



EASTERN SIERRA CONTINUUM OF CARE (CoC) MEETING

February 12, 2024, 1:00-2:30 PM

Inyo County Health and Human Services

Zoom: **Join on your computer** <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83070482119>

Meeting ID: **830 7048 2119** Passcode: **547199** Call in: +1-669-444-9171

AGENDA

Public Notice: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact Inyo County HHS (760) 873-3305. Notification 24 hours prior to the meeting will enable Agency staff to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.

1.0 Call Meeting to Order and Introductions

Members: Anna Scott, Amanda Greenberg, Jennifer Kreitz, Kris Kuntz

Absent: Eryn Dobyns, Patricia Robertson

Other: Danielle Murray, Morningstar Willis-Wagoner, Olya Egorov, Vanessa Ruggio, Melissa Best-Baker, Rebecca Samaha, Tianna Arbulu, Stefani Jackson, Amy Wyatt, Ash Ortiz, Sara Alden

2.0 Public Comment: This time is set aside to receive public comment on matters not calendared on the agenda.

None

3.0 Approval of Minutes (Action Item): Review and consider approval of draft minutes from January 8, 2024.

Ms. Greenberg made motion to approve and was seconded by **Ms. Kreitz**

Ayes: Ms. Scott, Ms. Greenberg, Ms. Kreitz, Mr. Kuntz

Nayes: -0-

Absent: Ms. Dobyns

and Ms. Robertson

4.0 2024 Point in Time and Housing Inventory Count (Discussion Item): Debrief from participating agencies on HIC/PIT for 2024. Discuss next steps in data validation.

Mono, Inyo, and Alpine participated- Ms. Scott gives her thanks to those who helped with the count. Data is still being finalized, once all data is entered in, we will move towards data validation. Ms. Wyatt states HUD opens a reporting portal around April with a deadline in between the end of April- Mid

May. This year- Housing Inventory Count submission is different- it is an upload of a CSV into portal. Important to de-duplicate information, get all agencies to submit their housing inventory count. Make sure PIT matches Housing Inventory before submission.

Ms. Kreitz asks if anyone has any general takeaways from the count. Ms. Greenberg says there were more cars at the geothermal plant than she has ever seen- 25 cars. Ms. Scott believes Mono's numbers were up and even higher than Inyo's.

Ms. Best Baker states they did dinners at Bishop and Lone Pine Wellness Center - a lot of people came in from those, some interviewed, some observed.

Ms. Egorov states Alpine did count with Probation Officer- hard to find people because you can't camp on the road due to snow. Did make some observations.

5.0 HHIP funds (Action Item): Receive accounting of funds and consider approving next steps for Alpine and Mono allocated amounts.

Ms. Best Baker states page 7 of this agenda is the Health Net HHIP monies, page 8 is Anthem HHIP. Point of report is to be able to provide accounting of funding, what purpose of funding is, and what County/ or if for whole COC. States she would like some feedback.

Ms. Scott- Report verifies what funds have been received and what category these funds can be used in and which county. The report shows how it is budgeted but does not give accounting of expenditures.

Ms. Best Baker states no county has spent HHIP monies.

Ms. Kreitz asks about expenditure deadlines and if we anticipate more funding next year?

Mr. Kuntz states- No expenditure deadline. No expectations from health plans. Once dollars come from the state to health plans funds are considered expended. HHIP is a one-time funding source. Will hear back next month on how well Health Plans did and will be able to talk more about how to spend funds.

Ms. Scott states for the first round of funding that came in- all allocations came to Inyo. Next round if there is funding it will be directly distributed to counties. We have some costs from PIT count for staff time, and items handed out. We have expenditures we can charge back to.

Ms. Best Baker states we also want to figure out some sort of report on expenditures from Inyo for Thurmond and HMIS and how money is being spent.

Ms. Kreitz states this will be very helpful. Questions about ongoing revenue to support the COC- reports like this might be able to entice another NGO to operate the COC. On the housing Lease Up category - was there a vision of that?

Mr. Kuntz states Housing Lease Up- was discussed long time ago. One of the HHIP measures was to make sure members were getting housed. Putting dollars towards small deposits here and there, cover rent, cover an eviction. Health plans put money into COC and then COC disburses money- this is ABC/HN vision. One of main goals of HHIP is for plans to form relationships with the COC's.

Ms. Kreitz states it's important to make sure folks know the funding is available. Mr. Kuntz says they want to educate community partners about what is available under CalAIM versus HHIP.

Ms. Kreitz- That is happening now with jurisdictions?

Mr. Kuntz- CPI collaborative happening now but can do some targeted training to community partners on how to make a referral. Have not done any targeted training yet.

Clarification- participant would have to be a Medi-Cal member through Health Net or Anthem- if they have this plan and are unhoused, they are likely to be eligible.

Mr. Kuntz- COC can host a training with the MCP's.

Ms. Kreitz wants to know if there are folks taking advantage of this in the counties?

Ms. Egorov states when she inputs clients into coordinated entry she asks what provider the client has. She is learning how to make referrals and she knows she can go to Mr. Kuntz and Ms. Samaha for help.

Ms. Greenberg- We refer to Ms. Egorov and Isaura. We also have our own internal mechanism for helping with housing through Full-Service Partnership

Ms. Greenberg asks about supporting infrastructure of COC category - are we going to be contributing most or all of Mono's allocation to Inyo County to support Inyo's work they are doing?

Mr. Kuntz states that the way the health plans allocate funding- for Eastern Sierra they are given a number they can give to counties. Took proportional dollars from counties to put towards the COC. All funds are going to Inyo as the lead agency to support work across all three counties.

For example- Anthem providing \$50,000 to COC for Inyo- this came from all three buckets (Inyo, Mono, Alpine)- combined it all to go to COC.

Ms. Best Baker States -Action Item: Does Inyo do a contract with Mono and one with Alpine to be given money or are there costs that counties can have Inyo County pay?

Ms. Kreitz- what does Inyo County prefer?

Ms. Scott states her preference is that we make it as simple as possible. Reach out to partners to see what costs were incurred and request invoices. Want to use funding as

intended and make sure it is benefitting communities but will not be penalized if some of this goes towards cost next year.

Ms. Kreitz states that it would be great for Inyo County to keep track of extra funds and plan for PIT for next year. In Mono County there are several larger developments, and we don't know how difficult it will be to get into new apartments. Keep in mind for possible use as funds.

Ms. Scott states we will have similar discussions around HHAP funding- some was set aside for subsidizing rentals, housing deposits. Looking at a contract for Eastern Sierra Community Housing because HHAP funds can be used for a flexible range of assistance. We have funds that are available in similar categories from different funding streams. From Inyo perspective need structure in place to get funds to right housing. First step is to get invoices back for PIT counts.

Ms. Best Baker- HHIP is from the state and comes with less accounting than federally funded money. Trying to write a contract that meets all requirements has been very challenging.

Ms. Scott- If Ms. Egorov identifies someone who is not on Medi-Cal but needs a housing deposit- how would we do this? After we talk about HHAP budget stuff Ms. Best Baker will be able to answer.

*This was a general discussion- no action taken.

6.0 Referral Protocol for Innsbruck Lodge (Action Item): Review and consider approval of referral protocol.

Ms. Egorov says the protocol is not ready yet, save for next month.

7.0 Collaborative Applicant Planning Grants (Informational Item): Receive an accounting of funds

1. 2019-IMACA
2. 2020-IMACA
3. 2021-\$3,446-Inyo HHS-agreement signed-working on access to eLOCS to draw down the funds.
4. 2022-\$3,775-Inyo HHS- agreement signed-working on access to eLOCS to draw down the funds.

Ms. Best Baker states funds have not been received yet, having technical issues. 2023 will be a \$50,000 allocation. Using the \$50,000 to help fund Thurmond contract.

Ms. Scott states it has taken a long time to get access to this system. Ms. Wyatt says whoever is the authorized user would have to assign the individual as a query or draw down access. Ms. Wyatt can set up a meeting with Ms. Best Baker to help her assign the right access.

Ms. Wyatt states allocation upped to \$50,000 due to policy change for 2023. Huge jump should be same for next year.

8.0 HHAP Accounting of Funds (Informational Item): Receive an update on the transfer of HHAP

1 and 2 funds from IMACA to Inyo County to be administered on behalf of the ESCoC. Receive an accounting of funds (Rounds 1-4). Receive and update on HHAP 5 application.

Ms. Scott- has been working on something to be able to share accounting each month. Original agreements were for HHAP 1 and 2 between State of CA and IMACA. We're waiting for the original agreements to be amended so Inyo County could be added as a recipient of remaining funds. IMACA sold Navigation Center. While the first amendment was fully approved- there was a pause in the transfer of funds and to also incorporate additional funds from sale of property. Amendment 2 is going through BOS- should be approved 3/5/24 so funds can finally be transferred over.

Ms. Best Baker- it does not show what money has come in. 7% admin is how much we can spend off each round. Plan has been to use that for Thurmond contract. The remaining money- Round 1 and 2 = 8%- has to be spent on unaccompanied youth under the age of 20, for Round 3 and 4 =10%. Will have to discuss how to use money for this. Other details coming in- must obligate the money and if Counties' share is not obligated it can get rolled over to COC amount.

Ms. Kreitz- Surprised that IMACA did not spend any on the youth category. What is allocated versus what is available is because IMACA used that money? Ms. Best Baker says yes.

Ms. Best Baker- Last page is expenditures for 7/1/23-12/31/23.

Ms. Wyatt states reporting-wise HHAP 1 and HHAP 2 are separate. But accounting with agencies can be combined into one.

9.0 HHAP 1,2,3 Budget (Action Item): Consider establishing a sub committee to review and recommend use of additional HHAP 1 and 2 funds that are not already encumbered and to review HHAP 3 budget as submitted, recommend budget amendments if applicable, and develop recommendations for encumbrance.

Ms. Scott- We need to set up a specific sub-committee meeting to look at HHAP funds.

Ms. Kreitz- Was on sub committee last time and would like to be on this committee. Ms. Scott would like to be on it, Ms. Best Baker, Ms. Egorov

Ms. Greenberg made motion to approve sub-committee and was seconded by Ms. Kreitz

Ayes: Ms. Scott, Ms. Greenberg, Ms. Kreitz, Mr. Kuntz

Nayes: -0-

Absent: Ms. Dobyns,

and Ms. Robertson



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10.0 HHAP 5 Application (Discussion Item): Receive update on HHAP 5 application process and identify staff to work with Thurmond Consulting on aspects of the application. First meeting tentatively scheduled for 2/27/24 at 1:00 PM.

Ms. Scott states we have HHAP 5 application coming up.

Ms. Wyatt states for HHAP 5 the due date is 3/27/24. This year it must be fully collaborative- COC and all counties collaborate on one application. Categories are the same except for minor changes. Biggest change is Operating Subsidizes for Perm Housing and Interim Housing used to be combined, these are now separated out. Minor changes to who will be eligible to homeless prevention- more leniency for who can apply. There will be a meeting on 2/27 to go into detail. Will cover some actions that counties and COC can work on to address equity in outreach, housing, and site coordination. Will also look at budget. System Performance Measures- provided by CalICH.

July 1, 2022, June 30, 2023, report. There are 7 different measures from HIMS data. Looked at data- overall there is a decrease in the number of persons experiencing homelessness, unsheltered homelessness, first time homelessness. Increase of people exiting homelessness into permanent housing, length of time persons remain homeless. We should be monitoring data quality to make sure everything is accurate. It is notable there has been no full-scale street outreach program. HIMS is looking for a formal program. Pretty explainable in a rural area. Really want to focus on items where data is changing.

Ms. Scott states there is an additional meeting on HHAP 5 on Feb 27 and will be sending out a calendar invite. Looking for an accounting of all different funding streams. Ms. Scott will be reaching out to make sure all counties have staff who can speak to the funding streams during the meeting. Other areas where individuals should be invited?

Ms. Wyatt- We want to open the meeting so it is public, will focus on what sources are out there. County funds with LE and Hospital funding- if you also want to invite MCP ECM entities as well. Probation/LE should be invited if they are receiving any funding. Will want to know the contract amount, length of time they have to spend, and the activities covered under it. Possibly another meeting in March to go through specifics of racial and gender equity.

Ms. Scott will send out a meeting invite to the entire COC group.

11.0 Stanislaus Regional Housing Authority (Informational Item): Receive information on Emergency Housing, Mainstream, and Housing Choice Vouchers, including how they are allocated to Alpine, Inyo and Mono Counties, and how to access them.

Ms. Greenberg- Communication is hit and miss. Michelle Gonzalez is now retired; contacts are now Marissa Black (mblack@stanregionalha.org) and Nirmala Kumar (nkumar@stanregionalha.org). They are fully utilizing the EHV and cannot accept any other referrals. Are accepting mainstream (Housing Choice) referrals.

Ms. Wyatt- Offered to meet with Housing Authority to provide more detail if needed.

Ms. Egorov- Is there an application for this? She has families that would qualify.

Will have to call for application information.

Ms. Greenberg- Link we discussed last time works but Ms. Alden states her clients have never received a response.

Ms. Scott- To Ms. Alden's question about no response- Ms. Scott remembers that if a referral was submitted and they were not accepting referrals at that time they would not respond?

Ms. Greenberg- If an application was submitted an email would be auto sent to confirm receipt. Follow up to see if app is accepted takes much longer.

12.0 Anthem Rebid Grant (Informational Item): Receive an accounting of funds.

13.0 Roundtable

None

14.0 Future Agenda Items

1. Governance Charter Workgroup
2. HMIS/CES Update
3. Update on ESCoC Board Vacancies – pending updated Governance Charter

15.0 Next meeting – March 11, 2024 1:00-2:30

16.0 Adjournment