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DATE: December 9, 2020

TO: Members of the Commission to End Homelessness

FROM: Jason Austin
Director, Office of Care Coordination

SUBJECT: Commission to End Homelessness Update for December 2020

Homeless Services System Mapping Survey

In follow-up to the Commission to End Homelessness meeting on October 21, 2020, the Office of Care Coordination created a survey to better understand the services and resources in Orange County for those experiencing homelessness. The Office of Care Coordination will send out the Homeless Services Survey the week of December 14, 2020, to each of the Commission members to forward on to their network of services providers. Instructions and an introductory letter will be included when the survey is sent out. Initial findings from the survey will be presented at the February 2021 Commission to End Homelessness meeting.

Project Roomkey

Project Roomkey provided a safe and secure Temporary Shelter option for those experiencing homelessness who were vulnerable to serious illness or sick/symptomatic of COVID-19. The closure of Project Roomkey was implemented in a phased approach in October 2020 to transition participants to every housing tool in the toolbelt using other available housing options through a program called Project Toolbelt. The total number of individuals served by Project Roomkey to date is 2,236 with four sites still operating to serve individuals who are sick/symptomatic or COVID-19 positive at a capacity of 218 beds.

Project Toolbelt

The County's COVID-19 Homelessness Response System provided the County a unique opportunity to engage, assess and facilitate housing placement for many individuals experiencing homelessness who were not previously engaged with the Homeless System of Care. Project Toolbelt built on this and worked to transition approximately 600 individuals experiencing homelessness from Project Roomkey and Joplin Youth Center into housing opportunities using the "every tool in the toolbelt" approach.

City Net is the contracted provider for the North and Central Service Planning Area, while Friendship Shelter is the contracted provider in the South Service Planning Area. Both contracted service providers have identified bridge housing options and long-term housing resources in their region to meet the needs of those individuals enrolled in Project Toolbelt. Below are outcomes related to placements of individuals participating in Project Toolbelt.

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| Project Toolbelt Report | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Placement Type | City Net | Friendship Shelter | Grand Total |
| Permanent | 69 | 26 | 95 |
| Temporary | 271 | 64 | 335 |
| Health Care/Treatment | 17 | 7 | 24 |
| Emergency Shelter | 73 | 18 | 91 |
| Grand Total | 430 | 115 | 545 |

Project Homekey

Project Homekey is the next phase in the State's response to serve people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness and whom are also at risk of serious illness from COVID-19. Grant funding was made available by the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to purchase and rehabilitate housing, including hotels, motels, vacant apartment buildings, and other buildings and convert them into housing. The County, in partnership with Jamboree Housing, submitted an application to convert the 60-unit Tahiti Motel and 72-unit Stanton Inn Suites. The Stanton Inn site was one of the original Project Roomkey programs. The County of Orange was approved for Project Homekey funding on October 9, 2020, and was awarded a total of \$26,100,000 from the State to move forward with these housing projects.

Yale Navigation Center

The Yale Navigation Center will provide shelter and supportive services for up to 425 individuals and couples experiencing homelessness for the Central Service Planning Area in place of The Courtyard Shelter. People Assisting the Homeless (PATH) is the newly contracted operator and will provide trauma-informed emergency shelter services with an emphasis on stabilization, permanent housing placements and re-integration back into the community. PATH has 27 years of experience providing shelter services and currently operates 10 emergency shelters across California. The Yale Navigation Center is scheduled to open the last week of December 2020.