# HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL
## HSOC FINANCE AND DATA COMMITTEE MEETING
### October 6 2021, 9am-10:30pm

| MEMBERS PRESENT | MEMBERS ABSENT | STAFF & GUESTS |
|---|---|---|
| Andrea Montes Alvarado | Jeff Al-Mashat | Elizabeth Pauschek |
| Bill Crewe | Jessica Thomas | George Solis |
| Carrie Collins | Riley Smith | Harlee Hopkins |
| Janna Nichols | | Jacob Henry |
| Shay Stewart | | Jan Maitzen |
| Sstoz Tes | | Jessica Lorance |
| | | Laurel Weir |
| | | Leon Shordon |
| | | Rafael Viana |
| | | Russ Francis |

| AGENDA ITEM | | CONCLUSIONS/ACTIONS |
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| 1. Call to Order and Introductions | Janna called the meeting to order at 9am and introductions were made. | |
| 2. Public Comment | None. | |
| 3. Consent: Approval of Minutes | | Bill made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Shay. The motion passed with all in favor, none opposed and no abstentions. |
| 4. Action/Information/Discussion | | |
| 4.1 Discussion Item: Homeless Management Information System | | |

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| | (HMIS) | | |
| 4.1.1 | Discussion Item: Data Assessment Maturity Tool – Action Plan | George reported that HUD (US Department of Housing & Urban Development) released a Data Maturity Assessment Tool which the Finance & Data Committee used in the last meeting to assess SLO County CoC's (Continuum of Care) data quality, analytics capacity, data leadership and systems improvement. The Committee directed County staff to compare the Committee's score with how County staff scored the CoC. This comparison was sent out via email following the meeting. George stated that going forward, one of the most important things to do is to communicate performance measures to key stakeholders, including sharing data with the HSOC and using data more to inform funding decisions.<br><br>Laurel reported that, as part of the Ten-Year Planning process, County staff and the HSOC will be working with a consultant on a communications strategy, and data will be part of this, so this item will return to the Finance & Data Committee. Some of the CoC's data is very strong, e.g. data related to housing and returns to homelessness. In other areas, the CoC needs to work on improving the data it has, such as shelter data and Coordinated Entry. The Committee discussed issues with collecting data from shelters, such as open enrolment and the impracticality of tracking everyone who attends. | |
| 4.1.2 | Discussion Item: Fiscal Year 2022 US Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) HMIS Data Standards updates | George reported that HUD released new HMIS (Homeless Management Information System) data standards that went into effect at the beginning of October. County staff emailed all changes to HMIS users in advance. All revised data standards are now live in HMIS.<br><br>Carrie commented that education level is now required data in HMIS, but is not included on the HMIS worksheet that the County provides. County staff will update the HMIS form. | |
| 4.1.3 | Discussion Item: Longitudinal | George reported that Longitudinal Systems Analysis (LSA) is an annual report submitted to HUD which looks at system wide data, including | |

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| Systems Analysis/System Performance Measures Data Cleanup | data from HMIS, the PIT (Point in Time) Count, and the Housing Inventory Count. LSA data forms part of a report to Congress, and is also used for Stella performance data. SLO County CoC will begin an LSA data cleanup in November. This is typically a two month process in which County staff and agencies correct data quality errors or provide a rationale for discrepancies. George will bring a general report on data quality back to the Finance & Data Committee. Janna asked that this also be discussed at the Services Coordinating Committee.<br><br>Laurel reported that SLO County CoC generally scores around the middle of all CoCs in overall points, which is an achievement since the CoC gets less funding per person (under the HUD CoC grant) than most other communities. The CoC now has the HUD-VASH (US Department of Housing & Urban Development – Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing) data in HMIS, as well as more agencies participating in HMIS, so this should improve the CoC's score this year; however, HUD also includes new data elements each year so it is not always easy to address what they will be looking at.<br>For the new rounds of HHAP (Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program), the State is instructing CoCs to pick outcomes to achieve with these grants, based on one of HUD's System Performance Measures. CoCs that are successful at achieving this outcome will be eligible for an 18% bonus on the grant funding. | |
| 4.1.4   Discussion Item: New HMIS Program Manager | Laurel reported that Jessica Lorance is now in the role of HMIS Program Manager and will be able to shift her focus full time to HMIS. | |
| 4.2 Discussion Item: Fiscal Year 2021 HUD (US Department of Housing & Urban Development) Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Opportunity | | |
| 4.2.1   Discussion Item: Systems | Discussed above (see item 4.1.3). | |

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| Performance Measures Application Questions | | |
| 4.3 Discussion Item: 2022 Point-In-Time Count | George reported that HUD requires CoCs to conduct a full sheltered and unsheltered PIT (Point in Time) Count once every two years. SLO County CoC was scheduled to carry out a PIT Count in 2021, but a waiver for the unsheltered part of the count was granted due to the pandemic. HUD is now encouraging CoCs to conduct a full sheltered and unsheltered count in 2022. The Fiscal Year 2021 CoC grant application includes points for a commitment to carry this out in January 2022, including a count of homeless youth. The County is currently in the planning process for the 2022 PIT Count. An ad hoc Review Committee was convened to review the proposals for a contractor and select a vendor. Over the next few months, County staff will be working on getting feedback from agencies who participated in previous PIT Counts, and planning for recruiting and training volunteers. Working groups will be convened as part of this process.<br><br>Janna asked if the PIT Count has to be conducted in the last ten days of January, or if it could be carried out at a later time. County staff will see if there is a waiver for this. | |
| 5. Future Discussion/Report Items | None. | |
| 6. Next Meeting Date: October 27, 2021 | The Committee agreed to have one meeting in early November, rather than the next scheduled meeting in October and another one in late November. County staff to send out a Doodle poll and arrange the meeting. | |
| 7. Adjournment | Janna adjourned the meeting at 10:25am. | |