

## HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL (HSOC) MEETING MINUTES

**Date**

November 15, 2023

**Time**

1:00pm-3:00pm

**Location**

Conference Room, Family Care Network,  
1255 Kendall Road, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Members (those approved with just cause/ emergency reasons) and the public were able to participate via Zoom.

**Members Present:**

Allison Brandum  
Amelia Grover  
Brenda Mack  
Christy Nichols  
Clint Weirick  
Jack Lahey  
Jeff Smith  
Kathy McClenathen  
Kristen Barneich  
Luke Dunn  
Marcia Guthrie  
Michelle Shoresman  
Rick Gulino  
Rick Scott  
Rochelle Sonza  
Star Graber  
Susan Funk  
Susan Lamont  
Wendy Blacker  
Wendy Lewis  
William Crewe

**Members Absent:**

Jessica Thomas  
Jim Dantona

Mark Lamore  
Shay Stewart  
Steve Gregory  
Zara Landrum

**Staff & Guests:**

Amy Wyatt  
Erica Jaramillo  
George Solis  
Isaiah (Thurmond)  
Kari Howell  
Kristin Ventresca  
Laurel Weir  
Lauryn Searles  
Michael Azevedo  
Merlie Livermore  
Morgan Torell  
Russ Francis  
Sarah Hayter  
Scott Thurmond  
Skylar Caldwell  
Suzie Freeman

**1. Call to Order and Introductions**

Chairperson Susan Funk called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm. Morgan Torrell introduced herself as the newly appointed Homeless Services Division Manager.

**2. Public Comment**

Rick Gulino of People's Self-Help Housing reported that they recently opened a few projects. He first mentioned a project on Broad Street in San Luis Obispo, wherein they ended up moving 12 homeless Veterans and 25 homeless individuals. Three months ago, they also opened Templeton Place, a senior project and moved in 10 homeless individuals. In December, Pismo Terrace will be opening and will be renting 50 units, 24 units of which will be No Place Like Home units with County Behavioral Health and 5 TMHA (Transition-Mental Health Agency) units. Rick also shared that a year from now, a project on Tiburon Way in San Luis Obispo will have 25 units for No Place Like Home plus 10 THMA units. Rick also shared that they are working with SLO County and HASLO to get a Homekey project in San Luis Obispo which would produce 75 homeless units.

Kathy Mclenathen from San Luis Obispo County Housing Trust Fund shared that they just received some additional funds from an existing investor. She shared that they have funding for any short-term projects (from 5-7 years) for land acquisition, pre-development, or gap funding needs.

Wendy Lewis of ECHO (El Camino Real Homeless Organization) reported that the Board of Supervisors approved ECHO for funding for three years of operating to add 20 additional beds at their Paso Robles location. She shared that a week after Thanksgiving they will open some beds, bringing a total of 130 beds within their services. Wendy also mentioned as of this year, they have helped 168 individuals and children find housing. Lastly, Wendy shared an invite to the annual ECHO Turkey Trot event on Thanksgiving morning at the Atascadero Lake.

Jack Lahey shared that Prado Day Center will have their warming center open this evening through Saturday. According to Jack, this is the only warming center operating now, so they are expecting a lot of guests. The Prado Day Center has a capacity of 40-50 beds. He shared the invite for volunteers to help.

Wendy Blacker shared that her non-profit, 805 Street Outreach will now be offering shower services in Morro Bay every other week. She mentioned that she wants to bring shower services to areas where Shower the People does not go.

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

Rick Gulino moved the minutes to be approved, seconded by Kathy Mclenathen. Minutes passed by voice vote.

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

### **4.1. HSOC Administration**

#### **4.1.1. Action Item: Vote to Recommend Ten Persons for Appointment to Vacant or Expiring Seats on the Homeless Services Oversight Council**

Laurel Weir presented the list of names recommended by the Nominating Committee for HSOC membership's new appointments, and re-appointments. Kristen Barneich moved the motion to approve the nominations, Rick Gulino seconded the motion. Roll was called, motion passed. The list will be presented to the Board of Supervisors for final approval.

### **4.2. Implementing Five-Year Plan Line of Effort 1 - Create Affordable and Appropriately Designed Housing Opportunities and Shelter Options for Underserved Populations**

#### **4.2.1. Information Item: Presentation on Results of Community Survey for the 2024 Action Plan for the Community Development Block Grant, Emergency Shelter Grant, and HOME Grant programs**

George Solis shared that in preparation for the 2024 Action Plan, the Homeless Services Grants staff were required to gather community input to help determine housing funding priorities. He reported that they received 348 community responses compared to 54 responses in 2022. The survey was also translated into Spanish language. George reported that the responses to this report highlighted the lack of affordable housing options in the area.

### **4.3 Implementing Five-Year Plan Line of Effort 2: Reduce or Eliminate Barriers to Housing Stability**

#### **4.3.1 Information Item: Update on the Behavioral Health Gaps Analysis report and County Behavioral Health Initiatives**

Star Graber, County Behavioral Health Director, presented the initial report recently put out by Capstone. This report covered the adult system of care getting feedback on where the gaps are. The main gap is the lack of beds in existing facilities. Currently, there are only 16 available beds in the locked Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF) and 4 beds available in the Crisis Stabilization Unit, both located in San Luis Obispo. The report also covered other needs such as: Behavioral Health Urgent Care clinic, Partial Hospitalization Programs, Full-Service Partnership programs, creation of more crisis services in the North County (Paso Robles). The Youth (under 26 years old) report will be issued in the next couple of weeks.

### **4.4 Implementing Five-Year Plan Line of Effort 3 – Improve and Expand Data Management Efforts Through HMIS and Coordinated Entry System to Strengthen Data-Driven Operational Guidance and Strategic Oversight**

#### **4.4.1. Information Item: 2024 Homeless Point in Time Count Presentation**

Amy Wyatt from Thurmond Consulting explained what Point-in-Time Count is and its methodology. The SLO County PIT Count is scheduled for January 23, 2024.

#### **4.4.2. Action Item: Vote to use 1) a Census Methodology for the 2024 Homeless Point in Time Count of Unsheltered Persons; and 2) an Observational Count combined with a survey and extrapolation for obtaining demographic and other information for unsheltered persons experiencing homelessness**

Kathy Mclenathen made a motion to approve the methodology, and Brenda Mack seconded the motion. Roll was called. Motion passed.

### **4.5 Discussion Item: Committee Updates**

Jack Lahey shared that they started the process of creating an Ad Hoc Committee for Coordinated Entry as discussed in the Coordinating and Services Committee.

Kari Howell shared that the last Finance and Data Committee meeting was focused on the HMIS migration project. For the next meeting in December, the team will be presenting the first draft of the PIT Count Survey.

Susan Funk reported for the Executive Committee. She mentioned that she authorized the formation of the Ad Hoc Committee for the Coordinated Entry.

### **4.6 County Homeless Services Division Updates**

Kristin Ventresca provided the update for the County Homeless Services Division.

George Solis also announced that Kristin Ventresca will be leaving the Division as she has accepted the position of Deputy Director for the County Health Department.

**5. Next Regular Meeting:** January 17, 2024

**6. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.