



# CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

## COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

**AGENDA DATE:** October 14, 2014

**TO:** Mayor and Councilmembers

**FROM:** Administration, Housing and Human Services Division, Community Development Department

**SUBJECT:** Central Coast Collaborative On Homelessness (C3H) Memorandum Of Understanding

### RECOMMENDATION:

That Council authorize the Acting City Administrator to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with the Northern Santa Barbara County United Way for the Central Coast Collaborative on Homelessness (C3H) effort.

### DISCUSSION:

Central Coast Collaborative on Homelessness (C3H) has been in operation since October 2012, and this is the third annual Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the fiscal agency, Northern Santa Barbara County United Way, and the sponsor entities. The sponsors contribute funding to support the structure of C3H for the purpose of collaborating and sharing resources in order to: prevent homelessness; support the expansion of housing for the homeless; build a results and data driven culture; elevate community dialog, support and collaboration regarding homelessness; and encourage commitment to self-sufficiency. Council authorized an increased City of Santa Barbara contribution for Fiscal Year 2015 from \$75,000 to \$91,232.

Fiscal Year 2015 sponsors include:

○ City of Santa Barbara	\$91,232
○ County of Santa Barbara	\$90,000
○ Cottage Hospital	\$75,000
○ Housing Authority of the City of Santa Barbara	\$25,000
○ City of Santa Maria	\$12,000
○ Housing Authority of the County of Santa Barbara	\$5,000
○ City of Goleta	\$3,500
○ City of Carpinteria	\$1,229
○ <u>City of Buellton</u>	<u>\$491</u>
	\$303,452

Significant accomplishments made by C3H during the past year include:

- **Coordination of Point in Time Count (PIT)** and expansion to include **Vulnerability Index and Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT)** - All communities that receive Federal Continuum of Care grant funds are required to conduct a PIT Count every two years. This consists of a physical count of homeless people encountered county-wide during a pre-determined set of days in late January. The County of Santa Barbara has historically organized and reported the count. During the 2011 and 2013 counts, the survey was expanded to include a Vulnerability Index (VI), and beginning in 2013, C3H began coordinating the effort. The VI tool helped the community determine individuals' and families' health needs and rank order the most vulnerable at risk of dying prematurely due to health conditions. After the 2011 count, a Housing Placement Group was formed to begin housing those at the top of the vulnerability list. The PIT Count scheduled for January 28 and 29, 2015 will utilize the VI-SPDAT, which takes the VI to a new level and assists providers in quickly assessing the health and social needs of homeless persons. One of the advantages of the VI-SPDAT is that providers will have a much better idea of who is homeless and which support and housing interventions are most appropriate for each individual. In addition to coordinating the 2015 PIT Count, C3H is planning to utilize the volunteers (over 600 in 2013) to form regional coordination committees that can work year round to end homelessness.
- **Tracking housing placements** – C3H has been tracking housing placements county-wide since May 2013. Since that time a total of 444 placements have been made totaling 695 individuals. Of these, 206 were vulnerable individuals per the VI, 98 were Veterans and 193 were children.
- **Milpas Outreach Program (MOP)** – C3H worked with the Milpas Action Task Force to form an outreach pilot program that housed 5 of the most vulnerable and/or nuisance-causing individuals on Milpas Street, which were identified by merchants and the Restorative Policing Program. The pilot officially ended on July 31, 2014, but it is going to continue due to its phenomenal success. The MOP team includes two business representatives from the Milpas Community Association, County Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health (ADMHS), Veteran's Administration, shelter providers and Mental Wellness Center, among others. Now that this group is up and running, C3H plans to duplicate efforts elsewhere in the County.
- **Continuum of Care (COC)** - C3H agreed to serve as the Continuum of Care for the County, which is designed to promote community-wide planning and strategic use of resources and programs targeted to people experiencing homelessness; improve data collection and performance measurements; and allow each community to tailor its Program to the particular strengths and challenges within that community. In this role, the COC will be responsible for evaluating and ranking proposals for HUD funding such as Continuum of Care and Emergency Solutions grants.

- **C3H Sponsors** – The Fiscal Year 2015 C3H budget includes the addition of sponsors from five entities: City of Carpinteria, City of Buellton, City of Goleta, County of Santa Barbara Housing Authority and Cottage Hospital. Ongoing secure funding from each sponsor entity is vital in order to support the backbone structure of C3H.

**BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

City funds for this effort were authorized as part of the City's Fiscal Year 2015 budget and staff is recommending that Council formally commit the funds and approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the Northern Santa Barbara County United Way.

A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding is available in the City Clerk's office for public review.

**PREPARED BY:** Sue Gray, Community Development Business Manager

**SUBMITTED BY:** George R. Buell, Community Development Director

**APPROVED BY:** City Administrator's Office