

## **RESPONSES TO BOARD MOTIONS: OCTOBER 13, 2017 TO JANUARY 23, 2018**

During the last quarter, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) responded to nine Board motions. Summaries of these reports are below.

- **Expediently Utilizing Existing Measure H Funds to Increase Shelter Capacity (Item No. 41-E, Agenda of October 3, 2017)**

On October 18, 2017, the CEO provided an update to the Board on efforts completed thus far, as well as a timeline outlining key implementation actions, to expediently utilize Measure H funds to increase shelter capacity. On June 13, 2017, the Board approved \$56 million for Strategy E8 to enhance the emergency system to be an effective point-of-access to, and component of, an integrated Homeless Services System. During this fiscal year, the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), the lead agency for Strategy E8:

- Added more than 200 shelter beds to the Family System.
- Is adding more than 300 beds to the single adult and transition age youth systems, most of which will open in December 2017.
- Converted a third (795) of existing crisis housing beds to bridge housing programs which allow for more intensive service provision and longer term stays for participants.
- Converted two winter shelter programs into year-round programs (Pomona and Bell).

By the Spring of 2018: 1) Measure H will fund 85 new year-round bridge housing beds for women at the Sylmar Armory; 2) LAHSA will release a Request for Proposals (RFP) to add up to 600 beds for single adults, transition age youth and families in the 2018-19 contract year, based on the tentative FY 2018-19 funding for Strategy E8 approved by the Board on June 13, 2017; and 3) LAHSA will release a RFP for up to \$10 million in capital funds to increase the number of shelter beds.

LAHSA also awarded Strategy E8 one-time funds to five shelter programs to enhance their facilities to better accommodate the animal companions of people experiencing homelessness and reduce barriers to entry for pet owners. Funding will pay for items such as kennels, food, leashes, pet training, and cleaning supplies.

- **Motions on Crisis Housing (Item No. 5, Agenda of February 21, 2017; Item No. 9, Agenda of February 28, 2017; Items No. 2 and 13, Agenda of April 11, 2017)**

On October 24, 2017, the CEO provided a final consolidated report to the Board on various motions related to the need for crisis housing in each Service Planning Area. A chart that includes information on the number of LAHSA-funded shelter beds, potential number of new beds to be funded, and the number of unsheltered people identified by the 2017 Homeless Count is included as an attachment. Overall, there has been a five percent increase in the number of LAHSA-funded shelter beds since June 2017. Shelter capacity is expected to continue to increase as additional beds are funded through Measure H beginning in December 2017.

- **Crisis Housing for Women (Item No. 6, Agenda of June 13, 2017)**

On November 1, 2017, the CEO provided an interim report on efforts to work with LAHSA, Health Services, and the Women and Girls Initiative to develop recommendations regarding whether funding in Homeless Initiative (HI) strategies, aside from Strategy E8, Enhance the Emergency Shelter System, should be set aside to specifically address the needs of women experiencing homelessness. A workgroup was formed to review LAHSA's August 25, 2017 report, *The Report and Recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee on Women and Homelessness*. Based on the review, the workgroup agreed to have the CEO design and distribute a survey for HI strategy leads to report on their effectiveness in meeting the needs of women experiencing homelessness. The survey will specifically focus on the following four key elements highlighted by the LAHSA Report: 1) Data and Reporting; 2) Training and Capacity Building; 3) Funding; and 4) Service Delivery. Upon receipt of the survey results, the CEO will analyze this data, assess whether there are gaps, and make recommendations regarding policy changes and/or the need to set aside funding for women experiencing homelessness to ensure equity in access. The CEO will return to the Board with an update on these efforts by March 9, 2018.

- **Report Back No. 2 on Child Care for Homeless Families (Item No. 26, Agenda of June 13, 2017)**

On November 9, 2017, the CEO provided a second interim report on access to child care for homeless families. On September 11, 2017, the CEO provided an interim response highlighting the formation of the Child Care Workgroup and an assessment of barriers and the feasibility of potential actions to increase access to both subsidized and unsubsidized child care programs. The CEO continues to: 1) collaborate with DPSS to enhance its role in connecting homeless families to subsidized child care; and 2) review Family Coordinated Entry System (CES) data to determine how many children experiencing homelessness are not eligible to, or able to be connected to child care entitlement programs on a timely basis. The CEO will return to the Board with an update on the Child Care Workgroup's efforts by February 24, 2018.

- **Antelope Valley Homeless Consortium (Item No. 62-A, Supplemental Agenda of August 1, 2017)**

On November 14, 2017, the CEO provided a final report back to the Board on a directive to immediately establish the Antelope Valley Homelessness Consortium (AVHC) and report back in 90 days with a gap analysis and short-term and long-term recommendations aimed at regional solutions, including the recommended duration of the AVHC. The CEO worked with Supervisorial District Five (SD 5) in establishing AVHC, consisting of 21 representatives from the County, Cities of Palmdale and Lancaster, community-based service providers, faith-based organizations, and healthcare organizations. The CEO retained Corporation for Supportive Housing (CHS) to facilitate AVHC meetings with outreach and input sessions, and conduct a regional in-depth analysis of unmet homeless housing and service needs in Antelope Valley. Based on that analysis, CHS developed a set of recommendations that reflect the concerns and priorities of the AVHC and community at large, which are detailed

in an attachment to the memo. Moving forward, CSH recommends retaining a consultant to facilitate implementation of the AVHC's recommendations and ongoing work, starting with establishing a stable organizational structure for the AVHC. The CEO is to work with SD 5 to identify a consulting partner who has a proven track record of organizing and facilitating multi-sectoral efforts to prevent and combat homelessness, including expertise in housing development, a deficit which was unanimously identified by AVHC and the community at large.

- **Motion on Measure H Funding: Accounting of The Homeless Population that is Unaccounted for in the Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count (Item No. 12, Agenda of June 13, 2017)**

On November 21, 2017, the CEO provided a second interim report on potential ways that the homeless population that is unaccounted for in the Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count could be reflected in the future allocation of funding for the Measure H Strategies. On September 11, 2017, the CEO submitted the first interim report advising the Board that CEO Research and Evaluation Services Unit (RES) was in the process of analyzing various administrative data sources maintained by six County departments, the Homeless Management Information System for the Greater Los Angeles Continuum of Care, and school district data compiled by the Los Angeles County Office of Education; and findings would be submitted to the Board within 60 days. In the second interim report, the CEO indicated that RES had completed the preliminary analysis of administrative data and that the report would be discussed at the Homeless Policy Deputies Meeting on December 14, 2017, with the final report to be submitted to the Board thereafter.

- **Reducing the Homeless Transition Age Youth Population in the San Gabriel Valley (Item No. 34.7.4, Agenda of September 26, 2017)**

On December 11, 2017, the CEO provided a report on: 1) the feasibility of a drop-in center in the San Gabriel Valley for homeless youth ages 18-24; 2) the need for services for Transition Age Youth (TAY) in the San Gabriel Valley; and 3) Measure H Strategies, as well as, potential federal, state and local revenue sources, that could fund a drop-in center in the San Gabriel Valley. The CEO convened a group of stakeholders to address each of the Board's directives. Moving forward, the memo outlined continued efforts to enhance services for TAY in the San Gabriel Valley and countywide that include: 1) Co-location of the CES for Youth Lead agencies within the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) regional offices, which is targeted to begin in early 2018; 2) Pilot in SPA 3, specifically focused on connecting youth preparing for discharge from DCFS to Hathaway Sycamores Child and Family Services to link the targeted youth to available housing and supportive services upon discharge from foster care; and 3) Pilot in SPA 3 focused on connecting youth in Juvenile Probation camps to available housing and supportive services upon discharge from Probation.

- **Community Homelessness Education and Engagement Efforts (Item No. 11, Agenda of December 20, 2016)**

On December 15, 2017, the CEO reported on ongoing work with Fenton Communications, a consultant retained to research and identify best practices for facilitating community dialogues about siting Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) and homelessness service sites. Fenton conducted focus groups in October and November in Downey, Sherman Oaks, Lancaster, and near LAX. Based on information gathered from the focus groups, Fenton drafted a toolkit designed to help developers and their community partners successfully site and build new PSH developments, which includes:

- Key messages related to homelessness and supportive housing
- How to talk about mental health issues
- Successful community outreach strategies
- Alternatives to traditional community meetings
- How to deal with opponents
- How to work with politicians on PSH development
- Common legal tools for affordable housing

Fenton will continue to work with the CEO and other stakeholders to identify best practices for engaging communities in dialogues regarding the siting of PSH and opportunities for the County to play a proactive role in facilitating these dialogues.

- **Outreach Plan to Address the Homeless Encampment Issues Along the Alameda Corridor (Item No. 4, Agenda of November 21, 2017)**

On January 23, 2017, the CEO provided a response to the Board's directive to work with LAHSA and other critical stakeholders, to develop a plan with the Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority (ACTA) to address the homeless encampment issues along the Alameda Corridor. The CEO convened a workgroup meeting of critical stakeholders on December 5, 2017, where five "hotspots" were identified along the Corridor, and there was a commitment to complete an assessment, develop an outreach strategy, and deploy outreach teams to each of the five "hotspots" on an ongoing basis. The response back includes an attachment that provides an update on the efforts that had taken place to address the homeless encampment issues as of January 11, 2018.