

Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board Agenda Report (Consent Calendar)

Item No: 1 (Consent Calendar)
Subject: Summary of Items on the Consent Calendar
Meeting Date: June 22, 2022
Staff Contact: Michael Gause, Ending Homelessness Program Manager,
Michael.Gause@sonoma-county.org

Summary

This staff report briefly summarizes items proposed for the CoC Board meeting's Consent Calendar. All items will be approved with one motion (following a second, as well as public comment on Consent Calendar Items) except for those items removed from the Consent Calendar for separate discussion and action.

Recommended Action(s)

Approve the items on the Consent Calendar

Discussion

Items on the Consent Calendar include:

1. The meeting's **proposed agenda**. The agenda contains all items that will be discussed by the Continuum of Care Board at today's meeting. **The agenda is attached as Attachment A.**
2. The **minutes** from the last or previous meeting(s). The minutes reflect a general summary of the previous meeting's (or meetings') activities, and are not intended to reflect verbatim comments. **The minutes are attached as Attachment B.**
3. A **summary of follow-ups** from the previous meeting(s). At the previous meeting, CoC Board members and others asked for the Lead Agency staff to follow up on the following questions or comments.
 - a. The CoC Board asked staff to check with CoC legal counsel at RWG (Brendan Kearns) as to how provider input to the Funding and Evaluation Committee should best be structured. On May 25, 2022, we asked Mr. Kearns:

Is it OK for service providers to serve on that Committee, provided that they recuse themselves from specific funding decisions (but still participate in broad discussions about funding approaches); or

Is it preferable that providers stay off the Committee entirely, but can serve as members of, say, a “Service Providers Roundtable” to the Funding Committee that might report in to the Funding Committee with a group voice to advise on general priorities for funds.

Mr. Kearns responded via email on 5-28-2022:

I think it's preferable to take the second approach, with service providers and other potential recipients of funding staying off the Funding and Evaluation Committee but perhaps speaking during broad, high-level discussions of priorities, unmet needs, etc.

b. How does our CoC Competition scores compare to others CoCs?

HUD only releases scores to each CoC individually, thus it is difficult to compare to other CoCs. If the Board wishes, staff could reach out to other comparable CoCs and ask if they would be willing to share scores.

c. Board members had heard anecdotally that it was possible that persons placed in housing via the EHV process may be losing their housing due to lack of supportive services, or that supportive services funded by State ESG-CV dollars were ending too soon. Lead Agency staff asked service providers, city officials, and others if they had seen this as well, and we were not able to determine that it was occurring. We are always pleased to follow-up further if we receive more direct information.

4. Update on State Budget Impacts to Sonoma County CoC. Marissa Montenegro of the County Administrator’s Office provided the budget summary that is shown in **Attachment C**.

5. The Sonoma County Housing Authority is administering funds for the Emergency Housing Vouchers. This funding is intended for programs operated in partnership with the Continuum of Care (CoC) and other homeless or victim service providers to provide coordinated assistance to qualifying homeless households with the intent to expedite access to housing. The proposed amendment, shown in **Attachment D**, is to allow partnering organizations that are providing housing navigation services and incurring housing search expenses a method to be reimbursed for eligible costs.

Attachments:

A: Proposed Agenda

- B: Minutes from the 5/25/22 meeting
- C: State Budget Impacts
- D: Housing Authority Emergency Housing Voucher MOU Amendment 1



Attachment A

Sonoma County Continuum of Care (CoC) Board

Agenda for June 22, 2022

1:00pm-5:00pm Pacific Time

Public Zoom Link:

<https://sonomacounty.zoom.us/j/99261791880?pwd=djc0b1ZsU1FpOU1kbnJ0UDNOcUhfQT09>

Phone: 1 (669) 900-9128 **Webinar ID:** 992 6179 1880 **Passcode:** 650935

#	Agenda Item	Packet Item	Presenter	Time
	Welcome, Roll Call and Introductions		Board Chair	1:00pm
1.	Consent Calendar (ACTION ITEM): (Unless pulled from the Consent Calendar for separate discussion, the Board will approve the below with one action following public comment) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6/22/22 Agenda Minutes from 5/25/22 Summary of Follow-ups from the Previous Meeting(s) Update on State Budget Impacts to Sonoma County CoC Housing Authority EHV MOU Revision 	Consent Calendar Staff Report with Attachments Included	Board Chair	1:05pm
2.	Reports from Lead Agency Staff <ul style="list-style-type: none"> County's \$4 million for Homelessness in American Rescue Plan Act Partnership Health Plan CalAIM Grant 	-Staff Report for County's \$4M for Homelessness in ARPA -Staff Report for Partnership Health Plan CalAIM Grant	CDC Staff	1:30pm
3.	Word from the Street	Staff Report for Word from the Street	Chessy Etheridge	2:00pm
4.	CoC Competition Renewal Scoring (with recusals) ACTION ITEM: <i>Approve CoC renewal project scores</i>	Staff Report of Committee Scoring	CDC Staff	2:10pm
5.	10 min Break			3:00pm

6.	Reports from Standing Committees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding & Evaluation Committee ACTION ITEM: <i>Approve Funding & Evaluation Committee Membership</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinated Entry Advisory (CEA) Committee ACTION ITEM: <i>Approve updated policies and procedures for the entire Coordinated Entry system</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategic Plan Committee Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)/Data Committee Lived Experience Advisory & Planning Board (LEAP) Youth Action Board 	Staff Report for Funding & Evaluation Committee Membership Staff Report for CEA Policies & Procedures	Committee Representatives	3:10pm
7.	CoC July Quarterly Membership Meeting Agenda	Staff Report for Draft Agenda 7/21/22 Quarterly Membership Meeting	CDC Staff	4:10pm
8.	Review Agenda for July CoC Board Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainable Funding & Measure O 	Staff Report for 7/27/22 DRAFT Agenda	Board Chair	4:30pm
9.	Board Member Questions & Comments		Board Chair	4:50pm
10.	Public Comment on Non-Agendized Items		Board Chair	5:00pm

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Public Comment may be made via email or during the live zoom meeting. To submit an emailed public comment to the Board email Araceli.Rivera@sonoma-county.org. Please provide your name, the agenda number(s) on which you wish to speak, and your comment. These comments will be emailed to all Board members. Public comment during the meeting can be made live by joining the Zoom meeting using the above provided information. Available time for comments is determined by the Board Chair based on agenda scheduling demands and total number of speakers.

Attachment B



Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board Meeting Meeting Minutes (Draft)

May 25, 2022

1:00 – 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time – Meeting held by Zoom

Recording of Meeting: <https://youtu.be/vxGitmDUnMU>

Welcome and Roll Call (00:07:55 - 00:10:18)

- Tom Schwedhelm, Continuum of Care (CoC) Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. He went over the agenda and clarified Zoom rules around public comment and Brown Act guidelines.
- Roll Call was taken:
 - *Present: Ben Leroi, Santa Rosa Community Health Center; Emily Quig as proxy for Jennielynn Holmes, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Santa Rosa; Tom Schwedhelm, City of Santa Rosa; Dennis Pocekay, City of Petaluma; Chris Coursey, Sonoma County Supervisor; Margaret Sluyk, Reach for Home; Kathleen Pozzi, Community Member; Nora Mallonee-Brand, Sonoma County Behavioral Health (joined late); Chessy Etheridge, Lived Experience Advisory and Planning Board (joined late); Don Schwartz, City of Rohnert Park; John Moore, City of Cotati; Madolyn Agrimonti, City of Sonoma; Stephen Sotomayor, City of Healdsburg*
 - *Absent: Cheyenne McConnell, Youth Community Member; Chris Keys, Redwood Gospel Mission; Una Glass, City of Sebastopol; Lisa Fatu, Social Advocates for Youth*

A quorum was present.

1. Agenda and Minutes Approval (00:10:19 - 00:17:31)

Don Schwartz requested an agenda item on ESG-CV funding be added to the agenda after item 7 and clarification that item 7 is an action item and should be voted on by board.

Publiccomment:

None at this time.

Dennis Pocekay moved to approve the meeting's agenda with the two agenda adjustments, as well as the minutes from the April 27, 2022, CoC Board Meeting; Madolyn Agrimonti seconded the motion.

Ayes: Ben Leroi, Emily Quig, Tom Schwedhelm, Dennis Pocekay, Chris Coursey, Margaret Sluyk, Kathleen Pozzi, Don Schwartz, John Moore, Madolyn Agrimonti, Stephen Sotomayor

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Nora Mallonee-Brand, Chessy Etheridge, Cheyenne McConnell, Chris Keys, Una Glass, Lisa Fatu

The motion passed.

Kathleen Pozzi moved to approve the consent calendar, as well as the minutes from the 4/27/22 CoC Board Meeting; John Moore seconded the motion.

Ayes: Ben Leroi, Emily Quig, Tom Schwedhelm, Dennis Pocekay, Chris Coursey, Margaret Sluyk, Kathleen Pozzi, Don Schwartz, John Moore, Madolyn Agrimonti, Stephen Sotomayor

Noes: None

Abstain: Emily Quig on the Rohnert Park item on the agenda, Don Schwartz on the Rohnert Park Homekey agenda item

Absent: Nora Mallonee-Brand, Chessy Etheridge, Cheyenne McConnell, Chris Keys, Una Glass, Lisa Fatu

The motion passed.

2. Report from Lead Agency Staff (00:17:32 – 00:33:19)

Michael Gause reported on the recent Point in Time Count.

Public Comment:

Gerry La Londe-Berg

3. Word from the Street (00:33:20 - 00:45:44)

Chessy Etheridge spoke on the relationship between animals and their homeless owners and the challenges they face. She shared information about *Ruthless Kindness*, a non-profit organization that offers mobile clinics providing veterinary services to unsheltered residents. Tom Schwedhelm encouraged Chessy to provide more information to CDC staff for distribution.

Public Comment:

Victoria Yanez

4. Standing Committee Reports (00:45:45 – 01:56:59)

- Funding and Evaluation Committee: Chair Tom Schwedhelm reported only a few applications were received during the brief period where people could apply. He and Vice-Chair Jennielynn Holmes suggested the application period be reopened until June 7 to allow additional members to submit their applications to the CDC staff to join the committee.

Public Comment:

Gerry La Londe-Berg

Dennis Pocekay moved to reopen the application period through June 7; Madolyn Agrimonti seconded the motion. Friendly amendment by Ben Leroi to request legal advice regarding membership of service providers, which was not supported by Dennis Pocekay or Madolyn Agrimonti.

Ayes: Ben Leroi, Emily Quig, Tom Schwedhelm, Dennis Pocekay, Chris Coursey, Margaret Sluyk, Kathleen Pozzi, Nora Mallonee-Brand, Chessy Etheridge, Don Schwartz, John Moore, Madolyn Agrimonti, Stephen Sotomayor

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Cheyenne McConnell, Chris Keys, Una Glass, Lisa Fatu

The motion passed.

- Coordinated Entry Advisory Committee: Thai Hilton reported the Committee met last week to address concerns by the providers. HomeFirst will present an initial draft of the new policies and procedures at the June Board Meeting.
- Strategic Planning Committee: Tom Schwedhelm reported they are working with Homebase to complete Phase 1. He also provided updates on the other work groups.
- Homeless Management Information System/Data Committee: Committee Chair Heather Sweet provided an update. Went over proposal and requested action item; The HMIS Lead Agency Evaluation Plan.

Public Comment:

None at this time.

Don Schwartz moved to approve the report as submitted and ask the Committee to take back the idea about public communications as a role with the intent of adding something to the plan that addresses that and then bring any proposed amendments back to the Board; John Moore seconded the motion.

Ayes: Ben Leroi, Emily Quig, Tom Schwedhelm, Dennis Pocekay, Chris Coursey, Margaret Sluyk, Kathleen Pozzi, Nora Mallonee-Brand, Chessy Etheridge, Don Schwartz, John Moore, Madolyn Agrimonti, Stephen Sotomayor

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Cheyenne McConnell, Chris Keys, Una Glass, Lisa Fatu

The motion passed.

- CoC Competition Evaluation Committee: Karissa White provided a brief update on site visits; they will meet on June 8 to finalize the renewal project scoring.
- Lived Experience Advisory and Planning Board: Andrew Akufo provided an update.
- Youth Action Board: Thai Hilton reported that he and Araceli Rivera met with a group of TAY who are interested in forming a Youth Action Board.

Public Comment:

Gerry La Londe-Berg

Jasmine Palmer

5. Break (01:57:00 – 02:06:30)

6. California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) and CalAIM's Interaction with Homelessness Services and Care (02:08:41 – 03:09:32)

Lynn Scuri and Danielle Biasotti with Partnership Health Plan shared a presentation that was well received by the Board. They will provide copies of the slides.

Public Comment:

Kelli Kukendall

Victoria Yanez

Sasha Cohen

7. KPMG's Report on Homelessness Services Organizational Recommendations (03:09:33 – 03:57:10)

Christel Querijero, Sonoma County Deputy County Administrator, gave a presentation on the County staff's recommendation for the organizational placement of the County's homelessness services.

Public Comment:

Gerry La Londe-Berg

Victoria Yanez

Tom Schwedhelm offered to compile any comments from the CoC Board to give to the Board of Supervisors.

John Moore moved to follow the staff's recommendation; Kathleen Pozzi seconded the motion.

Ayes: Ben Leroi, Emily Quig, Tom Schwedhelm, Dennis Pocekay, Chris Coursey, Margaret Sluyk, Kathleen Pozzi, Nora Mallonee-Brand, Chessy Etheridge, Don Schwartz, John Moore, Madolyn Agrimonti, Stephen Sotomayor

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Cheyenne McConnell, Chris Keys, Una Glass, Lisa Fatu

The motion passed

8. ESG-CV Funding (03:57:11 – 04:12:51)

Don Schwartz reported on conversations he had with people in Petaluma and Rohnert Park that people who have been placed into permanent housing with vouchers are at risk or have fallen out of the placements because of the lack of supportive services. He would like information from providers on what is really happening on the ground.

Public Comment:

Gerry La Londe-Berg

Matt Verscheure

9. Review Agenda for June 22 CoC Board Meeting (04:13:01 – 04:16:40)

Don Schwartz suggested adding CALAim's potential to use for housing navigation deposits and what are the providers' capacity to leverage this funding source/services.

Public Comment:

Victoria Yanez

10. Board Member Questions and Comments (04:16:41 – 04:18:12)

Kathleen Pozzi has questions about Governor Newsome's proposed CARE courts. She will have an off-line conversation with Tom Schwedhelm.

11. Public Comments on Non-Agendized Items (04:18:13 – 04:29:39)

Public Comment:

Gerry La Londe-Berg

Michael Titone
Victoria Yanez

Meeting was adjourned at 5:19 p.m.

Attachment C

California State Budget: Housing and Homelessness

On homelessness, the Governor's May Revise earmarked \$650 million in new spending, including the previously announced \$150 million augmentation for Project Homekey and a new \$500 million transitional housing grant program. Counties can apply for these new grants to implement interim housing solutions such as tiny homes, and the Governor is offering to clear some of the hurdles for siting such housing on state-owned property.

The Legislative Leaders recently announced a joint budget agreement which includes the following housing and homelessness highlights:

HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Key Actions on Governor's Proposals:

- Encampment Resolution Grants. Includes \$300 million for Encampment Resolution grants, to help local governments with resolving critical encampments and transitioning individuals into permanent housing.
- Governor's Affordable Housing Proposals. Funds key portions of the Administration's proposed affordable housing package, including:
 - \$250 million over two years for Adaptive Reuse, including a \$10 million re-appropriation of existing funding.
 - \$500 million over two years for the Infill Infrastructure Grant (IIG) Program.
 - \$100 million over two years for mobile homes and manufactured housing.
 - \$150 million over two years for the preservation of existing affordable housing.
 - \$100 million over two years for affordable housing on state excess sites.

Key Legislative Additions:

- Additional Legislative Affordable Housing Investments. Includes additional investments in affordable housing and homeownership, including:
 - \$350 million for the CalHOME program.
 - \$300 million for the Housing Accelerator Program.
 - \$400 million over two years for the Multifamily Housing Program.
 - \$100 million for the Joe Serna Jr. Farmworker Housing Program.
 - \$200 million for affordable housing preservation through the Community Anti-Displacement Acquisition Program (CAPP).
 - \$50 million for ADU financing.

More information from the May revise from the Governor's Office follows.

Attachment D
FIRST AMENDMENT TO
Memorandum of Understanding for the Administration of the Emergency Housing Voucher Program

This First Amendment (“First Amendment”), dated as of this ____ day of _____, 20__ (“Effective Date”), is to that certain Memorandum of Understanding for the Administration of the Emergency Housing Voucher Program (MOU) by and between the Sonoma County Housing Authority (hereinafter “PHA”), and the Sonoma County Continuum of Care, (hereinafter “CoC”), dated as of July 26, 2021_ (the “Original Agreement,” and as supplemented and amended by this First Amendment, the “Agreement”). PHA and CoC are sometimes referred to hereinafter individually as a “party” and collectively as the “parties.”

RECITALS

WHEREAS, PHA and CoC previously entered into the Original Memorandum of Understanding to outline the partnership between the parties for the administration of the Emergency Housing Voucher program; and

WHEREAS, PHA and CoC mutually desire to amend said Agreement to make the following changes: incorporate Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, in the judgment of the PHA and the CoC, it is necessary and desirable to amend the Agreement as set forth above.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the PHA and CoC, in consideration of their mutual promises herein contained, do agree and covenant to amend that certain Agreement by and between them as follows:

AGREEMENT

As of the Effective Date, the Agreement shall be deemed to be amended in the following manner:

1. The following exhibits are attached hereto and incorporated herein:

EXHIBIT A: PHA Reimbursement of Eligible Expenses

All references in the Original Agreement shall include Exhibit A, respectively, to this First Amendment.

2. Except to the extent the Agreement is specifically amended or supplemented by this Amendment, the Agreement, together with exhibits, is and shall continue to be in full force

PHA AND CoC HAVE CAREFULLY READ AND REVIEWED THIS FIRST AMENDMENT AND EACH TERM AND PROVISION CONTAINED HEREIN AND, BY EXECUTION OF THIS FIRST AMENDMENT, SHOW THEIR INFORMED AND VOLUNTARY CONSENT THERETO.

—THIS SPACE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK—

SIGNATURES BEGIN ON NEXT PAGE

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this First Amendment to be executed as of the Effective Date.

Sonoma County Continuum of Care

Dated: _____ By: _____

Name: Tom Schwedhelm _____

Title: Board Chair _____

SONOMA COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY

Dated: _____ By: _____
Dave Kiff, Interim Executive Director

Exhibit A: PHA Reimbursement of Eligible Expenses

Background

Sonoma County Housing Authority is administering funds for the Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHVs). These EHVs are to assist individuals and families experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness. Due to the high risk of instability of the target population, there are available funds for eligible expenses to support participants in securing and stabilizing in housing. This funding is intended for programs operated in partnership with the Continuum of Care (CoC) and other homeless or victim service providers to provide coordinated assistance to qualifying households.

CoC Service Providers have made commitment to referring households, provide housing search assistance, provide ongoing housing stability counseling for first year of participation, and refer households for benefits and supportive services as needed.

The Sonoma County Housing Authority (SCHA) has made commitment to administer the EHV funds in accordance with PIH Notice 2021-15 which notes that Housing Search assistance to expedite the EHV leasing process as central to this project. To best expedite leasing for EHVs, CoC Service Providers play an essential role due to their existing services with referred households and continued support of EHV participants.

Services

Eligible CoC Service Providers will provide housing search assistance to Households with EHVs. CoC Service Providers must utilize any existing funding that is designated for housing search assistance prior to seeking reimbursement as set forth herein and in compliance with regulations of the US Department of Housing and Urban Development. Eligible CoC Service Providers who incur the following expenses paid directly on behalf of securing housing for an EHV participant, and do not have other designated funds to cover these costs, can seek expense reimbursement for:

- Application Fees
- Application Deposit Assistance
- Holding Fees
- Utility Deposit Assistance
- Moving Expense not to exceed \$500
- Landlord Signing Bonus not to exceed \$500
- Deposit Assistance not to exceed 2x the monthly rent
- Essential Household Items not to exceed \$1000 per household

Copies of receipts with EHV participant names must be submitted with all reimbursement requests.

The Sonoma County Housing Authority retains the right to deny requests for reimbursement of expenses if they are deemed inappropriate, in violation of regulatory guidance, or are determined to be unreasonable in cost.

Total Reimbursements under this Exhibit shall not exceed \$25,000

**Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board
Agenda Report**

Item No: 2

Subject: Consultation Regarding County Board of Supervisors' allocation of \$4 million from ARPA for Homelessness Activities and Programs

Meeting Date: June 22, 2022

Staff Contact: Dave Kiff – dave.kiff@sonoma-county.org or 707-565-7504

SUMMARY

This staff report asks for the CoC Board's consultation regarding proposed uses for \$4,000,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds that the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors directed be used for homelessness solutions. As a part of greater collaboration with the CoC, the Board of Supervisors has asked that items such as this be presented to the CoC Board for consultation prior to the supervisors' consideration of the same information.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)

Review and provide consultation to the Board of Supervisors.

DISCUSSION

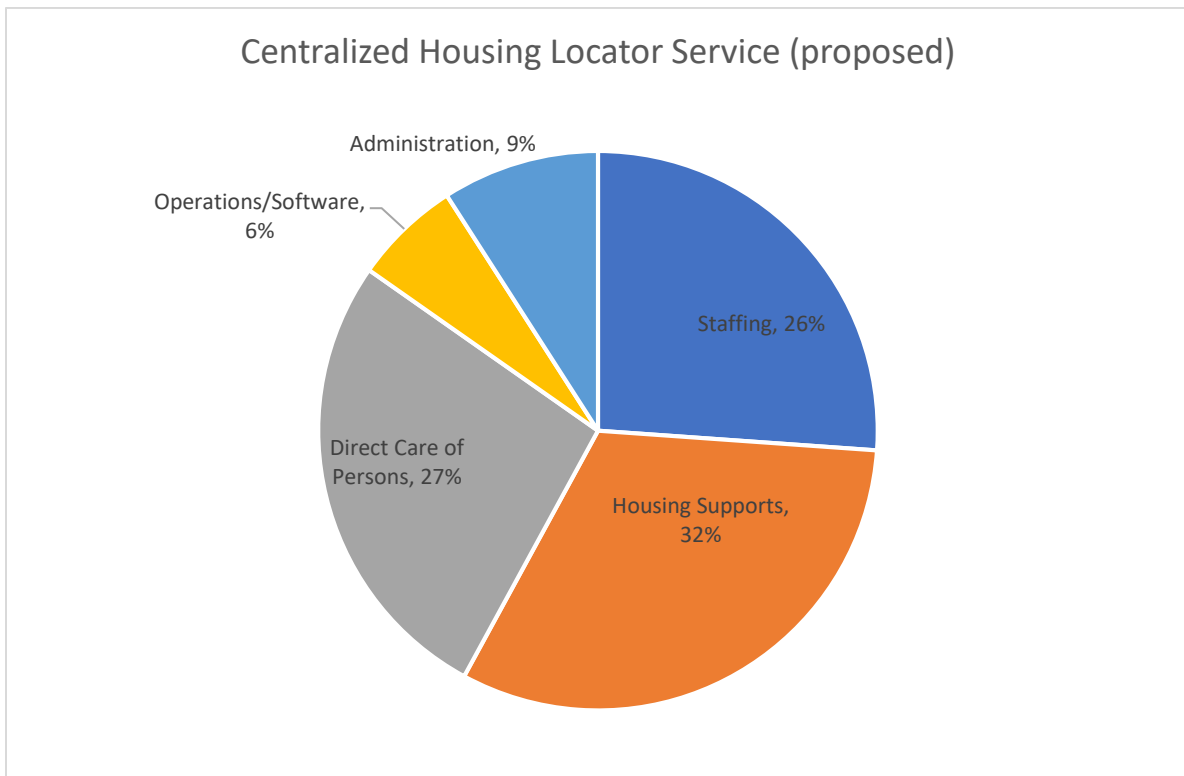
Tina Rivera, Director of Health Services, and Dave Kiff, Interim Executive Director of the Community Development Commission, developed the attached list of projects and programs to respond to the Board of Supervisors' call to advance homelessness solutions in our region using up to \$4 million in ARPA funds. Our recommendation is as follows:

- **\$2,165,000** for a regional Centralized Housing Location (CHL) Service¹ over at least an 18-month period that would, among other things:
 - o Market directly to landlords (explain programs, benefits, incentives)
 - o Have a centralized housing database (good off-the-shelf products today) that any homeless service provider could access.
 - o Fund incentives (signing bonuses, small repairs fund, higher security deposits, unit holds, risk mitigation, vacancy loss)
 - o Fund move-in and moving costs, as well as move-in packages.

¹ This proposal was developed and submitted by the Sonoma County Housing Authority and CDC team members as a formal ARPA submission, similar to those that went into the larger \$39 million ARPA pool. It assumes 18 months.

- o Participate in case conferencing and referrals by Housing Navigators (in cities and at the County) for persons coming out of homelessness.
- o Have an advisory body w/service providers to ensure goals are met (net = \$2.065M, which includes leveraging the Board of Supervisors’ previously-assigned \$100,000 for housing location services from the Sonoma County Strategic Plan implementation).

Chart 1 – Breakdown of Proposed Expense Allocation by Category



- **\$620,000** to supplement a Peer Housing Support program, “Transitions to Housing” from West County Community Services² that received partial funding within the larger ARPA awards. The 18-month program (countywide) would hire and use lived experience peers to help get homeless individuals ready for placement in housing. Peer navigation is among the best ways to build system trust and system placement amongst persons who are unhoused;
- **\$250,000** to improve Sonoma County’s 2-1-1 System so that it provides stronger information and assistance to persons at risk of homelessness. This is a follow-up to recent meetings between Lead Agency staff and 2-1-1 representatives. 2-1-1 may be an important part of prevention and diversion efforts;

² This proposal was also submitted in the larger County ARPA effort, but was shorted some of the requested funding. We asked WCCS to tell us how they could match the non-homelessness support program with one geared towards persons experiencing homelessness, and this was the result.

- **\$200,000** to implement improvements from the CoC and County Q1 - Q2 2022 assessment of the “Front Door” to the homeless system of care (including case conferencing, coordinated entry, By Names Listings, and more).
- **\$865,000** in Flexible Support, allocated as:
 - **\$200,000** to continue the Flexible Funding program started by the Board of Supervisors in FY 21-22 that enables outreach and other teams to quickly help those in need of solutions that may involve small amounts of funds or short-term services. County staff is discussing how or if these funds could be allocated regionally via case conferencing; and
 - **\$665,000** for flexible support (on a competitive basis) that fills portions of housing unit shortfalls (possibly viewed through the All Home 1-2-4 model) that will be identified in the current Homebase/CoC/County strategic planning effort.

The CoC Board’s comments and questions are welcomed on this proposal. The CoC Board’s consultation will be relayed to the Board of Supervisors on July 12, 2022, as the Board discusses this same proposal.

**Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board
Agenda Report**

Item No: 2

Subject: Update and Information about Partnership Healthplan of California (PHC) and their Local Homeless Plan (LHP) application for the Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program (HHIP) through Cal-AIM (California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal)

Meeting Date: June 22, 2022

Staff Contact: Dave Kiff – dave.kiff@sonoma-county.org or 707-565-7504

SUMMARY

This staff report is a brief update on Partnership Healthplan of California’s (PHC’s) intention to work with the County and the Continuum of Care to submit for grant funding for Calendar Years 2023 and 2024 from the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS).

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)

None – an informational item only.

DISCUSSION

Under CDHS’ Housing and Homeless Incentive Program (HHIP), “Medi-Cal managed care plans (such as PHC) would be able to earn incentive funds for making investments and progress in addressing homelessness and keeping people housed. Managed care plans and the local homeless Continuum of Care, in partnership with local public health jurisdictions, county behavioral health, Public Hospitals, county social services, and local housing departments must submit a Homelessness Plan to DHCS.

“The homelessness plan must outline how Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program services and supports would be integrated into the homeless system. This would include a housing and services gaps/needs assessment and how these funds would prioritize aging and disabled homeless Californians (including those with a behavioral health disability). Plans should build off of existing local HUD or other homeless plans and be designed to address unmet needs.”

“In counties with more than one managed care plan, plans would need to work together to submit one plan per county. The Homelessness Plans must include mapping the continuum of services with focus on homelessness prevention, interim housing (particularly for the aging

and/or disabled population), rapid re-housing (families and youth), and permanent supportive housing.”

As of the date of this report, staff from the Lead Agency and PHP are working to meet the general deadlines (June 30, 2022 is one) for PHP to submit data sheets and related tables that include the PHC-HHIP Local Homelessness Plan application. The data sheets’ information is closely related to the same data sheets submitted to the California Interagency on Homelessness’ (Cal-ICH’s) Homeless Action Plans submitted under the Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) program.

The application itself is broad, and seeks to show performance metrics (many of which the CoC Board is interested in using more) associated with items such as:

- Engagement with the Continuum of Care;
- Connection and Integration with the Coordinated Entry System;
- Outreach and engagement efforts and approach to providing medically appropriate and cost-effective housing-related Community Supports services (a Cal-AIM classification) or other housing-related services to Managed Care Provider (MCP) members who are experiencing homelessness;
- Partnerships with counties, COC, and/or organizations that deliver housing services (i.e., interim housing, rental assistance, supportive housing, outreach, prevention/diversion) with which the MCP has a data sharing agreement that allows for timely exchange of information and member matching;
- Connection with street medicine team providing healthcare for individuals who are homeless;
- Connection with the local Homeless Management Information System (HMIS);
- A process for tracking and managing referrals for the housing-related Community Supports it is offering during the measurement period, which may include:
 - Housing Transition Navigation
 - Housing Deposits
 - Housing Tenancy and Sustaining Services
 - Recuperative Care
 - Short-Term Post-Hospitalization Housing
 - Day Habilitation Programs
- Members screened for homelessness/risk of homelessness;
- Members screened for homelessness or risk of homelessness who were discharged from an inpatient setting or have been to the emergency department for services two or more times in a 4-month period;
- Efforts to support the CoC in the collection of Point in Time (PIT) count of members determined as homeless;

- Members in the Enhanced Care Management (also a Cal-AIM term) Population of Focus (PoF) "Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness" receiving at least one housing-related Community Supports; and
- Members who were successfully housed.

Funds available under the HHIP are two-year in nature – Calendar Years 2023 and 2024. We're not yet fully aware of scope of these funds, but they may be significant to the Sonoma County region.

We will update the Board further in July. According to PHC, July-August 2022 is when, if a preliminary application is approved, funding alignments would be proposed and agreed to upon later submission to DHCS.

#

**Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board
Agenda Report**

Item No: 3
Subject: Word from the Street
Meeting Date: 6/22/22
Staff Contact: Andrew Akufo, Program Planning and Evaluation Analyst,
Andrew.Akufo@Sonoma-County.org

SUMMARY

Sonoma County Continuum of Care (CoC) Lived Experience Board member, Chessy Etheridge shared information during the “Word from the Street” segment of the CoC Board meeting on May 25, 2022 about the connection between animals and homelessness. Chessy was asked to provide further information about the nonprofit organization, Ruthless Action and Senate Bill (SB) 513 during the CoC Board meeting on June 22, 2022.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)

Invite to Ruthless Action to share a presentation about their services during the next Continuum of Care (CoC) Board meeting.

DISCUSSION

Sonoma County Continuum of Care (CoC) Lived Experience Board member, Chessy Etheridge shared information during the “Word from the Street” segment of the CoC Board meeting on May 25, 2022 about the connection between animals and homelessness. Chessy was asked by the CoC Board and staff to provide further information about the nonprofit organization, Ruthless Action and the possibility of partnering with them. Chessy was also asked to provide more information about Senate Bill (SB) 513 during the CoC Board meeting on June 22, 2022.

ATTACHMENTS:

A: Senate Bill 513

Senate Bill 513

Supporting Both Ends of the Leash

As Amended January 3, 2022

SUMMARY

SB 513 builds on the success of the Pet Assistance and Support (PAS) Program of 2019 by requiring the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to develop and administer a program that awards grants to homeless shelters to serve the needs of pets for people experiencing homelessness, including shelter, food, and basic veterinary services.

ISSUE

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on individuals experiencing homelessness is creating a “crisis within a crisis” for our state’s most vulnerable communities. On any given night in California, at least 150,000 people are without a home. Additionally, a 2020 homeless point-in-time count estimates 66,436 homeless people are living within Los Angeles County, and 41,290 are living within the City of Los Angeles. These are increases of 12.7 percent and 16.1 percent, respectively, from 2019.

According to the nonprofit Pets of the Homeless, an estimated five to ten percent of Americans experiencing homelessness own a dog or a cat. Further, the [British Journal of Occupational Therapy](#) stipulates pets provide warmth, security, and companionship to many unsheltered people. Some also suggest caring for a pet provides a much needed feeling of normalcy; for many people, the simple act of providing food and water to their pet may even help keep their humanity intact.

Unfortunately, many unsheltered individuals refuse housing and services if doing so requires them to abandon their animal companion. This happens all too often: a majority of shelters, motels and other assisted housing programs do not permit animals on their property, pushing potential beneficiaries to live on the street, in their cars or RVs, and in tent camps. Further, the Seattle University School of Law’s Homeless Rights Advocacy Project found that if owners decide to indeed surrender their pet in order to receive shelter, they are reunited with their pets only 15 percent of the time.

While the PAS Program was a great initial step in reducing barriers for pet owners experiencing homelessness, its first allocation of \$5 million in 2019 only stretched far enough to support 28 of the 49 shelters that applied, and was extended through a second allocation of \$10 million in the 2021 Budget. Meanwhile, pet ownership continues to represent a major obstacle to accessing shelter among unsheltered homeless adults. By providing further support for the PAS Program, we provide for individuals who otherwise would not receive essential services such as medical and living assistance, which are all the more important in the midst of this pandemic.

SB 513 (HERTZBERG)

SB 513 creates a permanent grant program for homeless shelters providing shelter, food, and basic veterinary services for pets of the homeless. Shelters must establish certain requirements, such as rules of conduct and responsibility regarding pets and their owners, crating or kenneling either near bunks or in a separate area, and food for both people and pets. The shelter would also need to have access to the services of a veterinarian, including spay and neutering services.

SUPPORT

American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA)

Best Friends Animal Society

Hope of the Valley Rescue Mission

League of California Cities

Mars, Incorporated

People Assisting the Homeless (PATH)

Social Compassion in Legislation

WEAVE

**Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board
Agenda Report**

Item No: 4
Subject: CoC Competition Renewal Scoring (with recusals)
Meeting Date: June 22, 2022
Staff Contact: Karissa White, Continuum of Care Coordinator, Karissa.White@sonoma-county.org

SUMMARY

As a requirement of the Continuum of Care Program, individual projects must be evaluated, scored and ranked against each other annually for HUD's CoC Competition. First, projects that already have been awarded funding are scored and then once HUD releases the Notice of Funding Opportunity, new projects are evaluated and scored against renewing projects. The following item is the scoring for the renewing projects and Corrective Action Plans for two organizations to be approved by the CoC Board as recommended by the CoC Competition Evaluation Committee.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)

1. Approve FY 2022 Continuum of Care Program Renewal Project Scoring.
2. Approve Corrective Action Plans for Reach for Home's North County RRH Project and Catholic Charities PSH 2 project.

DISCUSSION

Renewal Scoring

The Continuum of Care (CoC) Program is designed to promote communitywide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers, and State and local governments to quickly rehouse homeless individuals and families while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused to homeless individuals, families, and communities by homelessness; promote access to and effect utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families; and optimize self-sufficiency among individuals and families experiencing homelessness. The Continuum of Care Board is charged with approving projects, including their scores and ranking for this national competition for funding. In Sonoma County, the process to score projects begin with the evaluation and scoring of renewing projects (projects that are already in existence).

Site visits for Continuum of Care Program renewal projects were conducted from May 23rd through June 3rd. Sonoma County Community Development Commission's Continuum of Care Coordinator Karissa White, Homeless Projects Specialist Araceli Rivera, Coordinated Entry Coordinator Thai Hilton, and select CoC Competition Evaluation Committee members met with renewing agencies to discuss initial scoring. During the

site visits, providers were given the opportunity to dispute any scoring discrepancies or provide additional information for the Committee to consider when finalizing scoring during the meeting on June 8, 2022.

The CoC Competition Evaluation Committee met on June 8th to review additional information provided by the Renewal Applicants and discuss site visits. The committee unanimously approved scoring for this year's Continuum of Care renewing projects as listed in Attachment A of this report.

Scoring Sections:

- Housing Performance
- Income Performance
- Utilization
- Housing First Practices and Implementation
- Collaboration with Coordinated Entry
- Alignment with 10-year plan goals
- Financial Audits
- Contract Administration
- Spend down of funds and match
- Cultural Competency and Client/Lived Experience Feedback Process
- Data-informed Program Research
- Change Management & Institutionalization of Knowledge
- Data Quality and Timelessness

Corrective Action Plans

The **Reach for Home North County RRH project** did not meet the threshold requirement of scoring 80% of the top scoring project. As outlined within our local process, this requires the organization to either reallocate their project voluntarily (give up their funding) or commit to a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) as approved by the CoC Board. Awarded in 2019, operations for this project should have begun in 2020. The agency reported a number of issues with being able to start the project and start serving individuals; this included the change in their Executive Director, issues with COVID, and California's Eviction Moratorium as it related to limiting the number of available units in the community and most people calling seeking services were interested in homeless prevention funding. This project was given a pass last year during the Final Priority Listing and recommended for funding based on the factors mentioned. It was confirmed during the site visit the project started to serve clients in October of 2021, serving a total of three households since receiving the original award.

The reason the project scored so low was due to the lack of an Annual Performance Report (APR) to score their projects performance. The Continuum of Care Coordinator confirmed with the organization they would prefer to work on a CAP rather than give up their funding. Given that the project scored so low compared to others, there is a possibility that this project could lose their funding as HUD puts a certain amount of our total Annual Renewal Demand at risk each year and awards communities in the overall CoC Application for reallocating projects that are underperforming. The only time HUD has not put a certain percentage of funding at risk was in 2020 and in 2021 as it related issues surrounding COVID.

The following is being recommended for Reach for Home's Corrective Action Plan:

1. Provide a succession transition plan, this includes a list of all of the grants the organization currently has with a point of contact for funding

2. Submit Reach for Home's CoC Operating Policies and Procedures- agencies are required to have their own internal CoC Policies and Procedures [24 CFR Section 578.103\(a\)](#)
3. Monitoring of Quarterly draws and clients served by CDC staff for the next two years

The **Catholic Charities PSH 2 project** is being recommended for a Corrective Action Plan based on findings during the project review process. This project is dedicated to serving 100% chronically homeless individuals and the Annual Performance Report (APR) submitted for review only showed that 55% of individuals served actually met that definition during the reporting review period of 2020-2021. The organization informed staff during the site visit that the individuals in the report were dismissed from PSH 3 project and enrolled into the PSH 2 project due to consolidation of the grant but never actually moved units; thus, not showing as chronically homeless in the system. In addition, there seemed to be some disconnect on how individuals were being referred over to the program during the transition when Burbank became the property manager.

After the site visit, our HMIS Coordinator ran a report to confirm if these clients came from PSH 3 directly to PSH 2 as staff was confused on how the consolidation happened or should have happened since it was the first in our community. The report pulled showed only two individuals had been referred over from the PSH 3 project to the PSH 2 project with no original referral attached. There were a high number of individuals that moved project to project in HMIS, which included their city funded RRH project without a program transfer from Coordinated Entry (CE). These findings sparked more questions for staff as it relates to the required referrals from CE. Staff pulled another report and found that as of 7/1/2018, 56% of individuals served in the Catholic Charities CoC Program PSH projects (4 total reviewed in HMIS) did not have an original referral from Coordinated Entry attached. CDC staff reached out to the provider for additional information or clarity on the reports found prior to publishing these findings, but no response was provided.

The following is being recommended for Catholic Charities' Corrective Action Plan:

1. Submit CoC Catholic Charities Operating Policies and Procedures [24 CFR Section 578.103\(a\)](#) - clear intake procedures with documentation of training provided to staff
2. Quarterly Monitoring of CES Referrals/project enrollments for two years (all should be through CES)
3. Provide Unit numbers of the CoC funded units at the Palms Inn site. This should ensure when someone leaves a CoC funded unit, that unit is then open for another CES referral. Based on the information gathered and provided, it sounds like people were staying in the same units and being transferred project to project in HMIS.
4. Required review of APR by CoC staff prior to official APR submission in Sage for two years

Optional Review

The following information is provided for transparency for those who wish to review and is not required for CoC Board members review. The CoC Competition Evaluation Committee has thoroughly reviewed each project in depth to come up with the final scores set for approval.

CoC Competition Evaluation Committee Packet 5/18/2022 with Initial Committee and Staff Reports:

<https://share.sonoma-county.org/link/keNOHxipGKM/>

CoC Competition Evaluation Committee Packet 06/08/2022 Additional Information from collected from Site

Visits: <https://share.sonoma-county.org/link/v0kYee6u-hs/>

Detailed CoC Renewal Scores (scores by each section, Attachment A includes the final score being recommended): <https://share.sonoma-county.org/link/Md8rQc6jQMY/>

ATTACHMENTS:

A: 2022 CoC Program Renewal Project Scoring

Attachment A
2022 CoC Program Renewal Project Scoring

Agency	Project	Score
Committee on the Shelterless	Community Based PSH	79.7
Social Advocates for Youth	SAY Sponsor Based Rental Assistance	77.72
Buckelew	Sonoma SCIL	74.01
Sonoma County Housing Authority	Rental Assistance Youth with Disabilities	73.94
West County Community Services	Mill Street Supportive Housing	73.87
Buckelew	Samaritan FACT	73.09
Sonoma County Housing Authority	Rental Assistance HIV/Aids	72.22
YWCA	YWCA RRH for Vulnerable Survivors of DV	71.44
Catholic Charities	PSH2	71.38
Community Support Network	Stony Point Commons	70.22
Community Support Network	Sanctuary Villas	68.95
Reach for Home	North County RRH	38.55
Catholic Charities	PSH2 Expansion	NA-new
Social Advocates for Youth	SAY Sponsor Based Rental Assistance Expansion	NA-new
St Vincent de Paul	St Vincent de Paul Commons	NA-new

**Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board
Agenda Report**

Item No: 6
Subject: Funding and Evaluation Committee Member Recommendations
Meeting Date: 6/17/22
Staff Contact: Andrew Akufo, Program Planning and Evaluation Analyst,
Andrew.Akufo@Sonoma-County.org

SUMMARY

The Sonoma County Continuum of Care (CoC) Board Chair and Vice Chair met on Thursday, June 16, 2022 to select up to thirteen candidates from a list of twenty-four total applicants as recommendations for the new Funding and Evaluation Committee.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)

1. CoC Board Approval for Funding & Evaluation Committee Membership

DISCUSSION

The Sonoma County Continuum of Care (CoC) Board opened the application process for the new Funding and Evaluation Committee on May 3, 2022.

The responsibilities of the new committee members will include developing recommendations for the CoC Board on use of CoC funds, reviewing long-term funding strategies, making funding decisions on behalf of the CoC Board, evaluating the performance of the system of care, programs, and service providers to inform funding decisions, support public communications (including a dashboard of metrics), and improve the system of care.

The original deadline was scheduled for Monday, May 9, 2022, 5pm. The CoC Board Chair and Vice Chair agreed to extend the deadline for applications in order to allow more time for applicants to apply. The deadline was extended to June 7, 2022, 5pm. Twenty-four total applications were received by community members including government officials, service provider workers, current CoC Board members and people with lived experience. After meeting to review applications on Thursday, June 16, 2020 recommendations were determined by the CoC Board Chair and Vice Chair for the Funding and Evaluation Committee.

The list of membership recommendations for the new Funding and Evaluation Committee is listed as follows:

1. Cathleen Tandy
2. Una Glass
3. Dennis Pocekay
4. Don Schwartz
5. Ludmilla Bade
6. Madolyn Agrimonti
7. Rebekah Sammet
8. Teddie Pierce
9. Andrew Hening
10. Kelli Kuykendall
11. Chessy Etheridge

Staff is currently seeking approval from the CoC Board for the Funding and Evaluation Committee membership.

**Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board
Agenda Report**

Item No: 6

Subject: Coordinated Entry Policies and Procedures

Meeting Date: June 22, 2022

Staff Contact: Thai Hilton Thai.Hilton@sonoma-county.org

SUMMARY

The Coordinated Entry Advisory Committee (CEA) approved a draft of the new policies and procedures for the Coordinated Entry (CE) System. There are important policy changes that will bring our CE system into better compliance with HUD regulations and improve transparency in supportive housing placements.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)

1. The CEA Committee recommends approval of the CE policies and procedures
2. If the board does not approve of any of the proposed policies, staff requests that the rest of the policies and procedures be approved so that the system can move forward with the new model. Staff also requests that specific direction be given on any policy that is not approved.

DISCUSSION

The attached draft of the new Coordinated Entry Policies and Procedures has some noteworthy changes. Significant changes that homeless service providers will experience if/when these policies are adopted are outlined below. Staff comments are in red below the policy. Board members are encouraged to review the policies and procedures in their entirety.

- 1) Inactivity policy
 - a. HomeFirst would like these policies and procedures to be passed today however, if the committee is not able to approve all of the policies today, they ask that you consider approving the inactivity policy located on page 34. This policy states, *“A participant shall remain on the active list until they are housed permanently, they voluntarily request to be removed, there has been no contact with the system in 90 days, or all efforts have been exhausted in attempting to contact the participant.”* **The need for approving this policy now is due to the fact that the current by names list has many individuals on it who have been inactive in the system for sometime and are housed or have moved on. This means that when projects request referrals, they are often sent the names of**

individuals who are not interested in housing making referrals take a long time.
Approval of this policy will expediate referrals to programs immediately.

2) New responsibilities for providers:

- a. Diversion & Housing problem solving are stressed as important parts of the process. This will require on-going training.
- b. Access points will be responsible for collecting copies of program documentation, available at point of assessment, that verifies eligibility criteria for programs. This includes things like; ID, SS card, SSI/SSDI award letters. If some of this gets updated, the access point will be encouraged to upload the updated data.
- c. Managers from Housing Programs accepting referrals from CES will be required to attend a training on Accepting Referrals from CES, which includes the following topics:
 - i. Notification of new openings
 - ii. CES Case Conference receiving new referrals
 - iii. Participant Choice in Housing Offers
 - iv. Due Diligence and Case Noting
 1. CES Referral Standard Location Practices
 - v. Problem Solving in CES Case Conference
 1. Referral Rejection Policies and Procedures
 2. CES Grievances and discrimination complaints
 - vi. HMIS referral acceptance process

3) Prioritization for Permanent Supportive Housing. Pg. 29

- 1st priority: Chronically Homeless households with Severe Service Needs.
- 2nd Priority: Homeless households with a Disability with Severe Service Needs.
- 3rd Priority: Homeless households with a Disability Coming from Places Not Meant for Human Habitation, Safe Haven, or Emergency Shelter Without Severe Service Needs.
- 4th priority: Homeless households with a Disability Coming from Transitional Housing.

4) Prioritization for Rapid Rehousing pg. 30. Phasing out of “housing in hand” referrals.

- From June 2022 – September 2022, 50% of referrals to each Rapid Rehousing Provider each month will be prioritized according to the Community Prioritization Standards, and 50% will be set aside for participants who have already identified housing.
- From October 2022 – December 2022, 80% of referrals to each Rapid Rehousing Provider each month will be prioritized according to the Community Prioritization Standards, and 20% will be set aside for participants who have already identified housing.
- Beginning January 2023, 100% of referrals to Rapid Rehousing will be prioritized according to the Community Prioritization Standards.
- This is a needed change to our Coordinated Entry (CE) System. The current practice of housing in hand referrals does not align with CE regulations because there is no

prioritization of individuals seeking to access Rapid Rehousing (RRH). This was noted in the 2019 Technical Assistance Collaborative assessment of the Sonoma County Coordinated Entry System. Additionally, some RRH providers have limited many of their referrals to only those with housing in hand. This reduces the availability of an important intervention.

This policy will impact the pairing of Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV) with RRH. The CoC board intended to pair ESG-CV Rapid Rehousing funds with EHV so that participants could access deposits and supportive services when they were housed. If this policy is approved as written, the number of EHV voucher holders who can be referred to Rapid Rehousing will be limited and there will not be enough referrals to accommodate all those still needing supportive services. HomeFirst is unwilling to continue making these noncompliant referrals that would commit most system Rapid Rehousing resources to non-prioritized populations for the rest of the calendar year or more. They are open to suggestions that allow for a high percentage of prioritized RRH referrals, and a concrete end date for out-of-compliance referrals.

If yearly trends hold, there would be approximately 150-200 RRH referrals available total for the remaining calendar year system-wide. There are approximately 150 EHV voucher holders that are not housed and could use supportive services.

The Housing Authorities have funding to help EHV voucher holders with deposits and move in costs. The proposed Centralized Housing Location proposal for ARPA funding too would provide resources to those in the community who need deposit and move in assistance. There is however, a gap in supportive services. Ultimately, the policy of housing in hand referrals must end as it is not compliant with HUD regulations.

- 5) The CES Case Conference is the forum in which participant prioritization, referral, eligibility, transfer, and referral rejection decisions are made transparently and agreed upon by community members present
 - a. Case conferencing will involve more than just discussion about referrals. All rejections by programs, and program transfers will only be approved by a vote of the case conferencing participants.

- 6) The Coordinated Entry Advisory Committee will be invited to participate in a special session annually to complete the HUD CES Self-Assessment Tool
 - a. HUD requires communities to do self-assessments of their local CES systems annually. This was not done in the past and staff feels that this committee is where this work should live.

- 7) Vision:

- “The vision of the CES is to provide assessment, prioritization, and matching of people experiencing homelessness to housing and supportive services in the most transparent, person-centered, equitable, and trauma-informed way possible.”

8) Definitions:

- “Internal” and “External” Access Points descriptions and minimum standards defined. Internal Access Points are only required to provide the CES Assessment to their own participants. External Access Points provide the CES Assessment to all participants seeking it.

9) Ongoing Policy and Procedure Updating:

- Clarifies that P+Ps should be updated regularly, at minimum reviewed quarterly and recommendations made as part of the Quarterly Evaluation Report. All change recommendations would be put to the CEA Committee and CoC Board for approval.

10) Assessment:

- Only HUD homeless categories 1 and 4 (literally homeless and survivor of domestic violence, respectively) receive the CES Assessment and placed on the By Name Lists. Previously Cat 2 and 3 were included, which contributed to an inefficient BNL that included many housed participants.
- The CES Assessment has been split into six stages, below. Only new addition is the “Enhanced Assessment” which allows for additional evidence to be gathered and presented instead of the VI-SPDAT for prioritization. The rest of the stages were previously part of the assessment but now have each received their own defined procedures.
 - Diversion/Housing Problem Solving Conversation
 - Crisis Navigation and Connection
 - Standardized Assessment Tool
 - HMIS Data Entry
 - Collection of Initial Eligibility Documents
 - Enhanced Assessment
- Assessment will only be provided by Access Points, rather than the Operator.

11) Referral:

- As has been previously discussed, all referrals will happen at CES Case Conference.
- Removed 3 attempt minimum, in favor of policy of community consensus when all attempts possible have been made for each referral.
- Referral rejections must be approved by consensus vote at CES case conference, with appeals available at the Shelter/appeals Subcommittee. Allowable reasons for referral rejection remain the same.

- 25% of all openings at each Case Conference will be available to cases brought for Enhanced Assessment and Prioritization, in which additional evidence to the VI-SPDAT may be presented for prioritization.
- Public facing CDC webpage documenting each project's complete eligibility criteria will be created, with projects required to submit their eligibility criteria. This policy has not changed but will be followed for the first time going forward.

12) Transfers:

- Transfer policies and procedures have been more clearly defined, including progressive engagement procedure

13) Eligibility Documentation Roles and Responsibilities:

- Roles and responsibilities for eligibility documentation gathering have been clearly defined

14) Reasonable Accommodation, Appeals of case conferencing decisions and Grievances:

- Policies have been more clearly defined. Appeals for both would go to Shelter Subcommittee.
- This proposal designates a suggested, but not yet constituted, sub committee of the CEA to receive appeals of CES decisions. Previously, the shelter standards working group suggested the creation of a shelter monitoring committee to monitor compliance of shelters intake policies in the community. This committee could also serve as an appeals body for any agency that wishes to appeal the decision of the case conferencing group. The CEA committee approved the creation of a Coordinated Entry appeals committee at the June 15th meeting. HomeFirst and CDC staff will be presenting a plan for the make up of that subcommittee to the CEA committee in July for approval. The CEA committee will later decide whether to include the shelter monitoring role of this committee at a later date.

ATTACHMENTS:

A: CEA approved Coordinated Entry Policies and Procedures: <https://share.sonoma-county.org/link/UvLKygoBfnY/>

ACCESS

Homeless participant accesses system at an external access point (i.e. drop in center) or internal access point (i.e. shelter)

Access Point completes the CES Assessment

ASSESSMENT

A.

Housing Problem Solving conversation
- If housing crisis resolved, stop here.
- If housing crisis NOT resolved, go to step B (on the right)



B.

1. Crisis Navigation and resource connection (inc. Emergency Shelter)
2. VI-SPDAT, TAY-VI-SPDAT, F-VI-SPDAT
3. HMIS Data Entry resulting in Total Prioritization Score generation and addition to appropriate By-Name-List
4. Collection of initial eligibility documents, upload to HMIS.

If VI-SPDAT does not accurately assess vulnerability, then:
Enhanced Assessment and Prioritization process to be reviewed at the CES Case Conference.

PRIORITIZATION

Participants are prioritized on the By-Name-List for housing based on vulnerability and housing availability (see P&Ps for details)

REFERRAL

CES Case Conference
Proposed referral is reviewed and confirmed by the community based on prioritization and known eligibility. Providers present at meeting will support with participant information and eligibility coordination. Prospective referral rejections will be reviewed for approval or re-referral.

If participant cannot be verified eligible or be contacted, housing provider returns to the CES Case Conference for problem solving.

CE staff send referral to housing provider in HMIS.

Housing providers contact participant to offer housing opportunity and collect remaining eligibility documentation.

If participant is verified eligible, housing provider accepts the referral, and once housed CE staff exits from CE HMIS program.

**Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board
Agenda Report**

Item No: 7
Subject: CoC July Quarterly Membership Meeting Agenda
Meeting Date: June 22, 2022
Staff Contact: Karissa White, Continuum of Care Coordinator, Karissa.white@sonoma-county.org

SUMMARY

The following topics are being presented to the CoC Board for approval for the upcoming CoC Quarterly membership meeting on July 21st. These topics include the CoC's annual domestic violence training presented by the YWCA and potentially the Portrait of Sonoma County: 2021 Update report. Staff are still awaiting confirmation for the Portrait of Sonoma County presentation.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)

1. Approve the July Quarterly Membership meeting agenda

DISCUSSION

On an annual basis, our Sonoma County victims service provider, the YWCA, provides an in-depth training for our local providers as it relates to individuals experiencing domestic violence and services available in our community. Front line staff are highly encouraged to participate.

The 2014 A Portrait of Sonoma County report took an in-depth look at how the residents of Sonoma County were faring in three fundamental areas: life expectancy, education, and income. The report examined disparities within Sonoma County among neighborhoods and along the lines of race, ethnicity, and gender. The Portrait of Sonoma County: 2021 Update report is a follow-up to the groundbreaking 2014 A Portrait of Sonoma County report.

Taken as a whole, the updated report shows that people in Sonoma County live longer, earn more money, stay in school and earn college degrees at higher rates than in other counties across California and the United States. Yet the report also reveals that health and well-being continues to vary widely for many people and neighborhoods in Sonoma County. Unlike the 2014 Portrait, a new Agenda for Action is being developed in response to the published report and in partnership with the community.

Depending on the length of these presentations, we will have general updates of the Continuum of Care and its committees. There will also be an opportunity for open discussion with attendees to provide program updates, ask questions, and converse over issues related to homelessness.

ATTACHMENTS:

A: Draft Agenda

Attachment A

Sonoma County Continuum of Care (CoC)
Quarterly Membership Meeting
Agenda July 21, 2022
1:00pm-4:00pm Pacific Time

Draft Agenda

- 1. Welcome and Introductions**
- 2. YWCA's Annual Domestic Violence Training**
- 3. Portrait of Sonoma County** (awaiting confirmation)
- 4. General Continuum of Care and Committee Updates**
- 5. Community Updates**

Opportunity for open discussion with attendees to provide program updates, ask questions, and converse over issues related to homelessness.

**Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board
Agenda Report**

Item No: 8
Subject: July 27th, 2022 CoC Board Meeting Draft Agenda
Meeting Date: June 22, 2022
Staff Contact: Alea Tantarelli, Alea.Tantarelli@Sonoma-County.org

SUMMARY

This staff report briefly summarizes the July 27th, 2022 CoC Board Meeting proposed agenda. The draft agenda contains all proposed items that will be discussed by the Continuum of Care Board at the July 27th, 2022 CoC Board Meeting. The draft agenda is attached as Attachment A.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)

None – an informational item only.



Attachment A
Sonoma County Continuum of Care (CoC) Board
Agenda for July 27, 2022
1:00pm-5:00pm Pacific Time

Public Zoom Link:

<https://sonomacounty.zoom.us/j/99261791880?pwd=djc0b1ZsU1FpOU1kbnJ0UDNOcUhfQT09>

Phone: 1 (669) 900-9128 **Webinar ID:** 992 6179 1880 **Passcode:** 650935

	Agenda Item	Packet Item	Presenter	Time
	Welcome, Roll Call and Introductions		Board Chair	1:00pm
1.	Consent Calendar (ACTION ITEM): (Unless pulled from the Consent Calendar for separate discussion, the Board will approve the below with one action following public comment) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7/27/22 Agenda • Minutes from 6/22/22 • Summary of Follow-ups from the Previous Meeting(s) 	Consent Calendar Staff Report	Board Chair	1:05pm
2.	Reports from Lead Agency Staff		CDC Staff	1:30pm
3.	Sustainable Funding & Measure O		CDC Staff	1:50pm
4.	Word from the Street		Chessy Etheridge	2:25pm
5.	10 min Break			2:35pm
6.	Reports from Standing Committees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding & Evaluation Committee • Coordinated Entry Advisory (CEA) Committee • Strategic Plan Committee • CoC Competition Evaluation Committee • Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)/Data Committee • Lived Experience Advisory & Planning Board (LEAP) • Youth Action Board 		Committee Representatives	2:45pm

7.	Review Agenda for August CoC Board Meeting	-DRAFT Agenda 8/24/22	Board Chair	3:35pm
8.	Board Member Questions & Comments		Board Chair	3:50pm
9.	Public Comment on Non-Agendized Items		Board Chair	4:30pm

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Public Comment may be made via email or during the live zoom meeting. To submit an emailed public comment to the Board email Araceli.Rivera@sonoma-county.org. Please provide your name, the agenda number(s) on which you wish to speak, and your comment. These comments will be emailed to all Board members. Public comment during the meeting can be made live by joining the Zoom meeting using the above provided information. Available time for comments is determined by the Board Chair based on agenda scheduling demands and total number of speakers.