

HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL

HSOC Special Meeting

March 17, 2021 1:00 p.m.

Members and the public were able to participate by Zoom call.

| MEMBERS PRESENT | MEMBERS ABSENT | STAFF & GUESTS |
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| Anna Miller Anne Robin Bill Crewe Brenda Mack Caroline Hall Dawn Addis Dawn Ortiz-Legg Devin Drake Grace McIntosh Janna Nichols Jeff Smith Jessica Thomas Kathy McClenathen Kristen Barneich Mary Ann Reiss Nicole Bennett Rick Gulino Scott Smith Shay Stewart Steve Martin Susan Funk | Amelia Grover (Liz Snyder) Bettina Swigger Carlyn Christianson Mark Lamore Susan Lamont | Abby Lassen Angela Smith Blake Fixler Brandy Graham Cara Vereschagin Carolyn Berg Done Hare Price Elaine Archer Elaine Mansoor George Solis Gregory Fearon Jan Maitzen Jessica Lorance Jill Bolster-White Joanna Balsamo-Lillien Leon Shordon Linda Wingert Lisa Howe Lisa Jouet Lori Hoffman Marianne Kennedy Matt Leal Owen Goode Riley Smith |

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| | | Russ Francis Susan Warren Tom Sherman Victoria Wood Wendy Lewis Yael Korin |
| AGENDA ITEM | | CONCLUSIONS/ACTIONS |
| 1. Call to Order and Introductions | Susan Funk called the meeting to order at 1pm and introductions were made. | |
| 2. Public Comment | <p>Susan Warren requested that HSOC consider a letter of support for the Roadway Inn detox treatment center in Morro Bay. Dawn shared that the project has been appealed and will go to the Planning Commission next. The majority of public comment has been against the project, so it is important for supportive people to have a voice in this process.</p> <p>Brenda asked about the status of the Atascadero warming center. Wendy confirmed it will be open every night through March 31st.</p> | |
| 3. Consent: Approval of Minutes | | Mary Ann made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Grace. The minutes were approved, with all in favor, none opposed and no abstentions. |

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| 4. Action/Information/Discussion | | |
| 4.1. Discussion Item: United Way – Homeless Resource List | <p>Riley demonstrated 211’s SLO County Resource List, which had previously been discussed by the Alternatives to Encampments working group and Services Coordinating Committee. The Resource List is a digital resource list that would allow for agencies to create their own lists of local services that would automatically update. Future plans include developing a phone app which could access the same information. The Council discussed the project and was in support of it moving forward.</p> | |
| 4.2. Action Item: Vote to Approve the HSOC Ad Hoc Encampment Committee’s Alternatives to Encampment Recommendations Document | <p>Laurel provided background on the Alternatives to Encampment Recommendations Document. In 2019, Supervisor Gibson requested that HSOC form a committee to look into the impact of encampments in the county and make recommendations to address these. The Encampment Committee formed a working group focusing on Alternatives to Encampments, which researched practices in other communities and produced five recommendations. These were brought to the full HSOC previously, revised by the Encampment Committee, and the document restructured by County staff. The revised and restructured document was presented to the HSOC. The next steps are to forward the document to the County Administrative Officer with the recommendation that it be shared with the Board of Supervisors.</p> | <p>Dawn Addis made a motion to approve the document, seconded by Scott. The motion passed with all in favor, none against and no abstentions.</p> |

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| <p>4.3. Discussion Item: Plans for Update of Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness</p> | <p>Carolyn and Laurel gave a presentation on Strategic Regional Collaboration & Addressing Homelessness.</p> <p>Carolyn shared that concurrent with the Ten-Year Plan update and encampments recommendations, the County Administrative Office is now looking at how the County and local agencies can align their efforts to address homelessness and the affordability of housing. The County is now starting to build strong regional collaborative partnerships, with the intention of initiating regional homeless pilot programs (Blue Bag and Safe Parking) at priority locations. Between spring and summer, the County will be focusing on a preliminary education effort regarding the resources that currently exist, and seeking support for these. From September, the County will be looking to educate communities and potential partners, build coalitions of partners, and develop an engagement and communication strategy, in coordination with the Ten-Year Plan consultant. Beyond July 2022, the County will be aiming to finalize a cohesive message for the implementation of actions.</p> <p>Laurel shared that the County will be updating the Ten-Year Plan this year. Having a Ten-Year Plan is required to access some funding streams. The original plan was published in 2008. A Strategic</p> | |

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| | <p>Planning Leadership Group for the Strategy Committee will be set up, consisting of 8-12 key stakeholders, including all of the HSOC Executive Committee (which consists of the chairs of the other standing committees plus HSOC Chair and Vice Chair). A contractor will be hired to carry out an analysis of community resources and needs, including a data review, to meet with stakeholders and focus groups of people with lived experience, and to review funding sources and opportunities.</p> <p>The Council recommended involving people who have lived experience of homelessness, people in recovery, and people with mental health conditions.</p> | |
| <p>4.3.1. Action Item: Framework for Regional Homeless Action Plan</p> | <p>The Council indicated support for the Regional Homeless Action Plan.</p> | |
| <p>4.4. Discussion Item: Preventing, Preparing for and Responding to the Impacts of COVID-19</p> | | |
| <p>4.4.1. Discussion Item: State Rental Assistance Program</p> | <p>Janna shared that the State launched the California COVID Rental Relief program on Monday 15th March. This program allows landlords to receive 80% of owed income, from April 2020-March 2021, if they waive the remaining 20%. Applications can be made online. Eligibility is based on income. Details of the program requirements for both tenants and landlords can be</p> | |

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| | found on 5CHC's (5Cities Homeless Coalition) website. | |
| 4.4.2. Discussion Item: Update on Preparing for Efforts to Vaccinate People Experiencing Homelessness | Janna shared that the Vaccine Task Force has been meeting and planning for the vaccination of homeless people in the county. The one-shot Johnson & Johnson vaccine is now available in the county, which makes vaccination of those in hard to reach populations easier, as it avoids the need to find people again for their second shot. | |
| 5. Committee Updates | <p>Janna shared that the Finance & Data Committee has been looking at performance metrics, some of which were included in the agenda packet.</p> <p>Scott reported that the Housing Committee did not meet as there were no pressing items.</p> <p>Devin shared that the Services Coordinating Committee's updates were mostly covered in the presentations already given. The Committee also discussed HUD's (Department of Housing & Urban Development) recently released recommendations for tracking client vaccinations; no agencies were interested in using these.</p> | |
| 6. Future Discussion/Report Items | | |
| 7. Next Meeting: Wednesday 19th May at 1pm | | |
| 8. Adjournment | Susan adjourned the meeting at 3:08pm. | |