Assessment of Yolo County Homeless System Governance

Prepared by Technical Assistance Collaborative

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Agenda for Today

• Introductions
• Review of Capacity Building TA Engagement
• Existing Governance Structures
• Key Themes and Challenges
• TAC Recommendations
Technical Assistance Collaborative (TAC)

• TAC is a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping our nation’s human services, health care, homelessness, and affordable housing systems implement policies and practices that empower people to live healthy, independent lives in the communities they choose.

• TAC is a national leader in helping states and localities to design, implement, and evaluate strategies to understand their current homeless response system and identify housing and service resources to decrease the number of people experiencing homelessness.
Capacity Building TA Engagement

• This TA engagement included:
  • Review of relevant CoC documents and data
  • Survey of HPAC membership
  • Individual stakeholder interviews
  • On-site Visit, June 2019
    • Presentation to HPAC membership
    • Meeting with HPAC Technical Subcommittee
    • Meeting with representation from County and Cities
  • Development of Assessment of Yolo County Homeless System Governance outlining seven key recommendations
Existing Homeless System Governance Structures
HPAC Governance Structure

HPAC General Membership

- HPAC Voting Membership (Board)
- Technical Subcommittee
- Data Subcommittee
- Ad Hoc Subcommittees
Countywide Homeless System Governance

Decision/Policy Makers
- Board of Supervisors
- Davis Council
- West Sacramento Council
- Winters Council
- Woodland Council
- Non-Profit Boards
- Housing Authority/Developer Boards

Collaborative Groups
- 10-Plan to End Homelessness Executive Commission
  - **Staff**: Yolo County Housing
  - **Board Composition**:
    1. BOS Member
    2. Davis Council
    3. West Sacramento Council
    4. Winters Council
    5. Woodland Council
    6. HPAC Rep. (Chair)
- Cities/County Workgroup
  - **Workgroup Composition**: City Managers from Davis, West Sacramento, Woodland and Winters, County Administrator, HHSA Director, Homeless Coordinators from County and Cities of West Sacramento, Davis and Woodland
- Homeless & Poverty Action Coalition
  - **Staff**: County Homeless Coordinator
  - **Voting Board**:
    1 County
    4 Cities
    1 Yolo County Housing
    12 Non-Profits
Key Themes and Challenges
Key Themes and Challenges

• Lack of clarity on CoC roles and responsibilities
• Need for comprehensive, coordinated Strategic Planning
• Need for Monitoring and System Performance Evaluation
Lack of Clarity on CoC Roles/Responsibilities

- Existing HPAC governance structure does not clearly define entities responsible for carrying out all required CoC duties
- Capacity issues performing CoC duties at a level necessary to achieve improved outcomes (refer to Table 2 in report).

These duties include:
- System/project performance measurement
- Housing and service system planning
- Annual gaps analysis
- Establishing funding priorities

- Role of County as Homeless Coordinator and supporting role to the Collaborative Applicant and HMIS Lead (YCCC)
Need for comprehensive, coordinated Strategic Planning

• Multiple planning efforts taking place without effective coordination, alignment, or adherence to any one community vision
  • Planning bodies include HPAC, local Jurisdictions, Executive Commission, and City/County Workgroup
• Knowledge disconnect among planning bodies
• Lack of set funding priorities and identified system gaps across all entities
• Recently developed Yolo County Plan to Address Homelessness addresses some system challenges, but unclear which entity is leading each goal and how progress will be evaluated
Need for Monitoring and System Performance Evaluation

• HPAC has no defined process for setting performance targets or evaluating system or project performance
• Performance expectations and intended goals to address homelessness are unclear to providers and community
• Unclear whether project or system performance is evaluated for other homeless funding outside of HPAC
TAC’s Recommendations for CoC Governance
Recommendation #1

Expand on HPAC’s existing governance charter to ensure that all operational aspects of the CoC including all requirements per HUD’s CoC Program Interim Rule, are detailed explicitly in writing.
Recommendation #2

Expand existing committee/subcommittee structure within HPAC to ensure that all responsibilities of the CoC are being met efficiently, effectively, and with the right CoC membership at the table.

- Technical Subcommittee
- Data Subcommittee
- Coordinated Entry Subcommittee
- Performance and Monitoring Subcommittee
Recommendation #3

Shift the assignment of Collaborative Applicant to the Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency.
Recommendation #4

Shift the assignment of the HMIS Lead to the Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency.
Recommendation #5

Conduct outreach necessary to ensure representation from all CoC stakeholders including persons with lived experience.
Recommendation #6

Create a new HPAC Board with the primary role to establish policies and funding priorities that align with the larger community strategic vision.
TAC’s Recommendations for Yolo County Homeless System
Recommendation #7

Create County-level Strategic Planning Body responsible for Creating Community-wide Vision for Ending Homelessness

- Responsible for approving and overseeing any countywide strategic plans to end homelessness (i.e. No Place Like Home Plan)
- Develop policy on a large range of issues impacting the homeless system including:
  - Coordination of housing and service delivery
  - Cross-jurisdictional issues
  - Development of homeless dedicated resources
  - Establishing funding priorities
  - Advocacy and public education efforts
  - System level performance evaluation
Appointed Commission on Homelessness
Interagency Council on Homelessness

City Elected Officials
County Elected Officials
HPAC Board Representative
Education Representative
Healthcare Representative
Criminal Justice Representative

Interagency Council on Homelessness

HPAC Board
Conclusion and Next Steps

- Will existing planning bodies approve these recommendations?
- What needs to happen in order to make these changes?
- Write it down- be as detailed as possible! Clarity is key!

Strong, clear governance and structure for homeless system

Increased capacity for preventing and ending homelessness in Yolo County
Questions?
Keep in touch with TAC!

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Housing and services strategies *that work for people.*