



Siskiyou County Advisory Board Meeting

March 2, 2022

1:30pm – 3:00pm

Red Oak Room, Behavioral Health, 2060 Campus Drive, Yreka

Call to Order/Quorum

1. Established/Introductions

Present: Duane Kegg (Member), Dr. Collard (Member), Sasha Hight, Jason Ledbetter, Paul McCoy, Cindy Ward (Member), Nancy Ogren (Member), Robert Cowan, Brittany Collier (Member), Jon Patterson, Denise Patterson (Member), Mark Gilman, Emily Aldrich, Cal Conklin, Maddelyn Bryan.

On Zoom: Kyle Walton, Michelle O’Gorman (Member), Trish Barbieri (Member), Keith Anderson (Lead Agency), Sarah Springfield (Member), Aaren Gushwa, Jessica Skillen, Darlene Navarro, Hollie Zander (Lead Agency), Sara Spence, Jaclyn Disney (Lead Agency), Susan Cervelli, Ann Escobar.

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

2. Approval of Special Meeting Minutes from January and Meeting Minutes from February

Denise Patterson motioned to approve the minutes from January 19, 2022, and February 2, 2022. Dr. Collard seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

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

Jason Ledbetter shared that Yreka is considering applying for the Permanent Local Housing Allocation (PLHA) program. Yreka is also exploring the option of applying on behalf of other local cities as well. He explained that staff are assessing the feasibility of administering the grant. Emily Aldrich noted that the pooled funding totaled an estimated 2.6 million dollars. She added that Yreka is seeking input from the Board on current projects, funding priorities, and support/partnerships for administering the program. Dr. Collard replied that the county already applied for its allocation from the PLHA program. The first year’s allocation will be devoted to construction costs for Siskiyou Crossroads and the remaining allocations will fund services for the residents. Jason inquired about who completed reports for the program. Dr. Collard responded that Maddelyn Bryan was doing the reporting, but a consultant, Housing Tools, helped prepare the original application.



Michelle O’Gorman reminded partners that the Yreka Resource Center utilized a HEAP grant to fund a housing case manager for two years and continued the position with ESG-CV monies. She informed partners that the Resource Center fully expended the funding and moved the case manager, Curtessa Martinez, to another position in the organization. Michelle requested that partners no longer refer individuals to the housing program.

4. Updates

a. Executive Board Update—Dr. Collard and Trish Barbieri

Dr. Collard said the Executive Board discussed the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Round 3 (HHAP-3) grant and continued the conversation on updating the Governance Charter. Topics included the funding methodologies for HHAP-3 and ESG. Given the challenges that the CoC and counties experienced with the short timeline for ESG, the Executive Board decided on a new process for providers to apply directly to the state for that program.

Trish Barbieri provided an update from the Executive Board Special Meeting held on February 24, 2022. The purpose of the meeting was to select a consultant to prepare the Homelessness Action Plan for the HHAP-3 application. Two consultants submitted proposals. The Executive Board selected Housing Tools who has worked with several counties in northern California. Dr. Collard added that HHSA has used Housing Tools’ services for several years and she cannot overstate how helpful they are.

5. Discussion

a. Siskiyou Crossroads presentation for Yreka Council—Supervisor Ogren

Supervisor Ogren thanked Dr. Collard for her presentation to the Yreka City Council on the Siskiyou Crossroads project. Previously, Supervisor Ogren had discussed with Dr. Collard the need for community outreach and education about what this project means for the county. She had concerns the community perceived the project as lacking transparency. Supervisor Ogren exclaimed that the presentation was well worth the effort as community concerns appeared to have calmed down since then. She expressed pride in supporting the project. Duane confirmed that the presentation was well-received. Duane found it helpful to hear testimonies from staff with lived-experience. Jason highlighted that the presentation was only for informational purposes. Due to by right laws, the project did not require further discretionary action from the City Council. However, the community did not understand that entirely. Paul McCoy concurred with Duane’s sentiments. Dr. Collard said she expects the project to break ground this month. She invited all to attend the ceremony and promised to share the details when available.

b. Emergency Warming Shelter for Yreka—Jason Ledbetter

Jason shared that recent Yreka City Council meetings have focused on the need for a warming shelter. Yreka’s current plans have reached the limit of what is possible without partnerships. He enquired if the Advisory Board was the proper forum to continue developing a plan to bring to the City Council. Jason admitted that, while Yreka is willing to assist with costs for the warming



shelter, the city is unable to operate it. Duane remarked that the Beacon of Hope shelter will cover some, though not all, of the need for a warming shelter once it opens. Dr. Collard asked what the shelter's capacity will be. Michelle replied that it would accommodate fourteen individuals. Returning to Jason's question, Dr. Collard opined that the Advisory Board was the right place to discuss a warming shelter since it included all of the local service providers. However, she suggested that a subcommittee or workgroup would be most efficient. She recommended that Public Health and the Office of Emergency Services be included in the workgroup. Jason proposed to organize a meeting for this purpose with Dr. Collard and any other individuals willing to participate. Duane instructed members to contact Maddelyn if they wanted to be involved in coordinating the warming shelter.

Cal Conklin provided points of consideration for a homeless shelter based on his experience volunteering with the tailgaters who provide food for the homeless. He noted that what works for one individual experiencing homelessness might not help another. People have different needs and persons from one encampment relate differently to persons in another camp. He proposed planning for a selection of options. Jason commented that while it might be ideal to have multiple locations, working in government involves compromise and his goal is to start with one shelter. Dr. Collard agreed that Cal made an important point. She explained that COVID forced providers to transition from congregate to non-congregate sheltering which is becoming a standard model.

c. Long-Term all-age Shelter in Yreka—Jason Ledbetter

Jason asserted that the homeless crisis in Yreka would not disappear with inaction. He maintained that the city and community would be forced to build a shelter sooner or later. Dr. Collard observed that his initiative on this issue was well-timed since the CoC would be preparing a Homeless Action Plan for the HHAP-3 grant application. Jason queried if it would be best to wait for this document to be completed before planning for a long-term shelter. Maddelyn inserted that it was not necessary to wait and would probably be prudent to start planning immediately. She reasoned that the HHAP-3 and other grant applications would be due shortly after the action plan and the granting agencies would want to see a concrete project already in place for proposed uses. Dr. Collard added that there are myriad other funding sources available in addition to HHAP-3.

Trish Barbieri reminded those interested in HHAP-3 and other state or federal funds to prepare for the threshold requirements which included utilization of HMIS.

Cal said that timing should be a consideration in the development of a shelter plan. In his frequent interactions with individuals experiencing homelessness, he has noticed that the timing of services makes a significant difference. For example, when the weather is inclement, people want to access a service immediately that they otherwise would not accept. Cal expressed hope that, after learning how to establish a shelter, the Board would be able to quickly replicate it. Cal recalled that local churches provided shelter before COVID and proposed they may offer assistance again in the future. Jason expressed gratitude for the churches' past efforts but maintained that it was not their responsibility to solve homelessness. He anticipated the



situation called for a professional provider. Denise thought it unlikely the churches would be able to function as shelters again due to insurance complications. Brittany Collier wondered if the churches could use volunteers to fill the staffing needs of the shelter. Jason countered that it would be safer to have professionally trained, paid staff. He shared a plan to work with county staff to attract a homeless service provider to Siskiyou County who could operate a shelter. He ultimately would like to create a system for consistently passing homeless service funds through to a provider.

6. New Business

a. Action Item: Declaring 30 Day State of Emergency Pursuant to AB 361, Beginning March 10, 2022—All

Supervisor Ogren motioned to continue the state of emergency. Denise seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Action Item: Appointing New Voting Members—Duane Kegg

Duane announced that Mark Gilman, the Chief of Police at Yreka City, was willing to represent law enforcement on the Board and asked Maddelyn to send him the application. Maddelyn added that Sarah Spence from the Karuk Tribe Housing Authority had accepted the invitation to join the Advisory Board. Unfortunately, Maddelyn did not receive the completed application until after posting the agenda. Cindy Ward requested to review the applications for both prospective members before voting. Members differed the action item until the next meeting.

c. HHAP-3 Presentation—Keith Anderson

Keith Anderson presented on the upcoming HHAP-3 grant. He reported that the CoC and all seven counties in the jurisdiction have decided to submit one joint application. Duane thanked Keith for the information. Maddelyn requested Keith email the slides from his presentation and promised to forward them to Board.

7. County Updates

There were no county updates.

8. Discussion Items for Next Meeting

Duane requested that the approval of new voting members be on the agenda.

Jason asked if Brittany would present information on homeless youth in Siskiyou County. Brittany consented to provide information on the latest data from the Office of Education.

9. Adjournment



The meeting adjourned at 3:21pm.

Next Meeting

April 6, 2022
1:30pm-3:00pm

If requested, the agenda shall be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12132), and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof. **You may contact 530-841-4019 for disability-related modifications or accommodations, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to participate in the public meeting.**