

# HOUSING FIRST SOLANO CoC BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, February 22, 2023 | 10:00 – 11:30 A.M.

## Meeting Minutes

### 1. Call to Order

Kari Rader called the meeting to order at 10:03 A.M.

### 2. Roll Call

#### Present CoC Board Members:

Akon Walker, Solano County Office of Education

Amanda Russell, Caminar

Andrea Foti, SHELTER, Inc.

Chris Sheridan, Nation's Finest

Ashley Banta, Opportunity House - VSSC

Elizabeth (Ely) Muniz-Palomera, LEC Co-Chair

Joey Carrizales, Coordinated Entry Co-Chair, Lived Experience Member

Kari Rader, CAN-B

Katie Ward, Solano County Probation

Meghan Freebeck, City of Benicia

Miranda Ramirez, Solano County Behavioral Health

Natalie Peterson, City of Vallejo

Reggie Sironen, Berkely Food and Housing Project

Samantha Meyer, Eden Housing

Scott Mulvey, City Church

Shayne Kaleo, SHELTER, Inc.

Tamara Colden, City of Vacaville

Tara Beasley-Stansberry, Black Chamber of Commerce

### 3. Additions or Deletions

Reneé Parham stated that after Item 7.3 there would be an update regarding the Letter of Support for Nation's Finest which was moved from the January Meeting but was left off the agenda when it got published.

### 4. Approval of the Agenda – ACTION

Joey Carizzales made a motion to approve the agenda. Elizabeth Muniz-Palomera seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. There were no abstentions or objections. The motion was approved.

## **5. Consent Calendar – ACTION**

### **5.1 Approve December 14, 2022 General Membership Minutes**

Scott Mulvey made a motion to approve the minutes with the corrections. Chris Sheridan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Tamara Colden, Samantha Meyers and Andrea Foti abstained. There were no objections. The motion was approved.

### **5.2 Approve January 25, 2023 Housing First Solano CoC Meeting Minutes**

Joey Carizzales made a motion to approve the minutes. Akon Walker seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Chris Sheridan and Tamara Colden abstained. There were no objections. The motion was approved.

## **6. Old Business/Standing Agenda Items**

### **6.1 Veterans Affairs Update**

Chris Sheridan gave an update about new HUD VASH Referral Packet went out and will be used as of March 1, 2023, and that after May 11, 2023 normal SSVF spending will be back in place for qualified Veterans. Jai De Lotto gave an update that there is a GPD Case Management Notice of Funding Opportunity for Veterans needing help to retain their housing or for those transitioning into permanent housing. Jai De Lotto shared this link: <https://www.va.gov/HOMELESS/docs/GPD/GPD-CM-NOFO-FY2024-TA-DueMay4.pdf> and stated that it closes on May 4, 2023.

### **6.2 Committee/Work Group Updates**

#### **6.2a Coordinated Entry System Committee**

DeAndre Richard gave an update that RCS is conducting CoC case conferencing on February 27, 2023 at 10 am and Veteran's case conferencing on February 28, 2023 at 10 am.

#### **6.2b Governance Committee**

Reneé Parham stated that the Governance Committee had a Special Meeting on February 14, 2023 to make some recommended edits to the Governance Charter and that those edits would be discussed later in the meeting.

#### **6.2c HMIS Committee**

Reneé Parham stated that the HMIS Committee meetings would be re-established after the co-chair was nominated by the Board and further updates would be coming.

#### **6.2d Lived Experience Committee**

Elizabeth Muniz-Palomera gave an update that the LEC was preparing to attend the H.O.P.E Event on March 1<sup>st</sup>, and the committee approved having open meetings quarterly, with the first open meeting being March 7, 2023.

#### **6.2e Youth Advisory Board Core Planning Work Group**

Akon Walker gave an update that the next meeting was on February 22, 2023, where there has been an invitation for other providers serving youth to be present, and that there would be some upcoming focus groups happening in Vallejo and Vacaville to

start the process of creating the YAB.

#### **6.2f Racial Equity Action Lab (REAL) Update**

Kari Rader expressed that there was a need for more support for the REAL Team and asked those interested to please put their information in the chat.

### **7. New Business**

#### **7.1 Governance Charter Revisions – DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

Reneé Parham informed the Board that due to Governor Newsom’s decision to end the State of Emergency on February 28, 2023, the impact on Brown Act regulated meetings would require the CoC to return to in-person meetings starting in March. Reneé Parham explained that after some additional research, it was determined that the CoC was not required to be under the regulation of the Brown Act and that the Governance Committee met for a Special Meeting on February 14, 2023, to discuss the transparency that the CoC could maintain while not being required to carry on as a Brown Act regulated governance and still meet virtually. Reneé Parham showed the audience the edits made in the Governance Charter. Kari Rader asked for a motion to approve the edits recommended by the Governance Committee.

Elizabeth Muniz-Palomera made a motion to approve the edits to the Governance Charter. DeAndre Richard seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Akon Walker and Ashley Banta abstained. There were no objections. The motion was approved.

#### **7.2 CoC Subcommittee Co-Chair Nominations – DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

Kari Rader stated that this item was carried over from the January meeting and explained according to the Governance Charter that each subcommittee must be co-chaired by one member of the CoC Board and an optional additional co-chair that was not required to be a Board member. Kari Rader explained that of the 5 Subcommittees of the CoC Board, only 4 would be taking nominations due to the one subcommittee still being in the beginning phases, that being the Grievance Advisory Committee.

##### **7.2a Coordinated Entry System Committee**

Kari Rader explained the role of the Coordinated Entry System (CES) Committee, and that DeAndre Richard, the CES Manager, was now a CoC Board member and could be in the place of the CoC Board Co-Chair position with an open position for a secondary non-Board member Co-Chair, and that DeAndre Richard still had another year as the committees’ co-chair.

DeAndre Richard made a motion to nominate Joey Carizales to remain the additional co-chair for the Coordinated Entry System Committee. Elizabeth Muniz-Palomera seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Joey Carizales and DeAndre Richard abstained. There were no objections. The motion was approved.

##### **7.2b Governance Committee**

Kari Rader explained the role of the Governance Committee and that the previous CoC Board Co-Chair was John Eckstrom. Kari Rader stated that both the CoC Board Co-Chair and the non-CoC Board Co-Chair positions were open for nomination and/or self-nomination.

Scott Mulvey made a motion to nominate John Eckstrom for the Governance Committee CoC Board Co-Chair position. DeAndre Richard made a motion to nominate Miranda Ramirez for the position. Miranda Ramirez respectfully declined. Tamara Colden inquired if John would be required to accept the nomination even though he was not present at the meeting. Maya Spark explained that John Eckstrom could decline the nomination if he chose, and Reneé Parham expressed that she would be reaching out to inform him if he were nominated and ask if he would accept it.

Tara Beasley-Stansberry seconded the motion to nominate John Eckstrom for the Governance Committee CoC Board Co-Chair position. A roll call vote was taken. Andrea Foti abstained. There were no objections. The motion was approved.

DeAndre Richard inquired if Janel Fletcher or Colleen Berumen were interested in the non-CoC Board co-chair position.

Janel Fletcher self-nominated for the non-CoC Board Co-Chair position.

DeAndre Richard motioned to approve Janel Fletcher for the position. Tamara Colden seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. There were no objections or abstentions. The motion was approved.

### **7.2c HMIS Committee**

Kari Rader explained the role of the HMIS Users committee and that in addition to the HMIS Administrator, there was one other co-chair position open that needed to be a CoC Board Member. Kari Rader asked if there were any nominations or self-nominations for this position. DeAndre Richard self-nominated.

Tara Beasley-Stansberry made a motion to nominate DeAndre Richard for the CoC Board Co-Chair position on the HMIS Users Committee. Elizabeth Muniz-Palomera seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Miranda Ramirez abstained. There were no objections. The motion was approved.

### **7.2d Lived Experience Committee (LEC)**

Kari Rader explained the role of the LEC Committee, acknowledged their Board Co-Chair was Elizabeth Muniz-Palomera, and explained that the LEC co-chairs were chosen by LEC Members and then brought to the CoC Board for approval. Kari Rader stated that the LEC had chosen Antonio Pizano to be the additional

co-chair with Elizabeth Muniz-Palomera and asked for a motion to approve Antonio Pizano.

DeAndre Richard made a motion to nominate Antonio Pizano as the additional Co-Chair of the LEC. Joey Carizales seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Elizabeth Muniz-Palomera abstained. There were no objections. The motion was approved.

### **7.3 CSBG Community Needs Assessment and Action Plan – UPDATE**

Devra Edelman announced that the biennial Needs Assessment and Community Action will be coming up in March and reviewed what the process entails based on the document in the [public folder](#).

### **7.4 Signed Letter of Support for Nation’s Finest for SSVF Funding – Update**

Kari Rader stated that Nation’s Finest had submitted a request for a Letter of Support in December and it had been provided and returned to Chris Sheridan for submission with their application for Supportive Services for Veteran Families. The letter was included in the public folder and displayed on the screen for attendees to see.

Chris Sheridan thanked the Board for the support.

## **8. Staff Updates**

### **8.1 Staff Communications**

Reneé Parham gave an update that the Sheltered Point-in-Time and Housing Inventory Count was conducted on January 31, 2023, and that Pathways, the HMIS Administrator, had reached out to the local HMIS users and Service Providers that needed to submit the required data.

Reneé Parham also reminded CoC Board Members to please turn in their Conflict of Interest Forms.

### **8.2 Funding Opportunities**

#### **8.2a Update on Preliminary Emergency Solutions Grant Balance of State (BOS) Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)**

Reneé Parham explained that there would be an upcoming presentation at the JPA Board Meeting regarding the 2023 ESG NOFA to receive approval on the Local Process, including Rank and Review, Timeline, and Scoring Criteria to allow for a timely transition into the competition once the NOFA has been released.

## **9. Presentation**

### **9.1 Landlord Incentive and Support Funds – Resource Connect Solano (RCS)**

DeAndre Richard stated that the RCS landlord support and incentive funds were CoC funds managed by RCS that come from the jurisdictional agreement/Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the JPA that all jurisdictions have paid into, and that a new 3-year MOU had been

signed which allowed for additional flexibility of these support and incentive funds. DeAndre Richard explained the Support Fund maximum remained \$2,000 and the Incentive Fund maximum increased to \$1,000 for the first lease executed with someone exiting homelessness. DeAndre Richard encouraged all service providers to reach out on behalf of their clients in need of a rental subsidy to see if these funds could be used on their behalf.

#### **10. Adjourn**

Scott Mulvey made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:22 am. Elizabeth Muniz-Palomera seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. There were no objections or abstentions. The meeting was adjourned.