

County of Santa Clara

Office of Supportive Housing

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Working Group Meeting Summary

Wednesday, May 23, 2018

10:30 am – 11:30 am

North County Shelter Facility
999 Hamlin Court
Sunnyvale, CA 94089

Meeting Attendees:

Amanda Olson, Downtown Streets Team
Charisse Ma Lebron, County Office of Supportive Housing
Cynthia Bojorquez, City of Sunnyvale
Cynthia Elliot, Our Daily Bread
Daniel Strickland, Sunnyvale Guest/Client Collaborative
David Hernandez, Sunnyvale Community Services
Donna Beres, Our Daily Bread
Glenn Fritz, ProofPoint, Inc.
Jelaine Smith, West Valley Community Services
Joseph Shin, City of Sunnyvale
Keisha Miller, Sunnyvale Community Services
Kelcy Fleming, HomeFirst Services of SCC
Kristina Loquist, Office of Board President Simitian
Laura Foster, Bill Wilson Center
Linda Jones, HomeFirst Services of SCC
Marie Bernard, Sunnyvale Community Services
Michelle Covert, County Office of Supportive Housing
Mila Romero, Sunnyvale Guest/Client Collaborative
Nicole Fargo Nosich, Community Services Agency
Samuel Wilborn, LifeMoves Opportunity Center
Shaunn Cartwright

Meeting Summary

- HomeFirst staff provided a brief update about the types of clients being served.
 - More families with children are being accommodated in the shelter. The families are being referred from different organizations and coming from multiple cities. A potential contributing factor to the increase in clients with families is because word is getting out that the shelter is a safe environment for families.
 - Shelter staff and service providers would like to consider early interventions with families since when they come to the shelter---they have only likely recently become homeless as a family unit.
- Sunnyvale Community Services staff expressed concerns with the limited options for day-time/drop-in centers, impacting their location when people loiter at their office for extended periods of time. HomeFirst staff expressed an interest in joining a meeting with OSH and Sunnyvale Community Services staff to discuss necessary programs and services to better meet the needs of families, as well as other facility needs requests.
- Sunnyvale Guest/Client Collaborative members and advocates shared additional comments regarding the needs identified from their survey of facility clients. Among the programs and services identified in the survey and via the meeting:
 - Additional Day/Drop-In Centers
 - Transportation Options
 - Structured/informal skills building programs and tasks, e.g. gardening and landscaping
 - Consider potential collaboration with unions for training and materials
 - Secure financial resources, fee waivers, and support for family activities and the City's Recreational Programs
- Glenn Fritz with ProofPoint, Inc. noted there have been no shelter-related concerns.
- OSH staff shared raw data regarding the demographics and facility utilization comparing winter operations and April / May utilization. The preliminary data collection is iterative of how OSH staff will work with its partners to monitor trends, identify higher-need populations (e.g. seniors), and will discuss options to better serve such populations. OSH staff will also be exploring ways to include additional details based on the group's questions and comments.

Updates

- A funding request to cover costs of expansion related construction work will be going to the Board of Supervisors on June 19th. Project construction will unlikely begin until early fall, owing to the required procurement process and procedures. OSH staff confirmed that the facility's electrical system has been assessed and will be undergoing necessary upgrades as a part of the facility's site expansion plan.
- OSH staff announced that the County Fleet & Facilities Department and LBA Realty are in the process of discussing a landscape improvement proposal, as an in-kind donation from LBA Realty.

Next Steps

- OSH staff will share the client survey findings with the group.
- OSH staff will review and refine data for next meeting.
- HomeFirst staff will join OSH and Sunnyvale Community Service for a meeting to discuss the needs of the growing number of unhoused families.
- The next Working Group meeting is scheduled for June 6th. OSH staff will follow-up with invitations and details.
- The next At-Large meeting is scheduled for May 30th. Working Group members will also receive information about the meeting.