

South Bay Cities Council of Governments

Homeless Services Task Force (Zoom Meeting)

Wednesday, March 2, 2022, 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

MEETING VIDEO LINK: [March 2nd Meeting Video](#)

Meeting Notes *(submitted by Laurie Jacobs)*

Welcome and Introductions

Elected officials/representatives in attendance:

Council Member Tanaka (Gardena); Council Member Pimentel (El Segundo); Council Member Monteiro (Hawthorne); Council Member Suarez (Lawndale); Council Member Uphoff (Lomita); Janet Turner (Congressman Lieu); Jennifer LaMarque (SD4 Supervisor Hahn); Alexis Lauro, Caitlin Muldoon (CD15 Council Member Buscaino) Erick Ponce (Assembly Muratsuchi)

Others in attendance:

Jeanette Brown, Alan Greenlee, Arianna Jukes (SCANPH); Ashlee Oh (Los Angeles Homeless Initiative); Keith Bennett (Carson); Dianna Espinoza (Gardena); Jonathan Said, Mary Agnes Erlandson, Von Norris, Kimberly Mack (St. Margaret's Center, Hawthorne); Angela Crespi (Hermosa Beach); Lori Jones, Roberto Chavez (Inglewood); McKenzie Bright (Rancho Palos Verdes); Lila Omura, Angelica Zavala, Crystal Gutierrez (Redondo Beach); John LaRock, Jordon Stokes, Dave Zygielbaum (Torrance); Courtney Reed, Ana Abril-Urias (PATH); Shari Weaver, Max Estrada (Harbor Interfaith Services); Carielle Escalante (Rainbow Services); Nancy Wilcox (South Bay Coalition to End Homelessness); Melanie Aites (VA Care Giver); Craig Townsend (Harbor Mental Health Center); Jacki Bacharach, Ronson Chu, Laurie Jacobs, Jonathan Pacheco-Bell (SBCCOG)

January 5, 2022, meeting notes – Received and filed.

Meeting led by Council Member Tanaka from Gardena.

Service Provider Updates

PATH Services

Courtney Reed, Associate Director SPA 8, PATH
Ana Abril-Urias, Program Manager SPA8 Outreach, PATH
PRESENTATION LINK: [PATH Presentation](#)

Ana Bril-Urias presented information on the current PATH outreach teams, their schedules of outreach in the south bay along with updates on outreach data results, referral data, and a couple of wonderful success stories. Click on the presentation for details.

Challenges include short staffing, COVID restrictions with closed offices and shelters under quarantine, low affordable housing availability and waiting time period for voucher matches and issuance.

Future considerations are more affordable housing including senior housing with the South Bay Cities and continued exposure of LA-Hop usage within each city.

Dr. Coley King and his Venice Family Clinic team joined PATH's outreach team.

Ronson added that Dr. King is a legend in our communities as a big pioneer of street medicine in Venice. We are also looking at a pilot program on psychiatric mental health teams. Courtney mentioned that the Venice Family Clinic merged with South Bay Clinic. Dr. King will be working with PATH for street medicine.

Harbor Interfaith CES Update

Shari Weaver, SPA8 Director Coordinated Entry System (Families, Adults & Youth)

REPORT LINK: [Harbor Interfaith Presentation](#)

Shari gave an update on the 3 interim housing sites which are no longer under quarantine and have been successful in getting participants vaccinated. Between these sites, 66 people have been housed. See report link for all details.

1. CES Goal Attainment (Individuals) 7/1/2021-06/30/2022
 - a. Number of individuals assessed -- 173
 - b. Number of households housed through RRH & Recovery Rehousing-- 45
 - c. Number of chronically homeless single adults placed via HN – 31
 - d. Number of permanent housing placements – Torrance Housing Navigation – 13
 - e. Number of permanent housing placements – Redondo Beach HN - 6

2. CES Goal Attainment (TAY) 7/1/2021-06/30/2022
 - a. Number of households assessed – 11
 - b. Number of households housed in RRH - 9
 - c. Number of households who have retained housing through Prevention – 0 have not had any referrals – 2 problem solving cases retained housing with light financial assistance.

3. CES Goal Attainment (Families) 7/1/2021-06/30/2022
 - a. Number of Households assessed: 148
 - b. Number of households housed in RRH: 63
 - c. Number of households who have retained housing through Prevention: 13
 - d. Family System is also working with LB Housing Authority and has been able to connect 49 families to EHV S-8 and they have another 51 vouchers for families that are homeless in Long Beach

Southern California Association of Non-Profit Housing (SCANPH) www.scanph.org

Jeannette Brown, Senior Director, jbrown@scanph.org

Alan Greenlee, Executive Director, agreenlee@scanph.org

PRESENTATION LINK: [SCANPH Presentation](#)

SCANPH is a membership association of organizations and individuals dedicated to affordable housing and serves as the collective voice of the industry in political/policy contexts. The mission of SCANPH is to facilitate development of affordable homes across southern California by advancing effective public policies, sustainable financial resources, strong member organizations, and beneficial partnerships.

The presentation outline who they are, who they serve and what they do. This was a very in-depth presentation so review the slides at the link and/or listen to the video recording for all details.

Ronson Chu had a few questions. Our communities are concerned about the RHNA numbers, so he asked if there was information or playbook on how cities can have their RHNA numbers met through affordable housing development verses market rate development.

Alan advised they do have the staff capacity to have a conversation about a playbook. They can work with localities to explore a range of interventions and retain the information to create a library of information.

Ronson also asked about sharing regionally about build out, but this has sort of died so asked if this is still being discussed. Alan replied that the idea of sharing regional housing needs was not well received in the legislature. He does think more rigorous and significant incentives and penalties is where we are and does not see that going away soon.

Ronson also asked about identifying developers who could work with faith-based organizations who own their own property to build supportive housing. Alan shared experience with faith-based groups understanding and being willing to go through all the processes.

Housing Voucher Barriers and ways to combat landlord hesitancy

Laurie Jacobs, Analyst II, South Bay Cities Council of Governments

PRESENTATION LINK: [Myths vs Facts Barriers to Vouchers](#)

LACDA Housing Voucher Incentive Flyer: [LACDA Housing Vouchers](#)

HACLA Housing Voucher Incentive Flyer: [HACLA Housing Vouchers](#)

Laurie presented information on the issues and barriers stopping landlords from renting to tenants with housing vouchers along with the current landlord incentive bonus programs. The Emergency Housing Voucher program offers resources to quicker issuance of housing vouchers, but there is a huge shortage of available units to rent. We look to our community leaders as advocates for people with vouchers.

Innovation Fund Projects, Housing, and other Updates

Ronson Chu, Senior Project Manager, South Bay Cities Council of Governments

Ronson talked about the complexity of subsidy programs. We had a CORO Fellow put together a powerful tool (a work in progress) to more quickly sort through income subsidy programs which includes eligibility, disqualifications, demographics, and more details about each program. We have a goal to create an app to access this information more quickly.

The SBCCOG is in the final process of launching Client Aid 2.0, an extension of Client Aid 1.0 which was very successful having helped 13 people which led to housing for 11 of those people. Our new program will help backfill situations that cannot be helped fast enough with problem solving funds such as transportation costs, security deposits, furniture, welcome kits, etc.

Ronson shared updates on the Blue-Ribbon Commission (BRCH) which is getting to the point where they need to wrap up with concrete actions to be voted on. He has been collaborating with other COGs involved in the process. There needs to be a “shot caller” board, which could be made up of a variety of groups to be rolled into one group to be a decision maker. There is a movement in BRCH to move into this direction. Ronson compared this idea with actions taken in Houston who were able create a housing activation working group who have been successful in housing people in a shorter time frame. The next Round Table meeting is on March 9th.

Ronson reviewed eviction moratoriums and legal rights for tenants who must file an answer to a landlord eviction notice within 5 business days. Most tenants are unaware of their rights, and most do not have lawyers. UCLA built a Tenant Power Tool kit to educate tenants on their rights.

- Tenant Power Tool Kit <https://tenantpowertoolkit.org/> (This has also been added to the SBCCOG website under Homeless Services in the South Bay)
- Project Home Key (PHK) sites in SPA 8 (PSH – Permanent Supportive Housing)
 1. PSH at 716 S. Pacific Coast Hwy, Redondo Beach (20 units)
 2. PSH at 11834 Aviation Blvd, Inglewood (46 units)

3. PSH at 767 E Albertoni St., Carson, CA (36 units)
4. INTERIM at 111 South Gaffey St., San Pedro (60 units)

Legislative Updates

Janet Turner, Representative Congressman Lieu

Janet advises that Congressman Lieu joined Congressman Padilla in introducing the Housing for All Act. Some of the important provisions of this bill is it addresses affordable housing shortage by investing in the national housing trust fund, the home investment partnership program, section 202 housing for the elderly program and section 811 supportive housing for people with disabilities. It also investing in housing choice vouchers, project based rental assistance, emergency solution grant programs for rapid rehousing, outreach, emergency shelters, homelessness prevention, and continuum of care. It provides supporting innovative locally developed, approaches by investing in hotel and motel conversions to permanent supportive housing, investing in the eviction protection grant program and a mobile crisis intervention team. The bill was introduced on February 5th.

Jennifer LaMarque, Representative from Supervisor Hahn

Jennifer announced the Supervisorial district geographic changes that moves the beach cities to SD 2. Supervisor Hahn is funding the new Torrance Homeless Court program that they aim to have start in May. Initially this will be held virtually with the judge in the courtroom, but the participants and service providers will be offsite at the Ken Miller Recreation Center via Webex.

SBCCOG Updates – Jacki Bacharach, SBCCOG

We are planning our General Assembly conference which will be on March 24, 2022, from 8:30 – 1:30 at the Carson Community Center in just a few weeks. This will be a free in-person event with registration and exhibits. The theme will be “Back to the Future? Reimagining the South Bay”. Exciting news for this session is the event Chair, Drew Boyles, is an entrepreneur who has invited other entrepreneurs and investment capitalists to talk about how they look to the future. Jacki reviewed some of the panelists and speakers. The topic of climate change will also be included.

We received 150 responses to our new photo contest and the winner/s will be announced at the General Assembly.

Registration to this event is at: <https://southbaycities.org/event/22nd-annual-general-assembly/>

The SBCCOG is looking for event sponsors and ask for our help in getting the word out.

Announcements

Ashlee Oh, Los Angeles Homelessness Initiative

Link to Funding Recommendations: [LACHI Budget Recommendations](#)

Ashlee announced the County has been conducting a public process for the fiscal year 22/23 homeless initiative budget. The draft recommendations were released last week, and a public webinar was hosted. The County will host another public hearing on March 9th. Public comments may be submitted up until March 10th. On May 5th, the CEO will go to the full board with final funding recommendations. On May 17th, they will consider and deliberate. This process is two months faster than last year.

Ronson thanked Ashlee for being such a great partner.

Adjournment – next meeting is scheduled for March 5, 2022

2022 meetings: January 5, March 2, May 4, July 6, September 7, November 2