

**LEADERSHIP COUNCIL**

Tom Schwedhelm, Chair  
Mark Krug, Vice Chair  
Julie Combs  
Susan Gorin  
Lynda Hopkins  
Gabe Kearney  
David Kuskie  
Rebekah Sammet  
Don Schwartz



**LEAD AGENCY**  
Sonoma County  
Community Development Commission  
1440 Guerneville Road  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

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HOME Sonoma County  
System Funding Task Group Meeting  
August 8, 2019 | 2:00 – 3:00  
SAY Dream Center, 2447 Summerfield Road, Santa Rosa, Multi-Purpose Room

**MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order – 2:00**

Task Group Chair Chuck Fernandez called the meeting to order at 2:00pm

**2. Task Group Members Present:** Katrina Thurman, Steven Sotomayor, Colleen Carmichael, Mary Haynes, Beth Henigan, Andrea Garfia

**City of Santa Rosa Staff Members Absent:** Kelli Kuykendall

**Home Sonoma County Staff Members Present:** Chuck Mottern

**3. Approval of Current Agenda**

All reviewed and approved the agenda

**4. Approval of Minutes**

All reviewed and approved the minutes of July 11, 2019 Meeting

**5. New Business**

a. Information on Foundation and Large Businesses:

A list of the Foundations who fund Homelessness in California was distributed. A list of the largest businesses in California and in Sonoma County was also distributed. Colleen noted that Foundations could be contacted and larger grants could be written with a solid proposal. This would support the best organization to apply for the funding. Katrina noted that we do not know what the grants are and noted that collaborative applications with a lead agency would help with competitiveness. We need to identify who is more suited to apply. Chuck noted that the gaps should be identified for the three top needs to prioritize and then collaborative applications could be submitted. The point in time count should be used to identify where the needs in the County are. Katrina noted that there is not always the awareness of who holds what contacts.

Perhaps the need should be a collaborative application to get a mental health housing organization to develop a program to get housing together for that population. Stigmatized subpopulations are difficult and funding such as Whole Person Care is happening. There is a need for PSH. Perhaps a Housing Authority representative could come to the meeting to talk and answer questions. A subsidized voucher pool could be discussed by Martha. What are the number of vouchers and what are the requirements? What paperwork might be reduced to facilitate people getting into housing? Some counties look at the voucher as income. There is a state bill that can formalize this at the state

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level. Whole person care is a process to certify who is most vulnerable who needs assistance to get into Sonoma County Behavioral Health. Bureaucratic challenges exist to entry and services for intense case management can give you only one hour a week. Housing first challenges. The Palms has 60 /40 VASH and HOST vouchers. LA county and some nonprofits have had a line item in budgets to deal with damages to units. Colleen noted frustration that there is no support to organizations. Challenges with Behavioral Health were noted and the lack of funding for Mental Health clients. Does the group want to focus on Mental Health? 150 Mental Health slots in Sonoma County. Drug Medical can provide support for mental health services and housing, and AOD treatment. Sonoma County cannot be billed by Sonoma County. This could be a challenge that many clients are not getting services.

### b. Mental Health Program:

The group decided to learn more about whole persons care program, and how is this funding source accessed. Important to state the need and get an idea of drug MediCal billing rules and procedures. SAY bills drug MediCal but there are challenges with the system. Behavioral Health and Homeless Services have divergent goals. The question about how whole person care needs to be answered. Cruz Lopes can be invited to a meeting or Bill Carter or Barbie Robinson. Marin County also has a Whole Person Care project and may be able to come up and see what can be possible in another county. Application for mental health and medical staff for the HOME Sonoma County Homeless.

Whole Person Care will not be at the next meeting but maybe at the October meeting. Perhaps Barbie Robinson can come to answer some questions and concerns. Alena Wall from Kaiser will be joining the group. Erika Klohe from St. Joseph would also be a good addition to the group. Also undocumented citizens and homeless and how we can increase service utilization for undocumented person and if any funding. People who need subsidies may be available to someone who is undocumented and need services.

Chuck will email Dan Schurman to ask if it is ok for Erika to join the group. Chuck will also email Barbie to see if she is available for the September or October meeting to talk about the Mental Health System and Care. Group decided that to have a more productive meeting with Barbie, we should determine questions in advance and send to her.

## 6. Adjourn

Chair Chuck Fernandez adjourned the meeting at 3:00. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, September 12.

Respectfully submitted Chuck Mottern, Homeless Service Funding Coordinator, Sonoma County Community Development Commission; Chuck Fernandez, CEO, COTS