



MINUTES

Thursday, August 21, 2025

2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

- I. **Roll Call** – Community System of Care (CSOC) Council Meeting called to order by chairperson, Maryn Pitt at 2:37 p.m. Please see the attachment for roll call.
- II. **Public Comment Period**
 - a. Maryn Pitt - CSOC board members should respond to quorum requests via e-mail in a timely manner to avoid having meetings that will not be able to complete “action items” due to lack of quorum
 - b. Hannah Brady - the Senior Advocate Network is hosting a new monthly service that is open to the public and service providers to better understand what a Power of Attorney and an Advanced Healthcare Directive is. Intakes will be completed for those that are eligible; meetings take place every last Wednesday of the month at 821 13th St., Ste A, Modesto
 - c. Jamika Spruell and Demetrius Scott - New Beginnings Solutions, offer shared housing in Modesto. A new location is set to open in 90 days, 2 persons to a room for \$850.00 per month, no deposit, all utilities included; Individuals need to be 55+, independent, veterans and re-entry population qualify. Intake forms and criteria must be met. Men and women are accepted however, co-ed dwelling spaces are not permitted
- III. **Action Items**
 - a. July Minutes: Motion to approve minutes by Miguel Donoso and second from Darlene Barber-Martinez
Approved (14 – Y, 0 – N, 0 – Abstain)
 - b. Jason Conway reviewed minimal verbiage changes for compliance, to the Homeless management Information System (HMIS) changes to Policies and Procedures with the board. Motion to approve by Emily Webster and second from Miguel Donoso
Approved (14 – Y, 0 – N, 0 – Abstain)
- IV. **Informational Items**
 - a. Kelly Alvarado updated the board on Housing Support Program (HSP) and the Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP) funding status as an informational public requirement
 - FY 25/26 HSP was awarded \$1,813,501; \$1,296,946 remains from multiyear forms previously awarded totaling a \$3,110,447 budget
 - FY 25/26 HDAP was awarded \$273,427; Stanislaus County has requested additional funds from any other counties that do not claim/spend their funding
 - b. Jason Conway announced that City of Modesto (COM) and the Modesto Gospel Mission (MGM) opened Grace Gardens, a 12-unit extension of an emergency shelter program. Move-in date is Monday, August 25, serving both men and women



who went through MGM’s emergency shelter, entered into coordinated entry and then transitioned into Grace Gardens

- c. Leng Kutil with Thurmond Consulting provided an update on the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) 6 application for Stanislaus CSOC and how it aligns with the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). The application is structured around six elements: Encampment Response, Housing Element, Engagement, Action Plan, System Performance, Funding Plans and Sustainability. Progress has been made in all areas; finalization with submission will take place by the August 29, 2025 deadline
 - The county is in the process of updating its Housing Element and has maintained timely reporting, no violations under investigations. California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) does require that the housing element is deemed substantially compliant for the second disbursement of HHAP 6 funding
 - Three Stakeholder Engagement sessions to solicit input from different stakeholders
 - System Performance actions agreed to at the CoC and stakeholder engagement include Continued Operation of Coordinated Entry, Provide Additional HMIS Trainings, Invest in Development and Operation of New Permanent Housing, Invest in Homeless Prevention Activities and Invest in Continued Operation of Emergency Shelters

Funding Allocations for the CoC are as follows:

• Coordinated Entry	\$375,117.08
• Permanent Housing Operations	\$750,234.12
• Permanent Housing Service Coordination	\$100,031.22
• Interim Housing Operations	\$675,210.71
• Interim Housing Services Coordination	\$100,031.22
• Unaccompanied Youth Navigation Center	\$175,054.23
• Homeless Prevention and Diversion	\$125,039.02
• Administration and HMIS	\$175,054.63
• HMIS Only	\$25,007.80

County Allocations are as follows:

• Interim Housing Operations	\$1,920,043.93
• Unaccompanied Youth Interim Housing	\$163,906.19
• Youth Services Coordination	\$70,245.51
• Administration and HMIS	\$187,321.36

Because the eligible use proposal includes a non-housing category, it triggered the Sustainability of Permanent Housing Portfolio. There is one development, Parkview Christian Estates, that is at risk of expiring affordability restrictions, ending September 2025

Upon application window, if jurisdictions aren’t eligible for housing and compliance reasons, there is a plan to redistribute any available funds

- d. Emily Webster informed the board of four pending membership applications for the Homeless Advocate (Ramina Carlton), LGBTQ Advocate (Roman Scanlon), Permanent Supportive Housing Provider (Jessica Filbrun) & Victims Services Provider (Yesenia Solorzano)
- Roman Scanlon, Executive Director with CalPride, an LGBT Resource Center, is



the secondary voting member for LGBTQ; Mindy Harrod has stepped down from her position on the board. Roman has been in Modesto for 6 years and has worked with non-profits for approximately 14 years
Jessica Filbrun, Chief Executive Officer with Stanislaus Equity Partners (STEP), is involved in affordable housing/creative housing solutions. Seven affordable housing projects have been completed to date

V. Policy Issues, Concerns, Actions

- a. Maryn Pitt noted that multiple sources are advising that they are being audited/reviewed by U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) pertaining to Diversity Equity & Inclusion (DEI) language. The Continuum of Care is not a party to any federal contract. HUD is providing time to grantees and those that are subject to agreements with HUD. An Artificial Intelligence (AI) tool is being used to scan agreements and identify whether or not DEI language is utilized
Heather Jones with City of Modesto said that a blanket statement is needed that says no program that is ran or managed by the jurisdiction will violate the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and any words used as equity, fair housing, diversity, inclusion were flagged
Emily Webster mentioned that the Youth Navigation Center's (YNC) had to resubmit the non-competitive proposal and language for the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (RHYA) funding
- b. Non-Mandated Point in Time Questions were reviewed by board members. Some of the data collected from non-mandated questions is not reviewed beyond collection
Emily Webster suggested a potential workgroup to determine what data should be collected as certain agencies that collect data for state reporting
Kelly Alvarado & Lynnell Fuller both posed the question as to whether or not the app vendor, SimTech, could do a standalone piece that would still allow the collection of data but it does not report to HUD?

There was a board consensus to:

- Remove #20 *Do you receive any type of income/benefits?*
- Remove #21 *How long have you been in this community?*
- Remove #22 *What is the reason you came to this County/City?*
- Keep #23 *In What City/County did you live in when you first became homeless?*
- Keep #24 *In the past year, have you encountered any issues trying to get help or access to services?* and combine with
- #25 *Have you ever declined shelter services before?*
- Keep #26 *Have you ever been in the following?* and combine with
- #27 *Reason/reasons you became homeless*

A volunteer workgroup should come up with verbiage to combine the aforementioned questions. Volunteers include Margie Johnson, Emily Webster volunteered staff member from YNC, Heather Jones volunteered a staff member from COM, Roman Scanlon,

Carlos Cervantes noted that that the workgroup should focus on "what is the plan to use the data for" when deciding on verbiage and which questions to omit



VI. Shelter Updates

- a. Miriah Brazil, the Executive Director at Family Promise gave an overview of the Family Promise Shelter. The shelter has been in the community for 23 years and operates in church spaces. To qualify, families must have at least one child under the age of 18. Modesto Church of Brethren offered Family Promise space to rent and utilize for shelter. Old Sunday School classrooms were renovated to become family rooms that are considered transitional housing; four rooms provide approximately 30 beds. The rooms at the church opened in November of 2024, housing 14 family's week to date. Rental assistance is offered occasionally. Referrals are taken from Stanislaus County Office of Education; the first day of the 2025/2026 school year, 7 phone calls were received with families needing help
- Family Promise is looking to hire a bilingual case manager
 - The church offers a big space with the potential of possibly purchasing in the future
 - A city in Stanislaus County has inquired about opening a transitional housing shelter with Family Promise which will provide more funding
 - The Shelter is always in need of basics which include hygiene and food
 - One week away from opening an early HeadStart/Child Care program onsite for 14 children ages 0 – 3
 - Can shelter those who are undocumented but it's challenging because Family Promise encourages individuals to find work

VII. General Membership Announcements

- i. Rebecca Ciszek, Board Administrator at Emergency Food and Shelter Program announced that the county has been granted \$318,000.00 from a total of \$117 million allocated nationwide through the McKinney Act. This funding is categorized under Homeland Security and it is presently on hold at the federal level

VIII. Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned at 4:06 p.m.

Next Meeting:

September 18, 2025 from 2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Location:

Harvest Hall Rooms A, B & C at the Agricultural Commissioner's Office
3800 Cornucopia Way, Modesto CA 95358



ATTACHMENT A - ROLL CALL - CSOC COUNCIL
Thursday, August 21, 2025

Attendance

FUNDERS	1	Entitlement Jurisdiction: Modesto	Heather Jones	P
	2	Entitlement Jurisdiction: Turlock	Jennifer Figueroa	P
	3	Entitlement Jurisdiction: Riverbank	Marisela Garcia	P
HOUSING/SERVICES PROVIDERS	4	Permanent Supportive Housing Provider	VACANT	
	5	Transitional/Rapid-Rehousing Provider	Esther Rosas	A
	6	Emergency Shelter Provider	Major Darren Stratton	P
	7	Youth Services Provider	Emily Webster	P
	8	Victims Services Provider	Yesenia Solorzano	A
	9	Housing Authority of Stanislaus County	Marissa Black	P
	10	Veterans Services	Jose Ortega	A
	11	Healthcare Provider	Lakin Ambriz	A
	12	Senior Service Provider - Stanislaus County of Aging & Veterans Services	Hannah Brady	P
BROADER COMMUNITY	13	BIPOC Advocate	Greg Merritt	A
	14	LGBTQ Advocate	Roman Scanlon	P
	15	Lived Experience 1	Miguel Donoso	P
	16	Lived Experience 2	Carrie Turnquist	A
	17	Lived Experience 3	Wanda Jones	P
	18	Homeless Advocate	VACANT	
	19	Faith Sector Representative	Jason Conway	P
	20	Neighborhood Representative- North	VACANT	
	21	Neighborhood Representative- South	Maryn Pitt	P
	22	Neighborhood Representative- East	Darlene Barber-Martinez	P
	23	Neighborhood Representative- West	Margie Johnson	P
	24	Education Community Representative	Fred Berry	A
	25	Business Community Representative	Steve Madison	A
	26	Philanthropy Representative	VACANT	
	27	Law Enforcement Representative	VACANT	

A – Absent
P – Present