

Regional Task Force on the Homeless

Intergovernmental Roundtable

Councilmember Chris Ward

Board Chair

Tamera Kohler

Chief Executive Officer



SAN DIEGO
**Regional Task Force
on the Homeless**

Agenda

- Welcome
- Overview of the Regional Task Force on the Homeless
- Overview of Homeless Strategies and Best Practices
- Funding
- What Can Cities Do? Opportunities to Coordinate Resources and Services
- Future Intergovernmental Roundtable Meeting Dates & Topics of Discussion
- Questions & Discussion



RTFH is...

- the homeless policy expert and lead coordinator for the introduction of new models and implementation of best practices for the San Diego Region.
- the Subject Matter Expert.
- a membership non-profit with a 31 member board.
- a community resource for understanding and problem solving homeless issues.
- rapidly evolving to meet the regional needs and expectations.

RTFH Overview

- **Continuum of Care Planning**
- **Collaborative applicant for HUD Continuum of Care funding**
- **Coordinated Entry System**
- **Homeless Management Information System**
- **Point in Time Count**
- **Training and Technical Assistance**
- **Funder**

Continuum of Care Planning

- Strategic planning across the region to coordinate a system of service providers
- Coordinate and align funding around goals and outcomes
- Implement strategies to Reduce and End Homelessness in San Diego County
 - Rare, Brief and non-recurring

Collaborative Applicant

- 2018 CoC Awards were approved by HUD this February
- San Diego received \$21,394,691

Coordinated Entry System

- Framework that transforms a CoC from a network of projects into a fully integrated crisis response system
- Connects highly vulnerable clients to available housing resources throughout the region, such as, rapid rehousing and permanent supportive housing
- Coordinated Entry staff at the RTFH train and support homeless service providers on implementation of best practices

Homeless Management Information System

What

- Locally administered data system used to record and analyze client, service, and housing data
- Federally mandated beginning in 2010 for homeless-dedicated programs
- Defined and used by federal partners in effort to end homelessness, including:
 - Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
 - Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
 - Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

Purpose

- Understand the size, characteristics, and needs of San Diego's homeless population
- Data is used to:
 - Produce unduplicated counts of homeless population
 - Identify patterns of client access and use
 - Measure program effectiveness
 - Describe homelessness locally, regionally, and inform national descriptions
- Benefits clients, programs, agencies, and the San Diego Continuum of Care (CoC)

Point in Time Count

- San Diego's Point-in-Time Count, the WeAllCount, is a weekend-long, statistically reliable, unduplicated count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless individuals and families across the country.
- This count is required by HUD.
- Components
 - Unsheltered Enumeration & Surveying
 - Housing Inventory Count: Sheltered Count
 - Sheltered Surveying
 - Youth Count
 - Jail Surveying



Training & Technical Assistance



- HMIS & CES Training
- Diversion
- Rapid Rehousing Learning Collaborative
- Access to Federal & State Technical Assistance for the region



Funder

- Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP)
- Youth Homeless Demonstration Program (YHDP)



Winter Shelter Provides



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Point in Time Count 2019

The RTFH conducted an engaged count with a revised survey-intensive methodology for our PITC during January 25-27.

Goal:

- **Incorporate enhanced strategies to**
 - Achieve as accurate of a census as possible;
 - Be transparent with the community in our assumptions and methodologies;
 - Prepare our annual report; and
 - Seek board members to audit our work.

- **Provide recommendations for further improvements ahead of 2020.**

Timeline:

- **Ongoing with regular updates to the Board.**

Community Plan

Development of a comprehensive and coordinated community plan.

Goal:

- **Complete Focus Strategies' work and coordinate findings with the City of San Diego's plan initiated by the San Diego Housing Commission.**

Timeline:

- **Fall 2019, based on the completion and recommendations from the City of San Diego's Strategic Plan (estimated completion in June 2019).**

Data Systems

Launch improved HMIS and CES Systems and receive standing updates to the board on use by our service providers and system touch points.

Goal:

- Use these upgraded systems to better analyze our data and establish improved metrics for our Board goals.
- Achieve utilization by all of the region's homeless service providers and system touch points.

Timeline:

- Launch of HMIS in January 2019 with regular updates to the Board.

Charter, By-Law and Policy Improvements

To improve the effectiveness of our dual operations as a 501(c)3 entity as well as a board focused on optimal collective impact, the Governance Committee will be asked to review models employed by other regions and make recommendations to the full Board for improvements.

Goal:

- Align individual Board members with their specific contribution interests.
- Allow board meetings to be spent most constructively on nonprofit governance versus collective impact deliberation.

Timeline

- Report charter, by-law and policy improvement recommendations to the Board by summer 2019.

Intergovernmental Roundtable

One critical function for the RTFH is to facilitate coordinated regional action to address homelessness. The RTFH will be convening a quarterly gathering of mayors, council members, or senior management from all 18 cities and the County of San Diego to review the most up-to-date information on homelessness and system needs by jurisdiction.

Goal:

- Share the resources and availability of RTFH staff to help jurisdictions provide additional constructive programs and solutions.

Timeline:

- February 2019, with subsequent meetings held quarterly.

Community Measurements

We can only know our true effectiveness and how to shift strategies and resources if we are accurately measuring progress and outcomes.

Goal:

- **Use the implementation of new data systems to:**
 - Develop measurement approaches consistent with HMIS / CES;
 - Propose metrics and implementation strategies;
 - Review for consistency with our community plan efforts; and
 - Initiate efforts with regular reports back to Board.

- **Review our measurement strategies for improvement based on real time experiences and new information.**

Timeline:

- **Creation of Community Measurement & Standards Ad Hoc Committee.**

- **Review of measurement strategies in Fall 2019.**

Street Outreach

Use the state and federal resources allocated to the RTFH and greater homeless network to increase coordinated street outreach.

Goal:

- Increase coordinated street outreach regionwide.
- Apply the City of San Diego's Outreach and Encampment Protocol (once adopted) as best practice for the region, with the RTFH as the agency responsible for training and education.

Timeline:

- HEAP RFP closes in March 2019
- Disbursement of HEAP funds in April 2019

Public Information

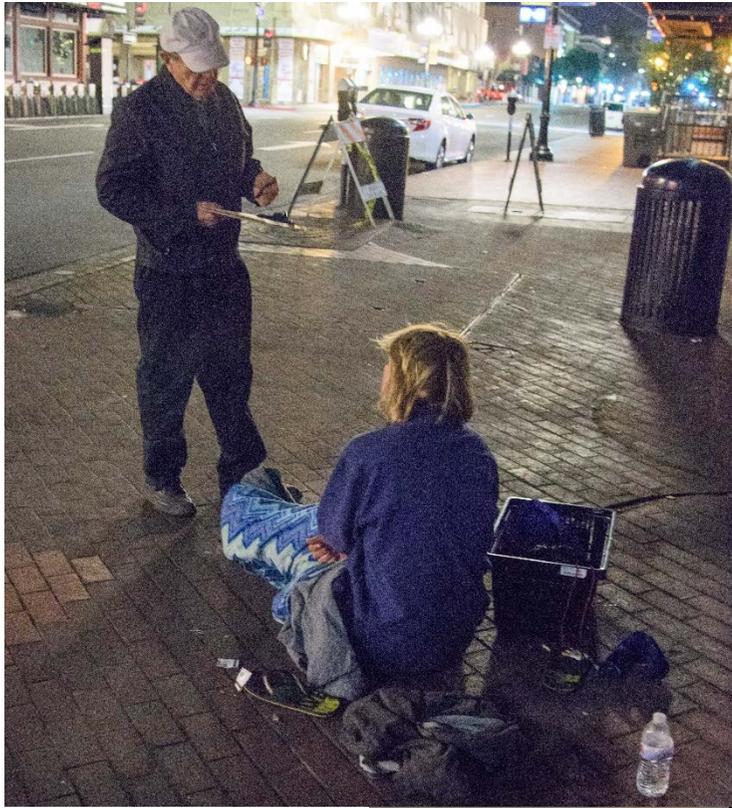
It is critical as an organization to improve community understanding of the RTFH's role and responsibilities.

Goal:

- Develop the RTFH to be recognized as the lead regional authority on program guidance and resource management.
- Enhance our public information tools.
- Develop proactive outreach to community stakeholders.
- Monitor homelessness related community programs or meetings.
- Participate/facilitate media partner efforts.

Timeline:

- Ongoing with regular reports to the Board.



Proven Strategies and Emerging Best Practices

- **Housing First**
- **Diversion**
- **Prevention**
- **Progressive Engagement**
- **Street Outreach**
- **Real Estate Experts**
- **Flexible Housing Subsidy Pool**



Housing First

Housing First offers individuals and families experiencing homelessness immediate access to permanent affordable or supportive housing. Without clinical prerequisites like completion of a course of treatment or evidence of sobriety and with a low-threshold for entry, Housing First yields higher housing retention rates, lower returns to homelessness, and significant reductions in the use of crisis service and institutions.

Diversion

- Strategies that help mediate conflict and create an immediate rapid resolution to homelessness for people seeking shelter.
- Works to identify immediate alternate housing arrangements, and, if necessary, connects them with services and financial assistance to help them return to permanent housing.
- Empowers people facing imminent homelessness to identify safe and appropriate housing options.

Prevention

- Consumers are not homeless prior to receiving Prevention services as the target group are people who are at imminent risk of homelessness.
- Financial assistance and other services that can directly result in the maintenance of a person's current housing, including prevention of evictions, which can result in homelessness.
- Services may include housing relocation, stabilization services, and short/medium term rental assistance.

Progressive Engagement

- An approach to support clients with the lightest touch of assistance needed to quickly resolve their homelessness by tailoring and right-sizing services.
- An intentional housing stability plan that can increase the amount of supports if the lightest touch did not achieve stability and can progress to greater amounts of support as needed.

Employment Strategies

- **Rapid Rehousing & Employment Pilot**
 - **Connect Rapid Rehousing homeless clients to the San Diego Workforce Partnership**
 - **Provide a Menu of Employment Services**
 - **Launched in October 2018**
 - **Accomplishments as of January 2019**
 - 99 Referrals to San Diego Workforce Partnership
 - 50 individuals have interviewed with potential employers
 - 16 individuals are employed

Partnering with Real Estate Experts

- Professional third party real estate experts.
- Identify housing opportunities and secure housing units based upon availability of the units and not eligibility of clients
- Work with:
 - Public Housing Authorities
 - Private landlords
 - Owners
 - Property manager

Flexible Housing Subsidy Pool

- Public private partnership.
- Provide flexible funds for housing related expenses to move people experiencing homelessness into stable housing.
- Increasing housing capacity by master leasing or other options to secure units for a homeless population regardless of rental subsidy.

Street Outreach

- R-HOM coordination with San Diego County– RTFH supported by funding from SDHC
- Coordinating efforts across the region- PITC outreach lead
- Training and Technical Assistance
 - Critical Time Intervention
 - Trauma Informed
 - Harm Reduction
 - Motivational Interviewing



Funding

- HUD Youth Homeless Demonstration Grant
- HEAP
- Other Funding Opportunities

HEAP

- One-time State funding
- \$18.8 million over 2 years
- January 31 - HEAP RFP released
- FAQ documents on the website
- Applications Due March 18
 - 1 application submitted and 50 in process
- Awards in late April or early May

HUD Youth Homeless Demonstration Program

- \$7.94 million over 2 years
- Innovative and meant to engage a Comprehensive Community Plan to prevent and end youth homelessness.
 - Youth Led



HUD Youth Homeless Demonstration Grant

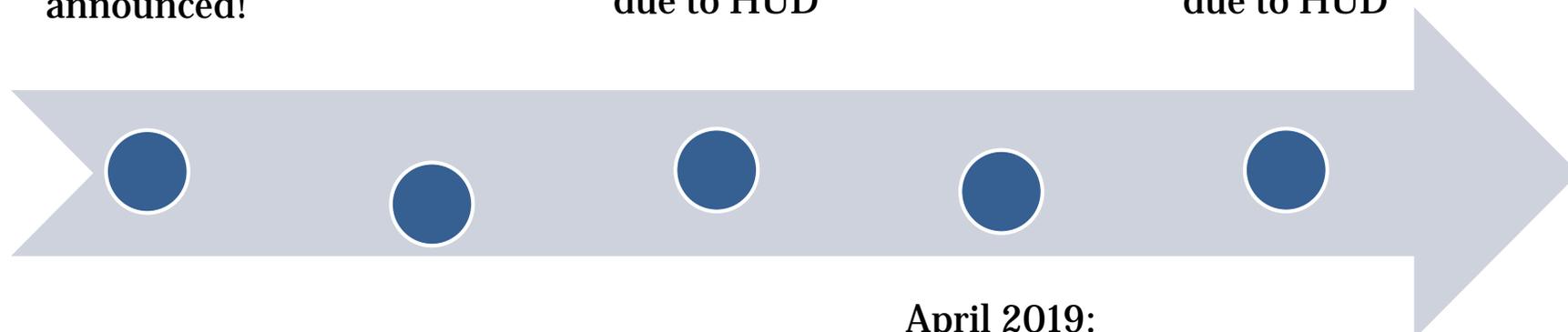
Comprehensive Community
Plan Development



July 13,
2018:
Awards
announced!

March 13,
2019:
Final CCP
due to HUD

July 15,
2019: Final
project
applications
due to HUD



November
13, 2018:
First draft
CCP due to
HUD

April 2019:
YHDP RFP
released



Other Funding Opportunities

- CESH
- No Place Like Home
- ESG
- CDBG
- California Community Reinvestment Grants Program (The Adult Use Marijuana Act)

What can cities do?

Opportunities to Coordinate Resources and Services

- Participate in the Regional Task Force on the Homeless
- Develop and implement plans around homelessness
- Use HMIS data to inform decisions
- Look at what you are funding locally with CDBG, ESG and other resources
- Invite RTFH to:
 - Inform community members about homelessness
 - help with messaging around siting of Permanent Supportive Housing, Shelters, Day Centers and other services
- Implement Outreach Programs

What can cities do?

- Point in Time
 - Be a volunteer
- Coordinate city services and departments around an understood approach for addressing homelessness.
 - Create an Ad Hoc Committee on Homelessness
 - Post Information on Your City Website
 - Message in Local Newspapers
 - Set up a Volunteer Training in Your Community
 - Work with Local service providers to Locate and Engage Homeless Individuals
- Pool resources for joint projects with neighboring communities.

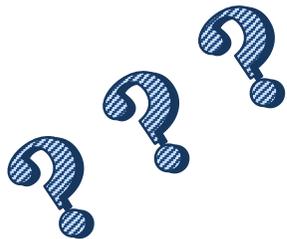
Future meetings

- Thursday, May 30th at 9am
- Thursday, July 18th at 9am
- Thursday, October 24th at 9am

Questions & Discussion



Questions?



Contact Info:

Tamera Kohler

Chief Executive Officer

Tamera.Kohler@rtfhsd.org

(858) 292-7627 x 40

Jennifer Yost

Director of Grants Management

Jennifer.Yost@rtfhsd.org

(858) 292-7627 x 15

Councilmember Chris Ward

Board Chair

ChristopherWard@sandiego.gov

(619) 236-6633

Brian Elliott

Policy Advisor

bellott@sandiego.gov

(619) 236-6633