



Sacramento Ending Chronic Homelessness Initiative

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Interagency Council to End Homelessness Sacramento, California

Meeting Minutes
April 15, 2009
2:30-4:30 pm

Staff contact: 916-447-7063 x334 or scurry@communitycouncil.org

Attendance:

Council Members Present: Margaret Ahern (for Maria Morfin) (alternate for Alexis Bernard), Carolyn Brodt, Joan Burke, Ann Edwards-Buckley, John Foley, Sandra Hamameh, Elizabeth Hudson, (alternate for Bruce Jackson), Patty Kleinknect, John Krintz, Sue Laliberte, Michael Lazar, Ryan Loofbourrow, Diane Luther, Patrick Mangan, Karen Maxwell, Diane McLaurin (for Alexis Bernard), Tracie Rice-Bailey, Trisha Stanionis, Petra Stanton, Bruce Wagstaff, Joshua Singer.

Council Members Absent: Michael Dunne, Chris Glaudel, Lynn Frank, Verne Gore.

Staff: Tim Brown, Susanna Curry, Merrill Lavezzo, Julia Acuña, April Tally, Suzanne Hammer, Kathy Briem

Guests: Esther Salazar, Michael Sale, Cindy Cavanaugh, Derrick Lim, Megan Kurteff Schatz, Devon Good, Nikki Stern, Katrina Middleton, Bob Erlenbusch, Kipp Mueller, Leo McFarland, Eloise Anderson, Frances Freitas, Christina Arrasmith, Shamus Roller.

ACTION Items:

- The minutes from the March meeting were approved.
- The Council approved a support letter for AB1177.

Minutes:

- Welcome and Introductions-5 minutes**
- ACTION: Adopt March minutes- 5 minutes**
 - Motion to adopt minutes by Sue Laliberte, seconded by Trisha Stanionis. Approved, all in favor.
- ACTION: Approve Support Letter for AB 1177**
 - Bruce Wagstaff asked if the letter should be from Tim Brown as the director of the ECHI, or if it should be from the Interagency Council.
 - Tim suggested that the letter be written on behalf of the Interagency Council.
 - Motion to approve the support letter by Carolyn Brodt, seconded by Sue Laliberte. Approved, all in favor.
- Director's Report-Tim Brown, ECHI Director- 15 minutes**
 - Funding Update**

The Grant Proposal Collaboration committee has continued to work to fill in funding gaps. Among other submittals, ECHI staff has sent in an appropriations request of \$270,000 to Rep. Matsui, an LOI to Bank of America for case management funding, and a proposal to Wells Fargo for F&HFI operations.

b. Sacramento Homeless Connect

-Thank you to Sutter Medical Center for serving as our presenting sponsor!
-There has been a number of difficulties in recruiting participation by service providers and sponsors in this program because of the economy. One current gap exists in the healthcare services (last year, nurses from Healthcare for the Homeless and Black Nurses Assn. provided triage/assessments for guests).

c. Faith & Homeless Families Initiative (F&HFI)

-The first seven families, six congregations, and 40 volunteer mentors have been recruited.

d. Evaluation

-ECHI is working with TLCS, Turning Point, and Sac Self Help Housing to look at those who've been housed for at least one year and see if there've been cost savings to the public and private sector as a result. Thank you to Petra Stanton of The Effort for her help with collection of hospital data.

e. Vulnerability Index

-Common Ground, an organization based in New York, has approached Sacramento about participating in a study researching the use of the Vulnerability Index, which prioritizes particular people for housing according to their risk of dying on the streets. Interested partners in Sacramento include the River District and the Downtown Sacramento Partnership. We will have a workgroup to discuss this idea. Please talk to Tim if you're interested.

5. "Core" County Services-Ann Edwards-Buckley, Countywide Services Agency- 5 minutes

-The County Board is looking at "core" vs. "non-core" services. The term "core service" includes mandated services or services in the County since the 1800s. The Board has asked for numbers and service levels for programs for a meeting in May-the meeting day has not been set.

-Bruce Wagstaff-There will be significant reductions-most programs that we have worked so hard to build were not considered "core"-we need to be at those County meetings.

Questions:

-Sandra Hamameh-Is anyone tracking the impacts of cutting these programs?

-Ann E-B- Yes, in our impact statements of the services, we include increases in particular other facilities/programs.

-Leo MacFarland- Lynn Frank has stepped down from director of DHHS. Ann E-B will now be the new director of DHHS as well as of Behavioral Health.

6. Camping and Mayor's Task Force-Tim Brown, ECHI Director and Cassandra Jennings, City of Sacramento-20 minutes

-The Mayor has held task force meetings and has helped pull together funding for additional shelter/housing and services.

-Cassandra- \$1.3 million has been contributed through the city/county/state/SHRA to address the issue and to expand shelter space/PSH/storage/pets.

-The Winter Overflow Shelter has added 50 beds (including some for couples), and the Aid-In-Kind and St. John's have added more beds. \$380,000 in City Tax Increment (TI) funds have been used to open Keys to Hope III through Self Help Housing for 40 additional beds.

The Mayor asked that there be outreach to people living in “tent city,” so that those wishing to have housing could get on a list and be connected with appropriate openings with providers. Tim has met with housing providers and identified 50 people on the list who are considered “high priority.”

-There was mixed reaction from Council members regarding the task force’s activities, some welcomed the Mayor’s plan and thought that it would help short-term, some believed it was a “band-aid” for the situation.

7. ICEH/PB Retreat-May 14- 35 minutes

a. Recalibration of goals

b. Role of ICEH/PB

c. Integrating short-term and long-term solutions

-The Policy Board would like to talk with the ICEH in a joint retreat about the scope of the 10-Year Plan, role of groups (such as the Continuum of Care) and integrating short-term and long-term goals.

-Shamus Roller- Concerned that the Mayor’s Task Force somewhat challenges the relevance of the ICEH/PB-we need to discuss and figure out a way to restructure and integrate the activities of the task force with the current activities.

8. Housing Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program (HPRP)-Cindy Cavanaugh, SHRA-15 minutes

-SHRA and DHA are currently working on an application for the HPRP funding of \$4.7 million allocated to Sacramento County.

-Sue Laliberte-This is a great opportunity to change things in our community.

-Debra Morrow- Thanks to SHRA for co-leading. Does have concern about the level of administration money used in other cities-that’s where the co-lead between the agencies helps.

9. Homeless Count Results-Kathy Briem, DHA Homeless Programs-25 minutes

-There was a 34% reduction in chronic homelessness, but a 14% increase in overall homelessness. The total homeless count was 2,800.

10. PSH Production Update-Diane Luther, SHRA-5 minutes

-The YWCA project has started construction-will be 32 SRO units for homeless.

-Keys to Hope I project has been rolled out.

-Shamus-There is a big need to look at the operating subsidies. There is a lot of internal discussion around the use of project-based vouchers for projects.