



# Sacramento Ending Chronic Homelessness Initiative

909 12th Street, Suite 200 / Sacramento, California 95814  
916.447.7063 / [www.communitycouncil.org/homelessplan](http://www.communitycouncil.org/homelessplan)

## Interagency Council to End Homelessness Sacramento, California

### Meeting Minutes August 19, 2009 2:30-4:30 pm SETA, Board Chamber

Staff contact: 916-447-7063 x334 or [phicks@communitycouncil.org](mailto:phicks@communitycouncil.org)

#### Attendance:

**Council Members Present:** Alexis Bernard, Carolyn Brodt, Joan Burke, John Foley, Chris Glauzel, Verne Gore, Sandra Hamameh, Elizabeth Hudson, Bruce Jackson, Patty Kleinknecht, John Krintz, Sue Laliberte, Michael Lazar, Diane Luther, Patrick Mangan, Karen Maxwell, Maria Morfin, Tracie Rice-Bailey, Joshua Singer, Petra Stanton, Bruce Wagstaff

**Council Members Absent:** Michael Dunne, Ann Edwards-Buckley, Beth Hassett, Cassandra Jennings, Ryan Loofbourrow, Trisha Stanionis, Tamie Sullivan

**Staff:** Tim Brown, Merrill Lavezzo, Julia Acuna, Kathy Briem, Suzanne Hammer,

**Guests:** Mike Brim, Eric Brenmark, MaryLiz Paulson, Bob Erlenbusch, Sharmicka Bagley, Ed Johnson, Mercy Bracamonte, Alan Lange, Vasile Tepei, Tobin Moore, Marty Keale, Bina Lefkowitz, Francis Freitas, Antonio Watkins, M.L "Andy" Anderson, Tim Taylor, Devon Good, Barbara Nolan, Shelley Lewis, Jon Adler, Michael Sale, Steve McElroy, Mike Rogers, Ellyne Bell

#### ACTION Items:

-The minutes from the July meeting were approved.

#### Minutes:

##### 1. Welcome and Introductions

##### 2. **ACTION:** Adopt July Minutes

-Motion to approve the July minutes, motion granted and seconded. Approved, all in favor with one abstention.

##### 3. **Policy Board Retreat, Tim Brown, ECHI, 15 minutes**

-Tim Brown reported that the Policy Board has been reconstituted with added members. An attached report details the minutes taken at the Planning Retreat and details the list of the new Policy Board members. At the retreat the members agreed upon broad goals and began recalibrating the 10 Year Plan. With more families becoming homeless and with more federal funding becoming available to help these families (HPRP funds), the Policy Board will focus on adopting policy that acts upon a broader definition of homelessness than previously used in the 10 Year Plan. The Policy Board will now meet monthly at the Mayor's request and will focus on achieving new and broader housing goals.

-Chris Glauzel – Mayor Johnson wants to make this an important issue and wishes to use this opportunity to use a regional approach to ending homelessness. The more important issue is

that the Policy Board is looking beyond chronic homelessness and is seeking to address all homelessness.

-Tim Brown – Several new subcommittees will be created by the Policy Board. Fred Teichert will Chair the Fund Raising Committee that will seek to raise funds to match TANF dollars for the HPRP plan. Michele Steeb will Chair the Public Relations Committee and has recruited a PR firm to assist with pro-bono communications and marketing strategy. We will work to coordinate the Fundraising committee with the ICEH Grants Collaborative Committee.

-Chris Glaudel – The Policy Board is making a substantial commitment to getting more involved in direct committee work. There was a great deal of discussion about program accountability and evaluation. Traditionally the ICEH has made recommendations to the Policy Board. The new Policy Board will now also be making recommendations to the ICEH.

**4. Update on Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Proposal – Cindy Cavanaugh, SHRA, and Kathy Briem, DHA - 10 minutes**

-Kathy Briem – DHA and SHRA are working very hard to capture additional funding. The RFP's have been completed and we have selected service providers. 211 Sacramento will serve as the initial contact point for screening. Salvation Army, Lutheran Social Services, and Volunteers of America will serve three geographic areas of the County. Legal Services of Northern California will serve client's legal needs and TLCS will work towards housing stabilization for mental health clients. The data consultant services contract was awarded to MKS consulting. We think the state will award the funds during the third week of September. HUD has released 400 pages of new data requirements that will require a significant overhaul of the HMIS system. Weekly planning meetings have begun for the implementation of HPRP and a roster of the oversight board is being finalized. HMIS will need to collect much greater details and will do so electronically. HMIS is developed as tool to be used "live" in creating a decision making tree to determine a clients eligibility.

**5. County Budget Update – Bruce Wagstaff, DHA and Ann Edwards Buckley DHHS, DBH, 20 minutes**

-Bruce Wagstaff – All departments are working to address a \$50 million County deficit. Social services were severely impacted by the State budget cuts but it is still unknown how these State cuts will affect CALWorks and Medical programs. The County budget hearings will be held on September 10, 2009. There will be a budget workshop on Sept. 2. A budget meeting will be held to discuss potential impacts of cuts to DBH and the Mental Health Treatment Center on August 26<sup>th</sup>. The budget should be released about 10 days prior to the budget hearing. Large cuts are expected to GA grants and GA staff.

-Patrick Mangan – The whole Dept. cuts are near 17 million to Mental Health with \$10 million in cuts to managed care and \$2 million in realignment cuts. The MH Treatment Center will lose 50 beds and the crisis unit.

-Francis Freitas – The National Alliance to End Homelessness just released a research paper detailing the outcomes of AB2034 where Sacramento was highlighted for its MHSAs housing success and the power of its partnerships where highlighted.

**6. Street Management – Tim Brown, ECHI - 15 minutes**

The Mayor's Task Force is currently looking at Tent City issues and is including the feedback of local businesses, neighborhood organizations and homeless advocates. The Task Force is looking at the best practices of other cities with safe ground areas. The Task Force proposal would outline details for a camp called "Stepping Stone." The initial camp would have 60 residents in dome housing. The roll out of the plan will take place between now and March. A location has not yet been determined. It is unclear whether City or County money will be involved in the project. Large security costs are associated with the plan. The Mayor spent an evening with the campers of Safe Ground and felt moved by the experience and would look at Stepping Stone as a place within the Continuum of Care as one strategy to move clients from transitional to permanent housing.

**7. VASH Vouchers – Tracy Casio and MaryLiz Paulson, Sacramento Housing Authority, 10 minutes**

-MaryLiz Paulson – The Veteran's Affairs Office has received 70 vouchers for veterans that will be issued through the VA office in partnership with the Housing Authority. Sacramento is designing its own process for distribution of the vouchers that will not include a waiting list. Veterans that are eligible must be willing to work with a case manager and must not make over the maximum income allowed by HUD. No sobriety is required to get in the program. VA has been asked to target chronic homeless, female veterans, and recently returned veterans, as well as veterans with families. There is no disability requirement to receive a VASH voucher. A case manager will assist families with housing placement and as veterans become independent they can roll on to another voucher program.

**8. Continuum of Care Update – Suzanne Hammer, DHA Homeless Programs - 5 minutes**

-Suzanne Hammer – DHA is still waiting for the HUD NOFA. DHA is looking to update some of the scoring criteria in order to gain more leverage for housing activities rather than supportive services. We will have more updates next month.

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

- a. **Funding Update (Report attached)** – There are no new grant request updates. On the downside, we learned that Rep. Matsui could not get the appropriations needed to fund SSHH's case management. SHRA is trying to come up with funding for these services matched to the Keys to Hope Housing.
- b. **Faith and Homeless Families** – We have had another mentor training session and 7 families have been housed. We received \$20,000 in funding for the program from SHRA and we are working to ramp up the recruitment of more mentors. Council Member Rob Fong is organizing a golf tournament fundraiser on September 28<sup>th</sup> and Verizon is committed to being a sponsor
- c. **Criminal Justice Committee** – The committee is focusing on the County's reentry and discharge policy and is collecting information from the jails about homeless people in the jail system. Federal money will be available for homeless inmates from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Chance Act.
- d. **SSI Task Force** – Capital Community Health Network is taking the lead in training case managers under the SOAR model. So far 6 people have been trained equating to 3.5 FTE's using the SOAR model. In just under a year we have 80 applications in the works with a 73% approval rating. We are looking at the Santa Cruz model that is less labor intensive and has a higher approval rating. We have had a lot of cooperation from the head of the Social Security office who helps make on the spot changes and follow through. Another SOAR training is coming up in Oakland. We have learned that although SSI doesn't want to classify a chronic alcoholic as disabled this is not a 100% barrier to approval.
- e. **Employment Committee (Homeless Employment Survey Report attached)** – Please review the recommendations from the Homeless Connect Employment report. With this boards consent we will make the recommendations an action item for next month's meeting. The action will be to approve the 10 recommendations of the Employment Report. The paradigm of HUD is changing with more focus on employment.  
-Petra Stanton – More money is being made available for job training. I would be good to get an update from SETA on what new opportunities we can position ourselves for.

**10. PSH Production and Tax Increment Take Update – Diane Luther, SHRA – 10 minutes**

-Diane Luther – Blvd. Court will provide 14 shelter plus care units. We are looking for final commitments on units through leasing in the Folsom Oaks development. Keys to Hope 1 is fully operational. Keys to Hope 2 is waiting on the coordination of mental health dollars for the project. Keys to Hope 3 is full with former "tent city" residents. The bad news is that the legislation is proposing to take \$2 billion from state redevelopment agencies. These funds can only be taken from non-housing funds but this will mean that agencies will need to pay for the non-housing cuts with housing money. All SHRA projects in the pipeline are on hold, including the Berry Hotel and

7<sup>th</sup> and H. CRA will file suit against the state but is still preparing to make cuts. The Hotel Berry project is hoping to utilize tax credits to move forward.

**11. Capitol Region Children's Compact – Bina Lefkovitz, YDN, 5 minutes**

-Nick Rojas – The Emerge Coalition has developed the compact as a document to support children and youth through five promises to better prepare youth for life. We have come to ask this board for your endorsement of the compact. This is a regional plan to help youth reach their goals through urging the community to create more opportunities for youth. The compact will be placed on the September agenda as an action item for the approved support of ICEH.