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November 9, 2017

To: Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Chairman
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Janice Hahn
Supervisor Kathryn Barger

From: Sachi A. Hamai
Chief Executive Officer

HOMELESS INITIATIVE QUARTERLY REPORT NO. 7

On February 9, 2016, the Board of Supervisors (Board) approved the Los Angeles County Homeless Initiative (HI) recommendations, which included 47 Strategies to combat homelessness, and instructed the Chief Executive Office (CEO) to report back to the Board on a quarterly basis regarding the implementation status and outcomes of each Strategy. On December 6, 2016, the Board approved four new strategies as part of the Measure H ordinance. These Strategies are now also included in the CEO's quarterly reports. This is the seventh quarterly report that the CEO has provided to the Board. The report addresses the implementation status of the 51 Homeless Initiative Strategies with highlights and impact stories, status of Board directives and motions, and other key HI activities.

Status Update on HI Strategies and Implementation Highlights

Of the 51 HI Strategies approved by the Board, 40 have been fully or partially implemented, as reflected in Attachment I, Implementation Status Update Chart. Of the 17 original HI Strategies now funded through Measure H, all except two have been implemented. Implementation status and next steps for the 51 HI Strategies can be found in Attachment II.

County departments/agencies and their community partners have made substantial progress in implementing the HI Strategies approved by the Board. On September 21, 2017, the CEO submitted final implementation plans for 19 Measure H-funded HI Strategies. The plans were developed by the lead County departments/agencies for each Strategy in consultation with the County HI team. The plans were also presented to the Homeless Policy Deputies at their July and August meetings; their input was incorporated into the final versions of the plans.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

The impact of the HI is illustrated in Attachment III, which includes stories of formerly homeless families and individuals who have received assistance through HI Strategies. In addition, implementation highlights for selected Strategies include:

- **A1: Homeless Prevention Program for Families**
From July through September 2017, 547 families received homeless prevention services through the Family Solutions Centers. Of the 52 families that completed the homelessness prevention program, 38 (73%) retained permanent housing.
- **B4: Facilitate Utilization of Federal Housing Subsidies**
As of September 29, 2017, the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles (HACoLA) received 620 landlord requests to participate in the Homeless Incentive Program (HIP) and provided \$825,495 in incentive payments to help secure 520 vacant units for voucher holders. There were 426 formerly homeless families successfully housed, with an additional eight families in the final leasing stages.
- **B7: Interim/Bridge Housing for Those Exiting Institutions**
From July through September 2017, the Department of Health Services (DHS) provided interim housing to approximately 46 individuals who were discharged from private hospitals.
- **C4/C5/C6: Establish a Countywide SSI and Veterans Benefits Advocacy Program for People Experiencing Homelessness or At Risk of Homelessness**
From April through September 2017, Countywide Benefits Entitlement Services (CBEST) teams assisted 2,320 disabled individuals with applications for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Veterans Disability Benefits.
- **D2: Expand Jail In-Reach**
As of September 2017, 4,540 clients have been engaged by the Jail In-Reach project. Following the initiation of project services at Pitchess Detention Center in September 2017, all Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) jail facilities now have in-reach services.
- **D7: Provide Services and Rental Subsidies for Permanent Supportive Housing**
The Health Agency began implementation on July 1, 2017. DHS increased Intensive Case Management Services which include comprehensive and multidisciplinary services to help homeless individuals and families meet their housing, health, and social service needs. The Department of Mental Health (DMH) also released a Statement of Eligibility and Interest to expand Full Service Partnership (FSP) programs that serve those with severe mental illness.

- **E4: First Responder Training**
As of September 30, 2017, 24 First Responder Training classes have been taught with approximately 618 deputies and sergeants attending.
- **E6: Countywide Outreach System**
During the last quarter, Multidisciplinary Teams (MDTs) made contact with more than 3,000 individuals, connected more than 1,000 individuals to services, placed 280 individuals into interim housing, linked 270 individuals to a permanent housing program, and placed 18 individuals into permanent housing.
- **E7: Strengthen the Coordinated Entry System**
In early October 2017, 33 existing Coordinated Entry System (CES) contracts were expanded with Measure H funds, increasing services for single adults, families, and youth, including a 300 percent increase in housing navigation services.
- **E8: Enhance the Emergency Shelter System**
As a result of Measure H funding, 200 units of interim housing for families were added through new site-based units and motel voucher funding. There was an increase of 84 interim beds that serve homeless clients with complex health and/or behavioral health conditions who need a higher level of support services than is available in most shelter settings. In October, Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) awarded contracts for 150 crisis housing beds for single adults and 152 beds for youth (60 crisis beds and 92 bridge housing beds).
- **E14: Enhanced Services for Transition Age Youth**
From July through September 2017, 2,315 youth have been assessed using the Next Step Tool. During that period, 896 youth were placed in permanent housing through the Youth CES.

Responses to Board Motions

During the last quarter (through October 12, 2017), the CEO responded to eight Board motions. For summaries of these reports, please see Attachment IV.

Other Key Homeless Initiative Activities

- **Continua of Care Update**
On June 13, 2017, the Board approved the allocation of Measure H funding to the Glendale and Long Beach Continua of Care (CoC) and instructed the CEO to work with LAHSA and DHS to provide funding for five of the 21 Measure H Strategies. On October 24, 2017, the Board approved the allocation of Measure H funding to the

Pasadena CoC. Discussions with the CoCs are underway, and the CoCs are currently at various stages of the contract development process.

- **Coordination with Cities and Councils of Government**

During this quarter, the CEO worked with cities across the County in a range of ways to strengthen their contribution to the countywide movement to prevent and combat homelessness.

- **Contracts with Councils of Governments and City Planning Grants**

On June 13, 2017, the Board allocated \$2 million for regional coordination services by Councils of Government (COGs) and homelessness planning grants for cities in the Los Angeles Continuum of Care. Of these funds, the CEO allocated \$1.5 million for the cities and \$500,000 for COGs.

Contracts have been executed for the San Gabriel Valley and South Bay COGs. Contracts for the Gateway, San Fernando Valley, and Westside COGs will be executed during November or December. Work is underway with the Malibu-Las Virgenes COG. In the Antelope Valley, where there is no actual COG, discussions are underway about how to best utilize the funding allocated for coordination of services.

To assist cities to join the County in combating homelessness, the HI partnered with United Way's Home for Good Funders Collaborative to develop and release a Request for Proposals for City Homelessness Planning Grants on July 28, 2017. These range between \$30,000 and \$70,000, depending on LAHSA's 2017 Homeless Count data for each city. The goal of the grants is for the cities to develop individualized city homelessness plans, which will meet the needs of their local jurisdictions and align with Board-approved HI Strategies. On August 10, 2017, HI and the Funders Collaborative co-hosted an Information Session with prospective city applicants. On September 18, 2017, 47 cities submitted 45 proposals for a total amount of \$2,075,000. Two proposals were submitted jointly by pairs of cities. For a list of cities that submitted proposals, see Attachment V. The COGs were instrumental in engaging and providing technical assistance to the cities during proposal development.

The total requested amount exceeded the earmarked funding by \$575,000. On October 17, 2017, the Board approved the allocation of \$575,000 in additional one-time funding from the Provisional Financing Uses (PFU) budget unit to ensure adequate funding for all city homelessness planning proposals that were determined to warrant funding through the proposal evaluation process.

On October 18, 2017, the Funders Collaborative deliberated on the cities' proposals and agreed to award conditional grants to all 45 proposals, pending development of an outcome-driven statement of work for each contract between the CEO and cities. The Funders Collaborative and HI will co-host a mandatory Grantees Orientation on November 29, 2017, to establish mutual understanding of the project goals, process, and desired regional outcomes. Awarded cities will submit their final Homelessness Plans by March 31, 2018, unless they submit a request seeking an extension of one to three months.

- **Cities' Summit**
The HI hosted the 2nd Cities' Summit to Combat Homelessness on September 27, 2017. The City of Carson provided the Summit venue and supported the event. Nearly 300 County and city elected officials, city management/representatives, County departments, COG representatives, and Coordinated Entry System providers attended to discuss Homeless Initiative Strategies, with an emphasis on Measure H-funded Strategies that are particularly relevant to cities.
- **Permanent Supportive Housing Memoranda of Understanding with Cities**
On August 22, 2017, the Board approved a motion directing the CEO to negotiate and execute Memoranda of Understanding with cities to increase the supply of Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH). As part of the motion, the Board approved a template MOU, which will serve as a starting point for discussions with interested cities. The CEO has reached agreement on a PSH MOU with the City of Los Angeles, and that MOU is scheduled to be executed this month. At the Cities' Summit, representatives of 16 cities expressed their interest in exploring a PSH MOU with the County, and preliminary discussions with those cities are currently underway.
- **AB 210/Prioritization of Housing and Services for Heaviest Users of County Services**
County-sponsored AB 210 was signed into law by the Governor on October 7, 2017. AB 210 authorizes counties to establish homeless adult and family multidisciplinary personnel teams to facilitate the expedited identification, assessment, and linkage of homeless individuals and families to housing and supportive services within the County. It allows provider agencies to share confidential information in order to coordinate housing and supportive services, ensure continuity of care, and reduce duplication of services. AB 210 will be effective on January 1, 2018. HI is working with County Counsel and participating County departments/agencies to develop a protocol which will govern the sharing of

confidential information within these teams, and is aiming to begin implementing AB 210 in early 2018.

The new law will considerably aid in the County's efforts to prioritize the care of high-cost homeless single adults. Beginning in December 2016, the CEO has made available, to a group of County departments, files with the names of their clients who are among the 5 percent of homeless single adults who are the heaviest users of County services. These files do not currently include any past or current service information, but the enactment of AB 210 will enable service information to be shared, greatly enhancing the County's ability to prioritize housing and related services for heavy users of County services, as directed by the Board on February 9, 2016.

- **Measure H Citizens Oversight Advisory Board**

The Measure H Citizens' Oversight Advisory Board held its inaugural meeting on September 26, 2017. The Oversight Board's five members, each appointed by a member of the Board of Supervisors, will review and evaluate all Measure H spending. Their work is a crucial component of the accountability built into Measure H. At the meeting, the Advisory Board selected Christine Margiotta, appointed by the Third Supervisorial District, to be the Chairperson. The next two meetings will take place in December 2017, and February 2018.

- **Interfaith Summit on Homelessness – Follow-up Actions**

On June 7, 2017, HI and LA Voice hosted the County's first Interfaith Summit on Homelessness. The Summit focused on combating homelessness by building a common vision and collaboration between faith organizations and the County, highlighting HI Strategies on which the County and faith organizations can partner, and creating avenues for faith organizations to align their work with broader efforts to combat homelessness across the County.

The HI and LAHSA hosted follow-up sessions in each of the County's eight service planning areas (SPAs). The follow-up sessions were designed to foster more in-depth conversations about meaningful partnerships between the County and faith organizations. These sessions also provided further information about various HI Strategies where there are the greatest opportunities for faith organizations to partner with the homeless service delivery system in support of homeless individuals and families.

In response to these efforts, thirty-one faith organizations have expressed interest in exploring partnerships with the County in support of one or more specific HI Strategies. HI lead agencies are reaching out to the faith organizations to discuss collaboration opportunities. Additionally, the HI continues to work with LA Voice to

