Planning & Research Committee

MINUTES

February 23, 2016

In Attendance

Andrew Fike, Door of Hope; Aneesah Robinson, ChapCare; Angelica Palmeros, City of Pasadena Public Health Department; Anna Jacobsen, City of Pasadena Housing Department; Anne Lansing, City of Pasadena Housing Department; Betty McWilliams, Foothill Unity Center; Brian Biery, Flintridge Center; Cushon Bell, Council District 1; Dan Davidson, Rose City Church; David Kim, Urban Initiatives; Jhoana Hirasuna, Salvation Army; Joe Colletti, Urban Initiatives; Keisha Hosea, Union Station Homeless Services; Keith Buck, Door of Hope; Michael Watkins, Pasadena Partnership Board; Ryan Izell, Union Station Homeless Services; Sandra Olivas, City of Pasadena Public Health Department; Sofia Herrera, Urban Initiatives; Tashera Taylor, Foothill Unity Center

Welcome & Introductions

Homelessness is more visible in Pasadena than ever before so in December we were very meticulous and methodical about making sure that when we conducted the count we knew where the hotspots were and we made sure we covered those areas.

Presenters: Joe Colletti & Anne Lansing

- 114 volunteers plus the CES Outreach teams
- Same methodology used each year
- Volunteers go into zones, teams of professional outreach workers go into areas not in zones that are harder to count
- HUD required sheltered (emergency shelter, hotel/motel vouchers, transitional housing) and unsheltered count (street count)
- We do a full survey because it is more doable for Pasadena vs. LA County

Number of Persons Counted

- The number will be a decrease, more than single-digit
- Haven House (DV shelter) closed last year
- Sheltered count is pretty consistent as long as the beds are being filled, apart from closures or changes in program structure.
- Unsheltered count is really the street count we saw a significant reduction in this (442 to mid- to high- 300s)
- New approaches are working (CES, focus on PSH, veterans, longer term CH people into housing)
- More geographic concentrations than past years

Review of Count Instrument

Do we want to ask the complete survey next year or just do an observation only?

Sofia will contact team leaders to get a sense of this

Race and Ethnicity

We tend to look at ethnicity in all groups and the way HUD has fashioned the questions is in line with the US Census Bureau in that race does not include Hispanic/Latino. A suggestion was made to possibly flip these questions – race first, ethnicity second.

Chronically Homeless Question

HUD has made this question more complex recently. They must either be: homeless for one or more years (pretty clear), or 4x in past 3 years with at least 7 days in between.

Transgender

Simplified this year

Other questions

- Income levels need to be adjusted \$0-\$250, \$250-\$699; \$700-\$1,000; \$1,000+
- People underreport when asked like HUD words it worded differently in CES. For example has anyone
 told you that you might have a substance use issue that got in the way of housing. We can review these
 questions for 2017 and get input from CES team
- Should we change count instrument to be 1 sheet/person so it is more clear and you can add additional information such as when the person was counted

Action Items:	Person Responsible:
Full Survey vs. Observation Only vs. Abbreviated Survey	Sofia Herrera
Comparison of response rates from CoC that simplified Survey	Joe Colletti

Additional Questions

Was there any time that your felt unsafe?

No one reported feeling unsafe, possibly those less experienced felt more unsafe

Was there anyone in serious need of emergency help?

Largely no, a few reports that were followed up on and no major issues

Were there any issues with counting in your zones? For example, was it confusing where your zone borders fell?

- The only issue was there were some areas not included in a zone that probably should be next year
- Zone 16 overlapped with Zone 9 a little

Zone mapping

- We could do this after adding the parks
- Difficult to break down by council district
- San Bernardino used ESRI app
- Possibly we could do this in the future

Counting between sunset and sunrise

- 8-10pm & 6-8am in the morning
- Typically more in the morning than in the evening
- Youth teams from 3-5pm

Action Items:	Person Responsible:
Map of Homeless Count (unsheltered)	Anna Jacobsen & Anne Lansing

Next Meeting

Tuesday, March 22rd at 10:00am