



## 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:** August 24, 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. **Homebase deep dive work sessions dates.** Throughout the Strategic Planning process, Homebase has compiled information from stakeholder focus groups and data/gaps analyses. Homebase is hosting a series of deep dive work sessions organized by topic. In

these sessions they will present a variety of solutions identified by the community and facilitate conversations about prioritization and resources needed to implement them. Please consider joining one or more of these sessions as your schedule and interest allows. They welcome you to invite colleagues, people with lived experience of homelessness, and community members to join.

Register in advance for each meeting you plan to attend. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

- Coordination of Funding, Priorities and Data – Tuesday, August 16 at 9:00 am (already occurred)
- [Decreasing Barriers to Engagement with Housing and Increasing Service Availability – Tuesday, August 30 at 9:00 am](#)
- [Encampment Strategies and Cross-Jurisdictional Coordination – Thursday, September 8 at 10:00 am](#)
- [Priorities for Housing Solutions – Thursday, September 15 at 11:00 am](#)

b. **A CoC Board member requested information about Stella.** Stella is an analysis and strategy tool that helps CoCs to understand how their system is performing and to model an optimized system that fully addresses homelessness in their area. Stella has two modules:

- **Performance (Stella P)** which relies on dynamic visuals of CoCs' LSA data to illustrate how households move through the homeless system, and to highlight outcome disparities.
- **Modeling (Stella M)** assists CoCs to explore how resource investment decisions amplify system capacity to end homelessness. Stella M starts with homeless needs and performance goals, and helps the community transform those needs into a series of resource investment decisions. Stella M is still in production.

c. **When the HMIS Evaluation is going to occur:** Although the HMIS Committee and CoC Board have approved the HMIS Lead Evaluation document and process, a timeline has not yet been set to begin working through the evaluation itself. The HMIS Committee will next meet on September 12th and we are planning to discuss and hopefully propose a timeline for the current year (FY22/23). We will bring the results of that discussion back to the CoC board in September.

d. **How HMIS Issues might fall between the jurisdictions of the Funding and Evaluation Committee and the HMIS Committee.** The CoC Funding and Evaluation Committee Chair requested information clarifying the roles of specific CoC Committees in relationship to data. Staff has recommended the following as a discussion starting point:

- The **F&E Committee's** jurisdiction should be over:

- The performance measurement **data set** it wants regularly (on what schedule) after agreeing with HMIS staff as to what's attainable, including but not limited to:
  - Time homelessness
  - Returns to homelessness
  - Exits to permanent housing
  - Income growth
- Advising the Lead Agency HMIS team as to the public-facing nature of that data (public website, public reports).
- The **HMIS Committee's** jurisdiction should be over data quality, HUD/HCD/BFZ data compliance, and HMIS administration (cost, licenses, RFPs, as well as the Annual Evaluation).
- The **Annual Evaluation** of the HMIS team should be:
  - Led by the HMIS Committee, with directly solicited input from the Funding & Evaluation Committee prior to completion of the annual evaluation – from the Funding & Evaluation Committee's perspective, it could be a pass/fail, i.e. "we asked for this data set, we did or did not get it when we wanted it in the manner in which we wanted it."
  - Presented in draft form by the HMIS Committee to the Lead Agency staff, including the HMIS team, for clarification/rebuttal/improvement. The HMIS Committee compiles the lead agency staff response, adjusts the HMIS committee's evaluation (or not), and forwards that to the CoC Board for consideration/adoption/receipt.

Please note this recommendation will need to be reviewed and approved by Committees prior to adoption.

4. **Update on Potential Federal Legislation – the "Housing for All Act of 2022."** Senator Alex Padilla (D-California) has sponsored the Housing for All Act of 2022 with the intention of adding funding to and for proven housing supports to improve the nation's response to homelessness. The bill includes:
- a. Investing more funds for affordable housing via the National Housing Trust Fund, the HOME Investment Partnerships program, the Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly Program, and the Section 811 Supportive Housing for People with Disabilities.
  - b. Addressing the homelessness crisis by investing in more Housing Choice Vouchers, Project-Based Rental Assistance, the emergency solutions grant program (which helps with street outreach, rapid re-housing assistance, emergency shelter, and homelessness prevention), and Continuums of Care; and
  - c. Supporting innovative, locally developed approaches to these crises by investing in hotel and motel conversions to permanent supportive housing with supportive services (akin to California's Project Homekey); investing in the Eviction Protection Grant Program;

investing in mobile crisis intervention teams to help those with medical or psychological needs avoid the criminal justice system; investing in libraries that support people experiencing homelessness; investing in programs that offer a safe place to park overnight and facilitate access to rehousing services and essential services; and investing in inclusive, transit-oriented development and infill development.

As of the date of this staff report, the legislation is still under consideration in the US Senate with no new news as to when or if it might move further. A one-page summary of the bill is **Attachment C**.

5. **CoC Governance Charter Revision:** At the July 27<sup>th</sup> CoC Board meeting, the CoC Board requested the following revision be made to the Governance Charter effective immediately:  
**Board Vacancy, Removal & Resignation**  
Vacancy: 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 for the remainder of the vacated seats term~~.
6. **CoC Board Calendar for Remainder of 2022:** The CoC Board meeting currently scheduled for November 23<sup>rd</sup> from 1:00-5:00pm falls the day before the Thanksgiving holiday. Staff anticipate not having a quorum of CoC Board members present that day and recommend rescheduling that meeting to the following Wednesday on November 30<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-5:00pm. Additionally, the regularly scheduled December 28<sup>th</sup> CoC Board meeting falls during a time when many people take vacation. Therefore, staff recommend canceling the December CoC Board meeting.
7. **Special December CoC Membership Meeting:** After reviewing the CoC Governance Charter, staff recommend scheduling a special CoC Membership meeting for Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup> to accommodate CoC Board Member elections. Below is our current Charter language:  
*Elections shall take place annually at the last membership meeting of the calendar year, with the exception of the election to be held after adoption of this Charter, which will occur during the first quarter of 2022.*  
Currently, our last CoC Quarterly membership meeting of the Calendar year takes place on October 20<sup>th</sup>, which is too early for a CoC Board Member election to occur.
8. **CoC Unsheltered and Rural NOFO Update.**  
In late July 2022, HUD released the first of its kind Continuum of Care Special NOFO to address unsheltered and Rural Homelessness. This NOFO made \$322 million available to CoCs to enhance communities' capacity to humanely and effectively address unsheltered homelessness. This NOFO had 2 funding opportunities, (1) Unsheltered Homelessness Set aside and (2) Rural Set Aside. Sonoma County's CoC is not able to apply to the Rural Set aside. This is a very competitive NOFO. Only 10 CoCs in California will be selected and extra points are awarded to communities that have high numbers of individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness.

Staff reached out several times to non-profit partners to gauge interest. Staff received very few responses to this outreach. Due to the very limited interest, staffing capacity, the limited amount of CoC's in CA to be awarded this funding, and the extremely short timeline for the normal CoC NOFO, staff has decided not to apply to this opportunity.

**Attachments:**

- A: Proposed Agenda
- B: Minutes from the 7/27/22 meeting
- C: One-Pager from Senator Alex Padilla's Office regarding Housing for All Act of 2022



**Attachment A**  
**Sonoma County Continuum of Care (CoC) Board**  
**Agenda for August 24, 2022**  
**1:00pm-5:00pm Pacific Time**

**Public Zoom Link:**

<https://sonomacounty.zoom.us/j/99261791880?pwd=djc0b1ZsU1FpOU1kbjJ0UDNOcUhfQT09>

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

	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Packet Item</b>	<b>Presenter</b>	<b>Time</b>
	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) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 8/24/22 Agenda</li> <li>• Minutes from 7/27/22</li> <li>• Summary of Follow-ups from the Previous Meeting(s)</li> <li>• Update on Potential Federal Legislation for Housing for All Act 2022</li> <li>• CoC Governance Charter Revision</li> <li>• CoC Board Calendar for Remainder of 2022</li> <li>• Special CoC Membership Meeting in December</li> <li>• CoC Unsheltered and Rural NOFO Update</li> </ul>	Consent Calendar Staff Report with Attachments Included	Board Chair	1:05pm
2.	Vacant Service Provider Seat Selection ACTION ITEM: <i>Elect Homeless Service Provider</i>	Staff Report for Vacant Service Provider Seat Selection	Board Chair	1:20pm
3.	Reports from Lead Agency Staff <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program (HHIP) Progress Update</li> <li>• Built for Zero Update</li> <li>• Joe Rodota Trail Update</li> <li>• Centralized Housing Locator Update</li> </ul>	Staff Report for Reports from Lead Agency	CDC Staff	1:40pm
4.	2022 CoC Competition Overview and Scoring for New Projects ACTION ITEM: <i>Approve scoring for new projects</i>	Staff Report for 2022 CoC Competition	CDC Staff & Dennis Pockay	2:15pm

		Overview and Scoring for New Projects		
5.	Word from the Street		Chessy Etheridge	2:45pm
6.	MOU Between CoC Board and Lead Agency	Term Sheet for MOU Between Lead Agency & CoC	Board Chair & CDC Staff	2:55pm
7.	10-minute break			3:25pm
8.	Homeless Service Provider Group Update		Margaret Sluyk	3:35pm
9.	Reports from Standing Committees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding &amp; Evaluation Committee</li> <li>• Coordinated Entry Advisory (CEA) Committee</li> </ul> <i>ACTION ITEM: Approve updates to Coordinated Entry Policies and Procedures</i> <i>ACTION ITEM: Approve changes to the EHV referral groups</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategic Plan Committee</li> <li>• Lived Experience Advisory &amp; Planning Board (LEAP)</li> </ul>	-Staff Report for Coordinated Entry Policies and Procedures - Staff Report for changes to the EHV referral groups	Committee Representatives	3:40pm
10.	Review Agenda for September CoC Board Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CEA Advisory Standards for Rapid Rehousing and Permanent Supportive Housing</li> <li>• Point in Time Count Comprehensive Report</li> <li>• Quarterly Membership Meeting Agenda for October (ACTION ITEM)- Annual Equal Access Rule Training</li> </ul>	- Staff Report for DRAFT Agenda 9/28/22	Board Chair	4:30pm
11.	Board Member Questions & Comments		Board Chair	4:45pm
12.	Public Comment on Non-Agendized Items		Board Chair	5:00pm

**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](mailto: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

# Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board Meeting Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 27, 2022

1:00 – 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time – Meeting held by Zoom

Recording of Meeting: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4yIaLSea6ho&t=10499s>

### Welcome and Roll Call (00:07:47 - 00:11:29)

- Tom Schwedhelm, Continuum of Care (CoC) Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:02 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; 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; Chris Keys, Redwood Gospel Mission; Nora Mallonee-Brand, Sonoma County Behavioral Health; 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: Kathleen Pozzi, Community Member*

### ***A quorum was present.***

Nora Mallonee-Brand will be stepping off the CoC Board and Jan Cobaleda-Kegler, the new Behavioral Health Division Director, will be holding the Safety Net Board seat beginning in August. Tom Schwedhelm thanked Nora for her work and welcomed Jan, who gave a brief overview of her current position and previous experience.

### **1. Agenda, Consent Calendar, and Minutes Approval (00:11:30 – 00:18:50)**

Public comment:

None at this time.

Don Schwartz asked when the HMIS Committee's evaluation was going to happen. Daniel Overbury-Howland reported the HMIS Committee has not yet decided on a timeline, but it will be completed this current fiscal year. Don Schwartz asked that Item #2, Review Draft Budget for Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program (HHIP), be moved to become Item #10 since it does not include any data on how this significant amount of dollars would be allocated. Don Schwartz moved to approve the consent calendar as adjusted; Madolyn Agrimonti seconded the motion.

*Ayes: Ben Leroi, Jennielynn Holmes, Tom Schwedhelm, Dennis Pocekay, Chris Coursey, Chris Keys, Nora Mallonee-Brand, Chessy Etheridge, Cheyenne McConnell, Una Glass, Don Schwartz, John Moore, Madolyn Agrimonti, Stephen Sotomayor*

*Noes: None*

*Abstain: None*

*Absent: Margaret Sluyk, Kathleen Pozzi*

***The motion passed.***

### **3. Report from Lead Agency Staff (00:18:51 – 00:26:01)**

- Interim Executive Director Dave Kiff encouraged members to watch the video of the Board of Supervisors Meeting on July 12, 2022, of their discussion on Item #44 - Housing and Homelessness Update. No changes were recommended by the Board for the allocation of \$4 million in ARPA funding. He also reported that the judge extended the stay against the clearance of the Joe Rodata Trail. He is excited about potentially moving to aggressively becoming a *Built for Zero Community*. Thai Hilton encouraged participation of service providers, front-line staff, and leadership. Please let Dave or Thai know if you are interested in participating in either the Guidance Group or the Implementation Group.

Public Comment:

None at this time.

### **4. Vacant Service Provider Seat Process (00:26:02 – 00:38:15)**

Lisa Fatu with Social Advocates for Youth has resigned from the Homeless Service Provider Board seat so the CoC Board must elect a successor to hold the seat until the next regular election in January, 2023. She was in the first year of a two-year term. The recommended action is to open up nominations until 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 15. A nomination form was included in the Board packet. Applicants will be able to make brief statements at the August 24 CoC Board Meeting, after which time a vote will be taken to fill this seat. Don Schwartz suggested a Charter amendment to clarify that a successor would complete the remainder of the term.

Public Comment:

Gail Simons

Ben Leroi moved to have a Charter amendment that would allow this Board to fill vacant seats for the remainder of the person who vacated the seat's term, however long that may be, instead of having it come up at the next election; John Moore seconded the motion.

*Ayes: Ben Leroi, Jennielynn Holmes, Tom Schwedhelm, Dennis Pocekay, Chris Coursey, Margaret Sluyk, Chris Keys, Nora Mallonee-Brand, Chessy Etheridge, Cheyenne McConnell, Una Glass, Don Schwartz, John Moore, Madolyn Agrimonti, Stephen Sotomayor*

*Noes: None*

*Abstain: None*

*Absent: Kathleen Pozzi*

***The motion passed.***

Dennis Pocekay moved to open nominations until 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 15, candidates can make brief statements on Wednesday, August 24, and the Board will vote to fill the vacant Service Provider seat; Chessy Etheridge seconded the motion.

*Ayes: Ben Leroi, Jennielynn Holmes, Tom Schwedhelm, Dennis Pocekay, Chris Coursey, Margaret Sluyk, Chris Keys, Nora Mallonee-Brand, Chessy Etheridge, Cheyenne McConnell, Una Glass, Don Schwartz, John Moore, Madolyn Agrimonti, Stephen Sotomayor*

*Noes: None*

*Abstain: None*

*Absent: Kathleen Pozzi*

***The motion passed.***

**5. Word from the Street (00:38:16 – 01:01:59)**

Chessy Etheridge received her Section 8 voucher 1-1/2 years since applying and shared her journey through the process.

Public Comment:

Rebekah Sammet

Cathleen Tandy

**6. Emerging Themes (01:02:00 – 01:53:43)**

Lauren Larin with Homebase shared a presentation regarding the emergent themes from the Strategic Planning Stakeholder Engagement. Several Board members provided feedback.

Public Comment:

Cathleen Tandy

Michael Adams

**7. Ruthless Kindness (01:53:44 – 02:13:32)**

Dr. Sarah Reidenbach with Ruthless Kindness, a veterinarian-run 501c3 nonprofit, presented information on their organization's community programs working with low income populations and their pets.

Public Comment:

Cathleen Tandy

**8. Break (02:13:32 – 02:25:30)**

**9. Reports from Standing Committees: (02:25:31 – 03:00:24)**

- Funding and Evaluation Committee: Teddie Pierce reported they met on July 18 and Teddie was elected as Chair, Cathleen Tandy as Vice Chair, and Andrew Hening as Secretary. They will meet monthly for no more than two hours each month and will meet in August with CDC staff to solidify the committee's scope. Teddie also provided more information on Stella P. Feedback can be sent to any Committee member.
- Coordinated Entry Advisory Committee: Thai Hilton reported that the Santa Rosa Housing Authority has requested 30 additional Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) referrals. The CEA Committee directed these referrals to the Move-On subpopulation. The CEA Committee approved a Move-On policy that will, if approved, be incorporated into the CE Policies and Procedures.

Public Comment:

None at this time

Chris Coursey moved to approve the submitted Move-On Voucher Policy; seconded by Jennielynn Homes.

*Ayes: Ben Leroi, Jennielynn Holmes, Tom Schwedhelm, Dennis Pocekay, Chris Coursey, Margaret Sluyk, Chris Keys, Nora Mallonee-Brand, Chessy Etheridge, Cheyenne McConnell, Una Glass, Don Schwartz, John Moore, Madolyn Agrimonti, Stephen Sotomayor*

*Noes: None*

*Abstain: None*

*Absent: Kathleen Pozzi*

***The motion passed.***

- Strategic Planning Committee: Stephen Sotomayor reported the Committee continues to work with Homebase on Phase 2 of the Strategic Planning Process, with a focus on stakeholder engagement to identify strategic priorities and goals for the county's response to homelessness.
- HMIS Data Committee: Heather Sweet reported on the Committee's efforts to streamline activities to decrease stress on both the staff and the clients entering data into our system.
- Lived Experience and Advisory and Planning (LEAP) Board: Rebekah Sammet shared information on their discussions with HomeFirst and the California Interagency Council on Homelessness, provided input for the potential creation of a CEA Shelter Monitoring Sub-Committee, and created a LEAP Shelter Solutions Committee. They are currently finalizing their charter and discussing the creation of a Grievance Review Committee.
- Youth Action Board: Araceli Rivera reported that while several attempts to start the YAP Board both virtually and in person interest is very low. Support is needed from the agencies to build off what they are doing and bring that to the Youth Action Board and CoC.

Public Comment:

None at this time

**2. Review Draft Budget for Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program (HHIP)  
(03:00:25 – 03:47:50)**

Michael Gause provided a brief overview of this direct allocation from the State Department of Healthcare Services to the County of Sonoma and requires CoC consultation as part of the process. The first year is under \$1 million with the bulk of this in 2023-24 and 2024-25. Margaret Kisliuk with Partnership HealthPlan of California provided details on these incentive funds from the state.

Public Comment:

Teddie Pierce

Ben Leroi moved to approve the letter of support (Attachment A); seconded by John Moore.

*Ayes: Ben Leroi, Jennielynn Holmes, Tom Schwedhelm, Dennis Pocekay, Margaret Sluyk, Chris Keys, Chessy Etheridge, Cheyenne McConnell,*

*Una Glass, Don Schwartz, John Moore, Madolyn Agrimonti, Stephen*

*Sotomayor*

*Noes: None*

*Abstain: None*

*Absent: Chris Coursey, Nora Mallonee-Brand, Kathleen Pozzi*

***The motion passed.***

**10. Review Agenda for August 24, 2022, Meeting (03:47:51 – 03:50:06)**

Michael Gause requested an updated on HHIP. Tom Schwedhelm requested an amendment to the CoC Charter for filling vacant positions be added to the consent calendar. Don Schwartz requested a discussion on what the CoC wants to include in the MOU with the lead agency.

Public Comment:

None at this time.

**11. Board Member Questions and Comments (03:50:07 – 03:52:11)**

Ben Leroi congratulated Jennielynn on her recent promotion with Catholic Charities. Don Schwartz requested an update on the Provider Advisory Group. Margaret Sluyk reported their first meeting will be on Friday to discuss a high-level overview of the group's purpose. They would like to be on the agenda for each meeting to update the Board.

Public Comment:

None at this time.

**12. Public Comments on Non-Agendized Items (03:52:12 – 03:53:36)**

Public Comment:

None at this time.

*Meeting adjourned at 4:48 p.m.*

# ALEX PADILLA

U.S. SENATOR  CALIFORNIA

## Housing for All Act of 2022

Housing instability and access to affordable housing continues to be a growing concern as Americans endure both the economic and health impacts of COVID-19. Prior to the pandemic, one in four renters spent half of their monthly income on rent, nearly one million tenants were evicted each year, and more than 580,000 individuals were experiencing homelessness nationwide. The ongoing effects of the pandemic threaten to further exacerbate these crises, which disproportionately impact low-income communities and people of color.

The “Housing for All Act of 2022” would invest nearly \$532 billion over ten years to address our homelessness and affordable housing crises. Specifically, this bill would:

- Address the **affordable housing shortage** by investing in the National Housing Trust Fund, the Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly Program, the Section 811 Supportive Housing for People with Disabilities, and the HOME Investment Partnerships program. It would also authorize a grant program to help jurisdictions most efficiently navigate federal and state housing funding sources, and establish a commission on racial equity within USICH.
- Address the **homelessness crisis** by investing in Housing Choice Vouchers, Project-Based Rental Assistance, the emergency solutions grant program (which helps with street outreach, rapid re-housing assistance, emergency shelter, and homelessness prevention), and Continuums of Care. It would also commission a report on the relationship between emergency rental assistance and evictions.
- Support **innovative, locally developed approaches to these crises** by investing in hotel and motel conversions to permanent supportive housing with supportive services; investing in the Eviction Protection Grant Program, which supports experienced legal service providers in providing legal assistance to low-income tenants at risk of or subject to eviction; investing in mobile crisis intervention teams to help those with medical or psychological needs avoid the criminal justice system; investing in programs that offer a safe place to park overnight and facilitate access to rehousing services and essential services; investing in library programs that support people experiencing homelessness; and investing in inclusive transit-oriented development and infill development.

**The bill has been endorsed by organizations and stakeholders including** National Alliance to End Homelessness, National Low-Income Housing Coalition, California Governor Gavin Newsom, California Housing Partnership, California Big City Mayors coalition, California State Association of Counties, Matt Desmond of Princeton University’s Eviction Lab, LeadingAge, and American Library Association.

**Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board  
Agenda Report**

**Item No:** 2  
**Subject:** Vacant Service Provider Seat Selection  
**Meeting Date:** August 24, 2022  
**Staff Contact:** Alea Tantarelli, [Alea.Tantarelli@Sonoma-County.org](mailto:Alea.Tantarelli@Sonoma-County.org)

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**SUMMARY**

On March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022 a CoC Special Membership meeting was held where elections were conducted for four CoC Board seats. Lisa Fatu from Social Advocates for Youth was elected to fill the Homeless Service Provider CoC Board seat. Reach for Home communicated with us that having two staff members serve on the CoC Board would be challenging for Reach for Home's overall workload and available time. As a result, Reach for Home on July 20, 2022 indicated that Lisa Fatu would step down from the Board (but still participate in other CoC activities), and Margaret Sluyk would remain in the seat to which Ms. Sluyk was elected.

According to the CoC Charter (pg 11) "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 has a 2-year term.

CoC Staff opened the nomination period on Thursday, July 28<sup>th</sup> and set a deadline of 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 15, 2022 for nominations to be submitted. Staff received four nominations.

All nominees will have an opportunity to provide a 2-minute statement at the August 24<sup>th</sup> CoC Board Meeting.

As a reminder, The CoC Program interim rule requires CoC Boards to include representatives from relevant organizations and projects serving homeless subpopulations, such as persons with substance use and/or mental health disorders; persons with HIV/AIDS; veterans; people who are chronically homeless; families with children; unaccompanied youth; and victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. The board must also include at least one individual who is homeless or formerly homeless.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION(S)**

Elect a successor for the Homeless Service Provider CoC Board seat at the August 24<sup>th</sup> CoC Board meeting.

**Nomination Forms from:**

A: Mark Krug

B: Mary Haynes

C: Alethea Larson

D: Arthur George, including three letters of support

**Found Here:** <https://share.sonoma-county.org/link/1CCumvtzu4/>



## Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board Agenda Report

**Item No:** 3

**Subject:** Report from the Lead Agency – Including:

1. Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program (HHIP) Progress Update
2. Built for Zero Update
3. Joe Rodota Trail Update
4. Centralized Housing Location Program Update

**Meeting Date:** August 24, 2022

**Staff Contacts:** Dave Kiff, Interim Executive Director, [Dave.Kiff@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Dave.Kiff@sonoma-county.org)  
Thai Hilton, Coordinated Entry Coordinator, [Thai.Hilton@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Thai.Hilton@sonoma-county.org)

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**1 – Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program (HHIP) Progress Update.** CoC Lead Agency Staff have submitted the first draft of documents including the letter of support and a draft budget. Staff will meet with Partnership Health Plan staff again in late August/early September to refine the draft budget and also include draft goals. The first draft of the budget and goals will be submitted in September 2022; however, these will be revised upon acceptance by the State Department of Health Care Services (DHCS).

**2 – Built for Zero Update.** On August 4, 2022, a group of local stakeholders met with representatives from Community Solutions to reintroduce the community to the initiative. The community will be forming 2 groups to guide the Built For Zero efforts in Sonoma County. This local “improvement team” will be attending regular meetings with Community Solutions as well as meeting internally to move forward system improvement efforts. Staff is currently looking for a few more participants before setting an internal meeting in late August to set a community goal for the upcoming action cycle. **Please join us!** We encourage all of those who are interested in participating in these efforts to sign up at the below link:

[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1DMW-Ty5-Dy2Q\\_1lehPJ14Ac5oJzHPieNAYPJPpYiPaM/edit#gid=0](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1DMW-Ty5-Dy2Q_1lehPJ14Ac5oJzHPieNAYPJPpYiPaM/edit#gid=0)

**3 - Joe Rodota Trail (JRT) Update.** In late July and early August 2022, the Sonoma County Parks Department, working with the Sonoma County Department of Health Services, worked to re-open the Joe Rodota Trail (JRT). A prerequisite to re-opening the JRT included providing access to housing and services for those who had encamped on or adjacent to the JRT near the Roseland community in Santa Rosa.

DHS and Parks teams followed legal guidance in offering services and supported housing at locations such as the Sonoma County Fairgrounds, Los Guilicos Village, and area motels. More specifically:

- Teams contacted 98 persons. Of these:
  - 63 were placed in non-congregate shelter (NCS) housing setting
  - 8 were placed in shelter
  - 6 engaged with the team but declined all services
  - 1 refused to engage at all
  - 20 left the Trail or appeared later looking for services or shelter

Anecdotally, County teams noted both challenges and successes. On the success side, at least one individual went into recovery. Several were hired on at the Fair. Many were connected to benefits and documentation.

On the challenges side, drug use (including fentanyl) was present. Expenses to resolve the encampment were high, and continue to be high, especially for trailer and hotel placements. We were unable to effectively house some persons due to serious criminal charges. Some individuals fell out of the new housing quickly. Others felt that their housing location (such as at LG Village or hotels) was too far from services.

The Trail was reopened to public use the week of August 1-5. It now includes additional fencing that attempts to retain the intended public recreational and transit uses of the Trail.

**4 - Centralized Housing Location Program Update.** As a reminder, in June and July 2022, the CoC Board as well as the Board of Supervisors reviewed a proposal by CDC and DHS staff to consider allocating approximately \$2.1M from part of the County's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) allocation towards a **Centralized Housing Location** program. As a reminder, **housing location** is about finding available units and building property owner/manager relationships, while **housing navigation** is helping individuals or families who need housing get "housing-ready" with items like documents, applications, deposit help, and more.

As an update for the CoC Board, the staff team at the CDC (led by Martha Cheever, Dot Irkis and Thai Hilton) have been working with stakeholders to develop the CHL program's draft policies and procedures. Staff has also started meeting with other providers of housing location services to get a sense of their interest in partnering with the more regionwide effort. Lastly, the staff team will (as required) work within the County's "Upstream Investments" Results-Based Accountability (RBA) process to secure the funds preliminarily allocated towards the CHL Program.

CoC Board members should also see a marketing effort, Housing Heroes, beginning soon to encourage more property owners to participate in housing solutions – whether that be master leasing, shared housing, acceptance of rental assistance vouchers provided through the local

Housing Authorities, and more. This “Housing Heroes” awareness program is the kickoff towards building a larger stable of property owner participants in our regional housing assets dedicated towards low and very-low income or other needy families and individuals.

# #



## Sonoma County Continuum of Care Executive Summary

**Item:** 9. Standing Committee Report: Coordinated Entry Advisory Committee (CEA): Updates to Coordinated Entry (CE) policies and procedures

**Date:** August 17, 2022

**Staff Contact:** Hunter Scott [hscott@homefirstsc.org](mailto:hscott@homefirstsc.org)

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### Agenda Item Overview

HomeFirst will be submitting regular updates to the recently approved CE policies and procedures or other documents related to Coordinated Entry. Attached are several minor updates to the Assessment, Uniform Referral Procedure and Prioritization for Other Housing Projects procedures. Additionally, there is an update to the CE release of information. All changes are in red text.

The CEA met on August 17, 2022 and approved these changes.

### Recommendation

Approve the changes to the CE polices and procedures and CE release of information.

## A. Assessment

The CES Assessment is a comprehensive process that supports households in identifying solutions to their immediate housing crisis and if necessary, adding them to the Coordinated Entry System By-Name-List. It shall be offered to all households in Categories 1 and 4 of the federal definition of homelessness (see Definitions above), **except those already enrolled in a CES-referred housing program, who were referred to that program based on community prioritization standards.**

### Uniform Referral Procedure

- 1) All housing referrals, except those identified below, shall be identified and unanimously agreed upon by the community present at the CES Case Conference. Exceptions are:
  - a. Participants referred to housing programs dedicated to survivors of or those fleeing domestic violence; see “Referrals to Housing Programs Dedicated to Survivors of or Those Fleeing Domestic Violence” below;
  - b. Those RRH openings set aside for participants who have identified housing as described in Prioritization for Rapid Rehousing in section [D. Prioritization](#).
- 2) Referrals shall be made based on community prioritization standards (see section [D. Prioritization](#)), initial eligibility, and the following standards:
  - a. For each housing intervention (PSH, RRH etc), when there are multiple providers seeking openings, each program shall be limited to 5 referrals in each CES Case Conference. Exceptions may be made on a case-by-case basis.
    - i. Three additional referrals may be provided as “back-up” referrals at provider request between CES Case Conference.
  - b. Within each housing intervention type (PSH, RRH, and “Other”), 75% of openings referred to at each case conference shall be referred based on next Total Prioritization Score on the active By-Name-List and initial eligibility screening. The remaining 25% (rounded down in when the number is not whole), or 1 opening, whichever is higher, shall be set aside for Enhanced Prioritization,

Progressive Engagement, or program transfer, based on community prioritization standards and initial eligibility screening. If no participants are submitted within these categories, the remaining openings within each intervention type shall be filled based on the next Total Prioritization Score and initial eligibility screening.

- c. Within any set of openings to a particular intervention type (PSH, RRH, and “Other”) with eligibility criteria that can accept any subpopulation type (individuals, families, TAY), equal referrals shall be made from each subpopulation active By-Name-List. If there are an odd number of openings, priority shall be made for the subpopulation(s) with higher number of eligible participants on the relevant By-Name-List.
- 3) The CES Operator shall submit all referrals agreed upon in CES Case Conference within 24 hours in HMIS to the relevant housing provider, along with a copy of the HMIS project history.
- 4) The housing provider shall be responsible for contacting the participant and offering to move forward with the referral.
  - a. Access Points and other community providers who are in contact with the referred participant have a role in supporting the housing provider in contacting the participant, within staffing availability.
- 5) If multiple programs with the same eligibility criteria have openings, the above standards (2) a.-c.) shall be followed for all programs with openings, inclusive of the same participant being referred more than once at the same time. The housing providers shall coordinate, including at CES Case Conference, to ensure the referred participant is offered the choice between openings. **Participants shall not receive an additional referral if they already have a pending referral from 24 hours or more prior.**
  - a. **Participants shall have 48 hours from the time they are offered the choice between housing programs to make their choice. If no choice is made, the program that is located closest to the participant’s location preference identified at assessment shall remain available to the participant, and the other program shall receive a new referral following the Uniform Referral Procedure. If no preference was given, the program that first notified the CES Operator of an opening will remain available to the participant.**
- 6) The housing provider shall record all attempts to contact the participant when following up on a referral. Records of attempted contacts, contacts made and their disposition shall be recorded in the “Case Notes” of each participant’s HMIS CES Dashboard.

7) Once the housing provider has verified eligibility (see “section [H. Eligibility Documentation Roles and Responsibilities](#)”), they shall accept the referral in HMIS.

- a. If the housing provider cannot verify eligibility, they shall follow the “Rejection of Referrals” policy and procedure below.

#### Prioritization for Other Housing Projects

There are housing projects that come online from time to time that do not meet the definition of either RRH or PSH, but provide housing to persons experiencing homelessness and receive referrals through CES. Examples include permanent housing vouchers or units targeted to the homeless population that do not include additional case management support. These projects shall still prioritize those with the most severe service needs first in alignment with HUD Notice CPD-17-01, **while also taking into account** an appropriate level of service needs for the services provided by the project. **Factors that shall be taken into account include:**

- Case management case-load, if any
- On-site or off-site case management
- Case management/property staff focus and training
- Case management/property staff hours of operation

#### *Procedure:*

- 1) When permanent housing projects that will receive referrals from CES are being developed that do not meet the definitions of RRH or PSH, **the Coordinated Entry Operator shall meet with the agencies involved in the project, including the Housing Authority when relevant, to determine collaboratively the appropriate Total Prioritization Score range that will be prioritized for referrals to the project.**
- 2) Within the determined Total Prioritization Score range, participants shall be prioritized first according to the highest Total Prioritization Score on the By-Name-Lists.
  - a. Exceptions shall be made to those who are brought to CES Case Conferencing for Enhanced Assessment and Prioritization. See Enhanced Assessment and Prioritization under [E. Referral](#) for details.
- 3) **The Coordinated Entry Advisory Committee shall be notified whenever score ranges are established or modified.**

#### By-Name-List Management and Inactive Policy

A participant shall remain on the active list until they are housed permanently, they voluntarily request to be removed, there has been no contact with the system in 90 days, or all efforts have been exhausted in attempting to contact the participant.

*Procedure:*

- 1) Housing Programs shall notify the CES Operator when a participant is housed or leaves the CoC geographic bounds, and the Operator shall exit the participant from the CES HMIS program and remove them from the By-Name-List.
- 2) Participants may contact any Access Point or the CES Operator directly and request to be removed from the By-Name-List. If this occurs at an Access Point, the Access Point shall notify the Operator of the request, who shall remove them from the list and the CES HMIS program.
- 3) The CES Operator shall perform weekly data cleaning of the By-Name-Lists and remove from active any participant who has not had known contact with a homeless program (outreach, shelter, safe haven, transitional housing, safe parking, CES) in the HMIS system for 90 days.
  - a. Wherever possible, the operator shall confirm with collaborative system partners who manage similar lists, including Sonoma County Behavioral Health and the Veterans By-Name-List, that the participant is no longer homeless in the community before making them inactive on the By-Name-List.
  - b. Fifteen days before making inactive the Operator shall reach out to known contacts of the participant in HMIS to inform them that participant will be removed if no touchpoint is added.
  - c. The list of potential inactive names shall be presented at CES Case Conference to confirm lack of contact from any provider present, before making inactive.
  - d. The Operator shall create an “inactive” tag for the participant when doing so which will remove them from the active By-Name-List
- 4) The Operator shall add the inactive tag to any participant who has had a housing referral rejected because the community present at CES Case Conferencing has unanimously agreed that all efforts have been exhausted in attempting to contact the participant.
- 5) Any participant removed from the By-Name-List may be re-added at any time with the same Total Prioritization Score when they make contact with the system and choose to be on the list again. They shall not be required to complete the CES Assessment again, though Access Points shall encourage them to do so if it has been over 1 year since the last Standardized Assessment Tool was completed.

- a. If a participant does not want to complete the Standardized Assessment Tool again but wishes to be re-added to the By-Name-List after being removed or made inactive, the Access Point fielding the request shall notify the CES Operator along with any updated contact information, who shall re-enroll the participant in the CES HMIS program if necessary and add them to the By-Name-List based on the last information known.



## Sonoma County Continuum of Care Executive Summary

**Item:** 9 Standing Committee Report. Coordinated Entry Advisory Committee (CEA): Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV) supportive services gap and referral subpopulations

**Date:** August 17, 2022

**Staff Contact:** Thai Hilton [Thai.Hilton@sonoma-county.org](mailto:Thai.Hilton@sonoma-county.org)

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### Agenda Item Overview

The CoC board directed that a working group be developed to address the gap in supportive services for Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) clients. The working group met twice and could not provide any suggestions to close this gap but did provide direction on how to not add to the problem by changing the subpopulations that are served by CE from Chronically homeless with high service needs to much less vulnerable populations that do not have high service needs. These recommendations are supported by the Housing Authorities and the CEA.

### Background

The Coordinated Entry Advisory Committee (CEA) was empowered to select the subpopulations that would be served by the Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) program. The CEA directed many of these referrals at very vulnerable populations who generally require intensive supportive services when placed in housing. When the EHV program started, the intention was to pair EHV referrals with Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG-CV), Rapid Rehousing (RRH) funding. This seems to be the only resource that we have to address this problem. When the last Request for Proposals went out for ESG-CV funding, only one agency applied for RRH funding. Because of this, there is a lack of resources to provide supportive services for all of those who have an EHV voucher. The CoC board asked that a work group be formed to try to identify strategies to cover this gap. This group has met twice and has been unable to develop a proposal to serve all of the clients with EHV vouchers but has developed proposals for limiting future gaps in the EHV program.

### Scope of Service Gap for EHV's

There are roughly 125 EHV holders who do not have on-going supportive services. Based on the step-down policy for housing in hand ESG-CV-Rapid Rehousing (RRH) referrals, the system can provide around 38 more non-prioritized referrals. If we were able to make these referrals, this would reduce the number of those without supportive services to around 87. However, the problem is not only a result of having restrictive funding but also an issue of system capacity. The one agency that has ESG-CV RRH funding and is able to serve EHV clients reports that they have only 1 staff member who can provide supportive services. This means that the system can realistically serve at most 25 additional clients in the next year, making the total gap roughly 100 individuals. Many agencies have issues with staffing capacity which makes it difficult to serve these clients even if there were less restrictive funding that did not require CE referrals. To be clear, many agencies are still supporting their clients who were referred but will not be able to provide support in the longer term. This means that vulnerable clients with EHV's will either struggle to find housing with their vouchers and will thus lose them to expiration or they will be housed without supportive services which reduces their ability to maintain their housing.



## Suggested Solutions

The working group could not offer any suggestions on how to support those who have already received EHV but they did provide a recommendation on how to avoid enlarging the problem. The working group recommended to the CEA that a change be made to the EHV target populations. They recommended that only individuals who have a score of 4 or below be referred to EHV. Individuals at this scoring range will not need intensive supportive services and a voucher is all they need to permanently end their homelessness. Referrals would start with scores of 4 and move down, always serving the most vulnerable in that range. The working group did not recommend any specific populations rather a scoring range.

These recommendations came from insights gained from communities that have very high EHV lease up rates. Additionally, this offers our community an opportunity to serve individuals who would never realistically be served by our system of care because their vulnerability is so low that they would never be referred to our traditional interventions.

On August 17, 2022, the CEA considered this proposal and agreed to refer individuals with lower vulnerability. The CEA voted to create a tiered system to EHV referrals. (below) The CEA also decided to take a racial equity approach to the new referral populations. They decided to target vouchers at historically underserved communities in Sonoma County. This would be done by partnering with an agency that serves individuals from underserved communities and to have them refer individuals with low vulnerability. Below is the tiered system that was approved by the CEA. Priority would be given to the top tier until there are no individuals left to refer and then would shift to a lower tier. The CEA recommends this change to the EHV referral populations.

Tier 1: PSH Move on

Tier 2: Two buckets

- 1) 50% households in the 1-4 scoring range;
- 2) 50% 1-4 scoring range, AND households who were assessed at agencies that target racial and ethnic groups that are historically underserved in Sonoma County housing for people experiencing homelessness



**Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board  
Agenda Report**

**Item No:** 10  
**Subject:** September 28, 2022 CoC Board Meeting Draft Agenda  
**Meeting Date:** August 24, 2022  
**Staff Contact:** Alea Tantarelli, [Alea.Tantarelli@Sonoma-County.org](mailto:Alea.Tantarelli@Sonoma-County.org)

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**SUMMARY**

This staff report briefly summarizes the September 28<sup>th</sup>, 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 September 28<sup>th</sup>, 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 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**

	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Packet Item</b>	<b>Presenter</b>	<b>Time</b>
	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) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 9/28/22 Agenda</li> <li>• Minutes from 8/24/22</li> <li>• Summary of Follow-ups from the Previous Meeting(s)</li> </ul>	Consent Calendar Staff Report with Attachments Included	Board Chair	1:05pm
2.	Reports from Lead Agency Staff	Staff Report for Reports from Lead Agency	CDC Staff	1:35pm
3.	Word from the Street		Chessy Etheridge	2:10pm
4.	10-minute break			2:20pm
5.	Homeless Service Provider Group Update		Margaret Sluyk	2:30pm
6.	Reports from Standing Committees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding &amp; Evaluation Committee</li> <li>• CoC Competition Evaluation Committee</li> <li>• Coordinated Entry Advisory (CEA) Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ CEA Advisory Standards for Rapid Rehousing and Permanent Supportive Housing</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Strategic Plan Committee</li> <li>• Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)/Data Committee</li> </ul>		Committee Representatives	2:40pm

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lived Experience Advisory &amp; Planning Board (LEAP)</li> <li>Youth Advisory Board (YAB)</li> </ul>			
7.	Quarterly Membership Meeting Agenda for October (ACTION ITEM) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HUDs Equal Access Rule Training</li> </ul>	Staff Report	CDC Staff	3:40pm
8.	Review Agenda for September CoC Board Meeting	- Staff Report for DRAFT Agenda 10/26/22	Board Chair	4:00pm
9.	Board Member Questions & Comments		Board Chair	4:15pm
10.	Public Comment on Non-Agendized Items		Board Chair	4:30pm

**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](mailto: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.*