



# Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority

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

## MINUTES OF THE

### LOS ANGELES HOMELESS SERVICES AUTHORITY COMMISSION

Held August 27, 2010

The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority Commission meeting, held in the LAHSA office, located at 453 S. Spring Street, 12<sup>th</sup> floor, Los Angeles, California, was called to order at 9:08 a.m. by Commissioner Ripston, Chair.

#### Attendance:

#### LAHSA Commissioners Present:

Larry Adamson  
 Moctesuma Esparza  
 Howard Katz  
 Antonio Manning  
 Douglas Mirell  
 Cecil L. Murray  
 Owen Newcomer  
 Ramona Ripston

#### LAHSA Commissioners Absent:

Louisa Ollague

#### Attorneys Present:

Aleen Langton, County Counsel

#### LAHSA Staff:

Steve Andryszewski, Chief Financial Officer  
 Michael Arnold, Executive Director  
 Erin Hollander, Board Liaison

#### Call to Order/Roll Call/Establishment of Quorum

Roll was called and quorum was established at 9:08 a.m.

#### 1.0 Review and approve Commission minutes from July 23, 2010.

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

**Motion:** It was moved by Commissioner Mirell and seconded by Commissioner Adamson to approve the minutes.

**Action:** The motion passed unanimously.

#### 2.0 Consent Calendar

**2.1 Authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with the L.A. Gay and Lesbian Center for an amount not to exceed \$59,000, subject to funding being allocated by the Third Supervisorial District of the County of Los Angeles to LAHSA for fiscal year 2010-11 starting September 1, 2010 and ending August 31, 2011. In the event that funding to LAHSA for this period is reduced, authorize the Executive Director to reduce the amount of contract compensation.**

#### Public Participation: Tut Hayes

Mr. Hayes reported on the Transitional Housing Participant Misconduct Act.

**Motion:** It was moved by Commissioner Esparza and seconded by Commissioner Katz to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contract with the L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center as presented.

**Action:** The motion passed unanimously.

### 3.0 Executive Director's Report.

Michael Arnold, Executive Director, gave the report:

- This week, LAHSA's Emergency Response Team (ERT) and the Homeless CalWORKs Families Project (HCFP) Team conducted an assessment of a single man with a child in need of assistance. Through their standard assessment, LAHSA staff discovered that the child had been abducted. As a result of the efforts of LAHSA's team, the Department of Child & Family Services and the Los Angeles Police Department, the child is currently en route to be reunited with his mother. The Executive Director commended the excellent work of Jeanette Rowe, Director of Homeless Services and the LAHSA ERT/HCFP Team.
- **2010 SuperNOFA:** HUD has not yet released the SuperNOFA for the current year. LAHSA staff is fully prepared and has completed our process of identifying supportive housing program projects for the NOFA.
- **Continuum Engagement:**
  - The San Gabriel Valley Coordinating Council hired Scott Chamberlain to serve as Executive Director to build capacity for continuum involvement. Mr. Chamberlain was the former Interim Funding Manager at LAHSA. The Executive Director wished Mr. Chamberlain the best of luck in his new role.
  - Michael Arnold joined the Homeless Healthcare Partners Coordinating Council which is helping to bring medical services to homeless service providers. As a result of their work, the Los Angeles Continuum of Care is ahead of the rest of the nation in using health clinics in Permanent Supportive Housing.
  - The SuperNOFA Coordinating Council for the Continuum is scheduled to meet in early September. There will be a preliminary meeting to provide background on the process and a second meeting to rank projects that will then be eligible for funding in the 2010 SuperNOFA.
- **Operations:** For the first time since the implementation of the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), all annual progress reports due for the month of August were prepared and submitted through the HMIS system. Mr. Arnold noted LAHSA's continuing success in implementing the HMIS system as a system of record.
- There was a brief discussion regarding the City of Santa Monica's HMIS data integration and data quality issues.

#### **Public Participation: Tut Hayes**

Mr. Hayes commended LAHSA staff on their excellent work in reuniting the abducted child with his mother. Mr. Hayes also requested clarification on the policy for entering the LAHSA administrative office.

### 4.0 Report on the Federal Strategic Plan.

Michael Arnold, Executive Director, gave the report:

- The Executive Director discussed the Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness as presented by the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH).
- The mission of the Federal Plan is to coordinate the federal response to homelessness and create a national partnership at every level of government and with the private sector to reduce and end homelessness in the nation while maximizing the effectiveness of the federal government in contributing to the end of homelessness.
- There was a brief discussion regarding the Federal Plan core values, targeted measurable goals and objectives.

#### **Public Participation: Tut Hayes**

Mr. Hayes discussed the importance of veterans' assistance programs and offered to serve as point person at the Veterans of America for veterans' issues.

#### **Public Participation: Brenda Wilson, President/CEO of New Image Emergency Shelter**

Ms. Wilson discussed the difficulty with the Federal Plan's reduction of emergency care to a total of 20 days because of the lack of affordable housing for placement of homeless persons.

**5.0 Report on Finance, Contracts & Grants Management Committee Meeting of August 19, 2010.**

Commissioner Mirell and Steve Andryszewski, Chief Financial Officer, gave the report:

- The line of credit has been fully repaid and all outstanding financial issues from this month's Finance, Contracts & Grants Management Meeting have been resolved to date.

**6.0 Report on Programs & Evaluation Committee Meeting of August 20, 2010.**

Commissioner Ollague gave the report:

- At the Programs & Evaluation Meeting held on August 20<sup>th</sup>, there was a status update on LAHSA's Emergency Response Team's efforts to assist families on Skid Row.
- There was an additional update on the status of the City of Santa Monica's data integration issue. The scores for the quality evaluation results were adjusted accordingly.

**6.0 Report on Policy & Planning Committee Meeting of August 20, 2010.**

- No action items to report

Michael Arnold, Executive Director acknowledged Dwight Radcliff, Executive Director of the U.S. Vets Initiative. His unexpected passing is a loss to the Los Angeles Continuum.

**7.0 Public Participation****Public Participation: Tut Hayes**

Mr. Hayes discussed the Veterans' Administration VASH Program and the need for LAHSA's involvement in reinstating the program.

**Public Participation: Steve McAndrew**

Mr. McAndrew discussed the violation of workers' rights at New Image Emergency Shelter and appealed to the Commission for oversight and scrutiny of the organization.

**Public Participation: Brenda Wilson, President/CEO, New Image Emergency Shelter**

Ms. Wilson denied that New Image Emergency Shelter is in violation of workers' rights.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.