

SYSTEM COORDINATION COMMITTEE NOTES

Wednesday, May 12, 2021

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

System Coordination Committee: Kate Hart (SAVE), Kathy Treggiari (Calleene Egan’s representative, Berkeley Food & Housing), Vivian Wan (Abode Services), Lara Tannenbaum (City of Oakland), C’Mone Falls (HUD CoC Chair, City of Oakland), Jessica Lobedan (City of Hayward), Jamie Almanza (BACS), Gloria Wroten (Consumer Member), Alison DeJung (Eden I&R/ 211), Kerry Abbot (Alameda County HCSA), Daniel Scott (Alameda County HCD)

EveryOne Home Staff: Chelsea Andrews (Executive Director), Ja’Nai Aubry (Director of CoC Strategies), Dorcas Chang (Operations Coordinator), Alexis Lozano (Data Analyst)

Members of the Public: Marta Lutsky (HCSA), Tunisia Owens (FVLC), Nic Ming (Social Impact Wheel), Josh Jacobs (City of Berkeley), Caitlin Chan (Legal Assistance for Seniors), Nashi Gunasekara (FVLC), Martha Elias (HCSA), Peter Radu (City of Oakland), Ronald Pineda (Vertical Plane), Suzanne Warner (Alameda County HCSA)

Absent: Calleene Egan (Berkeley Food and Housing), Fina Perez (Alameda County Probation), Helen Ayala (Ruby’s Place)

1. Welcome/ Introductions (Kate)

2:00 - 2:10pm

- a. Check-in

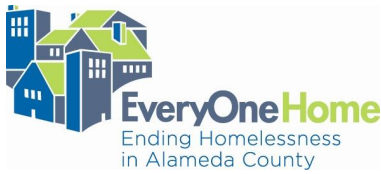
2. Public Comment (Ja’Nai)

2:10 - 2:20pm

- a. Public comment

- i. Peter Radu (City of Oakland) made comments on the use of the Emergency Housing Vouchers agenda item.

1. Peter Radu encouraged the committee to consider using the emergency vouchers to support Project RoomKey Hotel exits, including households that need a bridge out of ESG-CV rapid rehousing (RRH) and people currently in the hotel rooms.
2. Peter Radu urged that when the Project Roomkey rooms are backfilled, to expand the criteria for eligibility wherever possible and align them with the encampment work that Cities are already doing in our highest stressed zip codes.
 - He stressed the vulnerability of people living in encampments in the County, especially in Oakland.
 - Peter Radu believes that doing this is at the heart of centering racial equity and encouraged the committee to start thinking about this place-based approach within our highest stressed zip codes.
 - Peter Radu commented on the need to demonstrate visible progress to the public or there may be a shift in public opinion away from how tolerant our community is known for towards hardline measures. He



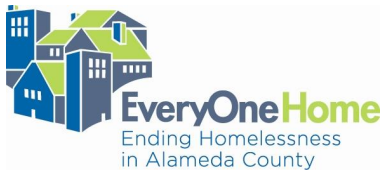
believed the way to do that is by taking the place based encampment focused approach by bringing people into Roomkey and using available resources to create outflow from Roomkey rooms into more long term affordable housing.

- b. Reading of written comments submitted, if any
 - i. None

3. Staff Report (Ja’Nai/ Chelsea)

2:20 - 2:35pm

- a. Staffing Updates
 - i. Chelsea Andrews (Executive Director) informed the committee that former EveryOne Home (EOH) staff, Jessica Shimmin and Courtney Welch, have moved onto great opportunities. She encouraged the committee to share job announcements for these vacancies when they come out.
- b. Governance Drafting Updates/ Discussion
 - i. Chelsea Andrews (Executive Director) provided an update on the governance revisions. The Leadership Board is working on revising and improving our governance. We hope to come to the community for a vote on the board’s recommendations in June.
 - 1. Chelsea Andrews shared that the approved revisions include the Leadership Board having expanded functions including being designated as the official Continuum of Care (CoC) board for our community, creating strategies to ensure racial equity in our system, and providing oversight for all subcommittees. There will be a transition period to implement this new governance.
 - 2. Chelsea Andrews shared the new proposed governance structure and pointed out how the new model will be focused on system functions.
 - 3. The Leadership Board also approved requiring a 1/3rd of the board and all subcommittees to be seated by people with lived experience and recognized that there needs to be a racial diversity benchmark that is reflective of the community we serve.
 - 4. Ja’Nai Aubry (Director of CoC Strategies) mentioned that the Outreach, Access and Coordination Committee; Housing Capacity Committee; and the Housing Stability and Homeless Prevention Committee all have tasks that are aligned with System Coordination Committee’s current roles and responsibilities. At some point, EveryOne Home (EOH) staff will come back to this committee to get advice on composition and size for those committees. The Leadership Board is currently determining its own composition.
 - 5. Questions:
 - Lara Tannenbaum (City of Oakland) asked if the Leadership board is still envisioned as a part of EOH?
 - Chelsea Andrews answered that the Leadership Board is EOH (the collective impact). The EOH backbone organization is the technical term for the staff that is currently under the Leadership Board right now.
 - Lara Tannenbaum asked if the policy committee that will advise for Measure W will be the same entity as the Leadership Board or do we need separate entities?



- Chelsea Andrews answered that the policy committee is still yet to be named.
- Lara Tannenbaum asked what the interface between this model and the Office of Homeless Care and Coordination (OHCC) is?
 - Chelsea Andrews clarified that Kerry Abbot's role as director of the OHCC is to take the Leadership Board's (Board) recommendations and to incorporate them into her recommendations when she goes before the Alameda County Board of Supervisors (BOS) which is the same for all the other representatives on the Board. The thought is that this group would include thought leaders who will set the direction and provide insight on other aspects of the system. Ultimately, those decisions are determined by elected officials.
- 6. Chelsea Andrews (Executive Director) added that there will be a transition plan that everyone will have to think through at the end of this governance process. There will be opportunities for this committee to look at places to engage in the future.

4. Urgent Items (Kate)

2:35 – 2:45pm

- a. Ja'Nai Aubry (Director of CoC Strategies) shared that HUD has allocated 70,000 Emergency Housing Vouchers to public housing authorities.
 - I. Four of Alameda County's local Public Housing Authorities (PHA) received a total of 864 vouchers. The PHAs are interested in meeting with EveryOne Home and other representatives next Thursday (5/20). EOH and Kerry Abbot will be there.
 - II. These vouchers will require a lot of coordination between the CoC and PHAs. The PHAs must accept direct referrals from Coordinated Entry (C.E.) or a designated Partner.
 - III. The deadline to accept (all or some) or decline the vouchers is Monday (5/24). The CoC hopes to encourage them to accept all the allocated vouchers.
 - IV. PHAs must enter an MOU with the CoC within 30 days of the effective date for the vouchers (by July 31st).
 - V. COVID 19 Waivers are applicable.
 - VI. Discussion:
 - 1. Kerry Abbott (HCSA) shared they are anticipating the housing authorities would receive vouchers. HCSA has started conversations with the City of Oakland and Oakland Housing Authority and Housing Authority of the County of Alameda (HACA) to make sure they were aware that the subsidies of the people placed from Project RoomKey into bridge housing will expire when ESG-CV ends. HCSA is hopeful that they can keep all the people that exited to bridge housing housed.
 - 2. Lara Tannenbaum (City of Oakland) asked if the committee feel agrees all the vouchers need to go for the same purpose? If we were to add all the new vouchers together, it is more than the number of people who have been housed from Project RoomKey?
 - Kerry Abbott (HCSA) emphasized that there are still hundreds of people in Project Roomkey. It seems like City of Berkeley and HACA's jurisdiction have as many people in housing as they have Emergency

Housing Vouchers. Oakland and the City of Alameda potentially received more vouchers than households that are currently in housing. It will be different for each of those housing authorities.

3. Lara Tannenbaum (City of Oakland) asked what is the role of the SCC committee in making this recommendation? Where does the decision-making lie?
 - Ja’Nai Aubry (Director of CoC Strategies) confirmed that the emergency housing vouchers is on the HUD CoC Agenda next week and that we do want to coordinate with them. But today, SCC is coming to a consensus to provide a recommendation to HUD CoC on the best use of the vouchers.
4. Kerry Abbott (HCSA) asked whether the COVID prioritization policy that SCC worked applies to the emergency housing vouchers.
 - Ja’Nai Aubry (Director of CoC Strategies) pulled up the COVID Coordinated Entry prioritization policy but it only contemplates Rapid Rehousing (RRH) and Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH).
 - Ja’Nai stated that the policy was broadened beyond Rapid Rehousing (RRH).
5. Tunisia Owens (FVLC) asked if these new housing vouchers would contemplate individuals and families fleeing domestic violence and prevent people from falling into homelessness? Are we making a decision about how many of these people should be prevented from falling into homelessness versus getting people housed who are currently homeless?
 - Ja’Nai Aubry (Director of CoC Strategies) answered that the prevention eligibility criteria are for people who are recently homeless that would be homeless but for homeless assistance like Project Roomkey/ ESG-CV bridge housing. Within the eligibility criteria, we have to figure out who should be prioritized for the vouchers.
6. Tunisia Owens (FVLC) asked how do we make sure that those who are fleeing domestic violence have access to these resources?
 - Marta Lutsky (HCSA) answered that one of the Project Roomkey hotels was focused on the Domestic Violence (DV) population but is not sure how many people moved into housing from there.
 - Kerry Abbot (HCSA) shared that there are people who successfully exited from the scattered sites. However, she is not sure how many they can identify as fleeing domestic violence. There were a lot of people who did not want to go to the hotels from the DV shelter. Moving forward, we should think of a pathway for people who were not as able to participate in Roomkey.
7. Kate Hart (SAVE) asked if it would be an option to designate some of the vouchers for DV survivors?
 - Kerry Abbot (HCSA) answered that she believes so. She suggested looking at the homeless population overall and identifying who was underserved in Project Roomkey.
8. Lara Tannenbaum (City of Oakland) asked if it is a good idea to use the vouchers for Project Roomkey exits or for people who are still in Roomkey that will need a

permanent housing subsidy and within that, are we going to catch groups who are fleeing domestic violence or are Transition Aged Youth (TAY)?

- Kate Hart (SAVE) asked if we use the vouchers that way, would that be for all the vouchers?
 - Lara Tannenbaum (City of Oakland) answered it could be but doesn't have to be. You can carve out a small number of vouchers to serve populations that are underserved.
 - Vivian Wan (Abode Services) commented that not everyone in those units will be eligible to move over. She is in full support of majority of vouchers being used for the people in the Roomkey/ bridge housing units. These are high needs people where RRH won't work for them since they can't increase their income.
 - Peter Radu (City of Oakland) urged the group to keep in mind All Home's Regional Action Plan that focuses on ending unsheltered homelessness. He recommended that the group think about backfilling Roomkey and creating flow over time instead of feeling like they need a plan to spend all the vouchers right now.
 - Lara Tannenbaum (City of Oakland) shared that some of the backfill could be targeted to other populations and a good opportunity to get people in who we missed at the first round.
 - Kerry Abbot (HCSA) asked if it would make sense to modify the COVID prioritization policy to reflect the vouchers and simultaneously look at specific populations that may have been underserved compared with the Point-in-Time (PIT) count data and figure out how to make similar resources available?
 - Kerry Abbot also commented that it is worth looking at what the representation is for the underserved populations (DV, TAY, transgender households, etc.) before making a final decision.
 - Kerry Abbot said it wouldn't take long to get the information.
9. Ja'Nai Aubry (Director of CoC Strategies) asked if the committee can come to a consensus on having a preference for people who are currently in Project Roomkey with a caveat based on data to set aside some of those vouchers for populations that weren't served or did not have access to Project Roomkey.
- Vivian Wan (Abode Services) added that the hotels have a large number of people from encampments and shelters. All of these people were living on the streets and will be back on the streets if we don't have long term solutions.
10. SCC committee members voted in the chat if they recommend that Roomkey be prioritized but with a caveat to look at the data to identify people who have not been served in Roomkey.
- Vivian Wan – yes. Alison Dejung - yes, C'mone Falls – yes, Lara Tannenbaum – yes, Kerry Abbot – yes, Kate Hart - yes, Kathy Treggiari – yes, Gloria Wroten- yes
 - Motion passed.

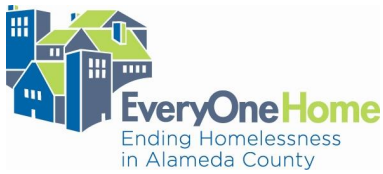
5. Discussion Items (Kate/Ja'Nai)

2:45 - 3:55pm

- a. Homeless System Updates (All) – Item skipped

- b. Coordinated Entry 2.0 Updates (Marta) -
 - i. Marta Lutsky (HCSA) shared that they had to push back their assessment training since the assessment isn't ready.
 - 1. Crisis, housing, and matchers assessments trainings - June 10th.
 - 2. Matching Overview Training for anyone who wants to understand how matching will work – June 15th
 - 3. Matching Intensive Training for people who are actual matchers - June 15th
 - 4. In the meantime, people are doing housing problem solving training.
 - 5. Housing Resource Centers are using flex funds.
 - c. Dedicated Affordable Housing Workgroup Update
 - i. Marta Lutsky (HCSA) provided an update on the workgroup's discussion:
 - 1. Agreement that dedicated affordable housing is for people who are not eligible for federal resources and can face housing barriers like immigration status, felonies, etc., supportive services would be attached but not required.
 - 2. This intervention needs to serve individuals that cannot increase their income, and we must take a proactive stance by doing targeted marketing and outreach to achieve racial equity. This would be a resource for people who don't need the level of support of PSH, but the workgroup did not want to over prescribe (or limit eligibility /access).
 - 3. Next step will be determining screening questions, that would be asked before the housing assessments, and would need to establish threshold scores and be specific about who wanted to be screened. Additional workgroups will be needed.
 - ii. Vivian Wan (Abode Services) there is a real challenge with the working group balancing the desire to be flexible and the need to narrow it down for efficacy. There is a lot of tension we are working through.
 - iii. Marta Lutsky (HCSA) needs to discuss with next steps Kerry but believes there will be another workgroup session.
 - ESG-CV Policy Expansion
 - iv. Ja'Nai Aubry (Director of CoC Strategies) asked if City of Oakland would apply for the HUD ESG-CV waiver for short/medium term rental assistance, reallocation, and for providers to do their own inspections.
 - 1. Lara Tannenbaum (City of Oakland) answered that Oakland has applied for every waiver allowed by HUD for COVID, so she is sure that they will apply for this one. But this is not a burning issue at the moment.
 - v. Ja'Nai Aubry asked whether or not we would have to edit the ESG-CV written standards if we apply for these waivers.
 - 1. Ja'Nai Aubry and Lara Tannenbaum will follow up on this conversation on their own.
 - d. 2021 Coordinated Entry (C.E.) Evaluation (Ja'Nai)
 - i. Ja'Nai Aubry (Director of CoC Strategies) provided context by reviewing the 2020 CE evaluation process.
 - ii. Ja'Nai Aubry spoke with Jessie Shimmin (former Director of Data Analytics) and Alexis Lozano (Data Analyst) and they suggested added housing problem solving to our CE process.

- iii. Alexis Lozano commented that in the last round, they received great information from the qualitative interviews with providers and people with lived experience. She suggested figuring out a way to do that again and to do it electronically. She suggested that if there are systems in place that providers are using to assess participant/client experience to build upon that.
- iv. Ja’Nai Aubry asked the group for their thoughts on the timeline for the 2021 C.E. Evaluation, given that we are still in the process of implementing C.E. 2.0.
 1. Marta Lutsky (HCSA) asked what the time frame is that is being evaluated?
 - Alexis Lozano (Data Analyst) asked if we still want to consider doing it a few months after C.E. refresh.
 - Marta Lutsky commented that you could do the evaluation from July 1st of 2019 through right now. It would answer different questions depending when it is done.
 - Vivian Wan (Abode Services) shared that she would want to do it now with existing system in mind since we have to wait a while to see the impacts of the C.E. refresh.
 - Marta Lutsky agreed with Vivian and added that we could gather questions that we really want to know and make it a little more abbreviated and not spend too much time on things we already decided to change.
 2. Ja’Nai Aubry (Director of CoC Strategies) asked what we would want to include for CE. 2.0? What would be helpful for you to know now?
 - Marta Lutsky (HCSA) commented that the focus groups and the actual experience was the most useful information.
 - Marta Lutsky also agreed with Chelsea about getting information on how people can provide feedback more regularly instead of waiting for these evaluations. She is also interested in looking for ways to improve how people move from one system to another and hear from people with successful experiences.
 - Marta Lutsky also wants to think about racial equity questions that were not answered in the report.
 3. Ja’Nai Aubry (Director of CoC Strategies) asked for feedback on the previous evaluation.
 - Marta Lutsky (HCSA) said that the last one completed by a workgroup of 3-4 people and that Jessie Shimmin did all of the data analysis.
 - Ja’Nai Aubry asked about the information provided by the providers. It seemed like it was a focus group.
 - Alexis Lozano (Data Analyst) said that there might have been some 1:1s.
 - Dorcas Chang (Operations Coordinator) thought Kathie Barkow led that focus group but was not sure.
 - Kate Hart (SAVE) asked does HUD heavily dictate what you are analyzing for?
 - Ja’Nai Aubry (Director of CoC strategies) commented that in the CE Management and Data guide, there aren’t strict rules about what



we include but they do provide some guidance and questions to consider.

- Alexis Lozano (Data Analyst) commented for gathering participant feedback that something to keep in mind is that we relied on the generosity of partners for consumers to be paid and given food to participate.
4. Chelsea Andrews (Executive Director) said that for the next meeting we should be prepared to take action and part of that might include establishing a committee or working group focus on this issue.

6. Conclusion (Ja’Nai)

3:55 - 4:00pm

a. Homeless System Updates

- I. Marta Lutsky (HCSA) provided an update that Liz Varela (Building Futures), Tunisia Owens (FVLC), and Kate Hart (SAVE) are joining HCSA in a meeting with Bitfocus (our HMIS provider) to talk about HMIS and DV next Wednesday.
- II. Jessica Lobedan (City of Hayward) asked if this body would have recommendations on how to use the stimulus funds from the county.
 - i. Kerry Abbot (HCSA) heard that the county has not received the funding, and within healthcare, the directors created an input process for management. She assumes that it goes to the County administrator, and other agencies would be doing something similar. She doesn’t know what the city administration process would be or if there is a broader process.

b. Next meeting scheduled for June 9th, 2021 2:00-4:00pm.

c. Meeting adjourned.

Notes submitted by: Dorcas Chang

Reviewed by: Ja’Nai Aubry