



Sacramento Ending Chronic Homelessness Initiative

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Interagency Council to End Homelessness Sacramento, California

Meeting Minutes July 15, 2009 2:30-4:30 pm SETA, Board Chamber

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Attendance:

Council Members Present: Devon Good (for Carolyn Brodt), Joan Burke, Michael Dunne, Ann Edwards-Buckley, John Foley, Chris Glaudel, Sandra Hamameh, Beth Hassett, Bruce Jackson, Cassandra Jennings, Patty Kleinknecht, John Krintz, Sue Laliberte, Michael Lazar, Ryan Loofbourrow, Diane Luther, Frances Freitas (for Patrick Mangan), Walter Wyniarczuk (for Maria Morfin), Joshua Singer, Trisha Stanionis, Bruce Wagstaff

Council Members Absent: Alexis Bernard, Verne Gore, Elizabeth Hudson, Karen Maxwell, Tracie Rice-Bailey, Petra Stanton,

Staff: Tim Brown, Paul Hicks, Susanna Curry, Kathy Briem, Suzanne Hammer, Toni Moore

Guests: Nikki Stern, Jodi Nevell, Bill Knowlton, Leslie Morris, Shelley Lewis, Esther Salazar, Eloise Anderson, Trent Sunahara, Alan Lange, Sue Bonk

ACTION Items:

-The minutes from the June meeting were approved.

Minutes:

- 1. Welcome and Introductions**
- 2. Welcome New Member Beth Hassett, Executive Director of WEAVE**
- 3. ACTION: Adopt June Minutes**
-Motion to approve the May minutes by Patty Kleinknecht, seconded by Chris Glaudel. Approved, all in favor.
- 4. County Budget Update and Shelter Changes – Bruce Wagstaff, DHA, 10 minutes**
-Bruce Wagstaff reported on the “legendary” work done by the DHA staff to mitigate what was assumed to be a 40% loss in shelter beds in May, and thanked all who testified before the Board of Supervisors. 120 beds will be added back between Bannon St. and North A. shelters. Aid-in-kind beds will be extended to 90 days and rebidding will occur in the fall, most likely making Bannon St. a family shelter and North A. an aid-in-kind shelter run by the Salvation Army. DHA has developed a temporary 1 year strategy to keep the shelter beds operational. The strategy includes the use of \$350,000 of County Economic Development Funding, \$100,000 of CDBG funding, Federal Stimulus funds, and the creative transitioning of existing shelter money. DHA is still looking at alternatives to keeping the Cal Expo Winter Shelter open. The Winter Shelter cannot be assumed to stay open through November as one false press release had stated. The

Mather Children's Services program was retained but funding was reduced. DHA is looking at pairing TANF-ECS money with other funds to help shelter families. Additionally, DHA is working with SHRA to establish HPRP funds to serve those recently made homeless by the recession. Current activities at the state level will have unknown affects on the County's homeless programs but will have certain adverse affects on CALWorks support programs. The Board of Supervisors also approved reductions to GA payments and opted to centralize intake. Other contracts, notably with VOA and LSS, have been lost due to 71J issues at the County.

5. Policy Board Leadership Proposals - 20 minutes

- a. Election of Officers – Nominations of Mayor Johnson to serve as Chair and Tom Gagen as Vice Chair of the Policy Board**
- b. Proposed bylaw changes to include additional Policy Board members –** New members to the Policy Boards are as follows: Supervisor Roberta MacGlashan, Chet Hewitt, Linda Budge, Bishop Carthens, and Council Member Rob Fong
- c. Term Renewals –** All terms were renewed with the exception of Susan DeMarois and Pastor Scot Sorensen, leaving a need for faith based positions. The Mayor is also working to recruit Claire Palmeroy of UC Davis Health Systems and David Lucchetti of Anderson Builders.
- d. Proposed time and day changes –** The Policy Board will now meet on the Second Thursday of the month between 3:00pm and 5:00pm starting September 10th. The Mayor has also requested that the Policy Board meet monthly through December.
- e. Retreat –** The Policy Board retreat will take place on the second Thursday of August. August 13, 2009 from 12:00pm to 5:00pm. Location TBD.

6. Update on Federal ARRA stimulus funding, particularly Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Proposal – Cindy Cavanaugh, SHRA, and Kathy Briem, DHA - 20 minutes

-HPRP is a funding source administered by HUD to aid the prevention and rapid re-housing of those facing homelessness due to the current recession. The City and County have joined funding sources in order to create a 4.7 million dollar funding source. MKS Consulting, DHA, and SHRA are leading the effort to form the HPRP RFP. In formulating the RFP, this planning team has taken every effort to align the HPRP goals with the coming HEARTH Act changes and the current goals of the 10 Year Plan. The planning groups met with 25 community groups, held 6 stakeholder meetings, 5 focus groups with clients, and met 1-on-1 with all local decision makers. The program is designed to be outcomes driven. A central intake assessment will be established through 211 and 2 or 3 agencies will act as the lead providers. The system includes legal aid and HMIS systems data and analysis. Other money from CDBG and private sources will leverage the total sum to nearly \$9 million. The money will be spent within a 2 year schedule rather than 3 with the hope that a successful program will reap the rewards of other failing programs at the end of the second year cycle. Sacramento's HMIS system will be tracked throughout the HPRP funding cycle with the hopes of using it as a national model. Challenges still come from a large need for administrative assistance to operate the HPRP programs. Significant challenges have been faced with the State HPRP funding. Three separate proposals must be sent on a tight deadline in addition to the State having opted to keep 4% of the 5% of administrative costs that are offered. Contracts must be made with the State by Sept. 30th with services beginning October 1. This is a rush, but the significant amount of money is worth the effort. With the sum of 9 million, an estimated 2,000 families will be served.

Bob Erlenbusch- We need to act fast to contact elected officials, notably Dave Jones, in order to streamline the process and access a greater share of the admin. dollars.

Chris Glaudel – Will discuss with DHA on ways to work with the State HCD in order to fast-track the State RFP process.

7. Street Management – Joan Burke, Loaves & Fishes/ John Kraitz, S.H.O.C., 15 minutes

-Tim Brown – The Policy Board voted to recommend to the City Council that they impose a temporary moratorium on enforcing the City's anti-camping ordinance until the fall.

-Joan Burke – Safe Ground (SG) is looking to establish safe and legal camping within either the City or County. With full shelters and nearly 1,200 unsheltered homeless on any given night, the anti-camping ordinance criminalizes homeless campers. Safe ground is working to get the City to legalize camping/emergency shelters to accommodate those with nowhere to go. Safe Ground is now self governing and abiding by self imposed no drug, alcohol, or weapons rules. Each member currently signs an agreement to abide by camp rules or risks being exiled from camp. SG seeks a location with suitable sanitation as there is a concern for the spread of Hep. C. and TB spreading through unsanitary camps. SG will ideally have a non-profit sponsor funded through private interests with the permission of government. Since July 1, tent city campers have moved 4 times and are now locating a 5th location. Pending Federal lawsuits with cities have shown that rousting campers without shelters is a violation of the 8th amendment and confiscating property of homeless people is a violation of the 4th amendment. A recent settlement was reached between the County and Loaves and Fishes allowing those homeless who have lost personal property due to confiscation to settle claims for as much as \$750.00. The attorney involved in the litigation is also donating \$100,000 of the legal fees to homeless services. For more information on Safe Ground visit www.safegroundsac.org.

-John Krintz – The key to Safe Ground is empowerment. The camp can be used as an outreach point and as the gateway to a path out of homelessness. Even the hardened criminal types are abiding by the self-governance structure of the camp. The empowerment offered by Safe Ground can go a long way to getting people back into housing.

-Cassandra Jennings – The Committee should consider whether this is a break with the ICEH's current policy of considering housing first.

-Tim Brown – Safe Ground should consider a location other than the central city. Transportation may be an easier obstacle to overcome than siting a legal camp in the central city.

8. Continuum of Care Update – Suzanne Hammer, DHA Homeless Programs - 15 minutes

-The Continuum of Care (CoC) will be worth 1.43 Billion nationally. The NOFA will be available August 24th for projects expiring in 2010. HUD plans will focus on funding programs related to prevention and serving the chronically homeless. Renewal applications will be awarded as fast as possible. New projects will be scored by spring of 2010. Ranking panel members are needed. The Samaritan Initiative will be replaced by the Supportive Housing Bonus but will supply roughly the same bonus as last year: \$629,000. DHA is also coordinating with the Neighborhood Stabilization Program to leverage extra HUD points for the NOFA. The CoC application will need planning specific to prevention. The ICEH may consider creating a Prevention Committee to satisfy this CoC score. Also, greater participation from the cities of Elk Grove, Rancho Cordova and Citrus Heights in committees and sub-committees is needed.

9. Director's Report – Tim Brown, ECHI Director - 20 minutes

- a. **Homeless Connect (Report attached)** – Thank you to all who helped with Homeless Connect 2009. Please contact staff for a full report of results. Homeless Connect 2010 is scheduled again at Sac City College for May 22, 2010.
- b. **Funding Update (Report attached)**
- c. **Faith and Homeless Families** – Currently, seven families have been housed with six mentor congregations. Council Member Rob Fong is in the process of starting a new non-profit to house Faith and Homeless Families. A consultant has been brought on to aid in the transition. With \$20,000 from SHRA and 6,000 from the Teichart Foundation, Nora Benavidez will begin part time within the next week and will run a sixth month transition in building FHF into an independent 501c3. Another set of mentor trainings will take place in August.
- d. **SSI Task Force** – Five people have been trained in the SOAR model. The committee will begin tracking cost benefit results as more people are accepted on SSI due to the SOAR training. LSS received its first SSI approval based on the SOAR model.
- e. **Data Committee** – The Data Committee will begin to ramp up again in order to collect information on ER cost analysis evaluations, HPRP's developing needs, and to put together the 2.5 year housing report.
- f. **Employment Committee (Homeless Employment Survey Report attached)** – The goal of the survey report was to break down barriers of the public's perception that the

homeless don't want to work. The first survey of 182 Homeless Connect attendees proves that 88% want to work and are interested in receiving education to help them attain better jobs. The report also details employment barriers and will be used to help recalibrate the goals of the 10 Year Plan to better address income issues.

- g. Staffing Changes at ECHI** – Susanna Curry will be going to UCLA to pursue an MPP/MSW. Goodbye and best wishes to Susanna. Transitioning into her place will be Paul Hicks.

10. PSH Production Update – Diane Luther, SHRA – 10 minutes

-Units are divided by those that are complete, under construction and in the pipeline. The Highlands project has been approved for stimulus funds and the Budget Inn project has been approved for development in August. (Keys to Hope 1) has been enhanced with 10 additional units that will be served by The Efforts T3 Program. (Keys to Hope 3) is a 1 year program that is not limited to the chronically homeless and is exciting because it offers housing to couples. The Effort has expanded service dollars from 50 T3 clients to 200 T3 clients.