



Butte Countywide Homeless Continuum of Care

BUTTE COUNTYWIDE HOMELESS CONTINUUM OF CARE COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING MINUTES

Monday, September 21, 2020

1:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M.

Zoom Virtual Meeting Hosted by Butte County Employment & Social Services

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Alex Brown, Greater Chico Homeless Taskforce
Anastacia Snyder, Catalyst Domestic Violence Services
Don Taylor, Butte County DESS Housing & Homeless
Emily Bateman, Youth for Change/6th Street
Eric Smith, City of Oroville
Joy Amaro, True North Housing Alliance
Lisa Currier, Homeless/Former Homeless Representative
Marie Demers, City of Chico
Marin Hambley, Stonewall Alliance
Melissa Frohrip, Nation's Finest (formerly VRC)
Sarah Frohock, Butte County Dept. of Behavioral Health
Tami Ritter, Butte County Board of Supervisors
Larry Hayden, Oroville Hope Center
Thomas Tenorio, Community Action Agency

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ed Mayer, Housing Authority of the County of Butte
Meagan Meloy, Butte County Office of Education
Mike Zucolillo, Town of Paradise
Scott Huber, City of Chico

CoC COORDINATOR:

Briana Harvey-Butterfield, DESS, Housing & Homeless

RECORDING:

Staci Parisi, Butte County DESS Housing and Homeless

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Talmadge House, Disability Action Center
Shelly Watson, Jesus Center
Armando Hernandez, VECTORS
Lydia Jimenez, Cal OES

OTHER ATTENDEES CONT'D:

Ann Winters, Catalyst Domestic Violence Services
Brad Brunner, Caminar
Crystal Mourad, North Valley Housing Trust
Dawn Blackhorse, Butte College
Deanna Schwab, Safe Space
Debbie Villasenor, Housing Consultant
Debra Lucero, Butte County Supervisor District 2
Elisa Rawlinson, Butte County DESS H&H
Jay Coughlin, Butte County DESS H&H
Laura Cootsona, Jesus Center
Rachel DeLeon, Butte County DESS
Scott Kennelly, Butte County Dept. of Behavioral Health
Kristi Lin, Legal Services of Northern California
Josh Jamison, Oroville Hope Center
John Fleming, Ampla
Leslie Johnson, CHAT
Keesha Hills, OSCIA
Robert Trausch, CHAT
Amber Benedict, CHAT
Annie Terry, Oroville Rescue Mission
Stephanie Hayden, Oroville Hope Center
Debra Lucero, Butte County Board of Supervisors
Lorilyn Manwarren, Ampla
Amber Abney Bass, Jesus Center
Suzi Kochems, City of Chico
Ana Vicuna, Butte County Dept. of Behavioral Health
Melissa Frohrip, Nation's Finest
Sherisse Allen, Housing Tools
Pahua Thao, Butte County DESS H&H
Caitlin Davis-Rivers, CHAT
Gene Azparren, Butte County Dept. of Public Health
Kevin Thompson, OSCIA

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- 1. CONVENE MEETING:** The meeting was called to order by Second Chair D. Taylor at 1:05 p.m. This meeting is being recorded.
- 2. INTRODUCTIONS:** Roll call for Council Members was completed by D. Taylor. It was determined there is enough Council Members for a Quorum. No field introductions were done. If you would like your name listed as an attendee please type your name and agency in the chat box.
- 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A motion was made to approve the August 17, 2020 Council meeting minutes.

Motion: Lisa Currier
Second: Eric Smith
Opposed: None
Abstain: None

- 4. CITY OF CHICO HOMELESS OPPORTUNITIES PLAN:** Suzi Kochems presented the City of Chico Homeless Opportunities Plan that will be presented to the Chico City Council on Tuesday September 22, 2020. (see ATTACHMENT A).

Q: Ann Winters: Does this plan negate or include CHAT's interest in the BMX space?

A. Suzi Kochems: A feasibility study needs to be done on the property so we can see what we can use it for.

Q: Ann Winters: Who were the key stakeholders you spoke to?

A: Suzi Kochems: Leslie Johnson from CHAT, Joy Amaro from TNHA, Laura Cootsona from Jesus Center, Don Taylor from DESS Housing and Homeless, Deanna Schwab from Safe Space.

Supervisor Lucero asked if Suzi is looking for an approval or recommendation of this plan. Suzi states she would like to report to the Chico City Council that the CoC verbally supports this plan. L. Currier commented that she would like to see other agencies involved in this plan rather than just True North with the shelter, other projects such as a safe campground or tiny house village. L. Currier states that not all homeless individuals want to go into a shelter. Suzi responded that there will be a two week open comment period. L. Currier states that there is no housing case management in this plan. L. Cootsona stated in the chat box that Jesus Center will share their environmental study on the BMX property. Suzi stated that when speaking with stakeholders in August everyone she spoke with was in favor of safe camping. Suzi states that the plan is a progressive program engagement to move individuals from the streets, to tents, to emergency shelter, to permanent housing. Ann Winters noted in the chat box that domestic violence services were not discussed in the plan despite knowing that 75% of homeless women are homeless due to domestic violence, and that is concerning.

Don Taylor states this is an information only discussion and individual entities can provide their support, but the CoC cannot officially endorse the plan today. The Council can revisit this with a request at the October meeting if it desires to do something formally.

5. DISCUSSION REGARDING CoC SUBCOMMITTEES - LGBT*Q+ People and People of Color: M.

Hambley asked the CoC to consider adding a subcommittee to support the creation of more services for LGBTQ and People of Color (POC) homeless individuals. M. Hambley stated that LGBTQ and POC experience homelessness at a disproportionate rate (8% of California population is POC, but 40% of homeless population is POC, similar for LGBTQ) and there is a gap in services and support for this population. M. Hambley states it would be useful to have subcommittee for this population. Stonewall has a 5 point plan it is implementing:

1. Coordinated Entry system – priority points for LGBTQ and POC
2. LGBTQ/POC Countywide work group
3. Develop specialized training for shelter and housing providers to support POC and LGBTQ
4. Specific LGBTQ and POC shelters and houses.
5. Direct funds for LGBTQ and POC leadership

POC and LGBTQ homeless are at a disadvantage due to a higher rate of violence and trauma and less resources. M. Hambley is asking to start a subcommittee to research the ideas listed in the 5 point plan above.

Current CoC Committees:

- Executive
- HMIS/CES
- Households with Children
- Veterans
- Chronic Homelessness
- Runaway Homeless Youth

D. Taylor stated that we will get an action item on the October meeting agenda for the creation of a LGBTQ and POC subcommittee. D. Taylor states that the Housing and Homeless team will research information about additional priority points in Coordinated Entry.

6. COUNTY UPDATES:

- A) Project Room Key – B.H. Butterfield reported there are currently 133 FEMA qualified individuals, 103 in north county and 30 in south county. We are utilizing 115 hotel rooms, and 66 people have left hotels for permanent housing.
- B) CRT (COVID Rehousing Team) Update – B.H. Butterfield gave an update on the CRT. The CRT meets weekly. The purpose of the CRT is to focus Rapid Rehousing efforts on Project Roomkey participants so they do not return to homelessness when Project Roomkey ends. The Team is split into planning, housing location, housing navigation, assessment, move in, and lived experience subcommittees. There is a process in place for requesting rental assistance and other funds to help with securing and maintaining permanent housing for Project Roomkey participants. The CRT is currently using CESH 1 funds to assist with rental assistance and other expenses associated with securing housing.
- C) Local Assistance Center (LAC) – D. Taylor reported that a LAC for Bear Fire victims for FEMA assistance will be opening in Oroville at 1875 Feather River Blvd. The LAC will open September 22 and hours are Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. and Saturdays 10 a.m. – 4 p.m..

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Governance Committee: B.H. Butterfield reported that the Governance committee have been busy making updates to the CoC Governance charter and will bring suggestions to October CoC Meeting.

Chronic Homeless Committee: No report

HMIS/CE Committee: S. Parisi reported S. Frohock facilitated last meeting. No report available at this time.

Runaway Homeless Youth: E. Bateman reported that the group met last Wednesday to discuss the PIT and how to make sure homeless youth are counted, and are meeting this Wednesday to discuss November homeless runaway youth month.

Veterans Committee: Melissa Frohrip with Nation’s Finest reported the group met in August and several veteran agencies participated and decided to meet every 6 weeks. Next meeting they will discuss veteran homelessness numbers and possibly working on a mission statement.

Greater Chico Homeless Chico Task Force: No Report

PIT Committee: Committee has met twice, they are coordinating with Housing Tools on survey question suggestions. PIT Committee will make recommendations for survey questions to CoC Council in October.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

D. Taylor reported that the HUD CoC NOFA should be coming out at any time.

S. Hayden reported Oroville Hope Center has fire resources. Hours are Tuesday – Friday from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Please call Oroville Hope Center or email stephanie@orvillehopecenter.org.

9. NEXT MEETING:

Monday October 19, 2020, Butte County Department of Employment and Social Services to host Zoom Virtual Meeting.

10. Adjourned: 2:27 p.m.