

## Homeless Policy Steering Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes | May 8, 2019

Whole Person Care Conference Room | 1177 Francisco Blvd E. Suite B, San Rafael, CA | 3:00 PM-5:00 PM

### 1. Welcome. Call to Order: 3:02

### 2. Roll Call

HPSC Voting Members in Attendance:

#### Elected Officials

Cities and Towns: Mayor Ann Morrison

#### Community Development

Community Development Agency: Molly Kron

#### Public Housing Authority

Marin Housing Authority: Michelle Taniguchi

#### Domestic Violence

Center for Domestic Peace Donna Garske

#### Faith-Based Organizations

Marin Organizing Committee: Pat Langley

#### Probation

Marin County Probation Department Michael Daly

#### Homeless Service Providers

St. Vincent de Paul: Howard Schwartz

Ritter Center: Mark Shotwell

#### Homeless Housing Providers

Homeward Bound: Anna Hurtado

Center Point: Marc Hering

#### School Districts

Marin County Office of Education: Karen Allen

#### Veteran's Services

HHS Veteran Services Sean Stephens

#### Employment Services

Downtown Streets Team: Jesse Taylor-Vermont

### 3. Approval of the Minutes

#### a. February 14, 2019 Minutes

- i. Howard Schwartz moved to approve the minutes; Pat Langley seconded the motion.
- ii. All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions. Motion carried.

### 4. Introductions/Announcements

- a. Michelle Taniguchi announced that Marin Housing Authority is recruiting a new CFO.
- b. Mark Shotwell announced that Ritter Center has recruited a new program director, Tammy Whiteduck, to Whole Person Care. Ritter has contracted with a telepsychiatry organization because they have been unable to recruit locally.

- c. Molly Kron announced that the Board of Supervisors has approved a new voluntary compliance agreement with HUD. The agreement will last 3 years, encourage at least 100 new units of family affordable housing in the county, and assist other towns to pass tenant protections.
- d. Carrie Sager announced the preliminary Point-in-Time Count results. There were 1034 people experiencing homelessness on the date of the 2019 PIT count, a 7% decrease. More exciting, there was a 28% decrease in chronic homelessness.
- e. Melanie Hamburger from Marin City Health and Wellness announced that they are building a Marin City hub, with 24 units of 100% affordable housing.
- f. Karen Allen announced that Marin County Office of Education just went through a federal program monitoring exercise and passed with flying colors; Karen got to create and improve upon documents and enrollment paperwork to be sure Marin schools are providing the best service possible for homeless families and youth.
- g. Donna Garske announced that Center for Domestic Peace was able to leverage some state funding and create a partnership with Marin Housing Authority to fund a case manager to support at least 10 DV victims with special needs between now and the end of December. MHA is a great organization to work with. In addition, C4DP's luncheon this Friday is completely sold out.
- h. Pat Langley announced that Marin Organizing Committee continues its support of the community; they filled the San Rafael City Council Chambers on Monday in support of mandatory mediation and just cause eviction. MOC advocated for the threshold for mandatory mediation to be 5% to be consistent with County and Fairfax, despite calls for it to be 10%.
- i. Howard Schwartz announced that St. Vincent de Paul has a new program called Diversion to stabilize people who are newly homeless and encouraged people to refer clients.
- j. Anna Hurtado announced that Homeward Bound is elbow-deep in housing-focused case management, and the Mill Street shelter will be hosting Hayley from St. Vincent's to help with diversion services.
- k. Abby Ellis from Senator Feinstein's office announced that the Senator has introduced S. 923, a grant program to fund Permanent Supportive Housing. Abby is now point person for Marin and can convey information to Senator Feinstein.
- l. LaSaunda Tate announced that the Dominican sisters have agreed to an additional year of the Yellow Hallway transitional housing program
- m. Lucy Hollingsworth from Legal Aid introduced herself and Legal Aid's programs
  - i. Sean Stephens expressed his appreciation to Legal Aide of Marin for their working helping 3 veterans in the Wilkins hotel

## 5. Public Comment

- a. There was no public comment.

## **6. HPSC Elections**

- a. Two nominations were received to create three new seats: two regional seats for Southern and West Marin, and a seat for Transition-Age Youth. Royce Mclemore from Women Helping All People was nominated to fill the new Southern Marin seat. Laura Taylor from Side By Side Youth was nominated to fill the new TAY seat.
- b. A subcommittee met to discuss the nominations and voted to recommend the HPSC approve them as nominated.
- c. Staff called for any questions or discussion on the nominations.
- d. Donna Garske asked if there was discussion about having a youth on the board?
  - i. Staff responded that there was not, and noted that in the past it has been difficult getting TAY to attend meetings
- e. It was agreed to vote on the nominations as made, but to coordinate with Side By Side to bring youth perspectives to a future HPSC meeting.
- f. Donna Garske moved to approve the nominations. Jesse Taylor-Vermont seconded the motion.
- g. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

## **7. Approval of CoC NOFA Local Competition Policies & Renewal Project Scoring Tool**

- a. HomeBase presented the updates to the Policies, which had been approved by an ad hoc subcommittee.
- b. Donna Garske moved to approve the updated Policies and Procedures as amended; Marc Hering seconded the motion.
- c. All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions. Motion carried.
- d. HomeBase presented the updates to the Renewal Project Scoring Tool, which had been approved by an ad hoc subcommittee.
- e. Marc Hering moved to approve the scoring tool; Donna Garske seconded the motion.
- f. All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions. Motion carried.

## **8. Approval of Analysis and Planning Report**

- a. Due to the length of the report, meeting attendees were asked to review it ahead of time. Staff asked if there were any questions or sections of the report people wanted to go through.
- b. Howard Schwartz asked if we can add the 2019 PIT numbers
  - i. Due to grant deadlines, it is necessary to complete the report before the 2019 PIT numbers are officially released.
- c. Howard Schwartz asked about clients who can't make it in housing first—is there a place in the report to talk about what else we need in the County? E.g. dementia, people who can't do ADLs
  - i. HomeBase noted that those are not specifically called out in the report
- d. Mark Shotwell noted that there is a gap between who will qualify for SNIF and who will succeed in PSH; assisted living is hard to come by but some counties are creating something like that
- e. Donna Garske recommended coordinating with Area Institute on Aging.

- f. Howard Schwartz moved to approve the plan with the additions; Mark Shotwell seconded the motion.
- g. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

**9. Approve Emergency Solutions Grant Applicants**

- a. Homebase summarized the ESG funding and presented the process by which the ESG applicants were selected.
- b. Donna moved to approve a 50% allocation for Rapid Rehousing; Ann Morrison seconded the motion.
- c. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.
- d. Melanie Hamburger asked what would happen if there was another applicant before May 30.
  - i. HomeBase noted that there was an open call for applications and no other applications would be accepted
- e. Marc Hering moved to approve the recommended competitive and noncompetitive applications for Homeward Bound of Marin (\$200,000 competitive emergency shelter); Center for Domestic Peace (\$200,000 competitive emergency shelter); and Ritter Center (\$92,980 non-competitive Rapid Rehousing funding); Mike Daley seconded the motion.
- f. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

**10. Approve California Emergency Solutions and Housing (CESH) Program Priorities and Administrative Entity**

- a. Staff summarized the process by which a subcommittee came up with funding priorities.
- b. Molly Kron moved to approve the priorities set by the subcommittee. Michelle Taniguchi seconded the motion.
- c. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.
- d. Mark Shotwell moved to approve Marin County HHS as Administrative Entity. Pat Langley seconded the motion.
- e. All in favor, none opposed. Motion carried

**11. Notification of Letter of Support for Center Point**

- a. Center Point requested a letter of support from the CoC to pursue a grant opportunity. Because the application was due before the May 8 meeting, staff wrote a letter of support as CoC staff, based on prior HPSC meeting discussion supporting any application for homelessness funding. Staff asked if there were any objections to continuing this practice.
- b. Consensus was that this is a useful practice.
- c. Abby Ellis noted that Senator Feinstein's office writes letters of support and asked providers to contact them if the provider needs a letter.

**12. Updates**

- a. Coordinated Entry has housed 134 individuals so far, including 24 VASH clients; Coordinated Entry is also starting a more involved process for Rapid Rehousing, focusing on families and

vets to start. Vets are defined as anyone who has had at least one day of service. 17 out of 28 mainstream vouchers have been utilized. Many counties have been returning them because they don't know how to coordinate with CE and the Housing Authority. CE has been doing a lot of outreach, e.g. to anchor-outs; going to church meals and have gotten a lot of traction. DV partnership has been very helpful because of the difficulties case managing families.

- i. Sean Stephens asked about the status of housing locator. Will that position continue to be funded?
  1. Yes, it will be funded through CoC funding
- b. CoC NOFA: HomeBase has heard rumblings about an early May NOFA; they suspect it will be sometime in May.
  - i. Donna Garske asked if there has been any information on new project contracts
    1. There has not
- c. Point in Time Count Update
  - i. Unofficial PIT numbers were released; homelessness is down 7% countywide and Chronic Homelessness is down 28%.
  - ii. Ann Morrison expressed concern that we might lose money because we're doing too well
    1. Staff noted that CoC funding is not based on PIT numbers but rather is dependent on showing effectiveness and reducing numbers, though state funding has recently been based more on PIT count numbers.
  - iii. Mark Shotwell noted that this much progress in the last two year is amazing.

### **13. Setting the Agenda for Future HPSC Meetings**

- a. HMIS Update
- b. CoC NOFA
- c. ESG NOFA
- d. Veteran definition
- e. Presentation by homeless youth

### **14. Meeting adjourned at 4:25**