



## South Bay Coalition to End Homelessness General Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 6, 2020

Via Zoom Video Conference

**Attendees:** This list was unavailable.

**Welcome.** SBCEH co-chairs Mark Silverbush and Nancy Wilcox opened the meeting at 10:02 am. Because the meeting was held via video conference, our traditional round of introductions was not made.

**Advocacy Report.** Nancy gave the update for Paul Stansbury, who had a meeting conflict. She invited those with interested in policy matters to join our Advocacy Committee by contacting Paul.

- We are all anticipating the federal HEROES Act passage that will helpfully bring relief for state and local governments, including providing addition COVID-related funds that affect our programs.
- This week the LA Board of Supervisors voted to approve placing the “Reimagine LA County” charter amendment on the upcoming November ballot. If voter approved, it would establish that at least 10% of the County’s locally generated tax dollars go toward supporting various social service programs including homelessness. United Way Greater Los Angeles has been very proactive in backing this initiative.
- In policy discussions about the mental health needs of those incarcerated at Men’s Central Jail, there is a state legislative proposal to move money from MHSA to fund treatment programs. National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI) feels these programs, though important to have, should not be operated while people are still in jail to reduce their effectiveness and costs.

**2020 Homeless Count (HC20) “City-Level” Results.** Nancy gave the following report (please see attached briefing). As a reminder, at our June General Meeting we presented the 2020 Homeless Count Service Planning Area (SPA) 8 demographic trends.

- Our Coalition’s annual set of City-level HC data sheets is available on our website at [SBCEH.org](http://SBCEH.org). The SPA 8 summary features a table covering every South Bay city, neighborhood, and unincorporated area’s HC20 results.
- Pg 7: shows that there was a slight South Bay decrease in the number of vehicles for the first time in 4 years.
- Pg 8: lists HUD’s traditional shelter-reporting components. “Emergency Shelter” are programs with typical stays of 3-6-months; “Transitional Housing” is for stays around 6-18 months with some extending to 24 months (these are commonly used for Transitional Age Youth and Domestic Violence survivor programs); “Safe Havens” are specialized, low-barrier short-term shelter for those with a severe mental illness (there are very few in LA County, with the VA starting to fund more for Veterans). Nancy reminded attendees that the HC was held in January – preceding all the COVID-specific interim housing programs that have since come online.
- Pg 9: our coalition has been working with LAHSA over the past few years to have the SPA 8 shelters recorded in our Count. This is important so we have the complete picture of our resources. Previously, some were listed under the agency’s administrative address that was in a different SPA.
- Pg 10: lists 41 programs, but it is important to note that most of these are smaller-sized so it should not be interpreted that we have a large shelter capacity. There are only 4 programs totally 50 beds for individuals who do not fall into a specialized group – despite this being the largest group of unsheltered in our region.
- Pg 11: US Veterans Initiative in Inglewood has over 400 beds, so changes in its programs have a large influence on our overall shelter count. Those using a motel voucher increased from 242 to 319 people

in HC20, representing a 37% increase. Those using DV beds also increased, from 88 to 137 people (+56%).

- Pg 12: in 2017, there was a large increase in the number of motel vouchers available at the time of that Count. In 2019, US Vets/Inglewood was realigning its beds with VA-funded programs so it had a smaller bed utilization in January 2019.
- Pg 18: Unincorporated Alondra Park experienced a large decrease in HC20, from 93 to 10. In 2019, we requested to LAHSA that it deploy a “special team” to check out the Dominguez Channel near El Camino College. Nancy has a question submitted to LAHSA to see if this team was not able to canvass the Channel this year (the encampments are not visible from the street). -- Before proceeding in the briefing, she remarked that looking at “clusters” of nearby neighborhoods is often more revealing about a city’s homelessness trends than just looking at just the city results itself because homelessness is dynamic.
- Pg 19: these are examples of how people may want to create subregions.
- Pg 20: three new shelters opened this year in CD15 for a combined 240 beds for individuals. They are not reflected in HC20 because they became operational after January.
- Pg 21: when including Inglewood, sometimes it is helpful to look at the unsheltered people since US Vets has such a large impact on this city’s overall Count number.

#### **Member Announcements included:**

- **SoCal ROC is restarting its training classes for adult students in the School of Health Sciences.** This includes Certified Medical Assisting, Certified Nursing Assistant/Home Health Aide, Registered Dental Assisting, Dental Assisting, Emergency Medical Technician, Veterinary Science, Veterinary Assistant, Pet Health & Grooming, and Advanced Pet Health and Grooming. The center is also organizing the restart of the School of Engineering and Design spring semester classes for adult students who will be essential service providers. Contact Jennifer Pasavento at [DrPesavento@scroc.k12.ca.us](mailto:DrPesavento@scroc.k12.ca.us) for details, or check [SoCal ROC's website](#).
- **Showers will be available at San Pedro United Methodist Church** on Wednesday, August 19th from 11:00 am - 1:30 pm. Participants will also receive a bag of clean clothes and a meal-to-go. [Click here](#) to view the event flyer. Contact Lisa Williams at [pastorlisa.sanpedroumc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorlisa.sanpedroumc@gmail.com) for more information.
- Jesse Ramirez is the City of Hawthorne's Homeless Services Coordinator. He is inviting all of our members to participate in [this survey about safe parking programs](#). Having this community feedback is a vital part of advocating for this badly needed resource so please consider taking a few minutes to complete it. (Note: SPA 8 is the only region that does not have a safe parking program at this time.) Please contact Jesse if you have questions at [JRamirez@ccharities.org](mailto:JRamirez@ccharities.org).
- **Rainbow Services is continuing to work with "Project Safe-Haven."** This program shelters DV survivors temporarily in motels, thus extending the County's interim housing capacity. It is currently scheduled to run through the end of August, with the hope that additional funding will be secured to continue its operation through the end of December. Currently they are not taking any new participants until it can determine if there are addition rooms open in this program. Questions can be sent to Carielle Escalante at [cescalante@rainbowservicesdv.org](mailto:cescalante@rainbowservicesdv.org).
- **School on Wheels is a program matching tutors with students experiencing homelessness.** It has moved to a 100% online format. They are looking for more tutors and school-aged children who could benefit from this weekly support. Additionally, the program is offering Chromebooks for students lacking a means to connect online. Contact Carlie Whittaker at [cwhittaker@schoolonwheels.org](mailto:cwhittaker@schoolonwheels.org), or go to the [agency's website for more information and to sign up to become a tutor](#).

**The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 am.**

Respectfully submitted by Nancy Wilcox.