



Siskiyou County Advisory Board Meeting

April 7, 2021

1:30pm – 3:00pm

Health and Human Services, Lavender Room

818 S. Main Street, Yreka, CA

1. Call to Order/Quorum Established/Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 1:36PM by Duane Kegg, Chairman. A quorum was established.

Present: Duane Kegg, Paul McCoy, Dr. Collard, Trish Barbieri, Jessica Skillen, Maddelyn Bryan.

On Zoom: Chris Betts, Trisha Boss, LeeAnn Culbertson, Supervisor Ogren, Denise Patterson, Sarah Springfield, Cynthia Ward, Bonnie Wood, Jacqueline Nushi.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from March, Attachment A

Dr. Collard motioned to approve minutes from March 1, 2021. Duane Kegg seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Public Comments (limited to 3 mins. per comment)

Michelle O’Gorman shared that the CoC awarded Emergency Solutions Grant funding to the Siskiyou Community Resource Collaborative. The grant will fund the continuation of a current case manager position.

4. Updates

a. Executive Board Update, Attachment B—Dr. Collard

Dr. Collard related that the Executive Board extended the NorCal CoC Strategic Plan to 2023 since the goals remain largely the same. She suggested that the Siskiyou County Advisory Board may wish to do the same. She requested that members review the current Strategic Plan and have a discussion at the next meeting. Additionally, Dr. Collard noted the Governance Charter Working Group proposed several changes to the current Governance Charter. She asked members to review changes and come prepared to vote at the next meeting.

b. PIT Committee Update—Duane Kegg

Duane Kegg recommended members read the draft of the 2021 PIT Report which is now available. He finds the health statistics particularly interesting.

5. Discussion

a. Summer Point-in-Time Count—Duane Kegg



Duane Kegg contended that a summer PIT-like count would show how homelessness truly impacts the county, given the major influx of homelessness during the warmer season. He believed it could benefit attempts to secure more funding for homeless services. Paul McCoy concurred on the usefulness of a summer PIT count. Duane offered to spearhead the effort. Paul agreed to assist him and noted that they could create a different, easier survey. It could include questions such as where individuals are from. He expects it will be helpful for learning about the growth in homeless numbers due to COVID. Dr. Collard desired to have HHSA involved in developing the questions if the summer PIT count happens. She queried whether the goal is to develop services for the flux population? Duane expressed the goal as identifying who the flux population is.

Duane Kegg noted it will be easier to access the homeless population once Yreka City has implemented the Urban Campsite project for the homeless. Duane is trying to spread this idea to other cities as well. He said the Urban Campsite will offer one, safe, controlled environment for people to gather. Duane stated that the summer PIT count would allow him to collect information that would benefit the cities and hopefully the county. Paul agreed it would be simpler to provide services such as vaccinations when the Urban Campsite is operational. Bonnie Wood expressed admiration for the idea of an Urban Campsite. She shared her curiosity about the costs and asked if funding might be available through FEMA or COVID relief funds. Trish Barbieri and Dr. Collard stated that, in their experience, FEMA would be an unlikely funding source for that project.

Lieutenant Chris Betts supported the idea of a summer PIT count and is willing to help. He informed members that violence is increasing in homeless camps. He requested that law enforcement be present for the count. Trish Barbieri explained that timing is everything for Social Services. Due to the moratorium on evictions lifting in July as well as a data conversion project, Social Services will be extremely busy and may not be able to provide support. Supervisor Ogren asked whether another PIT count would be redundant. Paul McCoy disagreed. He suggested that there would be different viewpoints in the summer and winter. Supervisor Ogren said they may as well conduct the summer PIT count for their own purposes as long as it does not incur financial costs. She voiced doubt that an unofficial PIT count would increase funding from the state or federal government. Duane Kegg stated it was a personal endeavor to learn as cities and provide for permanent residents. Supervisor Ogren enquired what specific data they sought. Duane responded that data was not necessarily the goal but a combination of collecting numbers and service information. He and Paul agreed that this project would only be useful if it translated into action.

Sarah Springfield held that a summer PIT count would be quite helpful for developing a series of youth services. She maintained that any additional data could be useful for private organizations. Duane suggested it could help the Karuk Tribe. Cindy Ward affirmed the necessity of knowing how many people need services and who these people are. Sarah Springfield offered to leverage Youth Empowerment Siskiyou's volunteer network for this project. LeeAnn supported the idea of a summer PIT count as the Food Bank has more customers in the summer. Dr. Collard motioned to approve the summer PIT count for this year.



as a pilot. Cindy Ward seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Duane thanked members for their insights and stated he will begin planning the project.

b. MHSA Community Plan, Attachment C—Dr. Collard

Dr. Collard shared that Behavioral Health is currently updating the MHSA Plan. She noted this process is supposed to be community-driven and referenced the PowerPoint (included in the agenda) for more information. Dr. Collard explained that while MHSA has a broad focus, certain programs and services pertain to homelessness. She reminded members that Maddelyn Bryan sent out an MHSA survey and encouraged them to further distribute it among the community. She directed people to reach out to her with any questions. LeeAnn asked when the deadline for completion was. Dr. Collard replied that it was undetermined.

c. Members/Alternates for the Advisory Board—All

Dr. Collard requested voting members identify an alternate in case they are unable to attend a meeting of the Board. This would help prevent recent issues with establishing a quorum. Maddelyn Bryan further informed the Board that membership applications should be on file according to the membership policies of the CoC. She asked members to send their original application or fill out a new one and send it.

d. Feedback on Survey, Attachment D—All

Maddelyn Bryan reminded members that HHSA had discussed a survey for homeless individuals during the prior Advisory Board meeting, asking members to review it and provide feedback. Members did not comment. Dr. Collard questioned if members would accept having Maddelyn and herself edit the survey according to their best judgement. Members did not comment.

e. Informational Speakers—Maddelyn Bryan

Maddelyn Bryan shared the results of a survey she had sent out to the Advisory Board/Homeless Coalition on topics for informational presentations. There were 7 responses in total. The two topics of greatest interest to respondents were Permanent Supportive Housing and Affordable Housing Development. Maddelyn sought direction from the Board on the appropriate next steps. Dr. Collard asked what the format would be, given that discussions usually exhaust the full time allotted for meetings. Duane Kegg proposed the Board decide on format before seeking guest speakers. Dr. Collard recommended members also consider how to involve and disseminate information to the public, requesting this be an agenda item at the next meeting.

7. New Business

a. Approval of Christina Brown's Membership on the Advisory Board, Attachment E



Dr. Collard motioned to approve Christina Brown as a voting member of the Advisory Board. Cindy Ward seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

8. County Updates

Jessica Skillen updated the Board on her county-wide work through Public Health, including a harm reduction grant, health education, and a syringe disposal program. She shared results from a Public Health survey; notably, the survey asked about drug use. Jessica also provided fentanyl test strips to individuals experiencing homelessness. Many drug users found traces of fentanyl; people had been overdosing as a result. Jessica advised the Board that, for outreach purposes, she has funds, resources, and public trust.

Trish Barbieri communicated that Social Services continues to house homeless individuals impacted by COVID-19 through the Whole Person Care Grant and to operate the CalWORKs Housing Support Program.

Dr. Collard apprised the Board of a conversation she and Maddelyn had with United Way regarding the potential use of 211 for Coordinated Entry; a current barrier to this option is that 211 is not fully implemented in Siskiyou County.

Dr. Collard notified members that HHSA was awarded both HHAP-2 and ESG CV1&2 funds to provide rental assistance and emergency shelter. Additionally, the score Siskiyou County received on the NPLH application was 10 points higher than the county's self-given score.

Denise Patterson reported that the Yreka Food Bank is still doing food bags and also received an influx of blanket/sheet donations. Duane Kegg said a citizen gave him ten shirts from the cancelled blackberry festival. Denise offered to find them a home.

Dr. Collard asked if the Board was aware of the Housing is Key website and the new rental relief program; HHSA will send out the link.

9. Discussion Items for Next Meeting

Denise Patterson shared she is the Chair of the Emergency Food and Safety Board. She offered to look into the funding sources through this program to assess whether any would be appropriate for the Advisory Board's homeless assistance initiatives.

10. Adjournment

Duane Kegg adjourned the meeting at 3:18PM.

Next Meeting
May 5, 2021



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