



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

December 11, 2025 – 9:00 a.m.  
San Joaquin County Public Health Services  
1601 E. Hazelton Ave.  
Stockton, CA 95205

### 1. Commencement of Meeting - Roll Call

Vice-Chair Carney opened the meeting at 9:03 a.m. Roll was called.

Board Members Present: Carney, Mendelson, Phovixay, Pinnelli, Young, Grover, Quan, and Grant.

Board Members Excused: Fiser, Hutchinson (online), Garber (online), Guarascio, and Jackson.

### 2. Announcement of Recusals – No recusals.

### 3. Approval of Minutes

Vice-Chair Carney called for a motion to approve the minutes from the October 2, 2025 Board meeting.

Motion made and seconded (**Mendelson/Grover**)

Roll call vote taken (**Fiser – NP, Carney – Yes, Hutchinson – NP, Garber – NP, Mendelson – Yes, Phovixay – Yes, Pinnelli – Yes, Young – Yes, Grover – Yes, Guarascio – NP, Quan – Yes, Grant – Yes, Jackson – NP**)  
**8/0.**

### 4. Public Comment – No public comments.

### 5. Collaborative Applicant Updates

*San Joaquin County/Collaborative Applicant*

- CoC Program Competition Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Update
- HHAP-5 NOFA (Notice of Funding Availability) Update
- Community of Learning Event in March 2026
- Next CoC meeting – Next meeting is January 8, 2026 (General Membership Meeting)

Vice-Chair Carney introduced Dawn McLeish, Deputy Director of Human Services Agency, to discuss CoC Program Competition NOFO update, HHAP-5 NOFA update, Community of Learning event, and the next CoC Meeting.

*CoC Program Competition NOFO Update* – McLeish notified the group that HUD has withdrawn the CoC Program Competition NOFO. HUD stated on its website that the withdrawal will allow the Department to make appropriate revisions to the previously issued CoC NOFO to account for new priorities. HUD anticipates reissuing a modified NOFO well in advance of the deadline for obligation of available Fiscal Year 2025 funds. This is speculated to be in response to several lawsuits filed on the original NOFO, and McLeish expressed hope that some barriers will be removed when it is released. All organizations that submitted a Letter of Intent (LOI) to apply were notified of the withdrawn NOFO. Collaborative Applicant will still be requesting approval on the updated ranking tools and policies during this meeting, with the intention of moving forward as soon as the NOFO is released.

Board Member Grover questioned if the ranking tools would need to be redone after today's approval. McLeish responded that the changes made to the ranking tools and policies align with current priorities. Unless the NOFO priorities change drastically, the approved versions will stand. Vice-Chair Carney suggested that the Board should consider allowing additional time for organizations due to the tight deadline to submit the LOI for the funds, since HUD pulled the NOFO. Rajony Poy acknowledged the extremely short deadline due to all necessary steps: official announcement, LOI window, revising the ranking tools and policies, scoring process, approval of the rankings, and then submitting a consolidated application. Considering eight weeks available to complete all the items listed, Poy mentioned that a lot of the CoCs within the communities are struggling to carry out a competitive process in time to reach the deadline to submit. With that, Poy clarified that she wants the process to be transparent and due to the anticipation of a revised NOFO, pre-approved ranking tools will help expedite the process. Board Member Hutchinson encouraged everyone to read through the CoC application information and advised that although every program has a different fiscal year, due to the delayed onset of the NOFO, there will be contracts that expire in 2026 with no way to move forward with funding. Jennifer Rhyne from City of Lodi recommended tracking HUD's changing priorities and aligning the LOI and applications accordingly, with updates shared to help the CoC prepare for the submission. McLeish stated that the Neighborhood Preservation team had developed the LOI with all of HUD's priorities and that was sent out through Constant Contact. It can be reshared and can look at what the options are while the NOFO is pulled. As of today, there is no new information that is going to change the dates and timeline. Board Member Mendelson and Kayce Rane clarified that NOFO funds cannot be used for shelter operations. It is not about ending homelessness but rather prioritizing treatment, recovery, and self-sufficiency. These funds are limited to support services, and applicants are encouraged to carefully review the NOFO due to the complex requirements.

*HHAP-5 NOFA Update* – McLeish informed that the Proposer's Conference was held on December 2<sup>nd</sup> to provide information on the NOFA. The application was due December 19<sup>th</sup>, followed by the ranking and review process. Recommendations for funding will be shared with the CoC Board in February. She anticipates finalizing the process and funding organizations in early April. Board Member Grover inquired about when the expenditure period will begin, which McLeish responded that funds would start expending once everyone receive their contracts in April.

*Community of Learning Event in March 2026* – McLeish commented on a shelter evaluation presentation done by County consultant, Melanie Estarziau. There were recommendations made to improve service delivery, expand low barrier and housing focused options, strengthen staff training, address funding sustainability, and more. This has led to the need for Community Learning Events, which will all start to be put into implementation in 2026. A comment was made by Board Member Mendelson, praising the data collected and presented by Estarziau. He noted that one in seven people who go into a shelter exits to permanent housing, highlighting the exits to housing rate is the primary bottleneck, and expressing support for improving data quality and dashboards as needed.

*Next CoC meeting* – Next meeting will be on January 8, 2026 (General Membership Meeting).

*Pit Count Update with John Connery (ASR)* – John Connery with ASR provided a brief update on the Point-in-Time Count that will take place at the end of January and is a federally required count conducted every two years. San Joaquin County will be maintaining the same methodology used two years ago and will allow for a consistent longitudinal tracking of data. Planning is in motion, with outreach to cities, shelters, programs, and organizations across the County to determine capacity and coordinate participation. The count will involve approximately 150-200 people, including outreach staff, agencies, and volunteers working in assigned teams to cover designated areas. Priority is placed on utilizing experienced outreach staff to cover high and medium profile locations and allowing general volunteers to focus on lower profile areas. Coordination efforts are ongoing with multiple cities and law enforcement, with continuing

volunteer recruitment planned primarily for January. The goal is to ensure countywide coverage and the most accurate count as possible. Please reach out to [john@appliedsurveyresearch.org](mailto:john@appliedsurveyresearch.org) for further questions.

**6. Discuss and Approve the CoC Program Competition Ranking Tools, Local Rank Policy, and Reallocation Policy**

Vice-Chair Carney introduced Rajony Poy with Human Services Agency Neighborhood Preservation to present the CoC Program Competition Ranking Tools, Local Rank Policy, and Reallocation Policy. Poy stated that it is recommended that the Board of Directors approve these tools and policies, even though the current NOFO has been withdrawn. With these approvals being made prior, it will place the CoC in a better position before the NOFO is reissued. The revised tools accounted for the significant changes noted in the NOFO, such as reduced Tier 1 funding protection (from 90% to 30%), a 30% cap of Annual Renewal Demand for permanent housing, full project competition, and new national priorities. The revised tools emphasized objective performance criteria, transitional housing, participant services, and outcomes like employment and returns to homelessness, with policies updated to reflect current NOFO dates and priorities. These changes were reviewed by the Board and general membership, feedback was incorporated, and approval will position the CoC to respond quickly once the revised NOFO is released.

Board Member Young inquired about possible opportunities for additional LOIs to be submitted. McLeish stated that a double-check would be required due to the uncertainty with timelines, along with the precision and complicated nature of this funding. However, an informational email will be sent out once it has been reviewed with the team. McLeish also relayed that more training throughout the year regarding the process will be considered and made available. There is acknowledgement that there are major changes, and the adjustments and shifts are going to be things that the community will learn to respond and resolve together. Board Member Mendelson voiced if there are those who want better understanding around the funding, how to apply, and how the programs operate, to reach out to him [jmendelson@cvihc.org](mailto:jmendelson@cvihc.org).

**7. Discuss and Approve the System-Wide Performance Measure Progress Report**

Vice-Chair Carney introduced Rajony Poy with Human Services Agency Neighborhood Preservation to present the System-Wide Performance Measure Progress Report. Poy stated that it is recommended that the Board of Directors approve this report. The CoC is engaged in an ongoing effort that evaluates the effectiveness of programs, agencies, and the overall homeless response system using data primarily from Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). The report examines progress against performance measures set by HUD, HCD, and local input, providing both clear analysis and detailed data insights. The System-Wide Performance Measure Progress Report has been compiled and refined since August 2025 and discussed at the October SJCoC meeting. It will be finalized and shared publicly following the Board approval, with the HMIS Lead Agency encouraged to provide an explanation of the report to public entities.

Board Member Mendelson expressed that this report attempted to account for every piece of data that was gathered through the HMIS, while also comparing it to the federally mandated system performance measures and metrics. When reading the report, he recommended keeping in mind that when the community set those goals, they have gone through the process of identifying goals for each of the metrics on how much improvement is desired within these measures year after year. The report shows that the approach to homelessness programs in the community are performing well at the program level, but overall homelessness is not decreasing as needed. This indicates that it could possibly be a capacity and resources issue. Permanent housing programs demonstrate strong outcomes, including a 95% housing stability rate for permanent supportive housing and successful exits from rapid rehousing. Permanent housing outperforms transitional housing, in which it outperforms only shelter programs, while recidivism rates remain stable, suggesting broader factors. Exclusively looking at the data from HMIS, it indicates that homelessness may be plateauing over the past one to two years, reflecting the impacts of long-term community investments made early on. However, concerns were noted that potential federal funding

changes could reverse the progress made so far. This report will be finalized and used for community understanding, as well as when the HHAP regional plan updates occur.

#### **8. Discussion: Lawsuit Challenging Trump Administration's Cuts to Homeless Housing Funding**

Vice-Chair Carney introduced Board Member Jon Mendelson to start the discussion regarding the lawsuit challenging the Trump Administration's cuts to homeless housing funding. Board Member Mendelson stated that the Supreme Court no longer issues nationwide relief and injunctions related to the NOFO. Any legal relief resulting from a lawsuit would only apply to the specific city or county bringing the lawsuit, unless there is a federal policy change. Board Member Mendelson explained that given the County's resources and position, the recommended approach is to proceed with submitting the NOFO and monitor any changes that are favorable. There is no current interest in joining a lengthy and potentially expensive lawsuit.

#### **9. Committee Updates**

- *Executive Planning Committee:* Virginia Carney – Did not meet in November; tentative whether committee will meet in December, unless needed.
- *Data and Performance Management Committee:* Jon Mendelson – Will be conducting some work in the Point-in-Time count. Notified those who are an agency, leader, or staff that participate in the HMIS, that they will be receiving emails asking for updates in the housing inventory and program status, which a response is needed. They have submitted the initial report ahead of the HUD deadline and will continue to work on it to get an updated submission sometime in January when due.
- *Coordinated Entry and Housing Case Conferencing Committee:* Matt Garber – Did not meet November but will be meeting the upcoming Monday.
- *Shelter and Interim Housing Committee:* Jennifer Rhyne and Virginia Carney – Did not meet November. They have been working closely with Melanie Estarziau in getting information for her and will be receiving an update the following Monday.
- *Youth Action Board:* Saul Lopez – Elizabeth Sanchez with PREVAIL notified the board that Saul is no longer overseeing the Youth Action Board and introduced Fanny Aviles as the new Coordinator since August 2025. Fanny expressed the goal to continue to grow, be productive within the community, and make positive changes within the youth community. She is looking forward to collaborating with any community partners.
- *Outreach and Engagement Committee:* Vielka Guarascio and Jamie Grant – The Outreach Committee met Tuesday. They continued to discuss and work on how to deal with outreach and getting information to different communities and agencies.
- *PIT Count Planning Committee:* Sasha Jackson – Not present/No update.
- *Ad Hoc Nomination Committee:* Rajony Poy – The committee is currently reviewing applications for new board members and board members who reapplied. At the next meeting (general membership meeting), a list of names for recommendations will be presented for vote.

#### **10. Adjourn Board Meeting**

Vice-Chair Carney called for a motion to adjourn at 10:19am.

Motion made and seconded (Grover/Grant)

Staff confirmed the motion was made by Board Member Grover and second was made by Board Member Grant.