

# COUNTY OF YOLO

## EXECUTIVE COMMISSION TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS

Meeting Minutes

3.7.24

9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

HHS Bauer Building – Walker Room

137 N. Cottonwood St., Woodland, CA 95695

**Chair**  
**County of Yolo**  
Dr. Mary Vixie  
Sandy

**Vice Chair**  
**City of Woodland**  
Councilmember  
Rich Lansburgh

**City of Davis**  
Councilmember  
Gloria Partida

**City of West  
Sacramento**  
Councilmember  
Verna Sulpizio Hull

**City of Winters**  
Mayor Pro-tem  
Albert Vallecillo

**Homeless &  
Poverty Action  
Coalition**  
HPAC Chair  
Jeneba Lahai

<b>Commission Members Attended:</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<i>County of Yolo, Chair</i> – Yolo County Supervisor: Dr. Mary Vixie Sandy	X	
<i>Woodland, Vice Chair</i> – Councilmember: Rich Lansburgh	X	
<i>Davis, Councilmember:</i> Gloria Partida	X	
<i>West Sacramento, Councilmember:</i> Verna Sulpizio Hull	X	
<i>Winters, Councilmember:</i> Albert Vallecillo	X	
<i>HPAC, Chair:</i> Jeneba Lahai	X	

- Welcome and Introductions – Vice Chair, Councilmember Rich Lansburgh

### Consent Agenda

- Introduction of Dr. Mary Vixie Sandy
  - Approve Dr. Mary Vixie Sandy as the Chair of the Commission – Action Item.

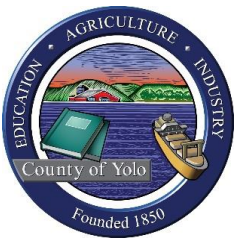
<b>Motion</b>	Rich Lansburgh
<b>Second</b>	Verna Sulpizio Hull
<b>Ayes</b>	All
<b>Nays</b>	None
<b>Abstention(s)</b>	None
<b>Absent</b>	None

- Review and Approve: 3.7.24 Agenda– Action Item.

<b>Motion</b>	Albert Vallecillo
<b>Second</b>	Jeneba Lahai
<b>Ayes</b>	All
<b>Nays</b>	None
<b>Abstention(s)</b>	None
<b>Absent</b>	None

- Review and Approve: 11.2.23 & 1.11.24 Minutes – Action Item.

<b>Motion</b>	Verna Sulpizio Hull
<b>Second</b>	Gloria Partida
<b>Ayes</b>	All
<b>Nays</b>	None
<b>Abstention(s)</b>	Jeneba Lahai
<b>Absent</b>	None



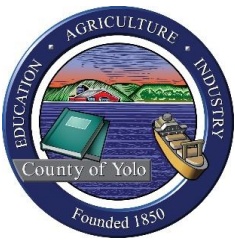
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### Regular Agenda

5. Public Comment
  - None
  
6. HPAC Update- HPAC Chair Jeneba Lahai
  - HPAC currently had a vacancy on their Board of Directors due to a medical/health related incident, they were able to fill the vacancy by the Associate Chief Medical Officer from CommuniCare+OLE, Theresa Shinder who will attend the next HPAC meeting. Jeneba gave thanks to everyone that participated on the PIT count, they are in the process of cleaning up the data and writing a report that will be coming out soon. Lastly, HPAC in collaboration with the county is finishing up the proposal for HHAP 5 which is due March 27<sup>th</sup>, they are looking closely at the Homeless Plan as they put together this proposal.
  
7. Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Overview Presentation
  - HHS Manager, Kerrie Covert presented on the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) which is a federal grant that Yolo County receives. This grant requires the Community Services Action Board (CSAB) to vote on how the funding that Yolo County receives is utilized. The board historically required 5 District Representatives, 5 low-income members, and 5 business sector members. It requires the board to follow the Brown Act and provides a space for low-income community members to have a voice. HHS Staff develops the Community Needs Assessment Survey, advertise, and administer the survey, analyze the data, and develop presentations to inform the CSAB members. HHS Staff develops Requests for Proposals based on the data received in the community needs assessment, utilizing Yolo County Procurement, Fiscal, and Contracts teams. HHS staff develops multiple contracts with the assistance of Yolo County Fiscal and Contracts teams and monitors the outcomes of multiple contracts.
  - Kerrie also updated on the structural changes to CSBG and the reasons for these changes were to become compliant and make the program more efficient. CSAB approved program restructuring of the board be minimized to include 3 district representatives, 3 low-income representatives, and 3 Community based organizations representatives. The use of funding, to fund 1 permanent CSBG analyst, and fund Emergent Needs/Direct Client Services. The CSBG system will be utilized to analyze all homeless dollars in Yolo County CSBG data portal will: track homeless services programs and outcomes, run reports to be analyzed and presented to the board, where they will identify services needing improvement or gaps in services, after this process, CSAB will inform HHS of identified needs that will be presented to Executive Commission on Homelessness and provide the Executive Commission the voice of the community and their needs.



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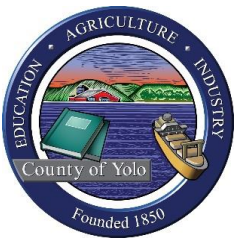
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- Liane Moody, Executive Director of Short-Term Emergency Aid Committee (STEAC) gave a background on the organization and their program which is to provide cash assistance for rent and utilities so that an emergency does not result in an eviction that could increase homelessness who has been operating in Yolo County for 57 years. STEAC has provided eviction prevention services for over 20 years. They do not have case management, so they work in collaboration with lots of agencies that provide them referrals, which ensures they are providing services to many places throughout the county. They work mostly with volunteers in their office and the process for this is they receive a case, review it, call the landlord, they make sure everything is in place to assure that going forward the client has a good chance of making it with a one-time cash payment, then make those payments directly to the landlord. Six months later they send a survey to the landlord to see if the client is still living there, 83% of the people are still there, 13% left voluntarily, 4% have been evicted. They know this group of people that their screening, this can be effective in helping them have some stability and avoid eviction and eventual homelessness. Last year, they provided eviction prevention support to 257 families, including 670 individuals and 321 children throughout Yolo County.
- Approve \$50,000 for Short Term Emergency Aid Committee (STEAC) to prevent homelessness in Yolo County.

<b>Motion</b>	Mary Sandy
<b>Second</b>	Albert Vallecillo
<b>Ayes</b>	All
<b>Nays</b>	None
<b>Abstention(s)</b>	None
<b>Absent</b>	None

- Heather Sleuter, Executive Director of the Yolo Crisis Nursery who has been around since 2001, located in Davis in a little small 1,400 square foot building who serves up to 12 families during the day and 4 overnight that are homeless. There are only four crisis nurseries in the state of California, and they are one of them. They have just finished a capitol campaign to expand services on how many families can stay at the nursery, they have been able to expand from 1,400 to 8,000 square feet and they just broke ground in October. The proposal will be to fund a Family Facilitator who will housing and homeless services, income and employment assistance, and emergency assistance primarily through case management. They will provide family life skills education, which is a 12-week program supporting clients in the home to be successful. Yolo Crises Nursery has provided 350 hours of one-on-one case management resulting in 60 applications submitted, 14 interviews extended, 4 jobs offered, and 4 women



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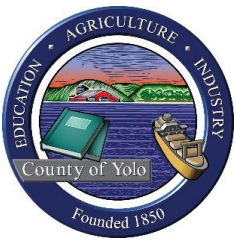
successfully employed to date. In 2024, they launched a new initiative aimed at increasing nutritional awareness and reducing food insecurity.

- Approve \$123,324 for Yolo Crisis Nursery to fund 1 FTE Family Facilitator, 5% of a Program Coordinator position and Operations.

<b>Motion</b>	Jeneba Lahai
<b>Second</b>	Gloria Partida
<b>Ayes</b>	All
<b>Nays</b>	None
<b>Abstention(s)</b>	None
<b>Absent</b>	None

- Amara Pickens, Deputy Executive Director of Fourth and Hope who started on 1985 as a grass root faith-based organization who provided sack lunches to folks on the street and the community. Incorporated once they established an emergency shelter in Woodland which since then they've grown by establishing programs to further the mission, which is to feed, clothe, shelter, and facilitate recovery to those in need. The proposal is to fund a case manager to work at the new emergency shelter, which is a 100-bed out at east beamer. They serve approximately 250 individuals a year there and serve 100,000 meals to food-insecure individuals, and help participants secure permanent housing placements, increase noncash benefits, and increase income. Their current programs are emergency shelter services which provides 100 shelter beds for adult men and women. Includes resource/referral, case management, job/housing search, three daily meals, showers, laundry, phone/mail services, in addition to drop-in day services. Transitional Housing which provides ten units of sober living housing for up to 29 individuals with case management services and linkage to outpatient substance use treatment services. Residential Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment which provides up to 44 beds of residential treatment for individual men and women. Includes 40 hours of group sessions and one individual session per week. Permanent Supportive Housing which provides 11 units for families with children and 29 single-occupancy units for individuals. Outpatient Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment program which provides up to 18 individual men and women with outpatient treatment.
- Approve \$53,539 for Fourth and Hope to fund the cost of 1 Case Manager.

<b>Motion</b>	Verna Sulpizio Hull
<b>Second</b>	Mary Sandy
<b>Ayes</b>	All
<b>Nays</b>	None
<b>Abstention(s)</b>	None
<b>Absent</b>	None



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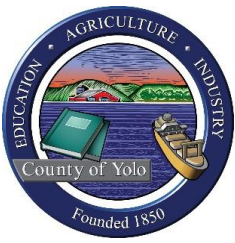
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- Olivia Arnold, Director of Development of Yolo County Children’s Alliance (YCCA). Since 2002, Yolo County Children’s Alliance (YCCA) has empowered and strengthened children, youth, and adults in Yolo County communities. Incorporated as a non-profit in 2003, its mission is to *“Ensure that everyone in Yolo County has access to the resources they need to build meaningful ties to their communities and each other.”* They use a “Family Strengthening” framework to develop resiliency in families in all its programs. In addition to housing assistance, core programs include parent education and skills building, home visiting programs for vulnerable families, resource and referral, and community advocacy to build healthy and resilient children and families. With this funding request, they will continue to provide housing navigation assistance, eviction prevention, help paying rent and utilities and supportive services to obtain and maintain permanent housing. They’ve been doing these services since 2008 thus they bring experience and deliverables within the scope of work. In the last year, YCCA was able to assist 220 participants providing housing related case management, resources, and referral assistance. Also, 102 participants were able to successfully increase their income.
- Approve \$130,000 for Yolo County Children’s Alliance for salary and administrative costs for .25 FTE Homeless Prevention Manager, .75 FTE bilingual Housing Navigator, and direct client expenditures and other program costs.

<b>Motion</b>	Albert Vallecillo
<b>Second</b>	Gloria Partida
<b>Ayes</b>	All
<b>Nays</b>	None
<b>Abstention(s)</b>	Jeneba Lahai
<b>Absent</b>	None

### 8. Bay Area Community Services (BACS) Presentation

- Harjit Singh Gill, Regional Director of Programs of Bay Area Community Services (BACS). BACS is an agency who came to Sacramento in 2021 and he came on board when they started with the program which had 13 EFT’s that did crisis support, peer led in the emergency room for Sacramento County for their crisis navigation program. Since that time in 2021, they’ve expanded to 179 employees in the Sacramento region, those are all people from this area, living here, paying taxes. As an agency, their *“mission is to uplift individuals, families, and communities by doing “whatever it takes.”* BACS vision is *“strong neighborhoods where everyone is healthy and has an abundance of recourses, meaningful relationships, and a place they call home.”* They were formed in 1953 and have recently celebrated their 70<sup>th</sup> birthday party. They formed when a council of churches and advocated came together to respond to the growing needs of elders and people with



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mental health issues. By 1965, they've grown since then by now targeting the rising homelessness around our community. For decades, they have steadily grown throughout Northern California to meet the rising needs of communities by providing supportive services to more than 100,000 people as far down as Salinas and down north as Rancho Cordova area. In 2022, they've served a total of 19,320 people, 2,820 stayed housed who were on the verge of homelessness, and 3,173 people received support in a behavioral health crisis, instead of emergency care. BACS in the spectrum of homelessness and housing has programs for homelessness prevention and housing stabilization, coordinated entry, interim housing/respice, rapid re-housing, permanent supportive housing services/subsidy administration, and affordable housing. In the behavioral health side, they have services in prevention and wellness, crisis navigation, crisis residential and stabilization, community-based service team, intensive case management, and lastly full-service partnerships. BACS operates over 60 programs across 5 counties, all dedicated to uplifting individuals, families, and communities with integrated care for housing and behavioral health supports. Project Roomkey was a key feature of COVID response in California, and BACS was asked to operate four total hotels in San Francisco and Contra Costa County. BACS opened a 200-person hotel in SF in 2 weeks. More than 800 people served, and BACS now provides intentional care to get them into permanent housing rather than back to homelessness. More than 150 housed to date. BACS was awarded \$10 million to buy scattered-site houses. Project Homekey added nearly 200 private bedrooms to BACS' unique housing co-op model that BACS started in 1973, which now serves more than 300 people. Since 2013, more than 1,500 people have moved into housing through these programs alone (80% of those served avg.), 7 sites, 6 cities, 3 counties. "Hospital Without Walls" describes the BACS full-service partnership programs, helping 400 of the most vulnerable people in Alameda County with comprehensive mental health services, financial and benefits support, medical care coordination, and integrated housing support.

11. Commission Member Discussion

- Councilmember Rich Landsburg brought up the idea of a special meeting to have BACS come back and present the proposal for Yolo County. Rich stated this program may be a proposal that we can sink our teeth in and that it's an expensive proposal, thus we need to have a special meeting just for this presentation. Councilmember Verna Sulpizio Hull stated she is open to the idea and other members also said they will be willing to meet. Afterwards, they all agreed to hold a Special Meeting on Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. to continue this conversation.

12. Adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

- Next Meeting: Special Meeting on March 19, 2024, from 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. at Woodland Community Center, 2001 East St., Woodland, CA 95776