



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: Monday, August 27, 2018, 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Location: Department of Probation, 2nd Floor, 50 Douglas Drive, Martinez, CA 94553

Council Member Attendance:

Present: Candace Collier, John Eckstrom, Gabriel Lemus, Deanne Pearn, Miguel Hidalgo-Barnes, Teri House, Doug Leich, Patrice Guillory, Alejandra Chamberlain, John Barclay, Manjit Sappal, Cecelia McCloy, Joseph Villarreal

Absent: Carolyn Foudy, Tracy Pullar, Dan Sawislak, Bradley Lindbloom

Staff Attendance: Lavonna Martin, Jaime Jenett, Natalie Siva, Contra Costa Health Services (H3); Erica McWhorter, Emily Firgens, HomeBase

Public Attendance: Claude Battaglia, Donte Blue, Paula Bonnell, Alexandra Breuster, Caroline Chiara, Donna Colombo, John Coombs, Sara Cortet, Megan Crain, June Cumming, Kyle Dunson, Karen Erickson, Carmen Francois, Erica Givens, Joy Hedgepath, Mayo Lunt, Pam McGrath, Carrie Nash, Kevin Penn, Koy Phan, Jenny Quijada, Jill Ray, Stephanie Stovall, Matt Summers, Tom Tamura, John Warden

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Call to order by Doug Leich

2. Approve Minutes (Action Item)

- Motion
- State of Motion:
 - We move to adopt the minutes from the August 2, 2018 Council on Homelessness Meeting.
- *Discussion*
 - *The Council moved to approve.*
- *Procedural Record:*
 - *Motion made by: Cecelia McCloy*
 - *Seconded by: John Barclay*



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- *AYES:* Candace Collier, Gabriel Lemus, Deanne Pearn, Miguel Hidalgo-Barnes, Teri House, Doug Leich, Patrice Guillory, Alejandra Chamberlain, John Barclay, Manjit Sappal, Cecelia McCloy
- *NOES:* None.
- *ABSTAINS:* Joseph Villarreal.
- *ABSENT:* John Eckstrom, Carolyn Foudy, Tracy Pullar, Dan Sawislak, Bradley Lindblom
- *MOTION APPROVED*

3. California Emergency Solutions and Housing (CESH) Program (Action Item)

- Presentation from Lavonna Martin, H3, and Gabriel Lemus, DCD and Council member.
- CESH is a new funding stream from the state that includes state ESG funds.
 - Contra Costa County qualifies for about \$855,000
 - The CESH program has broader eligibility than just ESG.
- In order to apply, the CoC needs to designate the Administrative Entity (AE) who will receive and manage the funds. DCD is the AE for ESG but asked that H3 take on the role of AE for the CESH program.
 - The first round of funding will be this fall and the second round will be in 2019. We anticipate Contra Costa can apply for both.
- Motion
- State of Motion:
 - We move to approve H3 as the designated AE for the CESH program.
- *Discussion*
 - John B.: How big is the pot of money vs. the County's allocation?
 - The state is providing \$53 million total in Round 1 and Contra Costa is eligible for \$855,000 in Round 1.
 - Miguel: So, the process is different? The State will give the money to H3 and then it will be RFP'd out?
 - The CoC and Council will play a role in determining how these funds will be used because, for example, only 40% of funds can be used for emergency shelter. The state just wants estimates for how much money will be spent on each activity and then they have 12 months to get under contract. Funds have to be expended in 5 years.
 - Alejandra: What other pots of money are coming down?
 - There is the Homeless Mentally Ill Outreach Team (HMIOT) that is bringing in about \$745,000; the Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP), which is bringing in approximately \$7.2 million; California Emergency Solutions and Housing program that is \$855,000 for the county; and No Place Like Home, which is just the noncompetitive funding right now and about \$2.185 million.



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- It's important to remember that this is one-time funding and not something that we can rely on every single year. We need to be thoughtful about how we use these funds.
- Public question: I've used ESG before, what is the shelf-life on the rental assistance?
 - All dollars have to be spent within 5 years. Any community can spend all dollars in year one but just have to use them within 5 years.
- Doug: Will there be one proposal from this CoC?
 - This requires we submit an application, a budget of how we propose to spend the dollars. We do submit a homeless plan.
- Doug: If people have ideas on how to use the money, who should they contact?
 - We will have a process. Once we have the money, we will RFP this out. We have to tell the state what activities the money will be used for, but there is some wiggle room.
- *Procedural Record:*
 - *Motion made by:* Teri House
 - *Seconded by:* John Eckstrom
 - *AYES:* Joseph Villarreal, John Eckstrom, Candace Collier, Gabriel Lemus, Deanne Pearn, Miguel Hidalgo-Barnes, Teri House, Doug Leich, Patrice Guillory, Alejandra Chamberlain, John Barclay, Manjit Sappal, Cecelia McCloy
 - *NOES:* None.
 - *ABSTAINS:*
 - *ABSENT:* Carolyn Foudy, Tracy Pullar, Dan Sawislak, Bradley Lindblom
 - *MOTION APPROVED*

4. Committee Updates

- Presentation by Jaime Jenett, H3
- Council Liaisons
 - Reminder about signing up for council committee liaison roles.
 - Would like to have at least one council member per committee
 - Meet with different levels of frequency
 - Need to add the Ad Hoc Subpopulations & Ad Hoc Funding Committee to the chart.
 - Ceil: What's the definition for Consumer Advisory Committee?
 - Jaime: had an initial meeting but would love to have some strategic thinking around how to use this group better.
 - Lavonna: There's an opportunity to fold the YAC into the Consumer Advisory Committee.



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- Erica: Another consideration is that with YHDP funding, HUD is looking to have YAC more involved in Council decision making.
- Jaime: Maybe the Council wants to think about creating a youth seat?
- Alejandra: Can you email us a list of committees that are missing members?
 - Yes, HomeBase will follow-up with this.
- Candace: Will folding YAC into the Consumer Advisory Committee be discussed today or later?
 - Jaime: Will table this topic for merging
- Any Council members know they want to join a committee?
 - John E. Would like to be on Performance Measures Committee.
- Teri House: Would like to be taken off of the CE Policies & Procedures and join the Subpopulations Committee.
- Alejandra: Can you please send around an updated list of Committees, descriptions, frequency of meetings.
 - We'll get you this info.
 - Also, the option of providing it as a survey.

5. Homeless Mentally Ill Outreach and Treatment (HMIOT)

- Overview
 - Due 9/25 but just need to submit letter of interest & Board Resolution
 - H3 along with Behavioral Health & Healthcare for the Homeless are working on how best to utilize and drawdown funds.
 - Already submitted a request to the BoS; 9/11 is when BoS will take up resolution.
 - Letter of interest is signed by Health Services Director
 - HMIOT will only support those who are homeless or at-risk and severely mentally ill.
 - Working very closely with County Behavioral Health to determine how best to utilize these dollars.
 - Identify those who might not be coming in.
 - What does mobile treatment setting look like?
 - Other thinking is that we have developed a whole CES.
 - Do know from CES evaluation is that we see far more individuals coming into CARE centers who are Severely Mentally Ill; need to bring supports to them.
 - How do we screen & identify across system of care? Have different screening tools, don't talk well with each other. How do



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we on the front end develop and create a screening tool that helps us do that.

- Opportunities to layer funds with other state dollars (HEAP, NPLH)
 - Miguel: Is this an action item?
 - Lavonna: Nope
 - Ceil: Is IT something you could invest in?
 - Lavonna: Yes, and good thing is that we were a WPC and we could share some information and build IT for this.
 - i. Real life work of how we take this information and build it.
 - ii. Look at mobile teams and what they're doing; what supports are needed.
 - iii. Lot of ideas being thrown out there and see how far we can stretch these dollars.
 - Gabriel: Is there a supplant provision?
 - Lavonna: Cannot pull out money that is already being spent but can enhance
 - i. Funding is one-time but need to be strategic about how we're using these funds.
 - Teri: Is H3 the submitting agency?
 - CCHS is the one on this. 3 entities working on this.

6. CoC Program Competition 2018 Priority Listing (Action Item)

- Presentation by Erica McWhorter, HomeBase and Review and Rank Panel
- EM: we've talked a lot about the HUD CoC Program funding.
 - Been working up to this process over the past few months.
 - Review & Rank process
 - Tier 1 -- safe; Tier 2 -- may or may not be funded by HUD
 - Joseph: Is the \$15M already in HUD's budget?
 - Erica: This is money that is guaranteed for next year. HUD has the money available for use
 - Review & Rank (R&R)
 - Group of non-conflicted board members met on 8/16
 - Looked at data, narrative responses, and conducted interviews to make determinations.
 - Priority Listing
 - Every single project didn't have to go through R&R; some of the projects aren't functional yet then they are safe.
 - Bonus Projects
 - CCHS -- CE Expansion project (\$496,531)
 - CCIH -- FISH Expansion (\$285,647)
 - SHELTER Inc, -- Reach Plus RRH (\$71,888) agreed to submit for a lower amount.



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- SHELTER Inc. & STAND! partnering on the Esperanza RRH (\$399,840) for DV funds
- Motion
- State of Motion:
 - We move to approve the 2018 CoC Competition Priority Listing for Contra Costa.
- *Discussion*
 - Jaime: For Tier 2 those all go out to a national competition. But as a CoC we have a strong community and typically do well in Tier 2
 - R&R: panelists for 2018 were Teri, John B., Doug, Candace, and Tracy
 - Teri: If you have not had the chance to serve on R&R process it's interesting because it's unlike most processes. It gives you an opportunity to learn a lot about our system.
 - Patrice: Only received 23 applications?
 - Jaime: Big lift to apply for funding and federal funding is challenging. Would like to see more.
 - Teri: Kudos to the project tools.
 - Doug: Would like to say that we were really impressed with the overall quality of all these projects. Before day-long discussion of the projects, there was a week and a half of looking at the applications and entering in scores.
 - Joseph: Final four are all new. Is part of it that they're all bonuses and would compete better?
 - Doug: I believe they all entered as Bonus.
 - Teri: Strategy of doing new ones at the bottom of Tier 2 by keeping your ongoing projects safe. Had discussions of risk, safety and how it might increase or decrease the score.
 - Joseph: So, is part of it how many people get housed?
 - Teri: Thought process is that if a large project straddles the line, they fund all of it. Felt it was a no-risk scenario
 - Very likely that given that size of the grant in relation to others, it will likely straddle that line because we are fairly confident we will get that entire amount.
 - Erica: This year and in some past years, Contra Costa has not been reallocating funds. Contra Costa hasn't reallocated at least 20% as HUD rewards because we have high performing projects and priorities of community.
 - Patrice: Has this been a consideration of HUD, the fact that we have so many higher performing projects?
 - Erica: No indication from HUD. Threshold so high because Contra Costa was not lagging behind in meeting HUD standards. More a reflection of HUD trying to raise the bar for everyone. Looking to see how you are evaluating. These funding opportunities are



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about looking at how you're moving forward and what you're being graded on.

- John E: For Tier 1 -- do we tell HUD what our rankings are?
 - Erica: Yes, the first thing they do with it tells them where bonus projects are ranked. They're thinking about your ranking within your community.
- John E.: It's a national competition, are those in different categories? (For Tier 2.) Are they ranked separately so DV bonus competing against other DV, Expansion vs other Expansions?
 - Erica: Not exactly. For DV, it matters what type of project it is. They will be ranked with like project types (by service model). So DV bonus will fit into that only if it doesn't already go into DV national competition.
 - Patrice: So, it's competing either way.
 - Erica: Yes
- *Procedural Record:*
 - *Motion made by: Ceil McCloy*
 - *Seconded by: Teri House*
 - *AYES: Candace Collier, Gabriel Lemus, Miguel Hidalgo-Barnes, Teri House, Doug Leich, Patrice Guillory, Alejandra Chamberlain, John Barclay, Manjit Sappal, Cecelia McCloy*
 - *NOES: None.*
 - *ABSTAINS: Joseph Villarreal, John Eckstrom, Deanne Pearn*
 - *ABSENT: Carolyn Foudy, Tracy Pullar, Dan Sawislak, Bradley Lindblom*
 - *MOTION APPROVED*

7. HEAP Collaborative Process (Action Item)

- Presentation by Emily Firgens, HomeBase
 - \$500M across CoCs and cities with populations over 300,000
 - Contra Costa eligible to receive \$7.19M
 - Requirements:
 - Must declare a shelter crisis by cities and county
 - Must show collaboration with other city county and nonprofit partners
 - Eligible Uses
 - Homeless prevention activities
 - Criminal justice diversion programs
 - Youth at risk or experiencing homelessness
 - Emergency aid
 - Minimum investment of five percent of all awards be set aside for emergency assistance for homeless youth
 - Two rounds of funding
 - Round 1 (Fall 2018)



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- September early applications reviewed & awarded
 - Late October: early distribution of funds
 - Round 2 (Winter/Spring 2019)
 - Proposed Approximate Allocation
 - Must determine collaborative process for allocation of funds
 - Proposal to allocate funds by region, proportional to 2018 PIT unsheltered count
 - East: \$2.9M (45% unsheltered count)
 - West: \$2.2M (34% of unsheltered count)
 - Central: 1.4M (21% of unsheltered count)
 - Youth: \$359,838 (5% of allocation)
 - Proposed Collaborative Process
 - Engage city managers and designees in early September
 - Community meetings by region in Fall
 - Youth process will be collaborative but separate from regional community meetings
 - Ad Hoc Funding Committee meets in mid-October to review potential funding ideas by region
 - Recommendation to Council at November 1 meeting
 - Submit application mid-November
- Motion
- State of Motion:
 - We move to approve the HEAP collaborative process as laid out.
- *Discussion*
 - When do providers participate? During process
 - Will there be an RFP process? No time for a full community process because of timeframe to submit application and spend down dollars
 - Concern that this will limit the voices involved
 - State does require a collaborative process
 - Could potentially be spent differently in each community
 - Unlikely that all communities will apply
 - How to determine which cities are going to apply for the funds and get funding? If there is high need but city does not want the services what happens to money?
 - Any unaccounted money will go to youth as overflow
 - Part of process will be to get commitment from city managers for what they want to include
 - Is the criminal justice diversion program to divert from criminal justice system or homeless system? Unknown
 - How will cities use the money? Community input; funding ad hoc committee
 - Includes undocumented and immigration? Yes, but must look into state level restrictions for dollars



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- Is this for all youth or just unaccompanied youth? Unaccompanied youth
- Any definition of what counts as prevention activities? Not a lot of guidance; state keeping it open for communities to determine
- Is 5% a minimum number for youth? Yes, state requirement that there is a minimum of 5% and could go up (for instance, any dollars not claimed will go to youth). Youth dollars not based on PIT
- Who is engaged to come into these meetings? Broad, post city managers meeting; will do meetings in each region
 - Want to have dates of all the meetings--yes, requires
 - Similar process to behavioral health process to get community input for funding, so familiar for community
- How intentional is community going to be in getting input from marginalized voices? Even if requires Brown Act
- Recommend add line to add reentry process
 - What about other subpopulations? called out because it is call
- This is a lot of money, need to make the time to think about how to use these dollars
- Concern by the lack of specificity
- High risk to vote on
- Put calendar out and put dates out for community meetings
- *Procedural Record:*
 - *Motion made by: Patrice with amendment to include an additional meeting focused on the reentry population.*
 - *Seconded by: Joseph Villarreal*
 - *AYES: Joseph Villarreal, Candace Collier, Gabriel Lemus, Miguel Hidalgo-Barnes, Teri House, Doug Leich, Patrice Guillory, Alejandra Chamberlain, John Barclay, Manjit Sappal, Cecelia McCloy*
 - *NOES: John Eckstrom*
 - *ABSTAINS: Deanne Pearn*
 - *ABSENT: Carolyn Foudy, Tracy Pullar, Dan Sawislak, Bradley Lindblom*
 - *MOTION APPROVED*

8. Re-Entry Programs Provider Presentation

- Presentation by Donte Blue, County Administrator's Office
- Re-Entry Presentation
 - The Cost of Our Correctional Policies
 - Re-entry: if you wait until the person is already leaving then it's too late
 - Recent Recidivism Reports
 - 2017 PPIC report – Contra Costa only one that saw reduction in recidivism at 1 year mark.
 - ORJ -- where do we fit into this puzzle



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- Think about how the county is addressing this issue
- List of ORJ responsibilities
- ORJ Projects
 - AB109 -- \$5M in funding; fund housing and employment programs. Also provide mentoring programs, legal aid, family reunification programs. Open to anyone considered reentry
 - Process for reentry -- connect to people early
 - Looking at what they need in the community and what they can build.
 - SMART Grant
 - CoCo LEAD+
 - Leveraging CE and working closely with H3.
 - Leverage community resources to ensure better connected.
- Q&A
 - Majit: Statistics, those who are incarcerated get drug treatment help. At some point will we get to transition to connect with everyone in the field who needs assistance.
 - Donte: It's a both. Where partnerships come in. Haven't secured additional funding source to bring in private support but have leveraged AB109 to bring in outpatient and inpatient treatment. But that doesn't speak to capacity, just funding. Need to improve capacity.
 - Manjit: Still missing a lot of pieces, don't think about factors that lead to this.
 - Donte: Yes, should be iterative.
 - Doug: Broadly, where does homelessness fit in?
 - Donte: Yes, it's right at the top with employment in terms of looking at all our programs, they tend to have all those components. Always try to care in resources for housing. Issues -- how do we have a variety of housing. With this population there is a lot of misinformation. Can be difficult to find places for people in these programs.
 - i. Work closely with H3 and Shelter Inc. Have somewhere around \$1.4M going to housing in different programs.
 - Patrice: Donte mentioned that about \$5M goes to community-based resources but that's out of \$27M in funding realignment.
 - Have advisory board to the BOS as to how funds should be dispersed.
 - Been good for creating more housing options.
 - We encourage others here to attend meetings who are interested in intersection around criminal justice &



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homelessness -- 2nd Thursday of every month at 10am at 50 Douglass. Can see at ORJ website.

9. Policy and Advocacy Discussion and Decisions Points

- Presentation by Doug Leich, Council Chair
- Encourage anyone interested in discussion to come on 8/30 Policy & Advocacy meeting.
- Packet of materials has fact sheets that give pro-arguments for each of those.

10. Community Announcements

- Jaime: No September Council meeting.
- Jaime: Started Youth and Family Count. Lasting for 2 weeks instead of 1 day.
- Patrice: The Reentry Network is hosting a resource fair on 9/13 from 1-5pm at Pittsburg Youth & Development Center.
 - SHELTER Inc., BALA, Homeless Court, and a number of providers. CCIH. All through AB109 funds.
 - Fliers in the back

11. Adjourn Meeting – Doug Leich