



**Siskiyou County Advisory Board Meeting
November 6, 2024
1:30pm – 3:00pm
Red Oak Room, Behavioral Health, 2060 Campus Drive, Yreka**

Teleconference locations:

Karuk Tribe
635 Jacobs Way
Happy Camp, CA 96039

1. Call to Order/Quorum Established/Introductions

Duane Kegg, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:32 PM.
A quorum was established.

Present: Members Duane Kegg, Michael Aiuto, Christina Brown, Michael A McNair, Sarah Collard, Mark Gilman, Steven Bryan, Nancy Ogren, Denise Patterson, Barbra Risling and Dustin Rief;
Alternate Members Susan Cervelli and Natalie Quinn.

Staff/participants/public attendees: Luther Findley, Louise Gliatto, Dawnmarie Autry, Lorenzo Love, Melissa Willick, Eric Parsons, Erika Cavener, Emily Tuholski, Eric Jauregui, Jess Harris, Cal Conklin, Tara Kilcollins and Joel Newlyn.

Zoom: Member Sara Spence.
Participants: Sasha Hight, Chris Nelson and Alan Barreca.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from October (Attachment A)

Steven Bryan motioned to approve the meeting minutes from October 2, 2024. Dustin Rief seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

3. Public Comments (limited to 3 mins. per comment)

Dawnmarie Autry shared concerns about winter weather conditions for people living outside and suggested the Behavioral Health Red Oak Room as a possible location for a warming shelter.

Advisory Board Members:

Duane Kegg, Chair
City of Yreka

Michael Aiuto
Homeless Advocate

Trish Barbieri
Social Services Division

Christina Brown
Fairchild Medical Center

Michael A McNair
United Way

Brittany Collier
Siskiyou Co. Office of Ed

Sarah Collard, Ph.D.
Health and Human Services Agency

Mark Gilman
Yreka Police Department

Steven Bryan
Community Resource Collaborative

Nancy Ogren
Siskiyou Co. Board of Supervisors

Denise Patterson
Yreka Food Bank

Sara Spence
Karuk Tribal Housing Authority

Barbra Risling
Youth Empowerment Siskiyou

Dustin Rief
City of Dunsmuir

Carla Charraga
Siskiyou Domestic Violence & Crisis Center



Alan Barreca provided a background of his experience building homes using locally sourced natural materials and founding a non-profit organization. Mr. Barreca is interested in several low-cost shelter options, including prefabricated tiny homes and community-built cordwood houses. He shared that Earthship building methods could reduce development costs, foster community and empower unsheltered individuals.

Barbra Risling introduced Brian Linsley, the new Housing Director at Youth Empowerment Siskiyou (YES). Ms. Risling shared that YES has secured funding to provide motel vouchers and rental assistance for youth in need. Mr. Linsley will create the policies and procedures for this program and build up the rapid rehousing program.

Tara Kilcollins shared information about the Reaching Rural grant program. This program provides training and funding to organizations so they can aid individuals with dual diagnosis and justice involvement. Maddelyn Bryan will distribute information on this program.

4. Committee Updates

a. Executive Board update – Maddelyn Bryan

Maddelyn Bryan shared that the Executive Board approved HMIS data sharing with Partnership Health Plan. The Board also approved the 2024 Sheltered HIC Report, a draft emergency transfer plan and the submission of the collaborative application.

b. HMIS/CES Committee – Maddelyn Bryan

Maddelyn Bryan noted that the HMIS/CES Committee approved a survey to gather feedback from end users on their opinions and experiences with completing HMIS forms.

c. PIT Committee update – Duane Kegg

Duane Kegg announced that the PIT Committee will hold a public meeting on October 19th to draft survey forms and review the "Counting Us" app.

The Siskiyou County PIT workgroup will meet on the 18th to review 2025 PIT count strategies and polling locations.

5. New Business

a. Presentation; Nation's Finest – Chris Nelson

Chris Nelson, Assistant Site Director at Nation's Finest, presented on services available to Siskiyou County veterans. Although Nation's Finest does not have an office in Siskiyou County, their Humboldt County office is open to Siskiyou County residents. The organization uses a "whole person" approach, offering mental health support, case management, and transitional housing for up to two years, while



working to transition veterans into permanent housing. They also assist veterans facing eviction and help them apply for SSI and disability benefits. Additionally, Nation's Finest supports non-veterans through Cal AIM as an ECM provider. Maddelyn Bryan will send Mr. Nelson's contact information to the CoC email list.

b. Discussion item; NorCal CoC Structure (Attachment B) – Maddelyn Bryan

Question #1: *The NorCal CoC is a large seven-county geographic region. Do you feel the unique needs of your community are being met with the current structure? Please be specific on what your unique needs are for your region.*

a. If so, how?

b. If not, how could it improve?

The group discussed the topic and reached a consensus that, while the community's needs are not being met perfectly, the City of Redding provides essential administrative support as the lead agency. The City has made significant progress in improving efficiency, effectively streamlining approvals and addressing timeline challenges. Siskiyou County has limited administrative capacity and relies on the lead agency for support with applications.

Question #2: *The NorCal CoC currently allocates CoC funding based on the PIT/HIC counts. How do you feel about this allocation structure and how it impact's your Community?*

a. Is the funding distributed fairly between County and non-profits in your community?

The group discussed alternative methods for funding allocation, suggesting basing it on the number of homeless individuals in HMIS and the size of the county. There is concern that the PIT count doesn't capture the full picture, especially for areas with a seasonal influx of homeless individuals. Some members proposed using other metrics, like the number of rent burdened households and poverty rates, to better allocate resources.

The County works with nonprofits to encourage applications and steps in to apply for any unclaimed funds, ensuring nothing is left on the table. Siskiyou County has not experienced oversubscription.

Question #3: *Do you feel that a smaller region or single county CoC would improve available funding*

for your community?

a. There are additional grant opportunities that sometimes do not get applied for as they don't make sense for a large seven-county CoC. One being the Encampment Grant.



The group agreed that a smaller or single-county CoC would not benefit Siskiyou County, as the County lacks the personnel and funding to support the administrative work required. A benefit of the current structure is that Siskiyou County sometimes receives funds that other counties in the CoC are unable to spend.

Question #4: *What challenges and benefits do you see to restructuring the NorCal CoC?*

- a. Administrative
- b. Funding
- c. Additional grant opportunities
- d. HMIS System Administration
- e. Other

The consensus was that restructuring the NorCal CoC would result in administrative and HMIS challenges. The CoC is still stabilizing after the role of lead agency was transferred from Shasta County to the City of Redding.

Question #5: *If the NorCal CoC did not exist, how would you set up the CoC or CoC's for this geographic area and why?*

If the NorCal CoC did not exist, some participants suggested establishing smaller offices in remote areas like McDole, Dorris, or Happy Camp to better distribute resources. However, there were concerns about the administrative burden and destabilizing effects of restructuring. The group generally agreed that maintaining the current structure, despite its challenges, is preferable for the time being.

c. Discussion item; Letter to Community Homeless Service Providers HDAP Funding – Trish Barbieri (Attachment C)

Trish Barbieri was not in attendance, so Emily Tuholski led the discussion. Ms. Tuholski shared that Siskiyou County Social Services received funding from the California Department of Social Services to operate the Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP). This funding allows Social Services to provide temporary housing, typically in motels, while assisting participants with applying for benefits such as Social Security and Disability. Currently, Social Services is housing 36 participants, 6 of whom are supported through HDAP funding. The expenditure deadline for this funding is June 30, 2025.

d. Discussion item and possible action; Siskiyou County Advisory Board Membership Policy (Attachment D) – Duane Kegg

Dustin Rief motioned to expand the Siskiyou County Advisory Board membership limit to 15 to account for all current members. Nancy Ogren seconded. A roll call vote



was taken. Susan Cervelli abstained. All other members approved. The motion passed.

6. Old Business

a. Discussion item; Planning for Warming Shelters – Lorenzo Love/Duane Kegg

Lorenzo Love suggested using the Red Oak Room at Siskiyou County Behavioral Health as a temporary warming shelter due to its proximity to the homeless population. For a long-term solution, Mr. Love recommended repurposing the old red schoolhouse building as a combined warming and cooling shelter and urged the City of Yreka to take action on this. He also proposed an alternative option: setting up a disaster relief tent on the hill equipped with heating and cooling. However, Susan Cervelli noted that the Red Oak Room cannot be used as a warming shelter because the Behavioral Health building is used for work with Child Protective Services.

Maddelyn Bryan shared that a local church had approached her, offering to serve as a warming center if Siskiyou County could provide transportation. Dawnmarie Autry mentioned her connections with another church in Weed, California, that might also be willing to assist. Ms. Autry agreed to reach out to the church and report back.

The group then discussed the weather conditions that would necessitate activating a warming shelter. Nancy Ogan provided details about the current system used by the City of Yreka and the Office of Emergency Services, which relies on a chart that considers factors such as temperature, wind, snow, rainfall, and duration.

7. Member Updates

Tara Kilcollins provided an update on Basecamp, noting ongoing efforts to resolve the ADA exit issue in collaboration with the City of Yreka. She also reported delays due to shipping issues with the bathroom tiles.

8. Discussion Items for Next Meeting

- Discussion item; Planning for warming shelters - Duane Kegg
- Discussion item and possible action; Siskiyou County Advisory Board Membership Policy – Duane Kegg
- Presentation; 2024 Housing Statistics – Siskiyou County staff

9. Adjournment

Duane Kegg motioned to adjourn the meeting at 3:55 PM. Sarah Collard seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed by unanimous vote.



Next Meeting

December 4, 2024

1:30pm-3:00pm

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