



**Interagency Council to End Homelessness
Sacramento, California**

**Meeting Minutes
October 21, 2009
2:30-4:30 pm
SETA, Board Chamber**

Staff contact: 916-447-7063 x334 or phicks@communitycouncil.org

Attendance:

Council Members Present: Alexis Bernard, Loren Pimm (for Carolyn Brodt), Joan Burke, Ann Edwards-Buckley, John Foley, Verne Gore, Sandra Hamameh, Elizabeth Hudson, Derrick Lim (for Cassandra Jennings), Patty Kleinknecht, John Krintz, Sue Laliberte, Michael Lazar, Ryan Loofbourrow, Diane Luther, Patrick Mangan, Karen Maxwell, Walter Wyniarczuk (for Maria Morfin), Tracie Rice-Bailey, Joshua Singer, Bruce Wagstaff

Council Members Absent: Chris Glauzel, Beth Hassett, Pam Herman, Bruce Jackson, Trisha Stanionis, Petra Stanton

Staff: Tim Brown, Paul Hicks, Lelina Beru, Merrill Lavezzo, Kathy Briem, Suzanne Hammer, Toni Moore

Guests: Bob Erlenbusch, Marty Keale, Rosario Ramirez, Esther Salazar, Jodi Nevell, Rueben Sanchez, Cindy Cavanaugh, David Husid, Carmen Bray, James Matarelli, Anne Moore, Andie Corso, Robert Tobin, Patricia Gainer

ACTION Items:

-The minutes from the September meeting were approved

Minutes:

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Policy Board Follow Up, Mayor Kevin Johnson

- a. Mayor Kevin Johnson – Thank you for the opportunity to address the Interagency Council. There are significant challenges before us and we need to work together collectively in a solution oriented effort. We are looking at establishing a set of bold housing goals over the next three years. Based on the Policy Board's August retreat we have developed five key goals for the following three years: Permanent Housing, Services, Funding, Advocacy, and Accountability. In addition, we have short term goals to establish a winter shelter and to research the implementation of Stepping Stone. We are very close to making an announcement regarding a winter shelter solution. We would like to focus on building a strong relationship with the Interagency Council with the focus of creating policy that is realistic and implementable by the ICEH. Currently we are

preparing for the launch of Sacramento Steps Forward, an effort by the Policy Board to re-energize the community will behind the effort of ending homelessness. The launch seeks to emphasize a regional approach, permanent housing as the answer, developing accountability, seeking sustainable efforts, and empowering clients and consumers. We want to make Sacramento a model of how to address homelessness. The Launch will take place on November 5th and we are hoping over 50 agencies will endorse the cause and that an additional 500 individuals will attend the launch in support. Michele Steeb has been working with Scott Crocker to create a brand name that captures the energy of a community and will aim to galvanize its resources. We are looking to expand the definition of homelessness per HUD's upcoming guidelines. We will include women and families. The eyes of the media and of Washington DC are upon Sacramento and we hope we can show that we are a model for how to end homelessness.

3. ACTION: Adopt August Minutes

-Motion to approve the September minutes by Alexis Bernard, motion seconded by Sue Laliberte. Approved, all in favor.

4. Policy Board Follow Up, Tim Brown

- a. **3 Year Goals** – Our goal is to establish 400 units of PSH and prevent or rapidly re-house 2,000 in the next three years. This is a total three year goal of housing 2,400 individuals or families. We will match funds by drawing nearly 1.6 million in TANF-ECF funds.
- b. **Media Launch – See Above**
- c. **Fundraising Committee**-Fred Teichert – The Sacramento Regional Foundation is working to create an opportunity for private funders to match the TANF funds. The SRF has agreed to raise \$400,000 for the effort. The goal is to generate new money and not to take donors away from the projects that they currently donate too. The first fund raiser will be held on November 18th at the L Street Lofts.
- d. **Ad Hoc Committee – Winter Shelter** – Michele Steeb – With less money we are looking for 24/7 solutions. We are also looking for customized solutions for each population group including, singles, women, men, couples, families, etc. Motel vouchers will be used for couples and elderly. We are looking to create more beds than in the past and at 2/3's of the cost by November 10, 2009.
- e. **Ad Hoc Committee – Stepping Stone** – Michele Steeb – We are looking at the viability of a secure camp as an interim solution for those without housing. Our approach will be like a transitional housing program as we will be seeking to house people for up to 18 months as a step to permanent housing.

4. HPRP Implementation – Cindy Cavanaugh, SHRA

-Cindy Cavanaugh – We officially launched HPRP on October 1, 2009. The program offers one time funding for 18 months of assistance. We have currently assessed 73 individuals and families in shelters: 40 assessments were for individuals and 33 were for families. In the first month we have seen that 62% of the applicants are eligible for the program. The HMIS assessment tool takes about an hour and a half interview to determine eligibility. All providers are involved in a weekly four hour trouble shooting meeting. We still hope to spend down all of our resources in 2 years in order to be eligible for money from those counties who have not spent their funds. One of the greatest challenges has been revamping the HMIS system. We hope to assess prevention candidates in November and are currently only taking prevention referrals from Legal Services of Northern California. All current shelter guests have been assessed. The assessment tool, once perfected, will be a great tool for assessing PSH needs in the future.

5. County Budget Update – Bruce Wagstaff, DHA

-Bruce Wagstaff – SHRA has agreed to fund the Mather campus throughout the rest of the year with one time Tax Increment funds. DHA is currently assembling a team to look at options for the sustainability of the Mather campus. All signs currently indicate that next year's budget cuts could be even worse and is hard to imagine where we could cut next. The Board has given an extension to the Senior Nutrition program for one year. We are looking at alternatives for how we

will keep the program running. In February, we will have a midyear budget assessment that may show the further impacts of State cuts.

-Ann Edwards-Buckley – Mental Health has lost 50 beds at the treatment center and has also lost the Crisis Stabilization unit. We are working with Hospitals and ERs to assist with the influx of mental health patients. Cuts to clinics continue as well as to CIMSP dollars. The Del Paso and South City clinics have both been reduced to one day a week. DHHS is expecting more cuts in December.

6. Continuum of Care Update – Suzanne Hammer, DHA Homeless Programs

-Suzanne Hammer – The Continuum of Care application will be submitted to the Policy Board for their approval on October 24th with room for appeals on November 4th. The CoC Committee is currently reviewing HUD's five mandated goals. We are working on a very short timeline this year. All but three project applicants are renewals.

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

- a. **Faith and Homeless Families** – FHF has just housed its tenth family. A large church recruitment event is scheduled for November 18th from 10am to 12pm. The goal is to recruit 30 new congregation mentor groups by the end of the year.
- b. **Re-Entry Task Force Committee** – The committee will present to the County Criminal Justice Cabinet on November 12th regarding a plan to position the County for Second Chance Act Funding.
- c. **VASH Vouchers** – 142 people have been identified as eligible for the VASH Vouchers. Two case workers have been hired by the VA, and the final 70 recipients will be identified within the month.

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

-Diane Luther – Our count of leased units will include the 70 VASH Vouchers. The Development Report includes units that are "available to homeless." The 7th and H development, after reevaluating the impacts of the State budget, will utilize 25% project based vouchers. Hotel Berry has 32 of 104 units available to homeless. By January 1, 2010, we will have broken ground on four new PSH projects.