

**Tulare County Health and Human Services Agency
Tulare County Task Force on Homelessness
Meeting Minutes
January 20, 2021**

Place:	Virtual Meeting Via Zoom Conference	Start Time:	1:35 p.m.
	Streaming from 5957 S. Mooney Blvd, Visalia, CA	End Time:	2:47 p.m.
Members Present:	Amy Shuklian, Board of Supervisors; City of Visalia; Claudia Calderon (proxy for Martha Flores), City of Porterville; Chaz Felix, Tulare County HHSA; Betsy McGovern-Garcia, Self Help Enterprises; Terry Sayre (proxy for Carlton Jones), City of Tulare; Mary Alice Escarsega-Fechner, CSET; Beth Wilshire, Tulare County Office of Education; Angelina Soper, Transit Authority; Machael Smith, Kings/Tulare Homeless Alliance; Donna Ortiz (proxy for Tim Lutz), Tulare County HHSA; Suzy Ward, St. Paul's Episcopal Church; Miguel Perez, Tulare County Housing Authority; Capt. John Gonzalez, Tulare County Sheriff;		
Members Absent:	Angelica Molina, City of Dinuba; Tina Hernandez, City of Farmersville; Bob Link, City of Visalia; Caity Meader, Family Services;		
AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	SCHEDULED ACTIONS / RECOMMENDATION	PERSON (S) RESPONSIBLE
a. Call to Order	Ms. Shuklian called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.		Amy Shuklian
b. Round Table Introductions	All members present identified themselves and the organizations that they represent.	N/A	N/A
c. Public Comment	Mari Perez-Ruiz of Central Valley Empowerment Alliance in Porterville expressed concern about the recent eviction notice issued to residents living unsheltered near the river. Although short notice, she wanted to request that organizations be on site to offer services/resources for those impacted by the expectation that residents vacate by January 25 th .		N/A
d. Action Items			
a. Approval of Minutes	Homeless Task Force minutes for November 2020 presented for approval. Ms. Escarsega-Fechner made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. McGovern-Garcia seconded the motion. All were in favor; motion carried.	November 2020 Minutes approved	All
e. Discussion & Possible Action Items			

<p>a. Project Room Key updates</p>	<p>Chaz Felix provided an update on Project Room Key, the program created to house COVID-19 positive and medically vulnerable populations experiencing homelessness during the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Felix provided data for the current number of rooms provided, the number of clients currently served and an update on funding for the program.</p> <p>Mr. Felix and Ms. Shuklian responded to questions from the committee members as well as questions from the community received virtually during the live feed.</p>		<p>All</p>
<p>b. TC Hope Navigation Center Update</p>	<p>Rie Reniers of TC Hope Navigation Center provided a brief overview of the Center including costs. Ms. Reniers also answered questions from committee members and the public participating virtually through the Facebook live feed.</p>		
<p>c. Tulare County Mental Health & Substance Use Disorder Housing overview</p>	<p>Donna Ortiz and Natalie Bolin of Tulare County Mental Health provided an overview of the housing options for residents experiencing Mental Health or Substance Use Disorder issues. Ms. Ortiz and Ms. Bolin also responded to questions from the other committee members and the public</p>		
<p>d. Warming Center Update</p>	<p>Reverend Suzy Ward provided an update on the alternative option used for a Winter Warming Center this season. She informed the group that any donations to support the Warming Center efforts were greatly appreciated and can be taken to 120 N. Hall in Visalia.</p>		
<p>e. City Updates on Shelter Efforts</p>	<p>The cities of Tulare, Visalia and Porterville provided updates on various efforts within their cities to address the issue of homelessness. Each city accepted questions from the other committee members and provided additional information about pending projects for their respective cities.</p>		

	The entire meeting can be viewed at this link: https://www.facebook.com/TulareCountyHHSA/videos/245532377011831/		
f. Agenda Items for October Mtg.			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status of Federal funding for Homeless Prevention Assistance 		N/A
g. Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 2:47 p.m.	N/A	N/A
h. Next meeting date	February 17, 2021, 1:30 p.m. via Zoom Conference	N/A	N/A
Minutes Prepared by	Christina Jones, TC-HHSA		