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**REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD**

**DATE:** Wednesday, June 12, 2013

**TIME:** 10:00 a.m.

**PLACE:** SETA Board Room  
925 Del Paso Blvd.  
Sacramento, CA 95815

While the Community Action Board welcomes and encourages participation in the Board meetings, it would be appreciated if you would limit your comments to five minutes so that everyone may be heard. Matters under the jurisdiction of the Community Action Board and not on the posted agenda may be addressed by the general public following completion of the regular agenda. The Community Action Board limits testimony on matters not on the agenda to five minutes per person and not more than fifteen minutes for a particular subject. Meeting facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. Requests for Assistance Listening Devices or other considerations should be made through the Clerk's office at (916) 263-3827. This document and other Board meeting information may be accessed through the Internet by accessing the SETA home page: [www.seta.net](http://www.seta.net).

**AGENDA**

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  - C. Program Manager
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- V. Adjournment**

**DISTRIBUTION DATE: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 2013**

***“Preparing People for Success: in School, in Work, in Life”***

ITEM II-A - CONSENT

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MAY 8, 2013 MEETING

BACKGROUND:

Attached are the minutes of the May 8, 2013 meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

Review, make any necessary corrections and approve the minutes.

## **SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD**

### Minutes/Synopsis

(The minutes reflect the actual progression of the meeting.)

SETA Board Room  
925 Del Paso Blvd.  
Sacramento, CA 95815

Wednesday, May 8, 2013  
10:00 a.m.

#### **I. Call to Order/Roll Call**

Ms. Denise Nelson called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

##### Members Present:

Debra Morrow, Sacramento County Department of Health and Human Services

Denise Nelson, Head Start Policy Council

Mary Benson, Child Action, Inc.

Alan Lange, Community Link

Sam Starks, SMUD

Nicolas Johnson, Sacramento County Adult & Aging Commission

##### Members Absent:

Tom Bennett, United Way

John Healey, California Emergency Food Link

Beth White, Catholic Charities of Sacramento

Benjamin Bailey, Head Start Policy Council

Blake Young, Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services

Dana Mitchell, Human Rights/Fair Housing

#### **➤ Introduction of New Member:**

Mr. Nicolas Johnson, Sacramento County Adult & Aging Commission: Mr. Johnson was introduced and welcomed to the board.

#### **II. Consent Item**

##### **A. Approval of Minutes of the April 11, 2013 Meeting**

The minutes were reviewed; no questions or corrections.

The minutes were approved by consensus of the board.

#### **III. Information Items**

##### **A. Update on CSBG Sequestration: Ms. Sherwood-Green stated that the Agency is expecting a 5% reduction in CSBG funding.**

- B. Community Services Block Grant Fiscal Monitoring Report: No questions or comments.

**IV. Reports to the Board**

- A. Chair: No report.
- B. Executive Director: No report.
- C. Program Manager: No report.
- D. Members of the Board: No reports.
- E. Public: No comments.

**V. Public Hearing for the 2014-2015 Community Action Plan**

Ms. Sherwood-Green stated that this is a public hearing on the most critical community needs. Written testimony and surveys will be accepted until June 23. The plan will guide the board on the CSBG funding that will be done in the fall. The Community Action Plan will go to the CAB on June 12 for final approval.

Mr. Victor Bonanno reviewed a survey that was sent to over 200 past CSBG recipients. Staff is available to take testimony over the phone which will be included in the Community Action Plan. The survey was also sent out to all of the CSBG program operators.

1. **Daren Maeda, Linkage to Education**: This program has been funded since 1995. It works with probation and foster youth and helps them transition to college, preferably community college. Their needs are great, especially for the foster youth. Their support is minimal and their access to resources is very limited. There is a need to put these youth on an upward trajectory so they succeed in life.
2. **Lishia Rahman and Richard Ruckman, Salvation Army**. This program provides emergency shelter and has a family services department. There is a need for emergency services where people come in for food, SMUD and PG & E assistance, housing, move in assistance, and eviction avoidance. Mr. Ruckman was a previous client who received rent and utility assistance from the Salvation Army, which helped him get back on his feet and feeling hopeful.
3. **Kimberly Johnson, previous client, Sacramento Area Emergency Housing**: She became homeless in 2011; she was being irresponsible by not paying her bills and she was behind in her rent. She investigated shelters and found this shelter; they are angels. The staff at Sacramento Area Emergency Housing made sure she had clothes to go on interviews and bus passes and supported her during her homelessness. She is now an executive assistant and thanks SETA for her position.

4. **Eileen Thomas, Executive Director, River City Food Bank:** Ms. Thomas read a written testimony from a client who received services from River City Food Bank. The client is typical of the families who struggle, even with a full-time job. She has 5 children and a husband who is employed. Because of doctor bills and other expenses, it is hard for her to buy groceries. The food from River City Food Bank allows her to stretch her food dollar. She does not use the food bank every month but she is very grateful for the support; she is hoping to give back when she can.

Ms. Thomas stated that this is a good example of their clients, many of whom are struggling. River City is struggling too because they are serving 5,000-6,000 people per month. They serve seniors, working poor, unemployed, underemployed, and disabled people. Services funded through the SETA program provide healthy food. Without food, families can't work or help their children.

5. **Mary Lou Powers, Executive Director, South County Services:** This program has been around for 37 years, and is the only safety net service program that serves the most southern communities in the county, including Galt, Walnut Grove, Isleton, Herald, Wilton, Courtland, and Ryde. Dollars are few and the demand continues to go up. Ms. Powers stated that this program has three employees working a reduced schedule of four days per week, and are still serving more people than before. There is a huge increased need for food services. They provide emergency food, rental and mortgage assistance, utility assistance, immigration assistance, gas vouchers, translation services, and medical transport for seniors and provide diapers and formula for mothers needing assistance.
6. **Frank Morales, Shield Security Guard/Former client:** Mr. Morales began his journey through the shelter system and ending up at Mather Community Campus. When he began the Mather program, he was humble and was able to get training to become a security guard; they provided assistance for boots and a uniform. He is very grateful for the assistance. With two months of work, he is able to save money and hopes soon to get back on his feet. Counting on other people to get him fed and clothes on his back was humbling and it motivated him to do it on his own.
7. **Elliot Davis, Site Coordinator, Roberts Family Development Center:** This program serves the Twin Rivers School District. Recently started an after school program through the Twin Rivers USD and is seeking funding assistance for their program.
8. **May Lee, Program Coordinator and Sheng Her, Hmong Women's Heritage Association:** Ms. Lee spoke of the senior group that meets twice a week; the program helps with health, mental health, and is a safe place to

socialize with other seniors that speak Hmong. They take their seniors on field trips to reduce isolation and help them get out of their homes.

Ms. Wendy Vang, a client, stated that she is from France and then moved to the USA. When she came to Sacramento, she did not know where to go for medical needs so she came to Hmong Women's Heritage Association because she heard from friends they could help; the program helped her with a lot of services and becoming a citizen. She now has health insurance. This year she has a lot of illnesses but she continues to go to the socialization program.

9. **Latisha Simms, graduate and staff, Waking the Village/Tubman House:** Ms. Simms is a graduate of Tubman House. Ms. Simms was homeless throughout her life, became pregnant at a young age, and endured an abusive relationship. She decided in May 2007 that she does not want her daughter to go through what she went through. She called Tubman House and asked for assistance. They helped her with housing, child care, getting back on her feet and not falling back into homelessness. Tubman house had residents her age and helped her heal. She knows SETA helps with employment and thanked the agency for that.
10. **Kimberly Berrios, Tubman House:** Ms. Berrios was homeless as a child. She was referred to Tubman House by a midwife. She contacted Bridget Alexander who helped her get housing and employment. Getting in to Tubman House was a changing point in her life. She finished school and obtained a GED. Traditional shelters are not appropriate for transition-age youth parents. Tubman house was an amazing environment – not just housing. She is now a Tubman House staff member.
11. **Parisa Ijadi-Maghsoodi, managing attorney and Emma Bethers, Senior Legal Hotline:** This is a legal aid office, affiliated with Legal Aid for Northern California. They provide free legal advice on civil matter to seniors, especially low-income seniors. The provision of services for seniors is an unmet need. If the seniors' SSI is cut off, they need to act quickly so the senior can pay rent and not receive an eviction notice. Seniors are a growing population. The economic collapse hurt seniors the most. They need help with public benefits, housing, and elder abuse issues that can only be addressed by an attorney. This program fills a need by connecting seniors with the legal assistance they need.

Ms. Emma Bethers was referred by her nephew so she could get visitation rights to her great grandson. She is now working with a mediation person and this person was able to resolve some issues; Ms. Bethers is now able to see her great grandson regularly. There was another landlord/tenant issue to resolve. Senior Legal Hotline was very helpful to let Emma know what her rights were as a tenant.

12. **Erika Guzman, student/client, La Familia Counseling Center:** Ms. Guzman is a former client of La Familia's youth counseling program, Project Reach. Project Reach has helped her because she had a lot of problems at home such as running away, drugs and depression. She is now off drugs, and has her grades up. She received unconditional support from La Familia staff, which made a drastic change in her life. She was so influenced by the La Familia staff that she now wants to help others by becoming a social worker. Ms. Guzman thanked the Agency for the support.
13. **Marcus Robinson, Supervisor, Crossroads Facility Services:** Mr. Robinson is a former Mather Community Campus resident and Volunteers of America client. He had a lot of barriers, gaps in employment, criminal record, and came to Mather Community Campus with his wife and six month old daughter. He received training, obtained his driver's license and overcame many of his barriers. He is now working at Mather as a supervisor with Crossroads. His wife also found employment as an Office Assistant. He is very humbled to be with so many other great programs. Life is good and he is very grateful.
14. **Tishawna Holeman, Career Service Assistant; former Mather community resident.** She is a graduate of Asher College and now works at Asher College; she received On-the-Job training through CSBG's Pathways to Employment program and is now employed. Ms. Holeman is very grateful for the services available through CSBG funding.
15. **Vicki Jacobs, Managing Attorney, Voluntary Legal Services Program:** Ms. Jacobs stated that this program uses volunteer attorneys, paralegals, for a criminal record expungement program and driver's license reinstatement. These services help people get back to work. Many employers are hesitant to hire people that have an unexpunged criminal record. The expungement services also help people to get into the military and to get housing. A particular need that is not yet funded is helping young people seal their juvenile records. This would help with finding employment, joining the military and obtaining student loans.
16. **Cindy Blain, Director Community Partnerships, Sacramento Tree Foundation:** This program is an educational program and urged the board to consider investing in an urban forest program. There are a lot of health benefits for underserved neighborhoods. An unmet need is an urban forest to develop green jobs. This would be a good way to build green neighborhoods, pride, civic engagement, and alleviate root causes of poverty.
17. **Oralia Bermudez, La Familia Counseling Center and client, Edgar:** Ms. Bermudez introduced Project Reach which is a program that works with at-risk youth. They go to the families and work with them in the home. They provide

individual and family counseling, support services, referrals to positive activities. Their youth are dealing with a lot of challenges that put them at risk of gang activity, substance abuse, and dropping out of school. Ms. Bermudez urged the board to continue funding services for youth.

Edgar has been a client with La Familia for a couple of years. The first time he asked for help it was really hard; there were a lot of problems but La Familia staff were there for him and gave him counseling and assistance to stay out of trouble and away from gangs and drugs. Edgar thanked La Familia and their staff; they have helped him a lot.

**VI. Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 11:13 a.m.

## ITEM III – A - ACTION

### APPROVAL OF THE 2014-2015 COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN

#### BACKGROUND:

Enclosed (under separate cover) for your approval is the draft 2014-2015 Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Community Action Plan. A locally determined plan for the use of CSBG funding is required by the State Department of Community Services and Development (CSD). This two-year draft Community Action Plan represents Community Services Block Grant service priorities for the period of January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2015. SETA's contract with CSD will continue to be on a single calendar year basis. The funding level for the year 2014 is not known at this time. Copies of the draft Community Action Plan have been made available to the public for their comments.

The draft Community Action Plan was developed as a result of an extensive needs assessment process using public testimony from two public hearings, a survey on service needs from current and past clients, an analysis of the latest available demographic data and studies, a review of publications on trends and issues in Sacramento County, and other sources of information depicting the most recent conditions affecting the low-income population in this region.

Based on the needs assessment, SETA will plan its focus of Community Services Block Grant services on low-income families, frail, homebound elderly, at-risk youth (including foster youth facing emancipation and homeless youth), homeless individuals and families, and other vulnerable populations with an emphasis on comprehensive services that will likely lead to self-sufficiency. Activities planned include Safety-net or one-time emergency services and outcome-based, case managed services designed to move clients toward economic security. CSBG services will continue to be linked to the One-Stop Career Centers as a support for clients seeking employment, and will be an important resource to assist community-based organizations in building capacity, developing collaborations, and networking. As a result of the success of the homeless employment project funded by a CSBG Discretionary grant in 2012-13, subsidized employment (on-the-job training and work experience) is included in the 2014-2015 CAP for populations that are not eligible for subsidized employment programs funded under the Workforce Investment Act or CalWORKs.

A summary of the Community Information Profile is attached.

The Community Action Plan will be presented to the SETA Governing Board for approval on June 20, 2013.

ITEM III-A – ACTION (continued)

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RECOMMENDATION:

Review and approve the 2014-2015 Community Services Block Grant Community Action Plan.

**SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT 2014-2015**  
**COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN (CAP) COMMUNITY**  
**INFORMATION PROFILE**

The Community Information Profile and Needs Assessment describe the problems and causes of poverty in SETA's service area based on public testimony, verifiable data and information. For the 2014-2015 CAP, the most recent statistical data used was the 2011 American Community Survey, a product of the U.S. Census Bureau, which was released in the fall of 2012. The profile shows the most recent indicators of poverty in Sacramento County:

**Poverty Rate**

The current poverty rate has risen to 17.7%, up from 15.4% in 2009, or 250,460 individuals living in poverty, a 15% increase over the rate of two years ago. Of this number, 19,788 persons are living in extreme poverty (less than 50% of the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines).

**Single Parents**

Almost 33% of single parent families are living in poverty. The rate increases to 42.7% for female-headed families with children under 5 years. The rates of single parent female householders are between 30% and 50% in large sections of the county represented by North Highlands, Parkway/South Sacramento, Arden-Arcade, and Rancho Cordova.

**Seniors**

Nine percent or 14,500 of older adults 65+ live in poverty. The rate is higher for African-American seniors (10.5%) and Asian seniors (10.4%). 55% of seniors lived alone; most of whom were women.

**Youth**

Children aged 0 – 17 years comprise over 25% of Sacramento County's total population. Among this age group, the poverty rate is over 25.2%, 4% higher than the rate in 2009. 7% (1,450) of the total births in Sacramento County in 2011 were to women under the age of 20. 61% of the county's adolescent mothers live in Arden Arcade, Citrus Heights, East City, Land Park/Pocket, North Sacramento, North Highlands/Foothill Farms, Rancho Cordova or South Sacramento. The number of youth in foster care has decreased over the last 5 years. Of the foster youth that aged out of the foster care system in the 2012 program year, 48 were exited in a condition of homelessness. In 2011, 1,472 juveniles were arrested for felonies. The 2011-12 high school dropout rate in Sacramento County was 13.7%.

### **Labor Force and Unemployment Data**

The Sacramento County unemployment rate was 8.5% in April 2013. The rates are the highest in Florin (13.2%), Foothill Farms (11.5%), Galt (13.7%), Isleton (11.1%), North Highlands (13.1%), Parkway South Sacramento (14.9%), Rio Linda (13.3%), and Walnut Grove (21%).

### **Homelessness**

The 2013 Homeless Count report is not yet available; however, the 2011 Sacramento Homeless Count reported that 2,358 adults and children were homeless. The count indicated a 24.6% decline in the number of chronically homeless, but found an 11.2% increase in the number of homeless families. Service providers have reported a marked increase in requests for shelter, including an increase in requests from two-parent families. This section will be updated if the 2013 Homeless Count report is published prior to June 30, 2013.

### **Hunger**

The Sacramento County Department of Health and Human Services reports that a monthly average of 207,973 adults and children participated in the CalFresh program in 2012.

**CAP Target Populations:** Based upon the needs assessment, CSBG services will be prioritized for the following target groups:

- Low-Income families, including victims of domestic violence, immigrants, ex-offenders, single parents, disabled individuals
- Youth, including emancipating foster youth, probationary youth, homeless youth, teen parents, and youth at risk of gang involvement, dropping out of school and truancy.
- Seniors
- Homeless individuals and families

## ITEM IV - REPORTS TO THE BOARD

### A. CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair of the SETA Community Action Board on a regular basis receives numerous items of information concerning legislation, current programs and agency activities.

The important information from the material received and meetings attended will be shared with the entire Board and the method proposed by the Chair is to give a verbal report at each regular meeting. It will also allow time for the Board to provide input on items that may require future action.

### B. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

This item is set aside to allow the Executive Director of the Community Action Program to report to the Board on any items of important information or to deal with special requests which need to be addressed but, because of time constraints, were not included in the formal SETA Community Action Board packet.

The Executive Director's Report also allows the opportunity for the Executive Director to apprise the Board of upcoming events, significant agency activities, or conferences.

### C. MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

This item provides the opportunity for SETA Community Action Board members to raise any items for consideration not covered under the formal agenda. It also provides the opportunity for Board members to request staff to research or follow up on specific requests or to ask that certain items be placed on the next agenda.

### D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Participation of the general public at SETA Community Action Board meetings is encouraged. Members of the audience are asked to address their requests to the Chair, if they wish to speak.