

Emergency Preparedness Ad Hoc Committee Agenda

303 E. Vanderbilt Way
San Bernardino, CA 92415

July 18, 2016

Welcome & Introductions	Mike Jones & Tom Hernandez
Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Extreme Weather• Future Ad Hoc Meetings	Mike Jones & Tom Hernandez
Open Discussion	Roundtable

Minutes for San Bernardino County Office of Homeless Services Emergency Preparedness Ad Hoc Committee Meeting

April 25, 2016
3:00 – 4:30 PM

County of San Bernardino ▪ DBH Administration
303 E. Vanderbilt Way. ▪ San Bernardino, CA 92415-0026

Minutes Recorded and transcribed by Amy Edwards, Secretary I, Department of Behavioral Health, Office of Homeless Services

OPENING REMARKS	PRESENTER	ACTION/OUTCOME
Call to Order Welcome and Introductions	Tom Hernandez	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Attendees were welcomed to the meeting and asked to introduce themselves.
DISCUSSION		
Updates Develop Standards for Heat Advisory Notices Develop System to Disseminate Heat Advisory Notices	Tom Hernandez Mike Jones Tom Hernandez Claudia Doyle Tom Hernandez Mike Jones Tom Hernandez Cindy Serrano	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the last ICH meeting Mike Jones updated them on what we are doing here in this committee and Debra Watkins will present her Bus Pass Program per Mike's recommendation. • We developed a Cold Weather shelter guide that has information on what shelters are available and some safety tips. On the back of the guide there is a number that NECON set up with a short code that people can call and get updated weather information and shelter information. • Our focus has been on cold and wet weather as we do not have anything in place for extreme wet weather or cold weather in terms of our homeless. • Because the Homeless are a unique population to deal with, we developed that phone number through NECON, as most homeless have phones. We used NECON's phone service to provide weather updates, so we thought that if any alerts go out, such as heat advisory's we could somehow get that information to NECON to push out. • When heat advisories are issued I immediately distribute that information to all of my media contacts and Public Information Officers within the county. • One issue we need to address as it pertains to the heat advisories and cooling centers is we are dealing with the homeless and the chronically homeless who are dealing with multiple issues and disorders. It possesses a problem when multiple homeless individuals are going into businesses, libraries, senior centers, or government centers for shelter. • One of the things we are trying to touch base with is OES has the plan for heat advisories, but when dealing with cold weather, the desert often gets below 35 degrees. This year the cold weather shelter has opened more than in previous years, so we are trying to come up with an extreme weather plan for the homeless that encompasses all extreme weather patterns, hot, cold, rain, or snow. • We are looking to define criteria for extreme weather, rather than just heat advisory or rain periods. A lot of times, especially in the high desert, shelters only open when accu weather predicts the weather will drop to a certain degree. The problem is the temperatures fluctuate in the desert, so in some areas it will drop well below the 35 degrees needed for shelters to open but the average for the whole desert may be higher and the shelters don't open. • We have been talking about an excessive cold plan for several years now; we just don't have the staff to put it together. Our biggest concern to get this done is the stranded motorists. That happens every year to us. Once we are activated we can open up a shelter but it's difficult with excessive cold because there are barriers like snow and ice. That accessibility is a problem, but to say we will activate because the

	<p>Mike Jones</p> <p>Cindy Serrano</p> <p>Dr. Ohikhuare</p> <p>Debra Watkins</p> <p>Dr. Ohikhuare</p> <p>Claudia Doyle</p> <p>Tom Hernandez</p> <p>Cindy Serrano</p> <p>Dr. Ohikhuare</p>	<p>temperature drops is not likely.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We know it takes a disaster for OES to activate, but we can reach out to organizations and faith based communities to open their doors if we could just get some general terms to present to them. • The challenge is, they have to realize there is no cost recovery for this, as it is not county sanctioned or Red Cross sanctioned disasters. That possesses a problem for many faith based organizations. • We use the National Weather Systems to go about issuing a heat advisory, I think we have heat covered properly. What we don't have is anything for excessive weather, period. Whether it is rain, or cold weather and the solutions that go with that. OES cannot activate all the time for every little thing. Looks like we need to develop a standard for excessive weather. Faith based organizations are good for providing that type of assistance. We need to look at CBO's that have an establishment and faith based organizations that are willing to take this on. • I sent out information on what other cities are doing in regards to extreme weather and in doing some research I found that ICH is required to have extreme weather standards for our homeless. • Let's sit down and look at what other cities are doing and then we can come up with a standard that would fit everybody. The challenge would be to find programs that are willing to serve them. • I think it is important that we definitely find somewhere the homeless can go during extreme weather, as it will pose a problem if they start walking into public facilities or cooling stations. • If we had some sort of standards to present to ICH, they can go to the providers and ask them, during these time periods do you mind opening your doors? As it is right now there isn't anything written into their contracts for these provisions. • We need to know the current criteria to try and figure out the best scenario. • Once we get the information back we will meet and come up with a language and see if we can develop a standard to present to ICH.
ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION		
	Debra Watkins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have found this campaign we started is really working in the faith based community. It has been difficult to get the faith based organizations to collaborate so by having a simple tool like our shelter guides that can be customizable to their area or organization we are getting them to open their doors.
Tasks		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Health will set up a work group meeting to help create the language for criteria and triggers for extreme weather conditions to add to the OES Emergency Plan in regards to the homeless.
Adjournment		Being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.
Next Meeting		The next meeting will be on May 23, 2016 from 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm at the County of San Bernardino Department of Behavioral Health Administration. 303 E. Vanderbilt Way, San Bernardino, CA 92415-0026

April 25, 2016 ATTENDEES:

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