

MINUTES

Wednesday, July 12, 2023

5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

- I. **Roll Call** – Stanislaus Homeless Alliance (SHA) Meeting called to order by Chairperson, Brad Hawn, at 5:32 pm. Please see attachments for roll call.
- II. **Public Comment Period**
No public Comments
- III. **Approval of Minutes**
Motion to approve the minutes for June 14, 2023, from David Wright, and second from Pam Franco. **Approved** (7 – Y, 0 – N, 2 – Abstain)
- IV. **Informational Items**
 - a. New Manager Introduction: Jennifer (Jenn) Nielson, new manager in the Housing and Homeless Division at Community Services Agency.
 - b. Countywide Shelter Updates
 - i. We Care: Presented by Maris Sturtevant, Executive Director.
We Care has been a non-profit organization since February 2003. Mission statement is to provide transitional and emergency shelter, day center resources and support services in collaboration with other agencies to assist homeless individuals in becoming self-sufficient.
 - Emergency Shelter: The emergency shelter capacity is 49. Accept all men over the age of 18 who fall at or below the 80% county median income. The shelter operates 7 nights a week, 6:15 pm to 8 am the next day. It provides a safe and stable environment for the homeless. There are showers, a clothes closet, and nutritious meals that are provided nightly by about 50 different groups, individuals and organizations. Those staying at the shelter have access to a health clinician, which was added in September, 2021.
 - Day Use Navigation Center: On June 5, 2023, a Day Use Navigation Center was opened. Its located at 275 3rd Street. Hours of operation are 7:30 am to 3 pm. This service is available for any homeless male over the age of 18. This is currently a pilot program between the City of Turlock and We Care. It will run for 6 months and then be re-evaluated. There are 2 and a half staff and a security guard on site. There are daily activities (books, movies, puzzles) as well as staff to provide case management. People can meet individually with the housing support person or supportive case manager. Both individuals are able to help with a variety of different services, such as job searching, resume writing, sharing information about other services that they may need. There is also access to a mental health clinician.

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- Homeless Hygiene Center: Provide showers and laundry facilities to the homeless who live in encampments or on the street. They are open to the public 11:45 am to 3 pm. Shower facility cleaned daily.
 - Permanent Housing Program: Applied for a CoC HUD grant and was awarded funds to assist with permanent housing. Serve chronically homeless people who have been homeless for more than 12 months and who have a diagnosable disability. Have expanded from the 3 units to now looking for 7th unit to use as a permanent supportive housing.
- ii. Working with 'La Familia' in Turlock. They have written grants that include We Care in relation to providing 'La Familia' staff to be on the We Care site. In the next week or so, there will be a drug and alcohol therapist on site, through 'La Familia', at the Navigation Center, 5 days a week. This is a short term action right now to see how things go.
- c. Cambridge Academies: Presented by Geni Boyer, Executive Director.
- i. Shelter Services: 2 shelters which include showers, meals, clothes, and case management.
- HOST House which provides 20 beds for men
 - Naomi's House which provides 20 beds for women
 - A shelter in Riverbank is in the works.
- ii. Support Programs include:
- GED
 - College Assistance Migrant Program as of July 1, 2023 (CAMP)
 - English as a Second Language (ESL) Classes
 - Workforce Development
 - Citizen Preparation Classes.
- iii. Cost to Operate Each Program is \$480,000/year. The available funds as of 6/23 is \$200,000 for each shelter, the identified gap in funding is \$280,000 per shelter.
- d. Stanislaus County of Education: Presented by Fred Berry, Student Support Specialist, Homeless Liaison Coordinator.
- i. The Stanislaus County Homeless Coalition are a group of individuals who represent a variety of community-based service providers and willing to serve and empower our homeless population.
- ii. California Homeless Statistics for January 2020, the total homeless population was 161,548, which included 8030 Family households Experiencing homelessness, 11,401 Veterans, 51,785 Chronic Homeless individuals, 12,172 Unaccompanied Young Adults experiencing homelessness.
- For the 2018/2019 School year, there were 271,528 homeless students. 7633 unaccompanied homeless students, 11,021 unsheltered, 19,758 in shelters, 14,386 in hotels/motels, 226,363 doubled up.
- iii. Key Facts: In 2022, 582,452 people experienced homelessness in the US.

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- The vast majority were individual adults. In 2022, homelessness reached record highs for individuals, 421,392 and chronically homeless individuals, 127,768
 - Unsheltered rates are trending upward, impacting most racial, ethnic, and gender subgroups
- iv. Housing in Stanislaus County
- What are we doing? Working with community resources to identify funding opportunities to help with first month's rent (possibly additional months if funding is available). Working with multiple property management agencies who are familiar with our programs.
 - Things to consider: Sub Standard Housing-Health and Safety concerns, number of occupants per square foot, age of occupants, state and local buildings codes; Check local market listing for rentals, craigslist, apartment complexes that may be Economical Association for Housing (EAH); Families need to be working or looking for work to qualify for community assistance in order to show sustained income
- v. Summary: The Stanislaus County Homeless Coalition has been designed to serve the homeless population in our county through the city, county, and community partnerships with multiple dedicated agencies.
- e. AT HOME Plan-California State Association of Counties: Presented by Ruben Imperial.
- i. Board of Supervisors took action regarding the AT HOME plan to address homelessness, developed by the California State Association of Counties (CSAC).
- ii. Homelessness is the humanitarian crisis of our time. Despite significant investments by the state and local governments, California lacks a comprehensive plan to address it effectively and equitably. The current approach to helping those who are unhoused is fragmented and lacks clear lines of responsibility, accountability, and sustainability. To make meaningful progress in helping those who are unhoused, the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) offers the 'AT HOME' Plan. Counties are determined to work with our federal, state, and local partners, and in partnership with the Governor and the Legislature, to implement this comprehensive plan to help those who are unhoused or at risk of becoming unhoused in our communities.
- ACCOUNTABILITY-Clear responsibilities aligned to authority, resources, and flexibility for all levels of government. No one level of government is solely responsible for the homelessness crisis. We need to develop a comprehensive and coordinated plan that included all levels of government. The undertow of massive economic and systemic inequities, as well as a tangled web of decisions made by well-intentional policies and programs built over decades, continues to stymie efforts to support those who are unhoused or at risk of becoming unhoused.
 - TRANSPARENCY-Integrated and expand data to improve program effectiveness. Current data system and data sharing do not support

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an integrated case management approach to helping those who are unhoused or at risk of becoming unhoused.

- HOUSING-Increase and maintain housing units across the spectrum. There is a significant shortage of housing in California, especially affordable housing to support aged, disabled, and very low-income residents.
- OUTREACH-Develop sustainable outreach systems and increase workforce to support these systems. There is a significant shortage of Health and Human Services (HHS) workers to manage the programs and services that assist with addressing homelessness in California. In addition to identifying ways to support and build this workforce, new classifications that leverage lived experience and support housing navigation are also needed. To further strengthen and stabilize this system, federal funding should be obtained for many of these critical activities.
- MITIGATION-Strengthen safety net programs. Counties run or administer most health and human services programs on behalf of the state. These programs serve as the safety net in California, and we must strengthen these programs to prevent individuals from becoming homeless.
- ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY-Create employment and education pathways, as well as supports for basic needs. Specialized education and career programs and services are needed to support the economic opportunity and long-term self-sufficiency of those who are formerly homeless or at risk of experiencing homelessness, including justice-involved individuals, veterans, older Californians, and former foster youth.

V. SHA General Membership announcements:

City of Ceres: James Casey stated the Ceres School District is working hard on helping the homeless. Thank you to Fred who has introduced him to others in the school district, they now have showers available for the homeless every other Thursday.

City of Modesto: David Wright stated The Downtown Street Team (DST) removed 39,250 pounds of trash and 110 used needles from Modesto parks and streets during the month of July.

- Salvation Army and DST continue to work together to offer monthly forklift training for the DTS members. 4 members have received their forklift education.
- Throughout the last 12 months, City of Modesto has helped 40 households receive housing through Rapid Re-Housing and other programs.
- Have about 56 units in the works which may possibly be ready at the end of the year or early next year.
- The Day Center at Salvation Army will hopefully be open within the next 2 weeks.

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City of Patterson: Shivaughn Alves stated that the Mayor of Patterson, the City Manager and the CARE Team will be meeting to address the homeless issue and the 'sweeps'.

City of Riverbank: Marisela Garcia gave updates on current projects. Working with PG&E and have finally taken their application into consideration for the Day Use Facility. It will be about 2 or 3 weeks out when the work is scheduled. Thursday, July 13, will be the bid opening for the shelter. Also have their requests for proposals for the transitional housing program that is currently out to developers.

City of Turlock: Pam Franco stated that the Day Center is now open. The City is working with the Turlock Gospel Mission Day Center, which will allow families with children. The City just passed the revision for 22/23 Home Consortium Annual Action Plan and received money. They will be talking with other cities to spread their funding. The City will also begin the 23/24 Annual Action Plan to put desires into action.

City of Waterford: Lisa Talbot brought an Executive Summary from UCSF who did a housing and homelessness study for the councilmembers. Lisa had questions about cooling zones and who is responsible for them. The County EOS Facebook page only has City Hall listed as a cooling zone in Waterford, however, they are closed holidays and weekends. Lisa would like to ensure that there are cooling zones in every city 7 days a week. Lisa would like to hear more about homeless programs that the other cities have, to be able to bring back ideas to the Waterford City staff members.

VI. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:39 pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 9, 2023, from 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm
Location: BOS Chambers: 1010 10th Street Place, Modesto, CA 95354

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ATTACHMENT A - ROLL CALL Stanislaus Homeless Alliance Board

Voting/Attendance as of 5:30 PM 07/12/23

	Representing:	SHA Board Members		Attendance
1	City of Ceres	James Casey	Primary	P
		Rosalinda Vierra	Alternate	A
2	City of Modesto	David Wright	Primary	P
		Joe Lopez	Alternate	A
3	City of Oakdale	Christopher Smith	Primary	P
		Bryan Whitemyer	Alternate	A
4	City of Patterson	Shivaugn Alves	Primary	P
		Ken Irwin	Alternate	A
5	City of Riverbank	Darlene Barber - Martinez	Primary	A
		Marisela Garcia	Alternate	P
6	City of Turlock	Pam Franco	Primary	P
		Reagan Wilson	Alternate	A
7	City of Waterford	Lise Talbott	Primary	P
		Mike Pitcock	Alternate	A
8	Community System of Care	Fred Berry	Primary	P
			Alternate	A
9	Focus on Prevention	Brad Hawn	Primary	P
		Tim Byrd	Alternate	A
10	Stanislaus County	Terry Withrow	Primary	P
		Jody Hayes	Alternate	A
11	Stanislaus Regional Housing Authority	Carlos Estacio III	Primary	A
		Jim Kruse	Alternate	A