

# HOUSING FIRST SOLANO COC BOARD

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2016 | 11:30 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.**

SUISUN CITY CHAMBERS, LOCATED AT 701 CIVIC CENTER BLVD., SUISUN CITY, 94585

## SPECIAL COC BOARD MEETING AGENDA

*If you wish to address any item listed on the Agenda, please feel free to participate in the discussion. Housing First Solano does not discriminate against persons with disabilities and holds meetings in accessible facilities. If you wish to attend this meeting and you require assistance in order to participate, please call HomeBase (415.788.7961) at least 48 hours in advance of the event to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. For items not listed on the Agenda, please see items from the public comment section below.*

### Attendance

Tranine Chisom, Caminar, Housing First Solano CoC Board Chair  
Chari Barrera, City of Vallejo (Alternate for Anne Putney)  
Raymond Courtemanche, Mission Solano (Alternate for Ron Marlette)  
Daniel Del Monte, Solano County  
John Evalle, Office of U.S. Representative John Garamendi  
Tamara Colden, City of Vacaville  
Ron Grassi, Solano County  
Nicole Holloway, City of Fairfield  
Kristin Kamm, City of Benicia  
Kat Lawton, City of Suisun City  
Daniel Marshall, Fairfield Police Department  
Zoila Perez-Sanchez, Fairfield Suisun Unified School District  
Norma Jean Ramos, Christian Help Center  
Keetra Welling, Community Action North Bay (Alternate for Ruth Matz)

### Other Attendees

Germaine Luciano-Hatchell, Edge Community Church  
Carolyn Wylie, HomeBase – CoC Staff  
Genevieve Herreria, HomeBase – CoC Staff

### **1. Call to Order**

Tranine Chisom called the meeting to order at 11:32 AM

### **2. Roll Call**

There was a quorum of Board members present

**HOUSING FIRST SOLANO**

HomeBase | *Advancing Solutions to Homelessness* [solano@homebaseccc.org](mailto:solano@homebaseccc.org)

**3. Presentations**

There were no presentations.

**4. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**5. Additions to or Deletions from the Agenda**

**ACTION**

There were no additions to or deletions from the agenda.

**6. Approval of the Agenda**

**ACTION**

Daniel Del Monte moved to approve the agenda. Norma Jean Ramos seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposition or abstentions.

**7. Consent Calendar**

**ACTION**

**7.1 Approve HFS Board Minutes of Regular Meeting August 24, 2016**

**ACTION**

Kat Lawton noted that there was an incomplete sentence on page 5 of the draft October 24, 2016 meeting minutes: “Some counties do both (the housing authorities).” Motion to approve the minutes with “(the housing authorities)” deleted from page 5. Motion by Kat Lawton. John Evalle seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposition or abstentions.

**8. Old Business**

None

**9. New Business**

**9.1 Review CoC Application, Provide Feedback, and Approve for Submission**

**ACTION**

Regarding the unsheltered PIT Count, Daniel Del Monte noted the importance of adhering to a consistent methodology so that the 2015 unsheltered PIT count could be used as a reliable benchmark going forward. John Evalle asked if it was noted in the CoC Application that Housing First Solano did not conduct the optional 2016 unsheltered PIT count and thus had to answer several questions comparing the 2013 unsheltered PIT Count to the 2015 unsheltered PIT count, where the two counts were conducted using different methodologies and implementation strategies, thus providing an incomplete picture of the CoC’s efforts in this area. Carolyn Wylie confirmed that the CoC Application did include this explanation.

Ron Grassi asked for confirmation that Housing First Solano was not able to count Dixon’s six permanent supportive housing beds in its 2016 HIC. Carolyn Wylie confirmed, as well as

noting that 23 beds (CoC and CSBG) came online after the 2016 HIC and also were not counted.

Zoila Perez-Sanchez asked for details on Housing First Solano's plans to better address homeless youth, including the provision of shelter beds for homeless youth. Carolyn Wylie explained that the 2017 plan is to incentivize a new provider to provide dedicated homeless youth services. Wylie also noted that we will have a more accurate picture of the CoC's homeless youth population once the 2017 youth-only PIT count is conducted in January, particularly given that it is likely that the last count undercounted the homeless youth population. John Evalle agreed that Housing First Solano should prioritize homeless youth, and asked Zoila if her agency uses the same definition of homeless youth as HUD does. Zoila explained that her agency uses the more expansive McKinney-Vento Education Act definition of homeless youth, which includes youth who are "couch surfing" or otherwise staying with family or friends. Carolyn commented that the CoC is aware of the difference in the definitions; however, HUD requires that the CoC use the narrower definition for the CoC's PIT count. She explained that training would be provided to the CoC stakeholders and public regarding the differing definitions and that the CoC and educational system would work together closely on the 2017 youth-only PIT count. Zoila emphasized the importance of stopping the cycle of misunderstanding the homeless youth population. Carolyn proposed the idea of forming a subcommittee to focus on the identification and prevention of homelessness among youth in 2017. Several attendees agreed with this notion.

Dan Marshall asked for the definition of housing location services. Daniel Del Monte explained that housing location services are supportive services provided to help participants locate available affordable housing. Daniel noted that some communities assign realtors or agency staff to providing housing location services, and that the best performing communities tend to separate housing location services and case management services among distinct individuals so each can properly focus on delivering appropriate services. Carolyn Wylie flagged that the Community Action Partnership of Solano Joint Powers Authority (the Collaborative Applicant for Housing First Solano) has a new application pending with HUD for Coordinated Entry Expansion that would help fund staff to provide some of these services. Ron Grassi asked about whether the CoC had plans to discuss increasing the supply of affordable housing in its Regional Strategic Plan; Carolyn confirmed that affordable housing supply would be a part of the Plan.

John Evalle asked for confirmation that those recently released from prison are not considered "homeless" by HUD's definition. Keetra Welling confirmed that being in prison is considered being housed. Dan Marshall commented that this policy often leads to a cycle of homelessness and crime. John wondered if something could be done to change this policy. Dan mentioned that hospitals have similar issues with their discharged patients. Carolyn

Wylie pointed at that it depended upon the specifics of that person's situation and how long they had been in that situation and whether they had any resources at that time. She suggested that the CoC could take up the issue of discharge planning at a future meeting in 2017 as a priority.

Keetra Welling pointed out that program participants may not be seeing big increases in income in part because there has not been a Cost of Living Adjustment for social security.

Keetra Welling asked for confirmation that Heather House had attended at least two CoC meetings in the past year. Carolyn Wylie confirmed that we did have a representative present for two CoC meetings this year. Several other Board members recalled seeing Heather House represented at meetings as well. Carolyn clarified that Committee meetings also were included in the question that Keetra referenced in the CoC application.

Keetra Welling asked for confirmation that Housing First Solano had a representative of the hospitals and/or healthcare providers attend at least two CoC-related meetings this year. Carolyn Wylie confirmed that we did have a representative present for meetings. Dan Marshall commented on the importance of having the hospitals represented in CoC meetings. Daniel Del Monte mentioned that he had reached out to Sutter Health and another healthcare entity about having them join the CoC Board.

Keetra Welling asked if we had an EMT or crisis response presence at CoC meetings over the past year. Carolyn Wylie and Dan Marshall confirmed that the Fairfield Police Department's Street Outreach Team filled the role of crisis response.

Raymond Courtemanche suggested doing more work with CHOC to continue conversations about housing, and that members of the community should schedule some time to sit down with board member Maurillio Leon from CHOC to get his perspective on housing.

Nicole Holloway moved to approve the Consolidated Application as presented to the Board with opportunity to provide feedback until Monday, September 12, 2016. Kat Lawton seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposition or abstentions.

## **9.2 Review Dates for CoC & CoC Board meetings for November/December ACTION**

Tranine Chisom facilitated a conversation where the following dates were picked for the rest of 2016:

October 26, 2016: General CoC Meeting

November 16, 2016: CoC Board Meeting

December 14, 2016: CoC Holiday Potluck

## **10. Comments from Board Members**

Keetra Welling requested an updated roster of the CoC Board and a list of CoC members. Carolyn Wylie stated that the Roster is on the website.

Daniel Del Monte announced that CalWORKS recently revised its Once In A Lifetime program to allow CalWORKS eligible individuals to redeem their 16 days of covered motel stays over the course of a year, instead of the previous policy that required the days to be consecutive. The Program is not a use-or-lose program. The funding can also be applied towards rent deposits.

Zoila Perez-Sanchez asked for a list of youth/family providers so she can get them McKinney Vento posters if they need them as they often get ripped or torn as the year goes on.

## **11. Staff Report**

Staff had no further items to report.

## **12. Adjourn**

Tranine Chisom adjourned the meeting at 12:34 PM.