



HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL (HSOC) SERVICES COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Date

April 3, 2023

Time

1pm-2:30pm

Location

Rm 356, Dept of Social Services
San Luis Obispo, CA 93403

Members Present

Brandy Graham (Remote)
Devin Drake
Jack Lahey
Janna Nichols (Remote)
Christy Nichols (alternate for Nicole Bennett)

Members Absent

John Klevins

Staff and Guests

Abby Lassen
Allison Brandum
Aurora William
Bernie Rubio
Daisy Wiberg
Elaine Archer
Gary Petersen
George Solis
Jeff Al-Mashat

Jennifer Nitzel
Junior Menchaca
Laurel Weir
Lawren Ramos
Merlie Livermore
Michael Azevedo
Michelle Shoresman
Russ Francis
Skylar Caldwell
Wendy Lewis

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Jack called the meeting to order at 1:07pm. Introductions were made.

2. Public Comment

Laurel made mention of Erica Jaramillo as the newly hired Program Manager for the Homeless Services Division Continuum of Care Program.

3. Consent: Approval of Minutes

Devin moved the motion to approve the minutes. Janna seconded. Minutes approved by consent.

4. Action/Information/Discussion

4.1. Implementing Five-Year Plan Line of Effort 2: Reduce or Eliminate Barriers to Housing Stability

4.1.1. Discussion Item: Medicaid Recertification Restarting – Implications for Clients and Case Managers

Jennifer Nitzel, Medi-Cal Program Manager at the Department of Social Services, gave a short presentation about the recertification process. She provided information on how homeless services agencies can help their clients navigate the process, and whom to contact if they have questions. She will be sending out flyers and forms. Jack suggested having a workgroup to discuss ideas on how to help facilitate the implementation of this recertification process and on how to advise participating providers and what type of questions are needed.

4.1.2. Discussion Item: Report Out on Recent Storms and Warming Centers

Jeff shared that this year has been particularly challenging with the number of storms the county has had. Also adding to the complexity of the issues is the County Office of Emergency Services' opening and involvement. Jeff has also shared that because of the storms, additional pressures were put on Janna's group to solve evacuation problems, Jeff believes that this is another important matter to discuss.

He also mentioned the importance of having the American Red Cross' presence at this meeting to discuss their role in working with the County and other providers. It was stated that Red Cross volunteers are not equipped to deal with some of the challenges people with homelessness might bring in a shelter. The importance of providing training for Red Cross volunteers in handling people experiencing homelessness and other challenging issues would be helpful.

Aside from the challenges, Jeff shared that the coordination among local service providers has been successful. Jack, Janna, Wendy, and Aurora coordinated and communicated well in disseminating important information amongst themselves. They were also able to provide transportation by taking people back and forth to certain locations. Jeff also mentioned Aurora for her lead in opening a warming shelter in the north county area.

Janna shared that they do not have a permanent location for a warming shelter, so they operated in three different locations in the South County. She mentioned that they were open for 58 nights and 4 days and have served a total of 120 guests this past season. Although not as defined yet, Janna mentioned that they are in the process of looking for a future permanent location for a warming shelter for the Five cities area.

Jack provided a summary for the CAPSLO 40 Prado warming shelter location. He shared that an average of 6 people were served in the past season. Their average this year was 22 guests per night. In March, they started seeing warming shelter capacity reaching above 35. They had to order new beds and cots for new

people they had not seen before and also buy more food supplies.

Jack also shared that Cal Poly students have met their volunteer need during school season. However, he also expressed volunteer concern when students leave for the holiday season break. Jack also mentioned that coordination between 40 Prado and Janna's location in housing overflow guests at each location have worked well.

Janna also mentioned the issue of cross-staffing, maybe coming up with a system that will allow each agency to share staffing in case of emergency need.

4.2 Implementing Five-Year Plan Line of Effort 3 – Improve and Expand Data Management Efforts Through HMIS (Homeless Management Information System) and Coordinated Entry System to Strengthen Data-Driven Operational Guidance and Strategic Oversight

4.2.1 Discussion Item: Report on HMIS and Coordinated Entry Integration

Tabled for future meeting.

4.3 Implementing Five-Year Plan Line of Effort 4 – Create, Identify, and Streamline Funding and Resources

4.3.1 Discussion Item: Street Medicine

Tabled for future meeting.

4.4 Implementing Five-Year Plan Line of Effort 5 – Strengthen Regional Collaboration

4.4.1 Discussion Item: CalAIM (California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal) Programs Update

Christy Nichols shared that CALAIM is getting more enhanced care partners. In addition to recuperative care and medically tailored meals, they've added programs such as housing tenancy and sustaining services, housing navigation, housing deposits and

sobering centers. More information can be found on the CenCal website.

5 Future Discussion/Report Items

- Set up a special meeting in May to discuss possible reformatting structure of committee.
- To look at service gaps and service components.
- Set up a meeting with the Red Cross and other agencies.
- Consider changing the time of the meeting either in the morning or afternoon, and extending it to 2 hours.
- Sending out a doodle poll to members to get quorum for a May meeting.

6 Next Regular Meeting: June 5, 2023, at 1pm

7 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:52pm.

M