

San Joaquin Continuum of Care Board of Directors Meeting 8-12-2021

Call to Order

11:00a

Roll Call

- Jenn
- Adam
- Edward
- Matt
- Russ
- Mike
- Jon
- Randy
- Kristen
- Melinda
- Peter
- Kristen

Minutes

- Minutes of 7-8-2021
 - Russ moved to approve as submitted; Mike seconded; unanimous; no abstentions;
- Minutes of 7-22-2021
 - Russ moved to approve as submitted; Mike seconded; unanimous; no abstentions;

Updates from SJCoC Committees

- Data and HMIS: Bill Mendelson stated that CVLIHC has been in contact with 211 regarding implementation of Coordinated Entry;
- System Performance and Evaluation: Jon mentioned that the Committee is working on establishing evaluation criteria for emergency shelter and transitional housing project types, and encouraged providers of these project types to engage Kate in what they would like to see in regards to the criteria;
- Strategic Planning: no update;
- Education and Membership: Russ discussed his conversation with Carrie Wright regarding the Committee analysis that the Strategic Planning Committee is engaged in, and mentioned that the Education and Membership Committee is working on an evaluation of that analysis on an ongoing basis;
- Coordinated Entry: Matt mention that the Committee will be pivoting to implementing the CES manual following Board approval and working with 211 to get the system running;
- Shelter: Natascha Garcia mentioned that Kristen will be taking over the Committee in September;
- 2x2x2: no update;
- Ad Hoc Youth: Krista Fiser state that the Committee is meeting, and working to engage the Youth Action Board which has been stood up and is meeting; mentioned that there are communities that provide a stipend to YAB members, potentially using YHDP funds;

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- Ad Hoc Outreach: Natascha Garcia stated that the Committee has not yet met as the transition from Shelter continues, and is intending to meet in September;
- Ad Hoc Point in Time Count: Melinda provided an update regarding their first meeting and went over an outline for planning the Count; stated that they are seeking Chairs and participants for sub-committees focused on Cities; Jon mentioned the importance of keeping the methodology as consistent as possible in order to effectively compare results from previous counts; Melinda added that typically seniors are the volunteers which is unlikely to be a resource for the upcoming count;

Public Comment

- Opened 11:21a
- No comment;
- Closed 11:22a

Discussion, Information and Action Items

Vote: Approve Moving Unspent SB89 Funds from City of Lodi to Salvation Army

- Jenn provided background on the request from the County;
- Matt stated that the goal was to ensure all funding was utilized, some of which remained unspent as a result of the City of Lodi being unable to utilize the full amount; mentioned that Salvation Army was ready to invoice for these funds immediately;
- Randy moved to approve; Peter seconded; unanimous, no abstentions;

Vote: Approve the Addition of an Ad Hoc Housing Committee

- Jenn provided background on this process and mentioned that Jon had volunteered to Chair the committee;
- Kristen asked for the scope of work for the Committee to include in the Charter;
- Adam discussed the opportunity for technical assistance from Focus Strategies on permanent housing, Peter agreed to participate;
- Randy stated that this should be a regularly scheduled meeting;
- Peter moved to approve as amended; Randy seconded; unanimous; no abstentions;

Vote: Affirm CVLIHC as the HMIS Lead Agency and Establish Review Process

- Jenn discussed the background regarding this item and set the stage for the conversation and handed it over to Jon;
- Jon stated that the Data Committee did not request the Board to affirm, but to evaluate the HMIS Lead using the approved evaluation tool;
- Randy asked for clarification on the Chair of the Committee, which is Bill Mendelson;
- Bill stated that no one else has in the past indicated an interest in Chairing the committee;
- Randy stated that he felt it was problematic for Bill and Jon to evaluate themselves and was concerned about the potential transparency issues;
- Jon stated that the Board would have the role of evaluation without the inclusion of the HMIS Lead and that the Data Committee is in full support of that;

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- Kristen asked for an overview of the evaluation tool from Jon: Jon mentioned that the tool was adopted by the Board in a past meeting; Kristen stated she would like a review of the tool prior to the evaluation;
- Peter stated that he felt that if there was a desire to move beyond complaints about data quality there needed to be meaningful work in engaging in this process founded on a commitment of effort from the Board; related the process to funding in terms of the desire for good data;
- Kristen mentioned that the Shelter Committee may be able to assist with the evaluation;
- Adam volunteered to organize this effort; Melinda, Randy and Jenn volunteered to assist;
- Edward asked when the MOU lapsed: Jon indicated that it was August 31;
- Jon added that the evaluation was approved March 12, 2020;

Vote: Expand SJCoC Board of Directors

- Jenn discussed the background related to the timing for this process to include the establishment of the Ad Hoc Nominating Committee and the upcoming annual meeting;
- Kristen discussed the need to expand related to the fact that many members will be terming out, and that several new committees have been formed; that expanding the Board will be effective in improving geographic representation of the Board;
- Randy stated that expanding the Board is essential to improving geographic representation;
- Jenn and Randy discussed the potential to establishing varying terms for new members to avoid large numbers of members terming out at once; Randy mentioned that Stanislaus and Solano County had over 20 members each; stated that the Board should not have a problem with a quorum;
- Adam mentioned that it has sometimes been difficult to achieve enough applications to fill seats;
- Jon mentioned that members can re-apply to serve for additional terms; stated that the only benefit to expansion was the potential for broader geographic and/or demographic representation; that in order for an expansion to be effective, the Board needs to put real and concerted effort into achieving the goal or broader geographic and demographic representation;
- Randy moved to expand the Board by 4, two with one-year terms and two with two-year terms;
- Adam expressed concern around the complexities of adding one year term members and recommended against it; Matt agreed;
- Mike mentioned that depending on the individuals intending to reapply, it may be less complicated to fill seats;
- Edward stated that he felt it was important to determine Mike's suggestion; that non-Board members can Chair and participate in committees, and that success of the Committees is not necessarily dependent upon a larger Board;
- Adam requested the item be tabled until next meeting, and also that the item include the establishment of the 2021 Nominating Committee;
- Randy withdrew his motion;

Discuss: CES Policy and Procedure Manual – Matt Garber, CES Committee Chair

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- Matt provided a brief overview of the manual and the process to develop it to date; mentioned that one of the biggest changes is the inclusion of 211 as the CES Management Entity; thanked Adam and Bill Mendelson for taking the lead on the development of the manual based on feedback of the Committee; described several of the major items from the manual;
- Adam stated the desire of the CES Committee to seek feedback from the larger CoC;
- Jon mentioned that the CES is focused on a prioritization list to move people into permanent housing, and not around directing individuals between shelters for example; Matt added comments regarding the central role of the HMIS in the system, and reiterated that CES is a HUD requirement;
- Matt asked that the next agenda include the ratification of the manual by the Board;

Discuss: HMIS Data Sharing – Jon Mendelson, HMIS Lead

- Jenn asked Jon to discuss the need for feedback from the Board on this process; Jon provided background and details regarding the conversations around how data can be shared from the HMIS with various entities within and outside of the CoC; discussed the need for a formalized process to establish parameters for sharing various kinds of data; a request for general thoughts and guidance from the Board to help make decisions in a future meeting about the level and types of data appropriate to share as policy of the CoC; be conscious of protecting information of individuals entered into the HMIS; ensure accurate presentation and representation of the data;
- Peter stated that it is critically important to protect PII; that access to data shouldn't be protected from people that want to conduct their own analysis; can be more transparent by demonstrating access;
- Melinda stated that the concern around misinterpreting the data either intentionally or unintentionally is likely considering the complexity and esoteric nature of the data; Peter added that folks will jump to those conclusions regardless, and higher transparency will serve to assuage concerns;

Discuss: Committee Transparency – Randy Pinnelli, Board Director

- Randy mentioned that he could not find information about meeting times for most of the Committee on the calendar, and stated a desire to see updates to the website along these lines; a desire for Committees to provide meeting minutes to the Board on a regular basis;
- Adam stated that initially Committees minutes and agendas were included on the website but that was stopped due to issues around Committees not submitting these items consistently;
- Matt stated that he felt that there was enough transparency where this was concerned and there was no need to place work on ourselves;
- Randy reiterated that he wanted to see this change;
- Jenn reiterated that this represented a significant amount of work;
- Melinda volunteered to set up a GoogleDoc or Sharepoint to facilitate uploading the minutes for public consumption; Randy stated he was fine with this approach;
- Peter stated that the Housing Authority hosts the website and can have these items posted as needed;

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Discuss: Review CoC Program Competition Scoring Tool – Kate Hutchinson, System Performance and Evaluation Committee Chair

- Tabled (Kate not present)

Discuss: New Vaccination/testing Requirement for Employees of Congregate Shelters – Jenn Rowell, SJCoC Chair

- Jenn discussed her understanding of this requirement; Randy provided some information about vaccinations CoC-wide;
- Edward stated that St. Mary's was working with public health to test their staff weekly, as well as staff at Stockton Shelter for the Homeless;

Presentations

Family First Prevention Services Act – Joelle Gomez, Children's Home of Stockton

- Joelle provided background and information on the program; discussed the reform of group homes starting in 2017 and the conversion to short term residential treatment programs; mentioned the process for County assessment of the existing program which could potentially remove significant sources of funding for Children's Home depending on the results; discussed next steps for the organization in order to address these changes and improve sustainability going forward including the bill exempting STRTPs from these reforms;

Additional Items and Updates

- none

Adjournment

- 1:02p: Mike moved, Randy second, unanimous;
- Next meeting scheduled for 11a on September 9, 2021