



# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES COMMISSION FOR PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES



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# PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION WORK PLAN 2014-15

## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Commission for Public Social Services (CPSS) is to “consult with and advise” the Director of the Department of Public Social Services and the Board of Supervisors on all matters relating to the need for and the provision of public social services. The Commission’s ability to fulfill its mission is dependent in part upon access to the data (Departmental reports, relevant research, public hearings, etc.) needed to inform its consultative and advising functions.

This 2014 – 2015 Work Plan is focused on program areas identified by the Commission as primary concerns in our effort to assist the Department in increasing its effectiveness in responding to the needs of its diverse target population.

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## **GOAL 1: EVALUATE HOMELESS SERVICES AVAILABLE TO CalWORKs CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

### Strategic Actions:

- a. How does DPSS define a homeless family? How does that contrast with the HUD and McKinney-Vento definitions of homelessness?
- b. What changes does the Department recommend to achieve better outcomes for homeless families? (e.g. Substitute rental assistance for cash payments to insure the families stay housed?)
- c. Review and assess the level of homelessness of CalWORKs families, and what programs are needed to address the safety and care of the children and families who are homeless.
- d. What barriers have been identified to homeless families' to CalWORKs assistance? How many homeless families could be housed if these barriers would be reduced or eliminated? How many children have become homeless as a result of these barriers?
- e. Identify the evidence based outcomes of partnerships the Department has maintained with local homeless providers. Have these partnerships been successful in housing and retaining formerly homeless families in appropriate housing? What best practices have been identified and should be promoted?

### Strategic Outcomes:

- a. To strengthen the evidence based outcomes of DPSS' partnerships with local CalWORKs homeless providers.
- b. To encourage and strengthen the department's collaborative efforts with community partners (e.g. LACOE, etc..) to help eliminate homelessness with CalWORKs children.
- c. To evaluate and strengthen DPSS' service delivery to homeless CalWORKs children.

**GOAL 2: EVALUATE HOMELESS SERVICES AVAILABLE TO GENERAL RELIEF and VETERAN PARTICIPANTS**

Strategic Actions:

- a. How many unemployable GR/Veteran recipients are homeless?
- b. Given the daily survival challenges of homelessness, what success has the GR program had in engaging and sustaining homeless adults in activities intended to shorten the period of disability?
- c. Given the daily survival challenges of homelessness has the GR program been able to sustain homeless adults in job training and placement activity?
- d. How effective is DPSS's interface with housing agencies such as LAHSA in identifying obstacles and in promoting access to housing for GR recipients?
- e. What is DPSS's involvement with non-profit and multi-agency programs for skid row residents, veterans, and/or GR participants seeking coordinated help from multiple providers?

Strategic Outcomes:

- a. To evaluate and strengthen DPSS' service delivery for Homeless GR participants and Veterans.
- b. To encourage and strengthen the department's collaborative efforts with community partners to increase stability through housing programs for homeless GR/Veteran participants.
- c. To strengthen the evidence based outcomes of DPSS' partnerships with local homeless providers for GR/Veteran participants.

### **GOAL 3: EVALUATE TRANSITIONAL AGED YOUTH (TAY)**

#### Strategic Actions:

- a. Are TAYs aging out of CalWORKs prepared for self-support? How many former child recipients are homeless?
- b. What is the number of GR recipients who have aged-out of CalWORKs and/or have transitioned from foster care (DCFS Transitional Aged Youth TAY)?

#### Strategic Outcomes:

- a. To evaluate and strengthen DPSS' service delivery for TAYs.
- b. To encourage and strengthen the department's collaborative efforts with community partners to increase stability through housing programs for homeless TAYs.

### **GOAL 4: IN HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES (IHSS) PROGRAM**

#### Strategic Activities:

- a. Review current programs, methods of needs assessment and services to IHSS clients.
- b. Review skill assessment and training programs for in-home providers.
- c. Assess and monitor rate determination process and cost tracking for IHSS providers.
- d. Review reports and assess potential waste and fraud, and safeguards in the IHSS program.
- e. Assess progress of Department in enhancing staff's ability to detect elder, dependent and chronically ill adult, abuse in IHSS and other settings.

## **GOAL 5: DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS**

### Strategic Activities:

- a. Evaluate what policies now encourage and/or inhibit the timely flow of data and data analysis to the Commission.
- b. Evaluate what County policies limit and/or encourage the participation of researchers (universities and research groups) in data collection and analysis with potential utility in informing program planning and development.
- c. Consider how the Commission can assist the Department in reaching out to and helping to mobilize university and community-based resources in assembling and analyzing data useful for more effective planning and program development?
- d. Seek regular Commission access to program audits and other reports of DPSS and DPSS contractors.

### **END OF 2014-15 PSS COMMISSION WORK PLAN GOALS**

**PSS COMMISSION WORK PLAN  
AGENDA & CALENDAR  
2015**

<b>Scheduled Agenda Topics</b>	<b>Commission Meeting Date</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Director's Update</li> <li>II. Formalize Discussion on Work Plan Outcomes and Revisions for FY 14-15</li> </ul>	January 8, 2015
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Director's Update</li> <li>II. General Status Update on GR Restructuring and Commission's Recommendations</li> <li>III. PSS Commission Awards Ceremony</li> </ul>	February 12, 2015
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Director's Update</li> <li>II. Report by the Department providing the following information:   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GOAL 1. EVALUATION HOMELESS SERVICES AVAILABLE TO CALWORKS CHILDREN AND FAMILIES</li> <li>A. Definition of a Homeless Family.</li> <li>B. Contrast HUD and McKinney-Vento Definition of homelessness.</li> <li>C. Specify the number of CalWORKs Families that are homeless.</li> <li>D. Specify the programs accessible to address the safety and care of CalWORKs children and families.</li> <li>E. Identify the Departments partnerships with local homeless providers.</li> </ul> </li> <li>III. Request for Homeless Data on CalWORKs children/ families by Supervisorial Districts.</li> </ul>	March 12, 2015

Scheduled Agenda Topics	Commission Meeting Date
<p>I. Director's Update</p> <p>II. Report by the Department providing the following information:</p> <p>GOAL 1. EVALUATION HOMELESS SERVICES AVAILABLE TO CALWORKS CHILDREN AND FAMILIES (CONTINUED)</p> <p>F. Identify best practices for promotion and replication purposes.</p> <p>G. Specify barriers to homeless families to CalWORKs assistance and enumerate the number that could be housed if barriers reduced or eliminated and how many children have become homeless due to these barriers.</p> <p>H. Evaluation of the partnership success in housing and retention in appropriate housing.</p> <p>III. Report by the Department recommending changes to achieve better outcomes for homeless families.</p> <p>GOAL 3. EVALUATE TRANSITIONAL AGED YOUTH (TAY)</p> <p>A. Enumerate the number of child recipients that are homeless.</p> <p>B. Enumerate the number of CalWORKs minors aging-out.</p>	<p>April 9, 2015</p>
<p>I. Director's Update</p> <p>II. Report by the Department providing the following information:</p> <p>GOAL 2. EVALUATE HOMELESS SERVICES AVAILABLE TO GENERAL RELIEF AND VETERAN PARTICIPANTS</p> <p>A. Specify the number of unemployed General Relief and Veteran recipients that are homeless.</p>	<p>May 14, 2015</p>



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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>B. Enumerate successful GR programs that sustain homeless adults in activities intended to shorten period of disability.</li><li>C. Enumerate the number of GR homeless adults that have completed job training and/or placement into employment.</li><li>D. Specify the Department's interface effectiveness with housing agencies, i.e., LAHSA, etc., in identifying obstacles in the promotion of housing for GR recipients.</li><li>E. Describe the Department's involvement with non-profit, multiagency programs on serving skid row residents, Veterans, and GR recipients.</li></ul> |  |
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Scheduled Agenda Topics	Commission Meeting Date
<p>I. Director's Update</p> <p>II. Election of CPSS Election for Chair &amp; Vice Chair</p> <p>III. Report by the Department providing the following information:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">GOAL 2. EVALUATE HOMELESS SERVICES AVAILABLE TO GENERAL RELIEF AND VETERAN PARTICIPANTS</p> <p>F. Describe how the Department GR-SSI Advocacy Program can be a useful model for advancing Veterans access to benefits.</p> <p>G. Report on the Department's plan to focus on policies, procedure and enhance service delivery to Veterans.</p> <p>H. Report by the Department on the Restructuring of GR and current status of enhanced case management for GR recipients and Veterans.</p> <p>I. Report from the Department on the number of Veterans employment throughout the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Social Services on a monthly basis in the Director's Report.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">June 12, 2015</p>

Scheduled Agenda Topics	Commission Meeting Date
<p>I. Director's Update</p> <p>II. Report by the Department providing the following information:</p> <p>GOAL 4. EVALUATION OF IN-HOME SUPPORTIVE SERVICES (IHSS) PROGRAM</p> <p>III. Update from the Department on the impact of the Coordinated Care Initiative (CCI) on IHSS Program.</p> <p>A. Review current programs, methods of needs assessment and services to IHSS clients.</p> <p>B. Review Skill assessment and training programs for In-Home Providers.</p> <p>C. Report the rate determination process and cost tracing for IHSS providers.</p> <p>D. Review reports and assess potential waste, fraud, and safeguards in the IHSS program.</p> <p>E. Report Department's progress in enhancing staff's ability to detect elder, dependent and chronically ill adults in IHSS and other settings.</p>	<p>July 9, 2015</p>
<p>No Commission Activities</p>	<p>August 2015</p>
<p>I. Director's Update</p> <p>II. Report by the Department providing the following information:</p> <p>GOAL 5. DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS</p> <p>A. Report on Department Policies on the timely flow of data and data analysis to the CPSS.</p> <p>B. Report from the Department on the DPSS policies that limit and or encourage the participation of researchers in data collection and data analysis.</p>	<p>September 10, 2015</p>

<p>C. Recommendations from DPSS how the CPSS can assist the Department in mobilizing universities and/or community based resources in gathering and analyzing data useful for more effective planning and program development</p> <p>D. Report on CPSS securing access to program audit and other reports regarding DPSS performance</p>	
<p>I. Director's Update</p> <p>II. Public Counsel / DPSS Annual Report of Summer Interns</p>	<p>October 8, 2015</p>
<p>I. Director's Update</p> <p>II. Formalize Discussion on Work Plan Outcomes and Work Plan Revisions for FY 15-16</p>	<p>November 12, 2015</p>
<p>Holiday Gala &amp; Adopt-A-Family</p>	<p>December 2015</p>