

**HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL**  
**HSOC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
**August 19, 2020, 1:00-2:30pm**  
**Zoom Call**

<b>MEMBERS PRESENT</b>		<b>MEMBERS ABSENT</b>	<b>STAFF &amp; GUESTS</b>
Janna Nichols Mariam Shah Scott Smith Susan Funk		Devin Drake	George Solis Grace McIntosh Jessica Lorange Kasey Bubnash Laurel Weir Lisa Howe Russ Francis
<b>AGENDA ITEM</b>			<b>CONCLUSIONS/ACTIONS</b>
1. Call to Order and Introductions	Mariam called the meeting to order at 1pm.		
2. Public Comment	None.		
3. Consent: Approval of Minutes			Scott made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Janna. None were opposed and there were no abstentions. The minutes were approved.
4. Action/Information/Discussion			
4.1. Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) Update	Laurel provided an update on the situation in North County. ECHO (El Camino Homeless Organization) has been working in partnership with HASLO (Housing Authority of San Luis Obispo) and PSHH (People's Self Help Housing) to find an alternate site.		

	<p>HASLO submitted an application to the Project Homekey program for a property in Paso Robles, which would provide Permanent Housing and the deliverables from the original North County HEAP project.</p> <p>Scott shared that there was a very tight deadline for Homekey applications, but the application was submitted on HCD's (Department of Housing &amp; Community Development) preferred timeline. If funded, the implementation will have a quick turnaround time as well, as the property has to be acquired and reach 50% occupancy by December 31 2020. Funding is awarded on a competitive basis. The State has said they will let applicants know by next month at the latest.</p> <p>Laurel shared that a second site has been identified, which will be pursued if the Homekey bid is not successful. \$99k in interest has been made on the HEAP funding, which the State has said should be divided up in equal proportions to what was proposed in the application. Laurel will be talking with subrecipients about this and will report back on how the money is being spent at the next meeting.</p>	
4.2. Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Program Update	<p>Laurel provided an update on HHAP. The County has received the award letter and been approved to use the HHAP funds. The RFP (Request for Proposals) has not yet been released.</p> <p>HHAP funding is more focused on housing programs, but does also allow for Housing Navigation Centers. However, the State has said that Housing Navigation Centers must include overnight shelter beds to qualify for funding. As such, it is not clear whether 5CHC's (5Cities Homeless Coalition) project in South County could be funded through HHAP. Laurel is waiting on a clear response from the State.</p>	

	<p>Grace shared that the cost of CAPSLO's HEAP-funded project has increased due to delays in receiving the funds, and that if HHAP cannot be used to make the shortfall in HEAP funded projects, CAPSLO may need to rethink this project.</p> <p>Laurel shared that HHAP is more restrictive than HEAP, requiring HSOC to select System Performance Measures and outcomes, which the State has to approve. The second round of HHAP, which will be released later this year, will be even more restrictive. Susan suggested that System Performance Measures for the first round be based on the number of people who were homeless at the time of the award and that have since been housed, as opposed to the total number of homeless people in the county, as this would be difficult to quantify. Laurel clarified that it would be best to look at the System Performance Measures after subrecipients have been awarded, as this would allow for a more meaningful conversation based on what subrecipients plan to do.</p> <p>The Committee discussed options around reallocating HHAP and HEAP money. Laurel clarified that the Committee's role is to advise and suggest an action to the full HSOC. The Committee agreed to add two items to the September full HSOC agenda:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. HHAP funding priorities and System Performance Measures, as a discussion item; and</li> <li>2. Reallocation of funds between HEAP projects and anticipation of funding through HHAP, as an action item.</li> </ol>	
4.3. COVID-19 Update		

4.3.1. Grant updates	<p>Laurel shared that the County is still waiting for contracts for the ESG-CV (Emergency Solutions Grant – Coronavirus) and CDBG-CV (Community Development Block Grant – Coronavirus) programs, before being able to move forward with subrecipient agreements. Subrecipients have been meeting requests in anticipation of receiving the funding, as the funds can be retroactive.</p> <p>Laurel shared that the number of people testing positive for COVID has been on the rise in the county, including some cases on the periphery of the homeless population. There has been more use of the trailers at El Chorro Park. Homeless people who test positive are generally being infected by housed people; there have still not been any outbreaks in shelters or encampments. Testing is ongoing at the ECHO and CAPSLO shelters. The river bed in Paso Robles was not cleared on August 18 as was stated, because of the extreme heat. Paso Robles has opened up a site for encampment, which has mainly been used by people camping in their vehicles.</p> <p>Grace confirmed that CAPSLO has not seen any clients testing positive for COVID. While CAPSLO are still not supporting people from out of county, they are beginning to see the number of clients rise, and expect that this will continue to be the case as the weather gets cold.</p> <p>Janna shared that homeless people in the county are aware of the need to stay distanced. 5CHC would like to bring back their case managed Safe Parking program in South County.</p>	
4.3.2. Expected impact of	Laurel discussed the full HSOC meeting on August 14, and the decision to authorize the Executive Committee to send a letter	

<p>September 1, 2020 termination of the California Judicial Council's Rule preventing evictions</p>	<p>to the Board of Supervisors in response to the Judicial Council taking action to expire the eviction moratorium on September 1. The letter has since been drafted by Laurel and Mariam, asking the Board to take three actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To support passage of Assembly Bill 1436 and Senate Bill 1410, which would prevent evictions during the COVID emergency and give tenants 15 months from the end of the emergency to pay back rent</li> <li>• To re-instate the County Emergency Order and Regulation No. 3, establishing restrictions on evictions</li> <li>• To consider tax credits or support similar actions at the state and federal level to assist landlords facing financial hardship as a result of not being able to collect rent</li> </ul> <p>Laurel and Mariam clarified that the letter is intentionally concise to give clear direction, and that County Counsel advised that CAO (County Administrative Officer) Wade Horton and Public Health Director Penny Borenstein be copied in.</p>	
<p>4.3.2.1. Action Item: Review and authorize a letter to be sent to the County requesting the County take steps to prevent evictions related to COVID-19 and mitigate the impact of job</p>	<p>The Committee authorized the letter with the following changes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 'SB 1410' to be changed to 'SB1410' (the space was a typo)</li> <li>• Including a reference to the increased demand for rent assistance seen by HASLO, which far surpasses available resources</li> <li>• Adding 'county wide' to the sentence 'The 5Cities Homeless Coalition reports requests for homelessness prevention assistance,' to clarify that 5CHC supports people across the county and not just in the Five Cities as is sometimes presumed (and therefore, this impact is being seen across the county)</li> <li>• More precision around the impact, i.e. by including that 5CHC has seen 26 requests totaling nearly \$50k in July</li> </ul>	

losses on housing	alone.	
4.3.3. Situational update	Discussed in above items.	
4.4. Discussion Item: Update on County Budget	<p>Laurel shared that the Board of Supervisors had been planning to vote on the budget the week commencing August 17, but this was postponed. Additional funding may be available from the State, so the County postponed this meeting to wait and see.</p> <p>Lisa reported that the Board adopted the budget in June, but were going to look at Departments' recommendations for reducing expenditures based on what the Board adopted. All Departments took a 4% cut from the General Fund, except for Public Safety Departments which took a 1% cut.</p> <p>Laurel confirmed that the 70 Now program will be impacted by the budget.</p>	
4.5. Discussion Item: Warming Centers	<p>Janna reported that 5CHC are still deciding what they will be doing with their warming center. They have secured the same church as before, and the City of Grover Beach has authorized them to submit an application to the State for facilitation and staffing. However, it is unclear if they should open the center given Deputy Health Officer Rick Rosen's comments on congregate facilities. Laurel clarified that the CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) has stated their preference is for non-congregate settings, but if this is not possible, there are rules for congregate settings. Public Health has emphasized maintaining distance and not having too many people in the same room.</p> <p>Laurel reported that ECHO's plan is to open their shelter in Paso</p>	

	Robles at the site of a former motel, if the State approves their Project Homekey application. If not, they will attempt to open at an alternate site.	
4.6. Discussion Item: Committee Reports	<p>Janna reported that the Finance &amp; Data Committee met, and everything discussed was reported at the last full HSOC meeting.</p> <p>Scott reported that the Housing Committee met and discussed the Project Homekey application and the Action Plan RFP to be issued in September.</p>	
5. Next Meeting Date: October 21, 2020		
6. Adjournment	Mariam adjourned the meeting at 2:35pm.	