

**Sonoma County Continuum of Care Strategic Planning
Agenda Report**

Item No: 1

Subject: December 15, 2023 Strategic Planning Meeting Agenda

Meeting Date: December 15, 2023

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

SUMMARY

This staff report presents the December 15, 2023 CoC Strategic Planning Committee Meeting proposed agenda. The agenda contains all proposed items that will be discussed by the Strategic Planning Committee. The proposed agenda is attached as Attachment A.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)

Approve December 15, 2023 agenda.

Attachment A
Sonoma County Continuum of Care (CoC) Strategic Planning Committee
Agenda for December 15, 2023
9:00am-10:00am Pacific Time

Virtual Meeting: Join Zoom Webinar

<https://sonomacounty.zoom.us/j/94233222676?pwd=TEExUDVFdnRpSFkrVGQzSmxZMS9BZz09>

Passcode: 976436 Webinar ID: 942 3322 2676 Telephone: 1 669 900 9128

	Agenda Item	Packet Item	Presenter	Time
	Welcome, Roll Call and Introductions		Tom Bieri /Alea Tantarelli	9:00am
1.	Approve Agenda (ACTION ITEM)	12/15/23 Agenda	Tom Bieri	9:05am
2.	Approve Minutes (ACTION ITEM)	10/20/23	Tom Bieri	9:07am
3.	Vote on Proposed Strategic Planning Charter (ACTION ITEM)	Proposed SPC Charter	Tom Bieri	9:10am
4.	Update on Safety Workgroup (Potential ACTION ITEM)	Summary of Meeting Notes	Tom Bieri	9:15 am
5.	Benioff Study Discussion Workgroup (Potential ACTION ITEM)		Ludmilla Bade	9:25am
6.	Planning for the building out of implementation steps for remaining action steps (those not currently outlined in Early Action Steps) (Potential ACTION ITEM)	Section 3.8c of the County Wide Early Implementation Effort from Strategic Plan	Tom Bieri	9:30am
7.	Strategic Planning Year 1 Priority Update (Potential ACTION ITEM)	-Year 1 Priority Update Document	Dave Kiff/ Michael Gause	9:40am
8.	Committee and Public Comment on Non- agendized Items (Potential ACTION ITEM)		Tom Bieri	9:50am

Public Comment may be made via email or during the live zoom meeting. To submit an emailed public comment to the Committee 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 Committee members. Public comment during the meeting can be made live by joining the Zoom meeting. Available time for comments is determined by the Chair based on agenda scheduling demands and total number of speakers.



**Sonoma County Continuum of Care Strategic Planning Committee
Agenda Report**

Item No: 2
Subject: CoC Strategic Planning Committee Minutes for 10.20.23
Meeting Date: December 15, 2023
Staff Contact: Alea Tantarelli, Alea.Tantarelli@Sonoma-County.org

SUMMARY

This staff report briefly summarizes the minutes from the previous meeting on October 20th, 2023. The minutes reflect a general summary of the previous meeting's activities and are not intended to reflect verbatim comments. The minutes are attached as Attachment **A**.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)

Approve minutes from 10.20.23



ATTACHMENT A

Committee members: Chair Tom Bieri | Co-Chair Ludmilla Bade
Dennis Pocekay, Rebekah Sammet, Jennielynn Holmes, Ben Leroi, Matt Barnes, Angela Struckmann, Tim Miller, Wendell Coleman

**Strategic Planning Committee
Minutes for October 20, 2023**

0. 9:02am WELCOME/CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL-Alea

- a. DHS Staff Present:** Alea Tantarelli, Michael Gause, Dave Kiff,
- b. Members Present:** Dennis Pocekay, Tom Bieri, Ludmilla Bade, Rebekah Sammet, Ben Leroi, Angela Struckmann, Tim Miller, Jennielynn Holmes
- c. Absent:** Wendell Coleman, Matt Barnes

*Julia Gaines is no longer on the Strategic Planning Committee

1. AGENDA APPROVAL:

Motion from Tim Miller. Second from Rebekah Sammet. Passed

No Public Comment

2. APPROVE MINUTES:

Motion to approve 6/16/23 & 8/18/23 minutes from Ben Leroi. Second from Dennis Pocekay. Passed

No Public Comment

Rebekah Sammet abstained

3. Update on Safety Workgroup

Tom Bieri provided an update. The first meeting is scheduled for November 2nd from noon-2:00pm. The group will be looking at safety related legal responsibilities and employers. They also plan to review HUD guidelines with a presenter from HUD and review the work of Allegheny County in Pennsylvania. After two meetings, the goal is to take the recommendations to the provider group to review and vote. Tom Bieri and Dennis Pocekay will discuss to see if this should go back to the Strategic Planning Committee or go straight to the CoC Board for consideration.

No Public Comment

4. Benioff Study Discussion Workgroup

This is still in the development phase. Ludmilla will report back at the next meeting.

No Public Comment

5. Strategic Planning Year 1 Priority Update

Staff continue to update the Strategic Planning Committee on the progress of the year 1 Strategic Planning priorities. Progress is currently being made in all priority areas and specific details can be found in the progress update document.

No Public Comment

6. Committee and Public Comment on Non-agendized Items

Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board Strategic Planning Committee Minutes



Ludmilla Bade asked about winter warming centers and winter shelters. Dave Kiff provided an update.

Tim Miller discussed the opportunity to collaborate with churches to help with winter shelters.

Ludmilla suggested having a van that circulates to help people that are outside on the cold nights.

No Public Comment

9:48am Meeting adjourned

Sonoma County Homeless Coalition
Proposed Strategic Planning Committee Charter

1. The Strategic Planning Committee oversees the strategic planning activities of the CoC to ensure that the homeless system of care operates effectively and efficiently in achieving CoC system performance objectives - **From Appendix H of the Strategic Plan.**
2. The Strategic Planning Committee collaborates with the Coalition Board and the Lead Agency staff to ensure the voices of individuals with lived experience of homelessness are consistently incorporated into planning and evaluating the homeless response system. - **Strategy 3.3 and Action Step 3.a. from Strategic Plan.**
3. Monitor and report back as to progress on the Strategic Plan's action steps (in collaboration with the Lead Agency Staff). - **Strategy 3.8 from Strategic Plan.**
4. The CoC Strategic Planning Committee is tasked to monitor and report on the progress of Plan implementation and advise the Board of Supervisors, local jurisdictions, and other bodies, including school districts, on how to adhere to the Plan and when to deviate from the Plan based on new information. Regular data review and report out of the three key data metrics quarterly to stakeholders (in collaboration with the Lead Agency Staff). - **Action Step 3.8a from Strategic Plan.**
5. Build out implementation steps for remaining action steps (not currently outlined in Implementation Addendum). Build out shared ownership for these and remaining items between CoC and other partners (in collaboration with the Lead Agency Staff). - **Action Step 3.8c from Strategic Plan.**
6. Meet as a full Strategic Planning Committee in a public setting every other month for one focused hour.
7. The Strategic Planning Committee has the right to form workgroups in support of advancing the strategies articulated in the Strategic Plan.

Notes from Nov 2, 2023 Sonoma County Continuum of Care (CoC) Safety Workgroup

Presentation of Safety-related Legal Responsibilities of Employers and Landlords by Bob Haroche, Esq.

- I. Adherence to “Housing First” Policy Cannot Exclude Safety Considerations
- II. The Law Requires Employers to Provide a Safe Work Environment
- III. The Law Requires Landlords to Provide a Safe Living Environment
- IV. Landlords May Conduct Criminal Background Checks

HUD Guidance Related to Balancing the Goal of Minimizing Barriers to Housing with Safety-Related Legal Responsibilities

Summary of HUD Guidance in AAQ 202228 Provided February 2, 2023

- HUD appreciates our dedication to ensuring both support/safety for participants and compliance with core principles and legal/ethical requirements.
- A CoC can implement a safety/risk assessment as long as it is applied consistently across all individuals and families assessed through CE.
- All CE procedures, including safety assessments, need to be documented in your CoC’s written policies and procedures.
- If there are legitimate behavioral/safety concerns identified, a CoC should find ways to address these in its CE process-via housing arrangements, programing, or other solutions.
- If an individual or head of household is screened out of one program due to safety concerns, HUD would expect CE staff to work with the individual or family presenting for assistance to identify another appropriate housing placement.
- Risk of harm to oneself or others should not preclude anyone from receiving housing and service if one is otherwise eligible for such housing or services.
- For example, if it is determined that the applicant poses a threat to the safety of other residents or the program staff in a congregate living environment, this could result in CE referrals to housing options that fit the participant’s needs and provides safety to all participants, like living in an individual unit.
- Referrals should always be made in consultation with the program participant.

The Full HUD Response to AAQ 202228 with relevant notes and links can be found at:

<https://www.hudexchange.info/program-support/my-question/?askaquestionaction=public%3Amain.answer&key=492F64E2-6290-4C10-A850F27FB737C155>

Presentation by Andy Halfill, Homeless Services Administrator for Allegheny County.

Andy Halfill shared information about how their Department of Human Services has merged the data systems of all of their departments over the past 20 years. Their Integrated Data Warehouse includes relevant data from Childhood & Education Services, Basic Needs, Physical & Behavioral Health, Juvenile and Criminal Justice, and Vital Records.

They contract with non-profits to do the homelessness services work. They use the Data Warehouse information to coordinate care amongst providers, to run analytics to assess their success, and to provide information to participants. The primary goal is to provide coordinated care in a person-centered manner.

They've also implemented safeguards to limit the amount of beneficiary-submitted information providers can access. Generally, providers are only able to see pertinent information regarding someone when that person engages with that provider for services.

- *ClientView* is the access level made available to providers. It does not allow access to details such as case notes, etc. except for those specific providers who are engaged with a particular beneficiary. There is periodic auditing to ensure that only those engaged with beneficiaries are accessing their restricted information.
- *Access My Info* is the access level for beneficiaries to view to see their own information.
- *Public Information* is presented through a public website and contains data only in the aggregate. This website allows Allegheny County to transparently share what percentage of those they serve are involved with various systems of care.

Notes from the discussion aimed at integrating the various elements of our strategic plan strategy 3.6 and action step 3.6e:

Strategy 3.6: Improve Transparency, Safety, and Effectiveness of the Coordinated Entry System

Action Steps 3.6e: *Ensure that the Coordinated Entry process maintains a person-centered approach that involves the respectful consideration of the following factors:*

- *Client Choice*
- *Client Needs*
- *Safety Considerations*
- *The Value of Reducing Barriers*
- *Provider Capacity, Expertise, and Competency*

There was a discussion about the need for County leadership to support making progress on the Strategic Plan Strategy 3.6 and the Action Step 3.6e. A concern was expressed that the Assessment and Prioritization Workgroup currently seems to be solely focusing on addressing prioritization without addressing the other elements called for in Strategy 3.6 and Action Step 3.6e, including safety and person-centered care.

December 15, 2023 marks the beginning of the second year of the strategic plan. Aligning these important efforts in year two of our strategic planning implementation will allow us to make progress on Strategy 3.6 and Action Step 3.6e.

The next Step for the Safety Workgroup will be to seek input from the Leap Board, after which the Safety Workgroup will meet again to discuss potential proposals to forward to Provider Group, the Strategic Planning Committee, and the CoC Board.

Sonoma County 5 Year Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness 2023 – 2027

Strategy 3.8: Monitor and Report Back as to Progress on the Strategic Plan's Action Steps, and Adjust Activities as Conditions and New Information Warrants

3.8c: Build out implementation steps for remaining action steps (those not currently outlined in Appendix A: Early Action Steps). Build out shared ownership for these and remaining items between CoC and other partners.

**Sonoma County Continuum of Care
Agenda Report**

Item No: 7
Subject: Strategic Planning Committee Update
Meeting Date: December 20, 2023
Staff Contact: Michael Gause, Ending Homelessness Program Manager,
Michael.Gause@sonoma-county.org

SUMMARY

At each meeting, staff provide an overview of progress on the year one efforts. This report identifies progress made.

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)

Informational Item only.

ATTACHMENTS:

Strategic Planning First Year Efforts Update located here:

<https://share.sonoma-county.org/link/nTyQ-Qx7gGI/>