

Attending: Rosalyn Baillie (SPIN), Michael Shepard (Pathways of Hope), Betty Medina (Colette's Children's Home), Deby Wolford (Colette's Children's Home), Diana Stalter (Colette's Children's Home), Angela Resch (South County Outreach), Madelynn Montoya (Families Forward), Breyale Toomer-Byas (OC United Way), Kathy Tillotson (Build Futures), Marsha Burgess (Families Forward), Trina Gonzalez (Mercy House).

Intros & Updates

- Betty reviewed minutes from May meeting.
- Mercy House has RRH funds to house the chronically homeless. Funds may be used for this population for up to 18 months.
- Mercy House also has RRH funds to house homeless individuals and families. Participants must have been Orange County residents for at least 90 days, legal residents and be employed.
- Families Forward will be hosting a tenant education workshop in the near future.
- Michael Shepard reminded the group to sign up for the monthly housing specialist conference call by contacting him.

Discussion

- Kathy stated that she presented to the Executive Committee that she hopes that Orange County does not adopt the same criteria for Rapid Re-Housing as HUD (i.e. requiring a lease agreement). She also advocated for agencies to reach out to the private sector to support programs with less restrictive funds.
- Diana stated that ending homelessness is not going to be a government solution.
- Marsha brought up the retooling workshop that was hosted at the Village yesterday. The message that was sent out from the workshop is that retooling will be a process that will go on over the next several years.
- Deby stated that previous to the workshop the discussion has been about creating additional resources such as emergency shelter and rapid rehousing in Orange County, but not this workshop had it sounded like there was no place for transitional. This is a concern for our agency because our clients are not a good fit for the options provided.
- Diana talked about the high risk population served at CCH and their need for the opportunity that is afforded to them in transitional shelter. She also discussed self-sufficiency and what it truly means and that changes that occur for the women going through transitional.
- Michael stated that what Diana was referring to is transformation and that HUD is in the business of housing.
- Diana discussed concerns with how long it may take to get it right with Rapid Re-Housing and the potential harm that may be caused along the way.
- Marsha and Angela both identified that having scattered site units that are owned by their agencies presents challenges in retooling/repurposing.
- Madelynn discussed a luncheon that she held for housing partners and reported that the message that the landlords provided was that communication is key.

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- Marsha discussed the Cal State Fullerton study that compared outcomes between Families Forward's Rapid Rehousing and Transitional programs which showed equal outcomes. Slightly higher for RRH but Marsha stated that it was a different population at the time of the study and today both programs serve the same populations.
- Michael discussed changes that Pathways of Hope is currently making in preparation for retooling such as shortening length of stay and continuing counseling services with clients after the leave transitional.

2013 RRH Task Force Schedule:

September- Family Assistance Ministries

November- Friendship Shelter