

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY HOMELESS ACTION PARTNERSHIP

MEETING MINUTES

Santa Cruz County Homeless Action Partnership Board Meeting

County of Santa Cruz CAO Conference Room
701 Ocean Street, Room 520
Santa Cruz, California

Thursday, August 30, 2018, 9:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

HAP Board Members Present: Rayne Marr (Chair), Jim Straubinger, Carol Berg, Kelly Conway (by phone), Don Lane, Taylor Bateman,

HAP Board Members Absent: Tamara Vides, Linda Lemaster, Keisha Frost, Debbie Bates

HAP Staff Present: Nora Krantzler, Tony Gardner

1. Overview of the HAP Board Role & Process

The HAP Board heard and discussed a presentation by HAP staff regarding the HAP Board role and function in rating, ranking, and tiering project proposals, reallocating funds, and selecting a bonus and DV bonus projects, for HUD CoC funds; CoC strategic considerations and options; and the conflict of interest requirements pertaining to HAP Board Members.

Each HAP Board Member present signed and submitted a Certification relating to conflict of interest. Rayne Marr, Carol Berg, Jim Straubinger disclosed potential conflicts relating to specific project proposals, and thus recused themselves from any discussion, consideration, and voting in connection with those project proposals.

2. New Project Presentations/Q&A

The HAP Board then received brief presentations from and engaged in questions and answers (Q&A) with all of the following applicants/projects requesting new project funding in 2017:

1. County HSA – CES Expansion
2. HSC – Page Smith TH and RRH Expansion Request
3. Housing Auth. – Brommer TH to RRH Transition Request

The presentations/Q&A included information on the project proposals, *All In* priorities and HUD priorities, anticipated CoC NOFA requirements, and challenge relating to reallocation of funds from renewal projects to new projects.

ABOUT THE HAP:

The Homeless Action Partnership is a countywide action team that meets regularly to implement plans to prevent and end homelessness.

Membership is open to all and includes:

- ♦ County agencies
- ♦ Cities
- ♦ Nonprofit agencies
- ♦ Advocates
- ♦ Health providers
- ♦ Educators
- ♦ Faith groups
- ♦ Funders
- ♦ Community members
- ♦ Homeless persons

HAP VISION:

Our vision is that the diverse residents of Santa Cruz County will have access to safe, stable housing, will have incomes to support their well-being, and will have access to culturally competent services empowering them to meet their basic needs and lead dignified lives.

HAP MISSION:

Our mission is to prevent, dramatically reduce, and eventually end homelessness and its impact on communities throughout Santa Cruz County by implementing effective programs and strategies, by working collaboratively to increase key resources and change systems to better meet the needs of diverse homeless sub-populations, and by engaging all persons and organizations needed to work together for these purposes.

HAP CONTACT:

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3. Project Ranking/Tiering Decisions & Bonus Project Selection

The HAP Board then engaged in a discussion and decision process including consideration of the following:

- a. HAP Board Members' review of the applications using previously publicly announced objective scoring criteria that included HMIS-generated performance measures.
- b. The above-referenced new proposal presentations/Q&A with applicants.
- c. HAP Board discussion of application ranking scenarios in the context of *All In* strategic plan and HUD priorities, performance metrics, tiering considerations, etc.

After careful consideration, the HAP Board made the following CoC application rank order and amount, bonus project, reallocation, and tiering decisions:

Project Rank Order/Tiering/Amounts:

Rank	Score	Applicant and Project	New or Renewal	Type	Amount
TIER 1					
1	95.5	HPHP - MATCH 1	Ren	PSH	\$486,281.00
2	95	HPHP - MATCH 3	Ren	PSH	\$86,189.00
3	92.75	HPHP - MATCH 2	Ren	PSH	\$41,662.00
4	92.63	Housing Auth - S+C	Ren	PSH	\$542,418.00
5	89.33	County Planning - CES	Ren	SSO	\$75,000.00
6	88.38	Encompass - Housing for Health 2	Ren	PSH	\$44,108.00
7	87.75	H Housing Auth /HPHP - New Beginnings PSH Bonus	Ren	PSH	\$156,208.00
8	87.25	Encompass - Freedom Cottages	Ren	PSH	\$15,645.00
9	86.63	Encompass- Housing for Health 3	Ren	PSH	\$90,429.00
10	85.75	County HSA/HSC PSH Bonus Master Leasing	Ren	PSH	\$105,236.00
11	84	FIT - First Step RRH	Ren	RRH	\$392,228.00
12	81	County Planning - CES Expansion	New - bonus	SSO	\$153,363.00
13	78.25	CTA - HMIS	Ren	HMIS	\$91,699.00
14a	79.25	HSC - Page Smith TH & RRH	Ren	TH & RRH	\$122,227.00
TOTAL TIER 1					\$2,402,693.00
TIER 2					
14b	Same	HSC - Page Smith TH & RRH	Ren	TH & RRH	\$24,616.00
15	78.13	HA - Brommer House TH to RRH Transition	Ren - transition	TH to RRH	\$57,067.00
15	77.88	HSC - Page Smith TH & RRH Expansion	New - realloc	TH & RRH	\$225,043.00
TOTAL TIER 2					\$306,726.00
TOTAL TIERS 1 & 2					\$2,709,419.00

Reallocation

After very careful consideration, the HAP Board reallocated \$225,043 from the County Health Services Agency's (HSA) PSH Bonus Master Leasing Project to Homeless Service Center's (HSC) Page Smith TH and RRH new expansion project. The PSH Bonus Master Leasing Project is being transferred from HSC to HSA. However, HSA has indicated that it would use only a portion of the funds for a smaller scale project and requested that the balance be made available for reallocation. HUD encourages CoC's to reallocate funds when they are no longer needed by a project. Thus, the HAP Board reallocated the unneeded amount – \$225,043 – to HSC's Page Smith TH and RRH new expansion project request.

Bonus Project

This year, Santa Cruz County agencies were eligible to competitively apply for \$153,363 as a bonus for a new CH-dedicated PSH project, new DedicatedPlus PSH project, new joint TH and RRH project, new RRH project, new Coordinated Entry project, or new HMIS project. Two qualified proposals for bonus funds were submitted: (1) HSC's Page Smith TH and RRH new expansion project, and (2) the County Planning Department's Coordinated Entry new expansion project, requesting the entire bonus of \$153,363. After hearing presentations from both applicants and carefully considering the merits of both projects, the HAP Board selected the County Planning Department's Coordinated Entry new expansion project for the entire bonus, while it selected HSC's Page Smith TH and RRH new expansion project for the reallocated funds (see above).

DV Bonus

This year, HUD made available \$50 million nationally for a competitive Domestic Violence (DV) Bonus, to provide housing and services to survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. CoC could apply for up to 10 percent of its Preliminary Pro Rata Need (PPRN), which is \$78,929 in our case. Applicants could apply for DV Bonus funding for:

1. Rapid Re-housing (PH-RRH) projects that must follow a Housing First approach.
2. Joint TH and PH-RRH component projects that must follow a Housing First approach.
3. Supportive Services Only Projects for Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE) to implement policies, procedures, and practices that equip the CoC's coordinated entry to better meet the needs of DV survivors.

Unfortunately, despite efforts to encourage applications, no local DV bonus applications were received, and thus no DV Bonus projects were selected.

Tiering

Once again, this year HUD required all CoCs to rank all projects in two tiers. Tier 1 is 94% of the Annual Renewal Demand (ARD) of \$2,556,056. 94% of that amount is \$2,402,693. Tier 2 is the remaining 6% of ARD (\$153,363) plus the bonus amount (\$153,363), equaling \$306,726. The purpose of tiering is to allow CoCs to clearly indicate to HUD which projects are of highest priority for limited 2018 CoC funds. HUD will select Tier 1 projects before it selects Tier 2 projects. Tier 1 projects are almost certain to be funded (as long as they meet eligibility and threshold requirements), while Tier 2 projects are subject to national competition and are less likely to be funded.

Projects can straddle the Tier 1 and Tier 2 line; HUD will fund the Tier 1 amount even if it does not fund the Tier 2 amount, as long as the project is still viable at the lower amount.

After very careful consideration, the HAP Board placed three projects into Tier 2:

First, it placed the HSC's Page Smith TH and RRH *renewal* project across the Tier 1 and Tier 2 line with \$122,227 in Tier 1 and \$24,616 in Tier 2. Second, it placed the Housing Authority's Brommer Street TH to RRH transitional grant project in the middle of Tier 2. Finally it placed HSC's Page Smith TH and RRH new expansion project at the bottom of Tier 2. In making these difficult tiering decisions, the HAP Board was mindful to that to put additional renewal projects in Tier 2 would have posed too much risk to existing housing and tenants. They also elevated the HMIS project into Tier 1 due to the critical need to sustain HMIS not only to meet HUD HMIS requirements, but also to help ensure the success of the CoC's new Coordinated System, which relies on HMIS data.

These decisions in no way reflect badly on the projects placed into Tier 2, nor the submitting agencies. The projects were well designed to be effective, and each applicant agency plays a highly effective and critical role for the persons experiencing homelessness they serve. Rather, these were simply difficult choices among limited alternatives.

CoC Planning Grant

The HAP Board approved submission of a CoC planning grant application for the maximum allowable amount - \$76,682. HUD does not requiring ranking of the project this year.

Respectfully submitted by HAP Staff: *Nora Krantzler and Tony Gardner*

Submission Date: *August 31, 2018*