



## Butte Countywide Homeless Continuum of Care

# BUTTE COUNTYWIDE HOMELESS CONTINUUM OF CARE VETERANS

## MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday September 29, 2021

2:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M.

Virtual Meeting

### COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Javi Pinedo, Housing Authority  
John Zepeda, Butte County Veterans Service Officer  
Elisa Rawlinson, DESS Housing & Homeless  
Masaki Hirayama, Veterans Administration  
Nikki Balboa, Veteran's Justice Outreach  
Aimee Decker, Nation's Finest  
Lori LaRiviere, MD - VVA  
Larry Longwell, CSU, Chico  
Troy Davenport, Butte College  
Mich Harel, Veteran's Justice Outreach  
Pahua Thao, DESS Housing & Homeless  
Wendy Lo, DESS Housing & Homeless  
Isabel Alvarado-Alaniz, DESS Housing & Homeless

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

N/A

### OTHER ATTENDEES:

### RECORDING:

Kayla Davis, DESS Housing & Homeless

## ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- 1. CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 2:04 PM by First Chairperson John Zepeda.
- 2. INTRODUCTIONS/AGENCY UPDATES:**
  - Troy Davenport, Veteran Services at Butte College, standing in for Dan Torres.
  - Isabel Alaniz-Alvarado, DESS Housing & Homeless (HDAP)
  - Mitch Harel, Contractor with Veteran's Justice Outreach and VASH Program.
  - Michael Wright, DESS Housing & Homeless (HDAP)
  - Kayla Davis, DESS Housing & Homeless
  - Aimee Decker, Site Director, Nation's Finest Chico

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES - ACTION:** The minutes for the Veterans Committee Meeting for 8/18/2021 were motioned for approval by Elisa Rawlinson and seconded by Larry Langwell. Committee voted unanimously to approve.
4. **Butte County Stand Down Oct 1-3** - Lori LaRiviere MD discussed the set-up of the Stand Down at Elk's Lodge; opening ceremony scheduled to begin at 11:00 or soon after on Friday 10/1. Asking for volunteers from agencies and that they arrive in time to be setup and ready by event's 10:00 start time. Transportation will be available for veterans on all three days of the event from designated pick up points, to event and back. Email will be sent to committee following this meeting with list of pick up sites and scheduled pick up times. Veteran's Administration will not be involved in the Stand Down due to COVID concern. This event will be held outside, masked and social distanced. Asking that agencies remind their clients of the transportation available. There will be many tables open at the event for Saturday and Sunday, hoping for lots of individual volunteers. Stand Down debriefing is scheduled for Friday 10/8, 1-2pm, Zoom invite for this to follow. This debriefing will include the creation of a Stand Down board to prepare for next year.
5. **Vet By Name List** - Masaki Hirayama & Elisa Rawlinson provided an update to previously mentioned By-Name-List (this is a comprehensive list of every veteran experiencing homelessness - updated in real time) and Veteran Case Conference that will be held to pull all resources together to assist in housing veterans. A list of veterans have been pulled from HMIS and have been vetted according to VA eligibility and starting with those that still need to be screened for VASH. Veteran's Case Conference meeting is scheduled to meet on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month, starting 10/27/21. Those attending these meetings will need to be existing HMIS participating agencies for the time being as all meeting information is being pulled from HMIS. Elisa is working on getting MOUs written so that other agencies can participate, but this process will take some time. Also working with Masaki and will be providing her a list of members/agencies that can be invited to this conference. Working on adding an HMIS data field that will indicate if a veteran's current status has been verified by VA. With this feature agencies will be able to easily identify veterans in HMIS to coordinate services in a much faster and smoother way. This will be a big step toward connecting our veterans with VASH and medical services.
6. **Second Chairperson - Discussion / Nominees** - Elisa Rawlinson nominated Kayla Davis, DESS Housing Navigator for Second Chairperson. Committee voted unanimously to approve.
7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS/ NEXT MEETING:** The next Veterans Committee Meeting will be held on November 10, 2021. They will continue to occur every Wednesday at six-week intervals barring future changes / conflicts of schedule.
8. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned 2:46 PM.