### Alameda County Health Care for the Homeless Program

Consumer/Community Advisory Board  
**Meeting 2/19/2016 12:00 Noon**  
**MINUTES**

| Meeting Location | HCH PROGRAM/TRUST Clinic office  
384-14th Street, Oakland |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| **Attendees**    | In attendance:  
Mark Smith  
Samuel Weeks  
Bennie Whitfield  
Brenda Whitfield  
April Anthony  
Guitar Whitfield  
David Modersbach, HCH Program  
Non-Members Invited:  
Ami Moe (former CAB member)  
Glenn Bachelder  
Joel Ginsberg (HCH Staff) |
| **Agenda**       | 1. Welcome and introductions  
2. Review/Approve Last Meeting Minutes  
3. Discussion/Announcements/Updates  
4. Review of Homeless Health Center ACHCHP  
5. By Laws of HCH CCAB  
6. Right To Rest Act Letter of Support  
8. Discussion of Next Steps |
| **Meeting Minutes From 2/19/16** | 1. **Welcome and introductions:** Introducing Ami Moe, former CAB member, and Glenn Bachelder TRUST Client.  
2. **Updates and Information:** NCAB webinar 2/24/16 noon. David offers to host a viewing.  
3. **Review Recent HCH CCAB Activities:** HUD Smoking regulations, Oakland SRO task force, Sam Weeks working on Dental Poster for NHCHC Conference.  
4. **Housing Discussion:** Updates and discussion on current housing crisis in East Bay.  
5. **TRUST Clinic Client Staffing Concerns:** Glenn Bachelder who is a TRUST clinic came to the CCAB meeting to share concerns regarding attrition of TRUST case management staff. He and April Anthony reported on concerns shared by them and other TRUST Clinic clients: They stated that almost all clients really appreciate the program, they get great care, staff is great and clients are making great progress, and new building is great. But in recent months, case management staff has been leaving, and not being replaced. Clients have suddenly discovered that social workers are leaving, after the fact, even by email and phone message responses. YG left, AZ leaving, TT gone, DP left last year, and none of... |
these positions have been replaced, and now there is only one HCH Social Worker remaining (NH), and one Lifelong case manager. Clients have not received any direct communication about changes and what the HCH Program is planning to do, and clients feel a sense of urgency and concern. CCAB members agreed that rather than wait, it would be good to write a letter of concern to HCH leadership and initiate a dialogue.

Issues discussed include:

a. Loss of services to clients – who will provide case management?
b. Recertification of housing, etc., who will do this?
c. Lack of communication & transparency between HCH program and clients
d. Reduction in client support – drop-in hours cancelled?

Questions that TRUST Clinic clients and CCAB Members have include:

1. Is HCH planning to replace staff that has left? How/ When?
2. How is HCH communicating with clients?
3. Are drop-in hours/appt’s still available?
4. How will HCH ensure continuity of care during staff shortage?
5. How will new staff be selected? What are criteria for choosing qualified case management staff?
6. How are HCH TRUST services (numbers of clients, etc) impacted by these vacancies?
7. How is TRUST Clinic incorporating/soliciting feedback from clients?

CCAB members resolved to draft and submit a Letter of Concern to HCH Interim Director Damon Francis MD, outlining their concerns and the urgency, and request a meeting involving CCAB members, TRUST clients and HCH leadership to address and discuss these issues and questions. Motion proposed by Sam Weeks and approved by consensus.

CCAB board requested that David Modersbach draft a short Letter of Concern, and share it with members for editing and approval, and then send it to HCH Interim Director Damon Francis MD within the next two weeks.

6. SB876 the Right To Rest Act (actually doesn’t have a name yet). The HCH CCAB voted to send a letter of support for SB876, with April Anthony’s motion, agreeing to sign the letter and submit to WRAP, WCLP and Senator Carol Liu (attached).

7. Overview of Alameda County HCHP Health Center- David provided diagram of HCH Program structure, including role of CCAB and Co-Applicant Board (attached)

8. Co-Applicant Board: David provided updates: 3/2/16 Board of Supervisors and AHS Board of Trustees meeting to plan out Co-Applicant Board. CCAB members agreed that CCAB should hold a permanent seat on CoAB, Mark Smith and Sam Weeks both expressed interest in that role.

9. National HCH Conference: Will be held 5/31-6/2 in Portland. CCAB nominates Sam Weeks and April Anthony to attend. Next year we’ll discuss further ahead of time for new CCAB members to plan on attending (in DC).

10. By-Laws of CCAB: David presented new, incomplete draft of CCAB By-Laws. David proposed a $50/meeting stipend for active CCAB Board Members per official, scheduled monthly CCAB meeting. Approved by CCAB members. Discussion of IRS/SSI rules for additional income, handout of information. Revisions made and discussion of different parts of ByLaws. Reviewed the still-remaining parts, including Selection, Responsibilities, Size, Community members, etc. Due to time constraints, Mark Smith motioned to continue this discussion at the next CCAB meeting 3/18/16. Approved.

Next Meeting Friday March 18, 2016
384-14th Street Oakland
February 19, 2016

Honorable Carol Liu
California State Senate
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support SB 876 (Liu) - Support as To-Be-Amended

Dear Senator Liu,

The membership of the Alameda County Health Care for the Homeless Consumer/Community Advisory Board (HCH-CCAB) supports your bill, SB 876, which will end the criminalization of rest and accompanying violations of basic human and civil rights for all people, regardless of their housing status. In doing so, SB 876 would encourage the diversion of expenditures on citing and jailing people for resting in public spaces on efforts to prevent homelessness.

HCH-CCAB is composed of persons who are formerly homeless, and have, against odds, survived street homelessness. We do not wish this experience on anyone, and want to do all possible to help prevent persons from living—and dying—on the streets, while supporting the health and dignity of those who are unfortunately living without homes.

California, with only 12 percent of the country’s overall population but 22 percent of its homeless population and 25 percent of its homeless veteran population, is at the epicenter of the criminalization of homelessness. According to the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty, California cities are substantially more likely than cities in other states to ban rest. While only 33 percent of non-California cities restrict this activity, 74 percent of California cities ban the practice.

Criminalizing practices which are not criminal not only worsens the condition of people without homes, but also narrows their opportunities to escape homelessness. By acknowledging the failure of municipal laws that criminalize poverty and homelessness, we hope that passage of this legislation will improve the focus on more humane and effective responses to homelessness.

This bill will end the practice of citing and imprisoning Californians for resting and sharing food in public.

HCH-CCAB supports SB 876 and thanks you for introducing this important legislation.

Sincerely,

[Signatures]

Membership, Alameda County Health Care for the Homeless Program Consumer/Community Advisory Board

cc: Paul Boden, Western Regional Advocacy Project (Co-Sponsor)
    Jessica Bartholow, Western Center on Law and Poverty (Co-Sponsor)
Hello all, included in this mailing is a DRAFT copy of the letter that will be sent to Dr. Damon Francis MD, interim director of the Alameda County Health Care for the Homeless Program, outlining the concerns that the CCAB and TRUST Clinic patients have about lack of staffing.

Please review it and if you have any changes or edits to suggest, please send it back in the Self Addressed Stamped Envelope.

Thanks!

David