YOLO COUNTY HOMELESS SERVICES UPDATE FY 16/17

QUARTER 3: JANUARY-MARCH 2017

Homelessness is a significant issue in Yolo County, with the most recent homeless census (conducted in January 2015) identifying 498 people experiencing homelessness in Yolo on a single night. The Homeless Services Team within the Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) focuses on accomplishing three key goals, including:

- Goal 1: Grow funding for homeless services in Yolo County.
- <u>Goal 2:</u> Develop a robust Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and coordinated entry system.
- Goal 3: Establish a full continuum of housing and services for people experiencing homelessness.
- Goal 4: Provide coordination for the overall homeless system in Yolo County.

The following report provides information on progress made towards each of these goals during the third quarter of FY 16/17.

GOAL 1: GROW FUNDING FOR HOMELESS SERVICES

Currently there is not sufficient funding for homeless services in Yolo County. A significant portion of Homeless Services Team staff time is dedicated to pursuing new funding opportunities (and maintaining existing funding sources) to address this issue. The table below provides a log of the grants coordinated and/or authored by the County Homeless Services Team during FY 16/17:

FY 16/17 Quarter 3 Grant Log									
Grant	Role	Туре	Applied For	Received					
Bringing Families Home Grant	Co-Author	New	\$225,000 (2.25-Year Period)	TBD					
Cooperative Agreements to Benefit Homeless Individuals (CABHI)	Author	New	\$2,399,328.57 (3-Year Period)	\$2,399,328.57 (3-Year Period)					
2016 Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)	Coordinator, Author	Renewal	\$454,396 (2-Year Period)	\$454,396					
2016 Continuum of Care (CoC)	Coordinator, Author	Renewal	\$495,065.52 (1-Year Period)	\$474,575					
Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP)	Coordinator	Renewal	\$114,446	TBD					
Proposition 47 Grant	Co-Author and Coordinator	New	\$6,000,000 (38-Month Period)	TBD					

List of Funding Opportunities

In January of 2017, staff finalized and publicly shared a comprehensive list of opportunities to fund homeless services. The list includes detailed information about each recurring grant opportunity, such as due date, funder, eligible entities, match requirements, and purpose. Staff will update the list as needed to ensure the list remains current.

Proposition 47 Grant

In February of 2017, HHSA staff worked in collaboration with the District Attorney's Office, Probation Department, and Public Defender's Office to submit an application to the Board of State and Community Corrections for Proposition 47 grant funds. The proposed project, called Steps to Success, will use \$6M over a 38-month period to provide wraparound services for individuals who are eligible for a criminal justice diversion program, but unlikely to succeed without supports due to their history of mental health issues and/or substance use disorders. Proposed supports include intensive case management, employment assistance, civil legal assistance, and permanent housing assistance. If selected for funding, the County anticipates receiving notification in June of 2017.

Bringing Families Home Grant

In February of 2017, staff worked with Yolo County Child Welfare Services (CWS) on submitting a concept paper for Bringing Families Home (BFH) funding. In March 2017, the County received a formal invitation from the State to submit an application. The proposed project proposed to use BFH funding to provide housing supports to CWS families experiencing homeless, with the goal of reducing the number of CWS families experiencing homelessness, increasing the number of CWS families reunifying when homelessness is the primary barrier to reunification, and preventing new foster care placements. If selected for funding, the County anticipates receiving notification in June of 2017.

GOAL 2: DEVELOP A ROBUST HOMELESS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (HMIS) AND COORDINATED ENTRY SYSTEM

Vulnerability Index and Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT)

The Vulnerability Index and Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT) is an evidence informed tool that combines both medical and social science research to quantify the vulnerability of people experiencing homelessness with a numeric score. The score allows workers to link clients with appropriate services and housing, and also assists with prioritization of limited homeless resources based upon the acuity of a person's needs.

The ultimate goal is to have all people experiencing homelessness in Yolo County assessed and scored using the VI-SPDAT. In FY 16/17, the County set a goal of having internal staff and contracted providers complete 200 VI-SPDATs. From January to March local providers completed 77 assessments, including 65 single adults and 12 families. When adding this quarter's total to the first half of the year, providers in Yolo County have completed 303 assessments, far exceeding the annual goal.

Coordinated Entry Planning

During the 2015 Continuum of Care (CoC) funding round the Yolo County Homeless and Poverty Action Coalition (HPAC) received a \$15,752 planning grant to establish and implement a permanent coordinated entry system. HPAC will use the money to hire the nonprofit consulting company, HomeBase, to facilitate an initial half-day planning session followed by two 2-hour sessions and ongoing technical assistance over a 3-month period. Given that the federal government recently published guidance requiring local communities to have a fully operational coordinated entry system established by January 23, 2018, this process will be critical. In March of 2017, staff executed an agreement with HomeBase, and began the process of scheduling the initial workshop. Staff expects the first half-day planning session to occur in late-May or early-June.

GOAL 3: DEVELOP A FULL CONTINUUM OF HOUSING AND SERVICES

Extended Hope Project

In February of 2017, staff executed a 3-year contract with Fourth and Hope, marking the start of the Extended Hope project. Funded by a Cooperative Agreement to Benefit Homeless Individuals (CABHI) grant, the project provides intensive wraparound care to persons experiencing homelessness with cooccurring mental health and substance use disorders. The project's key components include: (1) identification, assessment and triage, (2) intensive case management and treatment, and (3) housing navigation and permanent placement. Fourth and Hope is currently working on hiring staff for the project, and officially began providing services to clients in April.

Pathways to Employment Project

In March of 2017, the City of Davis, Davis Community Meals and Housing (DCMH), Davis businesses, HHSA, and the local faith community launched the Pathways to Employment project. The project employs five (5) people experiencing homelessness to complete various jobs such as landscaping, sidewalk cleaning, trash removal, and other tasks related to beautification in downtown Davis. The project pays participants \$12 per hour and anticipates a workload of approximately 12 hours per week. DCMH employs a supervisor to provide guidance, teach job skills, and assist with establishing permanent employment opportunities for the project participants.

I SEE YOU Art Engagement

In January of 2017, the I SEE YOU project concluded its 10-week course in West Sacramento with a culminating exhibit. The project, a partnership between YoloArts, the Yolo County Library and HHSA provides free art classes to people experiencing homelessness in each of our major cities. The final 10-week course began in Woodland at Fourth and Hope in March. Classes occur each Monday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., running from March 13 through May 15.

GOAL 4: PROVIDE SYSTEM-WIDE COORDINATION

2017 Homeless Count and Housing Inventory Count

In January of 2017, HPAC conducted its annual homeless count and housing inventory count. The count conducted this year required both a sheltered and unsheltered count. Staff convened five planning meetings to establish an organizational structure, select a methodology, and develop a survey instrument. In addition, this year staff created an instructional guide meant to serve as a training resource. The guide featured messaging points for count organizers and step-by-step instructions for count enumerators. Staff is currently preparing the final report for the count, and expects to release the information in late April.

Sutter Health Getting to Zero Initiative

In February of 2017, the Yolo County Board of Supervisors passed a resolution in support of the Sutter Health Getting to Zero initiative. The initiative aims to align public, private, and philanthropic programs and resources with the goal of attaining functional zero in Placer, Sacramento, and Yolo counties within the next three years. The initiative also embraces the principles of a Housing Crisis Resolution System that utilizes coordinated entry, low/no barrier housing, the Housing First model, a continuum of housing options, and supportive services.

In March of 2017, the Davis City Council and Woodland City Council also passed resolutions in support of the Sutter Health Getting to Zero initiative.

WHAT'S COMING UP IN QUARTER 4?

The Homeless Team's intended next steps are outlined in the FY 16/17 Work Plan (Appendix C). Several of the highest priority activities during Quarter 4 will include:

- Finalize and share Homeless Count report
- Begin coordinated entry system planning and development
- Coordinate the local Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) competition for both state and federal funds
- Develop plan for No Place Like Home (NPLH) technical assistance funding request

APPENDIX A: MEETING/TRAINING LOGS

Public Presentations and Networking Meetings Log							
Meeting	Date/Frequency	Purpose					
HPAC Data Subcommittee	1/19/2017	Coordinate					
No Place Like Home Technical Committee Conference Call	1/20/2017	Participate					
Whole Person Care Webinar	1/27/2017	Participate					
Whole Person Care Learning Collaborative Call	1/31/2017	Participate					
Cal Humanities Grant Kick Off Meeting	1/31/2017	Participate					
Community Services Action Board	2/14/2017	Coordinate					
No Place Like Home Technical Committee Conference Call	2/17/2017	Participate					
Yolo County Board of Supervisors- Adoption of Getting to Zero	2/21/2017	Present					
Resolution							
Homeless and Poverty Action Coalition	2/22/2017	Coordinate					
Sutter Health Getting to Zero Initiative- Data and Outcomes Tracking	3/1/3017	Participate					
Community Services Action Board- Community Action Plan	3/9/3017	Coordinate					
Subcommittee	3/3/3017	Coordinate					
Community Services Action Board	3/14/2017	Coordinate					
Homeless Discussion with Congressman Garamendi's Office	3/17/2017	Participate					
Davis Social Services Strategic Plan Community Meeting	3/27/2017	Participate					

Conference/Training Log						
Topic	Host Agency					
Coordinated Entry System Planning Workshop	California Department of Housing and Community Development					

Yolo County Homeless Services- FY 16/17 Work Plan													
COAL /ACTION		TIMELINE											
GOAL/ACTION	STATUS	JULY	AUG	SEPT	ост	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUNE
Grow Funding													
Develop comprehensive list of homeless funding opportunities	COMPLETED												
Coordinate Continuum of Care (CoC) Grant	COMPLETED												
Update Yolo County Homeless Spending Inventory	COMPLETED												
Coordinate Proposition 47 Grant	COMPLETED												
Coordinate Community Services Block Grant (CSBG)- 1 Year Extension of Contracts	● COMPLETED												
Coordinate Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) Grant	O IN PROGRESS	5											
Coordinate PATH Grant	O UPCOMING												
Coordinate Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)	O UPCOMING												
Apply for 3 new funding sources, totaling \$1M	O IN PROGRES	5											
Develop HMIS and Coordinated Entry			_										
Submit first system performance measures report to HUD	COMPLETED												
Establish ongoing VI-SPDAT trainings for service providers on "as needed" basis	COMPLETED												<u> </u>
Develop HMIS policies and procedures manual for the Yolo HMIS system	COMPLETED												
Implement use of HMIS and Coordinated Entry for internal County programs (CalWORKs)	COMPLETED												
Work with providers on improving HMIS data quality in preparation for AHAR	COMPLETED												
Submit first Yolo County Annual Housing Assessment Report (AHAR) to HUD	 COMPLETED 												
Establish contract with Sacramento Steps Forward for HMIS system-building (Using CABHI Grant)		5											
Convene coordinated entry system planning group and develop implementation plan	O IN PROGRES												
Write use of HMIS and VI-SPDAT in all County homeless contracts at renewal	O IN PROGRES	5											
Continuum of Housing and Services	T - 1		_		_	ı	ı		ı	ı	ı	ı	
Work with Fourth and Hope/YCCC to implement Bridge to Health and Housing Project	COMPLETED												
Implement I SEE YOU Artist Engagement Project, Phase I, Davis	COMPLETED												
Conduct VI-SPDAT assessments on 200 homeless individuals in Yolo County	COMPLETED												
Implement I SEE YOU Artist Engagement Project, Phase II, West Sacramento	COMPLETED												
Establish employment specialist position for homeless population (Using CABHI Grant)	O IN PROGRES												
Develop Bridge to Housing 2.0 project in Woodland	O IN PROGRES	5											
Convene workgroup to explore options for ensuring that free cell phone are accessible	O UPCOMING	+	-										
Study case management to client ratio for homeless population and determine deficit	O UPCOMING	-											
Implement incentive program for engagement of homeless in system planning efforts	O UPCOMING												
Implement I SEE YOU Artist Engagement Project, Phase III, Woodland	O UPCOMING	>											
Convene workgroup to identify options for reducing exclusionary screening among landlords	O UPCOMING IN PROGRESS												
Work with Fourth and Hope to implement Extended Hope Project (CABHI Grant)	O IN PROGRESS												
Establish local outreach programs that cover all jurisdictions in Yolo County Monitor New Pathways Supported Housing Project in Davis	O IN PROGRES												
Monitor New Pathways Supported Housing Project in Davis Participate in Stepping Up Initiative to strengthen criminal justice interactions with homeless	O IN PROGRESS												
System Coordination	IN PROGRES.	,											
Analyze compliance with CSBG Organizational Standards, and Report to State	COMPLETED												
Develop HPAC Policies and Procedures Manual	IN PROGRESS	;											
Assist with revision of 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness	O IN PROGRESS												
Complete sheltered and unsheltered point-in-time count (PIT)	O IN PROGRESS												$\vdash \vdash$
Complete housing inventory count (HIC)	O IN PROGRESS		1										
Develop FY 17/18 Work Plan	O IN PROGRESS	_											
=						l	L		1	l			