

South Bay Coalition to End Homelessness General Meeting Minutes

Host: City of Carson

Room 111, 801 E. Carson St, Carson, CA

Wednesday, July 15, 2018 ~ 9:30 am – 11:30 am

Attendees: Hosting Agency: Keith Bennett. Guest Speaker: Alex Michel (Harbor Interfaith Services). Members: Co-Chair Mark Silverbush, Sharon Novalez (Office of Samoan Affairs), Jeannette Johnson (WPC-LA), Mary Agnes Erlandson (St. Margaret's Center), Mychael Castillo (Exodus Recovery), Nancy Gutierrez (Torrance Unified School District), Lori Jones (City of Inglewood), Zhenia McCullom (DMH), Kyle Lee (Assm Mike Gibson), Courtney Reed (PATH), Jessica Flores (1736 FCC), Chuck Scarpaci, Tom Hoffarth (American Martyrs), Beatrix Vega (Rainbow Services), Nina Dooley (LINC Housing), Jeff Mendence (Redondo Beach Police Department), Jeanette Christian (Senator Feinstein), Marie Gambon (DPH), Ronson Chu (Homeful LA), Veronica Aguilar (DMH), Ana Reoyo (DPSS), Shari Weaver Harbor Interfaith), Robert Pullen (City of Lawndale) Bill Roberson (San Pedro United Methodist Church), Jennifer Pesavento (SoCal ROC), Keith Bennett (City of Carson), Daniel Bradford (King's Harbor Church, Drago Baric (CHARE!), Thomas Morningston (SHARE!), Nancy Wilcox (St. Peter's by the Sea).

1. **Welcome & Introductions.** SBCEH co-chair Mark Silverbush opened the meeting at 9:45 a.m. Attendees introduced themselves.
2. **Meeting Minutes Review.** The June 2018 meeting minutes were approved without change.
3. **Continuum of Care (CoC) Board Report Back.** Shari Weaver, our regional CoC Board representative to Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority's (LAHSA) CoC Board, gave the following report from its July meeting:
 - a. Background. This governance body is now focused on the just released HUD Notice of Funding Available (NOFA). LA CoC has typically been awarded \$110 million from this national competition. A significant portion is for Section 8 vouchers for HACLA and HAcOLA.
 - b. Reallocation. Part of the annual process is to evaluate programs funded from the previous year's HUD CoC Competition. This is to ensure all programs are performing well, still meeting HUD's sometimes changing funding priorities, and to "recapture" the funding that are underperforming or don't fall into HUD's priorities. This recaptured amount is then available for LA CoC agencies to bid for under the "New Projects" RFP. LAHSA staff makes recommendations on which currently funded programs to target for "Recapture." CoC Board is set to approve these at next mtg and wants provider and community feedback.
 - c. Criteria for Recapture. LAHSA staff look for the following when making recommendations on which programs to end: three years of underspending (unspent funds sent back to HUD at end of each year); have not met their performance outcome targets; have spent above the average per client for their program type; or do not follow the "Housing First" model ensuring a low barrier client eligibility.
 - d. Program Priority Ranking Strategy. All the remaining programs are ranked based on a set criteria, with the higher the score, the more likely it will get funded. Staff is making recommendations on this, with the CoC Board approving on the criteria at next month's meeting. Shari invited agencies to review the handouts and give her feedback if they would like to see alterations or points awarded for each criterion.
4. **Advocacy Report Back.** Paul Stansbury, chair of our Advocacy Committee, discussed:
 - a. Proposition 2 "No Place Like Home." This will provide approximately \$600 million to LA County to build supportive housing for persons with a serious mental illness. Advocacy with this is being coupled with Proposition 1 "Veterans and Affordable Housing Act." An info sheet available from CAYesOnProp2.org was distributed.

- b. State AB-1971 focuses on those who are experiencing homelessness who are “gravely disabled.” LA County is set to pilot its own definition that includes language requiring a physical medical condition. ACLU is opposed to it because it does not propose services.
 - c. Changes to Medi-Cal so a participant can see a primary physician and mental health specialist the same day.
 - d. Rent Control. The November ballot measure to expand rent control options for cities by repealing the Costa Hawkins Rental Housing Act (1995) was brought up. We will provide information on this at a future meeting.
5. **LA County’s “Homeless Outreach Portal” Presentation.** Alex Michele is SPA 8’s Regional Outreach Coordinator. She gave a presentation on LA-HOP.org, including giving a live demo of the reporting portal. The notes below reflect information brought up that was not in this attached briefing.
- LA-HOP provides strong coordination with all the street outreach being conducted within our region.
 - Street outreach is essential to reach people experiencing homelessness because we generally have to go to where they are physically located to engage with them.
 - Working proactively, outreach teams consistently go to hotspot areas.
 - A person’s privacy is protected who self-reports his or her homelessness situation.
 - Long Beach is currently not covered by this portal, but discussions are underway to include them.
 - The outreach teams currently operating in our SPA: 7-LAHSAs HET (generalists); 4-E6 teams of 4 each (specialists); 2-SB 82 (DMH specialists); 2 CES (generalists); 1 PATH (generalists).
 - Outreach teams do not come out immediately, but will investigate within a couple of days after receiving the request.
6. **SPA 8 2018 City Level Homeless Count Presentation.** Mark and Nancy presented the newly released LAHSA Homeless Count city-level results. (Please refer to the attached presentation.)
- Mark emphasized the need to keep the data in perspective. Examining data from other sources gives a broader view, including looking at LA-HOP, HMIS, CES outcomes.
 - Nancy reviewed the “city cluster” charts rather than each individual city’s homelessness data sheet. She explained the trend graph on these slides show what percentage of the overall SPA 8 unsheltered homeless is in that cluster.
 - She feels it is important to start looking at homelessness at a subregional level in order to tailor solutions that best fit each cluster.
 - In order to calculate how many people are living in vehicles, tents, and makeshift shelters, LAHSA applies a multiplier fact to the number of these items found during the Street Count. They are recalculated each year based on the results from the Demographic Survey. For 2018, these multipliers went down from previous Counts.
7. **Co-Chairs’ Report.** Nancy reported that the following “city homelessness plans” have been approved by their respective city councils: Carson, Hawthorne, Hermosa Beach. Inglewood is expected to go before for Council approval next week, El Segundo in early August, and Manhattan Beach in August (delay due to new staff and summer vacation schedules). The County is crafting a summer RFP for cities to apply for “Implementation Funds” based on needs identified in their respective plans.

8. Member Agency Announcements.

- a. Exodus Recovery has its 24/7 mental health in-patient program at Harbor/UCLA. Referrals can be made from many sources: from a mental health physical or clinician, law enforcement. Walk-ins without appointments are welcome.
- b. SHARE! housing is set to open a new house in Torrance with 9 beds for women, including those that have a physical handicap. Call their office between 1-3 pm to make referrals.
- c. LINC Housing has a project in Inglewood. They are securing entitlements, and are working closely with this City and St. Margaret's Center.
- d. So Cal ROC is enrolling students for this fall. Our September meeting will be at this facility so members can learn more about its programs and tour its facilities.
- e. There are openings at Harbor Interfaith's family transitional program. Applicants must be working toward an educational goal.
- f. CD15 neighborhood councils are teaming their efforts to bring shelter to this City of LA district. Councilman Buscaino has suggested locations in Watts, Wilmington, and San Pedro. They are focused on providing education to dispel the rumors and myths surrounding the Bridge Home initiative.

The meeting adjourned at 11:40 am

Respectfully submitted by Nancy Wilcox.