

Fresno Madera Lived Experience Advisory Board

NOVEMBER 21, 2022 4-6PM

MEETING SUMMARY

- I. Welcome and Introductions
 - LEAB Member Attendees:
 - Alex Sanchez
 - Audra Hewlett
 - Allis Vallejo
 - Terrence Prayer
 - Andrea Owen
 - Other Attendees:
 - Frankie Perkins, Homebase
 - Sara Rios, Poverello House
 - Marcella Lopez-Schmidt, HMIS Lead
 - Nicole Henson, HMIS Lead
 - Stephanie Gutierrez-Valdez, Fresno County Department of Social Services
 - Shannon Duncan, Fresno County Department of Social Services
 - Misty Gattie-Blanco, CoC Treasurer
- II. Coordinated Entry System Training
 - Sara Rios from the Continuum of Care's (CoC) Coordinated Entry Management Entity gave an overview of the Coordinated Entry System and how it works. The PowerPoint presentation is available in the meeting materials folder.
- III. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Opportunity for Community Feedback: Centering Clients in Homeless Data Collection
 - Nicole Henson and Marcella Lopez-Schmidt, CoC HMIS Leads presented regarding the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and how it is used by homeless service providers within the CoC. The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has provided CoCs with the opportunity to provide community feedback on their recommended changes to the 2024 HMIS data elements, as HUD is trying to make data collection processes more trauma-informed and client-centered. The proposed changes are all focused on changes to the race, ethnicity, and gender HMIS data elements. Feedback is due by the end of December, 2022. Marcella and Nicole reviewed the proposed changes to HMIS data elements that will be in place October 1, 2023 and asked the LEAB for feedback to submit to HUD. Nicole and Marcella also brought up a housing type preference question proposed to be used during the Point in Time Count (PIT Count) and asked for feedback. LEAB Members had questions about what the information would be used for and Marcella

explained that this housing preference information can help provide information for future funding for preferred housing types. A LEAB Member shared concern about the way the question is posed and how it would be asked during the PIT Count. Marcella and Nicole requested any additional feedback on the proposed HMIS data elements and new PIT County question via email and Misty said she would take the LEAB feedback regarding the PIT Count housing preference question to the next PIT Committee Meeting.

- IV. Fresno County: Feedback on Homeless Information Cards
 - The Fresno County Department of Social Services presented the homeless information cards for feedback (available in the meeting materials folder) and requested LEAB feedback. LEAB Members liked the simplicity of the cards and also felt they provided a lot of information. The County and LEAB agreed that the main FMCoC phone number would be removed from the card because it is not an open line and they do not want clients to miss calling the actual access sites.
- V. Point in Time Count Planning Process
 - Mity Gattie-Blanco gave an overview of how the PIT Count works and where the CoC is in the planning stages. Misty requested feedback on the items the CoC is planning to put in the kits the CoC hands out during the PIT Count for people experiencing homelessness. Misty will send an email with more information on the kits and asked that Members respond with feedback. Some LEAB Members expressed a desire to participate in the PIT Count, so Misty will send the entire LEAB the PIT Count training schedule once it is finalized.
- VI. LEAB Meeting Scheduling
 - Alex Sanchez facilitated a discussion around LEAB meeting scheduling, as a LEAB Member let Alex know they cannot attend the Monday meeting from 4-6. A scheduling survey was sent out in October and 6/7 members said they could make the Monday 4-6 meeting, but the survey did not ask about 5-7PM on other days. LEAB Members agreed to move the meetings to the third Tuesday from 5-7PM and Alex agreed to let the Members not on the meeting call know.
- VII. Presentation on Volunteering for Street Outreach
 - Allis Vallejo gave an overview of the volunteer street outreach she is involved with and how she got started with this work.
- VIII. Update on Membership Applications and Outreach
 - Alex provided an update that despite the outreach efforts only three new applications have been received so they will be reviewed in December and we are hoping more will be received. Alex asked

members to also assist with outreach and to contact him if they want him to reach out to a specific organization for recruitment.

IX. Conferences: NAEH Applications for Conference Scholarships and Update on Housing California Conference LEAB Panel:

- Misty let the LEAB know that the National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH) has a conference every year and that next year the conference is from March 1-3, 2023 in Oakland, CA. NAEH is accepting scholarship applications for full conference participation from people with lived experience to be able to attend the conference (applications are open to people who are currently experiencing homelessness or have experienced homelessness within the past five years). The scholarship includes: conference registration, roundtrip transportation to Oakland, hotel for 3 nights at the conference hotel, a stipend. Scholarship awards will be based on financial need, geographic distribution, and the leadership skills the applicant will be able to bring back to their community. Proof of COVID-19 vaccine is required. Misty asked that LEAB Members let her know if they decide to apply for the scholarship so she can work with the CoC Board to make sure the CoC can cover any costs for LEAB participation not covered by the scholarship. 2 LEAB Members said they may apply.

Misty let the LEAB know that Homebase submitted a proposal for a Lived Experience Panel at the Housing California Conference in March, 2023. This would involve people with lived experience from various CoCs in CA (maximum 4 Panelists with 1 from the FMCoC). Homebase will keep the LEAB updated on the status of that proposal and whether it gets accepted.

X. Agenda Items for December Meeting

- Alex requested ideas for the December meeting and asked for LEAB Members to email him if they think of any. So far the ideas are:
 - The County of Fresno Dept. of Public Works is coming in December to present about their HOME-ARP funds.
 - Review CoC's draft Written Standards
 - Review Membership Applications