

HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL
HSOC Meeting
July 21, 2021 1:00 p.m.
Members and the public were able to participate by Zoom call.

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	STAFF & GUESTS
Amelia Grover Anna Miller Anne Robin Bettina Swigger Brenda Mack Carlyn Christianson Caroline Hall Dawn Addis Dawn Ortiz-Legg Devin Drake Janna Nichols Jeff Smith Kathy McClenathen Kristen Barneich Mark Lamore Mary Ann Reiss Nicole Bennett Rick Gulino Scott Smith Steve Martin Susan Funk Susan Lamont	Bill Crewe Jessica Thomas Shay Stewart	Abby Lassen Alicia Dueck Blake Fixler Brandy Graham Carrie Collins Daniela Garcia Elaine Archer George Solis Jack Lahey Jan Maitzen Jeff Al-Mashat Jessica Lorance Jill Bolster-White Joe Madsen John Day Kelsey Nocket Krista Leon Shordon Laurel Weir Michael Azevedo Michael Hopkins Mimi Rodriguez Molly Kern Russ Francis

		Sharon Ng Sheena Jones Sue Warren Theresa Harpin Tom Sherman Tony Navarro Wendy Lewis Yael Korin Yesenia Alonso
AGENDA ITEM		CONCLUSIONS/ACTIONS
1. Call to Order and Introductions		
2. Public Comment	<p>Susan Funk clarified that applicants to Round 1 of the HHAP (Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention) Program are not permitted to comment during discussion of item 4.2, but may comment during Public Comment.</p> <p>Michael Azevedo commented that 5Cities Homeless Coalition (5CHC) applied to HHAP to support youth (age 16-24) who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, particularly those who are also people of color, LGBT+, parenting, or on very low incomes. Through the HEAP (Homeless Emergency Aid Program) program, 5CHC were able to help 82 people, along with 13 adult partners and 32 children. With the HHAP Round 1 grant, 5CHC are aiming to help 90 people into housing.</p>	

	<p>Mark commented that Transitions Mental Health Association (TMHA) applied to HHAP for a Housing Navigator and Maintenance Coordinator. TMHA's programs are expanding, necessitating these new positions. This funding would help to support people who are not yet ready to move into housing, and would also open up positions for new clients.</p> <p>Michael Hopkins commented that People's Self-Help Housing applied to HHAP to house transitional age youth and families via their Pismo Terrace project. The funding requested is to cover a financial gap that opened up due to increasing interest rates, changes in tax pricing, and new infrastructure requirements.</p> <p>Wendy commented that HASLO (Housing Authority of San Luis Obispo) applied to HHAP for a continuation of their HEAP-funded work in Paso Robles and Atascadero. This application included funding for ECHO (El Camino Homeless Organization).</p>	
<p>3. Consent: Approval of Minutes</p>		<p>Devin made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Carlyn. The motion passed with all in favor, none opposed and no abstentions.</p>
<p>4. Action/Information/Discussion</p>		

<p>4.1. Discussion Item: Emergency Housing Vouchers</p>	<p>Elaine reported that the Emergency Housing Vouchers program will be known as the Welcome Home program. 263 referrals have already been received. Of these, 39 will be able to rent in place. This represents a very positive start, and HASLO will soon begin a mass voucher issuance. HASLO are monitoring for diversity and equity. So far, minority groups are overrepresented among clients compared to the general population. HASLO are seeing success in developing positive relationships with landlords and property managers. HASLO are connecting clients with landlords in a variety of ways, including media outreach.</p>	
<p>4.2. Action Item: Vote to Recommend Awards for \$3,365,435.40 in Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAP) Round 1 Funding</p>	<p>Laurel provided some background on the HHAP program. HHAP was initially authorized as a one time block grant to address homelessness in 2019. Subsequent rounds have been authorized. SLO County received two Round 1 grant allocations – one to the County itself, and one to the CoC (Continuum of Care), for which the County is the Administrative Entity, so the County administers both allocations.</p> <p>In December 2019, the HSOC voted on the following priorities for this funding:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bringing projects funded by the Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) to completion; 2. Creating new shelter and case management programs on the North Coast; and 3. Projects that fill other critical gaps in the homeless 	

	<p>services system.</p> <p>These priorities were presented to the Board of Supervisors in January 2020, and the Board indicated their support.</p> <p>Due to COVID, the RFP (Request for Proposals) for HHAP Round 1 was delayed in order to allow nonprofits to address issues resulting from the pandemic. The RFP was issued in April 2021. The County received 21 applications, with a total request of \$9.5 million across the County and CoC allocations. This represented far more than was available (a little over \$3 million).</p> <p>County staff completed a threshold review and provided information to the Grant Review Committee. As requested by HSOC, the Grant Review Committee met initially to review the applications and develop questions for applicants. County staff then met with applicants to ask the questions, and the Grant Review Committee later convened so County staff could report back with the answers, and the Committee could make recommendations. Due to the large number of applications, the Committee weighted scores heavily in favor of the priorities identified by HSOC, and youth work (8% of the funding is mandated by the State to go towards youth projects).</p> <p>The Grant Review Committee recommended funding the following projects:</p>	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5CHC's two youth project applications, in full (\$356,378). Although 5CHC submitted two applications (one to each funding allocation), these represented two parts of one whole project. The recommended funding split across the two allocations is different than what 5CHC requested; County staff were asked by the Grant Review Committee to consider the split of funding and make sure everything lined up with the allocations from the State. County staff will work with 5CHC to ensure this works operationally and administratively.• People's Self Help Housing's Pismo Terrace project (\$1,187,354), as a continuation of their HEAP project work, minus the requested costs for a Housing Navigator position, which was not part of their HEAP grant.• HASLO's Rehab shelters in Atascadero and Paso Robles (\$110,286), as a continuation of their HEAP project work, minus some requested costs for a Workforce Development Coordinator position.• TMHA's North Coast Housing application, for three years (\$396,847).• CAPSLO's street outreach program that serves the North Coast, for one year (\$78,998). <p>Following HSOC's approval, the recommendations will be taken to the Board of Supervisors for final approval.</p>	
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	<p>Susan Funk asked for clarification on the Tiny Homes proposal in Los Osos, and if there is another way forward for this project. Laurel responded that People’s Self Help Housing have been meeting with the Planning & Building Department to get a better understanding of the project. The HHAP application was for pre-development activities worth around \$650,000, so a concern was that there was no guarantee that the development (costed at around \$5 million) would be funded. The second round of HHAP will be for less funding, but will be happening later so there will be opportunities in the meantime to complete due diligence and see if the challenges can be overcome.</p> <p>Laurel clarified that TMHA’s project will involve seeking out landlords willing to rent units, some of which will happen on the North Coast. It will probably not be possible to link this into the Welcome Home program, as HASLO will most likely have leased up all of the Emergency Housing Vouchers by the time the HHAP funding is released. However, HASLO will still have mainstream vouchers to distribute, and this can be linked to TMHA’s work on the North Coast.</p>	<p>Dawn Addis made a motion to recommend awards for \$3,365,435.40 in Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAP) Round 1 funding, seconded by Anne. The motion passed with none opposed. Anna, Carlyn, Janna, Mark, Nicole, Rick and Scott abstained.</p>
<p>4.3. Action Item: Approve the 2021 Revisions to the San Luis Obispo County CoC HMIS</p>	<p>George reported that the updated HMIS (Homeless Management Information System) Policies and Procedures were reviewed by the Finance & Data Committee at their meeting on July 7th, and submitted</p>	

<p>Policies and Procedures</p>	<p>to the full HSOC. The Policies and Procedures were last updated in 2016. County staff worked with HUD (US Department of Housing & Urban Development) TA (Technical Assistance) in late 2019, who provided feedback and suggested revision on the Policies and Procedures. Due to staffing changes and COVID, the Policies and Procedures were not updated in 2020, although staff did bring certain elements to the full HSOC for approval (including the Participating Agency Agreement, Grievance Form, Public Posted Notice). All of the documents approved by HSOC have been incorporated into the revised Policies and Procedures. George confirmed there are no new obligations being placed on participating agencies, beyond those in other HMIS documents already approved by HSOC.</p>	<p>Janna made a motion to approve the 2021 revisions to the San Luis Obispo County CoC HMIS Policies and Procedures, seconded by Carlyn. All were in favor, with none opposed and no abstentions.</p>
<p>4.4. Discussion Item: Encampment Committee</p>	<p>Laurel reported that the Encampment Committee was established as an ad hoc Committee, which has since produced the report to the Board of Supervisors which was one of the main purposes for it having been set up. The Executive Committee instructed the Encampment Committee to meet again and consider its own future now that this purpose has been fulfilled. The Encampment Committee decided it still has a role, with a focus on coordination and identifying system wide initiatives to engage people in encampments. To continue meeting, it will need to be constituted as a standing Committee. This will first be voted on at the next Executive Committee</p>	

	<p>meeting, then will come to the full HSOC for final approval. Jeff Smith has indicated that he would like to continue as Committee Chair.</p>	
<p>4.5. Discussion Item: Ten-Year Plan Update</p>	<p>Laurel reported that the State will now require CoCs to submit an updated plan by June 30th 2022, and that it will need to tie in directly to Rounds 3 and 4 of HHAP. There will be funding available to help pay for the planning process, which will be made available by September 15th. This has meant that County staff have had to make changes to the Scope of Work for the vendor for the Ten-Year Plan Update. County staff will be talking to the Executive Committee about the application for HHAP Round 3, which will be due in 2022, and will require outcome measures that are approved by the State and based on HUD System Performance Measures.</p>	
<p>5. Committee Updates</p>	<p>Devin reported that the Services Coordinating Committee met and received reports on the Emergency Housing Vouchers program, TMHA's success in administering COVID vaccines, and the HMIS inactives list that County staff have been working to clean up.</p> <p>Scott reported that the Housing Committee did not meet.</p> <p>Janna reported that the Finance & Data Committee met and their discussions have been covered in the</p>	

	above items.	
6. Future Discussion/Report Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Returning to in person meetings or continuing to meet virtually • New State funding for homelessness, including for Board & Care and residential care facilities • Where people can shelter in heat (to be discussed at the next Executive Committee meeting) 	
7. Updates and Requests for Information	<p>Tony reported that the Department of Planning and Building will release their NOFA (Notice of Funding Availability) for the 2022 Entitlement funds, including the CDBG (Community Development Block Grant), HOME funding, and Federal ESG (Emergency Solutions Grant) in September.</p> <p>Abby reported that the Rent Relief Program application process has been simplified, and the eviction moratorium has been extended until the end of September.</p>	
8. Next Regular Meeting: Wednesday 15th September at 1pm		
9. Adjournment	Susan Funk adjourned the meeting at 3:05pm.	