



**TEHAMA COUNTY
CONTINUUM of CARE**

Tehama County Continuum of Care
Executive Council Meeting
MINUTES

September 23, 2020 at 9:30 AM
Virtual Meeting Via Zoom

IN ATTENDANCE:

Andrea C. Curry, Empower Tehama, CoC & HMIS Coordinator
Johnna Jones, Red Bluff City Council
Gail Locke, Continuum of Care Chairperson
Tara Loucks-Shepherd, Tehama County Department of Social Services
David Madrigal, Tehama County Community Action Agency
Valerie Lucero, Tehama County Health Services Agency
Jim Southwick, Tehama County Department of Education

Excused:
Steve Chamblin, Tehama County Board of Supervisors
Jeremiah Fears, Corning Police Department
E.C. Ross, P.A.T.H
Notes by: Andrea C. Curry

Topic	Discussion
Discussion of minutes & agenda from previous Executive Council Meeting	The minutes & agenda from the Executive Council meeting held on August 26, 2020 were made available prior to this meeting for review. No revisions requested, approved as emailed.
Stakeholders' Meeting/Vista Way Navigation Center Update	Val reported that the Stakeholders' Group is currently meeting on the first Wednesday of each month via Microsoft Teams. The next meeting is scheduled for October 7 at 3:30 PM and will be held via Microsoft Teams. Jennifer Ragsdale from PATH will provide an update on PATH's experience operating the COVID-19 Fairgrounds Shelter, including services and outcomes statistics and lessons learned. An update will also be provided on the plans for the navigation center, including a report from the Fundraising and Public Relations subcommittee. Also on the agenda will be a discussion regarding Street Outreach and a short video on the topic will be shown.
Capacity Building	Emergency Solutions Grant – Coronavirus (ESG-CV): Andrea reported that the awards for the first round of ESG-CV funding have been announced and the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the second round of ESG-CV funds is scheduled to be released soon. Housing and Community Development (HCD) reached out to CoCs in early September to provide updated information on the priorities that have been identified for the second round (ESG-CV2), which included requiring that CoCs “address the need of prioritizing vulnerable populations and promoting racial and ethnic justice” and clarifying that Emergency Shelter and Rapid Rehousing were to be prioritized. The guidance also provided that Homelessness Prevention, while an eligible ESG project type, was only to be funded if CoCs could provide documentation that all Emergency Shelter and Rapid Rehousing needs have been met. As part of submitting the ESG-CVI application, CoCs were asked to provide an amount of additional ESG-CV funds that they could expend and describe the activities on which those funds would be used. CoCs were given the opportunity to revise their responses to the question originally posed in the ESG-CVI application regarding potential use of ESG-CV2 funds to reflect these newly announced priorities. A revised response was submitted that included specifically addressing the needs of domestic violence victims experiencing homelessness as a vulnerable population and including outreach to tribal communities, as the CoC's 2019 Racial Disparity study indicated that this ethnic group is overrepresented but underserved in the local homelessness assistance system. The revised request also included the original ask for \$2M for the completion of the navigation center, funding to support emergency shelter that meets the CDC COVID-19 guidelines, expanded Rapid Rehousing services and a Street Outreach program. By applying the formula used to determine allocations for the first round of ESG-CV to the total amount to be made available through the second round, it was determined that Tehama CoC could be eligible for approximately \$4.2M. The total request submitted was for \$4.5M, but Andrea stressed that HCD may not ultimately use the same allocation formula, and that the allocations would not be known until the NOFA was released.

California Emergency Solutions and Housing (CESH) Program: A request was submitted by Empower Tehama for an increase in funds awarded for the purpose of purchasing and installing an emergency back-up generator for the domestic violence emergency shelter, based on further research into the actual costs of the project. A copy of this request was provided to this council prior to the meeting. A discussion took place regarding the need for the generator and the licensed professional services required to safely install it.

MOTION: Val made a motion that the Executive Council approve an increase in the total amount awarded to Empower Tehama for purchase and installation of the emergency back up generator from \$32,500 to \$60,301 Johnna seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Homekey Program funding opportunity: Andrea reported that an application was submitted by PATH in partnership with Tehama County for funding through the Homekey Program to purchase the existing facility in which the Sale House transitional program for women and children currently operates, as well as surrounding property on which the transitional program will be expanded to serve more households and to expand the types of households that can be served. PATH is requesting a Letter of Support from the CoC confirming that their program offers Coordinated Exits to Permanent Housing. A draft of the letter was provided to this council prior to this meeting.

MOTION: Jim made a motion that the Executive Council approve the Letter of Support for the PATH/Tehama County Homekey Application and authorize Gail to sign the letter. Johnna seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Topic	Discussion
HMIS/Coordinated Entry	<p>Andrea reported that a New HMIS training has been scheduled for September 30. New users from TCHSA and Children First FFA are registered to attend. Additionally, a training for New Coordinated Entry Users will be scheduled soon for TCDSS/CalWORKs users.</p> <p>A discussion also took place regarding plans for the 2021 Point in Time Count. In odd numbered years, CoCs have historically been required to conduct both sheltered and unsheltered counts. Andrea reported that she has not received any guidance from HUD regarding whether or not the PIT count will go on as usually while COVID-19 restrictions are still in place, but will look into it and provide updates to this council as they are made available.</p>

Topic	Discussion
COVID-19 Emergency Interventions	<p>Val reported that as of Tuesday, Tehama County was moved from the more restrictive Purple Tier to the less restrictive Red Tier in the State of California’s new COVID-19 Tier system (previously tracked using what was referred to as the “Watch List”). This development will allow certain types of businesses to re-open that were not permitted to operate under the Purple Tier, and will also allow schools more latitude regarding offering in-person instruction options. Jim reported that TCDE has been working closely with Public Health around safely operating schools during the pandemic, and that they have been very helpful to the school districts. Currently, Red Bluff Elementary and Corning Elementary districts are 100% distance learning but hope to begin offering in-person instruction on October 12. Gerber Elementary is also currently only offering distance learning but hopes to begin offering a hybrid option on the 12th. The Antelope School District currently has one site offering in-person instruction while the other is operating only in distance learning mode. SERFF is offering an all-day program at the Shasta College – Tehama campus at which students can access computers with internet access and get help with their schoolwork from SERFF staff. TCDE has provided several hotspots to student households in need of internet access and offers families technical support with getting connected to the internet and using distance learning platforms, and they continue to provide food for any child under the age of 18.</p>

The next Executive Council Meeting is scheduled for **October 28, 2020** at 9:30 AM. The October meeting will be held via Zoom.