

COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD



March 3, 2020
1111 Jackson St., Rooms 226-228, Oakland 94607

MINUTES

Present: Raymond Banks, DC Barlow, Jasmine Quinn, Karen Roye, Lou Rigali, Kamarlo Spooner, Tanasha Stevens, Damon Johnson (Shuja)

Not Present: Barbara Medeiros (excused)

- **Call to Order:** 6:28 p.m.
- **Review and approve Minutes:** Minutes accepted as is.
- **Housing Department Presentation** (Jeannette Rodriguez):
 - Realignment Funded Housing Programs
 - Began 2012 as PRCS Housing Pilot
 - Intended to be flexible to respond to different needs
 - Funded Programs: Men of Valor Academy
 - Two Community-based organizations – ABODE and EOCP
 - Both agencies support rapid re-housing model – short term housing subsidies to secure permanent long-term housing, serving both men and women
 - Also serves 290 residents
 - Both agencies go into Santa Rita
 - Subsidies can only be provided within Alameda County, client choice as to where they find housing.
 - Referrals thru portal: DPO, I/C (Santa Rita Jail), Transition Day Reporting Center (TDRC), Alameda County Justice Restoration Project (ACJRP)
 - Realignment Housing Services
 - Key is flexible funds to help with essential costs associated with rental
 - Transitional Housing Projects: Building Opportunities for Self-Sufficiency BOSS Hope Project and Bay Area Community Services (BACS)
 - Supportive services
 - Both started January 2019
 - Newly Added (Dec 1, 2019 contract, not open yet): Oakland Dream Center: 26 set-aside Probation beds, dormitory-style, can serve 290, supportive services and meals, male only.
 - BOSS 22 individuals, 13 BACS
 - Who is served: (fiscal year 18/19): 573 served includes 38 children, 48 self-reported disability
 - **Exits by designation types:** 82% exited to permanent or temporary destinations
 - Friends and family included as both permanent and temporary. County does provide subsidy for these situations.

- **Returns to Homelessness:** Improving yearly. In 17/18 only 1 person returned to homelessness.
 - Housing is looking at other avenues to provide services/subsidies for persons exiting rapid rehousing services who need support in permanent housing
- **Local Context:** Housing in our area is expensive. Individuals paying \$800 to
- **Funding by Project Type**
- **Funding FY19-20:** # of beds available and costs. Transitional housing costs between \$70 and \$75/bed/night. But subsidy depends on the # of person in the household and the monies used in subsidies. Lou: how does one measure the effectiveness of the use of money.
- **Note:** Probation indicated \$1,000,000 allocated to women and women services
- **Note:** Enormous need, 8000 reported homeless, Housing starting to track need to see who isn't being served.
- **Note:** Tiny homes still considered for homelessness. Majority of land is owned by city, not county. Majority of homeless is in Oakland, then Berkeley. The cities' decide how and where to house the homeless.
- Raymond would like to see more money going to women and children and families. Jasmine agrees. Shahidah notes that Oakland has their own Housing Authority; renovations often happen when building is vacant; some units not fit to live. Tanasha believes that the County and the City should work together.
- "Images on the Rise" (FEED.org) use to house 90 plus parolees a day; now they are housing women and children but funds are difficult for the women to obtain.
- **Transitional Housing:** Fiscal and Procurement is requesting money for 7th step for Housing requesting funds for 32 male beds in Hayward Unincorporated to be run by CBO; \$950,000 (includes some start-up cost) for the first year and \$875,000 annually thereafter:
 - Bed rate anticipated to be \$74/bed/day; Case management on site...all probation services will be accessed on site.
 - Raymond moves to fund the money. Tanasha seconds. 1 objection, motion passed
- **CAB – Open Seats & Recruitment:** District 1 – 2 open seats, District 2 - 1, District 3 – 2 open seat, District 4 – 1 opening, District 5 – 1 opening
- **CAB – Recruitment and Retention:**
 - Committee explored and feel there isn't equity in the applications meaning some applications (Raymond, Lou and Kamarlo) received greater endorsement than others. Differed by District as well. Committee believes that all applications should be treated equally/handled similarly. Process should be independent of the District.
 - Karmarlo believes the CAB should define the process and then put it forward. Want transparency as to reasons for denial (by District and by CAB).
 - Shahidah asks what "equity" means. Raymond says "fairness." Shahidah indicated that all appointments (over 20 Boards and Commissions) are handled differently by each District. Believes the CAB is governed by the CAB Bylaws.
 - Raymond move a motion to do further research and formulate a proposal for consideration by CAB, Karmarlo seconded, passed unanimously.
- **CCP Civic/Community Engagement Sub-Committee:**
 - Model of Engagement: Raymond wants CAB to consider small grants for persons to go into their own business.
 - DC believes the CAB should explore resources already in existence that would include other services.

- Neola indicated that \$1,000,000 is already allocated to this area – formerly incarcerated who are running their own programs, board-memberships and entrepreneurial business, that also includes training and services. Listening sessions (target: justice impacted with own businesses) are in progress; information gathering from subject matter experts. Raymond will explore other programs.
- Raymond: Low return on employment money (30 persons). Is racism to blame?
- **Re-naming “Formerly Incarcerated”:** “Returning Citizen”, “Returning Resident”, “Returning Family” or “Returning Person”
 - Damon supports “Returning Resident,” since he doesn’t have all privileges of a citizen, such as voting.
 - DC, also a Returning Resident, was at a meeting last night and he believes that “Returning Resident” is appropriate because many lifers cannot vote and are still impacted by Jim Crow – was a way to disenfranchise the African-American male. Same population was “over-incarcerated”, unjustly incarcerated, and the disenfranchisement that includes housing and employment still exists so NO to “Returning Citizen” but YES to “Returning Resident.”
 - Indicates that some persons use “Returning Citizen”, that the term is used by each person depending on their experience
 - “Citizen” removed because of solidarity with Latino population who aren’t citizens.
 - Raymond – Advocates for “Returning Citizen” as that is what each person aspires to. He distributed a self-authored writing on “Returning Family” and read aloud. For “Returning Citizen”, he read from Michelle Alexander’s “The New Jim Crow”: when persons labeled “felon”, old forms of discrimination become legal. Raymond likes “Returning Citizen” because political, social and economic capital associated with the term if “Returning Family” is not selected.
 - Lou likes “Returning Family” and notes Raymond’s writing.
 - Note: Damon doesn’t see Blacks on large job sites in Oakland, but sees many Mexicans.
 - Motion to adopt Returning Resident. Passed unanimously. (Kamarlo and Tanasha left early before vote)
- **Institutionalized Racism:** passed
- **Retreat:** Raymond doesn’t see the need for one; incumbent on CAB members to read materials. Neola indicates that Chief Still requests the retreat since the functions of each department etc are too numerous to discuss at a CAB meeting; an in-depth overview of information regarding services would also be useful. Most of the current CAB members weren’t appointed and therefore didn’t participate in the past retreat. Per Neola, tangible outcomes came out of the past retreat.
 - Jasmine wants the retreat as she wants the knowledge.
 - Lou suggests a retreat with both aspects: 1) CAB informing County and 2) County informing the CAB
 - Ray believes the request from partners for retreat was because he requested monies for college for returning residents. Neola indicated that the partners’ concerns centered on the fact that his request was he was asking for duplicative services already funded.
 - Motion made to schedule a retreat. Damon seconded. Yes – 4, No – 1. Motion passed.
- **Agenda Building:** Election of Secretary, County Counsel (Professionalism and eliminating disruptive behaviors); Transparency, Entrepreneurial small grants; Retreat Details (date, place, speakers), Institutionalized racism and discriminatory practices.

- **Public Comment:** Karen is okay with taking minutes but wants a CAB Secretary for back-up if she cannot attend the meeting.
- **Adjournment:** None

Next Meeting

April 7, 2020, 6:15 – 8:15
777 B Street
Hayward, CA