

# HOUSING FIRST SOLANO CoC BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, May 24, 2023 | 10:00 – 11:30 A.M.

## Meeting Minutes

### 1. Call to Order

Kari Rader called the meeting to order at 10:02 A.M.

### 2. Roll Call

Present CoC Board Members:

Akon Walker, Solano County Office of Education

Amanda Russell, Caminar

Brandon Wirth, SHELTER, Inc.

DeAndre Richard, RCS

Elizabeth Muniz-Palomera, Lived Experience Co-Chair

Joey Carrizales, Coordinated Entry Co-Chair, Lived Experience Member

John Eckstrom, SHELTER, Inc.

Julie Musto, alternate for Katie Ward, Solano County Probation

Kari Rader, CAN-B

Meghan Freebeck, City of Benicia

Reggie Sironen, Insight Housing

Samantha Meyer, Eden Housing

Scott Mulvey, City Church

Tamara Colden, City of Vacaville

Tara Beasley-Stansberry, Black Chamber of Commerce

### 3. Additions or Deletions

There were no additions or deletions.

### 4. Approval of the Agenda – ACTION

John Eckstrom made a motion to approve the agenda. Scott Mulvey seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. There were no abstentions or objections. The motion was approved.

### 5. Consent Calendar – ACTION

#### 5.1 Approve March 22, 2023 HFS CoC Meeting Minutes

Brandon Wirth made a motion to approve the agenda with the correction of the typo, SHETLER to SHELTER. Tara Beasley-Stansberry seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Akon Walker and Tamara Colden abstained. There were no objections. The motion was approved.

## **5.2 Approve April 26, 2023 HFS CoC Meeting Minutes**

Elizabeth Muniz-Palomera made a motion to approve the agenda with the correction of the typo, SHETLER to SHELTER. DeAndre Richard seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Amanda Russell and Scott Mulvey abstained. There were no objections. The motion was approved.

## **6. Old Business/Standing Agenda Items**

### **6.1 Veterans Affairs Update**

Jai De Lotto gave an update about two new laws that were passed that affect Veterans. Jai shared the links and contact phone numbers in the chat for more in-depth information:

- Compact Act: <https://www.va.gov/cincinnati-health-care/stories/what-does-compact-act-mean-for-veterans/> 707-562-8430
- PACT Act: <https://www.va.gov/resources/the-pact-act-and-your-va-benefits/#whats-the-pact-act-and-how-wil> 1-800-698-2411

### **6.2 Committee/Work Group Updates**

#### **6.2a Coordinated Entry System Committee**

DeAndre Richard gave an update that the upcoming CES Meeting was going to be held on June 14<sup>th</sup> and that RCS was seeking community input and sent out surveys for clients and service providers. The link to the surveys' were provided in the chat:

[Client Survey](#)

[Provider Survey](#)

#### **6.2b Governance Committee**

Kari Rader stated the next meeting would be June 1<sup>st</sup> from 10 am to 12 pm.

#### **6.2c HMIS Users Committee**

Bill Matson gave an update that the last meeting on April 3<sup>rd</sup> was lengthy in conversation about virtual visits for HMIS users per organization in Solano County, the importance of accurate data, the goals of the committee based on the Governance Charter, and a pilot program in HMIS tentatively called Gotham, that would assist with streamlining participants in HMIS and help create an improved By-Names-List. Bill explained that a list of questions went out to those in attendance for additional feedback and that upon compilation, Reneé Parham would proceed with initiating the next steps. Bill stated the next meeting is June 6<sup>th</sup> from 11 am to 1 pm.

#### **6.2d Lived Experience Committee**

Elizabeth Muniz-Palomera gave an update that the next LEC Meeting would be a public meeting held on June 13<sup>th</sup>, to allow for LEC Members to attend the HOPE Event on June 7<sup>th</sup> and encourage others with lived experience to attend the meeting. Elizabeth also stated that the LEC had been discussing a training that would be presented to

Solano County’s Employment and Eligibility department, called Surviving to Thriving that would assist staff to make better connections with participants, including information on motivational interviewing and assist community participants to establish housing stability and connections to resources.

Elizabeth briefly discussed upcoming opportunities for the LEC to talk with Dr. Kerby Lynch regarding her research on Project Roomkey in Solano County and the positive response to her “Nothing About Us Without Us” presentation at NHSDC with Homebase.

#### **6.2e Youth Advisory Board Core Planning Work Group**

Akon Walker gave an update that since the strategy for focus groups had changed, they were able to hold one meeting with a group of four youths with Youth Rising. Akon also mentioned a survey had been created to collect quantitative data from youth aged 16 – 26 that would be going out soon. Akon stated the need for support in 1) helping to identify youth-serving groups or youths being served by local providers as individuals and 2) funding to help support the youth who are coming to participate in the focus group, the YAB, and space or other items needed to continue the work.

Antonio Pizano also stated that a sample budget was sent to Reneé Parham to share with leadership.

#### **6.2f CA REAL Team**

Miranda Ramirez shared the initial goals being discussed by the core group as stated at the last CoC meeting and that the group is continuing to fine-tune the goals and figure out the first steps toward implementation.

### **7. New Business**

#### **7.1 Family Unification Program Memorandum of Understanding – DISCUSSION and ACTION**

Tamara Colden explained that the City of Vacaville and Solano County were seeking to apply for the [FY2022 Family Unification Program Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) that was due on May 25, 2023, and required an MOU with the CoC. Tamara explained that this would allow them to provide Housing Choice Vouchers to two groups:

1. Families whose lack of adequate housing is a primary factor in the imminent placement of the family’s child, or children in out-of-home care, or the delay in the discharge of the child, or children to the family from out-of-home care
2. Youth aged 18 – 24 who have left foster care, or would leave foster care within 90 days, and are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless at age 16 or older.

Tamara stated that the number of vouchers HUD would give was unknown, that there would be a need for a referral process to be set up with community partners, and that unless there were extenuating circumstances, there was a required length of 12 months prior to portability.

John Eckstrom made a motion to give the CoC Chair the authority to sign the two MOUs presented on behalf of the CoC Board. DeAndre Richard seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Tamara Colden abstained. There were no objections. The motion was approved.

## **7.2 Bright Heart Health – PRESENTATION by Raymond Courtemanche**

Raymond Courtemanche provided an overview of the [presentation](#) found in the public folder to explain how Bright Heart Health helps those in the community with On-Demand behavioral health and pain management telemedicine and wrap-around services.

## **7.3 2022 CoC NOFO Debrief – PRESENTATION by Devra Edelman**

Devra Edelman shared the 2022 HUD CoC Program Competition Debriefing Analysis presentation that explained the outcomes of the awarded \$1,704,303 towards the 10 renewal projects, 1 permanent supportive housing project, 1 new Domestic Violence-Rapid Rehousing project, and 1 planning grant.

Devra Edelman explained that this was an increase of \$184,581 that directly related to how the CoC scored on their application to HUD which was 84.5/100 points. The full presentation can be found in the public folder.

## **7.4 Community Needs Assessment/Community Action Plan Presentation – DISCUSSION**

Due to time constraints, Devra Edelman gave a brief update that the Public Comments period on the Community Needs Assessment/Action Plan will run until May 31, 2023, and that comments would be welcomed at the Public Hearing or through email. Reneé Parham posted the link to the Hybrid Public Hearing in the chat and announced the date and location as May 31, 2023 from 12 – 2 pm at the Suisun City Hall.

## **8. Staff Updates**

### **8.1 Staff Communications**

Reneé Parham stated the date of the next JPA Meeting would be Thursday, May 25, 2023, from 6:30 – 8 pm and the second Tribal Engagement meeting on May 30, 2023 from 1-2:30 pm.

### **8.2 Funding Opportunities**

Kari Rader stated that there would be a representative from Partnership HealthPlan to give some information on the funding opportunity that is in conjunction with CalAim.

## **9. Adjourn**

John Eckstrom made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:30 am. Scott Mulvey seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.