LOS ANGELES REGIONAL HOMELESSNESS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Wednesday, November 15, 2017
9:00 am – 11:30 am
United Way of Greater Los Angeles
1150 S. Olive Street, 4th Floor Conference Room
Los Angeles, CA 90015
*Please bring a photo ID & arrive early to allow adequate time for parking & security processing

Agenda

I. Welcome & Roll Call
   Sarah Mahin
   Kelli Poole

II. Review & Approve Meeting Minutes from Wednesday, August 16, 2017
    Sarah Mahin

III. Framework for Developing Local Homeless Policies & Plans Discussion:
     Kelli Poole
     Part Two
     Tags: Connect the Dots, Spread Solutions

IV. System Performance Measure Data for Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Presentation
    Josh Decell
    Tags: Track Progress, Raise Concerns

V. Ad Hoc Committee on Women & Homelessness Report Presentation
   Sarah Mahin
   Tags: Connect the Dots, Track Progress, Spread Solutions, Raise Concerns
   Jessica Reed

VI. Updates & Announcements
    a. Current & Upcoming Funding Opportunities
       Jessica Reed
    b. HomeWalk 2017
       Kelli Poole
    c. CES Policy Council
       Sarah Mahin
    d. Updates from RHAC Members
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VII. Public Comment
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VIII. Adjournment
      Sarah Mahin
      Kelli Poole
Meeting Minutes

Meeting Attendees:
Abigail Marquez, Adam Murray, Angela Chandler, Benita DeFrank, Carlos VanNatter, Cheri Todoroff, Chris Hubbard, Chris Ko, Danielle Noble, David Howden, Dora Leong Gallo, Hazel Lopez, Heidi Marston, Herbert Smith, Jaime Garcia, Jaime Pacheco-Orozco, Jennifer Brogin, Jennifer Vanore, Ph.D. Jerrid McKenna, John Horn, Malcom Bennett, Maria Funk, Marion Sanders, Meg Barclay, Melissa Schoonmaker, Meredith Berkson, Neil Haltrecht, Nina Vaccaro, Phil Ansell, Rabbi Noah Farkas, Reba Stevens, Ryan Macy-Hurley, Shannon DeLong, Stephanie N. Caldwell, Wayne Windman, Sarah Mahin

Absent:
Alison Hurst, Bill Taylor, Carol Crabson, Christine Mirasy-Glasco, Darlyne Pettinicchio, Earl Paysinger, Gilbert Saldate, James Hellmold, Jerry Neuman, Judy Cooperberg, Keith Parker, Kerry Morrison, Maury Pearl, Monique King-Viehland, Peter Lynn, Reverend Stephanie Jaeger, Robert Medina, Teresa Chandler, Todd Chamberlain, Vikki Vickers, William Huang, Zachary Hoover

I. Welcome & Roll Call
   a. Welcome Statements

Summary:
Co-facilitators Mr. Ko and Ms. Mahin reminded members of the high-level priorities of the RHAC: connect the dots, spread solutions, track progress, and raise concerns. Additionally, Mr. Ko and Ms. Mahin provided an overview of the 3 system performance measures discussed at the May meeting of the RHAC: length of time homeless, exits to permanent housing, and returns to homelessness. Lastly, Mr. Ko and Ms. Mahin announced that the Board of Supervisors approved Measure H spending on June 13, 2017, and formally thanked the County for its efforts to end homelessness.
Ms. Brogin provided an update on the progress made by the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority to develop a strategy that provides an alternative form of shelter for the homeless population. Metro is currently working with the County to ensure the availability of resources to fund outreach teams in conjunction with the Department of Health Services (DHS). Metro is committed to ensuring that every individual experiencing homelessness has access to help and looks forward to continuing to develop its partnership with the County and City of Los Angeles going forward.

Mr. VanNatter provided an update on the development of the City Housing Authority’s (HACLA) agency planning process. HACLA will be amending its policy pertaining to criminal background checks for applicants to only the mandated minimum requirements set by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Additionally, HACLA will be opening its Section 8 wait-list in the second half of October 2017 for two weeks, with an anticipated pool of 600,000 applicants. HACLA will select 20,000 of those eligible applicants by lottery to be added to the Section 8 waitlist. HACLA is currently contracting with an organization to conduct outreach around this and will provide more information to the LA Continuum of Care (LA CoC) as further progress is made.

II. Review & Approve Meeting Minutes from Wednesday, May 17, 2017

Motion: Ms. Barclay moved to approve the minutes. Ms. Marquez seconded.

Action: The motion passed unanimously.

III. Discuss Framework for Developing Local Homeless Policies & Plans

Summary:
Mr. Ko facilitated a discussion on the development of a framework for local homeless policies and plans. The discussion centered around the context, connections, and components of a shared framework.

Discussion:
Mr. Ko asked members to identify what is driving the creation of a shared framework. Members identified the following factors as the primary drivers for the development of a shared framework: a desire to change the narrative around homelessness, the secondary use of agency assets for homeless interventions, representation of consumer interests, the establishment of more permanent and productive resources, improving coordination of scarce resources, changing episodes of initial interactions, and a desire to ensure better outcomes for individuals experiencing homelessness.

Mr. Ko asked members to identify reasons in favor of establishing a shared framework. Members stated that the establishment of an overarching set of County and City strategies affords the LA CoC increased capacity to coordinate. In addition, members provided the following reasons in favor of the development of a shared framework: to avoid the isolation of stakeholders within the Continuum by creating a system that allows outside organizations to become involved, to expand individual perspectives, to establish a system of positive accountability, to grow resources with other systems of care, to improve communication, to better enable specialization and the leveraging of resources, to create a standardized menu of
concepts, to borrow from existing expertise, to ensure clarity and transparency, and to ensure that those experiencing homelessness receive the best care possible.

IV. 2017 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Results Presentation
JuHyun Sakota

Summary:
Ms. Sakota presented on the 2017 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count results, with a focus on data elements pertaining to the veteran population.

Discussion:
Members requested an analysis of how the ethnic distribution of veterans captured in Homeless Count data compares with the ethnic breakdown of homeless veterans in the LA CoC. Members requested data pertaining to physical disability among veterans experiencing homelessness. Ms. Sakota responded that this data element will be released to the Continuum via the LAHSA website. Members asked if there is a way to utilize the data collected on veteran homelessness to partner with the VA on discharge planning. Members inquired as to the methodology used by LAHSA to categorize an individual’s level of mental illness. Ms. Sakota responded that individuals were asked in a questionnaire if they have certain symptoms categorized as mental illness and if these systems are long-term (12 months or longer). Additionally, survey respondents were not asked to disclose whether they have been diagnosed by a doctor. Ms. Sakota stated that the questionnaire used in surveys is posted online and to submit any additional questions pertaining to Homeless Count data or methodology to jsakota@lahsa.org. Members asked if there will be an increased focus on real time data going forward. Ms. Mahin responded that the aim is to continue to build out CES infrastructure in order to support the collection of more real time data going forward. Mr. Ko added that the four (4) CoC’s are working to coordinate to provide quarterly data updates. Additionally, LAHSA and the County Homeless Initiative will continue to validate Homeless Count data within HMIS and CES.

V. SPA Homeless Veteran Steering Committee Structure Presentation
Joanna Bomba
Heidi Marston

Summary: Ms. Bomba and Ms. Marston presented on the structure of the SPA Homeless Veteran Steering Committee (HVSC). The primary focus of the HVSC is to facilitate regional coordination on Veteran homelessness to increase housing within the homeless services system.

Discussion:
Members inquired as to the prevention measures in place to prevent the loss of housing vouchers and the necessary steps one would need to take to secure a new voucher. Ms. Marston responded that addressing the loss of housing vouchers is one of HVSC’s top priorities.

Ms. Bomba asked for input pertaining to what the key areas of focus should be for HVSC and which entities should be invited to the table. Members raised the point that because most veteran programs are designed for single adults, it is important that we address the needs of children of homeless veterans, particularly in the school system. Ms. Bomba responded that it is currently a priority of HSVC to improve facilitation of peripheral services for veterans and their families. Members recommended having housing recruiters at the table to improve overall understanding of the importance of providing trauma-informed care post discharge, to standardize what the discharge process should look like for veterans, and how best to coordinate to bridge gaps in veteran services post discharge. Members asked about the
possibility of conducting data collection outside of CES to obtain data on clients prior to them experiencing homelessness. Ms. Bomba responded that HSVC is currently looking into this. Members requested clarification of the terms “Across SPAs” and “Within SPAs,” and a more comprehensive list of SPA representation. Members suggested that hospitals have access to HMIS. Ms. Mahin explained that this feedback may not be feasible to implement due to LAHSA funding constraints.

VI. Updates & Announcements

Sarah Mahin

a. CES Policy Council Update

Summary: Ms. Mahin provided a brief update on the CES Policy Council. The CES Policy Council meets monthly to review and revise or approve policies and procedures developed by the CES Policy Development Work Group, with the primary goal of having HUD compliant core policies in place by January. This group is made up of members who have knowledge of resources and system decision points, including stakeholders such as service providers, County health agencies, public housing authorities, persons with lived experience of homelessness, and the philanthropic community. The Policy Council will only review policies that the public has had an opportunity to review through public comment. The first meeting was held on Wednesday, July 26, 2017.

b. LA CoC Board Update

Summary: Ms. Mahin provided a brief update on the Los Angeles Continuum of Care (LA CoC) Board. On May 17, 2017, the Regional Homelessness Advisory Council (RHAC) approved the LA CoC Board bylaws and process for nominating, electing, and selecting LA CoC Board members. The LA CoC Board consists of 17 members, including eight (8) Service Planning Area (SPA) representatives (one representative per SPA) and nine (9) at-large representatives representing various constituent groups. SPA representatives were elected at SPA-wide community meetings, and at-large representatives were selected by the LA CoC Board Nominating Committee of the RHAC. The University and Government At-large seat is currently vacant. Since the LA CoC Board has been seated, it has been reviewing the policies and procedures related to the 2017 Notification of Funds Available (NOFA).

c. 2017 NOFA Announcement

Summary: Ms. Mahin provided a brief update on the 2017 NOFA. The 2017 NOFA opened July 14th, and closes Thursday, September 28th. Los Angeles is eligible to apply for approximately $111 million in funding for the Continuum. The funds include a renewal amount of $105 million and a potential bonus of $6 million for new projects.

d. Updates from RHAC Members

Summary: Ms. Barclay gave a status update on LA City Measure HHH planning process. The first round of bonds has been issued and represents $415 million in permanent supportive housing, plus an additional $12 million to fund services and transitional housing.

Ms. Marquez gave an update pertaining to the progress made on redesigning the Los Angeles Housing and Community Investment Department’s (HCID) Domestic Violence Shelter Operations program. HCID expects to release the new program and services in early October 2017.
Mr. Hoover provided a brief update on behalf of LA Voice. LA Voice will meet with USC in the Fall to discuss bringing additional leadership to the table.

Mr. Ansell gave a status update on the LA County Measure H planning process. On June 7th, LA County and LA Voice convened the Interfaith Summit. The County, LAHSA, and over 30 faith-based organizations developed a planning guide detailing how they would like to connect with the County strategies. The Measure H funding applications for cities are due in October and grantees will be selected in November. On September 27th, the LA County Homeless Initiative is hosting the 2nd Cities’ Summit to Prevent and Combat Homelessness. The County is currently working to execute contracts in September with seven (7) COGs to support them in coordinating the activities of cities in their region. An operational agreement has been executed between the County and LAHSA, in which LAHSA agreed to pay providers within 30 calendar days within receiving invoices. Lead agencies are currently developing implementation plans that will be released upon completion. The County has approved 100 new department civil service positions integral to the implementation of Measure H strategies. In addition, LAHSA has identified that service providers will add approximately 700 new staff positions with Measure H funds. There is a comprehensive Measure H guide available on the County website that provides contracting information by SPA for each of the different strategies. LAHSA be release an RFP within a week or two (2) of this meeting for some of the Measure H resources being facilitated by LAHSA.

VII. Public Comment

There were two (2) public speakers. The first suggested partnering with non-profit and for profit developers and builders that have prior experience contracting with agencies that construct transitional and permanent supportive housing. The second announced that the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments’ RFP has been released.

VIII. Adjournment

Council adjourned at 11:36am.
I. Welcome & Roll Call

Sarah Mahin  
*Director, Policy & Planning*  
Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority

Kelli Poole  
*Manager, Homeless Systems Change*  
Home For Good
Our North Star...

Connect the dots  
Spread solutions  
Track progress  
Raise concerns
Today’s Agenda

I. Welcome & Roll Call

II. Review & Approve Meeting Minutes from August 16, 2017

III. Framework for Developing Local Homeless Policies & Plans Discussion: Part Two

IV. System Performance Measure Data for Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Presentation

V. Ad Hoc Committee on Women & Homelessness Report Presentation

VI. Updates & Announcements
   a. Current & Upcoming Funding Opportunities
   b. HomeWalk 2017
   c. CES Policy Council Update
   d. Updates from RHAC Members

VII. Public Comment

VIII. Adjournment
II. Review & Approve Meeting Minutes from August 16, 2017

*Motion to approve Meeting Minutes is required
III. Framework for Developing Local Homeless Policies & Plans: Part Two

Kelli Poole
Manager, Homeless Systems Change
Home For Good
Developing a Framework for Planning

1. Context
2. Connections
3. Components
Context

What’s driving the creation of plans?
A desire to change the narrative around homelessness and show proactive action
Growing use of agency assets for homeless interventions
The availability of more permanent and productive resources plus a County strategy to coordinate around
The changing nature of interactions with homeless consumers
A desire to ensure better outcomes for individuals experiencing homelessness
Connections

Why share a framework?
Connections

To achieve broadened impact with limited resources; no one employs a full continuum of services or resources on their own.

To establish a system of positive accountability.

To borrow from existing expertise as new plans and partners get involved.

To enable specialization by leveraging of resources between agencies.

To improve communication between partners by using common terms/concepts, measures, and goals.

To ensure clarity and transparency.

To ensure that those experiencing homelessness receive the best care possible (since many cross over our organizational or sector boundaries).
Components

What should the elements of a shared framework be?
Common Components

Objectives  Partnerships  Data  Premises

Terms  Steps  Others?
IV. System Performance Measure Data for Fiscal Year 2016-2017

Josh Decell
Associate Director, Data & Evaluation
LAHSA
Baseline System Performance FY16-17

**Reporting Period**
July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017

**Scope and Sources**
LA County: LA, Long Beach, Glendale, Pasadena HMIS

**Measurements**
Housing Placements, Time to Housing, Returns to Homelessness
Permanent Housing Placements

14,497 People Moved into Permanent Housing
Time from Assessment to Move-In

The average time to move-in is **131 Days**
Returns to Homelessness

623 people became homeless again, after being housed within the past 2 years.
Next Steps

- Compare year over year results going forward
- County Measure H Performance Dashboard release in March 2018
- Strategic expansion of HMIS implementation to increase accuracy of system performance measurement
V. Ad Hoc Committee on Women & Homelessness Report

Sarah Mahin  
*Director, Policy & Systems*  
LAHSA

Jessica Reed  
*Policy Manager*  
LAHSA
Committee Formation

- Formed in response to increasing number of women experiencing homelessness as demonstrated by the 2016 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count
- Created by LAHSA Commission in November 2016
- Monthly meetings December 2016 – July 2017
Committee Members

LAHSA Commission Committee Members

Wendy Greuel, Chair
Sarah Dusseault

Committee Members

Chancela Al-Mansour
- Executive Director, Housing Rights Center

Becky Dennison
- Executive Director, Venice Community Housing

Elizabeth Eastlund
- Executive Director, Rainbow Services
- Vice Chair, City of Los Angeles Domestic Violence Task Force

María Funk
- District Chief of Countywide Housing, Employment and Education Resource Development, Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health

Silvia Hernandez
- Community Intern, Community Action Network

Drian Juarez
- Transgender Economic Empowerment Project (TEEP) Program Manager, Los Angeles LGBT Center

Veronica Lewis
- Division Director, Special Service for Groups (SSG) - Homeless Outreach Program Integrated Care System (HOPICS)

Shamāiah Manriquez
- Author and Advocate

Christine Margiotta
- Executive Director, Social Venture Partners Los Angeles

Anne Miskey
- Chief Executive Officer, Downtown Women’s Center

Alisa Orduna
- Homelessness Policy Director, City of Los Angeles

Jessica Postigo
- President, Commission on the Status of Women, City of Los Angeles Housing and Community Investment Department

Molly Rysman
- Deputy for Housing and Homelessness, Office of Supervisor Sheila Kuehl

Amanda Sadra
- Field Representative, Office of U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein

Amiyoko Shabazz
- Social Enterprise Associate, Downtown Women’s Center

Cheri Todoroff
- Deputy Director, Housing for Health, Los Angeles County Department of Health Services

Dhakshike Wickrema
- Deputy for Mental Health and Homelessness Advocacy, Office of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Committee Purpose

To understand, consider, and address the needs of women within the homeless crisis response system

The Committee accomplished this by:

Providing a Forum for Discussion

- Provided public monthly meetings on subjects related to women and homelessness
- Invited feedback from public speakers
- Expanded and adjusted discussion of subjects based on feedback and progress

Developing and Promoting Recommendations

- Identified, requested, and aggregated data related to homelessness and women
- Identified and made recommendations to the LAHSA Commission, the County, the City, and other stakeholders on how to improve efforts to address homelessness among women
- Made budget recommendations related to women’s homelessness
- Produced a report that presents data on homeless women in LA, information gathered from presentations and discussion, and recommendations made by the Committee
## Emergent Themes

- Lack of housing resources
- Involvement of individuals with lived experience
- Improvements to data collection and tracking
- Enhanced training and technical assistance
- Gender and trauma-informed service delivery
Accomplishments to Date

✓ Several recommendations included in Measure H budget allocations:
   (1) Enhanced funding for rapid re-housing programs
   (2) Creation of longer-term shallow rental subsidies
   (3) Increase to the per diem rate for interim housing
   (4) Funding for legal services and eviction prevention

✓ LA Continuum of Care-wide gender non-discrimination policy developed
Accomplishments to Date

✓ Human trafficking question added to the 2017 Homeless Count demographic survey

✓ Working group created to comprehensively address training needs for providers and ensure trainings address the needs of women

✓ Know-your-rights cards distributed during outreach

✓ Flexibility for rapid re-housing programs to provide child care support to families

✓ LAHSA-funded shelters now required to provide feminine hygiene products
Recommendation Categories & Examples*

Data & Reporting

- **Conduct a housing gaps analysis for women experiencing homelessness.**
- **Conduct an analysis of what women need to feel safe, build community, and succeed in permanent housing.**
- **Standardize domestic violence performance measures across funding agencies, including HCID, DPSS, and LAHSA.**

*A full list of recommendations is included in the Committee’s report. Those provided here are meant as examples, not a comprehensive list.*
Recommendation Categories & Examples*

**Training & Capacity Building**

- Provide regular, ongoing training on trauma-informed care, safety planning, human trafficking, domestic violence, gender and sexual diversity, and navigating the foster care and child welfare system.

- Include people with lived experience as part of trainings.

- Support cross-system training and capacity building between the homeless services and workforce development systems.

*A full list of recommendations is included in the Committee’s report. Those provided here are meant as examples, not a comprehensive list.
Recommendation Categories & Examples*

**Funding**

- Consider needs of women in all funding decisions by prioritizing subpopulations in which women are overrepresented and addressing vulnerabilities specific to women and transgender women.

- Establish oversight at a system level to monitor for unintended bias in layered funding, and create flexibility for funders to balance out projects as needed.

- Increase the per diem rate for interim housing.

- Rigorously fund rapid re-housing.

- Fund prevention services (e.g. legal services, eviction prevention).

*A full list of recommendations is included in the Committee’s report. Those provided here are meant as examples, not a comprehensive list.*
Recommendation Categories & Examples*

Service Delivery

• Address intergenerational cycles by assessing and treating trauma experienced by children.

• Ensure service providers have appropriate policies and practices to protect the confidentiality and safety of participants.

• Require trauma-informed services in all contracts, and establish monitoring mechanisms to determine that this is being implemented.

*A full list of recommendations is included in the Committee’s report. Those provided here are meant as examples, not a comprehensive list.
Recommendation Categories & Examples*

Service Delivery (continued)

- Enhance shelter standards to be inclusive of gender diversity.
- Support streamlined and expanded production of multifamily, affordable housing, through direct funding, land use tools, and other means.
- Encourage property management companies to adopt practices of trauma-informed care.
- Ensure that services are delivered through a gendered lens, with sensitivity to health, mental health, and substance use-related needs.

*A full list of recommendations is included in the Committee’s report. Those provided here are meant as examples, not a comprehensive list.
Recommendation Categories & Examples*

Advocacy & Policy Development

• Ensure that policies are in place to promote safety of all clients in all types of housing assistance.

• Support policies that strengthen the City’s Rent Stabilization Ordinance.

• Oppose policies that criminalize homelessness, such as “quality of life” tickets.

• Adopt “just cause” ordinances for eviction prevention, including protections for non- RSO buildings.

• Include women with lived experience in all parts of planning and service delivery.

*A full list of recommendations is included in the Committee’s report. Those provided here are meant as examples, not a comprehensive list.
VI. Updates & Announcements

a. Current & Future Funding Opportunities
b. HomeWalk 2017
c. CES Policy Council Update
d. Updates from RHAC Members
VII. Public Comment

Two (2) minute maximum
VIII. Adjournment