



**Siskiyou County Advisory Board Meeting
January 5, 2022
1:30pm – 3:00pm
Red Oak Room, Behavioral Health, 2060 Campus Drive, Yreka**

Call to Order/Quorum

1. Established/Introductions

Duane Kegg, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 1:35pm. A Quorum was established.

Present: Cindy Ward (member), Dr. Collard (member), Duane Kegg (member), Denise Patterson (member), Jon Patterson, Christina Brown (member), Trish Barbieri (member), Jason Ledbetter, Ben Whetstine, Adam Crisci, Maddelyn Bryan.

On Zoom: Nancy Ogren (member), Stacey Green, Seth Fortna-Hanson, Paul McCoy, Susan Cervelli, Sara Spence.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from December, Attachment A

Cindy Ward motioned to approve the minutes from December 1, 2022. Denise Patterson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Maddelyn Bryan shared she reached out to Sara Spence from the Karuk Housing Authority on behalf of the Advisory Board. Maddelyn said Sara Spence expressed a willingness to join the Board.

4. Updates

a. Executive Board Update—Trish Barbieri

Trish Barbieri communicated that the last Executive Board meeting covered a range of topics, including collaboration, the rating and ranking process for grant applications, the 2022 Point-In-Time (PIT) Count, and possible modifications to the Governance Charter. She reported that the 2022 PIT must be a full count of both the sheltered and unsheltered homeless populations. Trish added that certain counties had passionate views about the CoC's funding allocation method. Shasta County proposed using a total population count rather than the PIT Count. Representatives from Plumas County and Sierra County vocalized their disapproval of this recommendation. They asserted the funding is for the homeless population not the total population. The Lead Agency staff researched this option and found that Shasta County and Siskiyou County would receive less funding according to this method.



Dr. Collard asked if the Board had any feedback on the funding allocation method that she should share with the Executive Board. Duane Kegg expressed disapproval for Shasta County's proposed method. Duane explained that he is trying to convince the other counties to join him in conducting a summer Point-In-Time Count to capture the transient population. Dr. Collard described different methods for weighting funding, included Medi-Cal numbers and poverty rates. Maddelyn noted that the CoC's funding is frequently undersubscribed. She recommended the CoC examine ways to make the process less cumbersome. As an example, she highlighted the recent process for the HHAP-2 grant that included a project proposal and rating/ranking stage before the application submittal. Trish Barbieri suggested the CoC could structure the funding process similarly to CDSS programs. CDSS provides a base allocation amount and the remaining funds are competitive.

Dr. Collard noted there is substantial funding available but Siskiyou County providers do not have the infrastructure in place to expend it efficiently. The issue is that the funding is not consistent. Hence, it is challenging to develop consistent services. Duane agreed, stating Yreka City needs more staff in order to secure funding.

Responding to Duane's prior comment on the transient homeless population, Trish said she read an article about summer PIT Counts. It suggested the transient populations are captured elsewhere during the regular count. Duane replied that the Board would certainly have to consider the purpose and strategy of doing a summer PIT count.

Dr. Collard asked if law enforcement had any input on whether to include outlying areas in the PIT Count. Ben Whetstine said he does not think there are many individuals in the outlying areas. Duane pointed out that people staying in those areas do not necessarily consider themselves as homeless. Adam Crisci agreed, adding that some homeless individuals in the Weed area also consider it a choice and prefer a transient lifestyle.

b. Point-in-Time Count—Duane Kegg

Duane reminded the Board that last year the CoC did not conduct an unsheltered count. This year a full count is required. He shared that the surveys were not finalized yet and that the CoC was working to align the app more closely with the paper survey due to the discrepancies that arose last year. He conveyed that the surveys should be ready next week. He compared the current draft to last year's survey, noting this year's is lengthier. Duane added that he is seeking volunteers to assist with the unsheltered count.

Duane continued to discuss the logistics, inquiring about the possibility of providing food for participants. Denise suggested they survey individuals at the location of meal services. She shared that there were more households than meals available at the last one so it would provide an excellent opportunity to capture more numbers. Board members expressed enthusiasm for this idea.

Maddelyn asked Duane if the survey could include the additional questions she sent him from Public Health. These questions pertained to the homeless population's perspective on the Covid



vaccine. Trish thought the Board could consider the PIT Count as an opportunity to collect any additional data needed to serve this population. She suggested the Board call a special meeting to discuss and approve additional questions. Duane welcomed this idea but reminded everyone that it would have to be separate from the official PIT survey. Trish said this would not be on the official survey but would be a supplemental questionnaire.

5. Discussion

6. New Business

a. Action Item: Declaring 30 Day State of Emergency Pursuant to AB 361, Beginning January 6, 2022—All

Duane motion to continue the state emergency for another 30 days. Dr. Collard seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

a. HDAP and Home Safe letters, Attachments B and C—Trish Barbieri

Trish shared there were two new funding sources available to the county, referencing the attached letters. These allocations had a requirement to notify housing service partners/providers. She mentioned the county has an allocation \$250,000 for each program. One is for the Adult Protective Services population and the other is for those who may be eligible for disability benefits. Trish also gave members notification that another community letter would be forthcoming for the county's Housing Support Program (HSP). She said Siskiyou County received close to 1.5 million to continue the program.

Nancy Ogren inquired about the intended population and the spending deadline for the HSP allocation. Trish responded that the funding was for the duration of the fiscal year and the program served eligible families in the CalWORKs cash-aid program. Nancy queried if it allowed for the purchase of tiny homes. Trish replied in the affirmative, but said there are strict limits on the amount allowed for this purpose. Dr. Collard added that there are issues with staffing to maintain that type of housing. It is incredibly time-consuming and labor intensive. Nancy further inquired if the funding covered staffing costs as well as whether it was one-time or ongoing. Trish shared that HSP allows for some staffing expenses. However, the program is clear that the majority of funding is for direct services and there is a cap on administrative expenses.

Dr. Collard commented that there is a consistent statewide issue with one-time funding for housing services. She shared that Maddelyn created a proposal for a housing unit with the intention to hire additional staff until the state finds a longer-term solution. Nancy expressed frustration that it is challenging to initiate projects in these circumstances. Trish noted that Social Services included staff expansion in the HSP plan. They plan to hire a new Social Worker Supervisor as well as a Program Manager. She shared that Ms. Cervelli has been working with "boots on the ground" because the housing need is so great.

Duane expressed frustration that Yreka City has not had the capacity to secure and administer funds to serve the homeless.



b. Action Item: Appointment of Vice Chair—Duane Kegg

Duane admitted his attention is pulled in many directions and asked for a volunteer to fill the Vice Chair position. Duane and Maddelyn both assured members that the position required limited involvement. Since there were no volunteers, Duane decided to defer the item until the next meeting.

c. Action Item: Removal of absent Members—Duane Kegg

Duane motioned to remove Chris Betts and Jennifer Reynolds from the Advisory Board due to chronic absence from meetings. Denise seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

7. County Updates

Dr. Collard shared that the county opened a temporary warming shelter over the weekend, a project that the county has never done before. She communicated that staff were amazing and rose to the challenge in just a few hours. They organized the shelter in the Red Oak room at Behavioral Health, serving coffee and meals. Dr. Collard credited Nancy Ogren as the driving force behind this idea. Cindy Ward asked how many individuals accessed the warming shelter. Dr. Collard recalled that about twenty persons took shelter there. Nancy said she reached out to Shelly Davis, encouraging Public Health to administer vaccines at the warming shelter. Shelly thought it was a good idea should the occasion arise again.

Maddelyn shared that the county applied for the second allocation from the Permanent Local Housing Allocation program.

Trish Barbieri noted that Social Services currently has been very busy with ten different funding sources for homeless services, including services for families, foster youth, and emergency shelter.

8. Discussion Items for Next Meeting

Duane requested the item on the Vice Chair position as well as the approval of new voting members be on the next agenda. He also asked for agenda items on the PIT Count, the Urban Campsite, and Beacon of Hope.

Trish requested that the HSP letter be added to the next agenda.

Discussed ensued about the lack of public awareness regarding homeless services and the spread of misinformation.

9. Adjournment



Duane motioned to adjourn the meeting at 3:29pm. Trish seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Next Meeting

February 2, 2022

1:30pm-3:00pm

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