a mobile front door with case management attached and processes to connect them to existing systems. It's also clear housing is still a big need, so how can we assist young people to get to housing?
- Proposing to repurpose the funds to create a) Youth Focused CORE Team that would look very different from the adult CORE teams. It would include a full group of folks to do outreach, case management to go to partner sites/agencies like schools, RYSE Center, Contra Costa Office of Education and also connect them to RRH.
- Proposal is to use the HEAP Youth Funds in the following way:
 1. Mobile Front Door for Youth (\$500,000)
 - a. Expand CORE Team under youth specific model (outreach and case management) with consumer engagement support (YAC)
 - b. Expand local partnerships to leverage existing sustainable youth service resources county-wide
 2. Rapid Rehousing (\$500,000)
 - a. Issue an RFP for RRH provider for youth
 - b. Create housing placements with services for youth identified through outreach and on our existing Youth By Name List
 - c. Can add consumer engagement model with YAC
- Discussion
 1. Teri: What does it really look like?
 2. LM: The proposal is not totally defined re how many staff, what size vehicle CORE team would have, etc. Could be case managers going out to meet someone in schools or CORE goes to encampment or at Calli Housing and need help moving forward. Not like a mobile health van. Good for East County b/c don't have a central, brick and mortar front door.
 3. Patrice: Sounds like field-based case management and coordination versus just direct outreach and coaching youth not just housing pathway. That's the model Reentry uses b/c can't just publicize services- you have to go to where they are.
 4. Doug: Confirming that we wouldn't go back to building a brick and mortar site for youth in the future?
 5. LM: Concerns re feasibility of single brick and mortar site. Concerns include siting and timing since this funding is one time and has a tight spend down timeline. If we need to meet all

young people, siting in one geographic area creates same challenge we already have. Have additional money coming down from the state and have opportunity to sustain these potential new programs for 2-3 years. Mobile model is fundable in our community. State keeps funding RRH, so likely to be able to sustain.

6. Lynn: look at Santa Cruz county b/c won YHDP grant
 7. Leslie: Rainbow Community Center should be part of this
 8. LM: BACR, RYSE, Rainbow, CCOOE, EHSD many partners that we would want to have know about the project. More opportunities with this model to get sustainable funding than brick and mortar.
 9. Alejandra: Likes CORE team idea. Mobility is critical. Youth don't want to go to other side of county for services. Curious re: counties already doing RRH with youth? Concern is where send youth when have a homeless youth on a Friday night. Have providers already interested? How does this connect with East County brick and mortar? Doesn't impact East County building at all.
 10. LM: Ideally connect a young person to the front door and then don't drop them after handoff! Have RRH providers already in community. Would put this out to an RFP for RRH, focusing on TAY. Already have RRH providers, but also have TAY providers who may apply (if had TH for TAY that's now called RRH). Foster care side of housing with some providers there too.
 11. Jenny: We are bringing this idea here to test the waters. Don't have concrete models but RRH helps them get support with education, income, rent. If in RRH, can still qualify for PSH.
 12. Lindy: \$1m isn't much so how are you thinking about sustainability?
 13. Community Member: I'm assuming that you've talked to young people in our community and that they'd want this type of intervention. What happens when someone has mental illness in this age group?
 14. LM: We have youth Continuum of Care that's connected to this system are all serving this population and goal of those programs is to get young people housed. If someone has MH, this is not necessarily PSH, but RRH connects them to the services they need and support to find housing. If Rapid Rehousing approved, expect RFP to come out in a few weeks
 15. Jenny: Building in clinical supports in CORE- just hired an MSW with a lot of experience with youth.
- Motion made by: Teri House

- Motion: Approve evidence-based revision to County’s proposed use of HEAP funds targeted to youth by changing HEAP allocation from rehabbing youth CARE center to creating a Mobile front door and funding Transition Aged Youth Focused Rapid Rehousing.
 - State of Motion:
 1. Move to approve evidence-based revision to County’s proposed use of HEAP funds targeted to youth by changing HEAP allocation from rehabbing youth CARE center to creating a Mobile front door and funding Transition Aged Youth Focused Rapid Rehousing.
 - *Procedural Record:*
 1. *Motion made by Teri House*
 2. *Seconded by Manjit Sappal*
 3. *AYES: Doug Leich (Chair), Lindy Lavender (Vice Chair), Lynn Peralta, Teri House, Bradley Lindblom, Alejandra Chamberlain, Gabriel Lemus, Patrice Guillory, Tracy Pullar, Manjit Sappal, Tony, Deanne, Leslie, Dan*
 4. *NOES: None*
 5. *ABSTAIN: None*
 6. *ABSENT: Candace Collier*
 - **MOTION APPROVED**
 - b. Lavonna introduced new staff
 - Erica Mc Whorter:
 1. Systems Strategy and Planning Administrator
 2. Formerly with Homebase
 3. Holding systems piece, supporting evolution, i’s dotted and t’s crossed
 - Jamie Klinger
 1. From Sonoma County
 2. Research and evaluation manager
 3. Formerly managed Whole Person Care
 4. Come back to her roots in Research and Evaluation
 5. RED team (Research Evaluation and Data)
 - Shelby Ferguson
 1. Intern with H3 2 years ago, has an MSW, interned with CCIH. Is CES Manager, replacing Natalie Siva
- 2. Annual report: Presented by Jamie Klinger, H3**
- a. Updated report posted online
 - b. 2019 PIT count 3% increase from 2018 and 2018 Service data 6,924 (10% families) 7% increase in service utilization
 - c. Increases: adults with disabilities, older adults. Etc
 - d. Outcome data: HUD performance measures and things we look at
 - Outreach (58% of those contacted by CORE connected to other services)

- Retention rate: 97% in PSH

3. System Map: Presented by Erica McWhorter, H3

- a. Deeper dive under racial equity section. As part of support receiving from TAC, system resource map helped us see some new things. But also have things we want to do.
- b. In back of annual report is section on equity. HUD asking about equity so we're going to take the Equity section and use as model for how start to look at subpopulation data. Can pilot types of data we want to see.
- c. Planning additional conversations for more priority setting and for next steps with TAC
 - System performance metrics
 - Program level metrics
- d. Doug: exploring system map might be a good topic for a Learning Hub
- e. Teri: if you weren't at the System report out, the map would be meaningless. Bring this conversation back to a COH meeting.

8. Community Announcement

- a. Census is hiring
 - Community member reported that application process is really easy!
- b. Trudie Giordano from Shelter Inc reported that their GPD program up and running.
 - TH for veterans. 16 beds at 3 houses. Women's house holds 6. 2 men's houses and hoping to get through approvals by end of the month. Has waiting list.
- c. Kyle from Berkley Food and Housing SSVF program introduced Reggie Sironen as Contra Costa contact for BFH.
- d. Patrice: CC Reentry network putting together Restoring Hope and Community. Open to the public. Free haircuts, DCSS, Foodbank, med van, CleanSlate

9. Pin It

- a. Next Monthly Council Meeting: NEW LOCATION! October 3, 2019, 1:00-3:00pm
2120 Diamond Boulevard, Concord (1st Floor Conference Room: Thomas McMorrow Training Room)
- b. CoC Learning Hub: NEW DATE! Tuesday, October 15, 2019, 1:00-3:00pm ,
1stFloor Conference room, 2425 Bisso Lane, Concord