

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

Date

February 5, 2024

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
Jane Renahan
Janna Nichols
Wendy Lewis

Members Absent

Allison Brandum

Other Attendees

Cathy Slaughter
Christy Nichols
Daisy Wiberg
Erica Jaramillo
George Solis
Jeff Al-Mashat
Laurel Weir
Marie Bolin
Merlie Livermore
Michael Azevedo
Michelle Shoresman
Nathan Lenski
Russ Francis
Skylar Caldwell
Susan Lamont
Suzie Freeman
Trisha Raminha

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Jack Lahey called the meeting to order at 9:03am. Susan Lamont of Lumina Alliance and Daisy Wiberg from the City of San Luis Obispo introduced themselves.

2. Public Comment

Janna Nichols shared an update on the Balay Ko on Barca project in the Five Cities area. She mentioned that units are in, electricity is being run, and they are anticipating construction to be done in February. They hope to open the site by the middle of March.

Brandy Graham reported that she is moving out of California, resigning from her position at CAPSLO (Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo) SSVF (Supportive Services for Veteran Families) program. She will assign an alternate to this committee.

Jack Lahey shared that CAPSLO modified some of operations at 40 Prado Center. They extended the access center hours from 8am-4pm. At 4 pm, the center switches to being the shelter. There is also a community dinner at 4pm. Jack also reported that those participating in the housing focus shelter beds and want to stay over 90 days, will have to work with a case manager to advocate for them to stay for another 90 days. Jack also mentioned that they have expanded their recuperative program from 6 beds to 10 beds and hired a full-time nurse to help in the program. Jack also reported that CAPSLO has been approved by the City of SLO to expand their safe parking program from 7 spots to 12 spots. Jack announced he would be on leave for six weeks. Lawren Ramos would be his alternate to the committee while he is gone.

Wendy Lewis shared that ECHO (El Camino Homeless Organization) is having conversations with the City of Atascadero and a potential funder to build out the Atascadero location. They would like to add 20 additional beds, which would bring a total of 80 beds to the facility. This \$3M build out would also provide the ability to have more training and program areas.

3. Consent: Approval of Minutes

Due to lack of quorum in the previous meetings, November 6th and December 4th meeting minutes were presented to this meeting. With the amended corrections on the December 4th minutes, (Vituity CARES and Jane Renahan), Janna Nichols moved the meeting minutes to be approved. Wendy Lewis seconded. Both minutes passed via voice vote.

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

George Solis reported that there is about \$4.3M available funds for this state grant and the deadline to submit applications is March 27, 2024. According to George, disbursements for this funding will be spread out. Fifty percent will be initially disbursed, and once allocated, the remaining fifty percent will be received. One hundred percent of this funding must be expended by June 2028. Eligible activities include delivery of permanent housing and innovative housing solutions, such as interim housing, etc. The HHAP 5 funding has two priorities: 1) sustain existing investments for its long-term sustainability of housing and supportive services, and 2) prioritize permanent housing solutions. A key application component for this grant is the requirement to design a regionally coordinated Homeless Action Plan. This action plan will have to explain the roles and responsibilities of the CoC;

include system performance measures and improvement plan, equity improvement plan, plan to use other state funding, plan to connect people experiencing homelessness to all eligible benefits, etc. George also mentioned the need for an MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) between the CoC and the county on how they are going to administer HHAP 5 funding. Another requirement from the state is to hold three public stakeholder hearings for this action plan. Draft of the feedback will be presented to this group and the full HSOC meeting in March, and then presented to the Board of Supervisors for approval. At the end of George's presentation, he asked for input from the committee regarding what to prioritize and what to focus on in designing the Homeless Action Plan. It was suggested that maybe a meeting can be held to have a discussion and reporting on what the HSOC has accomplished the past three years, and what current resources are available and use these as guideline for the Action Plan required for the HHAP application.

4.1.2. Discussion Item: Oklahoma Avenue Parking Program Site Update

Jeffrey Al-Mashat reported that the county has been navigating a lawsuit that has been filed by the Homeless Union. Devin Drake shared that there are still about 21 clients staying on the site. Per their attorney, these clients are not to be contacted without their attorney's consent. Jack Lahey shared that it has become extremely difficult to work with the clients on the site because of the lawsuit. For now, the scheduled closure for the site is March 18th.

4.1.3. Discussion Item: Warming Centers

Jack Lahey shared that CAPSLO, ECHO and the 5CHC (Five Cities Homeless Coalition) plan to get together after warming center season ends in March to discuss approaches to warming centers. As for updates, according to Suzie Freeman, from Aurora Williams, the warming shelter operating in the North County is a collaborative effort between Paso CARES and hope and faith street outreach. They are open from 6pm until 8am. The location of the churches is posted on County Instagram, Facebook, Office of Emergency Services website and 211.

Jack also reported that 40 Prado did not go over capacity of 40 guests over the weekend, just between 32-35 guests the previous nights. The warming center check-in is from 6pm-9pm, and they provide cots, bedding and dinner.

Janna Nichols reported that the South County warming center in the City of Arroyo Grande was able to open on Saturday night with five guests the first night and then 11-12 guests the following night. Due to limited space, they are not able to accommodate pets at this location.

4.2. Implementing Five-Year Plan Liner 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: Bathroom and Shower Access

Jack Lahey shared that he reached out to a San Diego based group doing a statewide study on bathroom shower access funded by the California Department of Health. This group is working on landscape analysis in California for access to safe showers, laundry, and bathrooms. They are working with different localities across the state to determine what are the ideal models, and at the same time, what can be done to improve the not so successful models. Due to schedule conflicts, the group was not able to attend today's meeting, but plan on coming in the next meeting.

Abby Lassen suggested inviting representatives from Shower the People or other participants who are knowledgeable in this area.

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

Cathy Slaughter, Provider Relations Director from CenCal Health, shared a presentation on CalAIM (California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal), specifically on how to bill for street medicine and how to manage ECM (Enhanced Care Management) clients.

5. Future Discussion/Report Items

- Update on HHAP 5
- Warming Centers update
- Bathrooms/ Showers Access
- Transitional Care Services presentation (Cencal)
- Pismo Terrace report out

6. Next Regular Meeting: March 4, 2024, at 9am

7. Adjournment

Jack adjourned the meeting at 10:52am