Mental Health Services Act (MHSA)

Housing Initiative
April 7, 2021

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Welcome, before we begin…

- Meeting is being recorded
- Stipends for clients and family members participating
  - Chat your email with the word "stipend"

Agenda

1. Introductions, Ground Rules & Overview

2. Housing Continuum Gaps in Services

3. Housing Outcomes

4. Next Steps

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1. Introductions, Ground Rules & Overview

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Participation Guidelines

- Please enter your questions in the chat box as we go
- "Q&A" slides incorporated into the presentation
  - "Raise Hand" button - host will call on you and you can then unmute yourself
- Ground Rules
  1. Share the airtime; allow every voice to be heard (step up/step back)
  2. Practice both/and thinking; consider all ideas along with your personal advocacy
  3. Be brief and meaningful when voicing your opinion
  4. Success depends on participation (share ideas, ask questions)
  5. Share your unique perspective and experience
- Decision points – majority vote
- A recommendation will be made for public hearing, 30-day public comment and final approval by the Board of Supervisors

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Meeting Objectives

- Meeting #1 (March 3rd):
  - Review background information and opportunity for additional Q&A
  - Present additional layers to the Housing Continuum to include:
    - Programs and numbers served
    - Eligibility and State requirements were applicable
- Meeting #2 (April 7th):
  - Present set of outcomes and data to support/inform decisions
  - Brainstorm additional outcomes as necessary
  - Prioritize across all outcomes to focus strategic direction
- Meeting #3 (May 5th):
  - Present set of best practice solutions
  - Brainstorm additional solutions as necessary
  - Prioritize across all strategies to recommend

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High-Level Review

- Taskforce Meeting #1 Q&A

Questions?

2. Housing Continuum Gaps in Services

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Sources of Information

- Task Force Comments
- Housing and Board and Care presentations
- Key Informants
- Solutions for Supportive Homes Presentation
- MHSA Input Sessions for 3-year Plan (2020)
- BHRS Plan to Address Homelessness for People with Mental Illness (2019)
- MHSARC Housing Report (2016)

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Homeless Data 2019 One Day Count

- 1512 both sheltered and unsheltered
- 1110 single adults, TAY 38
- 26% self report Mental Health issues: 305 report SMI
- 14.3% self report Substance Use Disorder (SUD)
- Homeless in CES system self report SMI 10% know to BHRS

Housing Continuum Gaps – Categories

1. Pre Housing Engagement
- Drop-in Centers
- Shelters
- Field Services
- Post Psychiatric Emergency Services (PES)
- Hospitalization
- Incarceration

2. Housing
- Rehabilitation Centers
- Residential Treatment
- Residential Board and Care
- Transitional Housing
- Supportive Housing
- FSP Supported Housing
- Independent Housing

3. Housing Assistance
- Skill Development
- Housing Case Management
- Rental Assistance
- Homeless Assessment and Housing Referral
- Housing Locator
- Landlord Tenant Assistance

Reference: San Mateo County Housing Continuum (meeting materials)

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Gaps (Pre Housing Engagement)

<u>Drop-in Centers</u>
- Need East Palo Alto Drop-in Center
  - 107 unsheltered homeless (2019 Homeless Count) 11.8% of County homeless, 3.8% of County population

<u>Shelters</u>
- Need more shelters for the SMI population
  - County has added 32 shelter beds, 77 transitional beds and will add 125 transitional units.
- Need training of shelter staff on behavioral health issues

<u>Field Services</u>
- Need for Mental Health Workers in the field to provide mobile mental health assessment, treatment and support to community service provider (at Core Service Agencies, Homeless Outreach Teams, etc.).
  - Homeless Engagement and Linkages (HEAL) program grant funding ended - mental health assisted homeless outreach

<u>PES, Hospitalization and Incarceration</u>
- Need for expanded peer support at discharge from PES, hospitalization and jail (to provide housing navigation and other support services).

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Discussion – Does this resonate, what is missing?

Gaps (Housing)

Residential Board and Care (B&C)
- Need supports for B&C residents who could step down to independent living with appropriate level of supportive services
- Need for additional B&C homes and support for the existing B&C including incentives for sustainability
  - Loss of 11 B& C beds in 2020
  - 127 individuals in B& C out of county

Transitional Housing
- Need transitional housing that is developmentally and culturally appropriate for TAY
  - Too few TAY Housing Units
  - 45 TAY FSP: 20 in unstable housing
  - 91 YTAC: 38 in unstable housing
- Need transitional housing for women with children

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Gaps (Housing)

Supportive Housing

- Need more MHSA units
  - 65 certified applicants for 20 MHSA units @ 636 El Camino
- Need supportive housing units with expanded qualifications
  - Too few clients qualify for MHSA or NPLH units
  - Must be SMI and Chronically homeless, Homeless or at Risk of Homelessness
  - BHRS case loads between 4-9% are homeless
- Need more Transition Aged Youth (TAY) units
  - BHRS & FSP 58 youth without permanent housing

FSP Housing

- Need increased allocation of housing funds for FSP programs
  - There have been limited increases over the years
  - Unable to provide housing for new clients

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Gaps (Housing)

<u>Independent Housing</u>

- Need affordable housing for clients that do not need intensive services of Supportive Housing
  - Restricted units @15% Area Medium Income (AMI)
  - No access for undocumented individuals with serious mental illness

<u>Other Housing Financing Gaps</u>

- Need ongoing MHSA funding for supportive housing services for new developments
  - Developers need BHRS commitment of service provision for a minimum of 20 years
- Need local subsidies to keep rents very low
  - Capital operating revenue to offsets tenant portion of the rent (30% of their income)

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Discussion – Does this resonate, what is missing?

Gaps (Housing Assistance)

Skills Development

- Need more independent living skills supports for adults

Housing Case Management

- Need coordinated case management for step down process from higher level of care to lower levels of care

- Need housing case management and supports for clients living independently

- Need peer engagement in planning/delivering supportive services of Supportive Housing
  - Funding sources require specific services

- Need more peer support in housing related services

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Gaps (Housing Assistance)

Rental Assistance

- Need increased rental assistance resources for immigrant communities

- Need housing subsidies for those not on Housing Authority funded programs

- Need improved knowledge and access to rental assistance services (Housing Authority programs, short term assistance, etc.)

Homeless Assessment and Housing Referral

- Need improved access to homeless assessment system and subsequent housing referrals
  - Client reluctance to use CES and or shelter system

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Gaps (Housing Assistance)

Housing Locator

- Need expansion of resources to help match clients to affordable housing

Landlord Tenant Relations

- Need increased supports for tenants (legal intervention, mediation) when addressing client housing related issues (eviction, breach of lease, fair housing, etc.)

Access to Housing Assistance

- Need improved access to existing resources
  - Difficulty accessing available housing due to lack of knowledge, support, behavioral issues, etc.
- Need mental health, trauma-informed, culturally responsive door ways for special populations (TAY, immigrants, women w/children, etc.)

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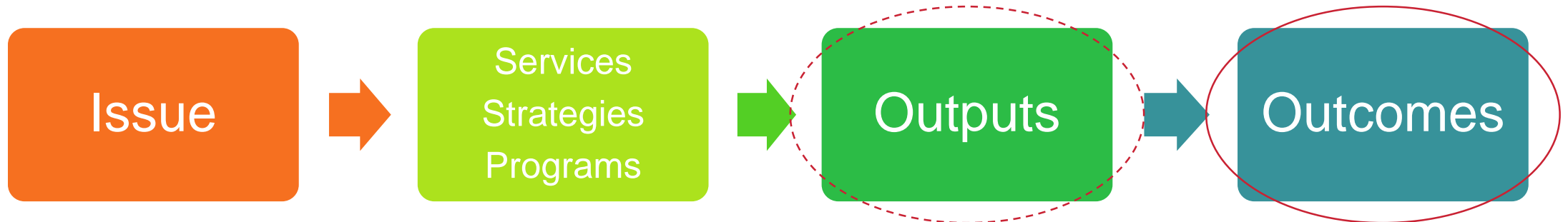Discussion – Does this resonate, what is missing?

3. Housing Outcomes

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Framework for prioritizing

➢ How do we begin to narrow down what to fund?

✓ We prioritized a broad issue: Homelessness and Housing Stability

✓ We identified many gaps (services, strategies, programs) based on an ideal Housing Continuum

| Issue | → | Services Strategies Programs | → | Outputs | → | Outcomes |

⇒ Before we can decide what to fund, we will spend some time discussing client, families and community outcomes

- To *think backward* to identify how to best achieve what we want to accomplish, "planning with the end in mind."

Breakouts

- Breakout into 2 groups
  - Pre Housing Engagement and Housing Assistance
  - Housing
- <u>Question</u> – What is the impact we want to see on the **health, wellbeing and lives** of:
  - Clients
  - Family members of clients
  - Communities

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4. Next Steps

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Prioritizing outcomes

- We will follow-up with a summary of outcomes the week of April 12th and provide a one week deadline for additional input, comments.

- We will then send an online survey to cast your vote and rank the outcomes.

What additional information do you need?

- Type in chat
  - Data, programs/services, other?

- Email Judy Davila: c_jdavila@smcgov.org or MHSA@smcgov.org

THANK YOU!

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Meeting Feedback:

www.surveymonkey.com/r/HousingTaskforce

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