

South Bay Coalition to End Homelessness General Meeting Minutes

200 N. PCH, Redondo Beach ~ Host: Redondo Police Department

Wednesday, October 18, 2017 ~ 9:30 -11:30 am

Attendees: Guest Speakers: Breanna Jajairam (Harbor Interfaith Services). Hosting Agency: Lt. Fabian Saucedo (Redondo PD). Members: Co-Chair Mark Silverbush, Leslie Evans (SPA 6 Homeless Coalition), Zhen McCullom (DMH), Estelle Robinson (MLK Community Hospital), Nancy Gutierrez (Torrance USD), Mary Agnes Erlandson (St. Margeret's Center), Chuck Scarpaci (DMH/WPC), Melody David (Safe Families for Children), Diamond Lee (DHS), Cesar Villa (Health Advocates), Lao Maua (PATH), Msgr Michael Meyers (St. James), Veronica Aguilar (DMH), Mychael Castillo (Exodus), Jo Takarabe (CPAF), Jennifer LaMarque (SBCCOG), Megan Emme (LAHSA), Tammy Lofton (DMH/WPC), Genevieve Liang (Cardborigami), Beatrix Vega (Rainbow Services), Jennifer Pesavento (SCROC), Nina Dooley (FUMCRB, LINC), Sonianne Messersmith (Chynanicole Foundation), Marco Lemus (El Segundo PD), Elaine Ruggiero (WINTBR), Al Palacio (WPC + Veterans Collaborative), Kevin Millikan (Torrance FDP), Jonathan Hans (LAHSA), Paul Stansbury (NAMI), Keith Bennett (City of Carson), Sharice Sowell (LAUSD), Ronald Williams (Shoftim Gr), Tyrone Friend (Hathaway-Sycamores), Chanice Ward (Empowered Solution), Shontal Johnson (Empowered Solution), Ryan Macy-Hurley (1736 FCC), Deniquia Berry-Golston (Torrance USD), Grace Weltman (Communities in Motion), Tim Owens (Jobtraining in the Cloud), Domenica Megerdichian (City of Torrance), Matt Wessels (Torrance PD), Stephen Kim (Torrance PD).

- 1. Welcome & Introductions.** SBCEH Co-chair Mark Silverbush opened the meeting at 9:40 a.m. Everyone introduced themselves and gave their affiliation.
- 2. Hosting Agency Overview.** Lt. Fabian Saucedo heads up Redondo PD's Community Services unit which includes its Homeless Detail. He explained how over the past 25 years, working with the homeless has evolved from strictly enforcement, to engagement to understand their concerns and helping to bring services to them.
- 3. Meeting Minutes Review.** The August and September meeting minutes were approved without changes.
- 4. SPA 8 Street Outreach Coordination.** Breanna Jajairam is the CES Regional Outreach Coordinator and works for Harbor Interfaith Services, the lead CES organization for Service Planning Area (SPA) 8/South Bay. She explained it is her job to coordinate the efforts for all the street outreach teams in our region.
 - There are specialized, multi-disciplinary teams that might include a nurse, chemical dependency specialist, mental health clinical social worker, and outreach worker. These include the new "E6" teams funded by Measure H (in SPA 8, staffed currently by 2 MHA and 1 HIS teams), and the "SB-82" DMH teams. She explained that 2-3 personnel will typical go out, depending on the needs of the individual they are helping.
 - Other teams have "generalists," such as the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority's (LAHSA) Emergency Response Team (ERT), and the CES outreach staff. ERT staffing is also expanding under Measure H funding.
 - Breanna is responsible for maintaining information about the outreach calls received, and will be generating outcome reports.
 - The County is developing a new homelessness reporting system under "211." Until that is operational, stakeholders and those experiencing homelessness can contact Breanna directly at bjajairam@harborinterfaith.org or 424-276-3604. It may take 48-72 hours to respond to these requests. She said there are ongoing discussions to provide extended evening hour outreach services.
 - Families experiencing homelessness should call "211," which is operational and will refer them to the nearest Family Solutions Center (FSC), a part of the CES-Families system.
 - Mark explained that calls about homelessness are the top 2 or 3 requested inquires received by 211. This referral service operates 24 hours a day.
 - Grace Weltman said there are plans to cover Metro, parks, beaches, and libraries with additional outreach staff.

5. Homeless Count 2018 (HC18) Planning. LAHSA SPA 8 Regional Coordinator Megan Emme provided an update on specific South Bay HC18 activities (the notes below supplement her briefing).

- The online Homeless Count Registration should be live in a few weeks. Links to each city's signup will be embedded on the SPA 8-level flyer and individual city sheets.
- For the Deployment Site Assistants, we want to deepen local leadership for sustainability. A request for SBCEH members to fill these roles was made. No special expertise is required. Nancy and Megan will be compiling a "Top 10" fact sheet about homelessness to supplement LAHSA's training. These will address commonly asked questions.
- CES Families will again be asked to help conduct Demographic Surveys on families. It is extremely difficult to find them on the streets, but capturing this information is crucial to help understand their conditions.
- For the unsheltered count, Mark pointed out that we do not go inside abandon buildings nor hospital emergency rooms.
- The Youth Count will be held during the last 10 days in January, the timeframe mandated by HUD nationally to complete the Count.
- For the Hot Spot planning, if providers and other stakeholders cannot make the scheduled meetings, they can provide feedback via an online map that LAHSA will provide.
- Jonathan Hans explained that LAHSA wants to identify during the Hot Spot planning sessions every single person who is known homeless. Mark suggested staff consider folding in the ten thousand outreach encounters logged into HMIS. Leslie Evans commented he helped identify these last year in SPA 6, but only a few sites were used to conduct surveys.
- In response to youth who "couch surf," it was explained they are not considered homeless by HUD's definition.

6. LAHSA Continuum of Care (CoC) Board Report Out. Ryan Macy-Hurley reported on the following:

- He is focusing on identifying the areas of concerns not funded through the recent \$100 million HUD Notice of Funding Availability application, so they can be addressed through other potential funded sources.
- Procedures for filling CoC Board vacancies are being discussed. Three SPA alternates and one higher ed seats are open.

7. Co-Chairs' Report Back. Nancy reported on the following:

- She is attending LA City Mayor's faith initiative training.
- She will be supporting the upcoming seminar on homelessness being held at the Mary and Joseph Center in Rancho Palos Verdes. HIS's Shari Weaver is a panelist.
- She attended Image LA's "mentorship" training.

8. Member Agency Announcements.

- Sharice Sowell announced LAUSD is having a "sponsor a family" holiday event.
- Jennifer LaMarque of South Bay Cities Council of Governments explained she is the point person for homelessness in SBCCOG. The LA County COGs recently received Measure H funding to help coordinate homeless services within their regions.

The meeting adjourned at 11:40 am.

Respectfully submitted by Nancy Wilcox.