

South Bay Cities Council of Governments

Senior Services Working Group Meeting Notes

Tuesday, May 26, 2020 @ 9:30 am
Zoom Meeting

1. Welcome

Elected officials/representatives in attendance:

Council Member Britt Huff, Chair (Rolling Hills Estates, H.E.L.P.); Council Member Paulette Francis (Gardena); Council Member Olivia Valentine (Hawthorne); Erick Ponce-Furlos (Assembly Member Al Muratsuchi); Janet Turner (Representative Ted Lieu)

Others in attendance: Ryan Delgado (El Segundo); Christina Theobald (Gardena); Diane Brown (Hawthorne); Thomas Uwal (Inglewood); Kari Bell (Lawndale); Jan Buike (Manhattan Beach); Marcelle Herrera (Palos Verdes Estates/PVE-CARES); Kimberly Sanchez (Redondo Beach); Delia Aranda (Rolling Hills); Alexa Davis (Rolling Hills Estates); Debbie Reed (Torrance); Melissa Andrizzi-Sobel (Beach Cities Health District); Teri Neustaedter, Harriet Chase (League of Women Voters Beach Cities); Deb Ripley (Palos Verdes Library District); Fran Wielin (PV Peninsula Village); Ges Davis (South Bay Village/Torrance Commission on Aging); Bea Virobik (Focal Point on Aging/Torrance Commission on Aging); Anita Chun (Torrance Memorial Medical Center); Donna Benton, speaker (USC Caregiver Support Center/Stakeholder, CA Master Plan on Aging); Mutian Zhang (USC Graduate student); Jacki Bacharach, Grace Farwell, Steve Lantz, David Leger (SBCCOG)

2. Previous [meeting notes](#) (7/23/19, 9/24/19, 1/28/20) – posted on SBCCOG Senior Services Working Group webpage

3. PATH Update and SBCCOG Regional Coordination Activities Update

Courtney Reed was unable to attend the meeting; Grace Farwell provided the update

- PATH provides outreach and case management in the South Bay cities through a contract with SD2 and SD4; SBCCOG oversees contract
- With COVID-19, PATH outreach and case management has been limited due to teams being pulled to other operations
- Project Room Key (PRK) – collaborative effort between State, LA County, LAHSA
 - The goal of PRK is to get individuals living on the streets who are 65+ and/or with underlying chronic health conditions and not able to self-isolate into hotels and motels.
 - Must be asymptomatic
 - There are specific hotels in LA County that have been designated for those who tested positive
 - Courtney is currently overseeing a hotel for those who tested positive



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- There are 4 hotels in the South Bay – 1 in Lomita, 1 in San Pedro, and 2 in Lawndale
- County-wide, the goal is to provide 15,000 rooms for qualifying individuals; approximately 3,000 beds have been identified
- Residents in the hotels and motels must observe social distancing guidelines
- Provided with 3 packaged meals per day by contracted vendor; meals delivered by Disaster Service Workers; temperature is taken at mealtimes
- A service provider is attached to each site
 - Harbor Interfaith – Lomita site
 - Volunteers of America – San Pedro site
 - PATH – Lawndale site (1st hotel); do not know service provider at 2nd location in Lawndale
- Services provided at hotel sites: DMH, DPSS, DHS
- Goal is to get people document ready to get them into permanent housing and not back out onto the street once PRK is over
- Question: are all hotel rooms utilized by homeless? Or is the hotel also open for others? Answer: all rooms at a designated hotel are for those experiencing homelessness to be able to self-isolate
- Question: is there monitoring of drug and/or alcohol use? Answer: all participants sign a “contract” and agree to abide by the rules, including not using drugs or alcohol.
- Question: how do referrals work? Answer: all referrals are made through the service providers. Continue to use LA-HOP.org and make note that person(s) might be a good candidate for PRK. Contact Breanna Jajairam at Harbor Interfaith Services to make referral. Breanna oversees Individuals in the Coordinated Entry System (CES).
- FAQ for the [general public](#); FAQ for [city officials](#)
- SBCCOG Homeless Coordination
 - Handwashing stations have been deployed throughout SPA 8 by LAHSA
 - 5 in Inglewood
 - 2 in Redondo Beach
 - 1 in Hawthorne
 - 1 in Lawndale/El Camino Village
 - Other areas: West Carson, Harbor City, Wilmington
 - Hygiene funds through LA County have been made available to cities
 - Torrance rented 8 handwashing stations, located at parks throughout the city
 - Hawthorne rented 5 handwashing stations, located at parks throughout the city
 - Redondo Beach and Gardena are using funds for hygiene kits to include masks and hand sanitizers

4. Overview of State Master Plan on Aging

Donna Benton, Ph.D., Director, USC Family Caregiver Support Center/ LACRC; Member, State Health and Human Services Agency Stakeholder Committee for Master Plan on Aging provided an overview

- Master plan started planning process in August 2019

- 10-year plan for aging services throughout state of California
- In the first 6 months, legislation required committee members to provide Long Term Care Services and Supports (LTCSS) recommendation; was to go to Governor's office in March 2020
- LTCSS draft recommendation forwarded to Governor's office today – 5/26/2020
- Logo – California ALL
- LTCSS draft recommendation includes 5 objectives
 - Objective 1 – A system that all Californians can easily navigate
 - CA will have in place an understandable, easy to navigate linguistically and culturally responsive LTSS system
 - Both home and community-based and residential options
 - Californians will know how to quickly connect to services they need, no matter where they live or their economic status
 - Objective 2 – Access to LTSS in every community
 - CA will have the country's most comprehensive LTSS system where people and their caregivers can find and afford the services they need and choose, where and when they need them
 - CA must act urgently to fund statewide access to LTSS to ensure sufficient services exist to meet the growing needs of older adults and people with disabilities
 - Objective 3 – Affordable LTSS choices
 - CA will shift the historical bias for institutional care toward Home and Community-based Services (HCBS)
 - Statewide universal LTSS benefit program that helps people pay for the LTSS they choose, at home, in the community, or in residential settings
 - LTSS benefit program will be available to people at all income levels and will help delay or prevent the need for people to exhaust all their personal resources
 - Objective 4 – Highly valued, high-quality workforce
 - Recognizing personal preferences and labor market challenges, the state must: 1) provide maximum support to family caregivers who have additional jobs outside the family caregiving setting through family leave policies, including job protections, that allow unpaid caregivers the flexibility to continue to earn while providing needed family support and; 2) accelerate growth of the paid workforce to meet increasing demand for LTSS
 - To further address this challenge, public and private partners, including educational institutions, should commit to a statewide goal of attracting, training, and retraining workers to fill 1M high-quality direct care jobs. These jobs will be valued by providing livable wages and benefits, as well as training, education, and advancement opportunities. Intentional policy and budget actions will result in improved job retention and satisfaction, thereby leading to a more stable workforce with less turnover.
 - Objective 5 – Streamlined state and local administrative structures

- The CA Health and Human Services Agency will have a dedicated cross department unit focused on LTSS that has authority to develop an effective LTSS system that meets the needs of CA's older adults, people with disabilities, caregivers, and families
- Align administration of LTSS across departments; coordinate LTSS, including IHSS, to promote seamless access to services; promote integration and coordination of care for CA's Medi-Cal/Medicare enrollees; and drive innovation in LTSS service delivery

5. Update from Legislative Offices

Janet Turner, Congressman Ted Lieu's office:

- Waiting to see if Senate will take up HEROES Act
- Working on the following issues
 - Preventing evictions
 - Non-profit organizations getting PPE
 - Addressing homelessness
 - Help for landlords
- Every major department has a congressional liaison

Erick Ponce-Furlos, Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi's office:

- Case work related to DMV
 - Licenses have been extended 120 days for licenses expiring in June/July
 - Extending licenses for those 70+
 - For those 69 and younger, licenses extended through July 2020

6. City Response for seniors to COVID-19

- City staff provided updates on services being provided to their residents during COVID-19
- BCHD, PV Library, PVP Village, and South Bay Village provided updates on services being provided
- [Spreadsheet](#) of services is available on SBCCOG Senior Services Working Group webpage

7. Announcements and Follow-up Actions

- Jacki Bacharach provided the SBCCOG update:
 - SBCCOG is waiting to move into new office space in Torrance
 - Telework workshop; cities allowing employees to telework
 - Meeting regularly with Community Development Directors, Parks and Recreation Directors, Economic Development Directors, City Managers
 - South Bay Fiber Network under construction; expect to be operational July 1, 2020; scheduling lunch & learns – applications that cities can be doing

8. Next meeting – July 28, 2020