



Sacramento Ending Chronic Homelessness Initiative

909 12th Street, Suite 200 / Sacramento, California 95814
916.447.7063 x358 / palonso@communitycouncil.org

Interagency Council To End Homelessness

Meeting Minutes

April 16th, 2008
2.30-4.30 PM

Attendance:

Council Members Present: Ann Edwards-Buckley (Chair), Alexis Bernard, Carolyn Brodt, Joan Burke, John Foley, Chris Glaudel, Verne Gore, Jim Hare, Pam Herman, Larry Dayton (for Elizabeth Hudson), Cassandra Jennings, Patty Kleinknecht, Sue Laliberte, Ryan Loofbourrow, Shamus Roller, Petra Stanton, Bruce Wagstaff, Jan Wald.

Council Members Absent: Karen Brockopp, Michelle Coleman, Michael Dunne, Peter Fealey, Lynn Frank, Deanna Hanson, Collette Johnson-Schulke, Karen Maxwell, Maria Morfin, Trisha Stanionis, Leland Tom.

Staff Present: Tim Brown, Phil Alonso, Roma Eisenstark, Susanna Curry, Alicia Dienst.

Guests: Diane Luther, Suzanne Hammer, Kathy Briem, Angelica Duran, Frances Freitas, Dawn Heywood, David Husid, Christina Arrasmith, Tanya Wilson, Michael Lazar.

Action Items:

- The March meeting minutes were adopted.
- There were no future action items during this meeting.

Minutes:

1. Introductions

2. Action: Adopt Minutes

- The Council adopted the minutes from the March meeting. Chris Glaudel moved to adopt the minutes. Sue Laliberte seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

3. Committee Reports – 5 minutes each - Criminal Justice – Tim Brown

- Tim reported on the SIP Program. He recently met with the Chief of Police to discuss outreach partnership between Genesis, City Police, and Downtown Navigators. A small pilot program utilizing the outreach partnership on the streets will begin soon.

- Health Services (SSI Strategies) – Petra Stanton

- Petra explained that the last meeting of this committee was used to start an SSI Task Force that will be meeting separate of the Health Committee over the next few months. Contact Petra at pstanton@theeffort.org for more info on what the SSI Task Force is working on. Contact Susanna Curry at scurry@communitycouncil.org if you would like to get on the email list for the meeting notices.

- Veterans – Jan Wald

- Jan reported that the VCSN (Veterans Community Support Network) has been in contact with Congresswomen Matsui's office. Matsui wants to work with the VCSN to help improve communication to returning veterans so they can better access services they are eligible for.
- The VCSN has been enjoying great participation and is in the process of splitting into sub-committees like Health, Education, Housing, Employment, and Leadership.
- Bruce Jackson is heading up the Housing sub-committee.

- Housing – Joan Burke

- Joan reported that at the last meeting there was more discussion about the Budget Inn project and City Leaders' concerns with the project.
- The Housing California conference is coming up and it is the first time the Sacramento Housing Alliance has been enlisted to give a tour of local housing programs.
- The Committee has been working on a proposal to expand the Housing Webtool of Self Help Housing in partnership with the Community Services Planning Council. It was previously presented to the Council and now needs to be presented to the Policy Board, specifically to discuss funding opportunities.
- Chris explained that there are a few other proposals that we would like to present to the Policy Board at the same time, and so this webtool proposal should be included with those others.

- Central Intake – Kathy Briem

- Kathy explained that they are looking at redesigning how and when Central Intake will do new assessments due to the waiting list continuing to be mostly stagnant since the opening of new PSH units is mostly stagnant.
- It has become clear that new intakes need to happen only right before new units come online. Of course the current waitlist will be exhausted before the new process is implemented.
- Over the next few weeks, they will be working on determining who on the current waitlist cannot be found anymore.

4. Continuum of Care Update – Suzanne Hammer

a. Application Update - 5 minutes

- Suzanne explained that nearly \$630,000 will be available for this year's Samaritan Bonus funding. She will send more info around when she has it.
- MAAP (a local service provider) is considering giving up its HUD grant of a little over \$500,000 per year (match required).
- If they decide to, then the funds would be re-allocated to either new or expanded PSH programs. The funds can be used for operating subsidies, supportive services, leasing costs, and some admin. If their programs are closed down then we will have 48 currently housed clients that will need to be transferred to other programs.

4. Continuum of Care Update – Suzanne Hammer

b. Power Point Presentation – 20 minutes

- Please see the attached power point file.
- Slide 4: about 50% of CoCs scored high enough to get Sam Bonus funds, so we have stiff competition out there.
- Slide 7: the amount of HUD dollars going to renewal programs is growing faster than the total amount of HUD dollars available and so there are fewer dollars available for Sam Bonus each year.
- Slide 8: we lose about 5 points on our application each year because our ratio of funds spent on Housing versus Services is not high enough.
- Slide 11: could be losing the Sam Bonus as early as next year.
- Slide 12: we did show a decrease in the # of chronically homeless people between the 2007 and 2008 counts.
- Slide 13: the primary funding change that is needed is to find new funds for Services so that we can increase funding for Housing.

Questions/Comments

- It was commented that we need lots of collaboration between many different agencies to develop an Action Plan for how to deal with this.
- The Council needs to understand how difficult it is to piece together service plans from multiple funding sources.
- For a long term strategy, we should look at transferring cost savings from other systems to help pay for supportive services so that more funds could be spent on housing.

5. Case Management Funding Task Force – Tim Brown – 10 minutes

- The Task Force has established a common definition of case management services and begun collecting job descriptions and salary ranges from various providers.

- Tim described the groups short and long term funding strategies.
 - Short Term: Explore regional, state, and federal grant opportunities to help fill the case management service funding gap for the next 2-3 years. An RFP was recently released from the Federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) that is a good fit for our needs.
 - Long Term: Establishing a public funding stream that is sustainable.
- There will be lots of help needed from the Interagency Council and others in writing grants and getting letters of support.

6. Street Management Task Force – Tim Brown – 10 minutes

- Tim explained that This Task Force is focusing on 3 issue areas:
 1. “Mobile Homeless Connect” Outreach Efforts – a collaboration of homeless service providers going out to camps during the last week of each month to see if they can get campers connected to shelter beds and other services they may want. We will try to bring sack lunches and other useful handouts to the campers and our efforts will be coordinated with law enforcement/park rangers. The first efforts will be launched in April and May and then we will determine if and how the efforts should continue.
 2. Exploring the possibility of a designated camp site – a sub-group from the Task Force examining potential sites for a designated camp. We are still in the beginning stages of this effort and any proposal will be brought before the Council for discussion.
 3. Coordination with the Faith Based Community – this issue area has not really been addressed yet, but the Task Force (or possibly another sub-group) will be working on this over the summer.
- If you would like to get involved in any of these issue areas or would like more info, please contact Roma Eisenstark at reisenstark@communitycouncil.org.

7. PSH Production Update – Jim Hare/Alan Saunders – 10 minutes

- The 3 development projects currently under construction are moving along well.
- Displaced AB 2034 clients will NOT be moving into any of the new development projects.
- Budget Inn and Mutual at the Highlands are moving forward and SHRA staff will send out the dates that these projects will be heard at the SHRA Commission, City Council, and County Board of Supervisors. More info will follow at a later date.

- Diane Luther explained some of the preliminary plans for the 7th and H Streets site.
- Site is owned by the City and has been designated for a PSH/SRO building. SHRA will work with The Effort to locate a satellite FOHC clinic there (assuming they receive FOHC status).
- An RFP will be released for the developer.
- The project will be about 150 units and will be modeled after the 8th NW 8th project in Portland, OR.

8. Project Homeless Connect Update – Tim Brown – 5 minutes

- Tim explained that we are on track to reach our \$15K goal through fundraising. At least half of what we raise will be spent on direct services, particularly housing. We hope to house at least 15 people that day.
- We have confirmed lots of great services to be there that day: Social Security, GA, DMV, HIV testing, BBQ, blues bands, and more.
- Hands On Sacramento is helping with volunteer recruitment and management.
- We will be collecting lots of data for evaluation.
- We will be working with County and SHRA PIOs to develop media strategy and plan for press conference, etc.

9. Report from the National Homelessness Summit – Bruce Wagstaff and Tim Brown – 10 minutes

- Bruce explained that this was the 3rd annual USICH conference, which is a collaborative of many federal agencies.
- They provided info on best practices, current research, evaluation on outcomes, economics and cost savings.
- There were 3 main themes throughout the conference.
 1. Homelessness can be ended.
 2. Important to re-define chronic homelessness as a public health and economic issue.
 3. Housing First works!
- Bruce reported that he got the feeling that Sacramento is on the right track.
- Tim explained that this truly is a national movement and that it is important to keep the momentum going with the new federal administration.

10. Ten Year Plan in the News – Tim Brown – 5 minutes

- Tim explained that there have been many media pieces on homelessness, some positive and some negative and he encourage Council members to write letters to the editor.
- Tim hopes to implement a pro-active media strategy.