



Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority

a joint powers authority of the city & county of los angeles

MINUTES OF THE

LOS ANGELES HOMELESS SERVICES AUTHORITY POLICY & PLANNING COMMITTEE

Held Friday, October 16, 2009

The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority Commission Policy and Planning Committee meeting held at 453 S. Spring Street, 12th Floor, Los Angeles, California was called to order at 9:40 a.m. by Owen Newcomer.

ATTENDANCE

LAHSA Commissioners Present:

Louisa Ollague
Cecil Murray
Owen Newcomer

LAHSA Commissioners Absent:

None

LAHSA Staff:

Michael Arnold, Executive Director
Leslie Wise, Director of Policy & Planning
Stephen Lytle, Funding Manager
Keshia Douglas, Director of Administration
Kim Thompson, Director of Communications
Clementina Verjan, Planning Manager
Francesca de la Rosa, Policy & Planning Analyst
Mark Silverbush, Policy & Planning Analyst
Amanda Prince, Executive Assistant
Erin Hollander, Board Liaison

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Roll was called and a quorum was established at 9:41 a.m.

1.0 Review and approve minutes of meeting held September 18, 2009.

Public Speaker(s): There were no public speakers.

Motion: It was moved by Commissioner Murray and seconded by Commissioner Ollague to approve the minutes.

Action: The motion passed unanimously.

2.0 Report on status of federal, state and local policy

Leslie Wise, Director of Policy & Planning and Francesca de la Rosa, Policy & Planning Analyst gave the report:

Update on status of health care reform:

- In July 2009, LAHSA attended the National Alliance to End Homelessness Conference in Washington, DC to address the health care system with respect to homelessness.
- Advocates are pushing for 2 proposals to be included in this year's health care legislation: (1) All persons living below the federal poverty level should be eligible for Medicaid, and (2) By targeting frequent users of acute care, health care providers could be reimbursed for coordinated and comprehensive health services.
- LAHSA staff will continue to monitor the progress of this legislation.

Update on status of State Interagency Council:

- Efforts to create a State Interagency Council (ICH) on Homelessness have stalled in the state legislature.
- Advocates are asking Governor Schwarzenegger to create an ICH by executive order.
- LAHSA is continuing to assist its state advocacy partners in their efforts to create an ICH, and have involved the CoC regional leadership bodies in taking action on this issue.

Update on status of city of Los Angeles Section 8 vouchers:

Leslie Wise (LAHSA), Francesca de la Rosa (LAHSA) and Peter Lin, Director of Section 8 for HACLA gave the report:

- Because Housing Assistance Payments provided by HACLA are increasing, 2010 Section 8 budget projections indicate a \$27 million funding gap and potential reductions in vouchers available unless cost reduction measures are taken.
- Discussion of proposed changes, including: (1) amend the Voucher Payment Standard (VPS) from 100% of the fiscal year 2010 Fair Market Rents to 96% of Fiscal Year 2010 Fair Market Rents recently published by HUD and (2) Reduce Subsidy Standard to one bedroom per 2 members including head of household.
- It is projected that 11,300 families will be affected by these changes.
- HACLA is focused on keeping as many participants housed as possible, and helping program participants through the program adjustments.

Public Speaker(s): Vernon Hemingway

Mr. Hemingway, a Section 8 recipient, expressed his dissatisfaction with the management company at Alexandria Property.

3.0 **Report on status of specific policy and planning projects.**

Leslie Wise, Director of Policy & Planning gave the report:

Update on 2009 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count.

- LAHSA has been meeting with stakeholders and key members of the Los Angeles CoC and working with our City and County partners to discuss the best method of communicating the results of the 2009 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count.

Update on status of SuperNOFA Exhibit 1 Continuum of Care 10-Year Plan, HUD Objectives and Action Steps.

- LAHSA outlined the following steps and policy objectives for the CoC 10-Year Plan:
 1. Create new permanent housing beds for chronically homeless individuals.
 2. Increase the percentage of homeless persons staying in permanent housing over 6 months to at least 77%.
 3. Increase the percentage of homeless persons moving from transitional housing to permanent housing to at least 65%.
 4. Increase the percentage of persons employed at program exit to at least 20%.
 5. Decrease the number of homeless households with children.
- LAHSA Policy & Planning staff presented the CoC's response.
- Key change: HUD asked that the CoC respond with short term (12 months) and longer term steps (10 years) toward addressing these policy priorities.
- The deadline for the SuperNOFA application is November 9, 2009.

Public Speaker(s): There were no public speakers.

4.0 **Public Participation**

There were no requests for public participation.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:48 a.m.