

# MINUTES

## Stanislaus Community System of Care Council/Continuum of Care Collaborative

Stanislaus County Library Auditorium, 1500 I Street, Modesto, California, 95354

Thursday, April 19, 2018 | 2:30 PM – 4:30 PM

The meeting was called to order by Francine DiCiano

### 1. Opening Session

- a. Roll Call (Jeanette Fabela)

**Members Present:** Rick DeGette, Kathryn Harwell, Angela Freitas, Kathy Lee, Esther Rosas, Captain Dwaine Breazeale, Taryn Muralt, Roberta Brown, Twainhart Hill, Francine DiCiano

**Members Absent:** Cynthia Birdsill, (Sherry for Maryn Pitt), Sean Scully, Jim Kruse, (Alternate for Lise Talbott), Marjorie Palomino, Jeffrey Gianelli, Bradley Wayne Smith, Andres Regalado, Beverley Hatcher, Kevin Carroll, Lonny Davis, Chief Erin Kiely

**Staff Present:** Jeanette Fabela, Michelle Arender, Jean Tang

- b. **Consent items:** February Minutes. No quorum for voting. Tabled for the next meeting in May.

### 2. Leadership Council Action Items

- a. **HomeBase Proposals** (Francine DiCiano)

- I. CSOC priorities: NOFA, Coordinated Entry and Housing.
- II. CSOC Advisory agreed that HomeBase could support CSOC for submission of the NOFA, continue CSOC growth, provide committee support, alignment of funding and develop housing opportunities. The Advisory asked HomeBase to prepare a proposal for this work. They provided 2 separate proposals: **NOFA** and **Building on Progress**.
- III. **NOFA Proposal:** Last year HomeBase improved our NOFA scores, increased funding and positioned us for further success. The proposal scope of work includes a review and analysis of the 2017 application, technical assistance workshops, 1-on-1 support to applicants to name a few.

The proposal is for \$65,000. The CSOC Advisory reviewed and endorsed the proposal. It was taken to the Focus on Prevention (FoP) Stewardship Advisory with a request to fund the proposal with remaining money that was allocated to FoP from the County. The Stewardship Advisory endorsed the proposal and the funding. It will be taken to the FoP Stewardship Council for endorsement on 4/26.

**Endorsement** from the CSOC Leadership was passed for CSOC Advisory to move forward with a contract with HomeBase to start the NOFA process once funding is secured from the FoP Stewardship Council.

IV. **Building on Progress Proposal:** Key word in this proposal is “building”. This proposal will build on the good foundation we currently have in CSOC. The proposal includes 3 tasks:

- A) Structural Recommendations and Systems Planning – this includes coordinating services, aligning funding, and aligning systems to increase housing services to name a few.
- B) Coordinated Entry
- C) Housing Resource Enhancement – this includes, identifying opportunities to expand housing interventions, supporting providers with best practices to get best value with limited resources to name a few.

CSOC Advisory has questions that will be taken back to HomeBase along with a request to identify tasks that can be completed by the CSOC committees. The full revised proposal will be available at the next CSOC Council Meeting in May.

IV. **ENDORSEMENT** from the Leadership Committee was passed for CSOC Advisory to continue discussions with HomeBase and begin negotiations for a contract for the second proposal and work upon securing funding for the project.

\*The HomeBase First Proposal will be sent out to the full membership of CSOC Council after today’s meeting. Please submit any questions and comments to Francine DiCiano by the end of Monday, April 30, 2018.

- b. CSOC Committee Appointment (Jennifer Selby) No quorum today. Email vote

### 3. Leadership Council Discussion and Update Items

a. **Low Barrier Shelter Update** (Francine DiCiano): Work in progress. Still in negotiations with Stanislaus Foods, working on MOUs, contracts and leases.

### 4. Action Collaborative Updates • Planning

a. **Coordinated Entry System** (Aaron Farnon, Ana Rocha)

- I. Discussions related to Coordinated Entry took place in October 2017. (HAT) Housing Assessment Team/Coordinated Entry pilot started in January 2018. Hoping to pilot aligning ESG Coordinated Entry Process in July 2018.
- II. The Coordinated Entry Group has had two community meetings with providers. First meeting was on VI-SPDAT and the second meeting was on Waitlist. A set of practical and concrete questions were sent by providers before the meetings to initiate dialogue and help identify need.
- III. Couple of tests were conducted on the Recommended Process generated from the VI-SPDAT/HMIS Workshop to help launch the pilot in July. The Recommended Process will evolve throughout this learning process. Feedback, questions and concerns are welcome. Next meeting with providers will happen in May to address Case Management and further discussions on Waitlist.  
(For details of Aaron's presentation please refer to his handout: **VI-SPDAT/HMIS CSOC Update April 2018.**)

**b. Housing:** Jim Kruse is absent.

## 5. HomeBase Presentation (Elizabeth Roehm, Amanda Wehrman)

2018 Housing & Urban Development

Notice of Funding Availability

**Focus today:** proposed changes to policies and tools from last year's NOFA process.

- a. **HUD's CoC NOFA Background:** Largest federal funding availability for homeless services and housing. HUD requires local community involvement that involves looking at all the projects that are funded through CoC funding throughout the community and ranking them in a list to present to HUD the priorities of the community.
- b. HUD required a single "**Collaborative Applicant**" to apply for funding. Last year was the City of Modesto so is this year.
- c. **Proposed changes to the 2018 CoC NOFA Scoring Tools:** These are a list of changes suggested by the Grant Review Committee and Ranking & Appeals Committee.
  - I. **Recommended new policies to be added to renewal projects:**
    - **Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality:** create clear policies for Review & Ranking and Appeals Committee regarding conflict of interest and confidentiality to support integrity of local process. This is a committee of 3-5

people who review the projects performance data using the scoring tools to come up with a ranked list of projects. This policy was in the backdrop in last year preceeding. This year it's recommended that it be made more explicit.

- **Clarifying Review & Rank Committee Decision Options:** committee members have discretion to as to which new projects to include on the ranked list and may reduce requested grant amounts for new and renewal projects requests. **Add a caveat** to have committee conduct talks with the new and/or renewal projects regarding any changes to their funding during the interview process or include a **supplemental questionnaire** regarding funding needs. The Review & Rank Committee is not the final decision makers, the CSOC Advisory makes the final decision.
- **Number of Points for Reviewer Scoring Discretion:** Renewal Scoring Tool contains objective factors that look at projects' past performance data. Last year the reviewers had discretion to adjust the score up and down one point within the maximum point range for that factor. Discussion to change the discretion to two to three points to adjust scores from the scaled score. Discretion should be applied consistently across all projects. **ACTION:** Inquire input from all 5 members from the Review & Rank Committee and bring their comments and concerns to Leadership.

II. **Renewal Projects Scoring Tools:** one tool for the renewal projects looking at objective performance data and a separate tool for new projects.

- **Changes in point allocation for renewwal scoring tools for existing projects reapplying for funding:** last year process had too heavy of emphasis on different types of income. This was detrimental to many of the agencies that are serving people with high needs. **RECOMMENDATION:** change factors to measure clients who received non-cash mainstream benefits & cash income, regardless of whether they experiednced increase vs. maintenance of existing benefits or income.
- For both Income Factors above: because it's a requirement, projects should be scored on only those stayers with a **completed annual assessment on exits and annual renewal.**
- **Data Quality, Complete Data:** Added exception to remove point reduction for projects missiong social security number data.
- **Data Quality, Exits to Known Destinations:** New factor to incentivize projects to ensure complete and accurate exit data, to support system performace improvements and evaluation of program effectiveness. **RECOMMENDATION:** make the scoring for the housing stability for transitional youth housing to match the score of permanent housing.

**Added definition of “Youth Housing”** project type: >75% of beds are dedicated to youth. **Youth: 18-26<sup>th</sup> birthdate.**

- **Updated Compliance Penalties:** Proposed revision of any late applications received within 48 hours of the due date/time will receive 15 point reduction. The Committee has the discretion to waive the late application for extreme situations.
- **Removed Length of Stay factors:** 2017 included 10 points for rapid rehousing and youth housing projects based on length of stay of participants. This factor was removed based on need for positive outcomes to help clients exit homelessness as a priority over reducing length of stay.
- **Utilization Factor:** allow projects the option to choose the most appropriate measure of utilization: by household or beds.
- Shelter Plus Care Vouchers are not competitive in the housing market.  
**HomeBase will do research on the Unspent Grant Funds related to vouchers and unspent CoC grant funds.**
- **Compliance within the local competition:** agency out of compliance can result in pay back or return of funds.  
**DISCUSSION:** whether to run APR based on calendar year. HomeBase will check with their HMIS staff on this topic.
- **Making the appeals process more objective:** tabled for later discussion.
- Elizabeth Roehn will make track changes to the **Proposed Changes for the 2018 CoC NOFA Scoring Tools.**

#### 6. Closing Comments/Adjournment

- a. Send NOFA Proposal to Stewardship Council for approval of funding.
- b. Send out email to accept Jennifer Selby for the Committee.
- c. HomeBase will bring back the revised Building on Progress proposal for review at the next meeting in May.
- d. Next Meeting: **Thursday, May 17, 2018**