



**Siskiyou County Advisory Board Meeting
August 2, 2023
1:30pm – 3:00pm
Red Oak Room, Behavioral Health, 2060 Campus Drive, Yreka**

Teleconference locations:

Karuk Tribe
635 Jacobs Way
Happy Camp, CA 96039

Partnership HealthPlan of California
4665 Business Center Drive
Fairfield, CA 94534
(Please contact Partnership if you expect to attend from this location)

Northern Valley Catholic Social Services
2400 Washington Ave.
Redding, CA 96001

Disability Action Center
2453 Athens Ave.
Redding, CA 96001

- 1. Call to Order/Quorum Established/Introductions**
- 2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from July (Attachment A)**
Board members will review and approve minutes from July 5, 2023.
- 3. Public Comments (limited to 3 mins. per comment)**
Members of the public will have the opportunity to address the Board on any issue within the jurisdiction of the Board. Speakers will be limited to three minutes.
- 4. Committee Updates**
 - a. Executive Board update—Dr. Collard**
- 5. New Business**
 - a. The Bridge Newsletter (Attachment B)—Maddelyn Bryan**
 - b. Presentation from Riverside Christian Teen Challenge—Ryan Horvath**
 - c. HHSA Housing Resource page—Maddelyn**
 - d. Resource Fair—Duane Kegg**
- 6. Old Business**
 - a. Discussion and Possible Action: Public Engagement Materials—Ali Kutzer**



7. **County Updates**
 - a. **Project Basecamp—Amy Diamantine**
 - b. **Siskiyou Crossroads (Attachment C)—Maddelyn Bryan**
 - c. **Other partner updates—All**
8. **Discussion Items for Next Meeting**
9. **Adjournment**

Next Meeting
September 6, 2023
1:30pm-3:00pm

If requested, the agenda shall be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12132), and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof. You may contact 530-841-2748 for disability-related modifications or accommodations, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to participate in the public meeting.



**Siskiyou County Advisory Board Meeting
July 5, 2023
1:30pm – 3:00pm
Red Oak Room, Behavioral Health, 2060 Campus Drive, Yreka**

1. Call to Order/Quorum Established/Introductions

Duane Kegg, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 1:35pm. A quorum was established.

Present: Members Dr. Collard, Duane Kegg, Mark Gilman, Trish Barbieri, Christina Brown, Denise Patterson, Sarah Springfield, Nancy Ogren, Michelle O’Gorman, and Michael Aiuto. Participants/public attendees Emily Tuholski, Susan Cervelli, Cal Conklin, Ali Kutzer, Maddelyn Bryan, Wendy Longwell, and Alexandra Tadros.

Zoom: Member Sara Spence and participant Lisa O’Connell

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from June (Attachment A)

Mark Gilman motioned to approve the minutes from June 7, 2023. Nancy Ogren seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comments (limited to 3 mins. per comment)

Cal Conklin remarked that, for the first time, he had witnessed a person experiencing homeless picking up trash on the hill. Mark noted that the jail approved the use of community hours for cleaning up encampments.

Wendy Longwell introduced herself as representing the Disability Action Center. She explained that Partnership HealthPlan contracted her organization to provide CalAIM services. The Center serves eight counties, including Siskiyou. Currently, the closest office is in Redding, but they are working to locate an office space in Siskiyou County. Wendy described the services available, including durable medical equipment and voice options for persons with speech impediments.

Duane Kegg shared that he attended the most recent meeting with people living on the hill. He said they discussed medical concerns, fire safety, trash cleanup, and finding ways to share their personal stories with the public. Mike Aiuto observed that an increasing number of people showed up at each successive meeting. He emphasized the concerns that persons experiencing homelessness have about their image and how the broader community discusses them on Facebook. Members commented on the development of an increasingly positive relationship between local organizations and people experiencing homelessness.



Denise Patterson provided the new address for the Yreka Food Bank (1249 main street, Yreka) which is open for business again.

4. Committee Updates

Maddelyn Bryan communicated that there were no updates from the HMIS Committee. Duane noted that the last regularly scheduled PIT Committee meeting had been cancelled. Wendy asked if there was any resource fair for individuals experiencing homeless and described Redding's annual resource fair called Project Connect. Sarah Springfield replied that Youth Empowerment Siskiyou planned to host an event on July 31.

5. Discussion

a. Lead Agency notice and future of CoC (Attachment B)—Dr. Collard

Dr. Collard confirmed that the other members had also received a copy of the "notice of termination" from Shasta County who would no longer act as the Lead Agency. She explained that a representative from HUD was helping the Executive Board to develop a transition plan, highlighting that the Collaborative Application was the most pressing concern. Shasta County has agreed to provide HMIS administration through December. Dr. Collard expressed uncertainty whether all seven counties would remain in the current CoC as they have the option to leave. She shared that it would be a heavy lift for Siskiyou County HHS to create a new CoC and it would be beyond the Agency's capacity to act as a lead for other counties. Wendy disclosed that the CoC members in Shasta County seem to be more interested in finding a new Lead Agency than splitting into different CoCs.

6. New Business

Members did not have any new business to discuss.

7. County Updates

a. Behavioral Health Bridge Housing Grant—Dr. Collard

Dr. Collard announced that Behavioral Health received the notice of award for the Behavioral Health Bridge Housing grant. They intend to use this grant for the Pallet Shelters. The next step for the project involves Yreka City finalizing their decision on the proposed location.

b. Homekey—Duane Kegg

Duane stated that the City Council voted unanimously to approve the Homekey project. They hope to convert a hotel into the Ascent Apartments. The City selected Rural Communities Housing Development Corporation to be the developer.



c. Beacon of Hope—Duane Kegg/Michelle O’Gorman

Michelle O’Gorman announced that the Beacon of Hope shelter would open on November 1. This project was mostly created through volunteer efforts. She expressed gratitude to the Karuk Tribe for their generous grant. She stated that the shelter would have fourteen beds. Individuals can stay for up to 30 days or longer if they enroll in programs. No one on Megan’s law will be accepted and individuals must pass a breathalyzer test for admittance. The shelter will provide separate rooms for men and women.

d. Public Engagement—Duane Kegg/Ali Kutzer

Duane described his various presentations on housing efforts to the City Council, the Siskiyou County Patriots, and other community groups. He felt the presentations were well received by the public. Duane added that he would be interviewed on Jefferson Public Radio next Tuesday.

Ali provided an explanation of the draft plan for public engagement. She noted that the current document is merely a framework and rough model. Members expressed approval of the document. Discussion ensued about where to promote and disseminate information in the absence of a local paper. Ali requested a high-resolution logo from each organization. Cal commented that older generations may prefer printed materials as opposed to social media or other online platforms. Ali inquired as to the frequency of releasing new materials. Members agreed upon a monthly schedule. She informed members that she would be in contact to collect information about their projects when featured.

8. Discussion Items for Next Meeting

Duane requested the following items: public engagement, discussion of possible resource fair, and Project Basecamp update.

9. Adjournment

Dr. Collard motioned to adjourn the meeting at 2:55pm. Denise seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The motion carried unanimously.

Next Meeting
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1:30pm-3:00pm

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THE BRIDGE

Closing
the gaps
in our
community,
one perspective
at a time.

All stories
within are
true only the
names have
been changed
to protect
the vulnerable.

August
2023
1st
EDITION

Walking a Mile

Justice pulled the small wagon one last wobbly step to the top of the hill. Now all that was left was to

drag her load of eight gallons of water across the rocky pig trail that led to her simple shelter of a tent.

With a door that no longer zipped closed and a front porch made of tarps and bungees it wasn't much to

look at but it was her home for the time being.

She reached out to wipe the beads of sweat from her forehead but before her hand reached them one single bead managed to slip into her eye. As it began to sting she looked towards the sky her lips silent

but her heart crying out to the universe for one break, before she was beyond talking off the edge. With one eye stinging and closed, having caught half a breath she pushed on. There was no time to spare! Her 1 pm appointment had not started until 1:35 putting her more than half an hour behind schedule. All this to be told there was no help within. She tried to offset the feeling of disappointment and anger by telling herself she was like a modern day Mary and Joseph. They tried every Inn in town,

and there was no help within. However deep down she knew this was just a lie she told herself. She knew it was yet another wound to accompany the many others she already carried. She had walked as fast as possible across town, gathered her daily water at top speed. She neglected to

rinse out her clothes for tomorrow as well as skipped her daily bird bath. She must get to the recycling center before they closed. Without the few dollars that would bring it would be another night without food. The churches only came a few times a week and pasted out meals. Today was not one of those days. She had been planning on losing a little weight but starvation had not been the intended method.

Slinging the water jugs from the wagon she look at her 3 dogs who where staring back at her as to say,

are you home now, we need your love, we are confused and scared. She quickly promised she would be right back to give them fresh water and there daily ration of dog food. Heaving the heavy black trash

bag of recycling into the wagon she tripped over the handle trying to quickly get to the front and get going. The clock was ticking!

Out of breath, exhausted and weak she sat out for the recycling center. Glancing at her phone to check

the time she noticed she had 10 minutes till they closed. She had done the route enough to know it took her 5 minutes to make it there.

When she rounded the corner of the chain link fence toward the entrance gate she saw the young kid with the blonde curls head towards the gate. She again glanced down at her phone to see she had 5 minutes till they closed. She was 5 steps from the gate when he slammed the gate shut in her face. With a smirk combined with a slight giggle he turned and walked away. Looking over his shoulder to say

we are closed come back tomorrow.

She wanted to protest but she knew these workers watched the local homeless with a magnifying glass. It seemed as though they had a side bet on who could 86 the most homeless in a day. She desperately needed the tiny amount of money it made, so there would be no protesting today. She dropped her head in defeat and turned to face the night ahead. At least she had the dogs what would life be like without them to ease the pain?



Thank You
Modoc Tribe

Officer Elliot

Behavioral Health
Staff

Community Donors

Positive Progress

*Trash clean up
service comprised
of local homeless

* Implementation
of a community
service
program

*Womens Yoga Classes
starting in August

Welcome to The Bridge Newsletter

The Bridge has only one mission, that is to begin to close the gaps in our housed VS unhoused communities. If I've learned anything in life it is that most issues can be fixed with something as small as a change of perspective. So with that lesson in mind I present you with the first issue of The Bridge.

Most if not all local news you see about our homeless community is negative. It is my heartfelt intent to change that. Here you will be able to experience our homeless community from a more positive perspective. The Bridge will have articles such as *Walking a Mile*, a different short story monthly spotlighting some of the problems our homeless face on a daily basis.

Starting in September there will be a section titled *Monthly Homeless Hero* it will be a more in-depth biography of a different local homeless monthly. Our hope is to help aid our community in a better understanding of how life can go from great to not so great very rapidly and for numerous reasons. After reading a few of their stories you will understand why I call them hero's.

Along with these articles we would like to show the positive things that are happening in our homeless community such as programs for community service designed by those in the homeless community for those in the homeless community as well as cleanup crews comprised solely of homeless residents. Along with the positive progress there will be our special Thank Yous to the community for those that donate their time or their voice or their personal items as well as a big shout out to the community members that go above and beyond to help bridge the gap. We hope to invite you to get to know our homeless community as well as you know your neighbors from your street. Feel free to take part in our celebrations and not so happy times, become part of our family and really get to know us. This is our vision.

It is by changing people's perception of things that we will slowly but surely change the world.

The Bridge

"Tell me, and I'll forget.

Show me, and I may not remember.

Involve me, and I'll understand."



Rural Communities Housing

DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Siskiyou Crossroads
Now Accepting Applications

One Bedroom
and
Two Bedroom Apartments

Download an application at
rchdc.org

Submit Applications to:
Siskiyoucrossroads@rchdc.org
Or
FAX to 530-922-2397

Rents

AMI	One Bedroom	Two Bedroom
50%	\$773	\$928
60%	\$928	\$1,114

Income Limits

AMI	One Person	Two Person	Three Person	Four Person	Five Person
50%	\$28,900	\$33,000	\$37,150	\$41,250	\$44,550
60%	\$34,680	\$39,600	\$44,580	\$49,500	\$53,460