

# **Leadership Council**

## **Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, February 22, 2023 | 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM**

**Via Zoom**

**Leadership Council Co-Chair: Luis Alejo (Monterey County Board of Supervisors)**

**Leadership Council Co-Chair: Kollin Kosmicki (San Benito County Board of Supervisors)**

**Members Present & Affiliations:** Luis Alejo (Monterey County Board of Supervisors), Mike LeBarre (Mayor of King City), Kimberly Craig (Mayor of City of Salinas), Lilia Chagolla (Central California Alliance for Health), Timothy Heavin (PLE), Megan Hunter (Community Development Director – City of Salinas), Kurt Schake (Veterans Transition Center), Jonan Blount (Youth Action Board), Robin McCrae (Community Human Services), Roxanne Wilson (Monterey County Homeless Services Director), Dan Baldwin (Community Foundation of Monterey County), Anna Velazquez (Mayor of Soledad), Mia Casey (Mayor of Hollister), Alyssa Kroeger (Pacific Grove Housing Program)

**CHSP Staff:** Genevieve Lucas-Conwell, Jake Fenton, Kai Reynolds, Grant Túoti, Oliver Elbert, Joshua Bryan, Katrina McKenzie, Armando Elizondo, Krystal Kay Estrada

**Guests:** Vanessa Fenley (Focus Strategies), Jasmine Mejia Cortez (Office of Luis Alejo), Javier Gomez (Office of Luis Alejo), Denise Vienne (Monterey County Department of Social Services), Jon Drake (Monterey County Health Department), Susie Cortez (Director of CET), Elliot Robinson (Community Member), Kate Nester (CCAH), Kris Kuntz (Blue Anthem), Alejandra Saldana (Salinas Share Center)

1. **Welcome, Introductions, and Announcements:** The meeting began at 3:31 PM. Introductions were made to keep order to the call.
2. **Additions/Modifications to the Agenda:** No Additions or modifications
3. **Public Comment:** No public comments
4. **Membership Recommendation**
  - a.) Interim Category 1 Seats: Mayor Anna Velazquez, Mayor Mia Casey
    - Mayor Ana Velasquez, nominated by the Mayor Association with agreement from former Mayor Jose Rios to serve his remainder of his term.
    - Mayor Mia Casey to replace former Hollister Mayor Ignacio Velasquez
  - b.) Interim Co-Chair:
    - Supervisor Kosmicki – to replace Mayor Pro Temp Flores, serving on the board from San Benito County

Supervisor Kosmicki introduced himself and made comments on his plans for being on the board.

Mayor Casey introduced herself and made comments on her plan for being on the board.

Mayor Craig – Acknowledged the work South County is doing on homelessness. On behalf of Mayors Association there was a unanimous vote to nominate Mayor Ana Velasquez.

Motion to nominate Mayor Anna Velasquez and Mayor Mia Casey in Category 1 and Supervisor Kollin Kosmicki to join as Co-Chair: Roxanne Wilson moved, second by Dan Baldwin. No abstentions or opposition. Approval by consensus.

## **5. Consent Agenda**

a. December 2022 Leadership Council Minutes

b. January 2023 Housing Pipeline Minutes

Motion to approve minutes: Moved by Kimberly Craig, second by Roxanne Wilson. No abstentions or oppositions. Approval by consensus.

## **6. Health and Housing Incentive Program (HHIP) Update:**

- a. Central Coast Alliance for Health (Kate Nester) led a HHIP presentation. CCAH is the HHIP for Monterey County. Reviewed Funding Allocations and Investment Strategies.
- b. Blue Anthem (Kris Kuntz) led a HHIP update presentation. Blue Anthem is the HHIP for San Benito County.
- Overview of HHIP, Initial HHIP Investments in San Benito County, and Next Steps.  
Next Steps:
- Anthem to submit submission 1 to DHCS by March 10<sup>th</sup>
- Continue working on meeting HHIP metrics for second submission in October 2023
  - o Data sharing and HMIS alerts
  - o Implementation of initial investments
  - o Continue to increase ECM and CS services.
- Determine additional investments with forthcoming earned HHIP funds.

## **Questions/Comments:**

- Roxanne Wilson - When they worked on HHIP application with manage care plan, they had to match HHAP submission. What they submitted for HHIP was exactly the first few tabs as HHAP application.
- Kollin Kosmicki - Anything that San Benito County can do to assist with receiving funds?  
Kate Nester – Drafted existing contracts in needing to meet state requirements for submission series 1 and 2. Submission 1 is following investment plan and setting a base line. Submission 2 is where DHCS will hopefully see an increase from the baseline. iE more members being housed and connected with resources.  
Kris Kuntz – released a new template for measures. Leadership is encouraging outreach with CoC and government officials.
- Dennis Vienne – Local homeless plan is the same one that they use for HHAP. For the next phase, Sub 2, what are some strategies you are thinking of for the next stage?  
Kris Kuntz – State is asking for them to work with CoC and local government. Want them to be strategic on how they are using the funds with other provided funds as HHIP is very flexible, but only 1-time funds.
- Luis Alejo – Wants clarification on why Monterey County received more money than San Benito County.  
Kate Nester – allocations were based on member numbers and point in time count.
- Megan Hunter – Will there will an opportunity to allocate to organizations in the future?

- Dennis Vienne – County in Monterey part of the HHAP plan is to supportive Permanent Housing. Committing some of HHAP to support home keys. Really important to consider the entire HHAP plan.
- Kate Nester – Originally DCHS health plan originally stated that you would not be able to use HHIP funds on housing. Specifically, room and board and including construction for Permanent Supportive Housing. Although the state cannot state what you can use these funds on, there is a federal rule that you cannot use MediCal funds on room and board. So, the alliance is happy to fund innovative ways to create new housing – i.e recuperative care.

## 7. Outreach Standards

- Hana Gosset from Focus Strategies speaks on the feedback and edits that were made. Review the process from the December 2022 Leadership Council Meeting, Review the updates made, and the overview of the Implementation Memo.

Steps taken after last meeting:

- Convened the Funder's Collaborative
- Held a Public Feedback Session
- Drafted Implementation Memo and Updated Draft
- Funder's Collaborative Reviewed Memo and Updated Draft

Overarching Updates and Considerations:

- All references to "outreach" were updated to say, "homeless street outreach."
- Appendix A was reviewed for all necessary definitions and other concepts were expanded on throughout the document.

Background and Purpose Updates:

- Added information about the importance of homeless street outreach to the homeless service system.
- Added the HUD definition of homelessness.
- Moved the USICH Principles for Addressing Encampments to this section alongside the other guiding principles.

Section 1: Engagement and Service Standards:

- Added statement about documenting attempts to engage and information about successful engagements in HMIS/other databases.
- Removed references to case management and limited to service provision.
- Added references to referrals to other services and resources, including collaborative relationships.
- Added language to support using referral networks available in the community.
- Updated encampment response language to reflect the collaboration of homeless street outreach programs with addressing encampments.
- Updated language around CARS and HMIS to reflect making updates regularly.

Section 2:

- No updates

Section 3: Program/Agency Level Standards:

- Clarified HMIS language and left HMIS as "encouraged" because not all programs receive funding to participate in the system.
- Updated language about training to reflect that the program and policy are a joint effort and that the list of training included is recommended.

- Added language clarifying about coordinating with partners to ensure outreach is conducted in a safe manner.

#### Section 4: Expectations for Funded Providers:

- Updated monitoring language to reflect that the monitor will review the grievance policy documented in the policies and procedures.

#### Implementation Memo:

- Gathered information throughout the process about what would help the community and providers implement the standards.
- Drafted the implementation memo to put that guidance into a summarized format to support the development of a plan for implementation.
- Recommendations are broken out into categories for implementation:  
Policies and Procedures  
Community Collaboration  
Data and Reporting  
Responding to Encampments  
Professional Development

#### Questions/Comments:

- Luis Alejo – is this the first time we have had Outreach Standards?  
Genevieve Lucas-Conwell – We have had Emergency Shelter Standards, which these will accompany, and we will be implementing more standards along the way.

#### **Motion to approve this Outreach Standard: Moved by Lilia Chagolla and seconded by Enrique Arreola. Motion approved unanimously by consensus.**

#### 8. RHNA Summary

- Genevieve Lucas-Conwell – Introduced Alyssa Kroeger from Pacific Grove Housing Program. Alyssa led a presentation of an overview of RHNA.

#### RHNA

- State Mandate for all jurisdictions since 1969
- Involves:  
Evaluation of Previous Cycle's Implementation  
Housing Needs (current and future)  
Constraints  
Sites  
Goals, Policies, Programs

#### 6<sup>th</sup> Cycle 2023-2031 - What's New?

- Housing Accountability Act
  - SB 686 – Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH)
  - 3x RHNA 5 numbers
- \*Showed a table reviewing the AMBAG region and incomes\*

#### Questions/comments:

Roxanne Wilson – a couple of years ago – the Coalition hired Focus Strategies to do an analysis on the housing market and it is posted on their website. Monterey County – for every 100 houses that are low income, we only have about 16 units to serve them, which contributes to homelessness. Permanent

Supportive Housing does count towards RHNA but transitional doesn't. Want to make sure everyone is maxing their money from independent entities.

Luis Alejo – the governor is starting press releases for pro housing cities/counties to highlight the strides to achieving the goals.

Megan Hunter – well in the throes of pro housing. If anyone wants more info – she can explain.

## 9. CoC Updates

- A. Genevieve Lucas-Conwell – HHAP RFP 3 is ready to release to public on March 3 with an application deadline on April 13. HHAP RFP follows the process for the HHAP Round 1 RFP, with just changes that it is stricter on construction.

No questions/comments.

**Motion to approve HHAP RFP 3: Moved by Dan Baldwin. Seconded by Dana Cleary. No comments. Motion approved unanimously by consensus.**

### B. CARS Evaluation Proposal Recommendation

HHIP improve performance systems in CoC. One of the ways is to look at CARs – do an evaluation and assessment to improve CARs. Will be looking at VI-SPDAT. Present and take the time to assess the VI-SPDAT to be sure this is how we want to move forward. Reached out to a few different consultants. Want to be very intentional on how we review.

Interested folks to sit in interviews: Roxanne Wilson, Kayshla Lopez, Robin McCrae, Denise Vienne.

### C. Governance Update

Launched the process in January. Tomorrow is the launch of the CoC Community launch. The community will be invited to provide feedback to the CoC Government work.

### D. Youth Coordinated Entry Systems Tool

Grant Túoti – working with homebase to design a tool CoC. Has come to the point to test the tools. Identified 6 prioritization factors for this process which are: youth and young adults residing in violent or unsafe environments, youth or young adults in unsheltered situations, youth and young adults with histories of systems involvement, youth and young adults with disconnected from support connections and/or resources, those who are pregnant and/or parenting, those who are facing discrimination and/or difficulties with obtaining/maintain housing and/or employment. The highest priorities are those residing in violent or unsafe situations, and those who are in unsheltered situations. Hoping to start testing the tools by end of the month/early next month. As well as finalizing policies and procedures. Once they have those drafted/finalized, they will be sending to CARs Committee and Leadership Council for further approval.

### E. Year 2 Action Plan – Mid-Year Progress

Genevieve Lucas-Conwell –

**Strategy Area 1: Increase Participation in Homeless Solution Leaders and Key Stakeholder Across the Region**

Completed

- Develop a Lived Experience Advisory Directive (LED)
- Housing Pipeline Committee updating on Family Emergency Challenge and Homekey

In Progress:

- City jurisdictions adopting the plan – the City of Soledad Adopted 10/22, More to come.
- Convene a CoC work group to advance racial equity in the homelessness response system & create Equity Framework

#### Strategy Area 2: Improve Performance of Homelessness Response Systems

Completed:

- Establishing Outreach Working Committee
- Complete a Fair market Analysis and submit to HUD to increase the FMR appropriately.
- Develop outreach standards (completed in meeting)

In Progress:

- Increase investments in RRH, Navigation Services, Housing focused case management.
- Develop a landlord incentive program.
- Design and implement youth CARs establish training series for all service providers.
- Establish training for services providers.

#### Strategy Area 3: Seek Funding to Expand Service Oriented Response to Unsheltered Homelessness

Completed:

- Seek funding to expand and improve efforts to provide basic needs to encampments.

In Progress:

- Increase coordination and collaboration between outreach and behavioral health services.
- Develop CoC strategy on addressing encampment.
- Provide training and information to outreach teams.

Mayor Ana Velasquez introduced herself.

#### **10. Encampment Resolution Fund Update:**

##### **a. City of Salinas, County of Monterey**

- Megan Hunter – City is applying for an Encampment Resolution Grant. In process of filling out application. Applying for the 2nd phase of the upper car lake area. Encamp res on the other county properties by soccer complex. About 75% of the population is undocumented. Looking at creative ways to help with limitations. Looking at properties from Homekey, but also looking at converting a hotel.  
Kaysha Lopez – also including/expanding on is immigrations services through charities, Belly Help Associates to help with substance abuse, and Interim for adjusting mental health needs.
- Roxanne Wilson – looking at Pajaro River – submitting application Friday (following the meeting), identified about 60-70 individuals that would like to target, with 50% being undocumented. Biggest highlights are addressing service desert in Monterey County and South Santa Cruz County. Building tiny home village on the Watsonville side of the river. Ask over 8 million. Trying to get it lowered by other resources. Will find out if grant was approved at the end of April. If approved, using built on site systems – they would hope to get people moved in by end of the year. They are considering other sources of energy other than PG&E,

but they do have money in the budget for it if PG&E cannot meet deadlines. Addressing the undocumented individuals - Community action board has offered services and Santa Cruz County is going for a Homekey and the units that are unsubsidized will be available for undocumented individuals.

No questions/comments.

**Announcements:**

1. Important to pay attention to legislation changes in San Francisco. There was talk about CoC's losing funding – Luis Alejo spoke up and explained it would be detrimental to our CoC to lose funding.
2. Louis Alejo working with state legislatures talking about loss of funding from CoC and County of Monterey as a result from the point in time count. Lost 1.7 million dollars.
3. Met yesterday with new Executive Director of the Housing Authority of Monterey County – Zuleika Boykin. Has good goals for our Housing Authority.

**Adjourn:**

**Meeting adjourned at 5:07 PM**

**Minutes taken and prepared by Sabrina Barnard**