

Contra Costa Inter-Jurisdictional Council on Homelessness

December 14, 2012, 10:00-12:00

MINUTES

- I. Welcome, Introductions, and Orientation**
- II. Recognition of Dentist Volunteers**
 - a. Stephanie Batchelor, Consumer Advocacy Board, presented Dr. Ali Alijanian, Dr. Michal Tobian, and Dr. Stephen Erikson with certificates to thank them for their service
 - b. Also recognized the donations of time and supplies by the labs and assistants
- III. Housing Authority Coordination Update**
 - a. Update by Joseph Villarreal, Executive Director, Housing Authority of the County of Contra Costa
 - i. Haven't given out any vouchers in five-and-a-half years due to funding cuts and transportability of people
 - ii. In discussion: a transitional program that would help families and individuals to live on their own
 - iii. This year, looks like we can start issuing vouchers
 1. Currently in the process of cleaning up wait lists and resolving computer glitches
 - iv. Requesting a CCICH subcommittee to determine who would be good candidates for this program
 - v. Contra Costa had a small program seven years ago; looking into reusing those vouchers
 - vi. Issue: very limited resources; took 6,000 families by lottery out of 30,000 who applied—is all about access to the program
 - vii. Either need dedicated vouchers or a waitlist preference system to target key populations
 - viii. Did something similar in Oakland: Family Unification
 1. Focused on families torn apart by jail/prison; men would go through program with Social Services for six months, then team up with the Housing Authority to get voucher for housing, then additional six months of services with SS, then “graduate” from program and switch the families to a regular voucher
 - ix. Questions to consider: Who to target? What eligibility requirements?
 - x. Small number of vouchers: 25-50
 - xi. Timeline: first vouchers available this summer
 - b. Update by Lavonna Martin, Homeless Programs

- i. Looking to move families into a housing choice voucher program (formerly Section 8) to free up vouchers for high-need families
 - ii. Thanks to everyone for working on this for so long
 - iii. CoC needs to have detailed discussions about preferences, how to identify populations
- c. Jennifer Baha, SHELTER, Inc.: let's move forward
- d. Felton Mackey, SHELTER, Inc.: how would the lottery work?
 - i. Joseph: Open waitlist for individuals/families here, not part of lottery; would rise ahead of the lottery list, to open up other spots in S+C
- e. HUD Grantees Committee will take up this discussion**
 - i. HomeBase will send out an email to coordinate**

IV. Appreciation of Service: Bill Shinn

- a. Bill was unable to attend—rescheduled for next meeting

V. HUD CoC Program NOFA Update

- a. Update by Amanda Stempson, HomeBase
 - i. Funding potential: Contra Costa is eligible to apply for \$9,477,484 in funding to support housing and services for homeless households
 - ii. Competition process involves the CoC submitted a consolidated application to HUD, comprised of the CoC application, individual project applications, and priority listings ranking the projects
 - iii. HUD is requiring CoCs to score and rank all projects this year, including renewal projects
 - iv. Members of the CCICH Executive Committee are serving as this year's Review & Rank Committee
 - 1. Gives CCICH project oversight
 - 2. Eliminates need to educate an ad hoc committee each year
 - 3. Promotes continuity and institutional knowledge
 - v. Ranking decisions to be announced December 18, 2012; application due to HUD by January 18, 2013; announcement of awards anticipated in spring 2013
 - vi. This year is more competitive than in recent years
 - vii. HUD is scoring CoCs on new factors from HEARTH and the CoC Regulations
- b. Fatima Fuentes, Anka: will there be a new HMIS project application this year?
 - i. Lavonna: no, there was an HMIS project last year

VI. 2013 PIT Count

- a. Overview by Jay Lee and Amanda Stempson, HomeBase
 - i. Point-in-Time Count on January 30, 2013 of sheltered and unsheltered homeless people in the county

- ii. Data used to send to HUD through the CoC funding application and to use the data to further understand the cause of homelessness and to design effective responses
- iii. Required to report by age category: under 18, 18-24, and over 24
- iv. Anka and the county are coordinating pre-PIT Count outreach to partners, including police departments and other providers
- v. Volunteers are needed to participate in the count
 - 1. Contact Felix Box (homelessprogram@hsd.cccounty.us) by January 23, 2013 to sign up for a training session
- b. Stephan Peers, CCICH Executive Committee: how do we get more volunteers?
 - i. County puts out media advisories twice
 - ii. Distributing flyers to CCICH, listservs, volunteer centers, Project Homeless Connects volunteer list
 - iii. Facebook and Twitter—social media
 - iv. Flyer is available on website
- c. Christy Saxton, First Place for Youth: should there be different methodologies in counting youth?
 - i. Asking CCICH for feedback
 - ii. Coordinated pre-PIT Count outreach spearheaded by Anka
 - iii. Look at Homeless Youth Project suggested methodology
 - iv. More outreach teams than in the past
- d. John Garth, Brookside: what about floaters, people who move around?
 - i. Outreach teams will be distributing flyers and informing individuals to be visible on the day of the count
 - ii. Should offer a shower, a shave, and breakfast to bring people indoors
- e. Joanne Lagerstrom, Trinity Center: will homeless volunteers be involved?
 - i. Yes—consumer volunteers are solicited
- f. Felton: what about stations like when people go to vote, somewhere people can go to be counted (hand out vouchers, different colors by region)
 - i. Rodney Green, Sr., Brookside: can use vouchers turned in to count people
- g. **HomeBase will schedule another PIT Count Meeting to discuss these ideas**
- h. Felton: what about churches who aren't a part of Winter Nights
 - i. Lavonna: we can try to outreach to them as well
 - ii. **If you know any churches who take in the homeless, please let Lavonna know so we can do outreach**
 - iii. Fatima: will be doing outreach to Loaves and Fishes, MSCs
- i. John: are there stipends for consumers?
 - i. Lavonna: yes, but limited to 10 individuals—should speak with Arturo Castillo, Homeless Programs; also ask TAY to participate (5 slots dedicated)
 - ii. Christy: ILSP might kick in some extra stipends
- j. Justin: any sense of the number of people temporarily living with numbers?
 - i. Lavonna: HUD doesn't recognize those individuals as homeless

- ii. Justin: we used to catch them through overcrowded housing, but HUD doesn't work with that any more

VII. HCD's 2012 ESG Program NOFA Update

- a. Update by Jay Lee, HomeBase
 - i. HCD released the NOFA for the state-administered Emergency Solution Grant (ESG) program funding for FY2012-2013 on December 10, 2012, which was after the CCICH agenda was published
 - 1. Thus, this is an immediate action exception under the Brown Act, which can be discussed without being agendized
 - ii. Total funding available is \$11,576,175
 - iii. ESG applications are due to HCD on February 12, 2013
 - iv. ESG applicants required to obtain a Certification of Local Need (Attachment D) from their CoC; CoC must deliver its Attachment D(s) directly to HCD by February 26, 2013
 - v. Applicants must submit sections of their ESG application and a follow-up questionnaire to Amanda Stempson (Amanda@homebaseccc.org) by January 25, 2013
- b. GRIP (shelter) and SHELTER, Inc. (prevention) will be applying
- c. Jennifer: will the CoC be ranking projects depending on the type of program, in light of HCD's preferences?
 - i. Lavonna: state makes this distinction to meet its allocation requirements; purpose of Attachment D is for the CoC's priorities to be included—don't need to necessarily follow HCD's priorities
- d. Jay: may want to revisit the tiebreaker—make it more qualitative rather than qualitative based on staff years of experience
- e. Executive Committee will also provide feedback

VIII. Other CCICH Business

- a. **Concord Naval Weapons Station Update**
 - i. Updated Bylaws and in process of finalizing
 - ii. Changed composition of voting blocks; is even number, requiring a tiebreaker—proposal was to have CCICH participate
 - iii. Volunteers willing to be appointed as ex officio member?
 - 1. Ana Cortez
- b. **Fresh Start Transition to Trinity Center**
 - i. Introduction of team
 - ii. Interested in collaborating with the CoC
 - iii. Shelter open 9-5, Tuesdays and Thursdays
 - iv. Brochures passed around
 - v. Goals: stabilize services; develop additional programs and expand capacity; develop a new building (working with HomeAid)
 - vi. St. Paul stepped up after Fresh Start Executive Director retired
 - vii. Current staff is all volunteers

- viii. Working towards a stand-alone nonprofit separate from the church
- ix. Asking for:

1. A way to conduct referrals for where to park cars overnight
2. Where to get meals during the weekend
3. Volunteers to
4. Donations of BART tickets, gas card, food, etc.
5. Collaboration with CCICH

c. ESG Application Update

- i. Have received applications
- ii. Lavonna: through the HEARTH Act, there is a requirement that ESG works closely with the CoC

d. Behavioral Health Integration Update

- i. Update by Lavonna
 1. Steering Committee meeting regularly, have agreed on a charter document to be shared soon (commitments that the committee is making around helping the entire community)
 2. Is not just about Behavioral Health Division, but entire community to increase, build and enhance services to meet complex consumer needs
 3. Working to engage community stakeholders to create a seamless system of care
 4. Next Steering Committee meeting moved to January 14th, 2013; after that will meet on first Mondays

e. SSVF Update

- i. Felton: have been approved for third year of funding
- ii. Passing out hygiene kits—good for outreach; let Felton know if you're interested

f. California Assembly Bill 5

- i. Update by Amanda: new bill would enact the Homeless Person's Bill of Rights and Fairness Act

- g. Jennifer: vacancy for formerly homeless person to serve on Board of SHELTER, Inc.