

San Luis Obispo Countywide 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness

We envision a future in which the housing and comprehensive services necessary to remain housed are available for all, affording everyone maximum selfsufficiency, and the opportunity to be productive and participating members of our community

## HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL (HSOC) Executive Committee Meeting Agenda

April 21, 2021, 1pm

Participate by Zoom call <u>https://zoom.us/j/95130166688?pwd=dWZiTThleHR4bUJvZFJ4Y09OUkRKUT09</u>

Or call in: +1 669 900 9128 Meeting ID: 951 3016 6688 Passcode: 581664

- 1. Call to Order and Introductions
- 2. Public Comment
- 3. Consent: Approval of Minutes
- 4. Action/Information/Discussion
  - 4.1 Discussion Item: Report Out on Regional Collaborative Initiative with Cities and County
  - 4.2 Discussion Item: May 2021 Update to the Board of Supervisors on Homelessness
  - 4.3 Action Item: Approve Staff Clarification to Encampment Committee Recommendations
  - 4.4 Discussion Item: The Role of HSOC, Engagement with Stakeholders and Communications
  - 4.5 Discussion Item: Ten-Year Plan Update
  - 4.6 Discussion Item: State and Federal Homeless Assistance Grants
  - 4.7 Discussion Item: COVID-19 Update
    - 4.7.1 Discussion Item: COVID-19 Grant Updates

- 4.7.2 Discussion Item: Rental Relief Program
- 4.7.3 Discussion Item: Situational Update
- 4.8 Discussion Item: Warming Centers Recap
- 5. Future Discussion/Report Items
- 6. Next Meeting Date: June 16, 2021
- 7. Adjournment

# HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL HSOC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING February 17 2021, 1:00-3:00pm Zoom Call

| MEMBERS PRESENT                  | MEMBERS ABSENT                          | STAFF & GUES             | TS   |
|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------|--|
| Devin Drake                      | Kristen Barneich                        | Carolyn Berg             |  |
| Janna Nichols                    |   | Dawn Ortiz-Leg           | g  |
| Scott Smith                      |   | George Solis             |  |
| Susan Funk                       |   | Grace McIntos            | ר  |
|                                  |   | Leon Shordon             |  |
|                                  |   | Lisa Howe                |  |
|                                  |   | Russ Francis             |  |
| AGENDA ITEM                      |   |                          | CONCLUSIONS/ACTIONS                              |
| 1. Call to Order and             | Susan called the meeting to order at 1  | pm.                      |  |
| Introductions                    |   |                          |  |
| 2. Public Comment                | None                                    |                          |  |
| 3. Consent: Approval of Minutes  |   |                          | Devin made a motion to                           |
|                                  |   |                          | approve the minutes,                             |
|                                  |   |                          | seconded by Scott. The motion passed with all in |
|                                  |   |                          | favor, none opposed and                          |
|                                  |   |                          | no abstentions.                                  |
|                                  |   |                          |  |
| 4. Action/Information/Discussion |   |                          |  |
| 4.1. Discussion Item: Ten-Year   | Laurel and Carolyn gave a presentatio   | n on the Ten-Year plan   |  |
| Plan Update                      | update. Laurel described the propose    |                          |  |
|                                  | a contractor; forming a Strategic Planr | ning Leadership Group of |  |

|                              | <ul> <li>6-10 key stakeholders; reviewing and refining the proposed process; providing input on challenges and opportunities for addressing homelessness; presenting the completed plan online; carrying out a community resources and needs analysis; meeting with stakeholders, including a data review, focus group of people with lived experience of homelessness, and reviewing funding sources and opportunities. The initial draft will go to the Strategic Planning Leadership Group for feedback, then to the HSOC committees, city councils and other community stakeholders, to be finalized and presented for approval to the full HSOC and San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors. The proposed timeline is nine months until the plan is finalized and approved.</li> <li>Carolyn has been working with the Countywide Homeless Action Team, consisting of the County Administrative Office and city managers, which is working on a regional strategic path forward for agencies to take meaningful action on homelessness. This is concurrent with HSOC initiating the Ten-Year Plan update and the HSOC Encampment Committee formulating recommendations. The Countywide Homeless Action Team plans to seek local agencies' support to commit and allocate funding and staff resources for initial pilot programs and regional efforts by June 2021, and then initiate regional pilot programs at priority locations from July 2021 – June 2022. The Team will present its Regional Framework at the next full HSOC meeting on March 17<sup>th</sup>. The Team is currently working on costings for multiple sites for Blue Bag and Safe Parking programs. They are planning for programs to be scalable,</li> </ul> |  |
|------------------------------|---|--|
| 4.1.1. Discussion Item: Ten- | costings for multiple sites for Blue Bag and Safe Parking   |  |

| Year Plan Strategy             | Group will be composed of the Executive Committee members,         | [] |
|--------------------------------|--|----|
|                                | with four additional slots available, two for representatives from |    |
| Committee                      |  |    |
|                                | the cities. Executive Committee meetings will now adjourn          |    |
|                                | earlier than usual and reconvene as Ten-Year Plan Strategy         |    |
|                                | Committee meetings for 30-45 minutes. As the Executive             |    |
|                                | Committee meets only every second month, there will be             |    |
|                                | additional Ten-Year Plan Strategy Committee meetings during        |    |
|                                | the other months. The Committee decided that a process for         |    |
|                                | recruiting additional members to the Strategic Planning            |    |
|                                | Leadership Group will be brought to the HSOC for review, and       |    |
|                                | that final decision making should be deferred to Susan as HSOC     |    |
|                                | Chair and Supervisor Ortiz-Legg.                                   |    |
|                                | Janna recommended reviewing the previous Ten-Year Plan as          |    |
|                                | part of the process, and although the goals in the previous plan   |    |
|                                | were not always actionable, they could be useful as a starting     |    |
|                                | point for the updated plan.  |    |
|                                |  |    |
| 4.2. Discussion Item: Eviction | Laurel reported that in the last stimulus Bill in December, the US |    |
| Prevention Funding             | Congress authorized an eviction prevention program (ERAP –         |    |
| C C                            | Emergency Rental Assistance Program), providing funding to         |    |
|                                | counties and states. There will be two funding allocations for     |    |
|                                | SLO County, one directly from the Federal government and one       |    |
|                                | via the State of California. \$16 million will be available for    |    |
|                                | eviction prevention and related activities, including 10% set      |    |
|                                | aside for case management and administration.                      |    |
|                                | The County met with local nonprofit agencies to decide whether     |    |
|                                | to administer this funding locally or ask the State to administer  |    |
|                                | the funding. Feedback from local agencies was that it would be     |    |
|                                | difficult for them to administer the funding under the structure   |    |
|                                | proposed, due to the small amount available for administration     |    |
|                                | and case management. As such, the County asked the State to        |    |

| 4.2.1. Discussion Item:<br>Asking SLO-LAF (San                                    | administer the program.<br>The State will next be soliciting proposals from community<br>partners to help with outreach and to ensure people have<br>access to the funding once it is launched. Janna shared that the<br>application asks for three tiers of activity, including promotion,<br>outreach and technical assistance.<br>Supervisor Ortiz-Legg shared that she and Supervisor John<br>Peschong are working on a subcommittee to address the<br>economic response of COVID, which will include improvements<br>to the ReadySLO website.<br>Laurel suggested asking SLO-LAF (San Luis Obispo Legal<br>Assistance Foundation) to give a presentation on eviction |  |
|---|---|--|
| Luis Obispo Legal<br>Assistance Foundation)<br>to Give a Presentation<br>for HSOC | prevention to the full HSOC, possibly as a special meeting. The<br>Committee agreed it would be best for HSOC to sponsor a<br>separate meeting which would focus on the ERAP program once<br>it has been rolled out.  |  |
| 4.3. Discussion Item: Grant<br>Updates  |   |  |
| 4.3.1. Discussion Item:<br>Homeless Emergency<br>Aid Program (HEAP)<br>Update     | Laurel and Scott shared that the Project Homekey site is moving<br>forward, and has now opened up applications for permanent<br>housing units. The shelter side has been in operation for more<br>than a month, and the permanent housing side has the goal to<br>open up and have its first cohort of occupants by March 2 <sup>nd</sup> .<br>Further renovations are planned, some of which require permits<br>from SLO City. The HEAP (Homeless Emergency Aid Program)<br>money must be spent by the end of June, and the program is on<br>track to meet this.   |  |

|   | Grace reported that CAPSLO (Community Action Partnership of<br>San Luis Obispo) are moving forward with the medically assisted<br>withdrawal treatment program. They are looking to open at the<br>end of July or early August, providing 8-10 beds for SLO County<br>medically eligible individuals. An RFP (Request for Proposals) for<br>operators is being prepared. CAPSLO will spend all its HEAP<br>funding on this project, and are also sourcing funding from<br>private donors. 5CHC (5Cities Homeless Coalition) are also<br>supporting the program by contributing \$10,000.<br>Janna reported that 5CHC are close to expending all of their<br>HEAP funding. They have moved into the building, though not all<br>renovations have been completed yet. The final phase of the<br>work includes moving the front door and making the building<br>more accessible for people with disabilities. |  |
|---|--|--|
| 4.3.2. Discussion Item:<br>Homeless Housing,<br>Assistance and<br>Prevention (HHAP)<br>Program Update and<br>Discussion of Round 2<br>Application Process | Laurel reported that the application for the second round of<br>HHAP (Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention) funding<br>has been submitted. The State required very specific outcomes,<br>which the County will be monitored on, though there will be a<br>chance to amend these after the RFP process.  |  |
| 4.3.3. Discussion Item:<br>California Emergency<br>Solutions and<br>Homelessness Grant<br>(CESH) Update   | Laurel, Grace and Janna reported that the agencies funded by<br>CESH (California Emergency Solutions and Homelessness Grant)<br>have begun implementing their activities, including outreach and<br>coordinated entry.   |  |

| 4.3.4. Discussion Item:<br>California Emergency<br>Solutions Grant (CA<br>ESG) Update | George reported that the County received the award letter for<br>\$119,000 for the 2020 annual ESG (Emergency Solutions Grant)<br>at the end of January. The County is now waiting for the<br>standard agreement from HCD (California Department of<br>Housing & Community Development).<br>Laurel and George reported that the State has told the County to<br>stop rental assistance funded via the ESG-CV (Emergency<br>Solutions Grant – Coronavirus) grants by February 19 <sup>th</sup> . Clients<br>can still be supported through relocation and stabilization<br>services, including case management and security deposits. This<br>is due to the ERAP program now providing funding specifically<br>for rental assistance. The County is expecting further guidance<br>from HUD (Department of Housing & Urban Development). For<br>the second round of ESG-CV, the County is in the process of<br>submitting an amended budget to the State.<br>Susan proposed a change in the grant approval process, as<br>some members felt they did not have enough information at the<br>last full HSOC meeting. The proposed change would involve<br>creating space in the agenda for the agencies to give a short<br>elevator pitch on what they are asking to be funded.<br>Laurel clarified that people would be able to submit questions<br>ahead of the meeting, which could then be answered as part of<br>the presentation in the meeting, but HUD has been very clear<br>that applicants cannot answer questions during the meeting or<br>participate in discussion about the funding. |  |
|---|---|--|
| 4.3.5. Discussion Item:<br>Continuum of Care<br>(CoC) Grant Update                    | George shared that there was no competition in 2020 due to the<br>pandemic, so the 2019 awards will be renewed. These are<br>CAPSLO's Coordinated Entry project and TMHA (Transitions<br>Mental Health Association)'s two Permanent Housing projects.   |  |

|  | The County is now waiting to hear more from HUD. There has<br>been no update yet on the 2021 NOFA (Notice of Funding<br>Availability).<br>George reported that the County has begun compiling data from<br>the sheltered 2021 PIT (Point in Time) Count. This is due to HUD<br>on April 30 <sup>th</sup> . Laurel shared that HUD will require a full<br>unsheltered PIT Count in 2022. |  |
|--|---|--|
| 4.4. Discussion Item: COVID-19<br>Update             |   |  |
| 4.4.1. Discussion Item:<br>COVID-19 Grant<br>updates | ESG-CV funding was covered above, in 4.3.4.   |  |
| 4.4.2. Discussion Item:<br>Situational update        |   |  |
| 4.5. Discussion Item: Planning<br>for Vaccinations   | Janna shared that she is serving on the County's Vaccine Task<br>Force, representing homeless services. Currently, the County is<br>not getting the supply it needs, but will do in time. There have<br>been discussions at State and national levels on how to<br>distribute vaccines to homeless people.<br>Laurel reported that the County has hired Abby Lassen to                  |  |
|  | coordinate health equity efforts around vaccinations.   |  |
| 4.6. Discussion Item: Warming<br>Centers             | Grace reported that CAPSLO's warming center has not opened<br>yet due to lack of rain.  |  |
|  | Janna reported that 5CHC may be moving their warming center   |  |

|  | location again.<br>Susan reported that the warming center at Atascadero<br>Community Center is open every day and community tensions<br>have calmed down.   |  |
|--|---|--|
| 4.7. Discussion Item:<br>Committee Reports | No committee reports were made, as committees have not met since the last Executive Committee meeting.  |  |
|  | Devin suggested it would be helpful for the Chair to provide<br>short updates to the Board of Supervisors. HSOC made the<br>decision to do this two years ago, but it dropped off with the<br>pandemic. With a new year and new Chair, it would be a good<br>time to start providing updates again. |  |
| 5. Future Discussion/Report<br>Items       | Idea sharing at the end of full HSOC meetings   |  |
| 6. Next Meeting Date: April 21,<br>2021    |   |  |
| 7. Adjournment                             |   |  |

## HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL (HSOC) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING ACTION ITEM April 21, 2021

#### AGENDA ITEM 4.3

**ACTIONS REQUIRED**: 1. Vote to Approve Staff Clarification to Encampment Committee Recommendations document

#### SUMMARY NARRATIVE:

HSOC approved the Encampment Committee recommendations document at their full meeting on March 17<sup>th</sup> 2021. In addition to the substance of the recommendations, the document also included a brief summary of how the information would be shared with City Managers. Following HSOC passage of this document, County staff requested a small correction to the description of the process the County is undertaking with the City Managers. The recommended change does not affect the substance of the HSOC's recommendations.

#### **Current text:**

Since the formation of the HSOC Encampment Committee, a separate committee, consisting of the County Administrative Officer and City managers, has been convened to address encampments throughout the county. In January 2021, the HSOC proposed that the draft recommendations from the Encampment Committee be shared with this new committee, for comment and review, prior to the full HSOC's review in March.

### Proposed replacement text:

Since the formation of the HSOC Encampment Committee, the County Administrative Officer and City Managers concurrently developed an adaptive regional framework for how local agencies and providers could work collaboratively to address and prevent homelessness, including the development and implementation of several new pilot programs. At the January 2021 HSOC meeting, several HSOC members expressed an interest in seeking input from the CAO and City Managers; however, no formal HSOC action was taken. Given the limited time before the March 2021 HSOC meeting, the CAO and City Managers did not collectively review and comment on the recommendations. Rather the CAO and City Managers will take the recommendations under advisement as conceptual strategies to further analyze and consider as new pilot programs are developed and implemented and as the Ten-Year Plan is collaboratively updated. The County and Cities will continue to coordinate with and seek input from HSOC at key milestones.

## **BUDGET/FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

No financial impact is anticipated from this change.

# **STAFF COMMENTS:**

Staff recommends that this item be adopted.