

San Luis Obispo Countywide 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness

We envision a future in which the housing and comprehensive services necessary to remain housed are available for all, affording everyone maximum self-sufficiency, and the opportunity to be productive and participating members of our community

HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL (HSOC) Homeless Services Coordinating Committee (HSCC) Agenda

April 4, 2022, 1 p.m.

Members and the public may participate by Zoom video call: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81993343870?
pwd=Wmo1Q1pId09jUE9wRjkvdWpCbVBSQT09

Or dial in: +1 720 707 2699 Meeting ID: 819 9334 3870 Passcode: 891074

- 1. Call to Order and Introductions
- 2. Public Comment
- 3. Consent: Approval of Minutes
- 4. Action/Information/Discussion
 - 4.1 Action Item: Vote to Form a Task Force Regarding End of Life Protocol
 - 4.2 Discussion Item: Oklahoma Site Safe Parking Sites and Sanctioned Encampments
 - 4.3 Discussion Item: Staff Shortages Among Provider Agencies
 - 4.4 Discussion Item: COVID-19 Updates
 - 4.4.1 Discussion Item: COVID Vaccine Outreach Efforts
- 5. Future Discussion/Report Items
- 6. Next Scheduled Meeting Date: June 13, 2022
- 7. Adjournment

HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL Homeless Services Coordinating Committee November 8th, 2021 10-11:30pm Meeting held by Zoom call

| MEMBERS PRESENT | | MEMBERS ABSENT | STAFF & GUES | TS |
|------------------------------------|--------|--|----------------|---------------------|
| Brandy Graham | | John Klevins | Abby Lassen | |
| Devin Drake | | Nicole Bennett | Angela Smith | |
| Jack Lahey | | | Anne Robin | |
| | | | Carrie Collins | |
| | | | Elaine Archer | |
| | | | George Solis | |
| | | | Jan Albin | |
| | | | Janna Nichols | |
| | | | Kari Bowron | |
| | | | Laurel Weir | |
| | | | Leon Shordon | |
| | | | Mary Ann Reiss | S |
| | | | Michael Azeved | do |
| | | | Riley Smith | |
| | | | Steve Martin | |
| | | | | |
| AGENDA ITEM | | | | CONCLUSIONS/ACTIONS |
| 1. Call to Order and Introductions | Devin | called the meeting to order at 10am. | | |
| | | | | |
| 2. Public Comment | | reported that Transitional Food & Shelter (7 | | |
| | | ry out its work while waiting to find out wha | • • • | |
| | to the | six units they currently rent out, which are i | now on sale. | |
| | | | | |
| | | y commented that Veterans Affairs has ann | _ | |
| | | ise 500 homeless veterans in the Greater Lo | • | |
| | catchr | nent area, which includes San Luis Obispo C | ounty. | |

| | CAPSLO's (Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo)'s SSVF (Supportive Services for Veteran Families) and HUD-VASH (US Department of Housing & Urban Development – Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing) teams will be involved in this effort, and will be reporting to a Regional Coordinator on the number of veterans housed from October 1 st . | |
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| 3. Consent: Approval of Minutes | | Jack made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Brandy. The minutes were approved with all in favor, none opposed and no abstentions. |
| 4. Action/Information/Discussion | | |
| 4.1. Discussion Item: Homeless Hiring Tax Credit | Laurel shared that new legislation at the State level allows for- profit employers to claim tax credits if they hire homeless persons. The documentation process for this will likely run through local CoCs (Continuums of Care). CoCs have suggested that the State and businesses work directly with CoC-funded agencies rather than directly with CoCs, which would be more burdensome. More information will follow. | |
| 4.2. Discussion Item: Federal and State Grant Updates | George shared that SLO County CoC will soon be submitting its application for the HUD CoC Fiscal Year 2021 program. The application deadline for the Collaborative Application is November 16 th . George thanked all the agencies that have assisted with this process. | |
| 4.2.1. Discussion Item: | George reported that, at the end of September, the CoC has | |

California Emergency Solutions Grant – Coronavirus (ESG-CV) submitted expenditures of \$628,000 for the California Emergency Solutions Grant – Coronavirus (CA ESG-CV) program, leaving around \$4.8 million left to expend. The final expenditure deadline is June 30th 2022. There are also expenditure milestones set out in the CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act, including a 60% expenditure milestone on November 30th. Due to the delay in receiving the contract from HCD (California Department of Housing & Community Development), the CoC is not going to be able to reach this deadline. There has not been any indication yet that HCD are going to try to take this funding back if this expenditure deadline is not met.

Janna shared that the majority of street outreach funds have been expended for 5CHC's (5Cities Homeless Coalition) ESG-CV Round 1 grant with CAPSLO and ECHO (El Camino Homeless Organization). Funds have been reallocated from Homelessness Prevention to Emergency Shelter. The need for motel assistance has not been as high as was anticipated, so 5CHC will consider where else these funds can be allocated and bring this to the CoC.

Carrie shared that TFS continue to prioritize COVID prevention and protection of vulnerable people. ESG-CV funding supports the costs of case management and care for units set aside for people with COVID or who would be susceptible to complications if they contracted COVID.

Jack shared that CAPSLO has made less progress with its ESG-CV Round 2 funding than anticipated, as some clients who are prioritized due to COVID vulnerability have been unwilling to access resources.

| 4.2.2. Discussion Item: Emergency Housing Vouchers | Elaine shared that HASLO (Housing Authority of San Luis Obispo) has successfully leased up all vouchers awarded through the Emergency Housing Vouchers program. The original MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) with HSOC anticipated leasing 75% of the vouchers by November 1 st , and 100% by January 1 st 2022, but the 100% target was actually reached before November 1 st . HUD had previously suggested they would allocate more vouchers to communities that perform well through this program, but have now stated this will not happen until at least summer 2022. | |
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| 4.2.3. Discussion Item: Encampment Resolution Funding Program (ERF) | Laurel reported that the State has released an RFA (Request for Applications) for a new Encampment Resolution Funding (ERF) program. This is a competitive grant program for which approximately \$47.5 million is available statewide. Eligible applicants are cities, counties and CoCs. Cities of any size can apply, which is unusual as typically only a small number of 'large cities' are eligible for State grants. Applications are due December 31st. This is a very specialized grant program, looking for proposals to address particular encampments (ideally of at least 50 people) and not for community-wide efforts. The State wants to see other funding leveraged. Eligible activities include direct services and some capacity building, such as training and services coordination. This funding program is a one time emergency allocation of funds. The State is interested in scalable approaches. An applicants conference will be held on November 19th. More information can be found here: https://www.bcsh.ca.gov/hcfc/documents/encampment_rfa.pdf | |
| 4.3. Discussion Item: Safe | Laurel shared that the County has expanded capacity at its Kansas Avenue safe parking site from 24 vehicles up to 50. | |

Parking and Alternatives to Encampments

There have been issues at this site with showers backing up due to reaching capacity. The County is in the process of connecting the showers to a sewer lateral to alleviate this problem. The County has also ordered a new set of showers that are ADA-compliant, but these may not be available until the end of February due to supply chain issues.

SLO City is temporarily closing down its railroad safe parking program while making changes to the site. Jack shared that CAPSLO have been informing people about the closure, and that going forward they will be stricter about the 7pm-7am timing of the program, as vehicles being there outside of these hours has caused concern within the community.

Laurel shared that the County is in the process of hiring a new Program Manager to focus on Safe Parking. More information will follow.

Michael and Janna shared that the City of Grover Beach has begun clearing out one of the encampments near El Camino Real. The City has been clearing vegetation for the last three weeks, and have now moved on to clearing out trash. The City's concerns were fear of fires in the area. This encampment clear out has been done with consultation and consideration of the needs of homeless people in the encampment.

Anne shared that she and Laurel have been looking into the service gaps that exist in helping people to engage and move on from homelessness. Feedback from agencies is welcome. More information will follow.

Jan asked if everyone from the Palisades Avenue encampment has now been moved to the Kansas Avenue site. The Committee

| | confirmed this is ongoing, with CAPSLO attempting to encourage people to relocate. Some people have begun to leave, particularly those in vehicles, but others have remained at Palisades. | |
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| 4.4. Discussion Item: 2022 Point in Time (PIT) Count | George reported that the County is moving forward with the planning process for the 2022 PIT (Point in Time) Count. This will take place on January 26 th (with January 27 th as the backup date in case of inclement weather). HUD is revising its requirement so that the full sheltered and unsheltered Count will now be required on even years. The County has held planning meetings with the vendor ASR (Applied Survey Research) and service providers. Volunteer recruitment will be more difficult than in previous years, so there will be more reliance on service provider street outreach teams. The plan is to divide up the County census maps by agency and location. The County and vendor are working on a way for allowing people to sign up to volunteer without going through the agencies. | |
| 4.5. Discussion Item: COVID-19 Updates | | |
| 4.5.1. Discussion Item: COVID Vaccine Outreach Efforts | Abby shared that the last meeting between TMHA (Transitions Mental Health Association) and County Public Health for planning vaccine outreach took place on October 12 th . The focus was on prioritizing outreach in the City of SLO. Booster shots are now available for those who are unhoused, whether in a congregate facility or at risk of complications due to COVID. | |
| | Jack shared that CAPSLO and CHC (Community Health Centers) have been working on getting vaccines and booster shots on a | |

| | rolling basis for people staying at 40 Prado. | |
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| 5. Future Discussion/Report Items | Medically acute cases – what resources are available, how providers could better coordinate (Jack). | |
| 6. Next Meeting Date: January 10, 2022 | | |
| 7. Adjournment | Devin adjourned the meeting at 11:20am. | |

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

| MEMBERS PRESENT | MEMBERS ABSENT | STAFF & GUESTS |
|-----------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Devin Drake | Brandy Graham | Abby Lassen |
| Jack Lahey | John Klevins | Amy |
| Janna Nichols | Nicole Bennett | Anne Robin |
| | | Carrie Collins |
| | | Elaine Archer |
| | | Elizabeth Pauschek |
| | | Esther Salzman |
| | | George Solis |
| | | James Connery |
| | | Jannine Lambert |
| | | Jessica Lorance |
| | | Joe Dzvonik |
| | | 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 | | called the meeting to order at 10:05am. Intr made. Devin announced that Janna is now a per. | | |
| 2. Public Comment | Camir Action Health of CO' in a si and th Anne closed The un patien (PHF) to find the St Elaine Urban Emerg | commented that 5Cities Homeless Coalition to Homeless Organization (ECHO) and the Coal Partnership of San Luis Obispo (CAPSLO) may concerning their capacity for isolation to may VID-positive homeless people. The agencies tuation where shelters were closed due to cape were close to turning people away. Commented that Behavioral Health's inpatient for around a month due to staff exposure and that since reopened but cannot take COVINTS, as this would result in the Psychiatric Health's additional resources but have found there at a level. Commented that HUD (US Department of Homeles) has clarified that reallocation gency Housing vouchers from underperforming Authorities to those performing well will in 2023. | et with Public eet the needs were recently apacity issues ont unit was and shortages. D-positive alth Facility een attempting are none at ousing and in of ing Public | |

| | 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. | |
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| 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 | George gave a reminder that the PIT (Point in Time) Count is now taking place on February 23 rd . County staff are working with the contractor ASR (Applied Survey Research) to assign maps to agencies and volunteers. The HSOC Finance & Data Committee approved the survey (to be conducted after the count on February 23 rd), 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. 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. | |
| 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. | |

| | 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. | |
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| 4.3. Discussion Item: CalWorks Housing Support Program and Bringing Families Home Program Update (Jannine Lambert) | 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. | |
| | 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. | |
| | 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 | |

| | 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 | |
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| | 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. | |
| | 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. | |
| 4.4. Discussion Item: End of Life Protocol | 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. | |

| 4.5. Discussion Item: Safe Parking and Alternatives to Encampments | Laurel announced that Joe Dzvonik, 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. | |
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| 4.6. Discussion Item: COVID-19 Updates | 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. | |
| 4.6.1. Discussion Item: COVID Vaccine Outreach Efforts | 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. | |
| 4.7. Discussion Item: Rescheduling Services Coordinating Committee Meetings | 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 | |

| | 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. | |
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| 5. Future Discussion/Report Items | Action item to form a task force regarding end of life protocol (see discussion item 4.4). | |
| 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. | |