

**MERCED CONTINUUM OF CARE (CoC)
GENERAL COLLABORATIVE MEETING
City of Merced – Sam Pipes Room
678 West 18th Street, Merced
Wednesday, June 16, 2010
2:00 p.m.**

AGENDA

- 1. Welcome & Introductions**
- 2. Oral Communications**
 - *At this time any person may comment on any item that is not on the Agenda. Comments are limited to three minutes per person.*
 - *Please state your name and address for record.*
 - *Action will not be taken on an item that is not on the Agenda. If action is required, it will be referred to staff and/or placed on the next Agenda.*
- 3. Executive Council – Information Only**
 - a. Program Year (PY 2010/11) Chair & Vice Chair
 - b. Business Representative Vacancy
 - c. Jurisdiction Appointments
- 4. 2009/10 Program Year Goals – Progress Reports/Status Updates**
 - a. Provide Housing Options for those at the encampments
 - b. Focus on services and housing for foster youth that are aging out of the system
 - c. Create a hospital discharge plan
 - d. Increase HMIS participation
 - e. Improve weekly One Stop Shop
 - f. Build public and leadership buy-in regarding homeless service
 - g. Adopt Policies & Procedures for the CoC
- 5. 2010/11 Program Year Goals – Discussion with Possible Action**
- 6. CoC – Who We Are & What We Do – Information Only**
- 7. Preparation for 2010 CoC NOFA & Call for 2010 Prioritization Panel – Information Only**
- 8. Homeless Services Matrix – Discussion with Possible Action**
- 9. Gaps Analysis – Discussion with Possible Action**
 - Liz Freitas, County Mental Health
- 10. Opportunities/Announcements – Information Only**
- 11. Adjournment**

Next CoC General Collaborative Meeting – July 14, 2010 - 2:00 p.m. – Merced City Hall

**MERCED CONTINUUM OF CARE
GENERAL COLLABORATIVE MEETING
City of Merced – Council Chambers
678 West 18th Street, Merced, CA
Wednesday, June 16, 2010 - 2:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Su Briggs, Merced County Community Action Agency
Kathleen Cadden, Merced County Human Services Agency
John Carlisle, City Council, City of Merced
Sabrina Desalez, Foster Youth Services Program, Merced County Office of Education
Liz Freitas, Merced County Mental Health
Matt Hirota, recyclemerced.com
See Lee, Valley Community School, Merced County Office of Education
Renee Mounce, D Street Shelter, Merced County Community Action Agency
Raevin Manzanaras, Rose Julia Riordan Tranquility Village
Roberta Medina, Code Enforcement, City of Merced
Lori Newman, Community Social Model Advocates
Raymond Patino, David J. Riordan Hobie House
Saundra Reeves, Turning Point
Fred Risard, Episcopal Church
Audrey Slocum, Merced County Mental Health
Robyn Stiles, City of Merced
Terry Tatum, CoC Executive Council
Louise Tilston, Merced County Health Department

MCAG STAFF PRESENT

Jeanette Garcia, MCAG staff

OTHERS PRESENT

Sonya Dew, Mercy Hospital
Brigid Ferrari, Mercy Hospital

1. Welcome

Executive Council Chairperson Su Briggs called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. and began introductions.

2. Oral Communications – None

3. Executive Council

a. Program Year (PY 2010/11) Chair & Vice Chair

The Executive Council appointed Su Briggs as Chairperson and Fred Risard as Vice Chairperson for PY 2010/11 at the June 9, 2010 Executive Council meeting.

b. Business Representative Vacancy

A candidate for Business Representative has expressed interest in participating on the Council. This item will be continued to the July 21, 2010 meeting agenda.

c. Jurisdiction Appointments

To date, jurisdictions have made the following appointments to CoC Executive Council:

1. Dr. Johnny Mays, City Council, Dos Palos
2. Masoud Niroumand, City of Merced
3. Joe Sousa, City Council, Los Banos

4. 2009/10 Program Year Goals – Progress Reports/Status Updates

a. Provide Housing Options for those at the encampments

Information regarding the Re-entry Assistance Program (RAP) will be sent to the General Collaborative via email.

b. Focus on services and housing for foster youth that are aging out of the system

See Lee, Merced County Office of Education, reported on the Transition, Employment and Life Skills Program (TEAL). The purpose of TEAL is to equip youth with job skills, provide employment training and encourage youth to save money during their time in the foster care system so that they can be released with resources. She introduced Sabrina DeSalez who is with the Foster Youth Services Program.

Ms. DeSalez provided information regarding the summer training program, currently providing work experience to 25 foster youth (ages 16 to 18) at 16 job sites in Merced. She also described other programs serving the youth, such as the State curriculum known as the Real Game, which provides budget training and other life preparation skills. Referrals can be made to Sandra Stevens at the Merced County Office of Education.

AspiraNet will be asked to prepare a written summary, which will be forwarded to the General Collaborative via email.

c. Create a hospital discharge plan

Sonya Dew, Social Worker for Mercy Hospital, presented information regarding Mercy's discharge plan for homeless people. Each plan is individualized, with the social worker assisting the patient to identify resources available upon discharge. The social worker will contact local agencies, such as Adult Protective Services, County Mental Health, Mary's Mantle and St. Vincent De Paul, regarding access to services for patients approaching discharge. However, patients have the right to refuse services and may choose to leave the hospital and continue homelessness.

Fred Risard asked if there are formal guidelines for homeless discharge. Ms. Dew stated that Mercy is currently updating their discharge policies and procedures, but emphasis is

always on each individual patient. Patients are not discharged unless a doctor determines the patient is medically stable.

d. Increase HMIS Participation

Renee Mounce, Merced Community Action Agency/D Street Shelter, manages the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) for Merced City/County CoC. She distributed HMIS reports. HMIS allows us to record the number of shelter nights provided and demographic data, which is submitted to HUD. Shelter provider participation is nearly 100%. Ms. Mounce also reported on changes resulting from the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program (HPRP).

e. Improve Weekly One Stop

Liz Freitas, Merced County Mental Health, presented issues in coordinating the Weekly One Stop. Not all service providers can attend consistently. The One Stop Committee meets monthly to discuss possibilities for improvement.

Ms. Freitas also provided information about the Bicycle Donation and Repair Project that has been granted Community Services Block Grant Discretionary Funding through Merced Community Action Agency.

f. Build public and leadership buy-in regarding homeless service

Jeanette Garcia presented information regarding MCAG Governing Board's decision to accept governance authority for CoC. Ms. Garcia indicated that the structure potentially provides for a broader scope of regional participation. The City of Los Banos has also committed funding support. Discussion ensued regarding these recent changes, in particular the impacts to the Executive Council that will occur as a result of the jurisdiction's appointments.

g. Adopt policies & procedures for the CoC

The CoC Policies & Procedures Phase I (administration) was completed during the 2009/10 Program Year. The Executive Council will begin work on Phase II (community planning and performance) during 2010/11.

5. 2010/11 Program Year Goals

Chairperson Su Briggs suggested that the General Collaborative resolve to make the 10 Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness the primary goal of the new Program Year.

John Carlisle moved to establish the 10 Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness as the primary goal for Program Year 2010/11.

Seconded by Liz Freitas.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Discussion ensued regarding the importance of the 2009/10 Program Year Goals and the need to continue supporting and reviewing these priority areas. It was suggested that the

2009/10 Program Year Goals be continued as ongoing Focus Areas. While the 10 Year Plan will embody these Focus Areas, some members expressed concern that they must continue to be independently highlighted at meeting level. Comment was made that a Hospital Discharge Plan, in particular, was an important element for obtaining certain grant funds and must therefore continue as a Focus Area. Sex offenders should also be added to the Focus Area "Provide Housing Options". Quarterly reports of CoC Focus Areas will continue.

6. CoC – Who We Are & What We Do

Jeanette Garcia distributed several slides from a slide show that was presented at a previous CoC orientation for members. Ms. Garcia will update the slide show and present the orientation at either the July 2010 or September 2010 General Collaborative meeting.

7. Preparation for 2010 CoC NOFA & Call for 2010 Prioritization Panel

Although the 2010 CoC Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) has not been released to date, the Executive Council will begin planning activities, including coordination of the Prioritization Panel, during the next several months. Please stay tuned for email announcements.

8. Homeless Services Matrix

At the request of Merced City staff, MCAG staff prepared a draft Homeless Services Matrix. The draft was distributed at the meeting. This summary allows individuals to focus on those service areas available to them. Comment was made to add several services and to distribute the Services Matrix to all CoC service providers. The City of Merced will include this with its resources packet for individuals leaving the encampment.

9. Gaps Analysis

A Gaps Analysis Starter Sheet was distributed. Liz Freitas plans to facilitate this discussion at the July 21, 2010 General Collaborative meeting.

10. Opportunities/Announcements

The next General Collaborative meeting is scheduled for July 21, 2010. The General Collaborative will recess in August.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:37 p.m.