Regional Homelessness Response System Governance Proposal

Working Group Convened by
Focus Strategies &
County of Santa Cruz Homeless Services Coordination Office
Objectives for Briefing

- Affirm the urgency of responding more effectively to homelessness
- Review draft proposal for a regional homelessness response system governance structure
- Provide specific feedback on overall concept
- Help “fill in the blanks”
## Improving the Region’s Homelessness Crisis Response

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenges &amp; Opportunities</th>
<th>Recommendations</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>There are many good programs to address the growing challenge of homelessness, but the community lacks a strongly coordinated regional response</td>
<td>Establish a governance structure to design, direct, and evaluate an effective regional homelessness response system</td>
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<td>New resources are flowing into the community, but there are limited ways to ensure they are being used as effectively as possible</td>
<td>Empower new governance structure to set investment priorities informed by data and allocate funding to maximize results</td>
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<td>There is community frustration and lack of confidence in the response to homelessness; unclear where to direct input</td>
<td>Authorize new structure to take input, make decisions, hold accountability and communicate about the regional homelessness response</td>
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Criteria for Success and Improved Outcomes

Clear roles, functions and responsibilities

Value driven organizational structure and processes

Administrative structure and resources for success
Mission:
Guide the region to an effective response to homelessness. Move away from reactive decision making to forward thinking, systematic improvements and investments.
Proposed Structure for Regional Homelessness Response

Regional Homelessness Response Commission for Santa Cruz County

Holds authority and accountability for regional homelessness response; sets overall policy; establishes priorities and makes funding decisions; sets performance targets and evaluates results; engages the community

Community and Technical Advisory Committee (CTAC)

Guides implementation of regional homelessness response by making recommendations to Commission on system design, program operations, communications with the community, data collection and evaluation.

Robust County Staffing and Support, in Coordination with Staff from Cities
Commission Responsibilities

- Develop shared vision
- Plan the system response
- Establish investment priorities
- Adopt performance measures
- Set targets for system capacity
- Make funding decisions
- Evaluate results
- Engage the community

Homelessness Prevention
Street Outreach * Encampment Response * Diversion
Coordinated Entry (Smart Path) * Shelters/Navigation Centers
Case Mgmt. & Housing Navigation * Rapid Rehousing * Permanent Supportive Housing
Proposed Composition

**Commission**
- Jurisdictional perspective: County and cities (7)
- People with Lived Experience (2)
- CTAC Representative (1)
- Partner Systems (e.g. Housing Authority, Health System (1)

Total = 11 Members

**CTAC**
- People with lived experience; service providers; partner systems; business sector; community organizations; faith community; advocates; neighborhood groups; general public

Seated voting members (number TBD); non-voting members welcome

CTAC oversees task groups working on specific topics

**County Staff Support**
County staff (number TBD) to implement vision/direction set by the Commission and CTAC
Key Task Groups of the CTAC

- System Planning and Funding Priorities
- Data Systems and Evaluation
- Community Engagement and Communication
- Program Development and Operational Support
Relation of New Structure to Homeless Action Partnership

- Commission and CTAC will convene regularly as needed to perform the responsibilities required of the Continuum of Care mandated by HUD
- CTAC will meet at least quarterly
- Commission and CTAC together comprise the HUD-mandated CoC Board
Timeline Objectives

- Commit to a system structure in FY19-20
- Implementation steps for Commission, CTAC and staffing to be outlined in Action Plan developed with Focus Strategies in June 2020
- Adopt a charter in calendar year 2020
- New structure will have to stabilize and then adapt and mature over time
Questions and feedback?

Value Driven Organizational Structure And Processes

Clear Roles, Functions And Responsibilities

Admin. Structure And Resources For Success