

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY HOMELESS ACTION PARTNERSHIP

MEETING MINUTES

Santa Cruz County Homeless Action Partnership Board Meeting

County of Santa Cruz CAO Conference Room
701 Ocean Street, Room 520
Santa Cruz, California

Friday, September 13, 2019, 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

HAP Board Members Present: Rayne Marr (Chair), Amy Peeler, Susie O’Hara, Don Lane, Judy Hutchinson

HAP Board Members Absent: Tamara Vides, Linda Lemaster, Tina Friend, Kelly Conway

HAP Staff Present: Ingrid Trejo, Tony Gardner

1. Overview of the HAP Board Role & Process

The HAP Board heard and discussed a presentation by HAP staff regarding the HAP Board role and function in rating, ranking, and tiering project proposals, reallocating funds, and selecting a bonus and DV bonus projects, for HUD CoC funds; CoC strategic considerations and options; and the conflict of interest requirements pertaining to HAP Board Members.

Each HAP Board Member present signed and submitted a Certification relating to conflict of interest. Don Lane disclosed a potential conflict relating to a specific project proposal, and thus recused himself from any discussion, consideration, or voting in connection with that project proposal.

2. New Project Presentations/Q&A

The HAP Board then received brief presentations from and engaged in questions and answers (Q&A) with all of the following applicants/projects requesting new project funding in 2019:

1. Community Bridges – CoC Bonus Homeless Elder Access CES Request
2. HSC – CoC Bonus Page Smith TH and RRH Expansion Request
3. WAFWC – DV Bonus RRH Program Request

The presentations/Q&A included information on the project proposals, *All In* priorities and HUD priorities, anticipated CoC NOFA requirements, and challenge relating to reallocation of funds from renewal projects to new projects.

ABOUT THE HAP:

The Homeless Action Partnership is a countywide action team that meets regularly to implement plans to prevent and end homelessness.

Membership is open to all and includes:

- ◆ County agencies
- ◆ Cities
- ◆ Nonprofit agencies
- ◆ Advocates
- ◆ Health providers
- ◆ Educators
- ◆ Faith groups
- ◆ Funders
- ◆ Community members
- ◆ Homeless persons

HAP VISION:

Our vision is that the diverse residents of Santa Cruz County will have access to safe, stable housing, will have incomes to support their well-being, and will have access to culturally competent services empowering them to meet their basic needs and lead dignified lives.

HAP MISSION:

Our mission is to prevent, dramatically reduce, and eventually end homelessness and its impact on communities throughout Santa Cruz County by implementing effective programs and strategies, by working collaboratively to increase key resources and change systems to better meet the needs of diverse homeless sub-populations, and by engaging all persons and organizations needed to work together for these purposes.

HAP CONTACT:

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3. Project Ranking/Tiering Decisions & Bonus Project Selection

The HAP Board then engaged in a discussion and decision process including consideration of the following:

- a. HAP Board Members’ review of the applications using previously publicly announced objective scoring criteria that included HMIS-generated performance measures.
- b. The above-referenced new proposal presentations/Q&A with applicants.
- c. HAP Board discussion of application ranking scenarios in the context of *All In* strategic plan and HUD priorities, performance metrics, tiering considerations, etc.

After careful consideration, the HAP Board made the following CoC application rank order and amount, bonus project, reallocation, and tiering decisions:

Project Rank Order/Tiering/Amounts:

Rank	Aggregate score	Agency	Project	Component/Population	New/ Renewal	Max. Allowable Funding Request
Tier 1						
1	95.75	HSA/Homeless Persons’ Health Project	M.A.T.C.H.	Permanent supportive housing: Single adults who have been chronically homeless with alcohol issues	Renewal	\$614,132
2	95.5	Housing Authority/HSA (Homeless Persons’ Health Project)	Shelter Plus Care Renewal	Permanent supportive housing: Chronically homeless adults & those with mental disabilities	Renewal	\$747,994
3	92.125	County HSD	Brommer St. PSH	Permanent supportive housing: Chronically homeless families with children	New Self Re-allocation	\$57,067
4	89.5	County Health Services Agency	Permanent Supportive Housing Master Leasing Bonus Project	Permanent supportive housing: Chronically homeless persons with long histories of homelessness/severe service barriers	Renewal	\$105,236
5	88.75	Housing Authority	New Roots (YHDP)	Permanent supportive housing: young adults and families ages 18-24	Renewal	\$150,741
6	86.75	Encompass Community Services	Freedom Cottage Homeless Housing Project	Permanent supportive housing: Homeless adults with a disability	Renewal	\$15,645
7	85.5	Encompass Community Services	Housing for Health 3 PSH	Permanent supportive housing: Chronically homeless persons with long histories of homelessness/severe service barriers	Renewal	\$90,429

8	85.5	Homeless Services Center	Page Smith TH and RRH	Transitional housing and rapid rehousing: Single adults	Renewal	\$147,683
9	85.25	County HSD	Coordinated Entry System	Coordinated entry program: all homeless, incl. chronically homeless, families, youth, vets, & others	Renewal	\$228,362
10	83.25	Families in Transition	Young Adults Achieving Success (Y.A.A.S) – YHDP 2.0	Rapid re-housing: Pregnant/parenting youth 18-24 years	Renewal	\$195,911
11	82	Families in Transition	First Step Scattered Site Rapid Re-Housing Project	Rapid re-housing: Families with children from the streets or shelters	Renewal	\$410,804
12	80	Community Technology Alliance	HMIS	HMIS data: Individuals, families & children	Renewal	\$91,699
13a	80.375	WAFWC	Rapid Rehousing Program for Survivors of DV	Rapid re-housing: Families and individuals fleeing DV	New (DV Bonus)	\$3,021

Total Tier 1: \$2,858,724

Tier 2						
13b	80.375	WAFWC	Rapid Rehousing Program for Survivors of DV	Rapid re-housing: Families and individuals fleeing DV	New (DV Bonus)	\$76,510
14	76.5	Bill Wilson Center	Santa Cruz County Shared Housing	Transitional housing: unaccompanied homeless youth 18-24	Renewal	\$108,679
15	78.25	Encompass Community Services	Housing for Health 2 PSH	Permanent supportive housing: Chronically homeless persons with long histories of homelessness/severe service barriers	Renewal	\$44,108
16	81.875	Community Bridges	Santa Cruz County Homeless Elders Access Project	Coordinated entry program: homeless seniors	New (CoC Bonus)	\$150,425

Total Tier 2: \$379,722

Reallocation

After very careful consideration, the HAP Board reallocated \$57,067 from the Housing Authority's Brommer Street TH & RRH renewal to the County Human Services Department (HSD) Brommer Street PSH new project. To encourage reallocation in line with HUD policy, the HAP has given

priority for reallocated funds to applicants that voluntarily request to reallocate their own TH projects or other projects that are no longer needed, no longer match the agency's mission, or are underperforming on the one hand to one of the eligible new reallocation project types on the other. Thus, the Housing Authority's and HSD's joint request to reallocate \$57,067 from Brommer Street TH & RRH renewal to Brommer Street PSH new project was accepted.

CoC Bonus Project

This year, Santa Cruz County agencies were eligible to competitively apply for \$150,425 as a bonus for a new CH-dedicated PSH project, new DedicatedPlus PSH project, new joint TH and RRH project, new RRH project, new Coordinated Entry project, or new HMIS project. Two qualified proposals for the CoC bonus funds were submitted: (1) HSC's Page Smith TH and RRH new expansion project requesting \$150,424, and (2) the Community Bridges Homeless Elder Access CES new project requesting \$150,425. After hearing presentations from both applicants and carefully considering the merits of both projects, the HAP Board selected the Community Bridges Homeless Elder Access CES new project for the entire bonus, while it declined the HSC's Page Smith TH and RRH new expansion project. This decision in no way reflect badly on HSC or its new expansion project. Rather, this was simply a difficult choice that had to be made between two well-qualified projects.

DV Bonus

This year, HUD made available \$50 million nationally for a competitive Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus, to provide housing and services to survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. CoC could apply for up to 10 percent of its Preliminary Pro Rata Need (PPRN), which is \$79,431 in our case. Applicants could apply for DV Bonus funding for:

1. Rapid Re-housing (PH-RRH) projects.
2. Joint TH and PH-RRH component projects.
3. Supportive Services Only Projects for Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE) to implement policies, procedures, and practices that equip the CoC's coordinated entry to better meet the needs of DV survivors.

Only one project applied for the DV bonus. Thus, the HAP Board selected the WAFWC – DV Bonus RRH project for the entire bonus amount of \$79,431.

Tiering

Once again, this year HUD required all CoCs to rank all projects in two tiers. Tier 1 is 94% of the Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) of \$3,008,490. 94% of that amount is \$2,858,724. Tier 2 is the remaining 6% of ARD (\$149,766) plus the bonus amount (\$150,425), plus the DV bonus amount (\$79,431) equaling \$379,722. The purpose of tiering is to allow CoCs to clearly indicate to HUD which projects are of highest priority for limited 2019 CoC funds. HUD will select Tier 1 projects before it selects Tier 2 projects. Tier 1 projects are almost certain to be funded (as long as they meet eligibility and threshold requirements), while Tier 2 projects are subject to national competition and are less likely to be funded. Projects can straddle the Tier 1 and Tier 2 line; HUD will fund the Tier 1 amount even if it does not fund the Tier 2 amount, as long as the project is still viable at the lower amount.

After very careful consideration, the HAP Board placed three projects into Tier 2:

First, it placed WAFWC – DV Bonus RRH new project across the Tier 1 and Tier 2 line with \$3,021 in Tier 1 and \$76,510 in Tier 2. In doing so, it elevated the HMIS project above the DV bonus project into Tier 1 due to the critical need to sustain HMIS in order to meet HUD HMIS requirements.

Second, it placed the Bill Wilson Center's Santa Cruz County Shared Youth TH (Host Homes) renewal and the Encompass Community Services Housing for Health 2 PSH renewal in the middle of Tier 2. Finally it placed the Community Bridges Homeless Elder Access CES new project at the bottom of Tier 2.

These decisions in no way reflect badly on the projects placed into Tier 2, nor the submitting agencies. The projects were well designed to be effective, and each applicant agency plays a highly effective and critical role for the persons experiencing homelessness they serve. Rather, these were simply difficult choices among limited alternatives.

CoC Planning Grant

The HAP Board approved submission of a CoC planning grant application for the maximum allowable amount - \$90,225. HUD does not require ranking of the project this year.

Respectfully submitted by HAP Staff: *Ingrid Trejo and Tony Gardner*

Submission Date: *September 13, 2019*