

# **South Bay Cities Council of Governments**

**Homeless Services Task Force  
Wednesday, May 1, 2019  
3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

## **Meeting Notes** *(submitted by Grace Farwell)*

### **Welcome & Introductions**

Elected officials/representatives in attendance: Council Member Alex Monteiro, Hawthorne; Mayor Pro Tem Mary Campbell, Hermosa Beach; Mayor Pro Tem Christian Horvath, Redondo Beach; Council Member George Chen, Torrance; Council Member Aurelio Mattucci, Torrance; Ivan Sulic, Supervisor Janice Hahn's Office; Giovanni Zuniga, Assembly Member Mike Gipson's Office; Isabella Blue and Caitlin Muldoon, Council Member Joe Buscaino's Office, Los Angeles

Others in attendance: Carson, Keith Bennett; Inglewood, Lori Jones; Palos Verdes Estates, Kyle Shea (PVEPD); Redondo Beach, John LaRock; Rolling Hills Estates, Jeannie Naughton; Harbor Interfaith Services, Breanna Jaijairam, Shari Weaver; LAHSA, Steven Yu; PATH, Courtney Reed, Haley Fuselier; SBCEH, Nancy Wilcox; Harbor City Neighborhood Council, Grant Reed, K Laroque; Shoftim Consulting, Ronald Williams; Rancho Palos Verdes Resident, Janet Schoenfeld; Volunteers, Kiran Magiawala; SBCCOG, Jacki Bacharach, Grace Farwell

Redondo Beach Mayor Pro Tem Christian Horvath opened the meeting.

**March 13, 2019 meeting notes** – Received and filed

### **Update on Activities Related to Homelessness in SD4 – Ivan Sulic, Field Deputy, Supervisor Janice Hahn**

Mr. Sulic provided the following update:

- Key to ending homelessness is affordable housing
- SPA 8 cities need to focus on permanent supportive housing (PSH)
  - Looking for cities and/or private landowners for PSH
- College students experiencing homelessness
  - 1 in 4-5 community college students are experiencing homelessness
  - 1 in 7 CSU students are experiencing homelessness
  - Partnership with Harbor Interfaith at Long Beach Community College; plans are to extend to Harbor College and El Camino College
- Shower program
  - Looking for municipalities to host
  - Mobile showers use site for 2-4 hours
- Safe Parking
  - LAHSA RFP came out end of April
  - LAC Homeless Initiative (LACHI) and LAHSA want to find a location in SPA 8
  - Could be a church, city, or private lot owner parking lot
- LAHSA will release homeless count numbers the end of May
- Board of Supervisors reviewing Measure H funding recommendations
  - \$460 million for FY 2019-2020
  - BOS voting on Measure H funding on 5/14/19
- City of LA Bridge Housing – San Pedro and Wilmington (SPA 8), Watts (SPA 6)
- Other activities in SD4

- Downey – 80 units affordable housing for veterans
- Santa Fe Springs – 100 units PSH for families; working with The Whole Child

**Coordinated Entry System (CES) 101: Everything You Want to Know About CES – Shari Weaver, Director SPA 8 CES and Breanna Jajairam, Regional Coordinator for Adults, SPA 8, Harbor Inerfaith**

Ms. Weaver provided a presentation on the Coordinated Entry System:

- CES is about moving people into housing and working with them to ensure stability to prevent them from becoming homeless again
  - Began in 2014; now in its 5<sup>th</sup> year
  - Funded through Measure H
  - Collaborative of several community-based organizations
  - Bring county and federal resources to South Bay
- Definitions of populations served
  - “Single” Adult individuals – ages 18+
  - Youth – ages 24 and under; also referred to as Transitional Age Youth (TAY)
  - Families with minor aged children or pregnant with first child
- Assessment and Triage
  - Vulnerability Index-Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT)
  - Acuity score – helps to suggest best permanent housing option
  - Different assessment for each system, although similar
- How to access CES
  - Walk-in Access Center
  - Partners refer to CES – Dept of Mental Health, Dept of Health Services
  - Families call 211
  - CES street outreach
- CES services
  - Prevention services
  - Legal services in partnership with Legal Aid Foundation of LA
  - Interim housing
    - Crisis shelter programs (emergency shelters)
    - Bridge housing programs
    - Recuperative beds
    - Transitional housing
  - Referrals to other programs
    - Domestic violence (DV) programs
    - VA families
    - Substance use (Substance Abuse Prevention & Control Help Line, LA County Dept of Public Health)
    - CBEST – countywide benefits entitlements
    - Whole person care – federal Medi-Cal waiver program
  - Hospital Liaison and Hospital Navigator with the 5 medical centers in the South Bay
- South Bay’s Homelessness Challenges
  - No “quick fixes” – housing people takes a long time (months or years)
  - Slow down the flow of those becoming homeless
  - Need more affordable housing throughout South Bay region
  - Desperate need of interim/emergency housing
- SPA 8 CES FY 18-19 Housing Outcomes for individuals and family units (first 9 months as reported by Harbor Interfaith)

- Prevention: 95
- Rapid Re-Housing (i.e. short-term rental assistance): 178
- “Matched” to PSH (i.e. long-term rental subsidies) and moved in: 62
- There was a discussion about a recent clean-up that took place on the shared border of 2 of the South Bay cities. No service providers were contacted about the clean-up. There is a need for a coordinated effort of city staff and service providers.

### **LAHSA’S Training Academy for Cities and LAHSA Update – Steven Yu, Supervisor, Community Engagement, LAHSA**

Mr. Yu provided an overview of LAHSA’s Capacity Building unit:

- Created in 2017 to strengthen the operational infrastructure of nonprofit homeless services providers and includes:
  - Workforce Development
    - Assess hiring needs and practices of each provider
    - Organize quarterly Homeless Services Professionals Job Fairs to attract qualified candidates
    - Promote service providers open job positions on LAHSA’s website
  - Centralized Training Academy – to register for any training, you must create an account: <https://lahsa.configio.com/>
    - Free countywide resource that provides in-depth training for staff working in the homeless services industry
    - Direct service training
      - Appropriate for city staff who are direct line staff working with those experiencing homelessness
      - Topics include trauma informed care, self-care, harm reduction, substance use, housing first
      - 5-day training for 8 hours/day
    - Program specific bootcamps and learning communities
      - Rapid Re-Housing
      - PSH
      - Interim Housing
    - Outreach Teams Training (program specific)
    - HMIS (Health Management Information Systems) Training (CES agencies)
    - LA Homeless Online Portal (LA HOP) Training
  - Technical Assistance
    - Core Capacity Assessment Tool (CCAT) – assesses an organization’s infrastructure
    - Organizational Capacity Building Technical Assistance – provides financial support to develop capacities to reach agency goals

### **City Spotlight: City of Redondo Beach – John LaRock, Community Services Director, City of Redondo Beach**

Mr. LaRock provided an overview of homelessness services and programs in Redondo Beach:

- On average, based on the past 3 homeless counts, the population of those experiencing homelessness is approximately 160; this number increases during the daytime due to services provided
- Homeless guests and residents are found in parks, parking lots, cars, the pier
- The City of Redondo Beach website provides a calendar of when meals are provided, food pantry hours, laundry available one time per week

- Exploring the possibility of Safe Parking and bringing mobile showers to the city
- In 2014, Redondo Beach convened a Task Force to address homelessness (prior to Measure H)
- Dedicated police presence
  - Community services unit dedicated to homelessness
  - Knows all of the individuals
- City works with PATH, Harbor Interfaith (HIS), Dept of Mental Health
- Elected officials are engaged
- Section 8 Housing – coordination with HIS, PATH; 500 families have been placed
- CDBG funds available for feeding programs through faith-based organizations
- Regular meetings with faith-based organizations focused on how to manage crowds before and after the feeding programs
- Tri-cities have received \$330,000 in funding for an 18-month period to fund a homeless services coordinator/housing navigator for the cities of Hermosa Beach, Manhattan Beach, and Redondo Beach
- There are Redondo Beach residents who complain on Nextdoor about the homelessness issue, and yet the police department has no record of calls
- Important for all cities to identify staff member to be the public face and subject matter expert on homelessness
- Need to expand mental health services
- Self-care is very important for those who serve the homeless population
- Need to be realistic about solutions

#### **PATH Update – Courtney Reed, Assoc Director South Bay**

Ms. Reed reported the following:

- March 1, 2019 – April 30, 2019 statistics:
  - 134 new individuals engaged
  - 220 duplicated / 69 case managed
  - 22 referred to street-based mental health
  - 16 referred to street-based substance use specialist
  - 22 referred to street-based nursing care
  - 44 referred to CBEST, General Relief
  - 14 linked to interim housing
  - 3 moved into a home; 8 additional referrals
- LA-HOP calls:
  - 49 requests since launch; 49 closed; no requests are open
- Two success stories were shared

#### **SBCCOG update – Grace Farwell, Homeless Services Coordinator**

Ms. Farwell shared the following information:

- SBCCOG Executive Director and Homeless Services Coordinator continue to meet quarterly with SD2 and SD4 deputies; the most recent meeting took place on April 18<sup>th</sup>.
  - Help is needed to identify motels in the South Bay that might be willing to work with us to temporarily house those experiencing homelessness
  - Discussion about bringing showers to San Pedro and Redondo Beach
  - Hawthorne Senior Prevention Fair on June 4<sup>th</sup>
- Due to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday, the next meeting is scheduled for July 10<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m.

#### **Adjournment**