



County of Riverside Continuum of Care

Minutes for the All County Regional Meeting
April 23, 2014

James Venable Community Center, Cabazon

Attendees

ABC Recovery Center (ABC)	David Leahy, Chair
ABC	Sheila Young
ABC	Leah Polk
ABC	Ally Anderson
Alternatives to Domestic Violence	Daylisi Talavera
Being Established	Kelli Morris
Catholic Charities	Marisol De Los Santos
Citadel CDC	Annette Punimata
Citadel CDC	Donise Jackson
City of Hemet	Carla Callahan
City of Riverside	Carrie DeLaurie
City of Riverside	Michelle Davis
Community Catalyst	Rich Oglesby
Community Connect	Mercedes Rivas
Community Mission of Hope	Steve Falk
Congressional 36 th District Office	Shelly Martin
Dept. of Mental Health	Lynne Brockmeier
Dept. of Mental Health	Maria Marquez
Desert Arc	Lisa Lester
Desert Arc/ Galilee Center	Liz Nabie
E.B. Investments	Evan Badt
Ethereal House	Dotti Swenson
Family Service Association (FSA)	Maria Keller
FSA	Josie Coates
Foothill AIDS Project (FAP)	Socorro Lopez
Helping Our People.org	Jean Barnett
HOPE in Elsinore	Ron Hewison
Housing Authority	Rick Pettet
Inland Counties Legal Services	Darrell Moore
Jewish Family Services of the Desert	Helen Lowell
Jewish Family Services of San Diego (JFSSD)	Le McClellan
JFSSD	Linda Barrack, Vice Chair
JFSSD	Stephanie Ramos
JFSSD	Amina Aln
Lighthouse Social Service Centers	Karyn Young-Lowe
Lighthouse Social Service Centers	James McPherson
Menifee Valley Community Pantry	Dawn Prather-Smith

MFI Recovery Center
 Office of Education Riverside County
 Palm Communities
 Path of Life
 PW Enhancement
 Riverside County BOS – District 1
 Riverside County BOS – District 2
 Riverside County BOS – District 3
 Riverside County BOS – District 5
 Shelter from the Storm
 Springboard Nonprofit
 TEAM Community Pantry
 United States Veterans Initiative (US Vets)
 Valley Restart Shelter
 VA Loma Linda Healthcare System (VA)
 VA
 VA
 Whiteside Manor

Shannon Campbell
 Stephan McPeace
 Steve Hernandez
 Joan Thirkettle
 Rochelle Lewis
 Robin Reid
 Karen Christensen
 Corinne Daly
 Debbie Rose
 Angelina Coe
 Amie Cartwright
 Randy Taylor
 Erica Gomez
 Susan Larkin
 Mark Mariglia
 Synthia Allen
 Enid Reece
 Ron Vervick

DPSS Staff

Lisa Shiner
 Edward Macias
 Emma Perez-Singh
 Catalina Guitron
 Jill Kowalski
 Rowena Concepcion
 Liz Calanche
 Connie Hill
 Erin McCall
 Markus Singleton

Adult Services Deputy Director
 Contracts
 Contracts
 Contracts
 HPU Administrative Manager
 HPU HUD
 HPU CoC
 Fiscal
 Fiscal
 Fiscal

1. **Welcome:** Call to Order 10:10 AM by David Leahy:
2. **Introductions:** David introduced Lisa Shiner, Deputy Director of DPSS Adult Services (ASD). The Homeless Programs Unit is now under Adult Services and not under Self Sufficiency.
 - Self –introductions were given
 - Sixty five (65) in attendance
3. **Minutes Approval:** Motion was made to approve the All County Meeting February 26, 2014
 Motions: 1st Motion: Angelina Coe, 2nd Motion: Ron Vervick;
 All in favor by a show of hands – All, Opposed-0, Abstentions-0,
Motion passed.

Out of Order Agenda Item: Housing Committee Update

Darrell Moore, Housing Committee chair, asked to present first because he had to leave early. He presented the Housing Inventory, designed to be a tool for the CoC to be able to identify housing resources available in the community and as an evaluation tool to tell us if we are meeting the goals that we have established for the CoC in the 10 year plan. The committee is working with Anne from the DPSS Research and Design Unit to finish the map. Darrell encouraged everyone to take a look at the Housing Inventory and make sure it has accurate information. This will also be a benchmark to show us if we have met our goals. He presented one map of the entire county and another of the western region. He asked CoC members to review the maps during a break so they could see what the committee is doing, and provide feedback to make improvements. The committee could then give a recommendation to the board and show where housing resources are distributed.

Darrell said this project is developing through the housing committee and as more data is collected or defined, the final version of these maps will be presented as a heat map, showing the poverty levels and homeless counts within supervisorial districts and cities. Darrell invited everyone to view the map before leaving the meeting and to please provide feedback to us.

Jill commented that we need to make sure the information is correct on the Housing Inventory Chart (HIC). She said Ryoko from HMIS staff has been sending out emails on this and the HMIS Housing Inventory Chart (HIC) and the CoC Housing inventory list needs to be aligned and linked together. All information collected and submitted needs to be as accurate as possible. This is due to HUD by April 30th.

Darrell said these maps are not for general distribution yet because they are not accurate. The Housing Committee is still determining what will go on the legend of the map, and for this the committee needs feedback for these details. It still has to be determined what other criteria can be placed on the map and the CoC's feedback is needed for this.

4. Unfinished Business:

a. Update Veterans PIT Count:

Jill Kowalski

The Veterans Point in Time Count final report is complete and was given to the Board of Supervisor aides. It will be sent to everyone and will be accessible through the DPSS website. The preliminary results were sent to the CoC membership. There was a decrease of 4% in the unsheltered count from 2014 compared to 2013, and a 1% increase in sheltered veterans.

b. All County CoC Survey Results

David Leahy

David presented the overall results of the All County CoC survey that was emailed to CoC members. There were 21 responses to the survey. Some of the results included:

- Question 3: *Should we continue to allow time at the end of the All County CoC meeting for networking? (19 said yes).* David said allowing time at the end of the meeting for networking seemed to be very popular when the Western Region was meeting. David said it was similar to the announcement section but it was a little different because agencies could ask for help and receive suggestions from other providers. New programs in the community could also stand up and present themselves. He said they would like to continue that kind of dialogue between all of the CoC members so we are a more complete Continuum and would be more familiar with one another. He suggested giving fifteen minutes at the end of the timeframe allotted for this meeting to network and asked if there were any objections.

No Objections.

ACTION: Time will be allowed at the end of each meeting at (11:45 a.m.) to network.

- Question 6: *Would you like space provided at each meeting to offer handouts, an overview of your services, referral & contact material? (16 said yes).* Linda said that there was great interest in a space for agencies to share their handouts or business cards to bring back to staff. She suggested each agency buy an in-out box to put their materials in to display on a table at every meeting. Linda said to bring enough for 35-45 people. She asked if there any concerns or objections for them to move forward on this item. **No Objections.**
- Question 7: *Would you like to see some recurring items placed as consent items (i.e. APRs)? (15 said yes).* Respondents were in support of recurring agenda items and consent items. Consent items are going to be listed on the agenda so they can be approved all at once or an item can be pulled and discussed. Included under consent items will be: APRs and reports from the Standing Committees (HMIS, Planning, Housing, etc.) Each committee will be asked to submit a quick overview of important items discussed and send to David and Linda to go under the consent items on the agenda. This will save time during the meeting. Everyone should be reviewing these before coming to the meetings

Jill asked David to talk about the methodology of doing the survey and the number of people that it went to because she knew they had received 21 responses. She asked who it was sent to, how many people received it and how the questions were developed.

David said it was sent to everyone who attended the last meeting. He said he

used the mailing list of our Collaborative Applicant and commented that it includes addresses that don't exist anymore. He said there were 150 emails of which (he thought) 10% were invalid. He said this was a probably a fair representation. He said 21 responses were received and added that it equates to the number of grantees we have (about 20), although he said he knew there were some grantees who did not respond. He said some respondents wrote on the margins of the surveys and he said he included them because he felt that if someone took the time and opportunity to write in the margins than he should include those comments in the results.

David said the questions came by from things that people have said to him about their feelings over the last year and a half, and things he brought back from the Housing First Conference in Chicago. That is how he came up with the questions. David said his goal is that we need to move on and he wants to resolve old issues and start fresh. He said he figures that he would give some people an opportunity to give their opinions on old issues that exist so we can discuss them, table them, move on and find some resolution, because, he said, we do need to move on. He said there is a lot to tackle. There were three questions survey respondents did not answer. He considered these 'No Opinion' answer.

- Question 8: *As a CoC member would you like for a "call for agenda items" so you are able to suggest items for placement on the agenda prior to each meeting? (20 said yes).* David said the call for agenda items was a popular item. David said two weeks prior to the meeting any agenda items can be sent to David or Linda or both and they will see about getting it on the agenda for the next meeting. He asked if there are any objections and none were given. David said they will accept agenda items two weeks before the next meeting for consideration.

ACTION: Call for agenda items will be made two weeks prior to the next meeting by All County chair and vice-chair.

David said the biggest interest was for a presentation on the HUD Consolidated Application. He said they intend to use these survey results and look at other CoC's and their structures, to address these questions. Linda added that David is on the BOG and will be taking this to the next BOG meeting. She said he has to be their voice at the BOG and make sure they are heard. She emphasized that both she and David need to hear from everyone so that David can come from a position of having the information and a point of strength based on their viewpoint. She said a lot of participation is needed and we need to get David the information he needs so he can speak for them as a group.

ACTION 1: Everyone was encouraged to take the next two months to identify the gaps in service for your organization in your area for the next meeting (June 25).

ACTION 2: David Leahy, All County Chair, and a member of the Board of Governance will report on the All County meeting results at the May meeting.

There was a comment made that there are some very difficult questions on the survey and we want to be gracious to one another and the need to talk about them. A recommendation was made to form a subgroup to discuss because some of this is very uncomfortable.

David entertained a motion to have an ad hoc committee or smaller group as suggested. The motion did not stand.

Maria Marquez recommended doing focus groups so that people can feel that they have the opportunity to participate in a smaller forum. She explained that focus groups are only for a brief time period and facilitated so that the concerns are fleshed out. She said they can be kept confidential and the goals for what you want out of this process have to be very clear.

Susan Larkin asked that the Collaborative Applicant (DPSS) not be allowed to participate in the focus groups.

The membership was asked if they want to divide up the focus groups into different types of providers and who should participate. There was a question whether HUD grantees would be the ones to participate or if non-HUD or non-grantees should be involved in the same focus groups, such as: food pantries or other providers funded through DPSS. A facilitated focus group was the desired method so that issues could be fleshed out a little more to express their concerns.

It was suggested that a cross section of all the CoC would keep the groups balanced and could surface issues not previously voiced by non-funded organizations. Focus groups could be split into grantees or non-grantees without the involvement of the Collaborative Applicant. It was suggested to have external facilitators for the focus groups as a means of keeping this process safe and open for those involved.

Jean Barnett from HOPO said she will have the food pantries discuss the focus groups at their next meeting and she will bring their responses back to the CoC. US Vets and Shelter From the Storm volunteered to host the focus groups so that there could be one in each region. Facilitators are still to be determined.

The membership also wanted to re-distribute the survey through SurveyMonkey with the same questions used in the original survey.

David said redistributing the survey and offering focus groups will give the CoC a chance to move on. He said we have a chance at a new beginning and the ability to leave some old stuff behind us. The goal of the focus groups and the survey is to start moving in the direction we need to and not to stir-up trouble. David said that in the future, even though he is here to represent the membership, he is not bringing up other people's issues unless it is something that was brought up at this meeting.

David asked the members to vote on whether they wanted to retake the survey (on Survey Monkey) or do focus groups.

Vote by a show of hands: Re-taking survey – 12
Focus groups – 8

Based on votes, the membership agreed to offer both the survey and focus groups.

ACTIONS:

- Two focus groups will be held: US Vets and Shelter from the Storm will host. The focus groups will be scheduled before the next meeting.
- Re-do the survey on 'SurveyMonkey' using the original questions.
- It was recommended to use an outside facilitator to do the focus groups and to set goals on what they hope to accomplish.
- An email blast will be sent by David for instruction on the surveys and focus groups.

5. New Business:

a. Presentation on the 25 Cities Initiative: Maria Marquez, Deputy Director for Mental Health and Michelle Davis, City of Riverside, Housing Coordinator presented on the project, conceived by the VA and HUD and funded through the Home Depot Foundation to end veterans' homelessness nationally. There is also a local effort in Riverside County called VALOR (Veterans Assistance Leadership of Riverside County) that has been very successful. Riverside City/County is one of 25 cities identified in the nation to receive technical support to help us move forward in ending homelessness for veterans and chronic homeless.

b. Discussion of possible Ad Hoc Committee to research other CoC models: David said this is something Lisa Shiner, Deputy Director for DPSS Adult Services, has suggested. The ad hoc committee is to look at the structure of other CoC models in comparison to our current structure. The goal of this ad hoc committee would be to look at model CoCs to see if there is anything we could use to improve or streamline ours using the example of some of these models.

We will send an email and ask people to volunteer to review the models and make comments. David asked for volunteers to help compare some of the models and review them to see how they might fit within our CoC. The committee will be looking at governance structures and how they fit with our continuum model/structure. It was suggested to review the HUD CoC 101 as a refresher for everyone before looking at other governance models. Everyone was in agreement to do this.

ACTION: Jill will distribute the email list and information to: Karyn Young-Lowe, Susan Larkin, Rick Pettet, Lynne Brockmeier, Linda Barrack, Joan Thirkettle, Rochelle Lewis, Carrie DeLaurie, Michelle Davis and Maria Marquez.

c. DPSS update on 2014 HUD Application and Tier 1 renewal awards:

Jill said the CoC membership should have received an email on April 14th announcing the Tier I NOFA renewal awards. They heard from HUD and all of the renewals were approved except the Family Services Association Senior permanent supportive housing project. She said this is because FSA had not yet submitted their technical submission. This was a new project last year and there were some issues with their technical submission so it was not included in the renewals, but it will be included as a new project for 2014. Jill said we are still waiting to hear about Tier 2 projects. This includes new and reallocated projects and the planning grant. We are hoping to hear from HUD by the end of the month. She said once we hear DPSS will get the word out immediately by email. The projects we are waiting to hear about in Tier 2 include:

- City of Riverside - Reallocated to rapid rehousing
- Dept. of Mental Health - Reallocated to rapid rehousing
- Lutheran Social Services - Reallocated to PSH
- Shelter From the Storm (placed in Tier 2)
- Jewish Family Services of San Diego - Reallocated to PSH (new project)
- Planning grant

Jill said they are anticipating the NOFA for 2014 will be released this July. DPSS will be releasing an RFP for new projects in June or later. HUD is saying they are moving away from transitional housing because there are more cost effective and performance effective models. She said we are looking at our current transitional housing projects especially those serving women and children because HUD is saying that need to be rapidly rehoused.

d. Presentation of Standing Committee nominees for BOG representation:

The following people have been selected to represent the standing committees on the BOG:

- HMIS Administrators Council has selected Ron Verdict from Whiteside Manor as its representative
- Housing Committee - Darrell Moore, Chair
- Employment Self Sufficiency - No chair

- Planning Committee – Karin Young-Lowe, Chair

Motion to accept all of these Standing Committee officers to BOG:

1st motion: Susan Larkin; 2nd motion: Le McClellan; Aye – All, Opposed -0, Abstentions - 0

e. Update from the Housing First Conference: David brought handouts on the principles from Housing First and presented on the conference that several other CoC members attended in March. He prefaced his presentation by saying that he used to come back from the Washington D.C. conference feeling as though our CoC was more advanced than others, but at every presentation he attended during the conference he said he felt “embarrassed” because “we have a long way to go”. He explained that the featured CoCs are using the VI-SPDAT (“Vulnerability Index Service Prioritization Decision Assessment Tool (VI-SPDAT Pre-Screen Survey)) and this tool was discussed at every presentation. He said the common approach of each of the CoCs presenting is to get all funders to the table to decide on how to end homelessness in their continuum. Their plan is based on what is needed to end homelessness in their continuum and bring funders to the CoC who can help them do this. David said, “no one mentioned HUD or HUD requirements at this conference”. He said our CoC is based on whether or not HUD funds transitional living but this does not mean that it is supposed to go away. He said, this is where our CoC has not gotten to yet. Where we have identified what we really need to do, not base what we do on who is funding us, but rather what is necessary for our continuum and then work on how we are going to make that happen. He said the CoCs using Housing First showed the money saved by the police, emergency rooms, paramedic visits and ambulance calls by the people being housed. He said our 10 year plan is not doing what is needed but putting together what HUD wants to hear in order to fulfill that requirement. He said they heard about cities volunteering money for PSH beds because they are saving so much on police overtime because it is a fraction of the cost to give the money for PSH beds. These CoCs reallocate money from different areas and county departments and county supervisors are involved in this process. David said, “In my personal opinion I think that we have been managing homelessness more than ending homelessness.”

Linda Barrack, vice –chair said that she had provided a handout at the meeting that demonstrates First Five as a solution for vouchers in housing to families with children 0-5. She said the CoC has never approached First Five and we know that 30% of our homeless are children. She said LA County gave \$25 million for the first two years and then they went to \$10 million and then to \$7 million.

Jill said that she completely agreed and is encouraged by this because one of the reasons the Board of Supervisor aides have been asked to be on the BOG is to help us identify resources that might be available in the county to make sure we are addressing this as an issue that impacts everyone and not just HUD. She said, “I want to state for the record that I am glad that you all went and I am looking forward

to moving in this direction.” She said, we have already been talking about how we can work with First Five since they are under DPSS.”

6. CoC Standing Committees Update:

- a. HMIS: Lynne Brockmeier announced that the HMIS Council had elected Ron Vervick to represent the Council on the Board of Governance. She reported that the new Client Track update has been incorporated and the system is current they are working with them. Other news Shelter from the Storm (SFTS) is working with HMIS/Client Track. She said this is a challenging effort since SFTS is a domestic violence shelter and not required by HUD to share any client data with others.
- b. Housing: ([Presented at 10:20am](#))
- c. Employment Self-Sufficiency: Vacant chair.
- d. Planning Committee: Karyn Young-Lowe, newly elected chair, said the committee is meeting for the first time after the All County meeting today. She reported that they are updating the CoC 10-Year Plan.

7. Annual Performance Reviews (APRs)

Five APRs were reviewed and accepted

- RCDMH Women's Permanent Housing
- City of Riverside PSH for Chronically Homeless
- Martha's Village Transitional Housing
- MFI A Woman's Place Transitional Housing
- JFS Desert Horizon Transitional Housing

Motion to accept the APRs as presented;

1st Motion: Susan Larkin; 2nd motion: Le McClelland; Vote: Aye-All, -0, Abstain-0.

8. Presentation: E.B. Investments, Evan Badt

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Evan handed out a flyer describing his housing facility, a complex of 10 units. He would like to have an organization utilize and rent the entire complex long term. It is located in Desert Hot Springs and he would like to work with any housing or service providers to help place person(s) who need support with housing.

9. Announcements:

- Question from Steve Falk on the Employment Self Sufficiency Committee regarding interest in this committee, since the chair is currently vacant and no meeting has been held. He participated on the committee and is interested. This committee would represent the whole county instead of two regional committees, concern over differing issues for each region.
- US Vets, Erica Gomez, 1st Stand Down, Oct. 18-19th, 2014 at the Perris Fairgrounds, a One-Stop shop, two day event for veterans.

Volunteer registration is being taken. She attended the US Vets Stand Down in Las Vegas recently, where 1,000 homeless veterans were helped and some were housed on the spot.

- Emma Perez-Singh, DPSS Contracts regarding the release of an RFP in July. Medi-Cal Outreach, a \$700,000 grant for enrollment and education available to community based organizations. Three of the target populations are CoC concerns: homeless, persons with mental health and substance abuse issues. Funding is through the California Dept. of Social Services with the California Endowment as part of the Affordable Care Act.
- City of Riverside's Walk to End Homelessness – Michelle Davis thanked everyone who supported this event on April 12. The event raised \$26,500 for showers and laundry facilities at the Riverside healing campus.

Next Meeting: June 25, 2014 at the James Venable Community Center in Cabazon.

Adjournment @ 12:10 PM

Respectfully submitted by: HPU Staff