

**HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL**  
**Homeless Services Coordinating Committee**  
**February 7, 2022 10-11:30pm**  
**Meeting held by Zoom call**

<b>MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	<b>MEMBERS ABSENT</b>	<b>STAFF &amp; GUESTS</b>
Devin Drake Jack Lahey Janna Nichols	Brandy Graham John Klevins Nicole Bennett	Abby Lassen Amy Anne Robin Carrie Collins Elaine Archer Elizabeth Pauschek Esther Salzman George Solis James Connery Jannine Lambert Jessica Lorange Joe Dzvonic Jorge Gonzales Kelly Underwood Laurel Weir Leon Shordon Marie Bolin Michael Azevedo Molly Kern Nick Watson Riley Smith Russ Francis Steve Martin Wendy Lewis

		Yael Korin
AGENDA ITEM	CONCLUSIONS/ACTIONS	
1. Call to Order and Introductions	Devin called the meeting to order at 10:05am. Introductions were made. Devin announced that Janna is now a Committee member.	
2. Public Comment	<p>Janna commented that 5Cities Homeless Coalition (5CHC), El Camino Homeless Organization (ECHO) and the Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo (CAPSLO) met with Public Health concerning their capacity for isolation to meet the needs of COVID-positive homeless people. The agencies were recently in a situation where shelters were closed due to capacity issues and they were close to turning people away.</p> <p>Anne commented that Behavioral Health’s inpatient unit was closed for around a month due to staff exposure and shortages. The unit has since reopened but cannot take COVID-positive patients, as this would result in the Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF) being shut down again. County staff have been attempting to find additional resources but have found there are none at the State level.</p> <p>Elaine commented that HUD (US Department of Housing and Urban Development) has clarified that reallocation of Emergency Housing vouchers from underperforming Public Housing Authorities to those performing well will not take place until 2023.</p>	

	Nick commented that the residents of the Kansas Avenue safe parking site have seen very little of CAPSLO, whose support services would be appreciated. Jack responded that he will look into this and follow up offline.	
3. Consent: Approval of Minutes	The minutes could not be approved due to lack of quorum.	
4. Action/Information/Discussion		
4.1. Discussion Item: 2022 Point in Time (PIT) Count	<p>George gave a reminder that the PIT (Point in Time) Count is now taking place on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. County staff are working with the contractor ASR (Applied Survey Research) to assign maps to agencies and volunteers. The HSOC Finance &amp; Data Committee approved the survey (to be conducted after the count on February 23<sup>rd</sup>), with one small change. County staff will be reaching out to emergency shelter and transitional housing agencies that do not enter data into HMIS (Homeless Management Information System), to ensure this data is collected manually.</p> <p>James from ASR reported that service providers will be receiving map assignments and training materials imminently. James confirmed that some volunteers who have signed up may not be required, depending on where they have said they are available and the coverage needed.</p>	
4.2. Discussion Item: Resources and Coordination for Medically Acute Cases	Carrie reported that TFS (Transitional Food & Shelter) has six units with nine beds, though two of these units and three beds are currently out of use due to new owners renovating. Two units are set aside for medically fragile homeless families.	

	<p>Jack reported that CAPSLO are experiencing staffing issues, and complex cases with high medical needs but without allocated resources for Home Health CNAs (Certified Nursing Assistants). Anne to follow up offline with Jack about the CenCalHealth CalAIM (California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal) program.</p>	
<p>4.3. Discussion Item: CalWorks Housing Support Program and Bringing Families Home Program Update (Jannine Lambert)</p>	<p>Jannine provided an update on the HOME (Housing Opportunities Mean Everything) programs managed by DSS (Department of Social Services). These include the Housing Disability Advocacy Program, the Bringing Families Home program, and the Housing Support Program.</p> <p>The Housing Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP) is for individuals who are chronically homeless or at risk (including imminent risk) of homelessness. Clients must have a long term disability and be eligible to receive disability benefits, and must be prioritized as the highest need. HDAP can provide housing placement, temporary rental subsidies, housing related expenses, housing case management, assistance with disability applications, advocacy and outreach. Services are contracted to TMHA (Transitions Mental Health Association). Additional funding worth \$1.2 million was received in December for a three year period, which will allow for an increase in program capacity from 24 to 48 clients.</p> <p>Bringing Families Home is a child welfare services program, where eligible families must be homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness. This program has limited funding and is set to expire at the end of this fiscal year, though DSS has now heard the program will be continued so will be applying for additional</p>	

	<p>funding next year. Services include case management, transportation assistance, housing placement, storage unit payment assistance, housing searches related to child care, assistance with move in costs, temporary rental subsidies, credit repair assistance, housing workshops, motel vouchers, and referral to apartments where available. This program has a capacity of 45 families. 25 are currently enrolled – referrals have been low, most likely due to a decrease in referrals to the child welfare system during the first year of the pandemic.</p> <p>The Housing Support Program is for CalWORKs eligible families. Only one member of the family must be eligible for CalWORKs. They must also be County residents and be homeless or at risk (including imminent risk) of homelessness. There is now an eviction prevention component, although the County is required to refer families to the COVID Rent Relief Program first if the eviction is related to COVID. Services provided include case management, transportation assistance, workshops, housing navigation, storage assistance, costs related to moving into a unit, and furniture assistance. The capacity for this program is 200 families, with around 150 currently being served.</p>	
<p>4.4. Discussion Item: End of Life Protocol</p>	<p>Janna reported that the need for an end of life protocol has come up repeatedly in conversations with TFS. End of life care has been provided on an ad hoc basis until now. Janna suggested forming a task force to look into this issue on a more comprehensive basis for the county. Carrie and Devin agreed with this idea. This item will be brought back to the next committee meeting.</p>	

<p>4.5. Discussion Item: Safe Parking and Alternatives to Encampments</p>	<p>Laurel announced that Joe Dzvonic, formerly Program Manager with the Homeless Services unit, has now moved to the County Administrative Office, taking over Carolyn Berg’s previous role. Jeff Al-Mashat has now been hired as the new Homeless Services unit Program Manager. Improvements are planned for the Kansas Avenue safe parking site, including additional services. County staff are also looking into locations for additional sites.</p>	
<p>4.6. Discussion Item: COVID-19 Updates</p>	<p>Laurel reported that County Public Health has said they anticipate the Omicron wave has peaked, and the county will begin to see a decline in cases, though there is a possibility of additional waves this year.</p>	
<p>4.6.1. Discussion Item: COVID Vaccine Outreach Efforts</p>	<p>Abby reported that Public Health and TMHA have undertaken three vaccine outreach efforts at the Kansas Avenue safe parking site over the last few weeks. This has involved conversations with residents and incentives for booster vaccines. Jack reported that CAPSLO are also promoting vaccines, but most of their people are now already vaccinated. Wendy reported that ECHO were able to open back up in Atascadero, but have since had a positive case, so have had to close again.</p>	
<p>4.7. Discussion Item: Rescheduling Services Coordinating Committee Meetings</p>	<p>Laurel reported that, per State legislation amending the Brown Act, HSOC committee meetings can only take place within 30 days of the full HSOC passing a resolution that they wish to continue meeting remotely. Future Services Coordinating Committee meetings are scheduled for days that would be outside the 30 days following the bimonthly full HSOC meetings. Russ suggested moving the bimonthly Services Coordinating</p>	

	Committee meetings from odd months to even months, as this would place them within the 30 day windows. There may however be clashes with other meetings. Russ to send out Doodle poll to the committee members in order to reschedule future committee meetings.	
5. Future Discussion/Report Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Action item to form a task force regarding end of life protocol (see discussion item 4.4).</li> </ul>	
6. Next Scheduled Meeting Date: March 14, 2022	The next meeting and future meetings will be rescheduled (see discussion item 4.7).	
7. Adjournment	Devin adjourned the meeting at 11:40am.	