

**HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL (HSOC)
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Date

October 19, 2022

Time

1pm-3pm

Location

Zoom

Members Present

Devin Drake

Kristen Barneich

Mark Lamore

Scott Smith

Susan Funk

Staff and Guests

Amelia Grover

Aurora William

Brenda Mack

Christy Nichols

Dawn Ortiz-Legg

George Solis

Jack Lahey

Janna Nichols

Jeff Al-Mashat

Jessica Lorange

Laurel Weir

Lauryn Searles

Leon Shordon

Merlie Livermore

Nicole Bennett

Rosio Marquez
Russ Francis
Suzie Freeman

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Susan called the meeting to order at 1pm. Christy introduced herself.

2. Public Comment

None.

3. Consent: Approval of Minutes

Devin made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Kristen. The motion passed with all in favor, no objections and no abstentions.

4. Action/Information/Discussion

4.1 Discussion Item: HSOC Membership

4.1.1. Action Item: Vote to Recommend Eleven Persons for Appointment to Vacant or Expiring Seats on the Homeless Services Oversight Council

Laurel and Russ reported on the annual process for nominating new members to the HSOC. In total, fourteen applications were received for twelve seats, including a late addition from Rick Scott, Chief of Police for the City of San Luis Obispo. The Nominating Committee recommended appointing new members Wendy Blacker, Gary Petersen, Jennifer Deutsch, Aurora William and Rochelle Sonza, and reappointing current members Anne Robin, Jeff Smith, Janna Nichols, Mark Lamore, Jack Lahey and Rick Gulino to the HSOC. Mark made a motion to approve the Nominating Committee's recommendation, seconded by Scott. The motion passed with all in favor, no objections and no abstentions.

4.2. Implementing Five-Year Plan Line of Effort 2: Reduce or Eliminate Barriers to Housing Stability

4.2.1. Discussion Item: Formation of a New Working Group or Committee to Focus on Racial Equity and Marginalized Communities, Including People with Lived Experience – Services Coordinating Committee

4.2.2. Discussion Item: Lived Experience Committee and Compensation

Laurel reported that the County contracted with HomeBase to produce a racial equity analysis, based on data from HMIS (Homeless Management Information

System), consultation with stakeholders and service providers, and data from HUD (US Department of Housing and Urban Development) and the state. HomeBase's analysis included recommendations to convene a group to focus on the issue, which would include people with lived experience and service providers.

Leon reported that a Lived Experience Committee was a requirement of the CoC (Continuum of Care) rural unsheltered homelessness grant, including incorporating people with lived experience into decision making processes. Laurel reported that the County will be asking HSOC to consider approving stipends for people on the committee, but wanted feedback from the Executive Committee first.

The Committee approved of the idea, and suggested having the group led by co-chairs – one person with lived experience, and another with professional experience. The Committee proposed a number of agencies to reach out to in order to recruit new members for this committee.

4.3. Implementing Five-Year Plan Line of Effort 4: Create, Identify, and Streamline Funding and Resources

4.3.1. Discussion Item: Medicaid Reimbursements

Susan reported that a barrier in Medicaid reimbursements to allowing long term beds within the county means people are being sent outside of the community. Nicole volunteered to follow up with CenCal Health. County staff will also return with more information on this issue.

4.3.3. Discussion Item: State and Federal Homeless Assistance Grants

4.3.3.1. Discussion Item: HHAP (Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program) Grant Priorities

Laurel reported that an RFP (Request for Proposals) will be released soon for Rounds 2 and 3 of HHAP (Homeless Housing, Advocacy and Prevention Program). County staff wanted to have a preliminary discussion with the Executive Committee on overall priorities for these local application processes. Round 2 is worth \$1.5 million for direct activities and has already been secured. Round 3 will be worth around \$4 million, including \$1 million set aside for systems support. Based on the Five-Year Plan recommendations, staff recommend Permanent Supportive Housing, Rapid Rehousing, Homelessness Prevention and Diversion, and Interim Sheltering as priorities for HHAP rounds 2 and 3.

4.3.3.2. Discussion Item: Grants Status and Timeline

Russ and Laurel shared grants updates, including an updated version of the grants timeline (included in the agenda packet). Scott shared that HASLO (Housing Authority of the City of San Luis Obispo) has experienced challenges in receiving the funding that has been awarded to them via Planning Department grants, including a recent CDBG (Community Development Block Grant). The money is at risk of being lost as there is an expenditure deadline of June 2023.

Janna commented that it would be helpful to know the results of applications to the CoC program and Action Plan programs, as well as analysis of how this funding fits with ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funding. Both 5Cities Homeless Coalition and CAPSLO (Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo) have seen increases in demand for services across the board over the last few months.

4.4.1. Discussion Item: HSOC Committees Structure and Roles

Laurel reported that the Executive Committee had previously discussed reorganizing HSOC and its committees, and had decided to wait until after the Strategic Plan update had been completed. The item was tabled to give the new division time to develop recommendations and bring these back to HSOC.

4.4.1.1. Action Item: Vote to Recommend Civility Code for HSOC Meetings

Laurel presented on the Civility Code (included in the agenda packet). The Executive Committee supported the Code for presentation to the full HSOC, with an additional sentence on discussion of confidentiality of information.

Scott made a motion to recommend the civility code for HSOC meetings, seconded by Mark. The motion passed with all in favor, no objections and no abstentions.

4.4.1.3. Discussion Item: Structuring the Healthcare Partnership

Amelia presented on a new two-year partnership funding opportunity, involving 5Cities Homeless Coalition, Good Samaritans, Dignity Health, CAPSLO and CenCal Health. A large part of the grant was to prepare to coordinate efforts around the CalAIM program. The goal is to improve alignment between healthcare and homeless service providers, and to create a Homeless Health Care Continuum, similar to a CoC for healthcare providers. The partnership is currently looking for other partner agencies to engage, and considering gaps that presently exist in the system. The Committee suggested that the healthcare partnership report regularly to the Services Coordinating Committee.

4.5. Discussion Item: Committee Reports

Updates were included in the agenda packet. Scott added that the City of SLO is now in the process of drafting their own plan to address homelessness, and are currently doing outreach to ask what to prioritize.

4.6. Discussion Item: Report from County Staff on County Initiatives

Laurel reported that the Board of Supervisors just approved lease on a new space for the Homeless Services Division.

4.7. Discussion Item: Addressing Public Comment

Susan reported that the agenda for this meeting was more structured to distinguish between roles of committee members and the public in making comment. Future full HSOC meeting agendas will be structured in the same way. The Committee and other attendees were in favor.

5. Future Discussion/Report Items

None.

6. Next Regular Meeting: December 21 at 1pm

7. Adjournment

Susan adjourned the meeting at 3:05pm.