Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board
Agenda Report (Consent Calendar)

Item No: 1 (Consent Calendar)

Subject: Summary of Items on the Consent Calendar

Meeting Date: September 28, 2022

Staff Contact: Michael Gause, Ending Homelessness Program Manager, Michael.Gause@sonoma-county.org

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Summary

This staff report briefly summarizes items proposed for the CoC Board meeting's Consent Calendar. All items will be approved with one motion (following a second, as well as public comment on Consent Calendar Items) except for those items removed from the Consent Calendar for separate discussion and action.

Recommended Action(s)

Approve the items on the Consent Calendar

Discussion

Items on the Consent Calendar include:

1. The meeting's **proposed agenda.** The agenda contains all items that will be discussed by the Continuum of Care Board at today's meeting. **The agenda is attached as Attachment A.**

2. The **minutes** from the last or previous meeting(s). The minutes reflect a general summary of the previous meeting's (or meetings') activities and are not intended to reflect verbatim comments. **The minutes are attached as Attachment B.**

3. A **summary of follow-ups** from the previous meeting(s). At the previous meeting, CoC Board members and others asked for the Lead Agency staff to follow up on the following questions or comments.

   a. **Definition of equitable distribution of services:** Still pending. Landing on what equitable distribution of services (including what "services" are) means involves a broader discussion

between members of the Continuum of Care that include the County of Sonoma, cities, the Strategic Planning effort, service providers, and more.

b. **Summary Calendar of Funding Guidance/Decisions** that either the CoC Board or the CoC's Funding and Evaluation Committee will see in the coming 9 months. This document, shown as **Attachment C**, provides staff's summary of those funding items that will come before the CoC board. It's an estimate right now based on what we know at the time of this meeting.

c. **CoC Competition detailed overview that was shared with the Board of Supervisors.** To learn more about HUD Continuum of Care Contracts, review **Attachment D**.

d. **An update on Built for Zero's meeting schedule.** It is vital that all members of BFZ participate in the required meetings. Lead Agency staff will send out Outlook calendar reminders of these sessions. As a reminder:

   i. **COHORT CALLS.** These include all local BFZ team members, including the Guiding Coalition (Outer Group) and the Improvement Team (Inner Group). These meetings are:
      1. 9/14/22 – Noon (we note here that turnout was bad. It is critical that all team members attend or designate someone who can <u>consistently</u> attend in their stead).
      2. 10/12/22 – Noon
      3. 11/9/22 – Noon

   ii. **ONE ON ONE COACHING.** These are set for December 2022 and January 2023, with more details to be added.

   iii. **SMALL GROUP CALLS.** These are for the Improvement Team (Inner Group) and are set for:
      1. 9/27/22 – 11:00 a.m.
      2. 10/25/22 – 11:00 a.m.
      3. 11/29/22 – 11:00 a.m.

4. **Stability Vouchers Commitment Letter.** On August 16, 2022, US HUD announced their new **Stability Voucher** (SV) program (for more information, link here). Stability vouchers are "designed to encourage a community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness." SVs can assist homeless persons, persons fleeing domestic violence, veterans, and others. To successfully compete, our two public housing authorities (PHAs) (Santa Rosa Housing Authority [SRHA] and Sonoma County Housing Authority [SCHA]) need to partner with local health and housing agencies to "leverage mainstream housing and healthcare." PHAs also are encouraged "to partner with CoCs to support efforts to address unsheltered homelessness, including committing available vouchers and public housing units to these efforts. HUD seeks to prioritize PHAs to receive SVs who are partnering with CoCs on this effort." Both the SRHA and the SCHA are interested in securing SVs, if available. To that end, the attached letter (**Attachment E**) states

the CoC's intent to work with the PHAs in developing appropriate supportive services for the SVs if they are secured.

Board members may ask, "why apply for SVs even as we have challenges with our EHVs and with supportive services?" The main reason is that oftentimes when US HUD announces a new program, it can later screen out (from subsequent rounds) those agencies that never applied for the first round. Staff at the PHAs and Lead Agency believe that this may be the case with SVs – we may not be able to secure them in this initial round, but we are helping our case for future rounds should conditions change.

5. **CoC Board Advocacy Relating to Reducing Barriers for Affordable Housing.** Relatively new as a part of the recurring HUD Continuum of Care competition, the CoC is scored on how the CoC has advocated for or otherwise worked to encourage the production of more affordable and market rate housing in the CoC's region. To this end and for the future period of October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023, there is an opportunity for for the Continuum of Care Board to send letters of support to those jurisdictions who are pursuing the State of California's most proactive housing position – that being achieving a "prohousing designation" (PHD) from the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). We know that the County of Sonoma, along with the City of Santa Rosa, the City of Rohnert Park, and the City of Healdsburg intend to proceed with this designation. Thus, approval of the Consent Calendar's action items would have the CoC send those cities and the County the attached (**Attachments F-I**) letters of support as they pursue PHD. Staff notified the cities and the County of the pending CoC action in regard to the letters.

Attachments:

A: Proposed Agenda
B: Minutes from the 8/24/22 & 9/7/22 meetings
C: List of Upcoming Funding Sources
D: Information for BOS relating to CoC Competition
E: Stability Vouchers Commitment Letter
F: Letter to the City of Santa Rosa regarding Prohousing Designation
G: Letter to the City of Rohnert Park regarding Prohousing Designation
H: Letter to the City of Healdsburg regarding Prohousing Designation
I: Letter to the County of Sonoma regarding Prohousing Designation

Attachment A

Sonoma County Continuum of Care (CoC) Board
Agenda for September 28, 2022
1:00pm-5:00pm Pacific Time

Public Zoom Link:

https://sonomacounty.zoom.us/j/99261791880?pwd=djc0b1ZsU1FpOU1kbnJ0UDNOcUhFQT09

Phone: 1 (669) 900-9128 **Webinar ID**: 992 6179 1880 **Passcode:** 650935

	Agenda Item	Packet Item	Presenter	Time
	Welcome, Roll Call and Introductions		Board Chair	1:00pm
1.	Consent Calendar (ACTION ITEM): (Unless pulled from the Consent Calendar for separate discussion, the Board will approve the below with one action following public comment) • 9/28/22 Agenda • Minutes from 8/24/22 & 9/7/22 • Summary of Follow-ups from the Previous Meeting(s) • Stability Vouchers Commitment Letter • CoC Board Advocacy Relating to Reducing Barriers for Affordable Housing	Consent Calendar Staff Report with Attachments Included	Board Chair	1:05pm
2.	CoC Board Representation on Department of Health Services Division Director for Homelessness Interview Panel (ACTION ITEM)	Staff Report for DHS Director for Homelessness Interview Panel	Board Chair & DHS Staff	1:25pm
3.	Reports from Lead Agency Staff • Update on CoC Competition NOFO Application Submission • Update on MOU Between CoC Board & Lead Agency • Staff Direction from the Emergency Housing Voucher Action Item Update	-General Staff Report for Reports from Lead Agency - Staff Report for follow up from the Emergency Housing Voucher Action Item	CDC Staff	1:40pm
4.	2022 Point in Time Homeless Count Report	Staff Report for Comprehensive PIT Report	CDC Staff	2:00pm

5.	Word from the Street		Chessy Etheridge	2:35pm
6.	10-minute break			2:45pm
7.	Homeless Service Provider Group Update		Margaret Sluyk	2:55pm
8.	Reports from Standing Committees: • Funding & Evaluation Committee • Coordinated Entry Advisory (CEA) Committee o ACTION ITEM: Approve *CEA Advisory Standards for Permanent Supportive Housing & Rapid Rehousing Programs* • Strategic Plan Committee • Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)/Data Committee • Lived Experience Advisory & Planning Board (LEAP)	Staff Report for CEA Advisory Standards for Permanent Supportive Housing & Rapid Rehousing Programs	Committee Representatives	3:05pm
9.	Quarterly Membership Meeting Agenda for October (ACTION ITEM) • CalFresh Application Training for Providers • HUDs Equal Access Rule Training	Staff Report for October Quarterly Membership Meeting Agenda	CDC Staff	4:00pm

10.	Review Agenda for October CoC Board Meeting
	• System of Care Capital Changes
	   o Project Homekey Update
	   o Caritas Village
		Staff Report for DRAFT Agenda 10/26/22	Board Chair	4:30pm

11.	Board Member Questions & Comments		Board Chair	4:45pm
12.	Public Comment on Non-Agendized Items		Board Chair	4:55pm

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Public Comment may be made via email or during the live zoom meeting. To submit an emailed public comment to the Board email Araceli.Rivera@sonoma-county.org . Please provide your name, the agenda number(s) on which you wish to speak, and your comment. These comments will be emailed to all Board members. Public comment during the meeting can be made live by joining the Zoom meeting using the above provided information. Available time for comments is determined by the Board Chair based on agenda scheduling demands and total number of speakers.

Attachment B (Part One)

Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board Meeting
Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 24, 2022
1:00 – 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time – Meeting held by Zoom

Recording of Meeting: https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/board-meeting-august-24-2022

Welcome and Roll Call (00:05:18 - 00:00:07:11)

- Tom Schwedhelm, Continuum of Care (CoC) Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. He went over the agenda and clarified Zoom rules around public comment and Brown Act guidelines.
- Roll Call was taken:
  - *Present: Ben Leroi, Santa Rosa Community Health Center (arrived late); Jennielynn Holmes, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Santa Rosa); Tom Schwedhelm, City of Santa Rosa; Dennis Pocekay, City of Petaluma; Chris Coursey, Sonoma County Supervisor; Margaret Sluyk, Reach for Home; Jan Cobaleda-Kegler, Sonoma County Behavioral Health; Rebekah Sammet as proxy for Chessy Etheridge, Lived Experience Advisory and Planning Board; Cheyenne McConnell, Youth Community Member; Una Glass, City of Sebastopol; Don Schwartz, City of Rohnert Park; John Moore, City of Cotati; Madolyn Agrimonti, City of Sonoma; Stephen Sotomayor, City of Healdsburg*
  - *Absent: Chris Keys, Redwood Gospel Mission*

  A quorum was present.

1. **Agenda, Consent Calendar, and Minutes Approval (00:07:12 – 00:11:38)**
   Tom Schwedhelm reported the November 23 Regular CoC Board Meeting has been rescheduled to November 30 and there will not be a Regular CoC Board Meeting in December; however, there will be a Special CoC Board Meeting tentatively scheduled for December 15 that will include Board elections. Jennielynn Holmes and Margaret Sluyk requested that Agenda Item #8 be moved to Item #3.

   Public comment: None at this time.

John Moore moved to approve with the suggested adjustment to the agenda order; seconded by Dennis Pocekay.

> *Ayes: Jennielynn Holmes, Tom Schwedhelm, Dennis Pocekay, Chris Coursey, Margaret Sluyk, Kathleen Pozzi, Jan Cobaleda-Kegler, Rebekah Sammet as proxy for Chessy Etheridge, Una Glass, Don Schwartz, John Moore, Madolyn Agrimonti, Stephen Sotomayor*
> *Noes: None*
> *Abstain: None*
> *Absent: Ben Leroi, Chris Keys, Cheyenne McConnell,*

The motion passed.

2. **Vacant Service Provider Seat Selection (00:11:39 – 00:36:09)**
Lisa Fatu, formerly with Social Advocates for Youth who held the Homeless Service Provider CoC Board seat, has stepped down from the Board. According to the CoC Charter, "In the event of a vacancy of an elected member, the members of the CoC Board will elect a successor to hold the seat until the next regular election." This seat will complete Lisa's 2-year term now that the Governance Charter has been updated to say, "In the event of a vacancy of an elected member, the members of the CoC Board will elect a successor to hold the seat until the remainder of the vacated seats term." CoC Staff opened the nomination period on Thursday, July 28, and set a deadline of 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 15, for nominations to be submitted. Staff received four nominations:
   1. Mark Krug
   2. Mary Haynes
   3. Alethea Larson
   4. Arthur George

All nominees provided a brief statement to the Board.

Public Comment: Adrienne Lauby, Diana Rich

Madolyn Agrimonti moved to approve the nomination of Mark Krug; seconded by Dennis Pocekay.

> *Ayes: Ben Leroi, Jennielynn Holmes, Tom Schwedhelm, Dennis Pocekay, Margaret Sluyk, Kathleen Pozzi, Don Schwartz, John Moore, Madolyn Agrimonti, Stephen Sotomayor*
> *Noes: Chris Coursey, Jan Cobaleda-Kegler, Rebekah Sammet as proxy for Chessy Etheridge, Cheyenne McDonnell, Una Glass*

Abstain: None
Absent: Chris Keys

The motion passed.

3. **Homeless Service Provider Group Update (00:36:10 – 00:59:12)**
   Margaret Sluyk provided some background on why this group was formed, which is to provide feedback. They will meet twice a month. She thanked Dave Kiff for his assistance in getting the group up and running and answered questions from the Board.

   Public Comment: Teddie Pierce, Gail Simons

4. **Reports from Lead Agency Staff (00:59:13 – 01:13:18)**
   - Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program (HHIP) Progress Update: Michael Gause reported a draft budget and goals will be presented at the September CoC Board Meeting.
   - Built for Zero Update: Thai Hilton reported they decided on Foundations for Success as a cohort. Plenty of seats are available if anyone is interested in participating.
   - Joe Rodota Trail Update: Dave Kiff provided information on the trail activities and that 98 people were contacted, with a large majority of them being housed in non-congregate shelters. The trail has been reopened to the public with some additional fencing to keep the trail open and the encampments away.
   - Centralized Housing Locator Update: Dave Kiff reported that Thai's team is working with Martha Cheever to develop policies and procedures for results-based accountability. Metrics associated with performance need to be presented to the Board of Supervisors

   Public Comment: Gregory Fearon, Cathleen Tandy

5. **2022 CoC Competition Overview and Scoring for New Projects (01:13:19: – 01:32:09)**
   Dennis Pocekay shared a presentation that included a timeline for the review and approval of the Final Priority List that will be presented at a Special Meeting on September 7, 2022. Michael Gause answered questions from Board members.

   Public Comment**:** Teddie Pierce

   Kathleen Pozzi moved to approve the Competition Program Scoring Tool for New Projects; seconded by Una Glass.

   Ayes: Ben Leroi, Jennielynn Holmes, Tom Schwedhelm, Dennis Pocekay, Chris Coursey, Margaret Sluyk, Kathleen Pozzi, Jan Cobaleda-Kegler, Una

Glass, Don Schwartz, John Moore, Madolyn Agrimonti, Stephen
Sotomayor, Mark Krug
Noes: None
Abstain: Rebekah Sammet as proxy for Chessy Etheridge
Absent: Chris Keys, Cheyenne McConnell

The motion passed.

6. **Word from the Street (01:32:10: – 01:36:10)**
   Rebekah Sammet expressed her appreciation for this topic being on the agenda for each meeting. She reported on an August 16 march by unsheltered people from Courthouse Square to the City Chambers. Their main message was they can't wait on a 5-year plan and need a plan right now.

   Public Comment: None at this time.

7. **MOU Between the CoC Board and Lead Agency (01:36:11 – 02:31:43)**
   Don Schwartz provided information on a proposed Memo of Understanding (MOU), which is meant to clarify expectations and formalize what the CoC Board can expect and what the County would expect from the Board.

   Public Comment: Teddie Pierce, Cathleen Tandy, Gerry La Londe-Berg, Adrienne Lauby, Gail Simons, Dannielle Danforth

8. **10-Minute Break (02:31:44 – 02:46:59)**

   A quorum was present.

9. **Reports from Standing Committees: (02:47:00 – 04:25:05**
   - Funding and Evaluation Committee: Teddie Pierce reported a planning and orientation meeting was held in August. In September, they are going to be reviewing definitions of the homeless service response system as they relate to the data.

     Public Comment: Adrienne Lauby

   - **Coordinated Entry Advisory Committee**: Thai Hilton shared a presentation on proposed updates to the Coordinated Entry Policies and Procedures.

     Public Comment: None at this time.

Kathleen Pozzi moved to approve the changes to the Coordinated Entry Policies and Procedures; seconded by Dennis Pocekay.

> *Ayes: Ben Leroi, Jennielynn Holmes, Tom Schwedhelm, Dennis Pocekay, Chris Coursey, Margaret Sluyk, Kathleen Pozzi, Jan Cobaleda-Kegler, Rebekah Sammet as proxy for Chessy Etheridge, Don Schwartz, John Moore, Madolyn Agrimonti, Stephen Sotomayor, Mark Krug*
> *Noes: None*
> *Abstain: None*
> *Absent: Chris Keys, Cheyenne McConnell, Una Glass*

The motion passed.

Thai Hilton shared a presentation on the Emergency Housing Voucher Supportive Services Gap and Referral Subpopulations and answered questions from the Board. Rebecca Lane, Manager of the Santa Rosa Housing Authority, provided additional information about vouchers.

Public Comment: Lynn Scuri, Gail Simons, Adrienne Lauby, Hunter Scott, Teddie Pierce, Cathleen Tandy,

Don Schwartz made the following motion:
1. Approve staff recommendation with following changes:
2. When supportive services are available for those with scores of 12 or below, Lead Agency staff and providers will prioritize these individuals.

Board Direction:
3. Explore and report back on the use of the following as funding sources for supportive services for current or future voucher holders, as well as higher-need individuals in PSH:
   a. CalAIM
   b. Future CoC funding
   c. Cities' funding
   d. Measure O
   e. Catholic Charities funding for families
4. Explore reducing barriers to supportive services:
   a. Increasing wages
   b. Extending duration of contracts with service providers
   c. Different regulations between Housing Authorities and CoC

5. Request the County Health Department to explore and report back on feasibility of re-allocating highly skilled IMDT staff to supportive services for voucher holders or others in permanent housing.

Chris Coursey suggested a friendly amendment to make the motion just numbers 1 and 2 with 3, 4, and 5 as just the Board's direction to staff. Don Schwartz accepted the friendly amendment.

> *Ayes: Jennielynn Holmes, Tom Schwedhelm, Dennis Pocekay, Chris Coursey, Margaret Sluyk, Kathleen Pozzi, Jan Cobaleda-Kegler, Rebekah Sammet as proxy for Chessy Etheridge, Don Schwartz, John Moore, Madolyn Agrimonti, Stephen Sotomayor, Mark Krug*
> *Noes: None*
> *Abstain: None*
> *Absent: Ben Leroi, Chris Keys, Cheyenne McConnell, Una Glass*

The motion passed.

- **Strategic Planning Committee**: Stephen Sotomayor reported they met on August 19 to continue their work on Phase 2 of the Strategic Planning Process, which is the development of a Strategic Plan. The work groups are starting to conclude their work, and he invited everyone to their September meeting.

- **Lived Experience and Advisory and Planning (LEAP) Board**: Rebekah Sammet reported they are continuing to meet every other week, and many members are on other standing committees. They hosted a discussion with Coordinated Entry about creating a subcommittee for shelter monitoring, and they created an adult shelter solutions subcommittee. They will finalize their charter at their next meeting.

  Public Comment: None at this time

10. **Review Agenda for September 28, 2022, Meeting (04:25:06 – 04:26:28)**
Don Schwartz requested a discussion on what the CoC wants to include in the MOU with the Lead Agency with the potential for taking an action.

Public Comment: None at this time.

11. **Board Member Questions and Comments (04:26:29 – 04:32:58)**
Rebekah Sammet would like to get involved with landlord negotiations and coaching voucher holders to bridge the gap. Jennielynn Holmes extended an invitation to the opening of Caritas Center on September 9 from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. and thanked everyone who had been a part of the journey. Madolyn Agrimonti asked if geography is part of

equity. Mark Krug asked what time the Special Meeting on September 7 will be held.
Alea Tantarelli verified it is from 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Public Comment: None at this time.

12. **Public Comment on Non-Agendized Items (04:32:59 – 04:37:00)**

Public Comment: Gerry La Londe-Berg, Adrienne Lauby

Meeting was adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

Attachment B (Part Two)

Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 7, 2022
1:30 – 3:00 p.m. Pacific Time – Meeting held by Zoom

Recording of Meeting: https://youtu.be/7pvFYfGfDxA

Welcome and Roll Call (00:06:20 - 00:08:59)

- Stephen Sotomayor, Acting Chair due to the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. This is a Special Meeting of the CoC Board to review and approve the scoring for the CoC Projects. He went over Zoom rules around public comment and Brown Act guidelines.
- Roll Call was taken:
    - *Present: Ben Leroi, Santa Rosa Community Health Center; Kelli Kuyendall as proxy for Tom Schwedhelm, City of Santa Rosa; Dennis Pocekay, City of Petaluma; Sean Hamlin as proxy for Chris Coursey, Sonoma County Supervisor; Chris Keys, Redwood Gospel Mission; Kathleen Pozzi, Community Member; Nora Mallonee-Brand as proxy for Jan Cobaleda-Kegler, Sonoma County Behavioral Health, Chessy Etheridge, Lived Experience Advisory and Planning Board; Cheyenne McConnell, Youth Community Member; Emily Quig as proxy for Don Schwartz, City of Rohnert Park; John Moore, City of Cotati; Mark Krug, Burbank Housing; Madolyn Agrimonti, City of Sonoma; Stephen Sotomayor, City of Healdsburg*
    - *Absent: Jennielynn Holmes, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Santa Rosa; Margaret Sluyk, Reach for Home; Chessy Etheridge, Lived Experience Advisory and Planning Board; Una Glass, City of Sebastopol*

A quorum was present.

3. **Agenda Approval (00:09:00 – 00:10:48)**
   Mark Krug moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Nora Mallonee-Brand.

   Public comment: None at this time.

   Mark Krug moved to approve the agenda; Nora Mallonee-Brand seconded the motion.

   The motion unanimously passed.

4. **CoC Competition Final Priority Ranking (00:10:49 – 00:41:54)**
   Dennis Pocekay gave a presentation on the 16 projects that were rated. Michael Gause, Dennis Pocekay, and Karissa White answered questions from the Board.

   Public Comment: Teddie Pierce

   Kathleen Pozzi moved to approve the CoC Final Priority Listing; Madolyn Agrimonti seconded the motion.

   > *Ayes: Kelli Kuyendall as proxy for Tom Schwedhelm, Dennis Pocekay, Sean Hamlin as proxy for Chris Coursey, Chris Keys, Kathleen Pozzi, Nora Mallonee-Brand as proxy for Jan Cobaleda-Kegler, Chessy Etheridge, Cheyenne McConnell, Emily Quig as proxy for Don Schwartz, John Moore, Mark Krug, Madolyn Agrimonti, Stephen Sotomayor*
   > *Noes: None*
   > *Abstain: None*
   > *Recused: Ben Leroi*
   > *Absent: Jennielynn Holmes, Margaret Sluyk, Una Glass*

   The motion passed.

5. **Public Comments on Non-Agendized Items (00:41:55 – 00:42:33)**
   None at this time.

Meeting adjourned at 2:07 p.m.

What can you expect to see, and when? (funding-wise)

9-MONTH FUNDING LOOK AHEAD

SONOMA COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD – SEPT 28, 2022

September 2022

September 2022						
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	15	16	17	18	19	20
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

1st – Special CoC NOFO Evaluation Committee meeting (not an F&E Committee role 'til 2023)
- HUD CoC NOFO (FY 2022) application priority recommendations to CoC Board

7th – Special CoC Board Meeting
- HUD CoC NOFO (FY 2022) application priority approval

8th - Funding and Evaluation Committee
- Systems Level Analysis/Built for Zero
- Committee charter
- Data discussions:
  - What data points to use for evaluations
  - Public-facing data needs/desires

28th – CoC Board Meeting

Other:
- HUD CoC NOFO application due 9-30-2022 (submittal goal is a week prior, on 9-23-2022)

October 2022

October 2022						
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

13th - Funding and Evaluation Committee
- Program Level Analysis (i.e. RRH) data discussions
  - HUD Data structure and tools
  - Outcomes structure review
  - Systems Thinking Overview

26th – CoC Board Meeting
- Lead Agency MOU

Other:
- Special HUD CoC NOFO (Addressing Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness) due 10-20-2022 (not pursued locally due to lack of submissions)
- CDC's Fall HOME/CDBG/ESG NOFA (estimated)

November 2022

November 2022						
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	15	16	17	18	19	20
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

10th - Funding and Evaluation Committee
- 1st Draft of Long-Term Funding Strategy
- Data discussions (continued)
- HMIS Lead Evaluation w/HMIS Committee
- Possible HHIP refinement discussion

30th – CoC Board Meeting
- Possible HHIP refinement discussion
- Adoption of Countywide Strategic Plan
- Continued Discussion: Lead Agency MOU

Other:
- Likely Encampment Resolution Fund (ERF) applications due (Sonoma-Co, Healdsburg-Co, others)
- Possible Measure O Review/Funding Update
- NOTE: Homekey-3 moved to Spring 2023

December 2022

December 2022						
			3	1	2	3
4	8	9	10	11	12	13
11	15	16	17	18	19	20
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

11th - Funding and Evaluation Committee
- Discuss updated draft of Long-Term Funding Strategy
- Data discussions continue

No CoC Board Meeting

January 2023

January 2023						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

12th - Funding and Evaluation Committee
- Recommend Long-Term Funding Strategy for consideration before CoC Board

25th – CoC Board Meeting
- Long-Term Funding Strategy discussion and adoption

Other:
- County of Sonoma, City budget planning begins for FY 23-24
- HHAP Round 4 planning possible
- Possible SoCo Housing Authority Project-Based Voucher (PBV) RFP

February 2023

February 2023						
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

9th - Funding and Evaluation Committee
- Staff begins preparing for 2023 HUD CoC NOFO (updating materials)
- Analysis of performance metrics for System, Programs, Providers w/existing contracts

22nd – CoC Board Meeting

Other:
- County of Sonoma, City budget planning continues for FY 23-24
  - Measure O
  - County discretionary fund decisions
- HHAP Round 4 planning continues
- Possible SoCo Housing Authority PBV Award (BOS)

March 2023

March 2023						
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

9th - Funding and Evaluation Committee
- Staff prepares notice of application materials for FY 2023 HUD CoC NOFO

22nd – CoC Board Meeting
- HHAP Round 4 funding discussion/adoption (est)
- Consultation with County BOS re: HHAP-4, Measure O, County discretionary funds towards homelessness

Other:
- Project Homekey-3 (estimated)

April 2023

April 2023						
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

13th - Funding and Evaluation Committee
- Discussion about FY 2023 HUD CoC NOFO (funding stream, requirements, history)

26th – CoC Board Meeting
- Likely further collaboration with County, cities, over homelessness funding decisions
- HHIP review and approval

Other:
- TBD

May 2023

May 2023						
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

11th - Funding and Evaluation Committee
- TBD

24th – CoC Board Meeting
- TBD

Other:
- TBD

Attachment D

HUD Continuum of Care Contracts

Continuum of Care funding awards are made through a national competition in which up to twenty local homeless services projects, providing permanent supportive housing and rapid re-housing to 261 homeless persons, are submitted together.

The 2021 Continuum of Care Consolidated Application was submitted in September 2021. HUD announced renewal awards in March 2022. The total award for the Continuum of Care was $4,162,516 for the 17 projects listed in Attachment 2. Of this, $1,533,126 representing six awards, is designated directly to the Commission for the following projects:

- Two renewal awards for Continuum of Care Rental Assistance (formerly known as Shelter Plus Care projects). These two contracts enable the Sonoma County Housing Authority to support 55 formerly homeless, disabled persons in scattered site housing throughout Sonoma County, matching rental assistance with supportive services provided by partners including Face to Face, and Social Advocates for Youth. The total amount of the two awards is $736,080.

- A renewal award and a new expansion award, both supporting the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), a HUD-mandated web-based client database which reports quality statistical information regarding the extent and nature of homelessness to HUD officials and to the US Congress, and provides invaluable information for local systems planning The total amount of the two awards is $327,157.

- One Coordinated Entry Project award that address HUD's mandate that communities accessing Federal Continuum of Care and Emergency Solutions Grant dollars would create a single front door into their homeless services system, in the amount of $349,991. Sonoma County's Coordinated Entry System is a streamlined system designed to efficiently match people experiencing homelessness to available housing, shelter, and services. It prioritizes those who are most in need of assistance and provides crucial information that helps communities strategically allocate resources and identify gaps in service. Sonoma County's Coordinated Entry system employs a Housing First model that prioritizes individuals and families facing the highest vulnerability and needs for permanent, supportive housing. More information on the Coordinated Entry System can be found at http://sonomacounty.ca.gov/CDC/Coordinated-Entry-System/.

- The annual Planning award of $119,898 is calculated at 3% of the total $4.1 million award to Sonoma County agencies, to partially defray the cost of staffing the Home Sonoma County effort.

HUD will contract directly with the other eleven projects, representing a total of $2,629,290 in support of the community as follows:

- Two permanent supportive housing projects operated by Catholic Charities, totaling $784,961, which support housing for 35 chronically homeless persons at the Palms Inn and in scattered site apartments;

- $97,842 for Mill Street Supportive Housing, a permanent supportive housing project operated by West County Community Services, which supports housing for 8 chronically homeless persons;

- $292,843 for a permanent supportive housing project operated by Committee on the Shelterless (COTS), which supports housing for 18 chronically homeless persons in scattered site apartments;

- Two permanent supportive housing projects operated by Buckelew Programs, totaling $375,196, which support housing for 18 homeless persons with mental illness, at least 6 of them chronically homeless persons, in scattered site apartments;

- Two rental assistance programs operated by Social Advocates for youth, totaling $305,329, which supports housing for 16 chronically homeless transition aged youth in scattered site apartments;

- Two permanent supportive housing projects operated by Community Support Network, totaling $121,188 for Stony Point Commons, (which supports housing for 16 chronically homeless persons with mental illness in a single-room occupancy facility) and the recently opened Sanctuary Villas project (five of the facility's nine beds for chronically homeless transition aged youth with mental illness);

- One award to the YWCA of Sonoma County, a renewal of their rapid re-housing program serving victims of domestic violence for $260,040 serving vulnerable victims of domestic violence; and

- An award for Reach for Home, in the amount of $87,931, to provide 17 persons with rapid re-housing financial assistance and case management in the North County.

- A new permanent supportive housing project for St. Vincent de Paul for $303,360 to provide wrap around services for the Commons, a new permanent supportive housing project.

Attachment E
Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board

September 29, 2022

US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
Office of Public and Indian Housing
Washington, DC 20420-5000
Via email to: StabilityVouchers@hud.gov

RE: Collaboration on Stability Vouchers – Sonoma County, CA (commitment letter)

To Whom it May Concern:

This letter is to indicate the Sonoma County Continuum of Care's willingness to collaboratively partner with both the Sonoma County Housing Authority and the Santa Rosa Housing Authority to receive, administer, and award Stability Vouchers (SVs) per HUD's Notice PIH 2022-24 (HA) dated August 16, 2022. HUD announced this potential award of SVs to:

"Encourage a community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness," with the intent to assist households who are "at-risk of homelessness, those fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking, and veterans and families that include a veteran family member that meet one of the proceeding criteria."

-- US HUD PIH 2022-24 (HA), Page 1

We hereby agree to collaborate with the Sonoma County Housing Authority (SCHA) and the Santa Rosa Housing Authority (SRHA) to, among other actions:

- Refer eligible families to the Public Housing Authorities through Coordinated Entry for SVs;
- Pair CoC-funded supportive services with SVs; and
- Collaborate with other stakeholders to develop a prioritization plan for SVs.

We look forward to working with HUD, the County of Sonoma, and the City of Santa Rosa in implementing the SV program locally should an award be made to our region. Please do not hesitate to contact us at Michael.gause@sonoma-county.org if you have questions or concerns about this commitment letter.

Sincerely,

TOM SCHWEDHELM

Chair, Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board

Attachment F
Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board

October 1, 2022

Ms. Maraskeshia Smith

City Manager, City of Santa Rosa

100 Santa Rosa Avenue, Room 10

Santa Rosa, CA 95404

RE: Prohousing Designation

Dear Ms. Smith:

The Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board strongly supports the City of Santa Rosa's efforts to work towards lowering barriers to new affordable and market rate housing, including its efforts to align the City's land use and other policies and programs in ways that would achieve the State of California's "Prohousing" Designation ("PHD").

As your City and community is aware, PHD gives additional points in key grant funding (including affordable housing funds, infrastructure development funds, and transit funds) that allow jurisdictions to participate in various State grant application processes with higher point scores than jurisdictions that may not have secured PHD.

To secure the PHD, Santa Rosa will work to change its processes and programs such as the below:

- Adopting favorable Zoning and Land Use policies and programs, such as rezoning sufficient sites to accommodate 15% of more of regional housing needs by income category, permitting "missing middle" housing uses, and eliminating or reducing parking requirements or establishing parking maximums.

- Accelerating housing production timeframes, such as establishing ministerial approval processes for a variety of housing types, having a documented practice of streamlining housing development, and giving priority permit processing for Accessory Dwelling Units (AUDs) as well as multi-family affordable housing.
- Reducing construction and development costs, such as allowing for impact fee waivers or reductions, promoting innovating housing types that reduce costs, reducing transportation-related infrastructure costs, and having pre-approved or prototype plans for missing middle housing types.
- Providing financial subsidies, such as local housing trust funds, ADU grants and low-interest loan programs, land donations via surplus land programs, and enacting enhanced infrastructure financing districts.

The Continuum of Care Board is appreciative of the City's PHD goals and how that work will add to the region's supply of affordable and market rate housing. Please use the Sonoma County CoC's letter of support in any manner in which you see fit.

Sincerely,

Jennielynn Holmes, Vice-Chair

Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board

cc: Sheryl Bratton, CAO of Sonoma County

        City Managers of Sonoma County

Attachment G
Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board

October 1, 2022

Mr. Darrin Jenkins

City Manager, City of Rohnert Park

130 Avram Avenue

Rohnert Park, CA 94928

RE: Prohousing Designation (PHD)

Dear Mr. Jenkins:

The Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board strongly supports the City of Rohnert Park's efforts to work towards lowering barriers to new affordable and market rate housing, including its efforts to align the City's land use and other policies and programs in ways that would achieve the State of California's "Prohousing" Designation ("PHD").

As your City and community is aware, PHD gives additional points in key grant funding (including affordable housing funds, infrastructure development funds, and transit funds) that allow jurisdictions to participate in various State grant application processes with higher point scores than jurisdictions that may not have secured PHD.

To secure the PHD, Rohnert Park will work to change its processes and programs such as the below:

- Adopting favorable Zoning and Land Use policies and programs, such as rezoning sufficient sites to accommodate 15% of more of regional housing needs by income category, permitting "missing middle" housing uses, and eliminating or reducing parking requirements or establishing parking maximums.

- Accelerating housing production timeframes, such as establishing ministerial approval processes for a variety of housing types, having a documented practice of streamlining housing development, and giving priority permit processing for Accessory Dwelling Units (AUDs) as well as multi-family affordable housing.
- Reducing construction and development costs, such as allowing for impact fee waivers or reductions, promoting innovating housing types that reduce costs, reducing transportation-related infrastructure costs, and having pre-approved or prototype plans for missing middle housing types.
- Providing financial subsidies, such as local housing trust funds, ADU grants and low-interest loan programs, land donations via surplus land programs, and enacting enhanced infrastructure financing districts.

The Continuum of Care Board is appreciative of the City's PHD goals and how that work will add to the region's supply of affordable and market rate housing. Please use the Sonoma County CoC's letter of support in any manner in which you see fit.

Sincerely,

Jennielynn Holmes, Vice-Chair

Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board

cc: Sheryl Bratton, CAO of Sonoma County

        City Managers of Sonoma County

Attachment H
Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board

October 1, 2022

Mr. Jeff Kay

City Manager, City of Healdsburg

401 Grove Street

Healdsburg, CA 95448

RE: Prohousing Designation (PHD)

Dear Mr. Kay:

The Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board strongly supports the City of Healdsburg's efforts to work towards lowering barriers to new affordable and market rate housing, including its efforts to align the City's land use and other policies and programs in ways that would achieve the State of California's "Prohousing" Designation ("PHD").

As your City and community is aware, PHD gives additional points in key grant funding (including affordable housing funds, infrastructure development funds, and transit funds) that allow jurisdictions to participate in various State grant application processes with higher point scores than jurisdictions that may not have secured PHD.

To secure the PHD, Healdsburg will work to change its processes and programs such as the below:

- Adopting favorable Zoning and Land Use policies and programs, such as rezoning sufficient sites to accommodate 15% of more of regional housing needs by income category, permitting "missing middle" housing uses, and eliminating or reducing parking requirements or establishing parking maximums.

- Accelerating housing production timeframes, such as establishing ministerial approval processes for a variety of housing types, having a documented practice of streamlining housing development, and giving priority permit processing for Accessory Dwelling Units (AUDs) as well as multi-family affordable housing.
- Reducing construction and development costs, such as allowing for impact fee waivers or reductions, promoting innovating housing types that reduce costs, reducing transportation-related infrastructure costs, and having pre-approved or prototype plans for missing middle housing types.
- Providing financial subsidies, such as local housing trust funds, ADU grants and low-interest loan programs, land donations via surplus land programs, and enacting enhanced infrastructure financing districts.

The Continuum of Care Board is appreciative of the City's PHD goals and how that work will add to the region's supply of affordable and market rate housing. Please use the Sonoma County CoC's letter of support in any manner in which you see fit.

Sincerely,

Jennielynn Holmes, Vice-Chair

Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board

cc: Sheryl Bratton, CAO of Sonoma County

        City Managers of Sonoma County

Attachment I
Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board

October 1, 2022

Ms. Sheryl Bratton

County Administrator, County of Sonoma

575 Administration Drive, Suite 104A

Santa Rosa, California 95403

RE: Prohousing Designation (PHD)

Dear Ms. Bratton:

The Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board strongly supports the County of Sonoma's efforts to work towards lowering barriers to new affordable and market rate housing, including its efforts to align the County's land use and other policies and programs in ways that would achieve the State of California's "Prohousing" Designation ("PHD").

As the Board of Supervisors and the community is aware, PHD gives additional points in key grant funding (including affordable housing funds, infrastructure development funds, and transit funds) that allow jurisdictions to participate in various State grant application processes with higher point scores than jurisdictions that may not have secured PHD.

To secure the PHD, the County (via Permit Sonoma) will work to change its processes and programs such as the below:

- Adopting favorable Zoning and Land Use policies and programs, such as rezoning sufficient sites to accommodate 15% of more of regional housing needs by income category, permitting "missing middle" housing uses, and eliminating or reducing parking requirements or establishing parking maximums.

- Accelerating housing production timeframes, such as establishing ministerial approval processes for a variety of housing types, having a documented practice of streamlining housing development, and giving priority permit processing for Accessory Dwelling Units (AUDs) as well as multi-family affordable housing.
- Reducing construction and development costs, such as allowing for impact fee waivers or reductions, promoting innovating housing types that reduce costs, reducing transportation-related infrastructure costs, and having pre-approved or prototype plans for missing middle housing types.
- Providing financial subsidies, such as local housing trust funds, ADU grants and low-interest loan programs, land donations via surplus land programs, and enacting enhanced infrastructure financing districts.

The Continuum of Care Board is appreciative of the County's PHD goals and how that work will add to the region's supply of affordable and market rate housing. Please use the Sonoma County CoC's letter of support in any manner in which you see fit.

Sincerely,

Jennielynn Holmes, Vice-Chair

Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board

cc: Members of the Board of Supervisors

        City Managers of Sonoma County

Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board
Agenda Report

Item No: 2

Subject: CoC Board Representation on Department of Health Services Division Director for Homeless Services Interview Panel

Meeting Date: September 28, 2022

Staff Contact: Alea Tantarelli, Alea.Tantarelli@Sonoma-County.org

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SUMMARY

In June 2022, the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors voted to move the Community Development's (CDC) Ending Homelessness team to the Department of Health Services (DHS) under a newly formed Homelessness Services Division. This shift will change the Continuum of Care (CoC) lead agency from the CDC to DHS. The Sonoma County Administrator is committed to the CoC Board's representation in the selection process for the new Homeless Services Division Director. The DHS staff requested that two CoC Board member representatives join the first round hiring panel.

The Division Director hiring process will include:

a) Application Rating Panel - October
b) Round 1 (5 panelists: 3 (Assistant/Division) County Directors + 2 COC Board Members) - October
c) Round 2 [FINAL] (Department of Health Services Director, Human Services Director & Child Support Services Director) - October/November 2022

Once a candidate is selected, there will be a meet and greet with the CoC Board in November or December 2022.

The Department of Health Services Division Director job recruitment will post before the end of September 2022 with the attached job description (Attachment A).

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)

Staff from the Department of Health Services met with the Continuum of Care Chair and Vice Chair to develop a recommendation for CoC Board representation in the Homeless Services Division Director hiring process. Given their leadership roles on the Continuum of Care Board, staff are recommending that the Chair and Vice Chair, Tom Schwedhelm and Jennielynn Holmes, respectively, represent the CoC Board on the interview panel.

Recommendation: Approve the CoC Board Chair and Vice Chair as panelists on behalf of the CoC Board for the Homeless Services Division Director first round interviews.

COUNTY OF SONOMA

Room to Move. Room to Grow.

HOMELESSNESS SERVICES DIVISION DIRECTOR

Bargaining Unit: SCAMC-50
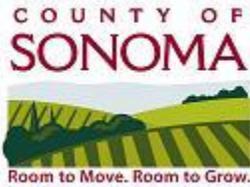
Class Code:
2544

COUNTY OF SONOMA (CA)
Established Date: Jul 19, 2022
Revision Date: Jul 19, 2022

SALARY RANGE

$70.75 - $86.00 Hourly
$5,679.37 - $6,903.55 Biweekly
$12,305.31 - $14,957.69 Monthly
$147,663.74 - $179,492.32 Annually

DEFINITION:

Under general policy direction, manages, plans, advises, and coordinates many of the County's homelessness services and related programs; ensures collaboration and coordination of services with County and external programs and partnerships; leads and supervises professional, technical, and/or support staff in the accomplishment of division objectives and in ensuring a positive work culture; and performs related work as required.

Distinguishing Characteristics

Incumbents in this class perform the full range of administrative management functions for the homelessness services division of the Department of Health Services through subordinate managers and staff. The incumbent is in a position of trust and confidence, has delegated authority, and is held accountable for the operations, performance, and work environment of the Division.

Incumbents perform administrative and management activities related to directing and coordinating the work of the Division through subordinate managers staff. Incumbents provide technical advice to the Director of Health Services and other staff; recommend policies, procedures, and enhancements; and prepare, monitor, and administer the Division budget.

TYPICAL DUTIES:

Duties include, but are not limited to, the following:

Plans, coordinates, and directs the operations of the Division; prepares, recommends, and establishes policies, procedures, and program improvements; confers with staff in the identification of problems and development of solutions; determines priorities within the Division and assists in setting goals and work plans; ensures success metrics are developed and analyzed and reports on the effectiveness of programs.

Oversees the preparation, justification, and administration of the Division's budget, grants, homeless and housing finance sources, and contracts; interprets, monitors, and ensures

compliance with contract and grant terms and conditions and other legislative requirements.

Develops and instills program and process improvements and practices in the Division; conducts studies of systems and procedures; evaluates and submits recommendations concerning the effectiveness of program operations; attends management staff meetings to advise on the progress of projects, programs, and studies; proposes program modifications to meet changing needs and simplify procedures.

Selects, trains, evaluates, and supervises division staff, directly and through subordinate managers and supervisors; meets with employees and employee organizations to discuss and resolve grievances and problems; confers with professional staff to resolve complex issues.

Collaborates with other divisions within Health Services, County departments, cities, other government agencies, nonprofits, and service providers to align resources and develop a sustainable and responsive supportive system to improve client experiences.

Supports regional, state, and federal policies that reduce homelessness and improve the supportive housing system.

Reviews legislative proposals for content and appropriateness; provides recommendations on necessary changes and approaches to County advocacy positions; analyzes and interprets legislative or legal changes and regulations from federal, state, and local agencies which affect assigned programs; consults with legal counsel as needed.

May represent the department and the County before individuals, private groups, the Board of Supervisors, the Continuum of Care, and other public groups or agencies; conducts and participates in public hearings in order to present the department's position, provide information and clarification, and receive input from interested parties.

Develops procedures and ensures preparedness for emergency and disaster response and support services for homeless population; ensures staff are trained and prepared for disaster assignments.

Performs related duties as assigned.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES:

Considerable knowledge of: the principles of public policy, planning, and homelessness and related services; federal, state, and local statutes, regulations, and legislative considerations governing non-profits, state, and/or federally-assisted housing and homelessness services programs and funding sources; the general principles of land use planning and zoning related to housing assistance; social, economic, and health-related community issues that contribute to homelessness; the principles and practices of providing community services; policy and procedural development and the analysis and evaluation of programs; grant administration, housing finance, and budgeting; fluency in racial justice and social equity concepts; effective supervision and management, including work planning and organization, and the selection and performance management of employees.

Ability to: effectively supervise and direct the work of professional, technical, and operations support staff; develop and maintain effective working relationships; successfully manage complex assignments; manage, plan, and organize various aspects of work relating to administration, budget, grant management, and general management matters; understand and interpret policies, data, and technical and legal documents; communicate effectively orally and in writing; develop and support strategic objectives; provide effective leadership, motivate

employees and foster an inclusive, equitable, and positive work culture; be decisive, and work independently.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Education and Experience: Any combination of education, training, and professional work experience that would provide an opportunity to acquire the knowledge and abilities listed herein. Normally this would include significant academic coursework and/or training in business or public administration, the Social Sciences, or a related field of study; and four years of full-time administrative or management experience working with federally-assisted housing and/or homelessness services programs in a non-profit or government agency, which included supervising subordinate employees.

License: Possession of a valid driver's license at the appropriate level including special endorsements, as required by the State of California, may be required depending upon assignment to perform the essential job functions of the position.

Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board
Agenda Report

Item No: 3

Subject: Report from the Lead Agency – Including:

1. Update on CoC Competition NOFO Application Submission
2. Update on MOU Between CoC Board & Lead Agency

Meeting Date: September 28, 2022

Staff Contacts: Dave Kiff, Interim Executive Director, Dave.Kiff@sonoma-county.org

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1 – Update on Fy 2022 CoC Competition NOFO Application Submission: The Sonoma County Community Development Commission, the CoC Lead Agency, has been diligently working on the FY 2022 CoC Competition Application. Originally the local target date was to have the full application posted on Friday September 23rd. However, the CoC Lead Agency has extended its local posting date and intends to have the full application online no later than the HUD required deadline of September 28th to ensure a thorough review prior to posting. Once the application is available online, CoC staff will send notice out through the CoC Listserv and the CoC Board. As a reminder, all CoC Competition materials and information is located on our website and can be accessed using the following link: https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/development-services/community-development-commission/divisions/homeless-services/continuum-of-care/2022-continuum-of-care-competition

2 – Update on MOU Between CoC Board & Lead Agency: CDC staff will present a draft Memorandum of Understanding to the CoC Board at the October 26th CoC Board meeting.

Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board
Agenda Report

Item No: 3

Subject: Staff follow up from the Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) action item

Meeting Date: September 28, 2022

Staff Contact: Thai Hilton Thai.Hilton@sonoma-county.org

SUMMARY

In the August 24th CoC board meeting, staff was directed to explore and report back on several funding sources as possible avenues for resolving the gap in supportive services for current or future voucher holders. Staff was asked to follow up on:

- Cal-AIM (California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal)
- Future CoC funding
- Cities' funding
- Measure O
- Catholic Charities funding for families

Staff was also asked to explore reducing barriers to supportive services. This included exploring increasing wages, extending duration of contracts with service providers, different regulations between Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) and CoC-funded permanent supportive housing (PSH).

Staff was also asked to request that the Sonoma County Department of Health Services (DHS) be contacted to explore the feasibility of re-allocating some of its highly-skilled Interdepartmental Multidisciplinary Team (IMDT) staff to supportive services for voucher holders or towards services in other permanent housing.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)

Informational only

DISCUSSION

Part 1 - Funding sources

- **CalAIM:** Staff met with Partnership Health Plan (PHP) staff to learn more about the CalAIM program and its tenancy services. CalAIM can provide supportive services to PHP members who have recently been housed. PHP is working with local service providers to begin services. Currently there are approximately 6 providers who are contracted to provide Housing and Tenancy services. Staff is going to meet with these providers to see how many clients they can serve and to develop a referral pathway for referrals.

- **Future CoC funding:** Supportive service agencies can apply for new projects annually during the CoC competition. This year, a special CoC NOFO was released that provided a second opportunity. Agencies can apply for Supportive Services only project models to serve newly-housed individuals however, staff did not receive any applications for the special NOFO and only 1 new project proposal for the general NOFO. In the FY 2021 Competition for Funding, two organizations did apply to increase supportive services through this funding stream and were awarded additional supportive services only to enhance their programming (Social Advocates for Youth and Catholic Charities). The opportunity for applying for future CoC funds has closed for this year, however. The CoC should plan to apply for a new CoC PSH project in the future that is paired with a housing subsidy (voucher/RRH not funded via CoC/ESG) as this has been highlighted the last two years in the funding competition. CoCs that pair housing subsidies with new CoC units receive extra points in the overall competition, and the project is more likely to get funded via bonus funds as an outlined HUD priority. SCCDC staff provided information on this HUD priority the last two years during each Bidders conference and scored projects on this. However, no new project applications were received or discussed with this option with SCCDC staff. CoC Program funding is competitive but annually renewable if the project is performing well.

- **Cities' funding.** At a future date, and as the Continuum of Care works more collaboratively with cities, service providers, health care providers, and philanthropy, it's possible that non-traditional funding sources such as contributions from cities may be viable. Today, not all cities have any level of homeless programming. As of the date of this report, staff has been working with cities to better understand what cities are spending on homelessness and related services.

- **Measure O.** Per a discussion at the recent (September 14, 2022) Measure O Citizens Oversight Committee, staff from DHS reported that the County of Sonoma may issue a future Request for Proposals (RFP) for available 2022 Measure O funds that were above planned expenditures. At this time, some of these dollars might be available for supportive services.

- **Catholic Charities' funding for families:** There is a pot of funds to support families with children who are experiencing homelessness however at this time, the program details have not been fleshed out. It is hoped that when this project is operational, it will be able to support some of the EHV families with children.

Part 2 – Reducing barriers to better supportive services

- **Increasing wages:** Budgets for projects are created by agencies that apply for funding. In developing their budgets, agencies should consider the cost of quality staff and develop their budgets with more funding in the staffing budget line item. In order to increase funding through the CoC program, agencies would have to apply to expand projects. This can be done without increasing the number of units, just supportive services. In addition, CoC Program projects can also directly request an amendment from the local HUD Field office to shift budget line items that are over 10%; for example, an agency could move funding in their leasing budget to increase supportive services if they have identified another source of funding to subsize the units. Additionally, HUD expects agencies to be able to support their programs with outside funding. They never intend to be the sole funder of a project. Agencies should use discretionary funds, when able, to increase staffing.

- **Extending the duration of contracts:** Unfortunately, contract duration is determined by State and Federal funders. Staff cannot extend these programs. CoC funds are renewable and are generally funded year over year so long as they perform well.

- **Different regulations between Housing Authorities and CoC:** Below is a table of the conflict between CoC and Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV)/Project Based Vouchers (PBV) regulations. More detail is contained below the table. Homekey projects plan on using PBVs. Generally, they require adherence to housing first regulations (as noted as a CA State requirement in Senate Bill 1380)   which creates similar conflicts.

Regulation	CoC-PSH programs	HCV/PBV
Background check requirement	Prohibited	Required
Minimum Rent	Prohibited	Required and determined by PHA.. PHA can grant hardship exemptions to waive min rent

Use of Coordinated Entry	Required	Required for EHV and some PBV units however denials for background would create conflict with local CE policies
Means testing	No income limits. (this information is contained in an AAQ)	Income must be at or below 50% Area Median Income (AMI)

There are 4 areas of conflict between CoC-PSH programs and HCV/PBV vouchers.

1. **Background Checks:** In CoC programs, participants cannot be denied for a history of criminal activity. PBV and HCV program are required to deny participants for several specific offenses and may deny applicants for some criminal background. The local housing authorities conduct background checks on every applicant. Applicants are given an opportunity to appeal a denial decision.
2. **Minimum Rent:** PHAs are required to set a minimum rent. For the Sonoma County Housing Authority, this is $50. Clients can request a waiver of this charge, however.
3. **Use of Coordinated Entry (CE):** CE is required for referrals to CoC-PSH programs. The use of CE is required for EHV and for some PBV projects that serve individuals experiencing homelessness. The conflict arises around rejections. There are only 4 specific reasons a CE referral can be rejected and the failure to pass a background check is not one of them.
4. **Means Testing:** HCV and PBV programs have an income threshold. Applicants cannot be above 50% of the Area Median Income (AMI). CoC programs do not have any income limits.

Part 3 - Proposed Solutions

- **Background checks/Coordinated Entry/ Means testing.** When projects can employ vouchers to subsidize rent at homeless-dedicated housing, they can redirect funds to supportive services making the project more financially viable. The funding that would be spent on rental assistance is redirected to supportive services.

A study could be done to see what the denial rate, after appeals, is for PBV/HCV projects that serve homeless individuals. After determining the denial rate, the project can roughly determine how many individuals will not be able to access a voucher in a year. Knowing this, the project can build their program budget with these denials in mind. Instead of

redirecting all the rental assistance or leasing funds to supportive services, some can be maintained in the rental assistance budget line item. If/When someone is denied, the client could be placed in a non-vouchered unit at the project. The CoC program funds can then support this client's rent while still redirecting the majority of the rental assistance or leasing funds to supportive services.

Those who are over income for vouchers can also be placed into non-vouchered units and the CoC program can pay the required rent through rental assistance or leasing funds. The client would still be required to pay 30% of their income or 10% of their monthly-adjusted income for the rent. A client with higher income would not require as much rental assistance as other clients.

- **Feasibility of re-allocating highly skilled IMDT staff to supportive services for voucher holders.** The Sonoma County Interdepartmental Multidisciplinary Team (IMDT) has two key cohorts that work or will work to assist homeless individuals and families. The teams include:
  - o **HEART** Cohort. HEART's (Homeless Encampment Access and Resource Team) role is to work within encampments to determine housing and supportive services needs by individual, and then to clear the encampment with the help of local law enforcement and service providers. HEART Team members include staff members with various levels of advanced training, and team members can reach out to others in IMDT for more specialized advice and assistance. HEART team members also provide assistance to clients in Los Guilicos Village. HEART today has unfilled staff positions.
  - o **Homekey Cohort.** This not-yet-staffed IMDT cohort will focus on providing high-level assistance to entities like Rohnert Park, Santa Rosa, Healdsburg, Petaluma, and the County team itself (at George's Hideaway) as they serve clients in the region's six or more Project Homekey sites. Staff members in these cohorts include substance use disorder experts, behavioral health clinicians, housing navigators, and more.

Due to low staffing levels for HEART and the ramp-up for the Homekey Cohort (as well as other mandated responsibilities for the cohorts), DHS believes that it is not feasible to reassign or reallocate IMDT staff towards other efforts that need supportive services at this time.

- **Expanding the overall pool of service providers (and related staff) in Sonoma County.** In September, Lead Agency staff contacted HomeFirst to see to what extent they may be interested in expanding their service footprint to include Sonoma County. Initially, the response by HomeFirst was positive. We will follow up on this pathway in the days to come.

- **Getting everyone in the same room to talk about this.** On Thursday, September 22 (too late for posting with this packet), the Lead Agency staff convened a group of service providers to discuss current and new strategies to address staffing shortages. Staff will provide more details about this when we can.

Attachment A

Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board
Agenda Report

Item No: 4

Subject: 2022 Point In Time Homeless Count Report

Meeting Date: 9/28/22

Staff Contact: Michael Gause, Ending Homelessness Program Manager,
                    Michael.Gause@sonoma-county.org

SUMMARY

In this item, staff will present the results of the 2022 Homeless Point in Time (PIT) Count report. The PIT Count was conducted on February 25, 2022 and the full report is available at the following link:

https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/development-services/community-development-commission/divisions/homeless-services/continuum-of-care/what-we-know-about-homelessness/homeless-count

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)

(By numbered item, the recommendation that staff is asking the Board to make)

1. Receive 2022 Homeless Point in Time Count Report

DISCUSSION

Jurisdictions across the US conduct Point in Time (PIT) Counts typically annually at the direction of the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The PIT Count is an attempt to determine who is homeless and either sheltered or unsheltered in that certain jurisdiction at any one point in time, usually in the last week of January each year.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Sonoma County did not conduct a PIT Count in 2021. In 2022, the Count was delayed from the last week in January 2022, with approval from HUD, to Friday, February 25, 2022, due to the surge in the Omicron variant of COVID-19. The Count was conducted differently than in years past to ensure that appropriate safety measures were in place for the over 150 community volunteers who are paired with paid guides (individuals experiencing homelessness to maximize knowledge of areas canvassed). This shift in safety methodology, with all training virtual and the deployment itself done virtually (i.e., there was not a specific check-in point) rather than more in-person logistics, likely had an effect on the

Count's accuracy in 2022, resulting in greater fluctuations in subpopulation and census tract data.

The count of unsheltered persons is conducted from 5 a.m. to 9 a.m. across all census tracts in the county. The count of sheltered persons consists of data pulled from shelters and transitional housing during that point in time. In 2022, 2,893 individuals were counted, an increase of 5% from 2,745 individuals in 2020. 32% of respondents indicated that their current homeless episode was their first. In 2020, 31% indicated to be experiencing their first episode.

The 5% increase is in part due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, with housing more difficult to obtain and more individuals negatively impacted by financial impacts from COVID-19. Fortunately, survey information indicated that 57% of individuals had received their COVID vaccine, a testament to community outreach to individuals experiencing homelessness.

As Lead Agency to the Sonoma County Continuum of Care (CoC), the Sonoma County Community Development Commission (CDC) conducts the annual PIT Count to track progress towards ending homelessness in Sonoma County. US HUD requires a local PIT Count of any CoC to enable participating agencies to access HUD's CoC funding (in 2022, this is about $4.1 million). Additionally, some State agencies use PIT Count data to formulate funding allocations. Further, when combined with the regularly inputted data from our Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), the Count informs the County's homeless housing needs.

The 2022 PIT Count of the number of homeless individuals identified in one night suggests that the total number of people experiencing homelessness in Sonoma County (unincorporated County and 9 cities) has increased slightly since the immediate aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic by approximately 5% or 148 individuals to 2,893 individuals. The number of individuals in unsheltered circumstances grew from 1,702 in 2020 to 2,088 in 2022. Conversely, the number of individuals in sheltered circumstances dropped from 1,043 in 2020 to 805 in 2022. This reduction in sheltered individuals is likely caused by reduced sheltered capacities due to COVID-19 safety protocols, as well as concerns of living in congregate shelters during a pandemic.

There are numerous possible causes of the modest overall increase. Table 1 shows the trend over time for Sonoma County.

Table 1

Point in Time Count of Homeless in Sonoma County since 2015

Point in Time Count Totals by Year
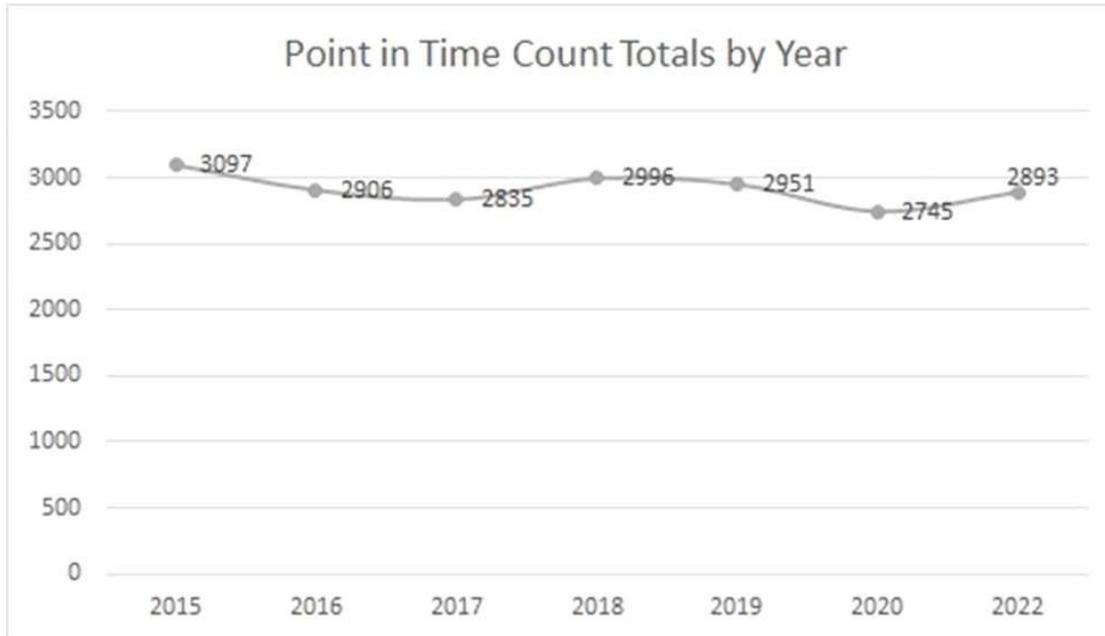
Service providers had reduced capacity due to the impacts of COVID-19, permanent housing was less available and more difficult to access, and the economic slowdown likely contributed to more individuals losing housing. 23% of individuals said that the loss of a job was the primary reason for becoming homeless (this was the top cause of homelessness in 2022). This compares similarly to data from the 2020 PIT Count (where 22% of respondents said job loss was their reason for homelessness.

Each year, following the PIT Count, surveys are conducted with individuals and families experiencing homelessness (both sheltered and unsheltered). This is done to gain insight on demographics and experience of single adults, families, and transition-age youth experiencing homelessness. These surveys, over 400 in total, are conducted in a peer-to-peer fashion in the two weeks after the PIT Count and include key information on homeless subpopulations, which HUD has identified as key to ending homelessness overall, as well as underlying causes of homelessness. Subpopulations of individuals experiencing homelessness include individuals experiencing chronic homelessness (defined generally as at least one year continuous of homelessness with a disability), Transition-Age Youth (TAY) between ages 18-24, homeless families with children, and Veterans. Within these subpopulations:

- 725 individuals experienced chronic homelessness, a 29% increase from 508 in 2020.

- 48 families (having at least one adult over 18 with one child under 18) totaling 155 individuals, were almost all found in sheltered circumstances. This is a decrease of 40% from 80 families in 2020 and a continued overall decrease in families from an all-time high of nearly 200 families in 2013.

- 23 unaccompanied children (persons under the age of 18 without parents) and 498 TAY ages 18

-24 were counted for a total of 521 youth, an increase of 67% from 304 in 2020.

- In 2022, 191 Veterans were counted, an increase of 37% from 139 in 2020.

By definition, the PIT Count only provides a snapshot of homelessness during a single point in time. It is a valuable tool but may not adequately reflect subpopulation data, due to methodology changes from impacts of COVID-19 (virtual trainings and less in-person guidance). However, these results indicate that the increase in our most vulnerable populations (chronic homelessness) as well as youth who have little credit history and a more difficult time on the rental market, are likely due to impacts on services and housing availability during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Additional key findings from the PIT Count and survey included:

- 68% of those experiencing homelessness became homeless while living in Sonoma County, an apparent decrease from any previous year. In years past, this percentage has been 80% or more. Staff believes that this may be attributed to a statistically errant over-sampling of individuals who did not become homeless in Sonoma County. We note that 50% of individuals indicated they had lived in Sonoma County 10 years or more.

- 23% of individuals cited job loss as the primary cause of their homelessness, and 63% of individuals cited unaffordable rent as an obstacle to securing permanent housing. Another 45% cited no job or not enough income as an obstacle.

- 89% of individuals who were unsheltered or staying in emergency shelter stated that they would move into permanent housing if it were available. 54% of individuals preferred housing without preconditions ("Housing First" settings).

- 25% of individuals identified as Latino/a/x, 8% identified as Black, and 9% identified as American Indian or Alaskan Native. Some of this data continues to reflect specific racial and ethnic disparities that exist in Sonoma County's homeless population (i.e., where specific ethnicities are overrepresented in the homeless population when compared to the general population).

ATTACHMENTS: None

Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board
Executive Summary

Item: 8

Subject: Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) & Rapid Rehousing (RRH) standards

Date: September 28, 2022

Staff Contact: Thai Hilton thai.hilton@sonoma-county.org

Agenda Item Overview

Working groups of RRH and PSH providers were formed to update the community standards for RRH & PSH programs in Sonoma County. The community's RRH & PSH standards have not been updated since 2015. These standards are in alignment with housing first, Continuum of Care PSH/RRH regulations and Emergency Solutions Grant RRH regulations. Additionally, these standards align with the recently approved Coordinated Entry Policies and Procedures. These standards provide guidance to RRH & PSH program operators on various aspects of RRH & PSH programs, many of which were not included in the previous documents. Community Development Commission staff thank the RRH & PSH providers who collaborated on these important documents.

Link to standards documents: https://share.sonoma-county.org/link/i23v_RVDFdo/

Recommendation

Approve the RRH & PSH standards.

Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board
Agenda Report

Item No: 9

Subject: Quarterly Membership Meeting Agenda for October

Meeting Date: September 28, 2022

Staff Contact: Karissa White, Continuum of Care Coordinator, Karissa.White@sonoma-county.org

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SUMMARY

Attached is the draft proposed agenda for the October CoC Quarterly Membership meeting.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)

1.   Approve the attached Quarterly Membership meeting agenda for October 20, 2022.

DISCUSSION

The attached agenda incorporates two HUD required trainings of the Continuum of Care. An additional agenda item relating to another HUD required training may be added to this meeting pending confirmation of a current request.

ATTACHMENTS:

A: Quarterly Membership Meeting Agenda 10/20/2022

Attachment A

Sonoma County Continuum of Care (CoC)
Quarterly Membership Meeting
Agenda October 20, 2022
1:00pm-4:00pm Pacific Time

	Agenda
1.	**Welcome and Introductions**
2.	**CalFresh Application Training for Homeless Service Providers** Presenter: Guin Zabinsky. Human Services Department, County of Sonoma Training for homeless service providers and front-line staff participation is highly encouraged.
3.	**HUD's Equal Access Final Rule and Gender Identity Final Rule Annual Training**
4.	**General Continuum of Care and Committee Updates** Brief updates on the work of the Sonoma County CoC and its Committees will be presented.
5.	**Community Updates** Opportunity for open discussion with attendees to provide program updates, ask questions, and converse over homelessness-related issues.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you require special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Sonoma County Community Development Commission at (707) 565-7500 (voice) or (707) 565-7555 (TDD). Translators and American Sign Language interpreters for individuals with hearing disabilities will be available upon request. A minimum of 48 hours is needed to ensure the availability of translation services.

Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board
Agenda Report

Item No: 10

Subject: October 26, 2022 CoC Board Meeting Draft Agenda

Meeting Date: September 28, 2022

Staff Contact: Alea Tantarelli, Alea.Tantarelli@Sonoma-County.org

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SUMMARY

This staff report briefly summarizes the October 26th, 2022 CoC Board Meeting proposed agenda. The draft agenda contains all proposed items that will be discussed by the Continuum of Care Board at the October 26, 2022 CoC Board Meeting. The draft agenda is attached as Attachment A.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)

None – an informational item only.

Attachment A
Sonoma County Continuum of Care (CoC) Board
Agenda for October 26, 2022
1:00pm-5:00pm Pacific Time

Public Zoom Link:

https://sonomacounty.zoom.us/j/99261791880?pwd=djc0b1ZsU1FpOU1kbnJ0UDNOcUhFQT09

Phone: 1 (669) 900-9128   **Webinar ID**: 992 6179 1880   **Passcode:** 650935

	Agenda Item	Packet Item	Presenter	Time
	Welcome, Roll Call and Introductions		Board Chair	1:00pm
1.	Consent Calendar (ACTION ITEM): (Unless pulled from the Consent Calendar for separate discussion, the Board will approve the below with one action following public comment) 10/26/22 Agenda - Minutes from 9/28/22 - Summary of Follow-ups from the Previous Meeting(s)	Consent Calendar Staff Report with Attachments Included	Board Chair	1:05pm
2.	Reports from Lead Agency Staff - System of Care Capital Changes - Project Homekey Update - Caritas Village - CoC Board Elections Timeline	Staff Report for Reports from Lead Agency	CDC Staff	1:25pm
3.	MOU Between CoC Board & Lead Agency (ACTION ITEM)		Board Chair & CDC Staff	2:00pm
4.	Word from the Street		Chessy Etheridge	2:30pm
5.	10-minute break			2:40pm
6.	Homeless Service Provider Group Update		Margaret Sluyk	2:50pm
7.	Reports from Standing Committees: - Funding & Evaluation Committee - Coordinated Entry Advisory (CEA) Committee - Strategic Plan Committee - Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)/Data Committee		Committee Representatives	3:00pm

	• Lived Experience Advisory & Planning Board (LEAP) • Youth Advisory Board			
8.	Review Agenda for November CoC Board Meeting	Staff Report for DRAFT Agenda 11/30/22	Board Chair	4:00pm
9.	Board Member Questions & Comments		Board Chair	4:15pm
10.	Public Comment on Non-Agendized Items		Board Chair	4:25pm

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Public Comment may be made via email or during the live zoom meeting. To submit an emailed public comment to the Board email Araceli.Rivera@sonoma-county.org . Please provide your name, the agenda number(s) on which you wish to speak, and your comment. These comments will be emailed to all Board members. Public comment during the meeting can be made live by joining the Zoom meeting using the above provided information. Available time for comments is determined by the Board Chair based on agenda scheduling demands and total number of speakers.