



## Butte Countywide Homeless Continuum of Care

### Butte County Continuum of Care

### Council Member Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 17, 2024 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Virtual Meeting Hosted by: Butte County Employment & Social Services

#### **COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Angie Little, HACB  
Josh Indar, BCOE  
Amber Abney-Bass, Jesus Center  
Brad Brunner, Caminar  
Anastacia Snyder, Catalyst  
Briana Harvey-Butterfield, DESS H&H  
Jennifer Macarthy, City of Chico  
Marie Demers, City of Chico  
Sarah Frohock, BCDBH  
Tami Ritter, BC Board of Supervisors  
Matthew McCoy, DESS  
Ian Clement, Hope Cooperative

#### **COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Tracy Johnstone, City of Oroville  
Keesha Hills, OSCIA  
Josh Jamison, Oro Hope Center  
Steve Culleton, Town of Paradise  
Meagan Meloy, BCOE  
Ann Winters, Catalyst

#### **OTHER ATTENDEES:**

Allan Dikes, Oroville Rescue Mission  
Allison Gonzales  
Amie Decker, Nation's Finest  
Amy Bergstrom, City of Oroville  
Bert Taylor, DESS  
Beth Parsons, Youth for Change  
Brian Boyer, Esplanade House  
Debbie Villasenor, Housing Consultant  
Don Taylor, Willow Wellness

#### **OTHER ATTENDEES CONT:**

Erin Murray, DESS  
Carnella Marks, Restoring Community  
Cory Turner, Legal Services Northern California  
Ed Mayer, HACB  
Shelly Watson, Jesus Center  
Jennifer Zellers, 6<sup>th</sup> Street Center for Youth  
Nancy Jorth, Youth for Change  
Joelle Chinnock, CA Conference of SDA  
Leslie Johnson, CHAT  
Lisa Torres, OSCIA  
Elisa Rawlinson, DESS  
Kevin Thompson, OSCIA  
Wendy Cumberland, DESS  
Shelly Storkan, BCDBH  
Rayna Bryson, DESS  
Erickson Montes, DESS  
Erin Kennedy, DESS  
Halle Brown, NCIHA  
Hilary Crosby, Safe Space  
Kaitlyn Sherrill, DESS  
Monica Soderstrom, BC Public Health  
Kathleen Sweeney, Executive Assistant Sup Ritter  
Kirstie Clifton, BC Crisis  
Lorena Reed, BCDBH  
Megan Massie, New Beginnings  
Nikki Balboa, VA  
Philip Wysocki, TNHB  
Rochelle Howze  
Saville Seagraver  
Seana O'Shaughnessy  
Sherry Morgado, Housing Tools

Codie McCormack, Caminar  
Tiffany Danger, BCOE  
Wendy Lo, DESS  
Yesenia Gallegos, CHAT

Stefan Spirk, CAA  
Taylor Bunch, TNHB  
Tracey Gillihan, Butte/Glen 211  
Wendy Longwell, Disability Action

**CoC Coordinator:** Erin Murray, DESS H&H    **Recording:** Lisa Angle, DESS H&H

## **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

### **1. CONVENE MEETING AND ESTABLISH QUORUM**

The meeting was called to order by Amber Abney-Bass, Chairperson at 1:02pm. Roll call of the council members conducted and a quorum established. This meeting is being facilitated by Amber Abney-Bass, Chairperson, and the meeting is being recorded.

### **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – ACTION**

A motion was made to approve the meeting minutes for May 20, 2024 as presented.

#### **a. May 20, 2024 – CoC Meeting Minutes**

Motion: Marie Demers  
Second: Brad Brunner  
Oppose: None  
Abstain: Ian Clement and Jennifer Macarthy

### **3. COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT: VOILENCE AGAINST WOMAN ACT (VAWA) OVERVIEW – INFORMATION**

**Presenting: Corey Turner, Legal Services of Northern California**

C. Turner presented information on State and Federal Housing Protections for Survivors of Abuse or Violence, which applies to all tenancies. The presentation is legal information and not legal advice. C. Turner stated that any clients or community member that are a survivor of any type of abuse or violence can reach out to Legal Services of Northern California or Catalyst for assistance. C. Turner reviewed what services are provided by Legal Services of Northern California and what communities are served.

A. Snyder, Catalyst, stated that Catalyst is providing services and supports related to VAWA for survivors of dating domestic violence and sexual assault. Catalyst has assisted with keeping clients housed in a variety of types of situations.

### **4. CoC PROGRAM GRANT RANKING – DISCUSSION**

**Presenting: Sherry Morgado and Debbie Villasenor**

S. Morgado, Housing Tools, presented a recommendation to review and revise the local CoC Program Grant Rating and Ranking Policy as included in the memo provided. S. Morgado provided an overview of the annual CoC Program funding process.

S. Morgado presented, reviewed and explained the upcoming HUD Continuum of Care 2024 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Recommendation to Revise Local CoC's Rating and Ranking Policy memo. Memo items reviewed:

- Background
- Action Recommended
- Policy Change

Discussion was held on rating and ranking.

S. Morgado presented, reviewed and explained CoC Program Grant ranking as ranked by Housing Tools and as finalized by the CoC. Council requested more time allotted in the future to further the discussion.

## 5. CoC PROGRAM GRANT REPORT OUT - INFORMATION

E. Murray, CoC Coordinator, stated as a reminder the CoC passed a new policy requiring all CoC Program Grant awardees are required to report annually on expenditures and project status. The following report outs are in compliance with that policy.

- E. Murray reported on Butte County DESS Coordinated Entry (CE)

**Calendar Dates of Service:** 1/1/2024 – 12/31/2024

**Amount Awarded:** \$36,241.00 **Amount Expended:** \$18,121.00

**Project Goals:** To support Coordinated Entry Enrollment Costs

**Progress Made Toward Project Goal(s):** 249 new Coordinated Entry (CE) enrollments completed and 294 updated Coordinated Entry (CE) enrollments by Help Central this calendar year.

- E. Murray reported on Butte County DESS Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

**Calendar Dates of Service:** 1/1/2024 – 12/31/2024

**Amount Awarded:** \$144,080.00 **Amount Expended:** \$65,946.31

**Project Goals:** To support Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) administration and application process.

**Progress Made Toward Project Goal(s):** 32 agencies, over 120 programs, over 150 users

**Challenges:** Significant operational costs

- E. Murray reported on Butte County DESS Planning Grant

**Calendar Dates of Service:** 1/1/2024 – 12/31/2024

**Amount Awarded:** \$19,649.00 **Amount Expended:** \$0.00

**Project Goals:** To support Continuum of Care (CoC) grant activities

**Progress Made Toward Project Goal(s):** Funds will support a portion of the contract with Housing Tools for the 2024 Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Grant Process

**Challenges:** High level administrative activities

➤ C. McCormack reported on Caminar - Avenida Apartments

**Calendar Dates of Service:** 10/1/2023 – 9/30/2024

**Amount Awarded:** \$87,981.00 **Amount Expended:** \$51,322.25

**Project Goal(s):** Provided housing to a minimum of 14 consumers per year and support consumers per year and support consumers to maintain a minimum of two (2) years of length of stay.

**Progress Made Toward Project Goal(s):** Avenida has served 16 individuals YTD with an average stay of 4.08 years.

**Positive Outcomes:** Met all program goals, connected tenants to employment and basic needs services, provide community garden, provide safe space for socialization and family interactions.

**Challenges:** Cost of furnishings for apartments are rising, storage space on site is limited for apartment materials, motivating tenant attendance to Property Management meetings is difficult, obtaining enough support for tenant during transition from unsheltered living to community rules and regulation challenges.

➤ C. McCormack reported on Caminar – Base Camp Village

**Calendar Dates of Service:** 5/1/2023 – 4/30/2024

**Amount Awarded:** \$86,718.00 **Amount Expended:** \$86,718.00

**Project Goal(s):** Provide housing to a minimum of 12 consumers per year and support consumers to maintain a minimum two (2) years length of stay.

**Positive Outcomes:** Met all program goals, high participation in community garden, sobriety support in on-site dual diagnosis support group, Behavioral Health support group participation.

**Challenges:** Cost of furnishings for apartments are rising, storage space on-site is limited for apartments materials, motivating tenant attendance to Property Management meetings is difficult, obtaining enough support for tenant during transition from unsheltered living to community rules and regulation challenges.

➤ A. Snyder reported on Catalyst – Rapid Rehousing/Transitional Housing

**Calendar Dates of Service:** 10/1/2023 – 9/30/2024

**Amount Awarded:** \$110,846.00 **Amount Expended:** \$57,037.00

**Project Goal(s):** Four households TH (Cottages) Three Households RRH (Scattered Sites)

**Progress Made Toward Project Goal(s):** Goals met - 9 HH in RRH, 5 HH in TH

**Positive Outcomes:** Three participants have been accepted into The Foundation (income-based housing); three other participants have moved into similar housing. Implemented internal housing-readiness which includes an Advocate assisting each participant to obtain all the documents necessary for standard and low-income housing.

**Challenges:** Lack of affordable housing, difficulty qualifying for housing, competition for housing, finding housing that accepts pets, maintaining relationships with participants prior to getting housed, and the complicated nature of applying for housing.

➤ A. Snyder reported on Catalyst – Rapid Rehousing

**Calendar Dates of Service:** 7/1/2023 – 6/30/2024

**Amount Awarded:** \$95,765.00 **Amount Expended:** \$84,449.00

**Project Goal(s):** Five Households housed

**Progress Made Toward Project Goal(s):** Eight Households housed

**Positive Outcomes:** Three households completed the multi-step process to receive housing at the Foundation.

**Challenges:** Lack of enough affordable housing, landlords willing to see past barriers, too many hoops to jump through to get affordable housing, and difficulty keeping participants engaged through all of the hoops.

➤ T. Bunch reported on True North Housing Alliance, Inc. – James Place Permanent Supportive Housing Program

**Calendar Dates of Service:** 9/1/2023 – 8/30/2024

**Amount Awarded:** \$48,983.00 **Amount Expended:** \$48,983.00

**Project Goal(s):** Help tenants obtain and maintain permanent housing, help participants build life skills and increase outcomes, help tenants increase their self-sufficiency.

**Progress Made Toward Project Goal(s):** Five individuals have successfully remained housed at James Place.

One resident is transitioning to independent permanent housing, and another is moving out later this year.

Residents have maintained their housing while working with case managers to develop essential life skills and seek/secure permanent housing that meets their unique needs.

**Positive Outcomes:** 20 individuals have been successfully housing through the program since it's first year. 10 have transitioned into permanent independent living. The resident with the longest tenancy and highest needs will be moving into independent permanent housing this summer.

**Challenges:** Finding clients who meet the criteria has been challenging as the program is designed for a unique population with unique challenges. Increases in rent, utilities and general operating costs have increased expenses beyond the program budget/award amount. TNHHA has utilized income from rents to offset costs and sustain the program this FY.

## 6. PIT/HIC SUBMISSION - INFORMATION

E. Rawlinson, DESS, shared the draft submission of the 2024 sheltered Point in Time (PIT) and Housing Inventory Count (HIC). E. Rawlinson stated these numbers are tentative at this point pending final approval from Housing Urban Development.

## 7. LEAD AGENCY, COLLABORATIVE APPLICANT, ADMINISTRATIVE ENTITY UPDATES – INFORMATION

E. Murray, provided a verbal update on errors in the grants and expenditures provided at the last CoC meeting. The errors have been corrected and have been emailed to the distribution group. Reach out to E. Murray with any questions via the CoC inbox.

B. Harvey-Butterfield, DESS, stated that DESS continues to monitor the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) website, and has continued to reach out to HCD for the Emergency Solution Grant Balance of State (ESG BoS) awards, which have yet to be announced.

B. Harvey-Butterfield also stated that due to the delay in ESG BoS awards, this fall will be busy with ESG BoS and CoC Program NOFOS and the Homeless Housing and Assistance Program 5 (HHAP 5) Request for Proposals.

B. Harvey-Butterfield announced the DESS is transitioning to utilizing Teams for virtual meetings instead of Zoom.

## **8. COMMITTEE REPORTS – INFORMATION**

Governance Committee – E. Murray stated that the June meeting was rescheduled for 6/18/24.

HMIS/CES Committee – E. Rawlinson stated June meeting cancelled and the committee will be meeting in July.

Households with Children – Brian Boyer announced the committee has been discussing back to school events.

Chronic Homelessness – A. Abney-Bass stated committee has not met since the last CoC meeting and S. Storkan will let everyone know when next meeting will be. If interested in participating connect with S. Storkan.

PIT Committee – E. Murray stated the committee continues to meet and any major updates will be brought to the CoC.

Equity Committee – E. Murray stated the committee is currently looking for a Chair person. Erin Murray stated the last meeting Cathryn Carkhuff, Home and Heart gave a great presentation on the Master Plan on Aging.

Youth Homelessness – J. Indar announced the committee continues to meet every second Wednesday and no major updates.

Veterans – M. McCoy announced the committee met on June 5 and next meeting is on July 16<sup>th</sup>. The meeting on June 5 was an open forum with the discussion on a variety of topics including upcoming fundraisers for VECTORS and Stand Down Committee.

## **9. COALITION AND JURISDICTION REPORTS/UPDATES - INFORMATION**

Tami Ritter, BOS – No updates/reports

Greater Chico Homeless Task Force – No report

Greater Oroville Homeless Coalition – No report

City of Chico – J. Macarthy stated the City of Chico was successful in obtaining a \$2.7 million grant through ERF Round 3 which is a cooperative grant with Butte County. The goal is to reach unsheltered homeless individuals in Northern Butte County who are in variety of different encampments throughout the greater Chico area. The goal is to reach 62 individuals in street outreach efforts and to connect at least 32 of those individuals with permanent housing which would be served through vouchers along or rental assistance.

City of Oroville – No report

City of Paradise – No report

#### **10. ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

M. Demers announced she will be retiring soon and her last CoC meeting will be in July.

T. Bunch provided a rendering picture of the new Navigation Center to be built as an addition to the existing Torres Shelter. The Navigation Center will provide a host of services including access to service providers on site. Ground breaking is scheduled for Fall 2024, opening date is scheduled for June 2025.

#### **11. NEXT MEETING – MONDAY, JULY 15, 2024: COUNCIL MEMBER MEETING Butte County Department of Employment & Social Services – Virtual Meeting**

Note, as approved by the CoC Executive Committee, the regular July meeting was cancelled.

#### **12. ADJOURN**

Meeting adjourned at 3:06pm