



# Merced City and County Continuum of Care General Membership Meeting

**Date:** March 7, 2024  
**Times:** 11:00am – 12:30pm  
**Location:** Virtual Conference via Microsoft Teams  
 Phone Number: 1 (323) 676-6251  
 Meeting ID: 265 547 213 892  
*\*This meeting will be recorded\**

## AGENDA

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>I. Call to Order</b>  | Matt Serratto  |
| <b>II. Roll Call</b>   | Collaborative Applicant  |
| <b>III. Notice to Public</b><br>At least 48 hours prior to each regular Board/General membership meeting, a complete agenda packet is available for review on the Merced CoC website at <a href="http://www.mercedcoc.org">www.mercedcoc.org</a> .   | Collaborative Applicant  |
| <b>IV. Public Comment</b><br>Matters under the jurisdiction of the CoC and not on this posted agenda may be addressed by the general public at this time. The CoC governance charter prohibits the CoC from taking any action on a matter that is not on the posted agenda unless it is determined to be an emergency by the CoC. Any member of the public wishing to address the CoC during the “Public Comment” period is permitted to be heard once for up to three minutes, per person. Please state your name for the record. | Matt Serratto  |
| <b>V. Consent Agenda Items</b><br>A. Approval of Agenda<br>B. Approval of Minutes: February 1, 2024  | Matt Serratto  |
| <b>VI. Community Projects</b><br>A. Merced Navigation Center<br>B. Emergency Housing Vouchers<br>C. Distributive Housing/Unincorporated Housing<br>D. Homeless Court<br>E. Housing Developments  | Jennifer Carr<br>Jesenia Aguilar<br>David Carr<br>David Carr<br>John Ceccoli |
| <b>VII. Chair Comments</b>   | Matt Serratto  |
| <b>VIII. Action Items</b><br>A. <b>CoC General Membership Vote</b><br>1. Regionally Coordinated Action Plan<br>2. Golden Valley Health Center Membership<br>B. <b>Board Vote</b><br>1. Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Round 5<br>2. HHAP Round 5 Allocations   | Collaborative Applicant  |
| <b>IX. Board Information &amp; Possible New Action Items</b><br>A. Welcome New Board Member - Kristynn Sullivan  | Collaborative Applicant  |
| <b>X. Collaborative Applicant Report Out</b>   | Collaborative Applicant  |

- A. Youth Homelessness System Improvement (YHSI) Grant Submission
- B. PLHA Unincorporated areas

**XI. CoC Committees Report Out – *New Information***

- A. HMIS
- B. CES
- C. Youth
- D. Health
- E. Faith
- F. Outreach

Christy McCammond  
Christy McCammond  
Lucia Tejada  
Donna Chin/Linda Dash  
Lee Greenawalt  
Sargeez Teimoorshahi

**CoC Committees with Vacant Chair/Vice Chairs – No Report Out**

- G. Sustainability
- H. Planning and Development
- I. Lived Experience

**XII. CoC General Membership comments**

Matt Serratto

**XIII. Adjournment**

Next Meeting: April 4, 2024 11:00am – 12:30pm, Microsoft Teams

Matt Serratto



## Merced City and County Continuum of Care General Membership Meeting

**Date:** February 1, 2024  
**Times:** 11:00 am – 12:30 pm  
**Location:** Virtual Conference via Microsoft Teams  
Phone Number: 1 (323) 676-6251  
Meeting ID: 265 547 213 892  
Passcode: UXuTN7

### MINUTES

#### I. **Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Merced City and County Continuum of Care (CoC) was called to order at 11:05 am on February 1, 2024, via Microsoft Teams by Matt Serratto.

#### II. **Roll Call**

##### ***Continuum of Care Board Members in Attendance:***

Josh Pedrozo, Steve Roussos, Ray Reyna, Matt Serratto, and Margaret Simmons

##### ***Continuum of Care Members in Attendance:***

ACE Overcomers, City of Los Banos, Dignity Health, Merced County Office of Education, Mission Merced Inc., Sierra Saving Grace, Turning Point, Valley Crisis Center, Merced County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services, Merced County Department of Public Health, Merced County Human Services Agency, Merced County Community Action Agency

#### III. **Notice to Public** – Read by Merced CoC Chair, Matt Serratto

#### IV. **Public Comment**

Christy McCammond stated the City of Los Banos has posted Request for Proposal (RFP) for a Homekey co-applicant/developer. Bids are due next week. Intention is to apply as soon as the application is posted around April 28th.

#### V. **Consent Agenda Items**

Approval sought for the February 2, 2024 meeting agenda, the October 5, 2023 meeting minutes, and the November 2, 2023 meeting minutes. Motion from Steve Roussos, second from Ray Reyna. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously at 11:11 am.

#### VI. **Community Projects**

##### **A. *Merced Navigation Center***

David Carr reported that the Navigation Center is currently sheltering 76 people and 14 dogs. The Navigation Center has served 816 individuals since it opened in 2021 and has housed 87.

##### **B. *Emergency Housing Vouchers***

Jesenia Aguilar stated there are currently 52 housed, 13 vouchers pending approval/denial, 2 vouchers pending review, and 1 voucher applications is out with agencies in the community.

##### **C. *Distributive Housing/Unincorporated Housing***

David Carr stated 24 individuals with one bed vacant. Los Banos has 20 individuals with no open beds. Served 366 since opening. Housed 59 people since opening. Unincorporated Housing has served 21 housed three. 10 in beds, two open. One more house today, six beds added making 18 beds available.

**D. Homeless Court**

David Carr reported that there were 40 graduates in November, 9 graduates in December and will report January's graduate numbers in the March 7, 2024 meeting.

**E. Housing Developments**

Maribel McCarroll reported on Homekey Application Round 3 stating that Merced County, the City of Merced, and the City of Los Banos submitted the application in July. Two out of the three applications shared a developer that will not be receiving anymore HUD grants. Third Application for Tiny Homes developer received an update that the area is over-prescribed with Homekey funds. All three applications are not predicted to receive awards. 1213 opened on Dec 1<sup>st</sup> with an Open House. Currently 48 individuals are placed. Placed individuals are being referred by Behavioral Health Recovery Services. The CoC meets with program service providers on a weekly basis and will be including the City of Merced at the next meeting.

**VII. Chair Comments – None**

**VIII. Action Items**

**A. Board Vote**

**1. Outreach Committee Chair & Vice Chair**

The Outreach Committee met on September 20, 2023 and nominated Sargeez Teimoorshahi for Chair of the Outreach Committee. Motion: Steve Rousso, Second: Josh Pedrozo, Motion passed unanimously at 11:22 AM.

**2. Youth Homelessness System Improvement (YHSI) Grant**

The CoC sought approval and authorization to apply for and accept Youth Homeless System Improvement Grant of 1.1 million dollars. The CoC would like to create a Youth Advisory Board to structure a board and become competitive for funding. Motion: Steve Roussos, Second: Josh Pedrozo, Motion passed unanimously at 11:26 AM.

**B. CoC General Membership Applications**

1. **Golden Valley Health Center Membership**– Postponed to March 7, 2024 due to no quorum for the Board and General Membership
2. **Kristynn Sullivan Board Member Application**- The CoC will be conducting Electronic Vote on this Board application.

**IX. Board Information & Possible New Action Items**

**A. Regionally Coordinated Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAP) Round 5 Updates**

Maribel McCarroll reported that the CoC has successfully completed the three workshops necessary to make a preliminary draft of the Regionally Coordinated Action Plan that is available online for the open feedback period. Maribel McCarroll stated the HHAP 5 will be accepting a single application that will be a combination of the CoC and Merced County by request of Cal ICH. The CoC received \$41,000.00 less in allocations, at roughly 1.1 million dollars.

**B. Lived Experience Committee**

Maribel McCarroll stated that the Lived Experience Committee is a mandatory committee through the CoC hub as well as CFR 57576. The CoC will be accepting volunteers by email to join the committee. A chair and a vice chair will need to be voted in.

**X. Collaborative Applicant Report Out**

**A. Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan**

See Her reported that a reminder was sent on Friday, January 26 that the feedback for the Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan is due on February 9<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 PM.

**B. 2024 Point-in-Time (PIT Count)**

Maribel McCarroll stated that the 2024 PIT Count was conducted by volunteers on January 25<sup>th</sup> led by Phil Schmaus and his team. At the time of the meeting, the PIT Count was concluded, and the Collaborative Applicant was in the process of scrubbing the numbers. As lead point on the shelter count, the Collaborative Applicant had contacted all shelters, distributed houses, and internal organizations that offer mental health services. PIT Count numbers are not available yet but the deadline to publish is April 24<sup>th</sup>. Draft publication for the PIT Count will be shared at the April CoC meeting.

**C. Merced Continuum of Care Website**

Mickayla Reyna and Maribel McCarroll presented the new aesthetic and user interface for the CoC website.

**XI. CoC Committees Report Out – New Information**

**A. HMIS**

None.

**B. CES**

None.

**C. Youth**

Lucia Tejada reported that the Youth Committee did not meet in November or December. There was a committee meeting in January in addition to a meeting with Phil Schmaus regarding participation in the PIT Count. Members of the Legacy Project from The Dr. Jennifer Jones Foundation stated, at the meeting, that their last Outreach event in November was a success and may be held on a quarterly basis to drive committee recruitment. Lucia Tejada added that the committee has learned about the Student Resiliency Center on Main St, stating that the drop-in center is open to students aged 12-18 at no charge. While they are in the exploration stages of the program, there is interest in adding activities for children aged 4-12.

**D. Health**

Maria Nava reported that moving forward, she would be replacing Donna Chin.

**E. Faith**

Margaret Simmons reported that the Faith Committee is currently meeting on a regular basis with a focus on identifying and networking with other faith-based groups.

**F. Outreach**

Sargeez Teimoorshahi reported that the Outreach Committee continues to meet on a bi-weekly basis in addition to quarterly pop-up events held by the Parks Department in various Merced parks to outreach to the homeless population. Sargeez Teimoorshahi also stated that the Merced Police Department and Chief are seeking resources to share with providers regarding services offered to the public.

**XII. CoC Committees with Vacant Chair/Vice Chairs – No Report Out**

- A. Sustainability
- B. Planning and Development Lived Experience

**XIII. CoC General Membership Comments – None**

**XIV. Adjournment**

This meeting was adjourned at 11:51 am. The next CoC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 7 2024 at 11:00am.



## BOARD AGENDA ITEM

**BOARD DATE:** March 7, 2024  
**TO:** Board of the Continuum of Care  
**FROM:** Collaborative Applicant  
**SUBJECT:** Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan

---

### RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

- 1) Approve the changes to the Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan as required for the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program Round 5.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Program is a block grant designed to support regional coordination and expand or develop local capacity to address immediate homelessness challenges throughout the State. The Merced City and County Continuum of Care (Merced CoC) is a current recipient of HHAP funding Round 1 through Round 4. California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH) released the notice of funding availability (NOFA) Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Program Round 5 grant funding on September 29, 2023. HHAP round 5 purpose is organizing and deploying the full array of homelessness programs and resources comprehensively and effectively, and to sustain existing federal, state, and local investments towards long-term sustainability of housing and supportive services. (HSC §§ 50232(a) and 50236(a).)

To accomplish these goals, HHAP-5 requires applicants to submit a Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan (Regional Plan) to be considered eligible for HHAP round 5 base allocations. This plan will lay out a strategic approach to address homelessness within the region, emphasizing efforts among participating applicants. Merced CoC's last Regional Plan was brought forward to the Merced CoC Board on June 02, 2022 for HHAP round 3 laying out Landscape Analysis and Outcome Goals and Strategies for Achieving Those Goals.

(Continued on page 2)

**STAFFING IMPACT:** None by this action.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** None by this action.

**ATTACHMENTS:** Attachment A – Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan  
Attachment B – HHAP 5 NOFA

**DEPARTMENT CONTACT:** John Ceccoli, Deputy Director (209) 385-3000 Ext. 5880  
[collabapp@countyofmerced.com](mailto:collabapp@countyofmerced.com)

FOR COLLABORATIVE APPLICANT STAFF USE ONLY

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY** (continued from page 1):

In accordance with the Merced CoC Governance Charter, section 4.7, a general membership vote shall occur for changes to the Regional Plan to Address Homelessness. Each General Member shall have one vote and each organization represented may only have one representative vote. Only one representative from each organization may vote on behalf of that organization.

Along with this submission, HHAP round 5 requires key stakeholders to have an opportunity to contribute their valuable insights and experiences to the Regional Plan by opening three public meetings for various groups and individuals, to be hosted by the Collaborative Applicant, in which were met in December 2023. The Collaborative Applicant provided the Merced CoC Regional Plan 2024 - 2026 to the public for a commentary period on January 26, 2024 - February 9, 2024. All responses and contributions have been reviewed and incorporated into the Merced CoC Regional Plan.





## BOARD AGENDA ITEM

**BOARD DATE:** March 7, 2024  
**TO:** Board of the Continuum of Care  
**FROM:** Collaborative Applicant/Administrative Entity  
**SUBJECT:** Membership Application for Golden Valley Health Centers

---

**RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):**

Approve the application from Golden Valley Health Centers to join the Merced City and County Continuum of Care (CoC) as an Organizational Member.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Golden Valley Health Centers is dedicated to providing quality healthcare & dental services to the community, regardless of an individual's demographic or any socioeconomic barriers. GVHC's mission is to connect to the community to secure resources to provide quality primary health care services to those who need it most, regardless of their financial ability.

Golden Valley Health Centers has requested to join the CoC as an organizational member. In accordance with Continuum of Care Governance Charter 2022, Section 4.2, any interested members from a relevant organization or within the community of the geographic services area may request to become a member upon completing the requirements to attend one (1) meeting and submitting a membership application request to the Collaborative Applicant (CA). This requirement was met at the September 7, 2023, meeting.

CoC members are expected to carry out the mandate of the CoC to the best of their ability and to maintain the highest standards of integrity for communications and actions with other CoC representatives, the CoC Board, service recipients, service providers, and members of the public.

(Continued on page 2)

**STAFFING IMPACT:** None by this action.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** None by this action.

**ATTACHMENTS:** Attachment A - Application

**DEPARTMENT CONTACT:** John Ceccoli, Deputy Director (209) 385-3000 Ext. 5880,  
[collabapp@countyofmerced.com](mailto:collabapp@countyofmerced.com)

FOR COLLABORATIVE APPLICANT STAFF USE ONLY

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY** (Continued from page 1):

Members are expected to conduct themselves with courtesy and respect, without harassment, physical, or verbal abuse. Personal relationships will not result in special considerations, including bias or favoritism, that influence the performance of their official duties in a manner contrary to the interest of the CoC. Members are expected to exercise adequate accountability over matters for which they are individually responsible. A simple majority vote of fifty percent (50%) plus one (1) must be achieved in order to grant membership.



# BOARD AGENDA ITEM

**BOARD DATE:** March 7, 2024  
**TO:** Board of the Continuum of Care  
**FROM:** Collaborative Applicant  
**SUBJECT:** Approval to Apply for Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program Round 5 (HHAP 5) for the Continuum of Care Planning Project

---

**RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):**

- 1) Authorize the Collaborative Applicant/Administrative Entity on behalf of the Merced City and County Continuum of Care CA-520 to submit the Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan and all applicable MOUs.
- 2) Permission to Accept this funding if the proposed application is awarded.
- 3) Review and Adopt the Merced City and County Continuum of Care Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan.
- 4) Review and Adopt the Memorandum of Understanding between the Merced City and County Continuum of Care CA-520, County of Merced, and Merced County Community Action Board.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This request is to seek permission to apply for the Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention Program Round 5 (HHAP 5) funding as well as submit the Merced City and County Continuum of Care Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan, and MOUs between participants of the Regional Plan.

The Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Program is a block grant designed to support regional coordination and expand or develop local capacity to address immediate homelessness challenges throughout the State. The Merced City and County Continuum of Care (Merced CoC) is a current recipient of HHAP funding Round 1 through Round 4. California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal ICH) released the notice of funding availability (NOFA) Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) program – round 5 grant funding on September 29, 2023.

(Continued on page 2)

**STAFFING IMPACT:** None by this action.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** None by this action.

**ATTACHMENTS:** Attachment A – Grant Application  
Attachment B – Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan

**DEPARTMENT CONTACT:** John Ceccoli, Deputy Director (209) 385-3000 Ext. 5880,  
[collabapp@countyofmerced.com](mailto:collabapp@countyofmerced.com)

FOR COLLABORATIVE APPLICANT STAFF USE ONLY

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY** (continued from page 1):

The purpose of HHAP round 5 is organizing and deploying the full array of homelessness programs and resources comprehensively and effectively, and to sustain existing federal, state, and local investments towards long-term sustainability of housing and supportive services. (HSC §§ 50232(a) and 50236(a).)

To accomplish these goals, HHAP-5 requires applicants to apply as part of a region and must be signatory to a Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan to be considered eligible for HHAP-5 base allocations.

Merced CoC has identified the Collaborative Applicant/Administrative Entity and Merced County as the region for the HHAP-5 application. For purposes of HHAP-5, CalICH defined the term “region” as the geographic area served by a county, including all cities and the CoC or CoCs within it. (HSC § 50230(v)(1).)

Collaborative Applicants will be the signatory Administrative Entity to submit a Regionally Coordinated Homelessness Action Plan that fully complies with HSC section 50233(c). This plan will lay out a strategic approach to address homelessness within the region, emphasizing collaborative efforts among participating applicants. Merced CoC’s last Regional Plan was brought forward to the Merced CoC Board on June 02, 2022, for HHAP round 3 laying out Landscape Analysis and Outcome Goals and Strategies for Achieving Those Goals.

Along with this submission, HHAP 5 requires key stakeholders to have an opportunity to contribute their valuable insights and experiences to the plan by opening three public meetings for various groups and individuals, to be hosted by the Collaborative Applicant. The HHAP round 5 also requires a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by each participating applicant of the Regional Plan.



## BOARD AGENDA ITEM

**BOARD DATE:** March 7, 2024  
**TO:** Board of the Continuum of Care  
**FROM:** Collaborative Applicant/Administrative Entity  
**SUBJECT:** Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention (HHAP) Round 5 Allocations

---

### RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

- 1) Approve the Collaborative Applicant/Administrative Entity for the Merced City and County Continuum of Care to submit the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Round 5 grant activity allocations to the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention (HHAP) Program is a block grant designed to support regional coordination and to expand or develop local capacity to address immediate homelessness challenges throughout the State of California. HHAP Round 5 grant funding is intended to sustain existing federal, state, and local investments towards long-term sustainability of housing and supportive services. HHAP Round 5 builds upon the investments made in previous rounds of HHAP funding. As with previous HHAP grants, it features broad, flexible use for eligible categories to reduce barriers for entry and increase access to permanent housing and employs an accountability framework through the establishment of specific and measurable performance goals.

On January 12, 2024, the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency (BCSH) along with California Interagency Council on Homelessness (CAL ICH) announced that Merced CoC has been allocated a HHAP Round 5 grant, in the amount of \$1,127,384.39. The HHAP 5 application deadline is March 27, 2024.

(Continued on page 2)

**STAFFING IMPACT:** None by this action.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** None by this action.

**ATTACHMENTS:** None by this action.

**DEPARTMENT CONTACT:** John Ceccoli, Deputy Director (209) 385-3000 Ext. 5880  
[collabapp@countyofmerced.com](mailto:collabapp@countyofmerced.com)

FOR COLLABORATIVE APPLICANT STAFF USE ONLY

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY** (continued from page 1):

On February 28, 2024, the Collaborative Applicant/Administrative Entity (CA/AE) opened a 72-hour public comment period to the Merced City and County Continuum of Care (Merced CoC) General Membership and Merced CoC Listserv. The 72-hour public comment period closed on March 2, 2024. The CA/AE did not receive any public comments from either the general membership nor members of the public.

Based on the HHAP-5 purpose to “sustain existing federal, state, and local investments towards long-term sustainability of housing and supportive services” the CA/AE is making the following recommendation for consideration:

- Allocate \$612,738.44 to the activity of Operating Subsidies-Interim Housing Operating subsidies may include operating reserves. This total includes the breakdown of activities:
  - \$500,000 to continue operations of existing or new emergency shelters and Navigation Centers 24 hours, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year with associated case management, and
  - \$112,738.44 (mandatory 10% Youth set-aside)
- Allocate \$335,729.05 to the activity Rapid Rehousing to support operating a rapid rehousing type housing service for those experiencing homelessness which is tenant based, time limited, provides permanent housing, and includes wrap-around services.
- Allocate \$100,000 to the activity Systems Support for the homelessness services system infrastructure, regional coordination, and improve accessibility and outcomes.
- Allocate \$78,916.90 to the activity Administrative Costs to the County of Merced as the Collaborative Applicant/Administrative Entity.

HHAP round 5 purpose is organizing and deploying the full array of homelessness programs and resources comprehensively and effectively, and to sustain existing federal, state, and local investments towards long-term sustainability of housing and supportive services. (HSC §§ 50232(a) and 50236(a))

Along with this submission, HHAP round 5 requires key stakeholders to have an opportunity to contribute their valuable insights and experiences to the Regionally Plan by opening three public meetings for various groups and individuals, to be hosted by the Collaborative Applicant, in which were met in December 2023. The Collaborative Applicant provided the Merced CoC Regional Plan 2024 - 2026 to the public for a commentary period on January 26, 2024 - February 9, 2024. All responses and contributions have been reviewed and incorporated into the Merced CoC Regional Plan.