

MEETING MINUTES
HMIS/COORDINATED ENTRY SYSTEM COMBINED COMMITTEE
Of
BUTTE COUNTYWIDE HOMELESS CONTINUUM OF CARE
June 8, 2020
Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89662805874?pwd=QzNrMVFKSGZpMHAxU0ZWUEd1RndWdz09>

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Deanna Schwab, Safe Space
Sarah Frohock, BCDBH
John Mitchell, Oroville Rescue Mission
Tara Sullivan-Hames, 2-1-1
Nancy Jorth, Youth for Change
Penny Mittag, DESS
Debbie Villasenor, Housing Consultant
Staci Parisi, DESS
Eliza Dyer, Catalyst

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Scott Rich, HMIS Support
Stacie Smith, DESS IT
Mark Alvidrez, CHAT
Shelly Watson, Jesus Center
Brianna Harvey Butterfield, DESS H & H
Elisa Rawlinson, DESS Housing & Homeless
Rachel DeLeon, DESS
Angie Little, Housing Authority
Christy Taylan, Caminar
Stefan Spirk, CAA
Carolina Cruz, Catalyst

RECORDING SECRETARY:

Elisa Rawlinson DESS Housing & Homeless

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Lisa Currier, CCAT
Leslie Johnson, CHAT
Gisela Nieto, Ampla Health

Jennifer Alpern, Oroville Hope Center
Melissa Frohrip, Veterans Resource Center
Lorilyn Manwarren, Ampla Health

Approval of Minutes: Correction to the minutes of the May 11, 2020, HMIS/CES Committee meeting noted, was Christy Taylan was in attendance. Motion to approve meeting notes with noted change

Motion to approve: Debbie Villasenor
Seconded by: Mark Alvidrez

Minutes for the HMIS Committee Meeting on May 11, 2020, were approved by consensus.

Welcome/Agency Updates: S. Parisi opened the meeting at 1:05 p.m. Roll call taken. S. Parisi asked for Agency updates.

Deanna Schwab of Safe Space announced Project Room Key has been extended through June 30, 2020.

Debbie Villasenor, Housing Consultant informed the group she'd received notification from HUD for an extension of the Link grant until December 30, 2020. She is still waiting to hear about an extension on the Samaritan grant.

Staci Parisi of DESS Housing and Homeless, stated the County of Butte Housing Authority has been working with the DESS Housing and Homeless branch on a referral/vetting process for Homeless Set Aside Vouchers. Elisa Rawlinson, Housing Navigator will go through the Coordinated Entry (CE) list and contact clients and will coordinate with Angie Little, Housing Authority to get vouchers to appropriate clients. All referrals for Homeless Set Aside Vouchers will come from the Butte County CE list.

Stefan Spirk of Community Action Agency (CAA) discussed the email his agency had recently sent out regarding the need for information on the Hic and PiT counts. He asked if any agencies had questions.

Q: Are forms were needed for their Men's and Women's Shelter even if they were at the same location?

A: *Yes, each program/project has to report separately.*

Q: Does CAA understand the timeline for responses will need a little leeway due to COVID and the need for agencies to provide signature. Staff are working from home/different locations and it will take extra time to get all information needed gathered.

A: *CAA is aware, agencies can get their numbers in and have signatures provided later.*

Q: The form with ES and TH numbers doesn't appear to work, will it be fixed and resent out.

A: *Contact CAA and they will work with agencies having issues with the forms.*

HMIS COVID-19 Non-Congregate Shelter program: California Department of Social Services (CDSS) wanted access to aggregate data in the HMIS COVID-19 Non-Congregate Shelter program. They wanted information on number of total individuals, families, beds, nights per bed, clients exited and destinations.

Permission was given by the Continuum of Care (CoC) Chair.

The question was asked; Is there going to be a regional HMIS system moving forward. Staci Parisi informed the group she did not know at this time if/when that would be put into effect by the State.

Technical Assistance, Privacy and Confidentiality in HMIS: The Housing and Homelessness division of DESS worked with Technical Support to create a Public Notice,

and Privacy Notice they were read to the subcommittee by S. Parisi: See Attachments 1 and 2 for the Public and Privacy Notice.

As discussed at the May 11, 2020 HMIS/CES meeting, clients do not need to provide written consent for their PPI to be entered into HMIS. Agencies are required to post a Public Notice and have a Privacy Notice and Security Plan in place and able to be viewed by clients at their request. The goal is to have a universal Public and Privacy Notice for all HMIS Contributing HMIS Organizations to use.

The subcommittee determined they should be presented to the CoC Council for approval, and once approved should be updated on the website.

Version 3.0 of the VI-SPDAT: There is a newly released version of the VI-SPDAT. Butte County is currently using version 2.0.

Q: How did the county transition from version 1.0 to 2.0?

A: *Butte County started with 2.0, we have never transitioned between versions.*

Q: Since there are changes, new questions, etc., will this change scoring? Examples of new information include but are not limited to race, gender, gender identity, LGBTQ+, pets, criminal convictions, belongings.

A: *This will need to be researched, Staci Parisi will reach out to the company and get more information.*

Q: Will asking these questions cause any issues with fair housing laws?

A: *This will need to be researched, Debbie Villasenor offered to look into this.*

If the committee decides to change versions someone will need to look at the written Policies and Procedures to see if there is direction on the process. Staci Parisi stated she would look into this.

There was further discussion around potential alternative or additional assessments regarding gender identity and race. Because these two categories can significantly heighten risk for being a victim of violence and on average receive less services, should we allow for local priority points based on a client's race and/or gender identity?

Research on the aforementioned information on gender identity and race was provided, examples of questions used by other counties.

If it is determined version 3.0 of the VI-SPDAT doesn't take these issues into account and provide points for gender identity and race, a membership survey can be done to see if local priority points are appropriate.

Project Rom Key CES List: Elisa Rawlinson, the Housing Navigator explained that due to HUD requesting prioritization of Project Room Key participants every week along with the

full CES list a second Project Room Key CES list is being sent out. The names and scores are taken from the full list and organized for ease of use by participating agencies.

Announcements/Comments – The question was raised if a VI-SPDAT should be completed over the phone with someone stating they have Power of Attorney over an individual being placed on CES. The group discussion included the following points:

- 1) A client needs to be the person answering the questions as they are the only person who can answer them 100% accurately.
- 2) It is possible to have the Power of Attorney on the call to assist as there is no way to verify over the phone if someone actually holds power of attorney and the client is the only one who know all of the answers.
- 3) This is a good questions for the TA providers and will be taken to them.

The All Member Continuum of Care meeting is on June 15, 2020.

Next Meeting – Monday, July 13, 2020 at 1:00-3:00 P.M. with virtual Office Hours held directly after the adjournment of the meeting.

ADJOURN – 2:17 PM