

**Humboldt Housing and Homelessness Coalition (HHHC) Executive Committee Meeting**  
**Wednesday, February 25, 2026**  
**1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

**In Attendance:** Aaron Zell (DHHS), Darlene Spoor (Arcata House Partnership), Dian Pecora (South County Homes for All), Leah Lamattina (HCOE), Lorey Keele (RCAA), Saul Lopez (Nation's Finest), Jeff Davis (City of Eureka), Rosemary Shultz (HCTAYC), Alex Stillman (City of Arcata), Jennifer Dart (City of Arcata), Cheryl Churchill (Eureka Housing Authority), Luke Scown (Arcata Police Department).

**Special Guest:** Sara Sanders (League of California Cities)

**Agenda:**

*Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project (YHDP) Update*

- The Youth Advocacy Board (YAB) will be meeting with Redwood Community Action Agency (RCAA) next week to further discuss moving forward as well as the HUD contract stipulations. The YAB has met with legislative and policy staff at DHHS to discuss current court cases, the organizations involved in moving those cases forward, and where to send advocacy letters to.
- According to the National Alliance to End Homelessness, the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) contract stipulations are currently in litigation and many details are undetermined. RCAA has not made any decisions as of this time.

*Special Guest - League of California Cities*

- Sara is the Regional Public Affairs Manager for the League of California Cities for the Redwood Empire Division. The league is a nonprofit entity that represents the interests of cities.
- AB1708 proposes a new pathway for cities under 300,000 in population to access existing Homeless Housing and Assistance Program (HHAP) funding. HHAP funding is distributed to 14 large cities, 58 counties, and the 44 Continuum of Care (CoC) across the state. 42% of that funding goes to just those 14 cities. Not a single city in Humboldt County can access the existing HHAP funding that goes to the 14 cities, due to population size.
  - Cities across the state may participate as subrecipients of HHAP funding, but no requirements exist that the money is equitably or meaningfully allocated to smaller cities. The league conducted a survey that showed 60% of cities have not been able to receive HHAP funding, even as subrecipients. They use their own General Fund dollars. Cities report concerns about sustaining their homelessness services.

*Meeting Adjourned: 2:31 p.m. Next Executive Meeting: March 11, 2026 over Zoom.*

- This bill seeks to address the structural gaps to funding, not by reallocating funding percentages or bypassing the CoC, but by creating pathways for smaller cities to apply for funding within the existing regional framework. The bill would require CoCs to open a 30 day application window for cities under 300,000 before allocating funds to other subrecipients.
- To be eligible to apply, cities have to adopt a resolution committing to comply with a regionally coordinated action plan, maintain a compliant housing element, and have an encampment policy that is consistent with state administrative guidance.
- *Answers from CoC Questions:*
  - The bill doesn't allocate any new or additional funding to CoCs through HHAP, it only provides a pathway for cities to be able to apply as a subrecipient to the CoC.
  - Sara is not aware of the current statewide encampment policy but will bring something back if it exists.
  - Reporting and programmatic requirements for cities will be the same as any other HHAP subrecipient. The funding that cities could receive would not be discretionary and such the Coordinated Entry System rules would apply.

#### *Executive Committee Agency Updates*

- **Arcata House Partnership:** (1) AHP has provided, through their extreme weather shelter efforts over the last 5 days, 428 room nights and 764 bed nights to community members experiencing homelessness. They were able to accomplish this with funding assistance from the City of Arcata. AHP chose to use hotel rooms instead of congregate shelters this time around, which was effective. AHP has decided to stop providing the extreme weather shelter as the weather is starting to improve. (2) The turnout for the extreme weather shelter illustrates the need for homelessness services in the county. Many folks who are experiencing homelessness for the first time are older and medically fragile. The question is, how can the community continue to serve without proper resources. Many safety nets are being cut.
- **Humboldt County Transition-Age Youth Collaborative (HCTAYC):** (1) The TAY Center is having an open house on March 20th from 2-4pm. YAB members will present about HCTAYC and will include the video developed from their Sacramento advocacy trip. [Link to the flyer](#). (2) The Raven Project is open on Saturdays again. The only day that Youth Center Drop Ins aren't open is on Sundays.
- **South County Homes For All (SCHFA):** In response to AHP's update, a question was raised about how aware the community is of the severity of the need. There may be greater local support if awareness increases. The EC discussed reviving the newsletter that had been developed previously as a way to help spread the word.

*Next Steps, Future Meeting Topics, Adjourn Meeting*

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- The Executive Committee agreed to cancel the Executive Committee meeting scheduled for April 8th, due to the extended in person meeting that is happening on Friday, April 3rd.
- The Executive Committee agreed to schedule the next HHHC General Meeting on March 26th. Agenda development will be discussed at the next Executive Committee meeting.
  - A meeting topic at the General Meeting could center around how to get the word out about the community's need for homelessness services and support.