

South Bay Coalition to End Homelessness General Meeting Minutes

Hosting Organization: City of Inglewood
Wednesday, June 26, 2019 ~ 9:30 -11:30 am

Attendees: Guest Speakers (SBCEH): Mark Silverbush, Nancy Wilcox; Hosting Agency (City of Inglewood): Damian Pipkins, Lori Jones, Cinder Eller; Members: Barbara Kubo (Manhattan Beach Homeless Task Force, Rita Crabtree-Kampe (MBSafe), Delia Munoz (LA County Probation), Jennifer Pasavento (SoCal ROC), Nancy Wolf (Westside Residences), Diamond Lee (DHS WPC), Drago Baric (PACS), Jorge Garcia (Salvation Army), Regina Marsh (DPSS), Saira Cooper (LAHSA), Toya Johnson (Salvation Army), Jeannette Aguilar (Exodus Recovery), Beatrix Vega (Rainbow Services), Steven Yu (LAHSA), Veronica Aguilar (DMH), Roslyn Fanello (LWV), Teri Neustraedter (LWV), Shari Weaver (Harbor Interfaith Services), Melanie McDede (COI), Marie Gambo (DPH SPA 8), Sabrina De Santiago (LAHSA), Mary Agnes Erlandson (St. Margaret's Center), Paul Stansbury (NAMI South Bay), Nicolle Powell (SD2), Grace Farwell (SBCCOG), Trever Yee (Harbor/UCLA), Ernesto Madrid (Salvation Army Torrance), Edgar Romo (OSD).

1. **Welcome & Introductions.** SBCEH co-chair Mark Silverbush opened the meeting at 9:38 a.m. Attendees introduced themselves and gave their affiliation.
2. **Meeting Minutes Review.** The May meeting minutes were approved without change.
3. **Advocacy Committee Report.** Paul Stansbury gave an update on current state legislative bills, including SB744 and SB 890. Locally, the LA County Board of Supervisors are evaluating board and care rates, which are currently too low to provide ongoing supportive services.
4. **Continuum of Care Board Report Out.** This agenda item was tabled until next month.
5. **Co-Chairs' Report.** Nancy reported the Downtown Women's Center Needs Assessment window has ended to survey women's unique homelessness situations. She has been focused on reviewing the 2019 Homeless Count data, including the preliminary city-level results.
6. **Member Announcements.** The following announcements were made:
 - a. Toya Johnson announced Salvation Army is heading up the CES "Shallow Subsidy Program." This program is targeted for Individuals and families who receive rapid re-housing assistance and who not need ongoing case management/supportive services.
 - b. Beatrix Vega of Rainbow Services encouraged all to attend the August 8th Domestic Violence and Homeless Services Coalition's "Community Connections Summit" being held in downtown LA.
7. **2019 SPA 8 and City-Level Homeless Count (HC) Results/Trends.** Nancy acknowledged the 550 volunteers, organizations and site leads who make SPA 8's 2019 Street Count a success. Mark then presented the highlights of the LA Continuum of Care (CoC) and SPA 8-level results, and Nancy presented the preliminary city-level data. (The notes below reflect additional points or questions asked during the briefing.)
 - Significance of the HC: HUD mandates CoCs throughout the country conduct a point-in-time count the last 10 days in January. Locally, the results are used for planning purposes and to allocate services to specific populations.
 - Other Highlights: Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) conducts the "Demographic Survey" with unsheltered people who are experiencing homelessness. From the responses, it is able to determine

the percentage of persons who are experiencing homelessness for the first time. The Survey instrument is online at LAHSA’s website: <https://www.lahsa.org/documents?id=3461-2019-homeless-count-demographic-survey.pdf>.

- For the Shelters: “Emergency Shelter” is typically for 90-day stays, “Transitional Housing” is generally 12-24 months, and “Safe Haven” is a very specialized program – in SPA 8, there is a VA funded safe haven program. In 2017, Inglewood had a Winter Shelter Program for that year only, which is one reason the sheltered component is higher that year.
- For the Demographic information, Mark reminded the attendees to look at trends over the past years since this data tends to “see-saw” up and down between years.
- SPA 8 showed an increase in the number of persons “62+ years,” which is following a local and national trend.
- Responding to what is considered a “Serious Mental Illness,” LAHSA staff said this was self-reporting, along with the surveyor making an indication on the observed person’s health. Some attendees were questioning the methodology used to determine this because they felt the reported percentage with a mental illness is too low and does not reflect what their experience.
- Asked if people in jails or hospitals were included in the Count, Mark explained HUD has set rules on how the Count can be conducted. These locations are in an “institutional setting” and therefore cannot be included.
- Nancy emphasized people should not get fixated on a single overall Count number, or the percent change from the previous year because homelessness is very complex and is not reducible to just one statistic. Examining the Unsheltered people in each city is a good way to start understanding a community’s homelessness. Breaking this down further within a city is helpful, much like we divide the top-level SPA 8 overall number into different components. Our homeless coalition is available to do this for any city or sub-regional area.
- Preliminary city-level numbers reflect that communities’ unsheltered homelessness, along with the percentage change from last year:

Inglewood: -8%	Westmont: +11%	Lennox: +3%
Hawthorne: -34%	Lawndale: 0%	Gardena: +70%
Alondra Park: +169%	Del Aire: +79%	Harbor Gateway: +66%
Harbor City: +42%	San Pedro: +30%	Wilmington: +19%
El Segundo: +20%	Manhattan Beach: -56%	Hermosa Beach: +9%
Redondo Beach: +10%	Carson: -31%	West Carson: -52%
Unincop Compton: -1%	Torrance: +15%	Lomita: +86%
Palos Verdes Cities: -50%	Avalon: -19%	La Rambla: -60%

- The preliminary “Community Cluster” changes from the 2018 Count were also provided:

Northern SPA: +10%	City of LA/CD15: +37% (LAHSA reported +45%, which includes SPA 6)
Beach Cities: 0%	Carson Cluster: -26% Torrance/Lomita Cluster: +2%

The meeting concluded at 11:40 am
Respectfully submitted by Nancy Wilcox.