



San Francisco Department of Public Health
Housing and Urban Health

Gavin Newsom
Mayor

Comprehensive HIV/AIDS Housing Work Group
Meeting Minutes: Tuesday, September 5, 2006 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM, City Hall Room 278

Present:

Name	Title	Agency	Representing
Sherilyn Adams	Executive Director	Larkin Street Youth Services	Larkin Street Youth Services
Margot Antonetty	Director of Programs	DPH-HUH	DPH-HUH
Brian Basinger	Executive Director	AIDS Housing Alliance	AIDS Housing Alliance
Pablo Bravo	Director	Community Grants and Investments, Catholic Healthcare West	Philanthropic Sector
Lori Cook	Health Program Planner	DPH-HUH	DPH-HUH
Amy Ewing	Intern	AIDS Housing Alliance	AIDS Housing Alliance
Boe Hayward	Legislative Aide	Supervisor Bevan Dufty's Office	Supervisor Bevan Dufty's Office
Bill Hirsh	Director	AIDS Legal Referral Panel	AIDS Legal Referral Panel
Billie-Jean Kanios	Program Manger, Preventive Health Services	Walden House	HAPN
Greg Kats	Deputy Director of Housing Programs	Human Services Agency	Human Services Agency
Shelagh Little	Consultant	Abbott Little	DPH-HUH
James Nykolay	Co-Founder	AIDS Housing Alliance	AIDS Housing Alliance
Don Soto	Program Manager – AIDS Financial Services	Lutheran Social Services	HAPN
Amy Tharpe	Planning and Monitoring Director	Mayor's Office of Housing	Mayor's Office of Housing
Laura Thomas	TCWG Program Manager	Tenderloin Health	CARE Council
Steven Tierney	Deputy Director	San Francisco AIDS Foundation	San Francisco AIDS Foundation
Marc Trotz	Director	DPH-HUH	DPH-HUH
Tony Ucciferri	Administrator, Section 8 Housing Department	San Francisco Housing Authority	San Francisco Housing Authority

Welcome and Introductions

M. Trotz requested that all Work Group members introduce themselves by stating their name, their agency/program, and constituents/target populations served.

Work Group Purpose and Goals

M. Trotz highlighted the goals of the HIV/AIDS Comprehensive Housing Plan Work Group:

- Evaluating the current HIV/AIDS housing system and ways funds are being spent;
- Assessing what can be done to improve and expand the system, including new housing models, subsidies, master leasing, etc.
- Arriving at consensus on a manageable number of achievable recommendations and avoiding circular conversations about things outside the purview of the Work Group.

B. Hirsh echoed the need for a focused discussion highlighting what has been successful and articulating five to ten recommendations.

B. Basinger added the following goals:

- A realistic assessment of need that “gets beyond the number currently on the Housing Wait List.”
- A spreadsheet of housing opportunities beyond those units currently designated under CARE/HOPWA.
- An answer to the question: “What is impacting our ability to be successful?”

To frame the Work Group dialogue, S. Tierney referred to ways in which the federal government and the World Health Organization have adapted terminology to reflect the new realities of HIV/AIDS (e.g. mild-moderate-severe HIV disease).

M. Antonetty discussed how the 1998 San Francisco Five-Year HIV/AIDS Housing Plan Update was in many ways still current, and the concerns and suggestions in it still relevant (e.g., funding, changing health needs). However, rather than updating the old plan, the Work Group should strive to inform a *new* plan. There is also a need to discuss the Housing Wait List in terms of relevance and effectiveness as well as other existing responses to low-income HIV/AIDS housing needs in San Francisco.

Review of Meeting Topics and Discussion

M. Antonetty reviewed the draft list of Work Group meeting topics (handout provided):

10/3: Current Allocation of Available Resources and Effectiveness of Current Allocation; Data; Unmet Needs. Discussion will be based on existing, available data and will compare the various estimates of need.

11/7: New Housing Models and Systems Change. Will look at existing models and their pros and cons as well as promising new models. B. Hirsh expressed that he would like the Work Group to revisit potential future HRSA cuts under this topic and have the Work Group consider asking the Board of Supervisors to backfill those cuts.

12/5: Housing Wait List

1/9/07: Discussion: Summary, Conclusions and Recommendations

2/6/07: Discussion of Draft Recommendations and Presentation to Board of Supervisors.

B. Hayward suggested using the DPH website to post topics, solicit public comment, and make relevant materials available to Work Group members before each meeting.

M. Trotz said that recommendations should specify the financial impact of each recommendation, noting that recommendations should address how the City would identify the funding.

S. Tierney said that the group should not only focus on backfilling cuts but also look at the total system and what is needed; to focus on backfill only assumes that the current system is perfect.

B. Basinger said that he would like the Work Group to acknowledge that more persons with HIV/AIDS have lost their rent controlled housing due to Ellis Act evictions than the City has been able to assist with subsidized housing, and discuss what can be done about it.

L. Thomas would like the Work Group to look at restrictions on funding streams and be creative with existing resources to maximize the number of available units and length of stay.

Presentation: Pending HRSA/CARE Funding and Policy Changes (see handout with presentation slides)

- L. Thomas gave a presentation on pending HRSA/CARE funding and policy changes.
- Proposed CARE Act Reauthorization bill includes potential changes in San Francisco's funding levels (due to a revised formula for allocating funds) and new restrictions on eligible uses of funding. The changes would limit funded activities to "core medical services" and "other support services," neither of which includes housing.
 - A new HRSA policy that would limit length of stay in CARE-funded housing placements to 24 months.

Discussion and Wrap-Up

The Work Group agreed that the pending HRSA housing policy change related to length of stay should not result in displacement. The policy change, which could affect 400 subsidies, will call for creativity and administrative efforts to ensure that other funding sources can pick up funding for HIV/AIDS housing once the length of stay is exceeded. Will also need to ensure that overall funding cuts do not result in the elimination of these services, and that supplanting is not going to be an issue (if alternate funding sources are used).

B. Basinger talked about the need for current, more comprehensive information about the total universe of low-income housing "theoretically" available to low-income persons with HIV/AIDS and what is being done to connect those in need with these housing resources. Basinger wishes to develop a spreadsheet to track/map where and how many persons with HIV/AIDS are being served in publicly funded low income housing and, when such information is not available, what each provider is doing to affirmatively market to the HIV/AIDS population.

B. Hirsh said it would be instructive to know where persons with HIV/AIDS are getting housed besides in HOPWA and CARE funded housing.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 3 from 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM, City Hall, Room 278