

**HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL
HSOC ENCAMPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
AUGUST 6 2020, 1PM
Zoom call**

MEMBERS PRESENT		MEMBERS ABSENT		STAFF & GUESTS	
Jeff Al-Mashat Jeff Smith Kristen Barneich Lois Petty Michelle Broom (alt for Grace McIntosh) Michael Azevedo (alt for Janna Nichols) Nicole Bennett Tim Waag		Anne Robin Caro Hall Steve Martin Susan Funk Toby Depew		Abby Lassen Anne Wyatt Candace Winstead George Solis Jeff Shaffer Laurel Weir Michael Azevedo Rich Sander Rick Rosen Russ Francis Simm Miller Wendy Lewis	
AGENDA ITEM					CONCLUSIONS/ACTIONS
1. Call to Order and Introductions of Guests			Jeff Smith called the meeting to order at 1pm.		
2. Public Comment			None.		
3. Consent: Approval of Minutes			Nicole made a correction: she was present at the last meeting. Nicole moved to approve the minutes with the above correction, seconded by Lois. The minutes were approved with none against and no abstentions.		
4. Action/Information/Discussion					
4.1 Discussion Item: Centers for Disease Control			Dr Rick Rosen, Deputy Health Officer from County Public Health, provided an update and guidance on preventing the transmission of COVID among encampments, reiterating guidance around handwashing and wearing		

<p>recommendations on how to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in encampments – Dr Rick Rosen</p>	<p>masks. Public Health have been involved in distributing face coverings to encampments and directions on how to care for them, and in isolating people who are symptomatic, when they can be reached. There have not been any outbreaks in shelters yet, but Public Health anticipates this at some point based on what has been seen in other congregate settings. Public Health are encouraging cohort strategies, where the idea is to limit people to stable small groups, so that the infection is not transmitted from one group to another. This is a very important means to control disease spread in congregate settings. The CDC’s (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) recommendation is to house homeless people in non-congregate settings, but if this is not achievable, to limit people to their cohort; and if this is not possible, to keep them in stable encampments.</p> <p>Abby asked about the turnaround time for testing for those in congregate settings. Laurel answered that turnaround time is generally around 24 hours, though will depend on the time of day the test is done.</p> <p>Tim shared that there are logistical difficulties in getting chronically homeless people tested, and asked for clarification on who can shelter in the trailers available at CAPSLO (Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo) and ECHO (El Camino Homeless Organization). Laurel confirmed that these trailers are for people who are staying at CAPSLO or ECHO’s shelters but reserved for people who become symptomatic, in order to get them quickly out of a congregate setting. There are also trailers at El Chorro Park for people who test positive for COVID.</p>	
<p>4.2 Discussion Item: Brown Bag Project – Santa Barbara Alliance for Community Transformation</p>	<p>Rich Sander introduced himself as Executive Director for SB ACT (Santa Barbara Alliance for Community Transformation), and his colleagues Jeff Shaffer (Director of Initiatives) and Barbara Andersen (ACT on Homelessness Collaborative Facilitator). They provided an overview of SB ACT and its work focusing on collective impact, through a common agenda, shared measurement systems, mutually reinforcing activities, continuous communication, and working as a backbone organization.</p> <p>The ACT on Homelessness Collaborative is one of SB ACT’s projects,</p>	

	involving community leaders representing many sectors in Santa Barbara County. Draft goals for 2023 include increasing the number of affordable housing units, increasing the rate of housing retention, reducing the rate of people becoming homeless, and strengthening coordinating and availability of outreach and case management services. The Brown Bag Project is a regional action plan, distributing non-perishable food to supplement prepared food.	
4.3 Discussion Item: Working Group Reports	Nicole and Kristen reported that the Public Outreach working group met and discussed pushing forward positive stories on social media, focusing on the CAT team, safe parking, the blue bag program, and housing.	
4.4 Discussion Item: Alternatives to Encampment Working Group		
4.4.1 Discussion Item: Safe Parking	<p>Michelle shared that CAPSLO has 17 spots set aside for safe parking, of which 12 are currently being used. Clients are expected to work with a case manager and be seeking employment. The program is limited to people who can prove they are from within the county, or that they had been within the county previously. This could be evidenced by a California ID, phone bills, mail they have received, or any documentation from DSS (Department of Social Services) showing a County address within the last year. CAPSLO are trying to get the word out about the program in order to fill the remaining spaces.</p> <p>In response to questions, Michelle confirmed that there have been no incidents. Some clients have pets, and there have not been any issues.</p> <p>Jeff Smith shared that the City of SLO is currently modifying their ordinance to introduce additional safe parking spaces, most likely within a month.</p> <p>Laurel shared that the City of Paso Robles is about to start a safe parking site as an alternative site to the river bed encampment. This will include space for tents. Laurel suggested that the Alternatives to Encampment</p>	<p>County staff to send a reminder email to the Committee clarifying who is in which working group.</p> <p>County staff to send out a poll asking people to sign up for the Alternatives to</p>

	working group now be set up, to discuss other alternatives. The Committee agreed.	Encampment working group.
5. Future Discussion Items	None	
6. Next Meeting Date	September 3, 2020	
7. Adjournment	Jeff Smith adjourned the meeting at 2:25pm.	