



# CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING MINUTES

*The Contra Costa Council on Homelessness provides a forum for communication and coordination about the implementation of the County's Strategic Plan to prevent and end homelessness, and for orchestrating a vision on ending homelessness in the County, educating the community on homeless issues, and advocating on federal, state, and local policy issues affecting people who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness. The Council provides advice and input on the operations of homeless services, program operations, and program development efforts in Contra Costa County. Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Council.*

**Date, Time:** Thursday, April 7, 2016, 2:00 – 3:30pm

**Location:** ZA Room, 30 Muir Road, Martinez, CA

**Attendance (Council Members):** Diane Aguinaga, Louise Bourassa, Kevin Corrigan, Teri House (Chair), Brenda Kain, Gary Kingsbury, Gabriel Lemus, Dan Sawislak, Joseph Villarreal

**Absent:** Tracy Cascio, Doug Leich, Janet Kennedy, Valerie Sloven

**Public Attendance:** Dominic Aliano, Chrystal Ellis, Jim Etherington, Tom Gilbert, Leslie Gleason, Rehana Parsons, Linae Young, Rhonda James, Jimmy Joon, Juliana Poole, Lauren Rettagliata, Doug Stewart

**Staff:** Jennifer Baha, Rachel Birch, Lavonna Martin, Jaime Jenett

**Facilitators:** Emily Salvaterra, Amanda Stempson

## 1. Welcome and Introductions

- Call to order by Teri House, Chair

## 2. ESG Funding Overview (Action Items)

- Gabriel Lemus provided an update and overview of the federal and state Emergency Solutions Grant program and outlined a proposed process to rank and review applications for state ESG funds
- The Council received an update on the following items: 1) FY2016-17 County ESG funding recommendations and 2) approval of Department of Conservation and Development (DCD) as Administrative Entity for Contra Costa County CoC Service Area for state ESG
  - HCD redesigned the state ESG Program; starting in 2016, funds will be distributed through 1) a CoC allocation to service areas that receive ESG funds directly from HUD (including Contra Costa) and 2) Balance of State Allocation for service areas that do not receive ESG funds directly from HUD
    - Contra Costa County receives state ESG entitlement funds through a two-year funding cycle; 40% of funding must be applied to rapid rehousing/prevention activities and no more than 60% is applied to street outreach



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- For County ESG funds, a minimum of 40% must be allocated to rapid rehousing and the remaining 60% may be allocated to other program categories
- The DCD proposed process for the review and ranking of applications for State ESG Funds would include:
  - Establishing a Council of Homelessness sub-committee of three to five members to review and rank applications (members cannot include current funds applicants)
  - The sub-committee will include one standing member: the current Council ESG representative
  - The sub-committee will rank and review applications and submit recommendations to the full Council for decision-making
  - The Council will submit recommendations to County Family and Human Services Committee (FHSC) for approval
  - The Council will finally submit recommendations to the Board of Supervisors for approval.
    - The intent of the proposed process is to promote consistency across CDBG, state ESG, and county ESG application review practices
    - FHSC reviews matters via referral and the proposed step to submit for FHSC approval is not a requirement for the allocation of state ESG funds and would serve local purposes only (for the smaller County ESG funds of approximately \$249,000, which align with CDBG funded service-oriented activities including shelter operations, street outreach, rapid rehousing and prevention, applications are submitted to FHSC)
- For FY 2016-17, \$500,000 is available for allocation in State ESG funding (approximately \$250,000 includes undistributed FY 2015-16 funds)
  - HCD has set an aggressive time frame of July 2016 to review, rank and select awardees, which DCD would accomplish via an abbreviated RFP process, culminating in a contract with state in October 2016
  - The Council can use this opportunity to identify community priorities, and ensure that they are reflected in the scoring tool and funding decisions for the next RFP and funding cycle; potentially convene community stakeholder meetings to identify priorities



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- HCD sent a Solicitation of Interest to DCD to serve as the Administrative Entity (AE) for Contra Costa CoC service area
- Motion: Approve FY 2016-17 ESG Funding Recommendations
  - Statement of Motion: We move to approve the FY 2016-17 ESG Funding Recommendations
  - Procedural Record:
    - Motion made by Louise Bourassa
    - Seconded by Joseph Villarreal
    - AYES: Diane Aguinaga, Louise Bourassa, Kevin Corrigan, Teri House (Chair), Brenda Kain, Gary Kingsbury, Gabriel Lemus, Dan Sawislak, Joseph Villarreal
    - NOES: Zero
    - ABSTAINS: Zero
    - ABSENTS: Tracy Cascio, Doug Leich, Janet Kennedy, Valerie Sloven
- Motion: Approve DCD as Administrative Entity for State ESG Funds
  - Statement of Motion:
    - We move to approve DCD as Administrative Entity for State ESG Funds.
  - Procedural Record:
    - Motion made by Brenda Kain
    - Seconded by Joseph Villarreal
    - AYES: Diane Aguinaga, Louise Bourassa, Kevin Corrigan, Teri House (Chair), Brenda Kain, Gary Kingsbury, Gabriel Lemus, Dan Sawislak, Joseph Villarreal
    - NOES: Zero
    - ABSTAINS: Zero
    - ABSENTS: Tracy Cascio, Doug Leich, Janet Kennedy, Valerie Sloven
- Motion: Approve Department of Conservation and Development proposed process to review applications
  - Statement of Motion: We move to approve this Department of Conservation and Development as Administrative Entity for State ESG Funds proposed process to review applications
  - Procedural Record:
    - Motion made by Brenda Kain
    - Seconded by Joseph Villarreal



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- AYES: Diane Aguinaga, Louise Bourassa, Kevin Corrigan, Teri House (Chair), Brenda Kain, Gary Kingsbury, Gabriel Lemus, Dan Sawislak, Joseph Villarreal
  - NOES: Zero
  - ABSTAINS: Zero
  - ABSENTS: Tracy Cascio, Doug Leich, Janet Kennedy, Valerie Sloven
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- The Council identified the following Council members to serve on this year's ESG Review and Rank Sub-Committee:
    - Gabriel Lemus (standing member as ESG representative)
    - Brenda Kain
    - Joseph Villarreal
    - Kevin Corrigan
    - Teri House

### **3. Outreach and Multiservice Center Update**

- Lavonna Martin, Chief of Homeless Services, provided an update on the current state of outreach and multi-service center services in Contra Costa CoC
  - Contra Costa Homeless Outreach will be discontinuing operations at the end of June
  - Anka may cease operations of their day-time outreach team after July 1 due to lack of funding. In addition, Anka closed the Antioch multi-service center due to community pressure, leaving no multi-service centers in East County and has indicated that they will reduce operations to two days a week after July 1 due to financial constraints.

### **4. Health Care for the Homeless Update**

- Linae Young, Health Care for the Homeless (HCH), provided an update on program developments, including a summary of grant approval for medication assisted treatment program
  - Starting in July, HCH will partner with Behavioral Health and ambulatory clinics to run a 40 hour medical management clinic in West County, Antioch and Concord
  - The program will provide outpatient services for opiate dependency including: Suboxone medication assisted treatment, case management, and individual/group therapy, and linkage to primary care; the program will be staffed by four nurses and four LCSWs and estimated capacity is



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400+ patients; the goal is to bring the program to homeless shelters and program marketing is planned

- HCH distributes Narcan opiate overdose reversal kits and performs HIV rapid testing in mobile and ambulatory clinics

### 5. Zero: 2016 Update

- Jennifer Baha, Zero: 2016 Coordinator, gave an update on progress toward goals.
  - Close to meeting veteran goal
  - Ongoing initiatives include:
    - Development of Veterans by Name Report and Chronic Homeless List
    - Presentations to congregations in partnership with Multi-Faith ACTION Coalition
    - Post card recruiting owners of rental properties with 2+ units to consider renting to homeless individuals is under development.
    - A regional Action Camp focused on chronically homeless, and is scheduled for May 24 and 25, 2016
    - Teri House informed the Council that Antioch has funded 85 affordable housing units for seniors and vets, which is expected to be running in August.

### 6. Committee Updates

- Jaime Jenett, CoC Planning and Policy Manager, provided updates on coordinated entry, and HMIS Policy Committees.
  - There will be 4 Coordinated Entry workshop “sprints” to finalize design of the Coordinated Entry system. Workshops will focus on 1) prevention and diversion, 2) crisis services 3) permanent housing and supports and the final system design will be unveiled at the last workshop
  - The process to transition from ServicePoint to Clarity HMIS software is underway with an estimated switch date of early October.
  - STAND! is now participating in HMIS
  - The Performance Measures Committee update was tabled.

### 7. Advocacy Priorities and Council Policy

- Amanda Stempson, HomeBase, provided a brief overview of Council’s role and permissible activities relating to advocacy; further discussion was tabled



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### 8. Policy and Advocacy Opportunities (Action Item)

- Amanda Stempson, provided an update on the Concord Naval Weapons Station Redevelopment Project
  - Leslie Gleason, Shelter, Inc., represented the Homeless Collaborative by providing public comment at City Hall on April 5
  - Public comments are continued to April 13<sup>th</sup> (6:30pm) at Concord City Hall Chambers
  - For Master Developer selection, the Collaborative is advocating that the City re-open negotiations with Lennar (Option 2)
- Discussion of Junior Accessory Dwelling Units, H.R. 3700, and criminalization of homelessness tabled.

### 9. Nuts and Bolts

- HUD Secretary is visiting the Oakland Housing Authority, and is meeting with Representative Barbara Lee; it is anticipated that the adjusted Fair Market Rents for Alameda and Contra Costa Counties will be discussed with the HUD Regional Director

### 10. Pin It

- April 15, 2016 (10 am-12 pm) CoC meeting: panel on criminalization and alternatives
- April 22, 2016 (10am-12pm) ECHO Housing will host Fair Housing Training in Concord (Council chambers)