



**MEETING Minutes**  
IMPERIAL VALLEY CONTINUUM OF CARE COUNCIL  
**January 9, 2020**  
**8:30 – 10:00 am**

**Location: DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES, 2895 SOUTH 4<sup>TH</sup> STREET, CLASSROOM A, EL CENTRO, CA**

**IVCCC MISSION**

TO ENGAGE INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS OF IMPERIAL VALLEY IN A COMMUNITY-BASED PROCESS THAT WORKS TO ERADICATE HOMELESSNESS IN THE REGION, ADDRESSES THE UNDERLYING CAUSES OF HOMELESSNESS, AND LESSENS THE NEGATIVE IMPACT OF HOMELESSNESS ON INDIVIDUALS, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITY.

- I. **Welcome, Pledge and Invocation Sergeant Thompson (pledge) Les Smith (Invocation)**
- II. **Introductions:**
- III. **Approval of the agenda for Thursday, January 9, 2020: Les Smith (Motion) Ken Wuytens (2<sup>nd</sup>)**
- IV. **Approval of Minutes for December 12, 2019: Les Smith (Motion) Ken Wuytens (2<sup>nd</sup>)**
- V. **Public Comments:** Sergeant Thompson announced he was directed to focus fully on street outreach with the homeless, starting February 14, 2020. He informed everyone to coordinate with him to help homeless in the future. City of El Centro announced new members Stella Mendoza and Claire Dehesa.  

Public Comment is limited to items NOT listed on agenda. This is an opportunity for members of the public to address the council on any subject matter within the council's jurisdiction. Any action taken as a result of public comment shall be limited to direction to staff. Individuals will be given three (3) minutes to address the council; Groups or topics will be given a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes. Public comments will be limited to a maximum of 30 minutes. If additional time is required for public comments, they will be heard at the end of the meeting.
- VI. **Presentation(s):** Ricardo Ortega, Director Calexico Neighborhood House (Presentation occurred at 9:48 a.m.)  
Mr. Ortega provided a presentation about their agency "Calexico Neighborhood House". He went in depth on their history and the services they provide. He provided a one-page summary sheet of the services/ programs they have. Ricardo shared about their new winter emergency shelter. He said it was made possible with the help of Calexico's Mayor, Mr. Hodge.  
He also shared about how Catholic Charities plans to demolish their current Men's shelter in Calexico and they are looking towards building two new shelters. Although they are looking for land first.
- VII. **Reports/Discussion/Action Items:**
  - A. CoC Standing Committee Reports:
    1. CoC Evaluation and Resources – Susan Chasang provided helpful information to the CoC about the evaluation committee. Still forming the committee. Looking for those who like to work/and work with data.
    2. Veterans Services – No update
    3. Youth Services – No update
    4. Point In Time – Isaen Equihua shared the number of volunteers that have been trained, and the importance of the PIT Count. He also shared a double sided summary sheet of the PIT Count and Housing Inventory Chart numbers that were recently released by HUD. He placed extra copies by the sign in table, for anyone to take. Lastly, he reminded everyone that there will be a PIT Count training today, right after the IVCCC meeting, at 10:30 AM in the same room.
    5. Victim Services – Yeri Soto from WomanHaven gave an update that they have done a PowerPoint but have not finalized it to present for training for the CoC.
    6. Coordinated Entry System:
      - a. Diversity and Inclusion – Not an active committee  
Mickey Castro reported that we need people to form the Diversity and Inclusion Committee.

- b. Education, Training and Employment – Kathy Grijalva shared that they created a resource list and they will continue to update it. She offered everyone to contact her to provide with any new resource information, so they can continue to add to the resource list.
- c. Mainstream Resources – No report
- d. Outreach and Recruitment – Not an active Committee  
Mickey Castro reported that we need people to form the Outreach and Recruitment committee. She briefly explained the focus of the committee and how it may affect funding. Susan Chasang shared that the requirements for subcommittees are in the IVCCC charter, on which Mickey expanded on this subject.

B. Executive Board Report: Les Smith, Executive Board Chair

- 1. Les Smith provided an update for the Executive Board. He informed everyone that they met yesterday (January 8, 2020), but did not meet quorum. Therefore, they will meet again on Friday January 10, 2020 at 2 PM as an emergency meeting in order to make decisions on how we will want to spend the future funds for HHAP. He informed everyone that we are eligible for about \$3.2 million through HHAP from the State.

C. IVCCC Administrative Entity Report: Isaen Equihua

1. Grant Updates –

- A. Homeless Emergency Aid Program (**HEAP**) – Isaen Equihua informed everyone that they met the State’s requirement of having contractually obligated fifty percent of the HEAP funds by January 1, 2020. The requirement was met by finalizing one of the projects that was awarded with more than half of the total HEAP funds. DSS continues to work on all HEAP projects, by communicating back and forth with awarded agencies, as well as internally with County Counsel.
- B. California Emergency Solutions Housing (**CESH**) – Isaen Equihua informed everyone that they are still working on all CESH projects, by communicating back and forth with awarded agencies, as well as internally with County Counsel.
- C. HUD FY 2019 Continuum of Care (CoC) Program NOFA – Isaen announced that they still have not received any update on the CoC funds that were applied for back in September of 2019.
- D. HHAP – Isaen Equihua recapped on what Les Smith had shared and provided exact amounts of what our community is eligible for through HHAP. \$1,664,521.41 for CoC and \$1,552,844.76 for County. Isaen briefly explained that the State split the distribution of their funds for HHAP, by CoC, Large Cities, and County.

- 2. Homeless Plan – Isaen shared that the TAC workshop in December was a great turn out. County working on the plan.

**VIII. Roundtable - Agency announcement/reports/services, etc.**

- Mike Azzu from the US Census explained his purpose for being present at the IVCCC and in our County. He shared about their role in our upcoming US census in Imperial County.
- Ray Roben from Roben Real Estate (CRP) announced that it’s been a lot of work in getting these HEAP funds on both ends (the awarded agencies and the County), as well as a huge learning experience. He provided a brief insight on the extent of work that goes into applying for these funds and finalizing the process for both ends. Their end and the County’s end. Ray shared that it’s good that there’s more funding being offered from the federal and state government to address homelessness. He shared that there is such a high need in helping homeless and expressed that it used to be more difficult before to help homeless, since there was less funds coming in. He shared his support and vision on the CoC, and thinks that there are good things coming along for the CoC. He shared some ideas as to how he envisions the CoC operating and expanding in the future.

**IX. Meeting Adjourned at 10: 40 a.m.** Next Meeting: Thursday, February 13, 2020 from 8:30-10:00 a.m.