

SAN FRANCISCO LOCAL HOMELESS COORDINATING BOARD

DRAFT

Minutes

Full Board

February 6, 2017

11:00am-1:00pm

City Hall Room 416, San Francisco

Members Present: Del Seymour, Laura Guzman, James Loyce, Kim-Mai Cutler, and Erick Brown

Members Absent: Alex Briscoe and Ralph Payton

1. Called to order at 11:05
2. Minutes from January 9, 2016 Meeting – Item postponed until quorum is reached
3. Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (HSH) –Standing agenda item for update from the San Francisco Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing.

Presentation by Sam Dodge, Deputy Director HSH

2017 Homeless Point in Time Count

- Thank you to volunteers, nonprofit partners, and City staff for coming out for the 2017 Point in Time Count. A big thank you to the youth and youth providers who made the Youth Point in Time Count a success. Over 800 volunteers came out to make the count so successful.
- HSH and partners are in the process of collecting over 1,000 long form surveys from people currently experiencing homelessness.
- Over 300 surveys have already come back and we well on our way to reaching our goal.
- The survey information will be combined with the street count and the shelter census into the final PIT count report which will be released this Spring.
- HSH will be transitioning to an annual count going forward.

Social Security Administration Policy Change

- In November of 2016, the Social Security Administration (SSA) changed federal policy to exclude **Voluntary Money Management Services** as master sub-accounts into which they are able to deposit directly. SSA has operationalized this change as a prohibition of direct deposit to agencies providing **Voluntary Money Management Services**. SSA no longer allows third party rent payment provider agencies to enroll new clients on a voluntary basis.
- This change conflicts with how San Francisco previously used money management programs as a key component of supportive housing.
- The impact of this change is likely unintended. The rule change is in response to a crackdown on predatory lending institutions.
- HSH has formed a working group to advocate on this policy change and has been in conversation with Congresswoman Pelosi's office to advocate with SSA.

Supporting Partnerships for Anti-Racist Communities (SPARC)

- San Francisco is one of 10 cities participating in the year-long SPARC Initiative coordinated by the Center for Social Innovation to address the intersection of racism and homelessness.
- The SPARC team will be in SF in early February to conduct focus groups and interviews with people of color experiencing homelessness.
- HSH, SPARC and HandUp will host a public dialogue on Wednesday February 8.
- 10 City

Board Comments/Questions on Item 3:

Del Seymour: HSH did a wonderful job getting the word out about the count. It was great to have so many volunteers participating.

Public Comments/Questions on Item 3:

None

4. Presentation from the Youth Policy and Advisory Committee (YPAC): and YPAC member to update the LHCB on the work of the committee and the Youth Demonstration grant

Ali Schlageter, Youth Program Manager, HSH

- San Francisco was awarded the HUD Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project grant
- The 2015 Youth Point in Time Count found 1500 homeless youth. 86% of whom were unsheltered in our community.
- SF has a spectrum of housing options for youth but not enough to meet the needs of the population
- The bulk of the resources for youth in SF is transitional housing
- In recent years SF has quadrupled the number of supportive housing units for youth.
- Youth rental subsidies are a new approach being utilized in SF. The subsidies are funded through the City General Fund and can be utilized in neighboring communities. They are general fund and can be used anywhere in the bay area

Priorities of Youth in SF Presented by Philip

- There is a lack of consolidation of service provision and organization
- Travel to and from service providers is burdensome for homeless youth
- Referrals are not always aligned with what the youth need
- Formation of a youth led service providers will be essential to providing culturally competent care
- More youth specific drop-in centers are needed so youth have places to go during the day to hand out, shower and do laundry
- Additional youth specific housing is needed

Zander - Criminalization of Homelessness

- More youth accessible services are needed
- Youth have seen an increase in criminalization of youth and their behavior and confiscation of their tents and possessions.
- There is a lack of legal services for youth and the criminalization they currently face on the streets.

THC (preferred not to be named) - Aging out of Programs and Defining Success

- Given the short-term nature of existing services homeless youth are expected to reset their lives in 24 months
- The cliff effect that youth face when they turn 25 and lose access to their existing services is significant.
- There is a focus on reunification but not every youth on the streets has a family to return to or to help them financially
- Recommend expending services up to age 29
- How youth define success
 - Are youth able to maximize their potential
 - In order to achieve society's idea of success we need more resources
 - Educational opportunities that do not route people through transitional college is an important resources
 - In order to help people transition back into society they need the following resources to excel: housing, schooling, training, paid employment

Zach - Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) Update

- Fall 2016 HUD announced \$33M in federal money for 10 communities to address youth homelessness
- San Francisco was selected out of 130 applicants and was awarded \$2.9M to combat homelessness for youth
- Youth voice is intragyral to the YHDP process
- HUD has formed youth policy and advocacy committee
- The Youth Committee has veto power of how the money is spent
- YHDP is about elevating new ideas and programs and is not about continuing business as usual
- The Youth Committee will provide updates to the full LCHB every 3 months and will respond to Board requests

Board Comments/Questions on Item 4:

Member James Lyoce: What is the timeline for this grant?

Answer: 2 years. There is a 6 month community planning process which will begin shortly. HSH will lead this process with community partners and youth.

Member Laura Guzman: This is a great model that we can use to engage other populations in planning.

Member James Lyoce: 2 year grants are concerning because the resources and momentum can be lost. How will we maintain the programs that begin under this grant?

Answer: After the initial two years of funding the projects are eligible to fold into the ongoing CoC grant.

Public Comments/Questions on Item 4:

None

5. LCHB Co-Chair Election and Committee Assignments

Nominations for Co-Chairs:

- Del Seymour for reappointment
- Ralph Payton for appointment

Motion to vote on slate of nominees: Board Member Laura Guzman

Second: Co-Chair Del Seymour

All in favor – all members vote yes

All opposed – none

Abstentions – none

Motion Passes

Nominations for Standing Committees:

Funding Committee:

- Member James Loyce for appointment

Policy Committee:

- Member Laura Guzman
- Member Kim-Mai Cutler

Coordinated Entry/ ONE System

- Member Erick Brown
- Member Alex Briscoe

Jeff Kositsky recommended combining the Coordinated Entry and ONE System committee.

Motion to vote on slate of nominees for committees: Board Member Laura Guzman

Second: Co-Chair Del Seymour

All in favor – all members vote yes

All opposed – none

Abstentions – none

Motion Passes

Board Comments/Questions on Item 5:

None

Public Comments/Questions on Item 5:

None

6. Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (HSH) – Budget Priorities & Community Input – 50 minutes:

Presentation/ Remarks from Jeff Kositsky, Director HSH

- HSH is working on our 2017/18 budget proposal. HSH is not proposing cuts to existing services

- HIS is not proposing any cuts to contracts nor is HSH requesting across the board cuts to programs.
- It is HSH's goal to expand services but we cannot do that with additional general fund resources
- We do have some new funding and funding opportunities, including: Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program and Whole Person Care
- HAH continues to work with philanthropy on resources for family homelessness and navigation centers.

Presentation by Gigi Whitley, Deputy Director HSH

Mayor's FY2017-19 Budget Instructions

- Estimated \$400M General Fund deficit projected for FY2017-18 and FY2018-19.
- Projection does not anticipate revenue loss due to an economic downturn or changes in federal funding.
- Departments to propose **on-going reductions** equal to 3% of General Fund support in each year (6% total reduction in second fiscal year).
- No new positions should be added.

HSH FY2017-19 Base Budget

- 81% of funding is General Fund Supported
- 83% of Total Budget for Direct Services
- 107 Budgeted FTEs
- Work Orders primarily support housing subsidies and medical services

HSH Priorities – Programmatic

- Add to the stock of housing exits and preserve existing units;
- Reduce encampments and street homelessness;
- End chronic homelessness for veterans by November 2017;
- End family homelessness by 2020;
- Design and implement coordinated entry;
- Implement a strategy to prevent and end youth homelessness; and
- Develop a plan for prevention and diversion.

HSH Priorities – Operations

- Launch the Online Navigation and Entry system;
- Ensure nonprofit partners operate effectively and efficiently; and
- Complete implementation of new department.

FY2017-19 Budget Timeline

- January – February: HSH prepares budget submission
- February 21: Budget submission due to the Mayor and Controller
- March-May: Mayor's Budget Office reviews department submission
- June 1: Mayor submits balanced budget to Board of Supervisors
- June: Budget & Finance Committee holds budget hearings
- July: Board of Supervisors adopts final two-year budget

Board Comments/Questions on Item 6:

None

Public Comments/Questions on Item 6:

Comment 1: Tara

- In the last 45 days I've been put through the jail, mental health and homeless system. I've never been on this end market st (and the world). The top does not know what's going on at the bottom. I am looking for a homeless entrepreneur fund - we know, see and can fix the problems. We need the funding and housing to create stability.

Comment 2: Angelique Diaz, Downtown Street Team

- Downtown Street Team provides its team members with volunteer, work and case management. By building partnerships with providers and employers 28 people have found employment. It is essential that unhoused community members have a roof over their head so they can succeed in employment. Prioritize employment based rental assistance. 86% of people in this program are no longer homeless. Strong sense of accountability and deep case management. Cost effective model to get people off the streets, employed, and in housing.

Comment 3: Karen Gruneisen – Episcopal Community Services

- The ECS budget priorities includes ensuring nonprofit partners have the resources to operate effectively
- We advocate for new dollars for nonprofits to enhance efficiently and effectiveness, rather than having the dollars being garnered from nonprofits perceived as being ineffective.

Comment 4: Jennifer Friedenbach, Coalition on Homelessness

- Coalition on Homelessness will be bringing forward HESPA a budget proposal. We need a lot more than is currently happening. The pipeline for housing is nowhere near when its needed. Shortcomings at the federal and state level land in the lap of the City
- We could be doing more. We are a wealthy city with only 3% of the city budget being spent on the number 1 issue impacting the City
- HESPA has put forward proposals will focus on emergency service and address the long term housing needs of people experiencing homelessness in San Francisco.
- COH will likely have an ask larger than last year's \$14M request
- Question: Where will the - 3% cuts the Mayor's office called for, be coming from?
- Jeff: HSH does not have a proposal for these cuts. Some will come through administrative costs and some will come from desired expansions. We cannot put specifics out until we are clearer. Will look at direct service provision. Not looking toward nonprofits or existing services.

Comment 5: **Barry Stenger**, Executive Director at St Anthony's

- What does HSH see as the role of philanthropic funders in filling the gaps in City funded services? Nonprofits already rely on philanthropy for essentials resources and we have concerns about competing with the City for philanthropic dollars.

Response from Jeff Kositsky: HSH's goal is not to gather up philanthropic dollars for city use. The philanthropic dollars that we are helping to raise are being directed to nonprofit partners to address our

shared goals. This funding does not come into the city budget. It's about coordination and ensuring the funds fit into the City strategy. HSH is committed to working with the nonprofits to make the pie bigger.

Comment 6: Nancy Neilson, Lutheran Social Services

- The Supportive Housing Providers Network & LSS input:
 - Collaborating with HSH to explore more supportive housing
 - Support the development and implementation of the coordinated entry
 - Support the development of 300 new supportive housing network
 - Excited to work on the anti-racism work
 - Moving on - moving to less service enriched environment when possible
 - Operations Questions: When will the ONE System be up and running?

Response: Megan Owens – The ONE System contract will be executed in March or April. ETO HMIS and HomeLink will be the first systems to be integrated this summer. The full system implementation will take two years.

Comment 7: Paul Cohen, Eviction Defense Collaborative

- Budget Priority: Shelter Client Advocate programs is an effective and important programs that serves over 1000 people per year with 1.8 FTE dedicated to this work. EDC needs an additional FTE for this program.
- The grievance policy for the shelter should include the navigation centers.

Response from Sam Dodge: HSH has not yet been determined if Navigation Centers will be under the general shelter grievance policy.

Comment 8: Karen Gruneisen – Episcopal Community Services

- General City budget priority - Food insecurity for people in supportive housing. There is insufficient food security funding in our community. People in SRO needs access to nutrition support. The nexus between nutrition and health is very clear.
- ECS wants help from the department in advocating for these resources in HSA

Comment 9: Christian Calinsky, Executive Director, Taking It to the Streets

- Homeless youth in the Haight needs a drop in or navigation center - a place where youth can be safe from police harassment
- Homeless youth in the Haight need a more accessible drop-in center with better hours
- I know that people are working on this but this is really needed - state of emergency in the upper Haight.

Question from Board Member Laura Guzman: Is this something we can push for from the Youth Commission? Crime is a symptom of homelessness.

Comment from Board Member Del Seymour: We need federal resources for homelessness. We need federal support for homelessness. We need you to take your advocacy to Washington.

Comment 10: Leah LaCroix, Coordinator of Community Outreach and Civic Engagement, San Francisco Youth Commissioner

Reading written comments from Youth Commission

- Excited to hear about the youth homeless demo grant and the involvement of young people
- Youth are the expert in their lives
- Need for TAY Navigation Center - streamline access to housing

Gustavo **Banuelos** - LYRIC

- Mainly work transgender youth
- Looking for resources for this population
- Looking for a youth shelter for youth who are gender nonconforming

7. Announcements of Upcoming Committee Meetings

Policy Committee Meetings

Thursday, February 16, 2017

3:30-4:30

101 Grove St, Room 220

Coordinated Entry Committee Meeting

Tuesday, February 21, 2017

1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Born Auditorium

170 Otis St

Topic: The Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing is moving forward with plans for coordinated entry for families. This committee meeting will serve as an opportunity to update the community and answer questions about plans for coordinated entry for families.

Funding Committee Meeting

Tuesday, February 28, 2017

3:00pm – 5:00pm

25 Van Ness Ave. Room 70

Topic: Strategizing for the next Continuum of Care Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA).

8. Public Comment

Comment 1: Monique O'Neil - SFUSD

- Thank Jeff and partners
- The District has started a new process of getting conversations started about student homelessness - See us, hear us and support us.
- SFUSF is committed to the needs of our homeless students

Comment 2 - Dayton Anders. Coalition on Homelessness

- Invite everyone to salsa fundraiser for the Coalition on Sunday from 4-8pm at El Rio.

Comment 3 - Jennifer Friedenbach, Coalition on Homelessness

- Coordinated Entry for Families is a way to change the City's shelter priorities and system

- There has not been sufficient community process for family coordinated entry for shelter
- City will shrink down the waiting list by shrinking eligibility by implementing a residency requirement and eliminating eligibility for families who are doubled-up
- The Coalition on Homelessness supports the self-determination of families. If they say they need shelter then they need shelter.
- The Coalition knows there are families who trade sex for shelter and by eliminating their eligibility we are encouraging them to stay in unsafe situations.

Comment 4: Malia Chavez – Homeless Prenatal Program

- Under the new Coordinated Entry System and prioritization the new definition of homeless family will have a devastating impact on the lives of homeless families
- Children in SROs or doubled up will not have access to rapid re housing
- There is a continuum of need
- Coordinated Entry should not deny families access to shelter and benefits
- Appeal to the board for oversight

Comment 5: THC (preferred not to be named)

- Thank you all for your time
- SF has an epidemic of homelessness
- The bad side of gentrification

Comment 6: Zach - Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program Representative

- Thank you for hearing us
- Thank you to taking it to the streets for housing
- Thank you to Ali

9. **Adjournment – 12:30pm**