



# 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, May 21, 2010

The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority Commission Policy and Planning Committee meeting held at 453 S. Spring Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor, Los Angeles, California was called to order at 11:14 a.m. by Commissioner Ollague.

#### ATTENDANCE

LAHSA Commissioners Present:

Cecil Murray  
Louisa Ollague

LAHSA Commissioners Absent:

Owen Newcomer

LAHSA Staff:

Michael Arnold, Executive Director  
Erin Hollander, Board Liaison  
Lisa Snyder, Senior Policy & Planning Analyst  
Clementina Verjan, Planning Manager

#### CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Roll was called and a quorum was established at 11:14 a.m.

#### 1.0 Review and approve minutes of meeting held April 16, 2010.

**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 Federal, State and local policy updates.

##### 2.1 Federal

a. Report on Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) new definition of homelessness.  
Lisa Snyder, Senior Policy & Planning Analyst, gave the report:

- On April 20, 2010, HUD released HEARTH Act draft regulations with a new definition of homelessness. This new definition affects those who are eligible for various HUD-funded homeless assistance programs and includes four categories:
  - 1) Individuals or families who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence that is meant for human habitation, emergency shelter, transitional housing and who are exiting an institution.
 

**New proposed definition:** those in this category who have been discharged from an institution where the person has been a resident for **90 days or less** (previously 30 days or less) and resided in a shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately prior to entering that institution.

- 2) Individuals or families who are imminently losing primary nighttime residence which may include motel or hotel.  
**New proposed definition:** those in this category who are being evicted within **14 days** (previously 7 days) from a private dwelling and no subsequent residence has been identified.
  - 3) Families with children or unaccompanied youth who experience persistent housing instability.  
 The traditional HUD definition did not include people who experience persistent housing instability.  
**New proposed definition:** those in this category will be defined as homeless if they meet the following new criteria: person(s) has not been on a lease or occupancy agreement and has not had an ownership interest in housing in the 91 days prior to applying for assistance, has moved three or more times in 90 days immediately prior to applying for assistance, and can be expected to continue in such status because of disability/multiple barriers to employment.
  - 4) Those persons who are fleeing domestic violence and have no other residence and lack resources or support networks to obtain other permanent housing.  
**New proposed definition:** *Fleeing or is attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or life-threatening conditions that relate to violence*, and the person has no other residence and lacks the resources or support networks to obtain other permanent housing.
- LAHSA is currently analyzing these new definitions and drafting a response. LAHSA will report back to the Commission with updates.

### 3.0 Report on status of regional planning activities in Los Angeles County.

- 3.1 Report on status of the San Gabriel Valley Housing and Homeless Services Coordinating Council. Lisa Snyder, Senior Policy & Planning Analyst, gave the report:

- The San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (CoG) has been meeting over the last six months to form the SGV Housing & Homeless Services Coordinating Council.
- There has been tremendous progress: most recently, the Council has developed a mission statement and bylaws, submitted a job description for the new Executive Director and has developed a recruitment strategy, secured County funding.
- LAHSA will serve as fiscal agent of the Council. The first meeting is scheduled for June to elect a Chair and Vice Chair and continue to develop plans for interviewing Executive Director candidates.

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

### 4.0 Report on status of specific policy and planning projects.

- 4.1 Review and approve the Los Angeles Continuum of Care (CoC) Funding Guiding Principles and Project Selection Criteria.

Clementina Verjan, Planning Manager, gave the report:

- As part of the SuperNOFA planning process for the Los Angeles CoC, funding principles and project selection criteria were developed and discussed with the various planning groups and homeless coalitions in the Continuum from February to April 2010.
- The purpose of the LA CoC Funding Principles and Project Selection Criteria is to develop aligned principles and guidelines that support funding and prioritizations of programs that: (1) represent community priorities to support their efforts in reducing and ending homelessness, and (2) support the Los Angeles CoC's ability to be competitive in the nationwide SuperNOFA competition.
- LAHSA has asked for input from the County's Homeless Deputies. Staff will report back with updates on this item.
- This item was an update only; no action was taken.

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

**Action:** No action was taken.

5.0 **Public Participation**

There were no requests for public participation.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:37 a.m.