

Advisory Council on Aging (ACOA) Housing Workgroup Meeting

Monday, September 18, 2023, 10 a.m.

Present: Kevin Donovan, Chair, Mary Bruns, Jim Donnelly, Michelle Hayes, Marilyn Fowler (Advisory Council on Aging); Mike Awadalla (Care Patrol); Logan Robertson (Front Porch – Home Match); Jaime Jenett, Caroline Miller (Health, Housing and Homeless Services); Victoria Snyder (Contra Costa Senior Legal Services); Nhang Luong (Area Agency on Aging, staff support)

Minutes approved with correction that Marilyn Fowler was present at July meeting. Agenda approved unanimously.

Health, Housing, Homeless (H3) Services- Jaime Jennett, Community Engagement Specialist

- Cost of housing is biggest factor in a community's rate of homelessness.
- H3 Annual Report 2022 - 7,725 households (10,600 individuals) accessed homeless services.
 - 23% aged 55+
- Point-in-Time counted 2,372 people experiencing homelessness in 2023.
- Continuum of Care (CoC) is a comprehensive structure for delivering homeless services.
 - The Governing Board is Contra Costa Council on Homelessness (CoH).
 - CoC consists of providers, partners, and stakeholders.
 - Three access points for services: 211, Care Centers, and CORE Outreach.
 - Services: Prevention/Diversion, temporary shelter, supportive services, and supportive housing.
 - Most shelters indefinitely but will work to get to settle, temporary but no time limits like it used to be.
 - VI-SPDAT Assessment Tool – assess, rank, and refer most vulnerable for housing.
 - Main types of housing: market rate, vouchers, rapid rehousing, and permanent supportive housing.
- Council on Homelessness has 19 seats. It currently accepts applications; does not have an older adult seat.

Rent Stabilization and Just Cause Ordinance – Nhang Luong provide update on behalf of Kelly Zhao, East Bay Alliance for a Sustainable Economy (EBASE)

- On September 5, 36 tenants gave public testimony in support of Rent Stabilization and Just Cause to the Concord city council. There were about 10 more families and seniors who had wanted to speak but were unable to because of time.
- The Concord City Council held a public meeting the following week on Tuesday, Sept 12 to discuss rent stabilization and just cause ordinance. In the meeting, councilmember Edi Birsan spoke strongly in support of special protections for seniors and other vulnerable populations (people with disabilities, families with school age children, and educators)

No Place to Call Home infographic – Updated to include data from H3 Annual Report. Will use data to create a slide deck for community outreach.

Housing Legislation Watch – Kevin Donovan

- Proposal to reduce vote threshold from 2/3 requirement to 55% majority to pass affordable housing bonds will be on 2024 ballot.
- SB 4 will streamline requirements for churches and institutions of education to develop affordable housing on their property.
- AB 1319 introduces modifications to Bay Area Finance Authority.

Information Sharing/Announcements

- Starting January 2024, MediCal will no longer require an asset limit.
- Next meeting will discuss the Work Group's annual Report.

Next Meeting is October 16, 10 a.m. to noon.