

**Commission to End Homelessness**  
**Coordinated Assessment & Centralized Intake (CA/CI)**  
Subcommittee of Implementation Group #4

Wednesday, June 25, 2014  
1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

**The Village @ 17<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**1505 E. 17<sup>th</sup> St., Ste. 100**  
**Santa Ana, CA 92705**

## **Minutes**

**Karen Williams, CA/CI Subcommittee Chairperson**

### **1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Called to order at 1:39 p.m. by Liz Rojas.

- Karen Williams presented the “How does Rapid Rehousing change the process of delivering service?” document. Discussed old model which relayed the message that one’s life is broken and they need a full assessment of every area of household need, and clients earn their way into independence. New model focuses on solving the housing crisis. The message here is that clients don’t want to be in the homeless system, so let’s get you housed as soon as possible.

### **2. Presentation on Shelter Diversion**

Megan Kurteff Schatz (Focus Strategies) presented the following.

- The goal is to keep moving forward with the efforts of changing and discussing each agency’s barriers as well as move forward with the coordinated system.
- One of the most important things to pay attention to (based on early adopters of this program) is that you have to have enough movement in your system (enough beds) and differentiate between people who are becoming homeless vs. those who don’t actually need shelter, but instead services (diversion). In sum, that the people who get into the homeless system have an acute need.
- Discussed difference between prevention and diversion.
  - Prevention: Call an agency/organization, tell story and then receive assistance or money.
  - Diversion: Focuses on how does a household never become homeless.
- Prevention programs do not keep people from becoming homeless (HPRP) based on post-program research. This research showed who was actually served vs. who was successfully and stably housed. Unfortunately, there is no empirical data at this time for Orange County.
- What is diversion?
  - A strategy that prevents homelessness for people seeking shelter by helping preserve their current housing situation or making immediate alternative arrangements.
- Why implement diversion?
  - Improves system outcomes y reducing entries into homelessness
  - Improves quality of life by helping people avoid stress of shelter stay
  - Conserves and targets resources (shelter beds are only used when truly needed)
  - Cuts down on shelter waiting lists

### **3. Wrap Up and Next Steps**

- Megan and Emily will continue to reach out to the providers for more information on their program requirements, and will be back next month with the analysis completed.
- Focus Strategies will provide examples of successful models of CACI and the data supporting how to overcome the hurdles and concerns discussed.
- Next meeting – June 25, 2014