

**HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL (HSOC)  
Services Coordinating Committee Meeting Agenda**

February 5, 2024, 9am

**Committee members must participate in person** (except for just cause reasons, or for emergency reasons approved by the HSOC):

**Room 356, County of San Luis Obispo Department of Social Services  
3433 South Higuera Street, San Luis Obispo**

Approved members with just cause reasons and the public may participate by  
Zoom video call:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86037663211?pwd=c0vugDjvU8aNJ8nMdrzTcOUNI9Cxf.1>

Or dial in:

1 669 444 9171 US

Meeting ID: 860 3766 3211

Passcode: 477836

1. Call to Order and Introductions
2. Public Comment
3. Consent: Approval of Minutes
4. Action/Information/Discussion
  - 4.1. Implementing Five-Year Plan Line of Effort 1 - Create Affordable and Appropriately Designed Housing Opportunities and Shelter Options for Underserved Populations
    - 4.1.1. Discussion Item: Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAP) Round 5 Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan Update
    - 4.1.2. Discussion Item: Oklahoma Avenue Safe Parking Site Update
    - 4.1.3. Discussion Item: Warming Centers

- 4.2. Implementing Five-Year Plan Line of Effort 2 - Focus Efforts to Reduce or Eliminate the Barriers to Housing Stability for Those Experiencing Homelessness or at Risk of Homelessness, Including Prevention, Diversion, Supportive Services, and Housing Navigation Efforts
  - 4.2.1. Discussion Item: Bathroom and Shower Access
- 4.3. Implementing Five-Year Plan Line of Effort 4 - Create, Identify, and Streamline Funding and Resources
  - 4.3.1. Discussion Item: Enhanced Care Management and Street Medicine Billing
5. Future Discussion/Report Items
6. Next Regular Meeting: March 4, 2024, at 9am
7. Adjournment

The full agenda packet for this meeting is available on the SLO County HSOC web page:

[https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Social-Services/Homeless-Services/Homeless-Services-Oversight-Council-\(HSOC\).aspx](https://www.slocounty.ca.gov/Departments/Social-Services/Homeless-Services/Homeless-Services-Oversight-Council-(HSOC).aspx)

**HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL (HSOC)  
SERVICES COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**Date**

December 4, 2023

**Time**

9am-11am

**Location**

Room 356, Department of Social Services  
3433 S. Higuera, San Luis Obispo, CA 93403

**Members Present**

Abby Lassen  
Jack Lahey  
Jane Ranahan  
Michael Azevedo (Janna Nichols' alternate)

**Members Absent**

Allison Brandum  
Amelia Grover  
Brandy Graham  
Devin Drake  
Janna Nichols  
Wendy Lewis

**Other Attendees**

Erica Jaramillo  
John Hamon  
Kari Howell  
Laurel Weir  
Lauryn Searles  
McKenna Cutting  
Merlie Livermore  
Michelle Shoresman  
Mimi Rodriguez

**1. Call to Order and Introductions**

Jack Lahey called the meeting to order at 9:02am. Introductions were made.

**2. Public Comment**

No public comment.

**3. Consent: Approval of Minutes**

Quorum not met. No action taken.

#### **4. Action/Information/Discussion 4.1. Implementing Five-Year Plan Line of Effort 2 – Reduce or Eliminate Barriers to Housing Stability**

##### **4.1.1. Information Item: Point-in-Time (PIT) Count Update**

Kari Howell provided an update and opportunity for involvement for the upcoming PIT Count scheduled for January 23<sup>rd</sup>. Kari shared that she has extended invitations to service providers, community organizations, law enforcements, government officials, and other community members, both with and without lived experience of homelessness, to join the PIT Count Committee. Being part of this Committee is an opportunity to provide input and influence in the planning and implementation of the count. According to Kari, the PIT Count Committee's current priorities include confirming the start time for the PIT Count, as well as confirming incentives for the people being surveyed and the guides with lived experience of homelessness. Another priority is looking at the first draft of the survey. This year's count will focus more on survey methodology as priority over observation. The goal is to increase the integrity of the information by interviewing people in the moment to get real time data and information. Kari also shared that there is county-wide call for up to 250 volunteers.

##### **4.1.2. Information Item: Coordinated Entry Ad Hoc Committee Update**

Jack Lahey shared that he, Jane Renahan and County staff have been working on what this Ad Hoc Committee would look like. Because there are some complications with what is Brown Act body and what is not, it is still a little unclear what the structure of this Committee would be. The overall goal is to include as many voices as possible from different existing organizations and agencies.

##### **4.1.3. Information Item: Street Medicine Update**

Jack mentioned that there's an intention to circle back with the Health Department in re-collaborating for another meeting to discuss Street medicine. On the CAPSLO (Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo) side, Jack shared that since the last convening, CHC (Community Health Center) has embedded a Nurse Practitioner and a Medical Doctor 4 days a week at the Prado 40 Center. Although they have not yet practiced traditional street medicine where they go out with the Outreach team, CHC has been integrating themselves into the services by seeing the participants at the Prado Shelter, as well as the overflow location. Jack also shared that if there's someone from the street outreach needing to see a Primary Care physician, they can contact Prado Shelter to set up an appointment. As for the actual on the ground street outreach, Jack reported that nothing has changed. They are joined by Allison Brandum from Public Health one day a week, and other days the Dignity Health team joins them.

Michael Azevedo from the 5 Cities area also reported that they go on their street outreach accompanied by Dignity Health team and Allison Brandum from Public Health. SLO Bangers also joins them to hand out supplies and help with clean ups.

Mimi Rodriguez shared that ECHO (El Camino Homeless Organization) outreach has also been partnering with Nurse Allison, alongside a team from the City of Atascadero, Behavioral Health, and the Police Department. Mimi reported that they have seen a major success wherein a client they have been working with for the last two years had a significant physical improvement after being treated at the hospital as part of this outreach.

Laurel Weir mentioned that there's a separate street medicine effort called Gratuity Cares Mobile Clinic that is happening in the different regions of the county right now. This is a physician's group that works in Dignity Health and has now partnered with the Octavia system in recording date, time, and other information for their street outreach.

#### **4.1.4. Information Item: Warming Centers Update**

Jack Lahey reported that right now Prado 40 shelter is the only warming shelter operating. He reiterated the need for more funding resources to continue operating warming center services in the county. He mentioned that they are seeing more people needing the services.

Michael Azevedo shared that they still don't have a warming shelter in the 5 Cities area. The quote that they received for the cleaning of the temporary building that they were going to rent was substantially higher than what they expected. The other building that will be a permanent location for their warming shelter is still undergoing renovations and expected to be completed in early January.

Abby Lassen shared that through Facebook posting, Aurora Williams has identified three churches willing to serve as warming shelters in the Paso Robles area.

#### **4.1.5. Information Item: Behavioral Health Updates**

Laurel Weir reported that the Behavioral Health Agency did a presentation last week to the Board of Supervisors on the future Behavioral Health plans regarding Crisis Stabilization Unit and asking for guidance to release Request for Information for a Behavioral Urgent Care Center. They want to have a 24/7 location for emergency behavioral health services where there is a walk-in and alternate drop off, do medical clearance, prescription, and medication services. They are in the beginning stages of planning and the agency is looking for potential partners to work with them. They are currently engaging in making a strategic plan and have a working group that has been identifying what resources the county currently has and identifying upcoming projects. One of those identified includes the Twin Cities Community Hospital in Templeton. Twin Cities Hospital received a grant to build an empath unit, a grant funded emergency psychiatric unit, and planning is under way. Empath Units are dedicated mental health spaces attached to emergency departments where mental health providers can evaluate and treat patients onsite allowing patients to be seen in a therapeutic setting and free up emergency department space. The Health Agency has been supporting Twin Cities Community Hospital in the application process. Laurel also mentioned that CenCal is leading separately the addition of a sobering center to the SLO County Health Agency campus. This center will provide an alternative to jail and the emergency department for people who require detention for intoxication. These patients may require mental health treatments as well and they can be transferred to either the Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF) or the Crisis Stabilization Unit, which are both steps away within the campus.

#### **5. Future Discussion/Report Items**

- Warming Centers update (regarding operations options)
- Street Medicine update (standing item)
- PIT Count update
- Access to Bathrooms
- Oklahoma update

**6. Next Regular Meeting:** January 8, 2024, at 9am

#### **7. Adjournment**

Jack adjourned the meeting at 11:00am

**HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL (HSOC)  
SERVICES COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**Date**

November 6, 2023

**Time**

9am-11am

**Location**

Room 356, Department of Social Services  
3433 S. Higuera, San Luis Obispo, CA 93403

**Members Present**

Abby Lassen  
Amelia Grover  
Brandy Graham  
Devin Drake  
Jack Lahey  
Janna Nichols  
Jane Ranahan

**Members Absent**

Allison Brandum  
Wendy Lewis

**Staff and Guests**

Christy Nichols  
Erica Jaramillo  
Kate League  
Laurel Weir  
Lauryn Searles  
Lawren Ramos  
McKenna Cutting  
Merlie Livermore  
Michael Azevedo  
Michelle Pedigo  
Russ Francis  
Sarah Reinhart  
Zackiya Grant-Knight

**1. Call to Order and Introductions**

Jack Lahey called the meeting to order at 9:01am. Introductions were made.

## **2. Public Comment**

Sara Reinhart gave an update on Community Care Expansion (CCE) Preservation Funds. She shared that the Request for Applications (RFA) went out earlier this month to every single residential care facility for the elderly in the county. The grant application deadline is November 11th. Chosen facilities will be awarded funds to add extra beds for people who are elderly and at risk of homelessness, experiencing homelessness, and who might have other health conditions. Part of the funding is also to help preserve existing licensed facilities serving the elderly that need critical repairs or required upgrades.

Devin Drake announced that Kristin Ventresca, who is the Acting Manager of the Homeless Services Division, has accepted a new position as Deputy Director at the County Health department. He also announced that Morgan Torrell is the new Homeless Services Division Manager. Devin also reported that the Welcome Home Village project has been running into issues with three business owners who are against building the homeless project on the Higuera St. location. He said that this project is not shelved as the County is exploring a couple of options for other location sites.

## **3. Consent: Approval of Minutes**

Janna Nichols moved the motion to approve the minutes. Devin Drake seconded. Amelia Grover abstained; all others were in favor. Motion passed.

## **4. Action/Information/Discussion**

### **4.1. Implementing Five-Year Plan Line of Effort 2 – Reduce or Eliminate Barriers to Housing Stability**

#### **4.1.1. Discussion Item: Street Medicine**

Jack Lahey shared that in collaboration with Dignity Health, CenCal, Five Cities Homeless Coalition (5CHC), CAPSLO (Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo) and SLO Public Health, a Street Medicine convening event took place on September 26<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of this meeting was to get the different agencies in one room and define their existing roles in terms of health care and homeless services. Zackiya Grant-Knight and Katie League from the National Health Care for the Homeless Council (NHCHC), a non-profit policy designed consulting company based in New Jersey, were guest facilitators for this conversation about street medicine. Katie shared some of the highlights from this meeting. Among topics discussed included the identification of community services and resources available for medical outreach efforts, who the members of each outreach team are, and billing for medical outreach. From this meeting, Katie offered a few suggestions to facilitate the street medicine outreach efforts: more collaboration and maybe technical assistance around the billing aspect for street medicine; identification of gaps and needs and exploration of funding opportunities; develop care coordination platforms that will include care coordination meetings both on the patient and administrative levels. Katie emphasized the importance of coordination between organizations in communities to help the expansion of street medicine outreach programs in different levels.

Sarah Reinhart also provided an overview of the work the Public Health Department is doing to provide person-centered care to people experiencing homelessness. Sarah also touched on a few sources of funding that are making it possible to provide street medicine. She also described how street medicine outreach ties into ECM (Enhanced Care Management) services.

#### **4.1.2. Information Item: Warming Center Updates**

Jack reported that as of November 1<sup>st</sup>, warming shelter season officially started. Warming Shelters will operate when the outside weather is 38 degrees or lower, or, if there is 50 percent (or higher) chance of rain. CAPSLO will start recruiting for volunteers. Currently, their 40 Prado Homeless Services Center has a capacity of 40 cots. For the South County, Janna Nichols shared that 5CHC (5 Cities Homeless Coalition) has leased a building that will eventually provide a long-term home for a warming shelter in the Arroyo Grande/Grover Beach areas. However, this building is currently undergoing renovations so it will not be ready for this season. She then mentioned that they are working with HASLO regarding a facility they own in Oak Park and El Camino Real in Arroyo Grande, as a temporary warming shelter this season. Mimi Rodriguez from ECHO (El Camino Homeless Organization) reported that there is no warming shelter in the North County area. However, she shared that ECHO in Paso Robles received approval for funding 20 more beds for their 90-day program and they are working as fast as possible to get these beds in line for the winter season.

#### **4.1.3. Information Item: Updates from 5Cities Homeless Coalition**

Janna Nichols shared that they are having a groundbreaking event today for the Balay Ko on Barca, a new non-congregate shelter that will be composed of 30 units which is expected to be operational by the end of the year. This will be similar in operation to the Cabins for Change program. It is located between Barca and South 4<sup>th</sup> St. in Grover Beach. Janna also reported that the waiting list for the Cabins for Change program is currently 266. They are currently tracking about 75 percent success rate of people graduating from the 90-day program and into permanent housing. Janna also mentioned that their street outreach team continues to be relatively successful in moving people from the streets into housing. Janna also expressed thanks to CenCal for allowing 5CHC to now be a Medi-Cal provider.

#### **4.1.4. Discussion Item: Update on Creation of ad hoc Committee to Focus on Coordinated Entry**

Jack shared that during the last Executive Committee meeting, committee chairperson Susan Funk made a motion to form the Ad Hoc committee. The goal of this committee is to revise the policies and procedures of the Coordinated Entry system and to bring as many people as possible together in the conversation of community service integration. Jack said invites for participation will be sent out in November and the goal is to have a first meeting in December. Jane Renahan (from People's Self-Help Housing) offered to help Jack in setting up goals on how to implement this committee.

#### **4.1.5. Discussion Item: VA (Veterans Affairs) One Team Initiative**

Brandy Graham reported the VA (Veterans Affairs) One Team Initiative program has been going on within the GLA (Greater Los Angeles) VA health care system. San Luis Obispo County falls within the GLA service area. Brandy mentioned that improved collaboration among agencies has propelled co-enrollments in HUD-VASH (US Department of Housing and Urban Development-VA Supportive Housing) and SSVF (Supportive Services for Veteran Families). According to Brandy, leadership meetings are held weekly, as committees share and track progress regarding referral system, by name list, voucher availability and other supportive services for the Veterans and their families.

**5. Future Discussion/Report Items**

- Coordinated Entry discussion
- Street Medicine follow up
- Ad Hoc Committee follow up discussion
- Safe Parking sites

**6. Next Regular Meeting**

December 4, 2023, at 9am

**7. Adjournment**

Jack adjourned the meeting at 11:03am