

## **CoC Membership Meeting**

March 20, 2017

Learning Partnership

1075 E. Santa Clara Street

San José CA 95116

**Attendees:** Leah Gronlund (Santa Clara Adult Education), Lynn Magruder (Community Solutions), Melody Boykins (Community Solutions), Erin Stanton (Office of Supportive Housing), Bob Dolci (Office of Supportive Housing), Lynn Morison (Abode Services), Eli Hamilton (HomeBase), Sasha Drozdova (HomeBase), Alejandra Herrera (Destination: Home), Rene Ramirez (HomeFirst), Kelly Hemphill (City of San José Housing Department), Robert Freiri (Housing Industry Foundation), Cathy Dreyer (LifeMoves), Lori Collins (LifeMoves), Veronica Almeda (BMC), Maria Gil (DWC/SUTS), Laura Foster (Bill Wilson Center), Sujatha Venkatraman (West Valley Community Services), Jan Stokley (Housing Choices), Consuelo Collard (Catholic Charities), Marie Bernard (Sunnyvale Community Services), Victor Lecha III (Office of Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren), Ky Le (Office of Supportive Housing), Jennifer Loving (Destination: Home), Hilary Barroga (Office of Supportive Housing), Jason Satterfield (Bitfocus), Jenn Ong (Bitfocus), Vanessa Beretta (City of San José Housing Department)

## **Welcome and Introductions**

Hilary Barroga welcomed attendees to the CoC Membership meeting. The goal of this meeting is to share information and provide updates on key initiatives and system performance. Attendees introduced themselves.

## **Celebrating Legacy Partners**

1. **Honoring Santa Clara Adult Education's Career Center** – Bob Dolci recognized Leah Gronlund and Santa Clara Adult Education's (SCAE) Career Center for their many years of hard work in the community. SCAE's Career Center was an active part of the CoC from the mid-1990s, hosting the Career Advantage and Retraining Project which helped people experiencing homeless with employment services. The CARP ended in 2016, and we honor the program and the staff for their years of hard work and commitment to serving people experiencing homelessness.
2. **Honoring Bob Dolci** – Ky Le recognized Bob Dolci for his many years of service to the community. Bob has been an active member of the CoC since the 1990s, including many pre-HEARTH years where he served as the CoC's chairperson or in other leadership roles. Bob will retire from the County at the end of June.

## **Community Accomplishments**

### **1. Community Plan to End Homelessness 2016 Annual Update**

Jennifer Loving (Destination: Home), Eli Hamilton (HomeBase), and Ky Le (Office of Supportive Housing) provided an update on implementation of the Community Plan to End Homelessness. 2016 marked year two of Santa Clara County's five year community plan to end homelessness.

2016 witnessed many exciting accomplishments in Santa Clara County. The presenters highlighted a summary of key accomplishments from the year:

***Strategy One: Disrupting Systems***

- Coordinated Entry: Implementation had just begun at the beginning of 2016. By the end of the year, there were 34 agencies conducting VI-SPDAT agencies, TAY VI-SPDAT implementation was underway by Bill Wilson Center, and planning was underway for referrals to transitional housing and emergency shelter. Thousands of households have now been assessed and hundreds referred to permanent housing programs.
- System Performance: 2016 saw an increasing focus on system performance, including the production of monthly system performance reports covering: length of time homelessness, returns to homelessness, overall reductions in homelessness, employment and income growth, reducing first time homelessness, successful housing placement, and implementation of the community plan.
- Joint RFP for Affordable Housing – The City of San José Housing Department, the County Office of Supportive Housing, and the Housing Authority pooled their resources to layer different types and sources of funding to offer a comprehensive funding opportunity to develop affordable housing with a focus on permanent supportive housing.
- Silicon Valley Water District – The District’s Board of Directors approved recommendations to declare certain District properties surplus and offer them to local jurisdictions for development of permanent housing and to allocate \$350,000 to a partnership to extend the Downtown Streets Team program, which employs people who are experiencing homelessness.
- All the Way Home: Initiative to End Veteran Homelessness – The campaign had many accomplishments in 2016: 138 new landlords, 81% VASH voucher utilization (increased from 63% a year ago due to intensive landlord engagement), 24 faith based partners, and 231 welcome home kits.

***Strategy Two: Building the Solution***

- As of the end of 2016, we met 25% of progress toward the 2020 goal of 6,000 additional housing opportunities. We are on track for a very ambitious goal.
- The Housing Authority was allocated 79 new VASH Vouchers from HUD. They have committed an additional 783 Section 8 vouchers to homeless households.
- New CoC grants will provide 134 permanent supportive housing units and 17 rapid rehousing units for domestic violence and trafficking survivors.
- Measure A passed! The \$950 million bond passed and \$700 million will go toward housing for extremely low income households. The bond is expected to support approximately 4,800 housing units.

***Strategy Three: Serving the Person***

- Destination: Home released an RFP for \$3.3 million for the development and implementation of a coordinated countywide system to prevent family homelessness. Funding goes through June 2019 and comes from public and private sources.
- Project Welcome Home – Santa Clara County’s first pay for success project for people experiencing chronic homelessness – provides permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless single adults with Assertive Community Treatment and a Housing First approach. In 2016, 112 people were housed with an 86% reduction in Valley Medical Center and emergency shelter usage six months after tenants were housed.

- Bill Wilson Center is developing a plan to end youth homelessness by 2020.
- Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program Application – although not funded, the collaborative application process supported development of stronger working relationships among public and private organizations, including participation of cross-sectoral groups such as CAST and the Children’s Agenda and creation of a Youth Housing and Homelessness Advisory Board (now a formal committee of the CoC).

The full 2016 annual update provides more detail and can be found on Destination: Home’s website: <http://destinationhomesc.org/>.

Ky Le provided a preview of things to come in 2017. By 2020 we want to be creating 3,600 new units of permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing. In order to get there, we need all of the cities in Santa Clara County to say yes to affordable housing development in their communities, we need a system that funds housing development, and we need a system that provides all of the necessary supportive services.

The County and the City of San José are increasing funding for rapid rehousing to fill gaps in the rapid rehousing system. In addition, the County and City are working with Destination: Home on the implementation of increased funding for homelessness prevention.

The Housing Ready Communities campaign will launch in July to support affordable housing development in every city within the county. The campaign will bring together a coalition of groups to conduct community education about affordable housing and reduce stigma and discrimination related to mental illness, disabling conditions, and homelessness.

The County, City of San José, and Housing Authority will continue to pool and coordinate resources. We need a pipeline of 120 projects over the next 10 years to implement the housing bond.

## **CoC Business**

### **1. System Performance:**

Erin Stanton provided an overview of the first year of implementation of coordinated entry in Santa Clara County. The first year of implementation covered November 15, 2015 – November 14, 2016. During this time, we implemented the VI-SPDAT and began making referrals from the community queue to rapid rehousing (RRH) and permanent supportive housing (PSH) programs. VI-SPDAT implementation began in November 2015 and referrals began in January 2016. As of November 14, 2016, 5,524 VI-SPDATs had been completed, representing 4,892 unduplicated households (4,323 individuals and 569 families with children). Of all VI-SPDATs, 32% matched to the PSH range, 47% to the RRH range, and 21% to minimal intervention. In the first year, 653 total referrals were made to 585 unduplicated households. 171 referrals were made to PSH programs and 482 to RRH programs. Of the 585 unduplicated households that received a referral, 65% enrolled in a program, 19% are pending, and 17% were denied and have not (yet) received an additional referral.

CoC members are invited to participate in the Coordinated Assessment Work Group. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month from 1:00pm-3:00pm at The Health Trust.

Erin Stanton shared a brief overview of system performance in calendar year 2016. The CoC created the Performance Management Work Group to develop and implement our community's performance management process, including monitoring progress toward community benchmarks. The goal for these measures is that they will help us assess the effectiveness of our entire system of care and how it operates as a system, not just evaluate each program independently.

The group reviewed system performance measures for calendar year 2016, including the annual HMIS shelter count, number of first time homeless people, returns to homelessness, and exits to and retention of permanent housing.

CoC members are invited to participate in the Performance Management Work Group. The next Work Group meeting will be Thursday, May 25<sup>th</sup> from 1:00pm-3:00pm at The Health Trust.

## **2. 2016 HUD CoC Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) Update**

Sasha Drozdova provided an overview of the 2015 HUD NOFA results. HUD released the NOFA for FY 2016 Continuum of Care programs on June 29, 2016. From July to August Santa Clara County ran a local competition of existing and proposed new CoC projects to create a ranked list for HUD. Santa Clara County's community application was submitted to HUD before the September deadline. On December 20<sup>th</sup>, HUD announced preliminary awards of \$1.95 billion to 7,600 housing and service programs across the nation. In making awards, HUD continued to emphasize performance based reallocation of projects to make room for new projects. Santa Clara County received an award of \$20,015,353, increasing its overall annual renewal demand by \$435,238 or 5.3%. In line with last year's cuts, HUD reduced Tier 2 funding in communities throughout the country. Santa Clara County lost some Tier 2 funding, including one permanent supportive housing project and three transitional housing projects. Overall, Santa Clara County performed well in the national competition, scoring above the median and receiving a greater percentage compared to Annual Renewal Demand than most other communities. We expect the 2017 NOFA to launch around May.

CoC members are invited to attend the next NOFA Committee meeting on Monday, March 27<sup>th</sup> from 1:00pm-3:00pm at The Health Trust.

## **3. CoC Governance Charter Annual Update**

The CoC must do an annual update to its governance charter. Neither the collaborative applicant nor the CoC board propose any changes this year. The charter was sent out via email for review.

Discussion: None

Motion/Second: Lynn Morison moved and Laura Foster seconded.

The update passed unanimously.

## **4. Update on HUD CoC Reporting**

- a. Status of 2017 Homeless Census and Survey** – Thank you to everyone who participated in or supported the 2017 Point-in-Time Count, which took place on January 24<sup>th</sup> and

25<sup>th</sup>. Census and survey data are now being analyzed and results will be released in June.

- b. Housing Inventory Count (HIC)** – Every year we do a count of all the shelter and housing beds in our community. It requires a lot of update and attention to ensure an accurate count. The HIC is due to HUD on May 1<sup>st</sup>. If you have received an email from Bitfocus asking you to confirm your HIC/PIT shelter count numbers, please respond ASAP to help us ensure an accurate count submitted on time to HUD.
- c. System Performance Measures Reporting** – We will submit system performance measures to HUD again this year. We did a baseline report last year and this year HUD will look for progress on the six measures we report. Reporting opens April 3<sup>rd</sup> and it is due to HUD by May 31<sup>st</sup>. We have the opportunity to revise the baseline, if necessary. Bitfocus will review both the baseline and current reporting period and work to make sure the data is complete and accurate.
- d. HUD CoC Annual Performance Report (APR) – Sage Repository** – This applies to HUD CoC program grantees. At next week’s NOFA committee we will do an overview of the new APR and how it is submitted. Going forward, data will be uploaded to HUD’s Sage repository, eliminating the need to do manual data entry for the APR. Sage opens April 1<sup>st</sup>. The report is available now in Clarity. If you have an APR due now and you are nervous about Sage, you may want to complete it prior to March 31<sup>st</sup> so that you can complete it in e-snaps. After March 31<sup>st</sup> you will no longer be able to submit it in e-snaps and must use Sage. There is training available from HUD.

## **Announcements**

There were two lost and found items left at last week’s training on mainstream benefits – a coat and a water bottle. Please contact the Office of Supportive Housing to retrieve them if they are yours.