

## Ventura Social Services Task Force Minutes

6/5/24 3:15pm

- I. Call to order and introductions (Judy Alexandre)
  - Judy Alexandre - VSSTF Chair, Faith Subcommittee • Kevin Clerici - Downtown Ventura and COC Board • Leah Coming - Mission Basilica San Buenaventura and Faith Subcommittee • Jenn Harkey - Continuum of Care • Mike Johnson - Ventura City Council Miguel Marquez - VCBH RISE/PATH Program, Community Help • R • Sean O'Sullivan - Healthcare for the Homeless/One Stop, Backpack Medicine • Kappy Paulson – LUYV to End Homelessness and Homes for All \* Debora Schreiber - Community Activist • Jaclyn Sicilia - Co-President of YUCK • Anna Varela - Community Engagement Specialist, Mercy House Living Centers \* Javier Villa – Homeless Services \* Kyler Carlton – Vta Housing Authority \* Claire Triplett – ILRC \* Chris Russell – Ventura County Agency - \* Cathy Nye – VCOE Homelessness Program \* Kristian Nunez – CAUSE/West \* Mary Jordan – Mission SBV
- II. Approval of or changes to the agenda for 6/5/24 A: Jenn Harkey; S: Debora Schreiber
  - a) Announcement–6PM @ City Hall Housing Stakeholders Report–attendance encouraged
  - b) Announcement – Planning Commission meeting cancelled
  - c) Shall VSSTF & H4All sponsor a candidates forum M: Kappy Paulson; S: Debora Schreiber
    - i. Need planners & helpers – Contact Judy A
  - d) VSSTF & Homelessness Prevention Fund will have a booth @ the 4<sup>th</sup> Street Fair. Water Balloon Yoyo's will be made on 3 July @ Judy A's House. John Jones & Sue Brinkmeyer usually take the lead
  - e) July Meeting cancelled due to holiday
  - f) Approval of or changes to the minutes of 5//1/24 M: Jenn w spelling changes S: Deborah
- III.
- IV. Financial update – No Changes
- V. Presentation by Community Action VC (Claudia Lozano) Absent – no presentation.
- VI. Affordable housing updates
  - a) Valentine Road (Kyler Carlson) Purchased property, closed in April; Construction Phase1 - 2 bldgs./65 units & fill in pool, courtyard, kitchenettes. At end of July/early August, w/ CoC about 40 referrals will move into existing rooms to be Tx to refurbished units when done Phase 1/
  - b) Phase 2 – Getting Low Income tax credits applying on 7/2. Council approved impact fee deferral. Helps because we do not have to use fee Impact Fees \$ for the pull permit. Helps give a better score when applying for the 9% Low-income Tax Credits on 7/2/2024.
  - c) College Area project (rep from PSHH) – Leona @ Stakeholders meeting. They Are in Envi approval. Rapid approval on church property a benefit.
  - d) Ventura Ranch project (Karen Flock) – farm workers
  - e) Hemlock/Santa Clara project (Karen Flock) – HA – Comm Dev Dir approved as conditioned, have entitlement. State Financing will not be available due to budget shortfalls. Good Job by City to get entitlements in order

- f) Ventura County Housing Coalition meeting 6/6; 1-3pm (Kristian Nunez) – RSVP closed on 3<sup>rd</sup> but people can do last minute signups
  - g) Other – Mike Johnson – La Quinta site subject to \$280K for net zero fees for water, Halter & Johnson want to rescind the net zero fees for low-income housing; coming to Council in July/August. Can defer fees for 50 years for traffic fees but net zero fees are in the beginning
    - a. Mile - Send Judy Info about talking points to help with council
- VII. Tenant Protections update (Kristian Nunez, Jaclyn Sicilia,)
- a) Meetings with Council members – Met with Bill Reynolds, Jim Duran, Doug Halter & Mike Johnson to cover 24/25 Fiscal year to help renters & Tenants with unjust housing fees. No agency in City of Ventura to assist tenant’s rights.
  - b) Jaclyn – Bill McReynolds, Jim Dran & Mike Johnson Doug Halter will meet later – interested in enforcement; open to helping @ Villa Ventura. There are some resources for low-income residents but not a lot of help for mid-level tenants. Seniors are a protected class & low income can use CRLA, maybe HRC. There is no City lawyer or staff in City Attys office who is funded. Liz Campos, Mike Johnson & Jim Duran are for adding legal team to protect tenant rights.
  - c) Advocacy needs, - Want to mirror Oxnard & Ojai language but other’s not a lot of support for that from members BUT they’re interested in code enforcement of existing regs.
  - d) 3<sup>rd</sup> budget meeting last night (6/4). What resources does Attys office need. Looking at expanding the contract with Housing Resource Center (HRC)
  - e) Important dates and next steps
    - a. The City committed to do this in Housing element. A good stick to get atty office
    - b. Kristian & Jacklyn will write a shorter list of talking points to support atty funds.
  - f) Jenn - County does contract with HRC – So interested in expanding. Wants to learn about more. Wants to escalate to county DA. Jacklyn said DA does not handle tenant protection unless there is a crime.
  - g) Kyler – Budget Question for Mike - Will we get advanced notice about HRC budget amendment? How can we ensure that the contract amendment covers what we would like to see? Comm Development wants to amend the contract. How does public influence? Mike suggestion - Paralegal & 50% atty. Jacklyn- \$1-3M is cost to expand county contract

VIII. Presentation by One Stop (Sean O’Sullivan) – Comm Health Worker

- State Officials impressed with the OS program during a site visit in the Spring
- 4 Locations Tuesday/Vta VCMC old Public Health bldg. 10-1230; Wed/Oxnard Salvation Army 0830-1100; Santa Paula - El Buen Pastor Church 0900-1100; 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday – Camarillo. Trying to get River Haven back up on line. Our Lady of Assumption provides 80-100 weekly cold bagged lunch for years. New Seasons provides hot meal every other week; Rescue Alliance provides lunch on opposite weeks
- Case mgt/WPHC, Shelter reps – Turning Point & Mercy House; Behavioral Health; MD @ Ventura and usually Oxnard, Food, Showers, Mail, MediCal, Medicare, Cal Fresh, DMV IDs, vaccines & HIV testing

- Backack Medicine (BPM)– expanding – every Monday & Thursday (Oxnard) evening. BPMs bring the one stop to the encampments. Try & have MDs at every site. County homeless services provide \$.

VIII. Updates and information:

- a) Continuum of Care: Budget ramifications, grants, encampments, other (Jenn Harkey)
  - a. State Budget – Prop 1 passed. That will mean changes to Behavioral Health board & care. Working to build capacity.
  - b. Even tho budget will be cut, there is a lot of advocacies to keep programs in place. Budget decisions in end of June. Also need support to help supportive housing & prevention
  - c. HAP Round 5 – Will not be on chopping block. \$6.8M for permanent housing and prevention coming to Ventura
- b) HOPES Committee (Judy Alexandre) – May 20 – 2 council members did not show up. Meeting canceled – no quorum disappointed
- c) Faith Subcommittee update, GAPS (Anna Varela) –
  - a. Laundry Love (Deborah S) wildly successful - 69 loads. Two Trees Church on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> AM; Faith Committee would like to see 2 more in the city. Service Clubs? Congregation?
  - b. Storage – John Jones is exploring other states & programs
  - c. Working on the Winter shelter
- d) Housing Element (Kyler) -No broad updates now. Seems to be the guiding doc for the city. Realistically not enough \$ & Staff to get it ALL done
- e) General Plan (Kyler Carlson) – It’s a mess right now. New issues showed up in proposed Land use designations. Outside the areas surveyed - City Staff Rachel Diamond is doing best to collect comments and make a new map. Will not add any density to the existing area. Johnson/ Housing Element workshop at City Hall – Planning Commission was supposed to come back in July. Council has never been asked to put the resources. Finished – NOT. Fair amount of finger pointing about new map expected later in July& General Plan done is 12 months more like fall 2025.
- f) Who does the add for the city budget. Counsel will have to tell staff that we need timelines & incl budgets for these programs. Planning is supposed to take over homelessness but they haven’t done planning.
- g) Homeless Prevention Fund (Ventura grant and Ventura HPF (Anna V)- Will have Update in august. Changes to the grant recently. Prevention fund is active.
- h) Agency updates: VCBH, HSA, Tender Life, City Center, Mercy House (The Arch), Ambassadors, CAUSE, ILRC, Salvation Army, Turning Point Foundation, Catholic Charities, Move In Project, others
  - a. VC Homeless Services/Villa – no real updates. Deposits, rental arrears, One Stop, River Church - family emergency shelter has 3 families; New outreach Worker -Amy
  - b. ILRC – Health & Youth 101 Webinar on June 11 @ 2:00 PM
  - c. VCOE - 8900 kids identified as homeless in June; focusing on under 5-year-olds next year
  - d. Jenn – Summer meal program for students will be coming out soon

e. SP Social Services Commission – Resource Fair on June 22 has space for booth

IX. Motion to adjourn until next meeting 8/7/24 3:15pm via zoom. M: Kathy; S: Jenn

X. Need a secretary - Didn't see this discussed KMP

Meetings: Faith Subcommittee, 6/21/24 3pm John Jones ([johnsandersjones@gmail.com](mailto:johnsandersjones@gmail.com))

HOPES Committee, 6/17/24 3pm Community Room

Continuum of Care Alliance, 10:30a-Noon via zoom (date)