



San Francisco Department of Public Health

Housing Conservatorship Working Group: Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 15, 2021 @ 1:00pm-2:30pm
Virtual Meeting

In virtual attendance:

Chair	Angelica Almeida, Ph.D. (SFDPH)
Workgroup Members	Jessica Lehman (Seat 2), Jennifer Esteen (Seat 4), Sara Shortt (Seat 6) Dr. Mark Leary (Seat 7), Marlo Simmons (Seat 8), Jose Orebeta (Seat 9), Jill Nielsen (Seat 10), Megan Owens (Seat 11)
Evaluation Team	Amy Ramos, Ph.D. (Harder+Company Community Research), Tsuyoshi Onda (Harder+Company Community Research)

Welcome, Agenda Review, and Introductions

Angelica Almeida, Ph.D. welcomed the workgroup and members of the public in attendance, and provided an overview of the agenda. Dr. Almeida provided an overview of the purpose of the Working Group, and shared a reminder that the last meeting of the calendar year, on December 13th would be focused on a discussion of the local report due to the Board of Supervisors and Mayor’s Office in January 2022.

Announcements

Dr. Almeida provided a few updates to the workgroup:

- Workgroup members were reminded of the COVID-19 vaccination requirement to sit on the workgroup. Dr. Almeida informed the workgroup that additional information would be shared once the department received details.
- An annual update would be provided to the SF Health Commission Community and Public Health Committee at their monthly meeting on November 16th at 2pm. Dr. Almeida will provide updates on the implementation of the program, the same information that the workgroup received over the last couple of meetings.
- The Board of Supervisors Budget & Legislative Analyst is developing a report on conservatorship, which has not yet been released.
- Megan Owens was welcome to the workgroup to fill Seat 11, an employee of the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing appointed by a director of HSH.
- A couple of other membership transitions are still pending: Seat 1, the representative of disability rights groups appointed by the Mayor’s office and Seat 12, the police department employee appointed by the Chief of Police.

Implementation Update

Dr. Almeida shared that there were no changes since the last time the workgroup met in October, with two individuals under conservatorship. SFPDH is continuing to monitor multiple individuals, but there are no new petitions pending at the current time.

State Report Discussion

Workgroup members posed a number of suggestions and questions regarding the draft State Report:

- Workgroup members asked if there was more detail that could be added to the report on the effectiveness of the housing conservatorship program thus far in addition to the information on treatment planning and services included in the draft report, specifically more information on the effectiveness of treatment to each individual conserved. Dr. Almeida responded that revisions could include additional language on short-term effectiveness and status of individuals conserved at the time of the report.
- Dr. Almeida also reminded the workgroup that the demographic data is redacted due to privacy concerns and could not be shared at public meetings including in communication with the workgroup.
- Workgroup members also requested an edit to include a description of the other services provided by the city to maximize engagement in voluntary treatment and other appropriate options for treatment and services.

Dr. Almeida told workgroup members that a revised draft of the State Report would be e-mailed to the workgroup by the end of the week, November 19th, and requested any written feedback by the end of the month. A final draft will be shared with workgroup members before it gets submitted to the State Legislature in January 2022.

Data Review

Tsuyoshi Onda provided an overview of ongoing and future data collection efforts as part of the evaluation of the Housing Conservatorship program, including ongoing analysis of client-level and population-level data. Mr. Onda also shared that the evaluation team would like solicit feedback on how to get feedback directly from individual clients, those conserved, and from different stakeholders via primary data collection such as interviews or focus groups.

Workgroup member discussed considerations for client and stakeholder feedback:

- Workgroup members asked if the individual client feedback could be included in the local report due in January 2022. Dr. Almeida mentioned that SFPDH could contact the one individual who was conserved earlier in the year to see if they would be interest in having an initial conversation to gauge overall experience and attitude toward the pilot program so far.
- Another member commented that it would be important to consider how data collection would not seem extractive or forced, and to make a concerted effort so that the individuals know that the conversation is voluntary, and the purpose is clearly laid out (including considerations of incentivizing participation in data collection)
- Workgroup members also expressed the value of including the perspective of providers more broadly, such as the permanent supportive housing group, and stakeholders that aren't directly involved with these two individuals conserved to learn about experience with conservatorship more broadly.
- Dr. Almeida mentioned that the evaluation team could develop a draft protocol to share with the workgroup for the first meeting of 2022, as an opportunity for the workgroup to provide feedback on primary data collection

Public Comment

There were no public comments made at this meeting.

Closing and Next Steps

Dr. Almeida closed the meeting by reminded the Working Group of the final meeting scheduled for 2021 where the workgroup would also be notified of the meeting schedule for 2022:

- December 13, 2021

All meetings will be held from 1:00-2:30pm and meeting location will be determined based on the most current health recommendations.