



**Meeting Minutes
Continuum of Care (CoC) Board
Wednesday, February 14, 2024
2:00pm – 3:30pm
Ventura County Office of Education
5100 Adolfo Road, Camarillo**

- 1. Call to Order:** Dawn Dyer, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:02pm.

Board Members: Stefany Gonzalez, Dawn Dyer, Mara Malch, Jack Edelstein, Pauline Preciado, Dr. Sevet Johnson, Paul Drenstedt

Absent: Emilio Ramirez, Michael Nigh, Manuel Minjares, Kevin Clerici, Juliana Gallardo, Ingrid Hardy,

Staff: Alicia Morales-McKinney, Felipe Flores, Morgan Saveliff, Jennifer Harkey (online), Christy Madden (online)

- 2. Board Comments:** Dawn shared that the Housing Trust Fund is hosting their annual meeting on Thursday, February 29th from 8:30am – 1pm in the Grand Salon at Cal State Channel Islands. Dawn shared that the meeting is an opportunity for the public to receive information on the Housing Trust Fund and to weigh in on priorities and programs. Dawn also shared that Cal Lutheran Center for Economic Research and Forecasting is hosting their 2024 Ventura County Economic Forecast Event on Wednesday, Feb 28th from 9-11am on campus in the Scherr Forum Theatre. Dawn lastly reminded the Board that March 5th is Primary Election Day and encouraged everyone to vote.
- 3. CoC Staff Comments:** Alicia shared that the HHAP Round 5 allocation was received and explained the allocation was based off 2023 PIT numbers. Alicia shared that the CoC has been allocated 6.8 million for HHAP Round 5 which is a 1 million increase from last year's HHAP 4 allocation of 5.8 million. The application will be submitted on or before March 27th, 2024.
- 4. Public Comments:** None

Continuum of Care Governance Board Business

- 5. Approval of Board Minutes from January 10, 2024.**

Mara Malch moved for approval; Jack Edelstein was second; All in favor.

- 6. Receive an update on the Ventura County Project RoomKey.**

Felipe Flores provided the Board with an update on PRK. Felipe shared that since the beginning of the program in March 2020, almost 900 persons have been served and 59% have exited to positive housing destinations. Felipe shared that over 246,000 total motel nights have been provided and 1.3 million food boxes and meals were provided. Felipe shared that FEMA and CDSS funds previously used to fund the program have been expended, and special reserve funding is being used for the current extension that runs through mid-March 2024. Currently, 119 persons are sheltered in PRK, 48% of them are seniors, and all are highly vulnerable. The goal is for these participants to transition to HomeKey projects and other permanent housing destinations.

Pauline Preciado inquired if demographic data for PRK has been collected. Felipe explained that while demographic data was collected, because this was an emergency program, data may not have been

collected in full. Felipe explained that CoC staff does have the ability to review records and pull reports on demographic data. Board members inquired about exits and what can be expected for the remaining clients in PRK. Alicia and Felipe shared that many new developments are coming online and HomeKey projects will have a preference for PRK clients. CoC staff has been updating and reminding providers to case present clients for these opportunities so that clients can successfully transition to housing. Jack Edelstein inquired if exits for those not entering positive housing destinations are being tracked in the system. Alicia Morales-McKinney explained that PRK data is being tracked in HMIS and we are able to run reports with exit destinations. Case managers enter the exit destinations into HMIS when their clients exit to program. Jack Edelstein inquired if there is an estimated timeline for when units will come online and those remaining in PRK will exit. Felipe explained that many of the projects are estimated to come online this year and Dr. Johnson clarified that construction and projects delays can always happen so we cannot guarantee a specific timeline. Dawn Dyer requested a future update to the Board on projects that are currently in development so they have an idea of how many projects will be coming online. Dawn also highlighted the success of PRK in reducing COVID illness amongst those most vulnerable. Elizabeth R. Stone (attendee) also emphasized the importance of mental health and substance use treatment and how proper care could increase positive exits into housing.

7. Receive an update from the Workgroup Engaging People with Lived Expertise.

Elizabeth R. Stone provided a presentation overview of values and approaches used within the PLE workgroup (F.I.N.D.). A summary of findings was provided along with training opportunities. Montoya Johnson, a member of F.I.N.D. shared his experience with homelessness. Montoya shared that he has been homeless for 21 years and stays in his car. Montoya highlighted the importance of public parking / safe sleep programs and suggested creating a program to provide trade school opportunities to help people move from the streets into trade work such as trucking.

8. Receive a report on FY23 Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care (CoC) funding awards.

Alicia Morales-McKinney shared that our CoC was awarded \$3,726,301 for FY23 HUD CoC funding. Alicia shared our CoC was not awarded bonus funding but we did receive approximately \$300,000 more this round than last round in FY22. Alicia shared the project award breakdown with the Board. Alicia shared that once the scoring debriefing is received from HUD, CoC staff will return to the Board with feedback on scoring. Alicia lastly shared that the CoC will return to the Board at a future meeting for recommendations on CoC planning funds.

Additional items not of the agenda: none

Next meeting set for March 13th, 2024

Meeting adjourned at 3:23pm