

HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL

HSOC Meeting

November 17, 2021 1:00 p.m.

Members and the public were able to participate by Zoom call.

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	STAFF & GUESTS
Amelia Grover Anna Miller Anne Robin Bettina Swigger Brenda Mack Carlyn Christianson Caroline Hall Dawn Ortiz-Legg Devin Drake Janna Nichols Jeff Smith Jessica Thomas Kristen Barneich Mark Lamore Nicole Bennett Rick Gulino Susan Funk Susan Lamont Steve Martin William Crewe	Dawn Addis Kathy McClenathen Mary Ann Reiss Scott Smith Shay Stewart	Abby Lassen Anne Wyatt Brandy Graham Elaine Archer Elizabeth Pauschek George Solis Jack Lahey Jannine Lambert Jessica Lorange Joe Dzvonic Kelsey Nocket Laurel Barton Laurel Weir Leon Shordon Molly Kern Rita Holland Russ Francis Sue Warren Tom Sherman Ty Ulrey Wendy Lewis Yael Korin

AGENDA ITEM		CONCLUSIONS/ACTIONS
1. Call to Order and Introductions	<p>Susan called the meeting to order at 1pm.</p> <p>Joe introduced himself as the new Homeless Services Unit Project Manager, working on the County's Safe Parking and Blue Bag pilot programs.</p>	
2. Administrative Action: Vote to Approve a Resolution Acknowledging Governor Newsom's Proclamation of a State of Emergency and Authorizing Meetings by Teleconference Until the HSOC's Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting Pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act, as Authorized by Assembly Bill (AB) 361		<p>Carlyn made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Bettina. The motion passed with all in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.</p>
3. Public Comment	<p>Amelia reported that hospitals are seeing an increase in the number of very sick homeless people, not all of whom have had long histories of homelessness. Amelia recommended HSOC consider a Homelessness Death Review Team to track patterns around healthcare for individuals experiencing homelessness.</p> <p>Caroline shared that Los Osos Cares will not be operating a warming shelter this year, due partly to a new ordinance that people cannot camp in Los Osos, and due partly to doubts around the cost-</p>	

	effectiveness of operating the shelter.	
4. Consent: Approval of Minutes		Carlyn made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Devin. The motion passed with all in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.
5. Action/Information/Discussion		
5.1. Action Item: Vote to Recommend Five Persons for Appointment to Vacant or Expiring Seats on the Homeless Services Oversight Council	<p>Laurel reported that, excluding City and Board representatives, HSOC members are appointed to staggered three year terms, so that one third of member terms expire each year. For 2021, the HSOC received seven applications for five available seats. County staff convened a Nominating Committee to recommend candidates for these seats. The Nominating Committee recommended Brenda Mack, Susan Lamont, Wendy Lewis, Bettina Swigger and Bill Crewe for membership.</p> <p>HSOC has also authorized the creation of new 'at large' seats. County staff are working with the County Clerk Recorder's Office to have these seats established in accordance with the Maddy Act, and will then be taking applications for these new seats.</p>	Devin made a motion to recommend five persons for appointment to vacant or expiring seats on the HSOC, seconded by Carlyn. The motion passed with all in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.
5.2. Action Item: Vote to 1) Designate the County as the	Laurel provided background on the upcoming third round of the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAP). The third round will have	

<p>Administrative Entity for the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Program Grant Continuum of Care Allocations in All Rounds;</p> <p>2) Approve Joint Application by the County for the HHAP Continuum of Care Allocation with the HHAP County Allocation for Round 3 and any Future Rounds of HHAP; and</p> <p>3) Approve a Process to Develop Joint Priorities and Goals with the Board of Supervisors for HHAP Round 3</p>	<p>similar eligibility requirements to the first two rounds, but will include more planning requirements. The State will require communities to carry out a public planning process. The timing of this will align mostly with the Ten-Year Planning process, but HHAP also mandates some work to be done in addition to this, including at least one public session for people to input into HHAP specifically.</p> <p>An applicant must also select a measurable goal for the overall community, which the State must approve. The State will not be measuring the performance of subrecipients, but the overall community performance in achieving this goal.</p> <p>A community can receive initial funding worth 25% of the total if the two eligible applicants – the County and CoC (Continuum of Care) – apply jointly. The County and CoC must also agree on a process to work together, including committing to holding public meetings, reviewing public input and information, identifying measurable goals, agreeing on these goals and general priorities for the funding, jointly releasing the RFP (Request for Proposals), jointly agreeing on subrecipients, and jointly reviewing outcomes at least annually. The initial 25% disbursement does not have to be used entirely on planning, but the State does want to see some of the resource go towards this. For this to happen, the HSOC must agree to have the program administered jointly and formally designate the County as the Administrative Entity for the grant.</p>	
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	<p>Laurel took questions and clarified that joint administration means this grant would be administered under a different arrangement than is typical. While usually the Board of Supervisors would have the final say on any recommendation, in this case there would need to be agreement between the Board and the HSOC. The goal that the HSOC and County decide to pursue will be assessed on how outcomes have improved since the baseline measurement (i.e. comparing data from a year into the project to data from the beginning of the project), and will not take the broader, systemic context into account. This should be considered later when the HSOC recommends a goal. It is anticipated that a consultant will be hired to help with the planning process.</p> <p>The Council discussed public engagement, and recommended holding at least three community forums to cover all regions of the county, and a variety of methods for gathering public input including using the internet.</p> <p>The Council reviewed the proposal included in the agenda packet, and updated the language to reflect the above change. The updated language reads:</p> <p>“HSOC and the County will jointly gather public input through sponsoring at least three community forums that will include an educational component and electronically mediated input, including collecting information electronically that will include electronic</p>	<p>Janna made a motion to 1) designate the County as the Administrative Entity for the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Program Grant Continuum of Care allocations in all rounds, and 2) approve joint application by the County for the HHAP Continuum of Care allocation with the HHAP County allocation for Round 3 and any future rounds of HHAP, seconded by Anna. The motion passed with all in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.</p> <p>Janna made a motion to approve a process to develop joint priorities and goals with the Board of Supervisors for HHAP Round 3, with the updated language around community forums,</p>
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	<p>surveys or polls, and soliciting information through Point in Time Count surveys or other means from people with lived experience of homelessness.”</p> <p>The words “as required by HCFC” have been removed, as HCFC only mandates one community forum.</p> <p>The Round 3 application will be released in January 2022, at which point the County will move forward with the public planning process. Applications will be due June 30th. The State has also announced a fourth round of HHAP, with funds to be distributed partly based on the results of the 2022 PIT (Point in Time) Count.</p>	<p>seconded by Kristen. The motion passed with all in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.</p>
<p>5.3. Discussion Item: Housing Disability and Advocacy Program (HDAP) and Home Safe Funding</p>	<p>Jannine provided an informational update on additional funding coming to the Housing Disability and Advocacy Program (HDAP) and Home Safe Funding Program, managed by the Department of Social Services (DSS). All Coordinated Entry sites will be notified separately of the additional funding.</p> <p>For the HDAP, clients must be chronically homeless, homeless, or at risk of homelessness, according to HUD’s (US Department of Housing & Urban Development) definitions. Clients must also have a long term physical or mental disability that may qualify them for disability benefits they are not yet receiving, and must be assessed and prioritized as having the highest level of need. The County contracts with TMHA (Transitions Mental Health</p>	

	<p>Association) for the HDAP. So far this fiscal year, they have housed two people and are serving 22 people. Services through the HDAP include housing placement, temporary rent subsidy, housing related expenses, case management, assistance with disability applications, advocacy and outreach. The additional funding is worth \$1,157,846, and does not require match funding. The State requires that the COVID Rent Relief program funding be used on homelessness prevention before the HDAP funds are used for this purpose.</p> <p>For the Home Safe Program, clients must either be 60 or older, or be ages 18-59 and have a mental or physical disability that prevents them from acquiring food, clothing, shelter and finances. Clients must be homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness. Services include intensive case management, housing stabilization, housing navigation, housing direct financial assistance, and connections to longer-term supports. This funding is worth \$702,162 over three years.</p>	
<p>5.4. Discussion Item: Point in Time (PIT) Count 2022</p>	<p>George reported that HUD is requiring a PIT Count in 2022. The Finance & Data Committee approved the date of January 26th for the date of the unsheltered census PIT Count. The survey count will take place after this. This year, there will be a greater reliance on street outreach teams to take the lead in conducting the unsheltered count, though volunteers will still be recruited to fill the gaps. The County is working with</p>	

	<p>the vendor, ASR (Applied Survey Research) on this. There will be a follow up email sent to the full HSOC on how to sign up. The HIC (Housing Inventory Count) is an inventory of all beds available and occupied, which is done at the same time as the PIT Count.</p> <p>Janna shared that people currently experiencing homelessness will also assist with the count itself and in the survey process. Providers have been identifying people who can assist with this and are knowledgeable about where people are currently living.</p> <p>Brenda asked if homeless people who are currently in jail are counted in the PIT Count. Laurel responded that HUD does not count anyone who is in jail as homeless, for the purposes of the PIT Count. However, the County does ask the Sheriff's office for the number of people who were released that day and had no known address, or gave their address as one of the shelters. Janna shared that the CoC talks to law enforcement to minimize sweeps around the time of the count, to avoid disrupting an accurate count.</p>	
<p>5.5. Discussion Item: Ten-Year Planning Process</p>	<p>Laurel reported that the Ten-Year Plan Steering Committee is next meeting on November 18th. The focus will be on soliciting public input and planning for focus groups.</p>	
<p>6. Committee Updates</p>	<p>Janna reported that the Finance & Data Committee are looking at data quality metrics and making</p>	

	<p>assessments on where this can be improved, and will soon bring some data to the full HSOC.</p> <p>Devin reported that the Services Coordinating Committee discussed the success of the Emergency Housing Vouchers program run by HASLO (Housing Authority of San Luis Obispo), the recent encampment cleanup in Oceano, and the upcoming PIT Count.</p>	
7. Future Discussion/Report Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homelessness death review – to be added to next Executive Committee meeting agenda • Blakeslee-Gillett plan to reform homeless services • Plans for alternate sites when shelters are affected by COVID • Safe Parking 	
8. Updates and Requests for Information	Janna reported that the South County warming center will be opening at South County Regional Center again this year.	
9. Upcoming Meetings: Special Meeting on December 8 at 11 a.m.; Next Regular Meeting on January 19 at 1 p.m.	A Special meeting of the HSOC will be held on December 8 th . The purpose of this meeting is to vote on recommendations for funding for the Department of Planning & Building’s annual Action Plan grants.	
10. Adjournment	Susan Funk adjourned the meeting at 3pm.	