



Interagency Council To End Homelessness

Meeting Minutes

January 16, 2008

2.30-4.30 PM

Attendance:

Council Members Present: Ann Edwards-Buckley (Chair), Alexis Bernard, Robert Bradley, Karen Brockopp, Beverly Small (for Carolyn Brodt), Joan Burke, Michelle Coleman, John Foley, Verne Gore, Elizabeth Hudson, Cassandra Jennings, Patty Kleinknecht, Sue Laliberte, Petra Stanton, Bruce Wagstaff, Jan Wald.

Council Members Absent: Michael Dunne, Peter Feelley, Lynn Frank, Chris Glaudel, Deanna Hanson, Jim Hare, Pam Herman, Collette Johnson-Schulke, Ryan Loofbourrow, Karen Maxwell, Maria Morfin, Shamus Roller, Trisha Stanionis, Leland Tom.

Staff Present: Diane Luther, Phil Alonso, Roma Eisenstark, Tim Brown, Susanna Curry.

Guests: Bridget Kurtt DeJong, Larry Dayton, David Husid, Suzanne Hammer, Kathy Briem, Toni Moore.

Action Items:

- Petra Stanton moved that the ICEH approve the change in scoring requirements for automatic renewal in concept, and asked that Suzanne and Homebase re-word the policy, and report back to the ICEH at the next meeting. Cassandra Jennings seconded the motion and all voted in favor of the recommendation.
- Sue Laliberte moved that the CoC Committee create a new scoring sheet with the addition of 2 bonus points for attending an SSA training, and send it to the ICEH for approval. If the timeline does not allow for this, then it should be sent to the Executive Committee. Patty Kleinknecht seconded the motion and all voted in favor of the recommendation.
- Petra Stanton moved to endorse John Foley's housing website locator project. Bruce Wagstaff seconded the motion and all voted in favor. John Foley abstained.

Minutes:

1. Introductions

2. Continuum of Care Ranking Panel Criteria Approval - Suzanne Hammer and Homebase - 45 minutes

-Suzanne introduced Bridget DeYoung from Homebase. Bridget gave the background of the Continuum of Care (CoC) application and funding process.

-Sacramento's CoC is competing for funds with other CoCs across the nation.

-Suzanne explained what happened from last year's application.

-The Sacramento CoC got more than \$13.5 million and more than \$600,000 for the Samaritan Bonus approved in 2007.

-\$120,000 will go to expand the Omega Program of the Sacramento Area Emergency Housing.

-There was a 5% increase in funding from the previous year.

-In 2007, 31 local programs serving homeless clients applied for renewal funds. One scored under 60, seven scored in the 60s and the rest scored 70 or above.

-Bridget passed out information on Chart F of this year's Continuum of Care application and information on the 2008 Ranking Panel Process.

-There were three specific issues that the ICEH discussed:
A. Change of wording in the 2007 policy that says that a score of more than 60 points automatically guarantees that the program gets renewed.

B. Change on the scoring sheet for renewal programs.

C. Designate body for conducting the appeals process.

-Ann Edwards-Buckley explained that the ICEH needs to discuss these issues and decide on a good recommendation.

A. Change to 60 point score automatically guarantees renewal

-Bridget asked the ICEH if there should be a change in wording for one of the bullet points on the Scoring and Ranking Process handout.

Original language: "Renewal projects are expected to score 60 points or higher over scoring factors 2-5 (possible 90 points)."

The proposed change: A score of over 60 does not automatically mean that your program gets funded. It will be left up to the discretion of the Policy Board to de-fund a renewal program (based on feedback from the ICEH), even if that program scores more than 60 points. This gives the community more flexibility. Under this new plan, any organization scoring under 60 points will still be ineligible, and will be de-funded.

-We need to have clear wording to guide the process. If a program is underperforming over multiple years, then it should be under the discretion of the ICEH and Policy Board and could be de-funded.

-Petra Stanton moved that the ICEH approve the change in scoring requirements for automatic renewal in concept, and asked that Suzanne and Homebase re-word the bullet point (as discussed above), and report back to the ICEH at their next meeting.

-Cassandra Jennings seconded the motion and all voted in favor of the recommendation.

B. Change on the scoring sheet for renewal programs

-Bridget explained that they were thinking of adding 2 possible bonus points that all renewal programs can pick up if they send someone to a special SSA (Social Security Administration) training.

-Sue Laliberte moved that the CoC committee create a new scoring sheet with this addition and send it to the ICEH for approval. If the timeline does not allow for this, then it should be sent to the executive committee.

-Patty Kleinknecht seconded the motion and all voted in favor of the recommendation.

C. Designate body for conducting the appeals process

-It was suggested that the Executive Committee of the ICEH designate a committee to entertain the appeals process.

-It was also suggested that the Executive Committee of the ICEH could be the body that entertains the appeals process.

-More discussion on this topic is needed before the ICEH makes a recommendation.

-The topic of recruitment for the ranking panel volunteers was also discussed.

-This is very important and it is often very difficult to recruit volunteers.

-Ann Edwards-Buckley said we should explore the possibility of asking staff from other county agencies to help.

-All ICEH members should think about who could serve on this year's ranking panel.

3. Web-based Housing Locator Enhancement Proposal

- John Foley - 15 minutes

-Joan Burke introduced John Foley from Sacramento Self Help Housing and noted that the Housing Committee has been working on a website-based real-time housing locator for Sacramento.

-John led the group through Sacramento Self Help's website.

-John said that they would like to update the website to allow for real time updates on the vacancies/openings in housing. They would hire a full time staff person to lead the updating effort of their site.

-John pointed out that many of the clients use the phone, and introduced Laurie Simon from 2-1-1 Sacramento (a resource referral call center) to discuss the Beehive Sacramento website.

- Laurie led the group through the Beehive Sacramento website to show what type of resources clients can

search for. She noted that with the upgrade of Self-Help Housing and Beehive Sacramento's websites, there will be a staff person at 2-1-1 to help with the higher volume of housing calls.

-Petra Stanton moved to endorse John's housing website locator project. Bruce Wagstaff seconded the motion. All in favor. John Foley abstained.

4. Need For Funding the Plan

- Diane Luther - 30 Minutes

- Next Steps: Results of Funding Committee Analysis and Policy Board discussion

-Diane Luther explained that she took the power point that the ICEH saw last month and focused in on case management analysis and then presented this to the Policy Board.

-Diane explained the four pieces of the funding gap analysis.

-She noted that the Policy Board discussion led to the idea of forming some kind of combined committee of Policy Board and ICEH members to look at this issue further.

-John Foley said that he agrees that there is a gap in case management. He sees it with his Sacramento Self Help Housing, which has lots of clients that are eligible for SSI, but staff don't have the time to help them get SSI ... this shows an obvious gap in services to those currently in housing.

5. ICEH Term Expirations and Reappointments

-Diane directed the group's attention to the handout showing the new two-year terms for ICEH members and terms expiring in January 2008.

-There was a discussion of the key representative slots that are currently unfilled, such as "Consumers/Homless Advocates."

6. Project Homelless Connect Update - Tim Brown

-Tim gave an update on the planning process for Project Homelless Connect.

-He announced that the proposal was presented to the Policy Board and it was approved!

-Tim mentioned upcoming meetings (1/17 and 1/31) and noted that the project has received its first commitment of \$500 from St. John's Shelter. He will be looking for more sponsors.

-A fundraising account will be established at the Community Services Planning Council, and so checks can be made payable to the "Community Services Planning Council."

7. 2008 Homelless Count - Kathy Briem

-Kathy Briem gave a background of the Count.

-Counting will take place on the streets and in shelters.

-The Count will take place on Tuesday, January 29th from 8-11 pm.

- This year volunteers will be surveying homeless individuals while the counting takes place.
- So far 240 have signed up to volunteer and DHA is hoping for at least 60 more. Volunteers will be staging at 28th and R Streets. There will be trainings for volunteers this week and next week.
- There will be an incentive for people to answer surveys; socks and rain ponchos will be provided to anyone that participates.
- Kathy announced times and dates of the surveyors training.

8. Homeless Severe Weather Update - Kathy Briem

- Kathy Briem said that from September to November 2007, this committee met to form a plan for severe weather emergencies for homeless people in Sacramento County.
- This plan was implemented in December and since then has been activated three times.
- Warming centers for these emergencies are seeing about a half dozen to a dozen people show up.
- Activation of the Severe Weather warning gets communicated through 2-1-1 Sacramento.
- There are some remaining problems: finding a place for clients in the daytime (the warming centers are only open at night), and pets.

9. Committee Reports

- a. Criminal Justice – Tim Brown
- b. Continuum of Care – Suzanne Hammer
- c. Health Services Linked to Housing – Petra Stanton
- d. Data and Reporting – Phil Alonso
- e. Veterans – Robert Bradley/Jan Wald
- f. Housing – Joan Burke

- There was not time to discuss committee reports, but members had hard copies of the reports in their meeting packets.
- In the future, committee reports will be put towards the top of the agenda to ensure that there is adequate discussion time for this agenda item.

10. One Year Report – Diane Luther – 10 Minutes

- Diane noted that she will be presenting the One Year Report to the City Council and Board of Supervisors on March 4th and Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency on March 5th.

11. Ten Year Plan Structure Update – Ann Edwards Buckley

- Ann reported that this planning group is continuing its work and will be ready to present at the February ICEH meeting.