



SACRAMENTO
STEPS FORWARD

Ending Homelessness. Starting Fresh.

CoC Board Agenda

Wednesday, January 13, 2021 || 8:10 AM – 10:10 AM

[Zoom Meeting](#) Meeting ID: 882 6581 4637 Passcode: 029998

One tap mobile: +16699009128,,88265814637#,,,,,0#,,029998# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location: +1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

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I. Welcome & Introductions: Sarah Bontrager, Chair			
II. Review and Approval of December 9th, 2020 Minutes: Emily Halcon, Secretary			
III. Chair's Report			
IV. CEO's Report: Lisa Bates			
V. Consent Agenda - Action Items A. Racial Equity (REQ) Committee Slate & Chair (Angela Upshaw) Appointment			
VI. New Business			
A. Community Solutions	Presenters: Lisa Bates, SSF CEO & Beth Sander, Community Solutions Principal	8:20 AM (45 minutes)	Informational
B. HHAP II Funding Application Allocation	Presenters: Ya-yin Isle, SSF Chief Strategic Initiatives Officer & Lisa Bates	9:05 AM (20 minutes)	Action
C. Seasonal Weather Respite	Presenters: Ya-yin Isle, Lisa Bates, & Julie	9:25 AM (30 minutes)	Informational

Non-Congregate Shelter	Field, DHA Homeless Services Acting Division Manager		
D. Sacramento County Encampment Team	Presenter: Cindy Cavanaugh, Director of Homeless Initiatives	9:55 AM (15 minutes)	Informational
VII. Announcements			
VIII. Meeting Adjourned			

Receive & File:

- RAPS Pilot Outcomes Update
- 2021 Unsheltered Point-In-Time Count Updates



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Wednesday, December 9, 2020 || 8:10 AM – 9:40 AM

[Zoom Meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 894 5311 8505

Passcode: 187916

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Attendance:

Member	Area of Representation	Present
Alexis Bernard	Mental Health Service Organization	Yes
Amani Sawires Rapaski	Substance Abuse	Yes
Angela Upshaw	Veterans	Yes
April Wick	People with Disabilities	Yes
Bridget Dean	Law Enforcement	No
Christie M. Gonzales	Substance Abuse Service Organizations	Yes
Cindy Cavanaugh	County of Sacramento	Yes
Emily Halcon	City of Sacramento	Yes
Erin Johansen	Mental Health	Yes
Jameson Parker	Business Community & Street Outreach	No
Jenna Abbott	Business Community	Yes
John Foley	Homeless Services Provider	Yes
John Kraintz	Lived Experience	No
Julie Davis-Jaffe	Employment Development	No

Lt. Julie Pederson	Law Enforcement – County	Yes
MaryLiz Paulson	Housing Authority	No
Mike Jaske	Faith Community Advocate	Yes
Noel Kammermann	Local Homeless Coalition/Network	No
Peter Beilenson, M.D.	Mental Health – County	No
Pixie Pearl	Homeless Youth	Yes
Sarah Bontrager	City of Elk Grove	Yes
Stefan Heisler	City of Rancho Cordova	Yes
Stephanie Cotter	City of Citrus Heights	Yes
Tiffany Gold	Youth with Lived Experience	Yes

Staff	Title
Lisa Bates	SSF Chief Executive Officer
Michele Watts	SSF Chief Planning Officer
Ya-Yin Isle	SSF Chief Strategic Initiatives Officer
Peter Bell	SSF CE Manager
Hannah Beausang	SSF Communications Manager
Scott Clark	SSF Systems Performance Analyst
Michelle Charlton	SSF Continuum of Care Coordinator
Tiffani Reimers	SSF Community Outreach Coordinator
Hamid Bashiri	SSF Lead Data Analyst

I. Welcome & Introductions: Sarah Bontrager, Chair

Sarah Bontrager, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:14 AM.

II. Review and Approval of November 18, 2020 Minutes: Emily Halcon, Secretary

Angela Upshaw noted the spelling error of John Foley’s name in section 6.
 Motioned with the correction: 1st Emily Halcon, 2nd Angela Upshaw
 Motion approved.

III. Chair’s Report

Sarah Bontrager mentioned two CoC Board members will be leaving: Noel Kammermann and Peter Beilenson. She discussed their work/involvement as board members. She mentioned a memo will be sent out with a CoC Board member application on Monday, December 14th, 2020. The application process will close Friday, January 15th 2021. Also, she discussed in January 2021 the CoC Board will

have a presentation from Community Solutions.

IV. CEO's Report: Lisa Bates

Lisa discussed Community Solutions current work and effort. She explained our resources and overall systems performance in upcoming months. She mentioned the GAPS Analysis in January 2021.

V. Consent Agenda - Action Items
A. COVID/CES Prioritization Extension
B. SPC Chair Appointment: Stefan Heisler

Sarah Bontrager entertained the approval of the consent items listed above.
Motioned: 1st April Wick, 2nd Erin Johansen
Motion approved.

VI. New Business

A. 2021 Unsheltered PIT Local Approach-ACTION

Presenters: April Wick, CoC PIT Subcommittee Co- Chair; Michele Watts, SSF Chief Planning Officer; and Institute for Social Research Team

8:25 AM
(20 minutes)

Action

April Wick opened with an update on PIT given COVID. Michele discussed and shared a PPT with information on the 2021 CoC PIT Count team and HUD's guidance given COVID. Michele discussed the 2019 PIT Count efforts. Arturo Baiocchi, from the Institute for Social Research Team, described 2019 PIT Count sampling and the best practices for collecting data/information. He explained the pros of the By-Name-List (BNL). Michele described additional considerations for 2021 unsheltered PIT Count. She provided the formal recommendation for action with the CoC Boards approval as the PIT Subcommittee recommends (and supported by SSF and ISR) are to: (1) BNL plus enhancements approach to the 2021 PIT and (2) commit to exploring doing a 2021 unsheltered count.

Some questions were asked about expected accuracy, the PIT number use and its effects, the coordination with non-HMIS entering agencies to ensure their community members are identified on the BNL, the state is using PIT count results to allocation state funds, what would be involved in "exploring" a count in 2022.

Motion: 1st Mike Jaske, 2nd Erin Johansen, Alexis Bernard, and Cindy Cavanaugh

Motion passed.			
B. COVID-19 Crisis Response Update	Presenter: Cindy Cavanaugh, County of Sacramento Director of Homeless Initiatives	8:45 AM (20 minutes)	Discussion
<p>Cindy discussed the COVID19 response team biweekly report and listed the partners and community resources. She discussed the budget and funding sources. She provided updates on the # of sheltered, rooms, overall rehousing programs. She highlighted SSF, Community Solutions, and the Providers' efforts. She explained the current system overview, problem solving solutions, Project RoomKey, briefly explained pathways to health + Home partners, and encampment support. Some questions were asked about how many navigators and other providers are currently working on preparing households for housing, how often are each of those households being engaged, how is this COVID team coordinating with local city navigators on the re-housing process to ensure continued case management once they are transitioned out of the temporary housing, and how can we access the newsletter to see the data that is being reviewed.</p> <p>Requests were made for some guests to be added to SSF COVID newsletter list to receive updates on the COVID reports.</p>			
C. State HHAP Funding: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HHAP-1 Reallocation for COVID-19 Crisis Response-ACTION • HHAP-2 Funding to CoC, City, & County-DISCUSSION 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presenters: Lisa Bates & Ya-yin Isle, SSF Strategic Initiatives Officer • Presenters: Lisa Bates & Ya-Yin Isle; City and County Representatives 	9:05 AM (30 minutes)	Action & Discussion
<p>Lisa started with HHAP 1 CoC funding allocation and an update with the status per projects. She highlighted the HHAP 1 considerations regarding urgent needs around winter respite: 1) currently exploring motel vouchers and outreach, 2) considering up to \$600,000, Use HHAP 1 funding and swap with HHAP-2, 3) considering landlord engagement HHAP allocation due to the strategy being in early planning phases, authority to approve. Lisa mentioned a special meeting could be scheduled to provide additional guidance and information. Questions were asked about is there a</p>			

diagram of all the rehousing that can be sent, will this be provided countywide, how does someone get a hotel voucher and for how long, how many people will the motel approach serve, do we have an avg. cost per household on the current program from which we can extrapolate.

Ya-yin spoke about the HHAP-1 Community Process and HHAP Community meeting discussion. She explained HHAP-2 Discussion program information, HHAP-2 state applications timeframe, HHAP-2 eligible uses, HHAP-2 regional funding allocation, HHAP-2 City and County areas of funding (Danielle Foster discussed the City of Sacramento funds and Cindy Cavanaugh discussed the County of Sacramento funds), HHAP-2 CoC Available Funds, HHAP-2 CoC areas of funding, Youth Process for HHAP-2 Funding. Questions were asked would there be capacity in the respite that would match the capacity served by last year's HART shelters, how this is being eligible to youth and will each entity include a set aside or as a total, is the City's tiny home program shelter or permanent housing.

Motioned to allocate \$600,000 to funding: 1st Cindy Cavanaugh, 2nd Erin Johansen
Motioned passed.

CoC Board requested for more details and to meet. A special CoC Board meeting to be schedule (around the Holidays) with more details and/or details to be provided once available.

a. Announcements

Sarah Bontrager mentioned our next CoC Board meeting will be held Wednesday, January 13th ,2021 from 8:10 AM to 9:40 AM.

b. Meeting Adjourned 9:55am



SACRAMENTO STEPS FORWARD

Ending Homelessness. Starting Fresh.

TO: CoC Board Members

FROM: Tamu Green, PhD, SSF, Systems Performance Advisor
Angela Upshaw, BFHP-Roads Home, Associate Director of Programs

DATE: January 5, 2021

SUBJECT: CoC Racial Equity Committee Slate and Chair - ACTION
(Consent Calendar)

Background

In October 2020, the CoC Board voted to approve the creation of a Racial Equity (REQ) Committee. In November 2020, it voted to approve funding for the Committee, which includes staffing, consultation, and stipends for members with lived experience of homelessness through July 2021.

REQ Committee Purpose and Scope

The proposed purpose of this committee is to uncover the scope, causes, and potential solutions of race serving as a predictor for homelessness in Sacramento. This discovery extends to the ways in which Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) experience homelessness and our local homelessness system. As knowledge is generated, it will be disbursed through interactive trainings, accessible reports, and other user-friendly mechanisms.

The Committee is tasked with developing an Action Plan that has been fully informed by BIPOC with lived experience of homelessness, as well as input and recommendations from stakeholders, studies, pilots, our local gaps analysis and Coordinated Entry System evaluation, and the learnings of other communities to guide the decision-making process of the CoC Board over the next 3-5 years. The ultimate vision is to create an equitable, accountable, and transparent homelessness system that catalyzes

structural change both inside and outside of our current sphere of influence.

Member Roles and Responsibilities

The commitment to this committee is January - July 2021, with the expectation that members may serve additional terms if the tenure and scope of the committee is extended by the CoC Board. The REQ Committee will meet monthly by Zoom, currently proposed for the third Wednesday of the month from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., as there were no significant conflicts with this time among applicants.

Member responsibilities include reviewing materials prior to meetings, attending meetings, advising staff in advance if a meeting will be missed, and following up on any additional commitments the member makes over the course of the committee's work. The time commitment is estimated at 4.5 - 6 hours per month for all committee members, and 7-9 hours per month for co-chairs.

Specific activities include:

- Attend monthly 2-hour meetings and additional trainings, stakeholder forums, learning sessions, and other CoC committee meetings as warranted.

- Conduct committee assignments corresponding to the workplan outside of the monthly meetings.

- Contribute to the development of an Action Plan that will guide the decision-making process of the CoC Board over the next 3-5 years.

Recruitment Timeline

The committee recruitment and slate development timeline is detailed below.

CoC REQ Committee Recruitment Timeline	
Activity	Date(s)
Recruitment Announcement at CoC Board	Wed., Nov. 18
Community Recruitment Announcement - Email Listserv, Social Media & SSF Website Posting	Fri., Dec. 4 - Thurs., Dec. 31

Written Response to Questions - Email Applicants & SSF Website Posting	Tues., Dec. 22
Application Period	Fri., Dec. 4 - Thurs., Dec. 31
Application Deadline	Thurs., Dec. 31
CES Chair & CoC Executive Committee Finalize Slate	Mon., Jan. 4
CoC Board Approval of Slate	Wed., Jan. 13

Sixty-six applications were submitted in time to be reviewed by the Executive Committee on Mon., Jan. 4. This is by far the most applications to be received for any CoC Board or committee recruitment, speaking to the enthusiasm of the community to address racial inequities and to the recruitment effort itself. It is the intention to offer those who applied and were not part of the proposed slate other opportunities to share their expertise, skills, and passion for the issue through other means (e.g., key informant interviews, guest speakers, collaborators) and to encourage them to apply for other CoC Board or committee positions.

Proposed REQ Committee Slate

Name	Job Title (Paid or Volunteer)	Employer/ Organization	Geographical area(s), sector(s) and/or subpopulation(s) represented
Aimee Zenzele Barnes	Diversity & Equity Manager	City of Sacramento	City of Sacramento
Alicia Gonzales	Public Health Programs Manager	Sacramento Native American Health Center	Greater Sacramento
Angela Upshaw, Chair	Associate Director of Programs	Berkeley Food and Housing Project - Roads Home	Veterans; Sacramento, Amador, Solano, Contra Costa, San Joaquin and Alameda Counties
Anira Khlok	Community and Homeless Health Project Manager	Dignity Health	Sacramento; health system/safety net; low-income/medical

			recipient/Southeast Asia/child of refugees
April Wick	Executive Director	Resources for Independent Living	People with Disabilities
Ardy Akhzari	Founder & CEO (Volunteer)	Packs for Cold Backs	Sacramento, CA -- Phoenix, AZ -- Seattle, WA
Brina Sylve	Paralegal	California Housing Finance Agency	Greater Sacramento Area, Yolo and Solano County
Dawn Basciano	Regulatory Manager	California Department of Public Health	Sacramento, California - Natomas
Fatemah Martinez, MSW	President	South Sacramento Homeless Assistance Resource Team (HART)	South Sacramento/ Unsheltered/ non-profit/ outreach
Henry Ortiz	Grassroots Community Organizer	All of Us or None Sacramento	Black, Brown and indigenous communities impacted by incarceration, systemic oppression and community violence
Jessica Thomas	CARES Case Manager	Crisis Assistance & Resource Education Support (CARES) Office, Sacramento State University	Sacramento, CA/College Students
Koby Rodriguez	Chief Program Officer	The Sacramento LGBT Community Center	Central City, Non-Profit, BIQTPOC
Mike Nguy	Health Equity Lead	Sacramento County Public Health	Government agency in the Public Health Division, Identifies as a Southeast Asian cis-gender male from South

			Sacramento
Patricia Jones	Client	Lutheran Social Services	Sacramento
Shalinee Hunter	Civil Rights Attorney & Asst. Director of Equal Employment Opportunity	Caltrans	Sacramento and Statewide
Stephanie D. Thompson	Vice Chair-Person	Community Wellness Forum	Oak Park and Marina Vista
Stephen Hernandez	Site Director	Nation's Finest	Sacramento, Yolo and Placer Counties, veterans experiencing homelessness.
Steven Seeley	Hope Coop active board member / volunteer	Hope cooperative	Mental Health Services, Sacramento County
Tiffany Glass	Human Services Program Planner	Dept of Child, Family and Adult Services, CPS	Elk Grove, Sacramento County
Tiffany Gold	Child Care transportation	Waking the village	Youth with lived experience and POC
Vanessa Johnson	Sheriff Lieutenant	Sacramento County Sheriff's Office	Sacramento County - unincorporated

CoC Board Action Requested

Approve the recommended slate for the CoC Board Racial Equity Committee as presented, including appointment of CoC Board member Angela Upshaw as its chair.



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TO: CoC Board Members

FROM: Ya-yin Isle, SSF Chief Strategic Initiatives Officer

DATE: January 13, 2021

RE: Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program Round 2 (HHAP-2) CoC Funding Allocation Approval

Background

The Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Round 2 (HHAP-2) grant funding in the amount of \$300 million was authorized by AB 83 (Committee on Budget, Chapter 15, Statutes of 2020) and was signed into law by Governor Gavin Newsom on June 29, 2020. Administered by the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC) this second round of HHAP builds on the regional coordination created through previous funding and is intended to support local jurisdictions in their unified regional response to reduce and end homelessness. Eligible applicants for this funding include California's 13 largest cities, 58 counties, and 44 Continuums of Care.

The HHAP-2 Notice of Funding Availability was released on November 13, 2020 and the application was released on November 23, 2020. The application is due on January 23, 2020 and state awards are anticipated to be made within 60 days of a completed application, with funding released upon completion of a standard contract with HCFC.

HHAP-2 requires grantees to expend funds on evidence-based solutions that prevent, reduce and end homelessness. Grantees may not use HHAP to supplant existing local funds and funds must be expended in compliance with Housing First. As stated in Health and Safety Code Section 50220.5 (d), HHAP round 2 funds must be expended on one or more of the following eligible uses:

- Rapid rehousing, including rental subsidies and incentives to landlords, such as security deposits and holding fees
- Operating subsidies in new and existing affordable or supportive housing units, emergency shelters, non-congregant shelters, interim or bridge housing, and navigation centers.
- Street outreach to assist persons experiencing homelessness to access permanent housing and services.
- Services coordination, which may include access to workforce, education, and training programs, or other services needed to promote housing stability in supportive housing.
- Systems support for activities necessary to create regional partnerships and maintain a homeless services and housing delivery system, particularly for vulnerable populations including families and homeless youth.
- Delivery of permanent housing and innovative solutions, such as hotel and motel conversions
- Prevention and shelter diversion including crisis resolution, mediation and conflict resolution, creative problem solving, connection to mainstream resources, and light-touch financial assistance that directly results in a housing solution.
- New navigation centers and emergency shelters, with clients obtaining housing as the primary goal, based on demonstrated need.

Context

Collectively, the Sacramento region will be receiving a total of approximately \$12.3 million in HHAP-2, with allocations to the City of Sacramento, Sacramento County, and the Sacramento Continuum of Care (via SSF) as follows:

Entity	Local Allocation
City of Sacramento	\$6.45 million
Sacramento CoC	\$3.1 million
Sacramento County	\$2.77 million
TOTAL	\$12.3 million

Similar to HHAP-1 funding, there is an 8% youth set-aside minimum, and a cap of 7% for administration and 5% for strategic planning/infrastructure development/HMIS.

Building upon the direction provided with HHAP-1 funding allocations, recent CoC Board discussions and addressing immediate needs in the community, SSF staff presents these HHAP-2 funding allocation recommendations:

CoC HHAP-2 Funding		Amount
HHAP Allocation		\$3,099,643
Capped Eligible Uses		
Administration 7% max		\$216,975
Strategic Planning 5% max	Regional Strategic Homelessness Plan	\$154,982
Programs/Projects	State Category	
Landlord Engagement	Rapid Rehousing	\$600,000
Rapid Access Problem Solving Program	Prevention and Shelter Diversion	\$1,000,000
Rapid Access Problem Solving Program	Street Outreach	\$779,715
Rapid Access Problem Solving Program	System Support for Families and Youth	\$100,000
Youth Sheltering	Operating Subsidies and Reserves	\$247,971

Landlord Engagement and Incentive Program – \$600,000
HHAP-2 Eligible Use Category – Rapid Rehousing

The Landlord Engagement and Incentive Program was funded with HHAP-1 in the amount of \$850,000. However, due to immediate needs to address the COVID-19 pandemic and weather respite, the CoC Board approved shifting \$600,000 from this category to immediately fund a weather respite non-congregate shelter program. The recommendation is to backfill the \$600,000 with HHAP-2.

Through the community input that the CoC received in developing HHAP-1 funding allocations, landlord engagement and incentives was an area consistently identified as an issue that needs to be addressed in Sacramento. The Sacramento region has existing programs with housing vouchers or rental subsidies that have been unable to entice landlords to work with them, leaving people homeless unnecessarily and with valuable resources on the table. Our estimates indicate that there are over 450 federal housing opportunities in Sacramento that are delayed or not realized due to the inability to find and secure housing.

Rapid Access Problem Solving Program – \$1,879,715

HHAP-2 Eligible Use Category:

- Prevention and Shelter Diversion \$1,000,000
- Street Outreach \$779,715
 - \$100,000 youth specific street outreach
- Systems Support for Youth and Families - \$100,000

An effective homeless crisis response system is critical to helping people exit homelessness quickly. Equally important is the ability of those entering or in homelessness to be able to readily access programs, services, housing and navigation centers. At the November 18, 2020 CoC Board meeting, the Rapid Access Problem Solving (RAPS) program was approved with initial funding from CESH-1 and HHAP-1. An additional HHAP-2 allocation would build upon the initial funding for RAPS and allow for expansion of the program.

The RAPS program will be a pilot that will feature two separate evaluation periods to assess effectiveness. The first evaluation will conclude in Q3 and the second in Q7. At that time, the RAPS program will require additional funding to expand activities related to Coordinated Entry elements (access, assessment, prioritization, referral, and diversion) for the pilot's second year. Additionally, there will be an opportunity to extend the two-year pilot an additional two years. At the appropriate review periods, the Sacramento CoC's Coordinated Entry System Committee will lead the RAPS proposal review and make a recommendation to the CoC Board for specific funding allocations. A list of possible expansion elements that could be funded with HHAP-2 allocation is listed below:

- Drop-in services
- Problem-solving, direct-services staffing costs
- Expand problem-solving resources
- Outreach and Engagement (including youth specific component)
- Inter-system connectivity (education, mental health, VA, healthcare, DV, jail)

A critical component to improving to the homeless response system is having an understanding of the front door and what is happening at the street level. A coordinated street outreach effort that is system wide is needed to not only support the Rapid Access Problem Solving program, but access into shelters and housing resources. Recognizing that there is a specific need and approach for working with transitional age youth (TAY), the outreach and

engagement recommendation includes a specific set-aside of \$100,000 for TAY outreach and engagement.

In addition, in an effort to increase systems support for activities necessary to create system-wide partnerships and maintain a homeless services and housing delivery system for families and homeless youth, a separate \$100,000 would be dedicated to support building the infrastructure for youth case conferencing, engagement with coordinated entry, and strengthening relationships and collaboration with Sacramento's Youth Council, youth providers and Sacramento's McKinney Vento liaisons for youth and families.

Youth Set-Aside – \$247,971

HHAP-2 Eligible Use Category – Operating Subsidies and Reserves

The CoC and the City of Sacramento combined HHAP-1 funding for a collaborative plan to fund youth shelters, and recently awarded the funds to the Sacramento LGBT Community Center, Wind Youth Services, and Waking the Village.

Representatives from SSF on behalf of the CoC, the City of Sacramento and County of Sacramento were invited to a meeting of the Youth Homelessness Task Force (YHTF) on December 16, 2020 to discuss the HHAP-2 funding. On January 7, 2021, we received the attached memo from the YHTF with their recommendations for HHAP-2 funding. The memo recommends that the HHAP-2 funds be used to extend the project term for the youth projects funded with HHAP-1, as well as an increase to the 8% minimum set-aside.

Staff recommends applying for the 8% youth set-aside funds to generally extend the project term for youth sheltering projects funded with HHAP-1 as recommended by the YHTF, however using performance metrics and prioritization in collaboration with the YHTF, YAB and City of Sacramento, a process to be developed for making a more specific funding decision on which projects will be extended as well as the final funding allocations for extending the projects would be reported back to the CoC Board at a later date.

Recommendation and Expected Action

Staff recommends the CoC Board take the following actions:

- A. Approval of the CoC HHAP-2 funding recommendations as outlined in this staff report.
- B. Approval of the submittal of the HHAP application to HCFC by the January 23, 2021 deadline.

Next Steps

Next steps include finalizing the HHAP application and submitting to HCFC by January 23, 2021. The CoC will need to further coordinate and work with our City, County, SHRA partners, as well as providers and stakeholders to further develop the details and implementation of the landlord engagement and outreach programs.

Attachments:

- Recommendations from Youth Homeless Task Force, Sacramento Youth Council, and The Sacramento Grand Challenge Team

Recommendations for the Youth Set Aside for the Second Round of HHAP Funds

In open invitation meetings to all members of Sacramento's Youth Homelessness Task Force (YHTF) on December 16, 2020 and January 6, 2021, the YHTF agreed to the following recommendations for use of the second round of HHAP funding:

1. The YHTF recommends that the HHAP funds be used to extend the project term for the youth projects funded by the first round of HHAP. This will allow these projects to send down roots and pursue long term funded.

The first round of HHAP funded less than 18 months of services and we believe ramping programs up and down for short windows of time does not create the lasting change to our housing pipeline needed to reach functional zero.

The projects funded in the first round of HHAP (through competitive process) were:

- The Sacramento LGBT Center's Host Home, TLP, and Shelter were awarded ongoing funding to continue the projects launched with HEAP funds.
- Waking the Village was awarded funding to launch the Village, a shelter for young parents and their children.
- Wind Youth Services was awarded funding to reach match requirements for their TAY housing program.

2. The YHTF also recommends that the CoC, City, and County consider increasing the youth set aside from 8% to 25% to better reflect the actual scope of youth homelessness in our community. Youth homelessness, as documented by HUD, by the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act, and by the McKinney Vento Act, is distinct from adult homelessness, and often undercounted. By reaching functional zero in youth homelessness we take a big step in ending the pipeline into chronic homelessness. Attached is a letter with fuller details of this request.

3. Dedicate a portion of the funds to permanently funding a youth street outreach team that partners with Sacramento's Youth Council (aka Youth Action Board), Sacramento's McKinney Vento liaisons, and youth providers to better reach youth experiencing homelessness in all parts of the county.

January 7, 2021

Dear City of Sacramento and Sacramento CoC,

This letter is to request an increase in the minimum level of funding for TAY to prevent a lifetime of homelessness for Sacramento's youth and young adults.

Sacramento is anticipated to receive over \$12.3 million in HHAP Round 2 funding in 2021 to combat homelessness and support Sacramento's most vulnerable community members. Applications are due to the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC) by January 23, 2021. The Homeless Youth Task Force of Sacramento (HYTF) respectfully requests a minimum of \$3.08 million, or 25%, of HHAP Round 2 funds be allocated to address and reduce the number of youth experiencing homelessness (YEH) here in Sacramento.

HYTF is an official working group of Sacramento's Continuum of Care (CoC). We are made up of transition-aged-youth (TAY) homelessness providers and youth. We have worked tirelessly to support city, county, and CoC efforts to shelter, house, and provide access and availability of services tailored to TAY in Sacramento. Within our partnership and collaborations, we provide systemic support and advocacy to most effectively serve YEH while holding ourselves and community accountable to solving YEH at scale and making youth homelessness short-lived, nonrecurring, and rare.

Before COVID-19, Sacramento identified 5,561 individuals during 2019's Point-In-Time count to be experiencing homelessness. Ten percent among those experiencing homelessness are YEH - 371 unaccompanied youth and 161 parenting youth and their children, indicative of Sacramento County representing the 4th largest count of parenting youth and their children in the state. The federal definitions result in an undercount of youth experiencing homelessness as it leaves out those youth who are couch surfing or unstably housed. According to the 2019 PIT report from Sacramento Steps Forward, minors and youth make up 20% of the overall number of individuals experiencing homelessness.

The current level of funding from HHAP Round 1 (\$1,616,447) is serving youth through transitional living programs, short-term emergency shelter, host homes, and other projects to gain and sustain permanent housing and self-sufficiency. This funding will last less than 18 months. This funding also does not account for the impact of COVID-19, which has its own identified, inequitable impacts on Sacramento's coordination of care for youth at-risk of or experiencing homelessness and BIPOC.

In the absence of the efforts of the HYTF, Sacramento youth are at risk of contracting and transmitting COVID-19, exploitation and trafficking, mental health crises, poverty, unemployment, unintended pregnancies. As 75% of Sacramento's youth experiencing homelessness have been identified as experiencing long-term episodes, we must act now to divert these youth from a lifetime of homelessness and early death. If we want to stop the growth of chronic homelessness, we begin by ending youth homelessness.

Young individuals (0-29 years of age) make up over 33% or 21,881 of Sacramento's total COVID cases and with the economic and educational fallout of COVID-19, like that of the 2008 recession, this will disproportionately impact young people. Unemployment rates as a result of COVID-19 show similar trends; youth and young people of color are experiencing

unemployment rates over 50%. Youth are disproportionately suffering. Losing their jobs, in turn, increases exposure and complicates attempts to contain this virus. The nature of homelessness, housing instability, and now a pandemic requires resources to circumvent increased exposure and complicate attempts to contain the virus and stabilize the lives of Sacramento's youth who find themselves in this predicament often due to forces outside their own control.

HYTF believes that every young person in Sacramento should have the opportunity to live up to their potential, which necessitates having resources, support, and a safe and stable place to call home. When we come together to innovate, collaborate, and offer YEH acknowledgement of their being, critical investments, tailored resources and services that meet their needs are required. We must prioritize youth experiencing homelessness as we move through these trying times.

HYTF appreciates all efforts to understand the intricacies surrounding youth homelessness in Sacramento and would appreciate your consideration to increase the minimum required allocations to and ear-mark at least 25% of HHAP Round 2 funds, or \$2.39 million, towards YEH. **We are asking for an allocation of \$775,000 from the CoC and an allocation of \$1,613,800 from the City in order to achieve the 25% earmark.**

If we do not strive for this higher percentage, which communities such as LA have embraced, we will have used the opportunity presented by HEAP and HHAP to ramp up programs that end shortly after they began. Sacramento's youth providers have been exceptional in increasing bed capacity and funding in the last 5 years, but 16 months of funding is simply not enough time to ramp each program and secure sustaining income. We need more time to make the short term solution a long term strategy in reaching functional zero.

To combat the chronic underinvestment in youth-serving programs, Sacramento's city, county, and CoC leadership have an opportunity to boldly step up and invest the necessary resources to support young people today so they don't become the chronically homeless adults of tomorrow. We urge you to also look at the full array of funding available to address homelessness in Sacramento and make similar set asides for youth-focused services and resources. Targeted investments are the only way to divert youth's trajectories from chronic homelessness to long-term self-sufficiency. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Signed,
The Sacramento Homeless Youth Task Force

Sacramento Youth Council (AKA Sacramento CoC's Youth Action Board)

The Sacramento Grand Challenge Team

Sacramento County Encampment Team Overview

Continuum of Care Board Meeting

January 13, 2021

What is the Encampment Team (ET)?

- A new County initiative to reduce the number of people living unsheltered in encampments in the unincorporated area of the County.
- In the first phase beginning in December 2020, a multidisciplinary County outreach team will employ a comprehensive approach to engage individuals in the selected encampment in services that address immediate health and safety needs and facilitate the transition out of unsheltered homelessness to temporary shelter or permanent housing.
- The initiative is also intended to coordinate County departments to reduce the impacts of encampments on surrounding neighborhoods and, when possible, return the public space to its intended purpose.

What are the goals of a scaled-up Encampment Team?

- Assist as many people as possible by connecting them to shelter, services and housing;
- Coordinate County outreach services to make more successful placements into shelter/permanent housing and to better connect individuals to necessary services and supports, including health and behavioral healthcare;
- Continuously improve services and services delivery to build trust, change culture on streets to engage in services, and reduce large long-term encampments; and
- Address encampments for the benefit of those residing there as well as nearby businesses and/or neighborhoods.

How was the first site selected and how will future sites be prioritized?

- ET staff consulted with County departments and others to select an encampment located in the unincorporated County considering several factors, including,
 - the number of individuals estimated at the site;
 - the encampment's longevity;
 - associated health, safety, and fire risks; and
 - impacts on surrounding neighborhoods.
- We expect to learn from our first phase and will refine site prioritization going forward based on that experience

Who is on the outreach team?

- ET Outreach is a dedicated team comprised of:
 - Department of Health Services (DHS) Staff Coordinator;
 - Sacramento Self-Help Housing outreach navigator;
 - and DHS Senior Mental Health Counselor.
- ET Outreach will collaborate closely with encampment residents, neighbors, and property owners. It will also coordinate closely other County departments to connect people living in encampments to services and housing and then to close and secure the encampment, when possible.

Who else is involved?

- County staff is working with Homebase, a national technical assistance provider who has worked in other communities on encampment resolution, and Sacramento Steps Forward on planning, data collection, and evaluation in the first phase.
- The initiative will also receive ongoing support from County Departments, including
 - Director of Homeless Initiatives
 - Department of Human Assistance
 - Department of Health Services
 - Waste Management
 - Sheriff's Department
 - Regional Parks

How is this approach different?

- The ET approach is different from past efforts because it leads with intensive and persistent outreach and engagement to ensure people are supported in transitioning to shelter and housing.
- County departments will also coordinate more closely to support transition and encampment resolution.

What services will be provided to persons?

- ET Outreach will engage each individual to understand their immediate and longer term needs and to develop an individualized plan to identify a practical and acceptable pathway to shelter or permanent housing. Onsite services may include:
 - Support with connecting to and entering shelter or permanent housing;
 - Enrollment in public benefits;
 - Urgent medical and psychiatric care;
 - Referrals for substance use disorder treatment;
 - Referrals for mental health care;
 - COVID-19 education; and
 - Family and community re-engagement.
- ET Outreach will also encourage safe sleeping practices promoting adequate distancing, use of PPE, reduction of excess items, garbage, flammable material, and unsanitary objects.
- Recognizing the trauma people living unsheltered experience on a daily basis, trauma-informed culturally relevant and gender specific services will be delivered meeting individuals where they are, using evidence-based practices.

Is there enough shelter or permanent housing?

- To be successful, it is essential that there be adequate shelter opportunities in a variety of settings. Shelter options will include congregate shelter, individual units, and small home settings.
- While a direct exit to permanent housing is difficult, the ET anticipates that this will be possible in some situations. Flexible one-time problem solving funds will be used in some cases.

Will the encampment be closed?

- It depends. It will not always be possible to completely close an encampment and it is not the intent that individuals simply move from one place to another.
- The intent is to reduce the number of encampments and prevent encampments from re-forming through sustained monitoring by County departments, potential physical changes to the site, and community engagement.

What is the County doing to address encampments in general?

- During the pandemic, the County's COVID-19 homelessness response team has provided material support to persons living unsheltered including:
 - sanitation and handwashing stations,*
 - water delivery*
 - some food delivery,
 - trash pick-up,* and
 - medical testing*.

* indicates service is funded to continue through March 2021
- The response has also included transitioning over 1,100 persons to preventative quarantine units (for highly vulnerable) and medical isolation units (for persons testing positive) since April 2020. Work continues with participants to provide re-housing assistance into permanent housing.
- To address unsanitary conditions, additional trash services are being implemented in the first quarter of 2021, in addition to the proactive trash management occurring around sanitation stations.



**SACRAMENTO
STEPS FORWARD**

Ending Homelessness. Starting Fresh.

TO: CoC Board Members

FROM: Peter Bell, CES Program Manager

DATE: January 13, 2021

RE: RAPS Pilot Outcomes Update – Receive & File

Background

In November, the CoC Board approved the adoption of the Rapid Access and Problem-Solving (RAPS) pilot. It was requested that SSF work with the CES Committee to develop specific measurable outcomes for RAPS and present those to the CoC Board.

Context

In December, the CES Committee received draft metrics for the RAPS pilot for review (see attached matrix). Due to limited time during the meeting, a supplemental survey was sent out to solicit feedback. At the time of writing, we have received 11 total responses, eight (8) from CES Committee members.

Next Steps

Responses received to date were mostly in favor of the proposed outcomes/metrics but staff will conduct individualized outreach to solicit responses from the remaining CES Committee members. The goal is to have at least 90% of committee members respond to the survey. When the goal has been reached, or by February’s CoC Board meeting, the committee’s responses and final RAPS metrics/outcomes will be shared with the CoC Board.

Recommendation and Expected Action

No board action is required at this time.



**SACRAMENTO
STEPS FORWARD**

Ending Homelessness. Starting Fresh.

TO: CoC Board Members

FROM: Michele Watts, SSF Chief Planning Officer

DATE: January 13, 2021

RE: 2021 Unsheltered Point-In-Time Count Updates – Receive & File

As reported at your November and December 2020 meetings, the Sacramento CoC will not conduct a traditional unsheltered Point-In-Time (PIT) count later this month. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, HUD determined, and the CoC agrees, that deployment of a large number of volunteers to do the count, including surveying hundreds of people experiencing homeless, is unsafe. Therefore, the CoC will do the following:

- 1- Request a waiver on the entire count, as allowed by HUD per guidance issued on November 16, 2020.
- 2- Conduct a small-scale assessment of the quality and comprehensiveness of our HMIS “By Name List” data by relying on professional outreach staff, rather than volunteers, to conduct approximately 200 very brief surveys over about ten days with people living unsheltered at the end of January. Survey results will be compared with HMIS data to determine the amount of cross-over between people in HMIS and survey respondents living on the streets.

To operationalize this plan, SSF has done the following:

- 1- The CoC/SSF’s research partner, Institute for Social Research, is working closely with the SSF data team to fully understand the data within HMIS and the By Name List for the purpose of jointly assessing cross-over with survey data to be collected.
- 2- SSF’s PIT Coordinator is working closely with key stakeholders to create the most up-to-date and complete mapping of encampment

locations for the purpose of conducting the brief surveys at the end of this month.

- 3- Sacramento Self Help Housing has committed outreach staff to join the SSF outreach team with the brief survey effort at the end of this month. Because the survey is very short and the number of surveys to be collected over multiple days is not overwhelming, each outreach worker is expected to spend no more than one (1) workday traveling to encampment locations and conducting surveys.

SSF will provide further updates to the PIT Subcommittee and to the CoC Board as the 2021 PIT Count plan is implemented.