

HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL
Homeless Services Coordinating Committee
March 8, 2021 10-11:30pm
Meeting held by Zoom call

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	STAFF & GUESTS	
Brandy Graham Devin Drake Grace McIntosh Nicole Bennett	John Klevins	Cara Vereschagin Carolyn Berg Elaine Archer Elaine Mansoor George Solis Jan Maitzen Janna Nichols Joanna Balsamo-Lillien Leon Shordon Linda Wingert Mark Lamore Riley Smith Russ Francis Steve Martin Veronica Cablayan Wendy Lewis	
AGENDA ITEM			CONCLUSIONS/ACTIONS
1. Call to Order and Introductions	Devin called the meeting to order at 10am and introductions were made.		
2. Public Comment	None.		
3. Consent: Approval of Minutes			Minutes were approved with none against and no abstentions.

4. Action/Information/Discussion		
4.1. Discussion Item: United Way – Homeless Resource List	<p>Riley presented a Homeless Resource List being created by United Way’s 211 service. This was discussed at the last meeting of the HSOC Services Coordinating Committee, and other agencies have also made enquiries about this. At present, the Resource List has placeholder data, but Riley could demonstrate the functionality. The Resource List will draw data from the 211 database, and will allow people and agencies to create their own personalized lists which will be automatically updated. This is available for all client-facing services and programs, including those which overlap with homeless services, e.g. veterans’ services. Lists can be created based on the needs of particular organizations, and also based on specific locations. All data that is added or updated will be vetted by United Way staff before appearing on the 211 database and Resource List. The only costs associated with this work are the site domain and API (Application Programming Interface). United Way are also looking into creating an app that would allow access to the same data.</p> <p>Devin recommended sending this item to the full HSOC for review and approval, and then once the costs have been determined, to approach the County Administrative Office and City managers to advocate sharing the cost as everyone in the county will benefit from this.</p>	Russ to add the Homeless Resource List item to the next full HSOC agenda
4.2. Discussion Item: COVID-19 Updates		
4.2.1. Discussion Item:	George reported that HUD (US Department of Housing & Urban Development) recently released data collection options for CoCs	

<p>Data Collection Options for COVID-19 Vaccines</p>	<p>(Continuums of Care) to track vaccinations through their HMIS (Homeless Management Information System). This is not a requirement and CoCs will not need to report to HUD. This item was reviewed by the HSOC Finance & Data Committee last month, and deferred to the Services Coordinating Committee to consider whether there would be any benefit to collecting this information. The Committee discussed the issue and determined that there is no real benefit to organizations in collecting this data.</p> <p>Janna recommended bringing this item to the full HSOC, not as an action item but as a report on what the two Committees have discussed and decided.</p>	
<p>4.3. Discussion Item: Eviction Prevention Programs</p>	<p>George shared that the State's Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) is launching on March 15th. Because of this, HCD (California Department of Housing & Community Development) reached out to the recipients of State ESG (Emergency Solutions Grant) and State ESG-CV (Emergency Solutions Grant – Coronavirus) funding to ask them to freeze their homeless prevention rental activities, to avoid duplication of services with the ERAP. The State has now also asked the County to provide data on clients who have received rental assistance through County-administered programs from April 1st 2020. George has begun reaching out to partner agencies to collect this data, and thanked the agencies for the work they have done on this so far.</p>	
<p>4.4. Discussion Item: Coordinated Entry</p>	<p>George reported that HUD asked CoCs to update their Coordinated Entry processes last year, to prioritize COVID-vulnerable populations, specifically for CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security) Act funding.</p>	

	<p>Grace shared that CAPSLO (Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo) recently provided training on prioritization, with representation from ECHO (El Camino Homeless Organization), 5CHC (5Cities Homeless Coalition) and the County.</p> <p>Grace clarified that the training is available only to those organizations who are part of the Coordinated Entry program, as they are given licensing options to use the ClientTrack system through this program, and due to ClientTrack's requirements they cannot open this up to other organizations.</p> <p>Janna and Grace reported that both 5CHC and CAPSLO are still waiting to receive funding from several grants, where the money has already been spent by the agencies, or they are in need of the funding now. This includes the CDBG-CV (Community Development Block Grant – Coronavirus) Round 1 and ESG-CV 1 grants administered by the Department of Planning and Building, and the HCFC (Homeless Coordination and Financing Council – COVID-19 Emergency Homeless Grant) funding administered by DSS (Department of Social Services). George stated he will follow up on the status of the HCFC funding.</p> <p>The Committee discussed HMIS and Coordinated Entry, including points of clarification around the purpose of Coordinated Entry, when clients are entered into this, and how referrals are tracked.</p>	
<p>4.5. Discussion Item: Federal and State Grant Updates</p>	<p>George reported that the CoC FY2020 (Fiscal Year 2020) grant will be a renewal of the projects funded for the 2019 year: CAPSLO's Coordinated Entry project, and TMHA's (Transitions Mental Health Association) two Permanent Supportive Housing</p>	

	<p>projects. In total, this funding will be worth around \$1 million. The County submitted its System Performance Measures to HUD in February. In the same month, these were presented to the Finance & Data Committee, which recommended that the Measures be brought to the Services Coordinating Committee to begin reviewing the measurements that can be improved on, e.g. exits to permanent supportive housing.</p> <p>Data from the 2021 HIC (Housing Inventory Count) and sheltered PIT (Point In Time) Count is due to HUD at the end of April. George will be reaching out to agencies in the next week to begin confirming the data.</p> <p>The County has received the award letters for the FY2020 State ESG program and the second round of the ESG-CV program, and are currently waiting for the standard agreements. Once these are received, the County will begin drawing up the subrecipient agreements. The NOFA for the FY2021 State ESG has not yet been released.</p> <p>HSOC voted on Friday 5th March to reallocate \$129,000 in unused HEAP (Homeless Emergency Aid Program) funds to CAPSLO, and to award the interest accrued on HEAP funding (more than \$114,000) proportionally to the agencies receiving HEAP funding. HASLO (Housing Authority of San Luis Obispo) requested that a portion of their share of this funding be reallocated to CAPSLO's detox facility. This item will now go to the Board of Supervisors on March 16th. The recommendations for CDBG-CV Round 3 and the Federal ESG-CV Round 2 programs, administered by the Department of Planning and Building, are going to the Board on the same date.</p>	
4.6. Discussion Item: Safe	Grace reported that CAPSLO will be opening its warming center	

<p>Parking and Alternatives to Encampments</p>	<p>on March 9th. Janna reported that the South County warming center has had to change locations again. Wendy reported that ECHO's emergency winter shelter will be closing at the end of March.</p>	
<p>4.7. Discussion Item: Recommendations from the Alternatives to Encampment Working Group</p>	<p>Russ clarified the recommendations being considered are the three that were brought to the Services Coordinating Committee's last meeting. The update to the recommendation to catalogue homeless resources was provided by Riley (see item 4.1). Nicole reported she has done some research into opportunities for a step up program, but has not found much interest from other organizations.</p>	
<p>5. Future Discussion/Report Items</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data standards/service provider coordination 	
<p>6. Next Meeting Date: May 10, 2021</p>		
<p>7. Adjournment</p>	<p>Devin adjourned the meeting at 11:30am.</p>	