

## **South Bay Coalition for the Homeless (SBCH)**

### General Meeting Minutes

June 11, 2014

10 am – 12 pm

LAPD Harbor Community Police Station

2175 John S. Gibson Blvd., San Pedro

**Attendees:** Nancy Wilcox, Karen Ceaser, Louis Mena, Sue Castillo, Cliff Gardner, Kessara Kieng, Elizabeth Eastlund, Mary Agnes Erlandson, Paul Stansbury, Emma Ogley-Oliver, Tahia Hayslet, Murielle Kelly, Shari Weaver, Dulce Vargas, Juan Velazquez, Ann Lee, Veronique Johnson, Chris Jenne, Czarina Barrios, Philip Guaglianone, Sharon Stewart, Wendy Young, Jessy Needham, Alyssa Meyers, Sherryl Burns, Robin Fitzgerald, Bill Roberson, Ed Gonzalez, Marisol Barajas, Mary Bartel, Mark Silverbush, Emily Williams, Jeffrey Sparks.

### **1. Welcome & Introductions**

Mark Silverbush opened the meeting at 10:10 am and attendees introduced themselves with their affiliations. He also explained that our coalition's General Meeting is being held in conjunction with the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority's (LAHSA) Regional Quarterly Meeting.

### **2. Review and Approval of Minutes**

The May 2014 Minutes were approved without corrections.

### **3. Coalition Projects Review and Discussion**

**a. Coordinated Entry System (CES) "Scale-Up" Phase Transition:** Nancy explained that the CES program scale-up project was winding down, and the funded program will begin soon. Harbor Interfaith Services (HIS), St. Margaret's Center, 1736, US Vets and SHARE! will be the funded partners. Shari Weaver, of Harbor Interfaith Services, will be the regional director of the program for SPA 8. Shari will talk more about the program at the next meeting. Briefly, though, she explained that CES is the program for homeless individuals, and HFSS is the program for homeless families. Harbor Interfaith Services is the lead agency for both programs. The CES SPA 8 collaborative's goal for is to house 200 chronically homeless individuals within the next year, and Shari is looking forward to moving ahead with the project. Nancy added that the Long Beach Multiservice Center is also teaming with us on the project although it is in a different continuum of care than Los Angeles. Tahia Hayslet thanked Nancy and Mark for all their help with the scale-up and the preparation of the proposal to United Way. Mark said that the CES program is a great opportunity for new stakeholders, volunteers, funding, etc.

**b. SBCH Retreat, Saturday July 19<sup>th</sup> :** The date for the coalition retreat has been set for Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup>. It will give coalition members a chance to review current and new programs, and be an opportunity to step up our involvement. The hours for the retreat will be 9:30 am to 2 pm. Nancy will send out a survey monkey to elicit feedback in preparation for the retreat.

### **4. Member Agency Announcements**

There were no announcements.

**5. Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) Quarterly Report** (Please note: the presentation slides are attached to these minutes).

Emily Williams of LAHSA said that she was glad to see so many community members who are concerned about homelessness, which is a community problem. This year LAHSA staff will be making presentations at neighborhood councils to talk about local homeless issues and the homeless count. There is a need to elevate focus on the issue so that it is comparable to other community issues such as education, crime, etc.

**a. 2015 Coordinating Council Elections**

Emily explained the LAHSA Coordinating Council (CC) elections and voting process. The council functions as the “face” of the community, and members can identify hotspots in their communities, and notify community members of funding opportunities, such as the upcoming funding for transitional age youth (TAY) in SPA 8. Jessy Needham, SPA 8’s current CC alternative rep, remarked that council members don’t always have to attend the meetings---they could call in (which anyone, not just council members, can do). The council also now has working groups to deal with some of the council work offsite. Voting rules include: voter must satisfy one of two affiliations—either an agency representative or community representative; the candidate who receives the most votes will be the primary member of the council, and the one who receives the next highest number of votes will be the alternate. There will be a training period for new members from July through December.

Next, two of the candidates gave statements. Elizabeth Eastlund, of Rainbow Services, has worked for 16 years in homeless services, since she was an MSW intern. She travelled to London to compare homeless programs there with those in the U.S. She provides trauma-informed care at Rainbow. Preventing domestic violence is her other passion. Tahia Hayslet, of Harbor Interfaith Services, has worked at HIS for 17 years, including as the Executive Director for the past eight years. HIS will be the lead agency for both the CES and HFSS programs. Tahia spoke of the importance of collaborative efforts in working with homeless persons---teamwork is more essential than individual agencies or programs. Felecia Howard, the third candidate, was not able to be present at the meeting, so her statement was read aloud to the group by Jessy.

Emily then spoke about proposed Coordinating Council membership configuration, and distributed a handout with request for feedback. The configuration, when approved, will be go into effect in 2016. The current plan has 21 members, with the top 12 having voting authority (one from each SPA, and four formerly homeless persons). Alternates would vote if the primary member is absent, or has to recuse. In the coming year, LAHSA will look more closely at the Commission (10 members---5 appointed by County supervisors, and 5 by City of L.A.) and the Council. The governance, policy, etc. will evolve. Once the new Council members can vote, they will work on the configuration. One suggestion offered was that non-voting members should be tracked for attendance since they won’t have alternates, and their priorities should be included. It was asked how the sub-populations that the non-voting members represent were chosen?

A hand-out with the CoC Planning & Decision Making Structure was distributed. SPA 8 Planning Groups included SBHC and South Bay Cities Council of Governments. It was asked why SBCoG was included, and Mark stated that the hope is that that body will be more involved.

## b. LAHSA Program Updates

- **2015 Homeless Count:** Planning is in process for the 2015 count. A Homeless Count Advisory Committee meeting will be held on June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Anyone who would like to be on the advisory committee should contact Clementina Verjan at LAHSA. It was asked who the SPA 8 representative is on the committee? This will be answered later. The committee would like help identifying large scale events (250+ people) for opportunities to recruit volunteers for HC and to talk about it. In July 2014, Community Volunteer Coordinators for each SPA and a Manager will be hired. The salary for the coordinators is \$3,300 to \$3,800 per month for about eight months. HUD will no longer allow inclusion of “hidden homeless” counts. In August deployment sites will be identified and Youth Providers will be recruited to identify youth hotspots. The University of North Carolina did the methodology and analysis last count. Mark asked how the hotspots would be identified? There should be an approach to elicit community feedback on this early. Nancy asked if we could get HC advisory committee meeting notes to help understand this process. There is a new HC app that has been developed for the Point in Time count. The demographic surveys may be conducted in November and December, since there is not enough time to do these in January when the HC is being done. Mark asked if these could be coordinated with the VI-SPDAT’s (i.e., the similar assessment tool used in CES)? This is one component that will be decided with input from providers’ proposals.

## c. Updates on Requests for Proposals (RFP):

- **Homeless Families Solutions System (HFSS):** \$10.7 million has been awarded to agencies that serve homeless families. SPA 8 didn’t have a Family Solutions Center (FSC), and will now have one at Harbor Interfaith Services. There will be a ramping-up period for SPA 7 & 8 because they are creating new systems. Crisis Housing providers have been identified (Catholic Charities and HIS for SPA 8) that will work with the FSC. The access number for this program will be 211, and the program will begin on July 1<sup>st</sup>. The HFSS Collaborative will have monthly meetings at the FSC, and LAHSA will convene quarterly meetings for service providers from all fields. Jessy asked what kind of oversight LAHSA will have over providers. The response was that there would now be monthly meetings with outcome updates, not just at the end of the contract. The program will be very outcome-driven. Jessy clarified the concern that families will run into barriers, and what will be the process to address that? Emily said that there is a very robust grievance process and LAHSA will follow up and investigate grievances. Tahia mentioned that agencies could help clarify the grievance process for clients too.

Bill Roberson asked about vacant properties, and what is being done to help convert those properties into housing? Are there incentives? He suggested having a script to approach landlords. Nancy stated that the Department of Public Health’s Flexible Housing Subsidy Pool Program is one avenue for their involvement. The SHARE! housing program is also looking for properties. Emily said that the Affordable Housing Commission could address the issue too. Fifty percent of homeless persons say they can’t afford rent.

- **Independent Living Program (ILP):** The ILP program serves TAY youth (18-21 year olds) who have “aged out” of the foster care system. There is \$1.5 million available

countywide. During the recent RFP phase, no agency from SPA 8 submitted an application so LAHSA set aside \$160,000 for our region. LAHSA is seeking providers who are interested in this program and will be issuing a request for information.

- **CES:** The review process is ongoing for the United Way-sponsored program.

**d. Other Programs**

- **Winter Shelter:** There is a graph available of prior living situations for the Winter Shelter program clients. Mark asked if there would be more information on this program in the future. Emily said there were two other slides with additional info that were omitted in the handouts.
- **HMIS:** There will be a new design in the fall---google is being utilized to upgrade the system.
- **CoC Renewal Evaluation Working Group:** There is no date for “Tier 2” funded agencies. This year there will be abbreviated RFP applications. The group has discussed possible survey questions to measure program quality and CoC participation. The evaluation will reflect the continuum’s goals. PSH units will be dedicated to the chronic homeless, and there will be an emphasis on reducing return to homelessness for those that move into permanent housing.

**e. Results of SPA 8’s Coordinating Council Election**

Tahia received the most votes and will be the primary member, and Elizabeth with the second highest number will be the alternate.

**The meeting adjourned at 11:45 am.**

Respectfully submitted by Mary Agnes Erlandson

**Upcoming Meeting Dates & Locations**

<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesdays: 10 am-12 pm</b>	<b>Host Name</b>	<b>Host Address</b>
7/09/14	San Pedro United Methodist Church (Rev. Johan Dodge)	580 W. 6 <sup>th</sup> St., San Pedro
7/19/14	<b>SBCH Retreat</b> St. Peter’s By the Sea Presbyterian (Nancy Wilcox)	6410 Palos Verdes Dr. South Rancho Palos Verdes



# Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority

a joint powers authority of the city & county of los angeles

## Los Angeles Continuum of Care Quarterly Community Meeting Second Quarter

Policy and Planning Department

June 2014

Updated 06/11/2014



## Agenda

1. Service Planning Area Homeless Coalition Business
2. Update from LA Coordinating Council Members/Representatives
  - Elections for New Coordinating Council Members
  - Request for feedback on Coordinating Council Membership and Configuration
3. LAHSA Updates
  - 2015 Homeless Count
  - Update on Request for Proposals
    - ✓ Homeless Family Solutions System (HFSS)
    - ✓ Independent Living Program (ILP)
    - ✓ Coordinated Entry System from United Way
  - Winter Shelter Program
  - HMIS
  - Renewal Evaluation Working Group



## LA Coordinating Council: Elections and Voting Process

1. Los Angeles Coordinating Council Overview and Roles and Responsibilities
2. Candidate Introduction and Candidate Statements
3. Discussion on Candidates and Membership
4. Voting Rules
5. Results

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## Coordinating Council's Functions

- Serve as the primary liaison between LAHSA and the local community
- Advise LAHSA Commission
- Represent CoC
- Community Planning
- Attend monthly Coordinating Council meetings
  - *2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month. 2-4 PM*
  - *Meetings physically held at LAHSA*
  - *Remote participation is possible (i.e. conference call, WebEx)*
- Participate within Subcommittees and Working Groups

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## Coordinating Council Elections

Candidate Introductions & Statements

Q&A



## Voting Rules

- ✓ Voter MUST satisfy one of the 2 affiliations listed on the ballot
- ✓ If more than one Representative from the same Agency is present, please select ONE Representative to vote
- ✓ Candidate with majority vote will become the Primary voting member; candidate with second highest votes will become the Alternate. If there is a tie, there will be a runoff for seat
- ✓ New members and alternates will be trained from July to December 2014
- ✓ New members will be able to vote beginning January 2015



## Voting Eligibility

### SPA Community Residents

- Voting as yourself
- Reside in SPA
- Mark ballot as shown below:

I, John Smith Date: 6/11  
am a SPA-S: (select below)  
 Community Resident residing at the following address: 55 Broad St., Lomita  
 Member/Employee representing the following Agency/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Voting Eligibility

### SPA Agency/Organization Representative

- Voting on behalf of your agency operating within SPA
- Only ONE voting representative per Agency/Organization (NOT per project/program)
- Mark ballot as shown below:

I, Jane Doe Date: 6/11  
am a SPA-S: (select below)  
 Community Resident residing at the following address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Member/Employee representing the following Agency/Organization: Agency XYZ

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## Feedback on Member Configuration

- 12 voting members:
  - One from each SPA
  - Four formerly homeless persons
  
- 9 non-voting members:
  - One at-large
  - Two local government (City & County of LA)
  - Five providers
  - One systems change

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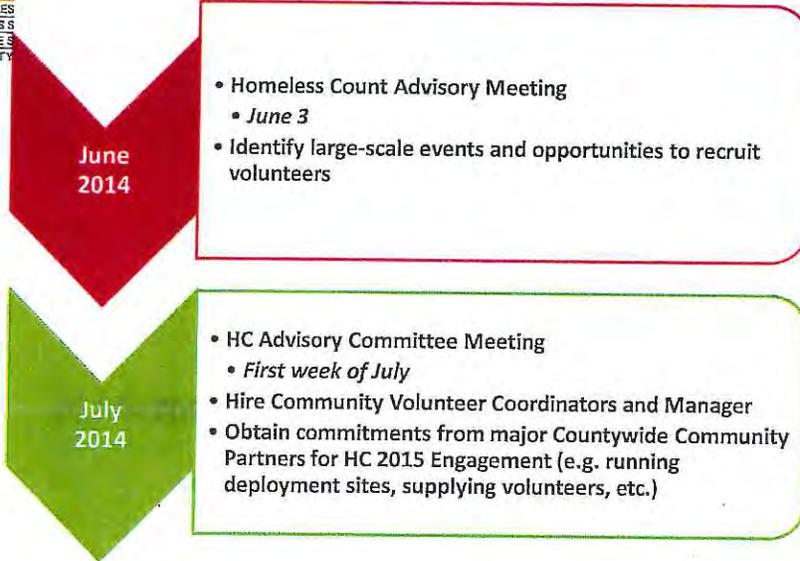
## LAHSA Updates

- 2015 Homeless Count
- Update on Requests for Proposals
  - ✓ Homeless Family Solutions System
  - ✓ Independent Living Program (ILP)
  - ✓ Coordinated Entry System from United Way
- Winter Shelter Program
- Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)
- Renewal Evaluation Working Group

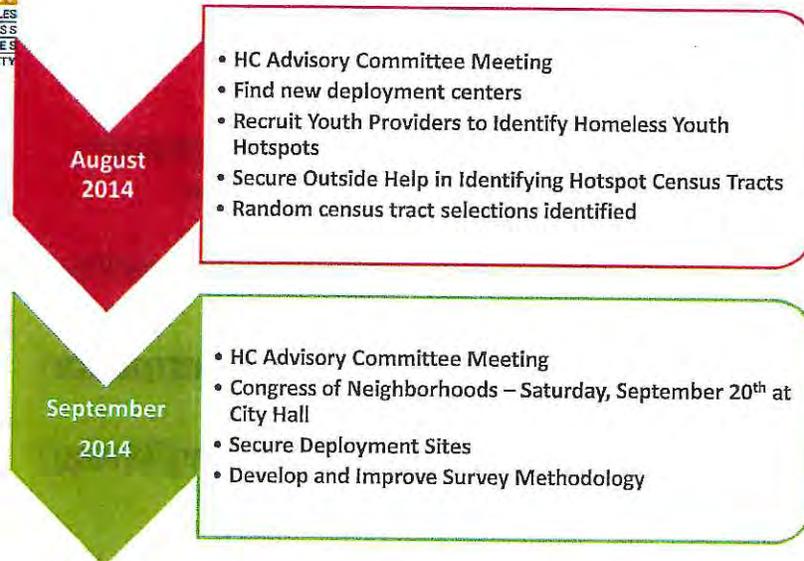
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## Homeless Count Timeline – June to July



## Homeless Count Timeline – August to September





## **Procurement Updates: Homeless Families Solutions System (HFSS)**

- \$10.7 million awarded to agencies that serve homeless families
  - A Family Solutions Center (FSC) in every SPA
  - Direct link between FSCs and Crisis Housing providers
  - Funding for mental health services
- Start Date: July 1, 2014



## **HFSS: FSC Providers Recommended for Funding**

- Valley Oasis (SPA 1)
- LA Family Housing (SPA 2)
- Union Station Homeless Services (SPA 3)
- PATH (SPA 4)
- St. Joseph's Center (SPA 5)
- Weingart Center Association (SPA 6)
- The Whole Child (SPA 7)
- Harbor Interfaith (SPA 8)



## HFSS: Crisis Housing Providers Recommended for Funding

- Valley Oasis (SPA 1)
- LA Family Housing (SPA 2)
- Union Station Homeless Services (SPA 3)
- CHCADA-San Gabriel Valley Center (SPA 3)
- The Salvation Army (SPA 4)
- LA Family Housing (SPA 4)
- St. Joseph Center (SPA 5)
- Upward Bound House (SPA 5)
- The Salvation Army (SPA 5)
- SSG Collaborative (SPA 6)
- The Whole Child (SPA 7)
- Harbor Interfaith (SPA 8)
- Catholic Charities (SPA 8)



## HFSS: FSC Services

- *Crisis Response*
  - *Standardized Screening & Triage*
  - *Connection to Crisis Housing*
- Standardized Assessment & Housing Interventions
- Rapid Re-Housing
  - Housing Search and Placement
  - Coordinated financial assistance plan
- DPSS Homeless Assistance Programs
  - *Mental Health & Substance Abuse Counseling*
- Coordinated Community-Based Supportive Services and Housing Plan

Note: Items in blue font are the result of the redesign



## HFSS: Access & Collaboration

### Accessing the HFSS:

- Crisis housing providers can refer families directly to the FSC.
- Community partners can refer families by calling 211 LA County; 211 will connect the family to the FSC.

### The HFSS Collaborative:

- FSCs will host monthly service coordination meeting.
- LAHSA will convene quarterly collaborative meetings; service providers from all fields are encouraged to participate.



## Procurement Updates

### Independent Living Program (ILP)

- \$1.5 million awarded to providers serving youth transitioning out of foster care
- \$180K set aside for SPA 6
- \$160K set aside for SPA 8

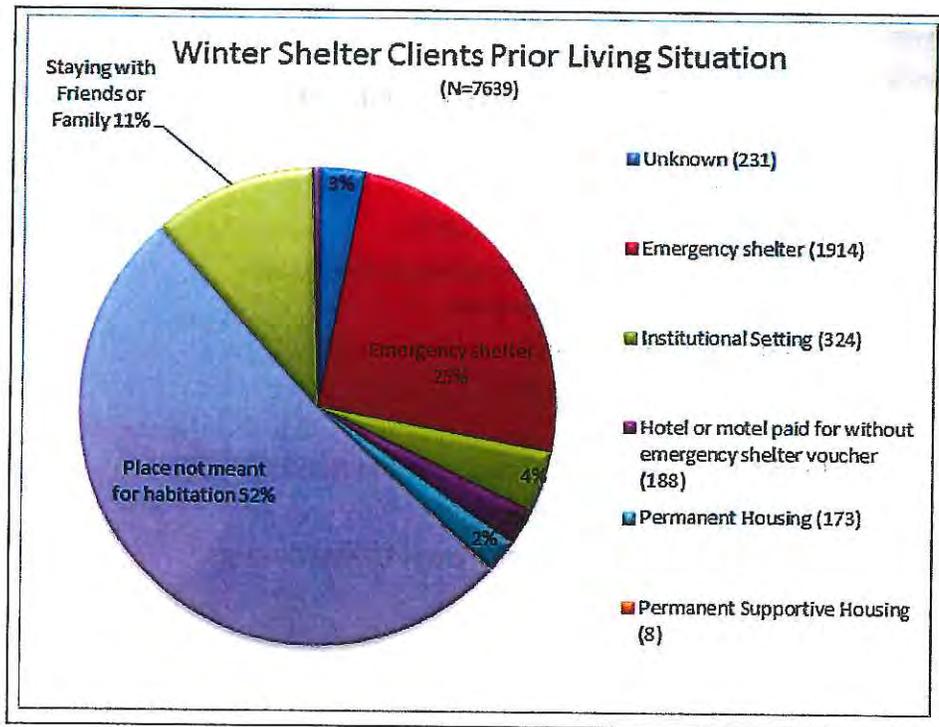
### United Way's Home for Good Coordinated Entry System

- Review process is ongoing
- Applicants will be notified of awards later this year



# Winter Shelter Program

## Update for the Continuum





## HMIS Update

### **HFSS and Coordinated Entry System (CES) Development**

- New design for coordinated access across the LA continuum
- Target start date: Fall 2014

### **Biometrics**

- Similar to iPhone 5s, it allows a client to be enrolled and receive services automatically by scanning fingerprint
- Target start date: Fall 2014

### **Homeless Count App**

- Application for mobile devices that gives specific location data of where count occurred and ensure accurate location counts
- Target start date: January 2015

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## CoC Program Renewal Evaluation Working Group Update

- Established in March to provide feedback for renewal evaluation
- So far the group has discussed:
  - Possible survey questions to measure program quality and CoC participation
  - Measurements for programs targeting populations other than chronically homeless (TAY, DV, Families)



## CoC Program Renewal Evaluation Working Group Update

- Changes to HUD Performance Targets
  - 80% Permanent housing placement target (TH)
  - Changes to income targets
    - 20% Increase Employment Income
    - 54% Increase Non-Employment Income (Ex: SSI)
    - 56% Receive Non-Cash Benefits (Ex: CalFresh)
  - Dedicating PSH turnover units to chronically homeless
  - Minimizing returns to homelessness for persons that move into permanent housing



## Questions/Comments?

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