

HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL
HSOC Special Meeting
August 14, 2020 2:00 p.m.
Members and the public were able to participate by Zoom call.

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	STAFF & GUESTS	
Anne Robin Bill Crewe (alt for Paul Worsham) Carlyn Christianson Devin Drake Grace McIntosh Janna Nichols Jeff Smith (alt for Deanna Cantrell) Jessica Thomas Mariam Shah Mark Lamore Nicole Bennett (alt for Theresa Scott) Rick Gulino (alt for Joe Thompson) Scott Smith Shay Stewart Susan Funk	Amelia Grover Bettina Swigger Caroline Hall Kristen Barneich Marcia Guthrie Marianna Kennedy Marlys McPherson Steve Martin Tim Waag	Alicia Wright Angela Smith Brandy Graham Dawn Marie Anderson Dona Hare Price Elaine Mansoor George Solis Jan Jeff Jeffrey John Kathy McClenathen Laurel Weir Lisa Howe Riley Smith Russ Francis Stephanie Barclay Tom Sherman Tony Navarro Wendy Lewis	
AGENDA ITEM			CONCLUSIONS/ACTIONS
1. Call to Order and Introductions	Mariam called the meeting to order at 2pm.		

<p>2. Public Comment</p>	<p>Elaine from the Salvation Army suggested that, if HEAP (Homeless Emergency Aid Program) funding cannot be expended by the deadline, it could be used to fund the Salvation Army's Permanent Supportive Housing project.</p> <p>Stephanie Barclay from SLOLAF (SLO Legal Assistance Foundation) introduced herself and shared that SLOLAF expects to imminently receive a large number of calls from people facing eviction.</p>	
<p>3. Consent: Approval of Minutes</p>		<p>Janna made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Shay. All were in favor, with none opposed and no abstentions.</p>
<p>4. Action/Information/Discussion</p>		
<p>4.1. Discussion Item: Moment of silence and remembrance of Supervisor Adam Hill</p>	<p>The Council held a moment of silence held for Supervisor Adam Hill. Mariam remembered Supervisor Hill as a great champion of homeless people.</p>	
<p>4.2. Discussion: Possible Upcoming Ending of Judicial Council Moratorium on Eviction Prevention</p>	<p>Laurel provided some background on the possible upcoming ending of the moratorium on evictions. The process to evict tenants is regulated by state law, but in March of this year, the Governor used emergency powers to give local governments more power over</p>	

	<p>eviction regulation. The County of San Luis Obispo established restrictions on evictions following this. The Governor's order and the County's order expired at the end of May. In April, the Judicial Council created two new rules on eviction, establishing a moratorium on parts of the process to prevent evictions. The original rule was in effect until 90 days after the end of the emergency. However, it was successfully argued that courts are supposed to interpret law, not legislate; and that by having this rule last for so long, the Judicial Council was effectively legislating. As such, the Judicial Council voted on August 13 for the rule to expire on September 1, meaning evictions will be able to move forward from this date.</p> <p>County staff have looked at a number of data sources to assess the impact this could have. A study from Columbia University suggests homelessness could increase 42-45% nationally; this would mean an additional 1,000 people, or 450-550 households, in the County become homeless. Janna shared that 5Cities Homeless Coalition (5CHC) saw nearly four times the total request in July compared to January. Nearly a third of all requests are from households two or more months behind on rent.</p> <p>The HSOC Executive Committee met on August 10 to discuss the situation and potential solutions available to prevent evictions. While the CARES Act funding has provided around \$484,000 for homelessness</p>	
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	<p>prevention activities in the County, through the ESG-CV (Emergency Solutions Grant – Coronavirus) and CDBG-CV (Community Development Block Grant – Coronavirus) programs, this is expected to support around 76 displaced households, far less than the County can expect to see if evictions go ahead. The second tranche of ESG-CV funding has been announced, and the County will receive approximately \$6 million, and can be used for homelessness prevention, back payment on rent and legal services. There will be more information available in the next month.</p> <p>The Executive Committee’s suggestion is to ask HSOC to authorize an Ad Hoc Committee to write a letter to the Board of Supervisors, recommending courses of action to prevent or mitigate an eviction crisis, and to authorize the Executive Committee to review and authorize this letter at their August 19 meeting. Possible actions discussed included the County authorizing a new moratorium on evictions, and the County supporting Assembly Bill 1436 and Senate Bill 1410.</p>	
<p>4.2.1. Action Item: Vote to 1) create an Ad Hoc Committee to draft a letter to the Board of Supervisors and County Administrator requesting they undertake</p>		<p>The Council voted by acclamation to: create an Ad Hoc Committee to draft a letter to the Board of Supervisors and County Administrator; to authorize</p>

<p>steps to prevent evictions for households who are behind on rent due to the economic impact of COVID-19 and identify additional, reasonable public information and outreach the County could take to educate the public about the duration and scope of the current Judicial Council Moratorium; 2) authorize the HSOC Executive Committee to review and send the letter to the Board of Supervisors and County Administrator and other County officials as appropriate; and 3) provide guidance to the Ad Hoc Committee regarding the scope and focus of the letter</p>		<p>the HSOC Executive Committee to review and send the letter; and to provide guidance to the Ad Hoc Committee regarding the scope and focus of the letter. The motion passed.</p>
<p>4.3. Discussion Item: California Emergency Solutions and Housing (CESH) grant</p>	<p>Laurel provided some background on CESH funding. CESH is a one time only grant, but the State split it into two allocations. The County has already awarded funding from the 2018 allocation, for Coordinated Entry, with \$150k set aside for HMIS (Homeless Management Information System) upgrades.</p>	

	<p>2018 funds must be obligated by January 2021. While the original plan was to use this money for migrating data to a new HMIS, HUD (Department of Housing & Urban Development) has since announced that they are not providing support for data migration at present, and are instead encouraging communities to stay with systems already in place. The Finance & Data Committee has recommended that the \$150k instead be used for specific upgrades to the existing HMIS, with \$40k used to secure a vendor to support HSOC in updating its Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness, and remaining funds allocated to existing providers.</p> <p>Laurel explained that for this meeting, all that is being voted on regarding the 2018 allocation is to use the \$40k for updating the Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness; the other uses for the 2018 allocation will be voted on at a future HSOC meeting.</p> <p>The County is planning to release an RFP for the 2019 allocation in September, and is looking for guidance from HSOC on priorities. The Executive Committee has recommended prioritizing Coordinated Entry and operating subsidies to support Permanent Housing programs.</p>	
<p>4.3.1. Action Item: Vote to 1) prioritize CESH 2019 CESH funds be prioritized for</p>		<p>Shay moved to prioritize CESH 2019 funds for Coordinated Entry and to</p>

<p>Coordinated Entry and to support operations of permanent housing or provide shallow rental subsidies for permanent housing for formerly homeless persons; and 2) to recommend up to \$40,000 of unobligated CESH 2018 funds be used for updating the Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness</p>		<p>support operations for Permanent Housing or provide shallow rental subsidies for permanent housing for formerly homeless persons, and to recommend up to \$40k in 2018 CESH funds be used to update the Ten Year Plan; seconded by Carlyn. None were against. Grace, Janna and Mark abstained. The motion passed.</p>
<p>5. Future Discussion/Report Items</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Janna to discuss issues in regard to warming centers, public health, CDC guidance, and recent comments in the press. 	
<p>6. Next Regular Meeting Date: September 16, 2020</p>		
<p>7. Adjournment</p>	<p>Mariam adjourned the meeting at 3pm.</p>	