

HOUSING FIRST SOLANO CoC BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, November 15, 2023 | 10:00 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order

Kari Rader called the meeting to order at 10:05 A.M.

2. Roll Call

Present CoC Board Members:

Akon Walker, Solano County Office of Education
Brandon Wirth, SHELTER, Inc.
Chris Sheridan, Nation's Finest
DeAndre Richard, RCS
Don Hendershot, City of Dixon
Elizabeth Muniz-Palomera, Medical Representative
Joey Carrizales, Lived Experience Representative
John Eckstrom, SHELTER, Inc.
Kari Rader, CAN-B
Katie Ward, Solano Probation
Lynna Magnuson, Caminar (alternate for Amanda Russell)
Mayra Sanchez, Solano Family Justice Center
Meghan Freebeck, City of Benicia
Miranda Ramirez, Solano County Behavioral Health
Natalie Peterson, City of Vallejo
Reggie Sironen, Insight Housing
Samantha Burrows, City of Fairfield
Samantha Meyer, Eden Housing
Scott Mulvey, City Church
Tamara Colden, City of Vacaville
Tamara Murphy, Lutheran Social Services
Tara Beasley-Stansberry, Black Chamber of Commerce
Zach Anderson, Volunteers of America

3. Additions or Deletions

4. Approval of the Agenda – ACTION

Chris Sheridan made a motion to approve the agenda. Vice Mayor Don Hendershot seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. There were no abstentions or objections. The motion was approved.

5. Consent Calendar – ACTION

5.1 Approve September 27, 2023, HFS CoC Meeting Minutes

Brandon Wirth motioned to approve the meeting minutes. Chris Sheridan seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Amanda Russell, and Tamara Colden abstained. There were no objections. The motion was approved.

6. Standing Agenda Items

6.1 Veterans Services Update

There were no updates.

6.2 Committee/Work Group Updates

6.2a Coordinated Entry System Committee

DeAndre Richard stated the next meeting is December 6, 2023 at 10 a.m. and encouraged conversation about the rapid rehousing to permanent supportive housing process. DeAndre Richard also discussed the positive outcomes from the most recent case conferencing and the progress from community involvement.

6.2b Governance Committee

John Eckstrom reported that the next meeting would be on December 7, 2023 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

6.2c HMIS Users Committee

Reneé Parham reported that the next meeting would be December 7, 2023 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. and encouraged all HMIS Users in Solano County to attend.

6.2d Lived Experience Committee

Joey Carrizales stated that the committee is doing outreach, and discussed the logistics of opening the meetings to the Spanish speaking community, but that there were some concerns regarding who would lead the meetings in Spanish at this time, Joey Carrizales invited those interested to the Public Meeting on December 5th.

6.2e Youth Advisory Board Core Planning Work Group

Akon Walker stated that the group was glad to have established some funding for further progress on establishing the YAB and are wrapping up the focus groups for the year. Akon Walker shared some of the feedback from the youth after the last focus group, including but not limited to having someone available to talk to before they became unhoused, having places where they could be away from some of the things they were experiencing, like youth centers, etc., and having more youth shelters in the community. Akon Walker also stated that in December they would be working with those who have expressed interest in being part of the YAB.

Katie Ward added that Solano County Probation is also working with Akon Walker in connection with youth voices in multiple different facets and that they have stipend dollars to help broaden the opportunities.

6.2f CA REAL Core Team

Kari Rader stated there would be a presentation later in the meeting.

6.3 2024 Point-In-Time (PIT) Count

Becky Farris stated that the registration portal is live:

<https://solano24.pointintime.info> and asked for volunteers to sign up online and they are looking for people to provide “Known Locations” in advance of

the count. Becky Farris shared the Jurisdictional Leads and that there would be a Community Planning Meeting on November 29, 2023 at 10:30 a.m.

7. New Business

7.1 Upcoming 2024 CoC Elections and Board Member Reminders

Reneé Parham stated that there would be an election for CoC Officers for the upcoming year and showed the current Officers and Board Members Terms as well as announced the term end dates and upcoming Board Member elections in 2024. Kari Rader and Tara Beasley-Stansberry are both on their 2nd year as Officers and could run for one more year before having to take a break as outlined in the Governance Charter. Reneé Parham announced that Joey Carrizales has resigned from the CoC, and the Lived Experience Committee effective December 2023 and would continue to serve on the CES Committee until his term ended as Co-Chair. Reneé Parham shared the [Google Form](#) for those who are interested in running for an Officer Position on the Board.

Reneé Parham shared the Conflict of Interest Statement that needed to be signed for the upcoming year and requested Board Members to check their emails and submit their forms.

8. Presentations

8.1 Racial Equity Improvement Project

DeAndre Richard presented the [California Racial Equity Action Lab Community Presentation](#) highlighting the goals and timelines for the changes in Solano County that will be incorporated in the upcoming years.

8.2 City of Fairfield Housing Authority

Tanya Tran from the City of Fairfield Housing Authority presented information regarding the Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) Program, which is a program for homeless individuals and families in the city of Fairfield, limited to 30% area median income or less. Those who qualify will be referred by the Homeless Intervention Team, pass a sex offender background check, be an eligible citizen of the United States, and are already receiving services or agree to receive services. The TBRA Program has a 24-month maximum assistance limit during which time eligibility will be reviewed after 12 months and upon completion of the Program the participant can be placed on the Housing Choice Voucher waiting list, with a high preference for placement.

LaTanna explained that the City of Fairfield does not currently have a Move On Program and so they have made adjustments to the TBRA Program to assimilate what other communities have by means of a Move On Program for the unhoused, and that they are working to get more programs going to help with permanent supportive housing.

9. Staff Updates

9.1 Staff Communications

- CAP Solano JPA Board Meeting 11/16/23 6:30 p.m. – 8 p.m. at the County Events Center 601 Texas St. Conference Room A

9.2 Funding Opportunities

- None Currently

10. Board and Public Comment

10.1 Comments from Board Members

DeAndre Richard asked if the 2024 meetings could be extended to 12 p.m. instead of ending at 11:30 so that there is enough time for commentary and collaboration during the meeting. Kari Rader agreed and said it could be discussed at an upcoming meeting.

Akon Walker thanked Reggie Sironen for helping navigate a family into housing support and stabilizing a path for the family to move forward.

Kari Rader announced there was a Thanksgiving Luncheon for those in our community that are unhoused. The Clergy Action Network will be hosting this event and it starts at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 21, 2023 at Willow Hall in Fairfield. There will be free socks, coats, and hygiene kits.

10.2 Board Member Intro –

- Akon Walker – Program Coordinator, Educational Liaison at the Solano County Office of Education (SCOE) and Educational Representative on the CoC Board. She enjoys learning and supporting the community.
- Samantha Burrows – Homeless Services Division Manager of City of Fairfield, comes from a Non-Profit background. Happy to be in Solano County.

10.3 Public Comments – Lavern Haywood from Insight Housing introduced herself and stated that the meeting today was very informative and wanted to know how to get the email addresses or contact information of those involved. Kari Rader suggested going to the JPA or Housing First Solano Website or contact Reneé Parham or Megan Richards.

11. Adjourn

John Eckstrom made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:30 a.m. Natalie Peterson seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. There were no abstentions or objections. The motion was approved and meeting adjourned.