Minutes:

I. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Maricela Rios-Faust welcomed the new membership of the Policies, Procedures and Standards (PPS) Committee. Patti Long, Christina Weckerly-Ramirez and Matt Bates introduced themselves to the PPS Committee attendees.

II. Policy, Procedures and Standards Committee Updates – Zulima Lundy, Continuum of Care (CoC) Manager

a. Update on the CoC Vision Ad Hoc

i. The CoC Vision Ad Hoc will be meeting in February 2021 to establish the vision and goals for the CoC for the next two years. The Office of Care Coordination (OCC) is working with a consultant to establish a framework, identify a workflow and next steps, as well as preparing needed data and materials to inform the discussion.

b. Lived Experience Advisory Committee

i. The CoC Board approved the creation of a Lived Experience Advisory Committee during the November 2020 meeting. The OCC met with the Advisory Committee Chair Tim Houchen to discuss the membership and governance of the Advisory Committee. The draft governance charter for the Advisory Committee will be shared with the PPS Committee in February 2021. The next step is recruitment of members for the Lived Experience Advisory Committee.

c. Racial Disparity Analysis

i. The OCC is currently in the negotiation phase with a research consultant to support the CoC with a racial disparity analysis.

d. CoC Data Dashboard
i. The CoC Data Dashboard presented to the PPS Committee during the December 2020 meeting was emailed to the PPS Committee members for final review and edits. No additional edits or feedback was received. As such, the CoC Data Dashboard will be presented to the CoC Board for adoption during the January 2021 meeting.

- Public Comments:
  - Paul Hyek commented on the operations of the service providers.

III. Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) and California Emergency Solutions and Housing (CESH) Contracts – Zulima Lundy, CoC Manager

a. Zulima Lundy provided an overview of the current contracts being funded through HEAP and CESH and detailed the reasoning behind the recommendation.

  Original Recommendation: Approve the extension of expiring contracts funded by HEAP and CESH for a third one-year term utilizing CESH and Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) funding.

b. Matt Bates noted that he may be conflicted on sections of the HEAP project renewals with HHAP funding and recommended the recommendations be separated by funding source.

i. CESH Round 2 Funding Recommendations:

  a. Recommend using CESH Round 2 for an additional one-year term for Rental Assistance, Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services, and Operating Support for Emergency Housing Interventions projects. Chair Maricela Rios-Faust, Christina Weckerly-Ramirez and Matt Bates voted to approve the recommendation. Patti Long and Judson Brown abstained from voting. The motion passed.

ii. HHAP Round 1 Funding Recommendations:

  a. Recommend utilizing $1 million of HHAP Round 1 funding to renew HEAP service contracts for one-year term. Chair Maricela Rios-Faust and Christina Weckerly-Ramirez voted to approve the recommendation. Patti Long, Judson Brown and Matt Bates abstained from voting. The motion did not pass

  b. Recommend utilizing $400,000 of HHAP Round 1 funding to renew the CESH Flexible Housing Subsidy Funds for a one-year term. Chair Maricela Rios-Faust, Christina Weckerly-Ramirez and Matt Bates voted to approve the recommendation. Patti Long and Judson Brown abstained from voting. The motion passed.


Public Comments:

- Catherine Moore’s public comment was read to the PPS Committee. Catherine Moore’s comment noted that most of the service providers are worried more about their funding then their client’s wellbeing.
IV. Ad Hoc on Homeless Prevention Assessment Tool Recommendation – Judson Brown, Ad Hoc Chair

a. Judson Brown noted that the Ad Hoc on Homeless Prevention Assessment has been meeting to develop a tool for Prevention Assistance and recommend a tool for prioritizing households at-risk of homelessness for Prevention Assistance.

b. Karen Williams shared the Homeless Prevention Assessment Tool Questionnaire. The tool is being piloted with Families Assistance Ministries. Family Assistance Ministries is administering Prevention Assistance for the City of Rancho Santa Margarita. The link for the tool that applicants can use to apply for prevention funds is RSM.211oc.org.

c. Elizabeth Andrade from the Families Assistance Ministries and co-chair of the Ad Hoc noted 211OC will operate as the virtual front door to triage households at highest risk of experiencing homelessness to access limited resources. Eligible household’s information will be entered directly into Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).

d. Motion: Approve the Homeless Prevention Assessment Tool created by the Ad Hoc on Homeless Prevention to prioritize households at-risk of homelessness for Prevention Assistance Chair Maricela Rios-Faust, Patti Long, Judson Brown, Christina Weckerly-Ramirez, and Matt Bates voted to move forward with the recommendation. The motion passed unanimously.

e. The next steps for the PPS Committee are the development of Coordinated Entry System policies and procedures for Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Homeless Prevention funding. This item will be discussed in detail at a future meeting.