

**California Behavioral Health Planning Council
Housing and Homelessness Committee
Meeting Summary**

**Thursday, April 20, 2023
8:30am to 12:00pm**

Holiday Inn Downtown – Arena
300 J Street Sacramento, CA 95814
Granada/Hermosa Room

Members Present:

Monica Caffey, Chairperson
Deborah Starkey
Vera Calloway
Stephanie Blake

John Black
Barbara Mitchell

Darlene Prettyman
Arden Tucker (virtual)

Staff Present:

Eva Smith
Naomi Ramirez

Meeting Commenced at 8:30am

ITEM 1 Approve January 2023 Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve the January 2023 Housing and Homelessness Committee minutes was made by Barbara Mitchell and seconded by Vera Calloway. The motion passed with no abstentions.

Public Comment

Theresa Comstock requested an edit to her comment from the January 2023 meeting to clarify that she was encouraging the full Council to focus on adult residential facilities, rather than just the Housing and Homelessness Committee.

Lorraine Zeller, Community Living Coalition, Santa Clara County shared the need for advocacy for adult residential facilities.

ITEM 2 Chair-Elect Nomination

Barbara Mitchell made a motion to nominate Angelina Woodberry as the committee's Chair-Elect. The motion was seconded by Darlene Prettyman and passed with no abstentions. Angelina will be contacted to confirm she will accept the nomination as she was not present for this meeting.

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ITEM 3 Workgroup Discussion

Jenny Bayardo provided an overview of the Council's workgroups and discussed how to best incorporate and collaborate the efforts between the committees and the workgroups.

Quarterly Meeting Workgroup Schedules:

- Children and Youth: Wednesdays, 10:30 am to 12:15 pm
- Substance Use Disorder: Thursdays, 12:15 pm to 1:15 pm
- Reducing Disparities: Thursdays, 12:15 pm to 1:15 pm

Jenny acknowledged that Vera Calloway and Barbara Mitchell attend the Reducing Disparities workgroup and Monica Caffey attends the Children and Youth workgroup. Barbara expressed willingness to switch to the SUD workgroup due to her interest in how Housing First interacts with substance use issues and with keeping people housed. Jenny suggested the committee designate time on the agenda moving forward to have these members provide an update on the activities of the workgroups. The Committee agreed.

Public Comment

Janet Frank, California Commission on Aging, recommended the Council establish an older adult committee. She also suggested having a standing agenda item to focus on older adult issues, as they are underserved and the fastest-growing homeless population.

ITEM 4 California's Housing Future 2040: The Next Regional Housing Needs Assessment

Marissa Prasse, Senior Housing Policy Specialist for Housing Policy Development Division for Housing and Community Development (HCD) presented an overview of the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) process and their stakeholder initiative to acquire feedback. The RHNA process refers to the first two steps, determination, and allocation, in a multi-step process for how California plans for housing needs in each region of the state.

Marissa highlighted that the statutory objectives of the RHNA process are to:

- Increase housing supply and mix of housing types, tenure, and affordability in an equitable manner.

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- Promote infill development and socioeconomic equity, protect environmental and agricultural resources, encourage efficient development patterns, and achieve the region's greenhouse gas reduction targets provided by the State Air Resources Board.
- Promote improved intraregional jobs-housing relationships, including jobs-housing fit.
- Balance disproportionate household income distributions (more lower-income RHNA to higher income areas)
- Affirmatively furthering fair housing (AFFH)

The RHNA Stakeholder Engagement Plan includes:

- March – May 2023: Stakeholder engagement period
- July 1, 2023: HCD progress update to the Legislature
- December 21, 2023: Final Recommendation Report due to the Legislature

ITEM 5 California Interagency Council on Homelessness Presentation

Executive Officer, Meghan Marshall provided a brief overview of the California Interagency Council on Homelessness' (CA ICH) Action Plan report. The Action Plan is a comprehensive collection of the state's efforts toward preventing and ending homelessness in the fiscal year. The CA-ICH's Action Plan orients the state's efforts to drive purposeful, meaningful, and measurable progress toward preventing and ending homelessness in California. In March 2021, the CA ICH adopted the Action Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness, with the expectation that the plan would be updated every year to reflect current priorities. Meghan reported that the Action Plan is currently under revision and that there are two public input forums coming up. The forums will provide an overview of the CA ICH update process and an opportunity to offer feedback and suggestions for future revisions.

Members were encouraged to participate in the following Public Input Forums:

- Thursday, April 27th at 10:00am to 11:00am
- Wednesday, May 3rd at 1:00pm to 2:00pm

ITEM 6 California Environmental Quality Act Update

CBHPC staff provided an update to the committee on the recent California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) hearings hosted by the Little Hoover Commission (Commission). The Commission is America's only permanent, independent citizens' commission working to improve state government. They are a nonpartisan oversight agency created in 1962 and its membership includes 13 Commissioners, appointed by

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the Governor and legislative leaders. The Commission's mission is to investigate state operations and promote efficiency, economy, and improved service.

The Commission is exploring the debate around CEQA and examining CEQA's role in protecting the environment and providing public disclosure and evaluating the nature and extent of CEQA's impact on housing, land use, and other issues. The Commission is also exploring the present state of the CEQA process and considering whether changes to CEQA or the process may be needed, and how to best ensure those changes. Eva provided discussion points shared at the hearing as it relates to the development of housing such as the challenge of not being able to accurately analyze CEQA's effectiveness. The committee wishes to continue to follow the activity around the CEQA hearings and will consider how the committee can participate.

ITEM 7 Community Listening Session Debrief

Eva Smith provided a report and led the discussion on the outcomes of the committee's 'Listening Session on Housing' held on Tuesday, April 11, 2023, from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm. The Listening Session event featured brief presentations including an overview of the housing models available in California and stories from individuals with lived experience navigating the behavioral health system and being unhoused. After the presentations, the Listening Session portion provided comprehensive time to hear from persons with lived experience to voice their housing needs and share the barriers they encounter trying to obtain housing.

Eva reviewed the information shared by consumers of the public behavioral health system and their housing struggles. The group engaged in discussion but made no decisions about the next steps.

ITEM 8 Work Plan Discussion

Committee members decided to have an in-between meeting to further discuss and refine the work plan goals as other agenda items went over time and there was not sufficient time to address this agenda item. Staff, Eva Smith will send out a doodle poll to committee members to schedule the meeting.

Public Comment

Elizabeth Stone, a peer from Ventura County, shared about her work in her county.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00pm