



Merced City and County Continuum of Care General Membership Meeting

Date: November 2, 2023
Times: 11:00am – 12:30pm
Location: Virtual Conference via Microsoft Teams
 Phone Number: 1 (323) 676-6251
 Meeting ID: 294 694 828 #
This meeting will be recorded

AGENDA

- | | | |
|--------------|--|---|
| I. | Call to Order | Matt Serratto |
| II. | Roll Call | Collaborative Applicant |
| III. | Notice to Public
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 www.mercedcoc.org . | Collaborative Applicant |
| IV. | Public Comment
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 |
| V. | Consent Agenda Items
A. Approval of Agenda
B. Approval of Minutes: October 5, 2023 | Matt Serratto |
| VI. | Community Projects
A. Merced Navigation Center
B. Emergency Housing Vouchers
C. Distributive Housing/Unincorporated Housing
D. Homeless Court
E. Housing Developments | Jennifer Carr
Jesenia Aguilar
David Carr
David Carr
Maribel Baron |
| VII. | Chair Comments | Matt Serratto |
| VIII. | Action Items
A. Board Vote
1. Outreach Committee Chair & Vice Chair
2. Point-in-Time (PIT) Count Survey 2024
B. CoC General Membership Applications – General Membership Vote
1. Golden Valley Health Center Membership | Collaborative Applicant |
| IX. | Board Information & Possible New Action Items
A. Affordable Connectivity Program
B. HHAP 5 Updates | Tiffany Milstead
Collaborative Applicant |
| X. | Collaborative Applicant Report Out
A. 2023 Emergency Solutions Grant Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) Submission | Collaborative Applicant |

- B. 2024 Meeting Schedule
- C. Feedback Survey - NOFO & NOFA
- D. Voting Authorization Form

XI. CoC Committees Report Out – *New Information*

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

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

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

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

XII. CoC General Membership comments

Matt Serratto

XIII. Adjournment

Next meeting: February 1, 2024 11:00am – 12:30pm, Microsoft Teams

Matt Serratto



Merced City and County Continuum of Care Board Meeting

Date: October 5, 2023
Times: 11:00am – 12:30pm
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 October 5, 2023, via Microsoft Teams by Matt Serratto.

II. Roll Call

Continuum of Care Board Members in Attendance:

Josh Pedrozo, Margaret Simmons, Matt Serrato, Ray Reyna, Steve Tietjen, and Steve Roussos

Continuum of Care Members in Attendance:

ACE Overcomers, Aspiranet, Bethel Farms International, California Central Valley Journey for Justice, City of Los Banos, Fresh Start Recovery Program, Healthy House, Merced County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services, Merced County Community Action Agency, Merced County Human Services Agency, Merced County Office of Education, Mission Merced Inc., Resource for Independence, Salvation Army, Sierra Saving Grace, The Dr. Jennifer Jones Foundation, Turning Point, and Valley Crisis Center

III. Notice to Public – Read by the Collaborative Applicant.

IV. Public Comment - None

V. Consent Agenda Items

Approval sought for this meeting's agenda and October 5, 2023 minutes. Motion from Steve Tietjen, second from Margaret Simmons. None opposed. Motion passed unanimously at 11:09 am.

VI. Presentation

Homebase shared a power point slide on Medi-Cal Renewals: ensuring people experiencing homelessness retain coverage since medical renewal process restarted in June of 2023. Homebase shared resources that could reach out to medical members who are without a current mailing address and are at risk of losing medical coverage.

VII. Community Projects

A. ***Merced Navigation Center***

Jennifer Carr, Director, stated the Navigation Center serviced a total of 752 clients, current bed count is 76, and at full capacity with 17 dogs. Housed 67 participants.

B. ***Emergency Housing Vouchers***

Jesenia Aguilar stated there are 56 clients housed, 9 vouchers pending approval or denial, and 3 unexpired vouchers on hand.

C. *Distributive Housing*

David Carr stated served 337 clients and housed 50 clients. For Los Banos there is one bed available. For Merced there are two beds available. Luke Brown requested HMIS data for the individuals that were housed.

D. *Homeless Court*

David Carr stated graduated 25 people so far. This last month 9 individuals graduated. The program has been running for three months and averaging around 8-10 graduates per month.

E. *Housing Developments*

Maribel Baron stated 1213 V Street Project. Slated to open at the end of October 2023. Looking to house 95 individuals. Identifying individuals through the CES process. Matching individuals to the funding sources that they are eligible for. Hoping to be 90% occupied by the end of the year. For Home Key, we have not yet received any responses for the Home Key application. Anticipating for 60-90 days after the submission of an application. Application submission was July 28th. We did receive a response for the ERF Funding. Both City of Los Banos and Merced CoC did submit in separate applications for the encampment resolution. Neither application was funded at this time. Both applications are encouraged to reapply for the Round 3. The Merced CoC is getting ready with the City of Los Banos to gather the proper documentation to submit as soon as we get the application for Round 3.

Chirsty McCammond shared the City of Los Banos (LB) has requested an interview with CallCH for the next round of funding application as LB received a few points of feedback for Round 3. If the City of Merced or City of Atwater wants to coordinate, reach out to City of Los Banos.

Maribel Baron stated that Merced CoC submitted an application on behalf of the City of Atwater and it would be great to connect and take a look at doing a regional response.

VIII. Chair Comments – None

IX. Action Items

A. Board Vote

1. 2024 Homeless Summit

The Collaborative Applicant/Administrative Entity (CA/AE) met with the Board in June of this year and one of the requests that was submitted was to see if the Merced CoC could host an annual homeless summit. After extensive research and review, the CA/AE found potential funding, themes, and more information on this request. The theme CA/AE came up for the homeless summit is "Perception vs. Reality". We hear stories after stories of individuals being put into a box because of stigma, so we thought let's get awareness and education on perception versus reality for these individuals that we're working hard to serve. The CA/AE is requesting for approval from the Board to authorize the CA/AE to host an annual Homeless Summit in April or May 2024. Motion: Steve Roussos, Second: Josh Pedrozo, Motion passed unanimously 11:38am.

2. Emergency Solutions Grant Applications Recommended

2023 Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG) Balance of State (BOS) Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) recommended applications were brought forward to the Board along with the request for authorization for Collaborative Applicant to submit the Non-competitive and the Regional Competitive funding applications to HCD via the eCivis portal by October 16, 2023. Motion: Steve Tietjen, Second: Steve Roussos, Motion Passed Unanimously at 11:41am.

3. Racial Equity Improvement Plan

The California Racial Equity Action Lab (CA REAL) is a three-year initiative to eliminate racial disparities in community homelessness systems throughout the state of California. Technical Assistance Collaborative (TAC) assists California cities, counties, and CoCs in developing racial equity goals and provides intensive support to a smaller cohort of communities. Each jurisdiction has been tasked by TAC to develop a Racial Equity Improvement Plan. These plans will be presented to the CA REAL team on October 26, 2023. CA/AE is requesting approval of the Racial Equity Improvement Plan to be presented to the CA REAL team on October 26, 2023, California Racial Equity Action Lab Community of Practice (COP) Session. Motion: Steve Tietjen, Section: Steve Roussos, Motion Passed Unanimously at 11:48am.

4. Mission, Vision, Values

The CA/AE is seeking Merced CoC Board approval and adoption of the Merced CoC Mission, Vision, and Values. The Merced CoC mission is to engage, align, and connect community partners to ensure safe and supportive housing for all. The Merced CoC vision is to collaborate effective partnerships to aid in preventing and ending homelessness. The values the Merced CoC will carry are Innovation, Collaboration, Compassion, Diversity, and Inclusion. Motion: Steve Roussos, Second: Ray Reyna, Motion Passed Unanimously at 11:52am.

B. General Membership Vote – None

X. Board Information & Possible New Action Items

A. HHAP 5 Application

CA/AE shared HHAP 5 notice of funding availability was released on Friday, September 29, 2023. The submission date will be March 27, 2024. This round will include the regional coordinated homelessness action plan as well.

B. Housing Support Program Presentation

Housing Support Program (HSP) shared about the reduction of HSP allocation for FY 23/24 and adjustments for HSP services effective October 2, 2023. The CA/AE sent an email with more details on October 4, 2023.

XI. Collaborative Applicant Information Report Out

A. HUD Consolidated Notice of Funding Opportunity

CA/AE shared all applications for HUD Consolidated Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) has been submitted as of September 26, 2023.

B. October Monitoring

CA/AE will be launching the October monitoring. All letters of intent to monitor have been mailed and all vendors have been contacted. This monitoring is following 24 CFR 578.7(5).

XII. CoC Committee Report Out

A. HMIS

Christy McCammond shared HMIS submitted committee report at the last meeting. Submitted paper report. Made 10 recommendations for the board to review the committee charter. The committee will be changing to meeting once a month and will focus on 2024 HMIS Data Standards.

B. CES

Christy McCammond shared CES committee charter is similar to HMIS committee. CES is here to advise, assist, and take on any action items that are needed to support the CES lead. CES will be changing to meeting once a month and submitted 11 recommendations to the CES Lead and CoC to review.

C. Youth

Lucia Tejada shared Youth committee have been meeting monthly with the exception of last month (September 2023). The committee is scheduled to meet again on October 27th from 2pm-3pm.

D. Health

Linda Dash shared Health Committee is meeting again this month and will have more to report next month.

E. Faith

Margaret Simmons shared Faith committee has been meeting and intend to meet again this month. Faith committee have been compiling a list of religious organizations and support systems who are doing things that help the homeless, bringing out food, and more.

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

F. Sustainability

Steve Roussos shared there are two members in the sustainability committee: Tammy Millard and Steve Roussos. The CA/AE would like to be involved within this committee.

G. Planning and Development – None

H. Outreach

Sargeez Teimoorshahi shared the Outreach Committee met on October 4, 2023 in person, with 22 attendees and discussed what items carry with to outreach events and who is missing from the table. If there is anyone that provides services to the homeless committee to contact or email Sargeez Teimoorshahi. This can be an ongoing spreadsheet that is updated with relevant resources.

I. Lived Experience- None

XIII. CoC General Membership Comments

A. Jennifer Jones shared The Jennifer Jones Foundation will be hosting an event that is in alignment with the presentation that Homebase presented on. An updated flyer will be distributed. Saturday November 4th at Applegate park MOAT, set up starts at 9am. Anyone who wants to volunteer to contact Jennifer Jones.

B. Gloria Sandoval shared self-report card for our areas. This could be something that is included within the homeless summit. We need to have measurable goals and objectives.

XIV. Adjournment

This meeting was adjourned at 12:19 pm. The next CoC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 2, 2023 at 11:00 am.



BOARD AGENDA ITEM

BOARD DATE: November 2, 2023
TO: Board of the Continuum of Care
FROM: Collaborative Applicant/Administrative Entity
SUBJECT: Appointment of the Outreach Committee Chair and Vice Chair

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

- 1) Appoint Sargeez Teimoorshahi as Outreach Committee Chair
- 2) Appoint Kaylie Mello as Outreach Committee Vice Chair

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Outreach Committee met on September 20th, 2023, and nominated Sargeez Teimoorshahi for Chair and Kaylie Mello for Vice Chair.

Per the Continuum of Care (CoC) Governance Charter 2022, Sections 9.1 and 9.2, the Merced City and County CoC Board may appoint committees such as, but not limited to, the Health Committee, and the chairs and vice chairs of these committees "will be appointed by the CoC Board."

Committee nominees are held to the same standards as CoC members. They 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: None

DEPARTMENT CONTACT: Maribel Baron, Program Manager (209) 385-3000 Ext. 5210, 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.

Sargeez Teimoorshahi is the Program Director with New Direction and Turning Point Programs. Kaylie Mello is the Nursing Care Coordinator at Golden Valley Health Centers. As Chair and Vice Chair, they will lead the committee to collaborate and leverage their efforts to maximize services and reduce duplication of efforts to better communication and coordination among outreach in the Merced CoC.



BOARD AGENDA ITEM

BOARD DATE: November 2, 2023
TO: Board of the Continuum of Care
FROM: Collaborative Applicant/Administrative Entity
SUBJECT: Point-in-Time Count Survey 2024

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

- 1) Approve the Merced City and County Continuum of Care (CoC) 2024 Homeless Count Plan.
- 2) Submit any additional questions to the Point in Time Count and Survey Questions.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires that all CoCs conduct a one (1) night point-in-time (PIT) homeless count every other year during the last ten (10) days of January. Merced's CoC administers this count annually. Due to the 2023 Flood Emergency event, this year's PIT count was rescheduled to February 23, 2023.

The Collaborative Applicant/Administrative Entity is working with Phillip Schmauss to coordinate the 2024 Merced County Point in Time Count event. Question #9 and #19 were added to the CoC's PIT survey last year. Question #30 and #31 are new questions included in this year's survey. The remaining questions are required by HUD. This request is to approve the questions for the 2024 count and submit any additional questions that the CoC would like to include.

STAFFING IMPACT: None by this action.

FISCAL IMPACT: None by this action.

ATTACHMENTS: None

DEPARTMENT CONTACT: Maribel Baron, Program Manager (209) 385-3000 Ext. 5210,
collabapp@countyofmerced.com

FOR COLLABORATIVE APPLICANT STAFF USE ONLY

Merced County CoC 2024 Homeless Count Plan

When Will the Count Take Place?

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires the sheltered and unsheltered count to be carried during a point-in-time within the last 10 calendar days of January.

The Night of the Count

HUD also requires CoCs to designate a Night of the Count. HUD states that the term "night" signifies a single period of time from sunset to sunrise, which spans two actual dates.

The "night of the count" will begin at sunset on Wednesday, January 24 and ends at sunrise on Thursday, January 25.

The sheltered count will take place from sunset on Wednesday, January 24 to sunrise on Thursday, January 25 and include those persons who were sheltered during the night of the count.

The Day/Date of the Count

The day/date of the Count will be Thursday, January, 25.

The unsheltered count will take place on Thursday, January 25 during the hours of 6:00 am to 8:00 am and later if necessary to include those persons who were homeless during the day/date of the count.

I. Sheltered Count

1. How will the Sheltered Count be Conducted

The sheltered count will include every person who stays overnight in an

- emergency shelter;
- transitional housing program;
- safe haven program operated as an emergency shelter or transitional housing program;
- recreational vehicles that fit the criteria noted below; and
- tiny homes and sheds that fit the criteria noted below.

HUD states that

Beds in institutional settings not specifically dedicated for persons who are homeless such as detox facilities, emergency rooms, jails, and acute crisis or treatment centers should not be included in the HIC.

A person is not considered homeless if the person resides in one of the following places noted below:

- *Medical facilities, such as hospitals, psychiatric facilities, and nursing homes;*
- *Jails, prisons, or juvenile detention facilities;*
- *Chemical dependency facilities, such as substance abuse treatment facilities and detox centers;*
- *Foster care homes or foster care group homes.*

HUD considers extreme weather shelters as dedicated homeless inventory and they should be included in the HIC.

HUD specifically states in the **HIC/PIT Count Data Collection Notice**

*CoCs must count all individuals or families who meet the criteria in paragraph (1)(ii) of the homeless definition in 24 CFR 578.3. This includes individuals and families **“living in a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state, or local government programs for low-income individuals)”** on the night designated for the count. This includes individuals residing in Safe Haven projects.*

*CoCs should report on people based on where they are sleeping on the night of the count, as opposed to the program they are enrolled in. **RRH is permanent housing** and, therefore, individuals and families who are enrolled in RRH and residing in permanent housing on the night of the PIT count are not included in the sheltered count. However, homeless households currently residing on the street, in an emergency shelter, transitional housing, or Safe Haven, but who are also enrolled in an RRH project and awaiting housing placement, should be counted based on where they resided on the night of the count. For example, a person residing in an emergency shelter and being assisted by an RRH project to obtain housing must be counted in the sheltered PIT count for the emergency shelter.*

Persons enrolled in the TH project of a HUD-funded joint TH/RRH grant should be counted as sheltered homeless, if they are being served and do not yet have a rapid re-housing move-in date recorded.

In CoCs where veterans are receiving temporary housing assistance through VA’s SSVF EHA resources provided through the SSVF RRH program on the night of the count, the CoC should count those veterans as residing in emergency shelter and include them in the sheltered count.

Tiny home and shed residents are to be counted as sheltered according to HUD

- *if the unit contains a toilet, shower, kitchen, sleeping and living space and is connected to sewer, water and utilities or a septic system, well and generator; or*
- *even if the unit does not contain a toilet, shower, kitchen, sleeping and living space, or is not connected to sewer, water and utilities or a septic system, well and generator, if it is located on a campus maintained by an organization, such as a governmental entity, nonprofit, or religious organization, where at least toilets, showers, and communal food preparation or food service areas are provided.*

Special considerations

- *If the unit is located on a campus, the campus must have enough toilets and showers per capita for the resident population within a reasonable distance from the units to count the residents as sheltered.*
- *In very cold and very hot climates (regular seasonal patterns fall below 32 degrees or above 100 degrees Fahrenheit), such as Iowa and Arizona, the unit must have heat or air conditioning to be counted as sheltered, but climate control would not be needed in moderate climates.*

Persons living in recreational vehicles (RVs) must be counted as sheltered according to HUD if the RV

- is located in a mobile home park or campus that advertises itself as providing temporary stays and
- the RV is regularly connected to water, sewer and utilities or a septic system, well and generator, or the park or campus provide toilets, showers, and communal food preparation or food service areas.

Housing Inventory Count

HUD notes that

- a. *The Housing Inventory Chart (HIC) is a point-in-time inventory of projects within your CoC that provide beds and units dedicated to serving persons who are homeless. It is intended to provide HUD and CoCs with information about the shelter and housing capacity of homeless crisis response systems. It should reflect the number of beds and units available for occupancy on the night designated for the count that are **dedicated to serve persons who are homeless.***

- b. HIC and PIT count are integrally related. The sum total number of persons reported in emergency shelter, Safe Havens, and transitional housing projects in the PIT fields of the HIC **must match** the sum total of sheltered persons reported in the PIT count.

Use of Homeless Management Information System

HUD strongly encourages the use of HMIS data to generate these counts for projects with 100 percent of beds participating in HMIS. CoCs must verify with project staff that HMIS data are complete and correct for the night of the HIC and PIT count, and that Project Entry and Project Exit Dates have been entered for all persons who entered or exited on or before the date of the count.

A data collection instrument is used to collect the total number of occupied beds and the number of persons for each subpopulation for non-participating HMIS programs and for HMIS participating agencies whose HMIS data is incomplete and/or incorrect. The same questions used to collect subpopulation data through HMIS is used for the data collection instrument. Thus, sheltered count data for all sheltered programs is gathered either through a data collection sheet or HMIS.

II. Unsheltered Count

1. Who Should be Counted as Unsheltered

The unsheltered count will include every person that meets the following HUD criteria *in paragraph (1)(i) of the homeless definition in 24 CFR 578.3*. This includes

includes individuals and families “with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport, or camping ground” on the night designated for the count. RRH-assisted households who are still unsheltered on the night of the count (e.g., staying in an encampment and being assisted by an RRH project to obtain housing) must be included as part of the unsheltered count.

HUD states that the following are “prohibited” from being included in the unsheltered count:

Persons temporarily staying with family or friends (i.e., “doubled-up” or “couch surfing”).

Tiny homes and sheds residents should be counted as unsheltered according to HUD

if the unit does not contain a toilet, shower, kitchen, sleeping and living space, or has those but is not connected to water, sewer and utilities, or a septic system, well and generator, unless it is on a campus maintained by an organization, such as a governmental entity, nonprofit, or

religious organization, where toilets, showers, and communal food preparation or food service areas are provided.

Persons living in vehicles (cars, trucks, and vans) must be counted as unsheltered according to HUD and

includes households sleeping in their vehicles in safe parking programs, in designated areas, or on a campus maintained by a government or other entity where toilets, showers, and communal food preparation or food service areas are provided.

Persons living in recreational vehicles (RVs) must be counted as unsheltered according to HUD if the RV does **not** meet the criteria for sheltered homeless people living in RVs, which is

- *located in a mobile home park or campus that advertises itself as providing temporary stays and*
- *the RV is regularly connected to water, sewer and utilities or a septic system, well and generator, or the park or campus provide toilets, showers, and communal food preparation or food service areas.*

Persons living in recreational vehicles (RVs) must be counted as unsheltered according to HUD if the RV is

- *in disrepair (e.g., holes, broken windows, flat tires, removed or broken siding);*
- *does not have access to sewer, water, and electricity connections; and*
- *is the RV parked in an unusual place, including non-RV designated lots, non-residential areas, or areas where RVs are not allowed to park.*

2. Survey-based count

A survey-based count will be implemented, which consists of counting and surveying persons at the same time. Counting and surveying is accomplished by using the Simtech Solutions Counting Us app for mobile devices.

A survey-based count involves counting each adult and child and asking each adult if they would participate in a survey.

HUD requires subpopulation data that includes

- Chronically homeless households
- HIV/AIDS;
- Serious mental illness; and
- Substance use disorders.

Subpopulations also included

- Families
- Single individuals
- Veterans; and
- Youth age 18 – 24 and unaccompanied youth under age 18.

Gender, race, and ethnicity totals for each subpopulation is also required.

Counting and surveying is accomplished by using the Simtech Solutions Counting Us app for mobile devices. Each counter answers the following upon encountering someone believed to be homeless.

A unique identifier will be created for all persons counted on the day of the count and up to one week after the day after the count. If the same unique identifier appears twice, it will be assumed that the same person was counted more than once.

A unique identifier will be created for every person counted which includes

- first initial of first name,
- first initial of last name,
- gender,
- race,
- ethnicity,
- age, and
- state born.

An example of a unique identifier is ABFWH40CA. The person's first initial of first name is "A;" first initial of last name is "B;" gender is female "F;" race is white "W;" ethnicity is Hispanic "H;" age is "40;" and state born is California "CA."

If the same identifier ABFWH40CA appeared more than once, it was assumed that this was the same person, and the person would only be counted once. Another identifier such as veteran status could be used to dispel any doubt that this was not the same person.

If a person does not wish to be surveyed, the person will still be counted by asking the questions that make up a unique identifier as described in #8 below.

If a person does not wish to answer the unique identifier questions, the counter will conduct an observation count by providing "best guess" answers for gender, race, ethnicity, and age.

3. Youth Count

Youth will be counted as unsheltered during the unsheltered count described above.

However, HUD encourages CoCs to be flexible as to the best time to count youth as unsheltered.

Thus, youth will also be counted as unsheltered by teams of youth counters during the day of the count from approximately 3 pm to 5 pm. Counters will be encouraged to count youth after 5 pm if necessary.

4. Week after the Count

HUD allows for counting up until one week after the count based upon two conditions: 1) any homeless persons encountered be asked if they were homeless and unsheltered on the day of the count which is Thursday, January 25; 2) asked if they were already counted; and 3) a unique identifier is created for that person.

A unique identifier will be created for all persons counted on the day of the count and up to one week after the day after the count. If the same unique identifier appears twice, it will be assumed that the same person was counted more than once.

As previously noted, a unique identifier will be created for every person counted which includes

- first initial of first name,
- first initial of last name,
- gender,
- race,
- ethnicity,
- age, and
- state born.

An example of a unique identifier is ABFWH40CA. The person's first initial of first name is "A;" first initial of last name is "B;" gender is female "F;" race is white "W;" ethnicity is Hispanic "H;" age is "40;" and state born is California "CA."

If the same identifier ABFWH40CA appeared more than once, it was assumed that this was the same person, and the person would only be counted once. Another identifier such as veteran status could be used to dispel any doubt that this was not the same person.

Appendix A: Survey Questions

Survey:

NOTE: if unable to survey, complete all gray shaded questions based on observation; your best "guesstimate"

1. If a person was homeless last Wednesday night, complete the survey below. (Based on HUD's definition of homeless, sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation.) Y | N
2. What is the first initial of your first name?
3. What is the first initial of your last name?
4. Gender: M=Male; F=Female; T=Transgender; O=Gender Non-Conforming (i.e. not exclusively male or female) M | F | T | O
5. How old are you? (If 18-24 years of age, complete additional questions)
 - a. Are you currently enrolled in school? Y | N
 - b. If Yes, select one of the following: High School | College | Trade School
 - c. Have you ever been placed in Foster Care? Y | N
 - d. Are you currently in foster care? Y | N
 - e. Have you ever lived in a group home? Y | N
 - f. Are you currently living in a group home? Y | N
6. Are you Hispanic or Latino? Y | N
7. What is Your race (read race code)
Race: 1=African American or Black; 2=American Indian or Alaskan Native; 3=Asian; 4=Native Hawaiian or Pacific-Islander; 5=White 6=Multiple Races or Other; 7=don't know; and 8=refused to answer
8. In which state were you born? (if born in another country, abbreviate country)
9. Did you become homeless for the first time during past 12 months? Y | N
10. Been living in a shelter and/or on streets, in abandoned buildings, or vehicle for past year or more? Y | N
11. Have you been living in a shelter and/or on the streets, in abandoned buildings, or vehicle at least 4 separate times in the last 3 years including now? Y | N
12. If yes, was combined length of time 12 months or more? Y | N
13. Have you served in the United States Armed Forces? Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard. Y | N

14. Were you ever called into active duty as a member of the National Guard or as a Reservist?
Y | N

15. Have any of the disabilities that make it difficult or seriously limits your ability to live independently? Y | N

- a. long-lasting physical disability? Y | N
- b. long-lasting developmental disability? Y | N
- c. on-going drug or alcohol problem? Y | N
- d. on-going serious mental health problem? Y | N

16. Have you ever been diagnosed w/AIDS or tested positive for HIV? Y | N

17. Has a doctor or other medical professional ever told you that you have a chronic health condition that is life-threatening such as heart, lung, liver, kidney or cancerous disease? Y | N

18. Are you currently experiencing homelessness because you are fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking? Y | N

19. Monthly income? 1=no income; 2=\$1 to \$250; 3=\$251 to \$500; 4=\$501 to \$1,000; 5=more than \$1,000; 6=Refused/Doesn't Know

20. How many kids under Age.18 are living with you today?

21. How many children are female?

22. How many children are male?

23. How many children are Hispanic or Latino?

24. How many children are African American or Black?

25. How many are American Indian or Alaskan Native?

26. How many are Asian, Hawaiian, or Pacific Islander?

27. How many children are White?

28. How many children are multiple races or other?

29. Are children enrolled in school? Y | N

30. Are you aware of the housing and homeless services available in Merced County? Y | N

31. What would help you get into permanent housing? 1=Permanent Rental Subsidy, 2=Ongoing source of income, 3=Substance Use Treatment, 4=Mental Health Care, 5=Healthcare, 6=Transportation, 7=Other.

DRAFT



BOARD AGENDA ITEM

BOARD DATE: November 2, 2023
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 needed 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

Continued on page 2

STAFFING IMPACT: None by this action.

FISCAL IMPACT: None by this action.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A - Application

DEPARTMENT CONTACT: Maribel Baron, Program Manager (209) 385-3000 Ext. 5210, collabapp@countyofmerced.com

FOR COLLABORATIVE APPLICANT STAFF USE ONLY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY (continued from page 1):

representatives, the CoC Board, service recipients, service providers, and members of the public.

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.



Merced City and County Continuum of Care General Membership Application

If you are interested in becoming a member of the CoC, complete this form and submit to the Collaborative Applicant via email: collabapp@countyofmerced.com

Type of Membership

Individual Member-At-Large

Organization

Individual / Organization Information

Golden Valley Health Center

Individual or Organization Name

1910 Customer Care Way

Street Address

Atwater

City

CA

State

95301

Zip

Kmeillo@gvnc.org

Contact E-mail

209-417-0620

Contact Telephone

Stacey Kuzak

Organization Secondary Contact

skuzak@gvnc.org

Secondary Contact E-mail

Member Affiliations or Potential Conflicts

Is the individual affiliated with one or more organizational member agencies of the CoC?

No Yes

If yes, identify organization(s) and relationship below:

Does the organization receive federal or state funding?

No Yes

If yes, identify the funding type below:

Federally qualified Health center that receives numerous federal & state grants including HRSA grant.

Organizational Profile

Type of organization: Public Private for Profit Not for Profit Other:

Primary service or business of organization:

Delivery of Healthcare & Dental Services

Affiliations of Individuals or Organizations

The CoC is interested in having representatives from a wide variety of fields, interests, experiences, and professions in the community. Please indicate if you or the agency for which you work falls into one or more of the categories listed below by marking all categories that apply.

- Advocate
- Affordable Housing Developer
- Agencies serving survivors of Human Trafficking
- Business
- Dept. of Human Services
- Disability Services
- Domestic Violence Service Providers
- Elected Official
- EMT / Crisis Response Team
- Faith-Based Organization
- Government Entity
- Homeless or Formerly Homeless Persons
- Homeless Organizations
- Hospital & Health Care Providers
- Law Enforcement
- Legal Aid Services
- Local Government Staff / Officials
- Local Jail / Dept. of Corrections
- Mental Health Service Organizations
- Public Housing Authority
- School Administrators/ Homeless Liasons
- Street Outreach Team
- Substance Abuse Services Organizations
- University
- Utility Companies
- Veterans Organizations
- Workforce Development Employment Services
- Youth Advocates
- Youth Homeless Organizations
- Other: Hospital/health care provider & Street medicine

Description of Interest in CoC Membership

Please describe why you are interested in joining the CoC:

I am interested in joining the CoC to be more apart of our community, as well as be able to advocate for our community.

Merced City and County Membership Requirements & Commitments

- Commit to the CoC plan to end homelessness
- Attend meetings of the full membership or Board
- Participate in board advisory committees and or task groups
- Abide by the Conflict of Interest and Code of Conduct policies

Signature of Individual or Authorized Organizational Representative

Kaylie Mend

Date: 10/10/23



Matthew Serratto
Merced CoC Chair

Collaborative Applicant
2115 W. Wardrobe Avenue
Merced, CA 95341
(209) 385-3000 x 5510
Collabapp@countyofmerced.com

2023 Written Authorization Form to Vote on Behalf of CoC Organization or as Community-At-Large Representative

Dear CoC Representative;

As noted in our Governance Charter, only one (1) representative from each organization may vote on behalf of the organization based on written authorization from the organization. All Community-At-Large members may also vote with a completed form on file.

Community-At-Large Member

Print Name: Kaylie Melio

Signature: Kayli Melio Date: 10/10/23

Organizational Vote- Name of Organization: Golden valley Health center

List no more than 3 person(s), in priority order, who may vote on behalf of the organization:

Kaylie Melio
Stacey Kurzak

Signature of Organization Signing Authority: Kayli Melio, LWN
Date: 10/10/23

E-mail the completed and signed PDF form to the Collaborative Applicant, collabapp@countyofmerced.com. Contact the Collaborative Applicant if you have any questions.



San Joaquin Valley Affordable Broadband Summit

A convening of key leadership to focus on strategies, motivate action, and advance best practices around the adoption of affordable internet across the San Joaquin Valley.

Summit Meeting

THURSDAY

NOVEMBER 9

8:30 am - 12:00 pm on Zoom

Register here:

<https://bit.ly/SJVSummitRSVP>

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

- Discussion Around Digital Equity and Broadband Access for All.
- Strategies and Tactics to Increase Affordable Home Internet Adoption.
- Update from State and Local Leaders on New and Existing Resources.

Pre-Summit Introduction
(optional)

WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 1

11:00 am - 12:00 pm on Zoom

Register here:

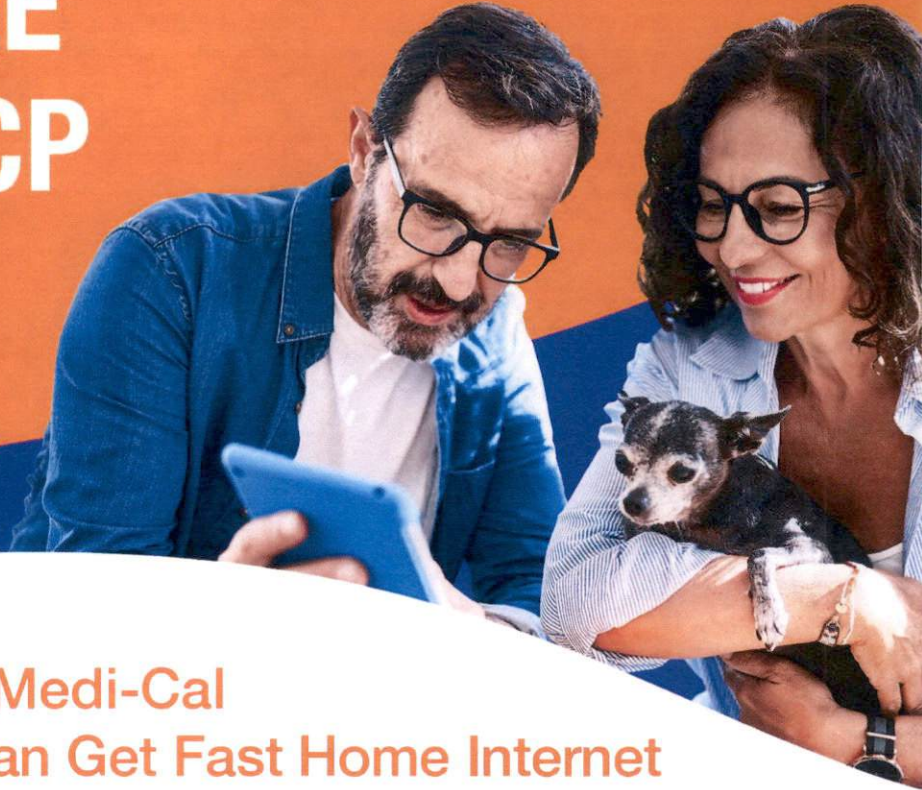
https://bit.ly/Pre_Summit_IntroductionRSVP

DISCUSSION TOPIC:

- Introductory overview of broadband barriers, resources and solutions, including the Affordable Connectivity Program.

Questions:
marissa@cetfund.org

Home Internet can be FREE with the ACP discount



CalFresh and Medi-Cal Households Can Get Fast Home Internet for \$0 per month

The federally-funded Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) provides eligible households with a \$30 monthly discount on Home Internet plans. You can use the ACP discount with special low-cost internet plans that cost less than \$30 per month. *That means your monthly Internet bill could be as low as \$0.*



You are qualified!

If you or another household member receives CalFresh or Medi-Cal benefits, you automatically qualify for the ACP benefit.



It's easy to apply

Just fill out an application and check SNAP (CalFresh) and/or Medicaid (Medi-Cal) to automatically qualify for ACP.

internetforallnow.org/applytoday

Call **855-966-0476**





¡CONÉCTATE!
CALIFORNIA

Internet en el hogar puede ser GRATIS con el descuento ACP



Los hogares que tengan CalFresh,
WIC y Medi-Cal pueden obtener
Internet rápido en el hogar por \$0 al mes

El Programa de Descuentos Para Internet (ACP, por sus siglas en inglés), financiado con fondos federales, ofrece a los hogares elegibles un descuento mensual de \$30 en planes de Internet en el hogar. Usted puede usar el descuento ACP con planes especiales de Internet de bajo costo que se ofrecen en su área por menos de \$30 por mes. *Eso significa que su factura mensual de Internet podría ser tan baja como \$0.*



¡Usted Califica!

Si usted u otro miembro del hogar recibe beneficios de CalFresh, WIC o Medi-Cal, automáticamente califica para el beneficio de ACP.



Inscribirse es fácil

Simplemente complete una solicitud y envíela con un recibo mensual del programa en el que participa (Medi-Cal, WIC o CalFresh).

internetforallnow.orgaplicahoy

Llame al **855-966-0476**





Merced City and County Continuum of Care 2024 Meeting Schedule

All meetings are scheduled 11:00am – 12:30pm and are held on the first Thursday of the month unless otherwise noted.

January 4, 2024	No Meeting
February 1, 2024	Board Meeting
March 7, 2024	General Membership Meeting
April 4, 2024	General Membership Meeting
May 2, 2024	Board Meeting
June 6, 2024	General Membership Meeting
June 2024	Board Only Closed Session
July 4, 2024	No Meeting
August 1, 2024	Board Meeting
September 5, 2024	Board Meeting
October 3, 2024	Hybrid Board and General Membership Meeting (Virtual and In Person Options)
November 7, 2024	General Membership Meeting
December 5, 2024	General Membership Meeting

Meeting Location:

Virtual Conference via Microsoft Teams
Phone Number: 1 (323) 676-6251
Meeting ID: 294 694 828 #

These meetings will be recorded