

## **Advisory Council on Aging Housing (ACOA) Workgroup**

**Meeting Minutes** - Monday, September 20, 2021, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

**Present:** Gerald Richards (Chair; ACOA); Dale Harrington, Kacey Carterelliott, Jim Donnelley (ACOA); Mike Awadella (Care Patrol); Caitlin Sly, Rosa Loya (Meals on Wheels Diablo Region); Elizabeth Verdin (The Hume Center); Anthony Macias (Area Agency on Aging); Clara Fuchshuber (Front Porch/Covia); Victoria Snyder (Contra Costa Senior Legal Services); and Nhang Luong (Staff Support; Area Agency on Aging)

### **Introductions**

**Agenda and minutes review** – Without objection, agenda and minutes approved by unanimous consent.

### **Update: Brown Act Compliance – Anthony Macias, Senior Staff Assistant, Area Agency on Aging**

Due to COVID-19, the Governor issued an Executive Order suspending certain requirements in the Brown Act, and allowed for teleconference/virtual meetings. Unless extended, the suspension expires at the end of September and physical meeting locations will be required again. At least one Advisory Council on Aging (ACOA) member must attend meetings at the physical location. This applies to only ACOA members. Non-ACOA members can still attend meetings virtually.

*Update: Since the Housing Workgroup meeting, the Governor signed AB-361 into law, which suspends certain Brown Act requirements, and allows for teleconference/virtual meetings until January 1, 2024.*

### **Presentation: 211 Homeless Coordinated Entry - Justin Jarrett, Call Center Manager, Contra Costa Crisis Center**

Contra Costa Crisis Center is the local 211 provider. Their services:

- 24-hour Crisis Lines
- 24 hour 211 Information and Referral
  - Homeless Coordinated entry (50% of their calls)
  - COVID-19 updates
  - Disaster Response and Public Safety Power Shutoff updates
  - Help Me Grow, First Five Adverse Childhood Experiences
- Grief Support
- Community Outreach and more

Call 211 for information and referral. It provides local health and social service resources 24/7.

Contra Costa Crisis Center manages online resource database, [www.211cc.org](http://www.211cc.org).

Access points for Homeless Coordinated Entry: 211; Coordinated Assessment, Referral, and Engagement (CARE) Centers; and Coordinated Outreach, Referral, Engagement (CORE) outreach teams.

- At all three access points, assessments are conducted to identify individuals with the greatest needs. The VI-SPDAT, a risk assessment tool, is use to help determine placement in the community queue for housing.
- Recently homeless individuals might be refer to Rapid Resolution, a homelessness diversion program.

- Regardless of the point of entry, clients are able to access the same services and referrals to emergency shelter, transitional housing, warming center, supportive services, and other resources.

Clients can reach 211 by calling or texting “HOPE” to 20121. The agency has Spanish bilingual workers and uses interpretation line for other languages.

Clients can walk into a CARE Center for services. CARE Centers are located at Greater Richmond Interfaith Program (GRIP) in Richmond and Trinity Center in Walnut Creek. Services are CARE Centers:

- Basic needs services such as meals, bathrooms, showers, mail, and laundry
- Case management
- Housing navigation

CORE Homeless Outreach engages with homeless individuals living outside through outreach to facilitate and deliver health and basic services.

What is Rapid Resolution?

- Serves individuals at-risk of homelessness within 14 days or have been homeless 30 days or less.
- Possible outcomes: permanently back with friends or family, return to their own residence, temporarily diverted as they seek new housing, or relocation to permanently safe place out of town.

#### **Update: Home Match Contra Costa – Clara Fuchshuber, Director, Home Match**

There were four matches in Contra Costa last month.

The program is getting 4-5 home providers this month, which is a lot. There are more home providers because people are seeking rental income.

Home Match is seeing an uptick of home seekers who are working part-time.

There are more home providers in Central County. Antioch is starting to heat up. Home Match will do targeted outreach to get more home providers in West County.

#### **Announcements/Information Sharing**

Gerald Richards reported that the Governor signed two significant housing bills, SB-9 (housing development) and SB-10 (increases density)

Year-end report due to Anthony Macias on November 1.

Jim Donnelly shared that the Master Plan on Aging Steering Committee will have its first meeting on October 8.

**Next meeting:** October 18, 2021