

INSTITUTE PERSONNEL

Presenters/Resource Persons:

Hannah Cohen is the Consultant to United Way, the convener of the Plan to End Chronic Homelessness in the San Diego Region. She is coordinating the entire effort and writing the plan for the County of San Diego and the City of San Diego. Additionally, she has been meeting with the mayors of the 18 cities in the County of San Diego regarding the plan to end chronic homelessness. To date, 17 mayors have signed the Covenant. She is working with Dene Oliver and Angela Alioto to convene the largest cities in California to form a collaborative to influence the direction of the state on homeless issues.

Ms. Cohen is also a Housing Consultant for Community Options, an agency founded in 1980 to serve the employment needs of adults with developmental disabilities. She is responsible for developing an affordable housing project for at least 50 developmentally disabled adults. Ms. Cohen earned her Bachelor's of Art Degree from Adelphi University with a major in Political Science. She then received for a Masters of Science Degree in Library and Information Sciences at C.W. Post College Palmer Graduate Library School. She also earned a Professional Diploma in Educational Administration from Long Island University.

Liz Drapa is the Associate Director at the Chicago Continuum of Care. In her role, Ms. Drapa is responsible for work related to the implementation and evaluation of the Plan, including how the system changes over time, as well as the SuperNOFA funding process. Since joining the staff in November 2003, she has worked with the board to develop the program models for the new Getting Housed, Staying Housed System; the Implementation Schedule; the Blueprint for Change; the Evaluation Scorecard; and a successful \$40 million HUD funding process.

Prior to working for the Continuum, Ms. Drapa worked as a consultant on affordable housing and HIV/AIDS issues, and at HUD's Office of HIV/AIDS Housing. She is a graduate of Loyola University, Chicago and holds a masters degree in Public Policy from Georgetown University.

Piper Ehlen is a Staff Attorney with HomeBase. She is currently involved in providing legal and technical assistance to Contra Costa County regarding a multitude of areas, including providing research and facilitation to their multi-agency Project Coming Home collaboration, providing research and facilitation to their Ten Year Plan implementation process, facilitating their Continuum of Care process, planning their evaluation and homeless client focus groups for their HUD McKinney-Vento process, and providing Homeless Management Information System assistance. She is also involved in providing Monterey County assistance with planning and strategy regarding outreach to mentally ill homeless individuals, and Continuum of Care strategic planning research and project

development in numerous communities including Humboldt County. She previously worked with Napa and Santa Cruz Counties on their Continuum of Care and long-term planning work.

She is primarily responsible for policy analysis and community education on affordable housing programs, and statewide initiatives and conducts discharge planning research and education. Ms. Ehlen holds a B.A., cum laude, from the University of Colorado, and a J.D., cum laude, from The George Washington University Law School.

Bob Erlenbusch has had over 20 years experience in homeless advocacy and direct service. He is currently the Executive Director at the Los Angeles Coalition to End Hunger and Homelessness. He serves as the President of the Board for the National Coalition for the Homelessness. He is also a co-facilitator for the Bring LA Home! Partnership to End Homelessness.

Mr. Erlenbusch has served on the Board of several non-profit organizations. He is the past President of the California Homeless and Housing Coalition and past Chair of the Los Angeles Homeless Services Advisory Board. He has also been a Board member at Women's Care Cottage and Housing California. Mr. Erlenbusch taught at the college and university level for ten years and was a Thornton Bradshaw Fellow. He holds a Masters and PhD in Political Science from the University of Southern California.

Marty Fleetwood is the founder and Executive Director of HomeBase. A strong proponent of community-based planning, Ms. Fleetwood has facilitated strategic planning processes in many communities to develop 5- and 10-year plans on homelessness, has organized and facilitated Homeless Summits in several cities, and has coordinated inclusive planning processes to develop key programs, including multi-service centers and multi-disciplinary outreach teams. Ms. Fleetwood has organized and facilitated statewide and regional gatherings, and has been a leader in promoting regional coordination in responding to homelessness, such as the award-winning Bay Area Regional Initiative To Reduce Homelessness (BARI), which launched 8 demonstration projects providing successful models of cross-jurisdictional and cross-agency collaboration. She also initiated the Northern California Regional Steering Committee on Housing and Homelessness and facilitates its bi-monthly planning meetings.

Ms. Fleetwood has served as faculty for the national homelessness conferences of the Departments Veterans Affairs and Health and Human Services; has been a facilitator at the Mainstreaming Policy Academies for families and for chronically homeless individuals; and has advised the White House Office of Management and Budget and the Domestic Policy Council, the Federal Reserve Bank, and the Departments of Education and Labor. Ms. Fleetwood holds a J.D. degree from Harvard Law School, and has held significant positions of responsibility with the Department of Justice and the legal arm of the NAACP.

Sage Foster has worked with the homeless populations of the San Francisco Bay Area for the past 18 years. He has developed and implemented partnerships between

community-based organizations and government agencies providing permanent housing and wrap-around services to the chronically homeless, underserved and disabled populations. He has worked successfully with mental illness, substance use, and HIV/AIDS by utilizing a harm reduction modality and an integrated services approach to housing retention. He is currently the Supportive Housing Program Manager for the Contra Costa County Department of Public Health, Homeless Program.

Janet Ganaway is the Executive Director of P.A.T.H. (People Assisting the Homeless) and has been a key factor in building P.A.T.H. into a non-profit community-based organization that has had a significant impact in Southern California.

Ms. Ganaway received a bachelor's degree in Sociology from UCLA. She then went on to join the management team of P.A.T.H., where she has developed unique collaborative relationships with several cities (Inglewood, Culver City, Hawthorne and Los Angeles), government entities (Department of Public Social Services, Housing Department, and the Community Development Department) and dozens of other private non-profit agencies.

Marlene Gordon is the Executive Director of The Coalition for the Homeless, Inc.. Ms. Gordon has coordinated collaborative efforts among Louisville area shelters and other service providers for grant applications, joint services, and innovative program development. She represents area shelters on various city and countywide strategic planning taskforces.

Ms. Gordon has developed educational programs for children and youth in crisis shelters. She developed first migrant education program for families in Louisville and Jefferson County. She has served on state, county, and city taskforces addressing the issues of homelessness and poverty. Ms. Gordon holds a BA, with highest honors, from the University of Louisville and an MA in education from Spalding University.

Sue Marshall is currently the executive director of the Community Partnership for the Prevention of Homelessness, a public/private partnership in the District of Columbia. The Community Partnership works to foster local neighborhood initiatives to resolve chronic community problems, including homelessness. The Partnership was the implementing entity for the DC Initiative one Homelessness, a \$20 million national demonstration in partnership with the District government and HUD. Currently, the Partnership administers more than \$30 million of publicly funded services to the homeless in the District on an annual basis.

Ms. Marshall has an extensive history of public service, including eight years as the vice chair of the District of Columbia Housing Finance Agency. She has also served as chief of staff of the DC Department of Human Services, Mayor's Homeless Coordinator, staff economist to the DC Council Committee on Finance and Revenue, urban policy analyst for the Department of Housing and Urban Development and housing market analyst for the Urban Institute. She has significant experience in providing technical assistance to

nonprofit community based organizations in the areas of capacity building, organizational development and management and economic development.

Marjorie Matthews is the Director of the Office of Affordable Housing for the County of Santa Clara. Ms. Matthews has long experience in addressing the lack of affordable housing in Santa Clara County (also known as Silicon Valley) where the high cost of housing is known worldwide. From 1991 to 2000 she was a member of the San Jose City Council, a city with a population of nearly a million people. As a Councilmember, she chaired both the Downtown Housing Task Force and the Homeless Task Force for the City of San Jose. She was also the first chair of the Valley Transportation Authority and championed transit oriented development near light rail stations.

Ms. Matthews has taught History and Political Science at local colleges and created the Public Sector Studies Program at Santa Clara University. She has a bachelor's degree in Political Science from Cal-State, East Bay and a master's degree in History from San Jose State University. She is also a graduate of the Coro Foundation and a senior fellow of the American Leadership Forum of Silicon Valley.

John Parvensky is an attorney who has served as President and CEO of the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless (CCH) since 1985. He is currently a member of Denver's Commission To End Homelessness and on the Board of Directors of the Metro Denver Homeless Initiative. He is also Vice President of the National Coalition for the Homeless and serves on the Board of Directors of the National Healthcare for the Homeless Council.

Under Mr. Parvensky's leadership, CCH has developed a comprehensive health care for the homeless program providing integrated health, mental health and substance treatment services to more than 9,000 homeless patients annually. CCH has also developed more than 1000 supportive housing units in the Denver area, and manages an additional 500 supportive housing vouchers statewide. CCH also operates a Housing First program funded through the federal Chronic Homeless Initiative.

Joyce Sacco is the Deputy Managing Director at the Office of Adult Services, Special Needs Housing, in Philadelphia. She primarily works on the development of the Ten Year Plan as well as other Special projects including Co-Chairing the Sexual and Gender Minority Committee.

Ms. Sacco's experience includes working with the Housing Alliance of Pennsylvania eight regional workshops around the state regarding Federal budget issues regarding housing. While at Resources for Human Development, she developed new projects and initiatives around housing and homelessness. From 1997 to 2004 she was the Director of the Ridge Avenue Center, central intake for single adult men in Philadelphia. Ms. Sacco holds a masters degree in Public Administration from the University of Massachusetts

Ruth Schwartz is the founder and Executive Director of Shelter Partnership, a non-profit private/public partnership which provides technical, developmental, material and public policy support for Los Angeles' housing system for the homeless as a means to end homelessness in the region. Over the past 19 years, Shelter Partnership has assisted in the creation of both transitional and permanent, affordable housing with social support services for homeless individuals and families. Shelter Partnership also performs critical studies on homelessness and the housing delivery system. These include the needs of domestic violence victims, single women, emancipated foster youth, persons with a dual-diagnosis of mental illness and substance abuse and a major study on housing needs of homeless and low income persons living with HIV/AIDS.

Ms. Schwartz has been active for over 25 years, both at the community level and professionally in the field of low-income housing development and policy. Ms. Schwartz has her Master's Degree from the University of California at Los Angeles' School of Architecture & Urban Planning.

Ray Tovar is the city of San Jose's homeless coordinator. He has developed over 3,000 units of affordable housing since 1990, ranging from extremely low-income rental units to moderate-income for-sale housing, as well as transitional housing and permanent supportive housing for homeless individuals and families.

Mr. Tovar has been developing and implementing strategies that assist families and individuals to become permanently housed and self-sufficient in collaboration with government agencies, for profit and nonprofit partners. He is responsible for the creation of the Housing Services Partnership, between the City and the three major homeless shelter and service providers in the region to move homeless people into permanent housing and to make sure that households at risk of homelessness remain housed. Mr. Tovar is currently charged with implementing the City of San Jose's 10-Year Plan to end homelessness.

Phyllis Wolfe is a Special Expert in the Homeless Programs Branch, Center for Mental Health Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. She has over 25 years of direct work in support of individuals that are homeless that includes policy, program, practice, research, and advocacy.

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