

HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL
Homeless Services Coordinating Committee
March 30, 2020 10-11:30am
Meeting held by conference call

Physical location: Room 356, Department of Social Services, 3433 S Higuera Street, San Luis Obispo

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	STAFF & GUESTS	
Devin Drake Grace McIntosh	Caroline Hall Lisa Fraser	Anne Robin George Solis Jan Maitzen Jessica Lorange Jessica Thomas Nicole Bennett Steve Martin Russ Francis	
AGENDA ITEM		CONCLUSIONS/ACTIONS	FOLLOW UP
1. Call to Order and Introductions			
2. Public Comment	None		
3. Consent: Approval of Minutes	Grace made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting, Devin seconded. All were in favor.		
4. Action/Information/Discussion			
4.1. Discussion Item: Grant Updates	George shared information on the grants.		
4.1.1. Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP)	The County has reached out to the State to see if they are willing to extend the June 2021 deadline to expend the funds, given the COVID-19 situation. The County is currently awaiting a response.		
4.1.2. Homeless Housing,	The County submitted an application to the State		

<p>Assistance, and Prevention Program (HHAP) Updates</p>	<p>in February. There are no updates to this yet. For the new COVID-19 Emergency funding, the State will use the same allocation method as HHAP, i.e. using PIT count and population count to determine how to distribute the funds.</p>		
<p>4.1.3. California Emergency Solutions and Housing (CESH) Grant</p>	<p>George has been reaching out to providers to see where they are with street outreach – what this was like before the COVID-19 crisis, what they are able to do at present, and what plans there are for street outreach after the crisis.</p> <p>Grace (CAPSLO, who are doing outreach work in Morro Bay and Los Osos) shared that their outreach work has come to a halt due to staff illness. Prior to this, there were challenges due to Food Bank distribution coming to an end. When possible, and assuming they continue to have protective gear, CAPSLO will continue outreach work, but primarily going to encampments as the Morro Bay community center is closed. The procedure now is that they are not able to take on new clients.</p>		
<p>4.2. Warming Center and Emergency Shelter Updates</p>	<p>Grace reported that the warming center will close on March 31. Over 40 nights, they sheltered 16 people a night, and 182 people in total. This only includes people who were not in beds.</p> <p>Jan (Transitional Food & Shelter) shared that the warming center in Atascadero has been reopened since March 16, averaging 23 people a night, but is due to close on March 31. Everyone is being tested for coronavirus. There is an illness going around which is not the coronavirus. They have had no volunteers, only staff with masks but no gloves or other protective equipment, and only</p>		

	<p>two small bottles of hand sanitizer.</p> <p>Both Grace and Jan reported that there had been no cases of COVID-19 in their shelters.</p> <p>Devin reported that 5Cities Homeless Coalition had to close their warming center for a couple of nights, as they had no way to separate symptomatic individuals from other people, but have since been able to work out a way of dealing with this so that the center could remain open. They have also been working to open up a campground with tents so people can shelter there and remain isolated.</p>		
<p>4.3. Discussion Item: COVID-19 Updates</p>	<p>Devin reported that Laurel has been working from the EOC (Emergency Operations Center), and has been able to bring trailers into the county, as well as signing contracts with four hotels and motels to place homeless people who have tested positive, or are symptomatic and awaiting test results. There were concerns from law enforcement about an influx of homeless people into particular areas. An agreement was made that security guards would patrol the areas and ensure quarantined individuals remain in their rooms, and would notify law enforcement if they attempted to leave. This agreement has allowed the work to go forward.</p> <p>As of March 27, four people had been quarantined in hotels. George reported that as of March 29, all four had been released as their test results came back negative.</p> <p>George shared that a centralized call number will be shared with centers for placing people in motels. This number will go to Erica Thatcher at</p>		

	<p>the EOC. The County is still waiting for the dedicated number, then it will be shared.</p> <p>Anne Robin shared the TMHA hotline number 800 783 0607, which quarantined or symptomatic individuals should be directed to use if it appears that they might leave their place of shelter.</p> <p>Jessica shared that the County is working on a list of homelessness services resources at this time, which will be kept updated, sent out to the full HSOC list, and uploaded to the County's Homeless Services web page, and to the ReadySLO site.</p> <p>George reported that El Chorro park has capacity for 43 trailers. A safe parking lot has been established in Los Osos, and the County is working on establishing more in Pismo Beach, Paso Robles and SLO City. Jan suggested that George reach out to Atascadero Police Department to ask if there are any areas that would work as a safe parking space.</p>		
5. Future Discussion/Report Items	None		
6. Next Meeting Date	May 11, 2020, 10am		
7. Adjournment	Devin adjourned the meeting at 10:30am.		