

**Contra Costa County Employment & Human Services Department
Community Services Bureau
2014 Advisory Body Annual Report**

Advisory Body: Economic Opportunity Council (EOC)

Meeting Time/Location: Every 2nd Thursday of the month/40 Douglas Dr, Martinez, CA

Chair: Rachele Gomez, Low-Income Seat 2

Staff Support: Jagjit Bhambra, Administrative Services Assistant III

Reporting Period: January 2014 – December 2014

Recommendation

ACCEPT the 2014 Annual Report of the Economic Opportunity Council Advisory Board.

Activities

- Onsite monitoring of the recipients of Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funds and their impact on addressing community needs and access to services:
 - ❖ Bay Area Legal Aid
 - ❖ Opportunity Junction
 - ❖ Contra Costa Clubhouses
 - ❖ RYSE Youth Center
 - ❖ Korean Community Center of the East Bay
 - ❖ Loaves and Fishes

All programs were reported as meeting their contract requirements and fulfilling their contracts for addressing and meeting community needs.

- EOC members participated in the following community service outreach projects.
 - Rachele Gomez established a community farm in the East County and started donating the fresh produce to the food-bank in July 2014
 - Rachele Gomez coached soccer at the day camp in Antioch in July 2014
 - Aisha Hall participated in “Stop the violence walk” on July 2014
 - Auna Harris participated in National night out sponsored by Girls Inc. and Richmond Police Department in August 2014
 - Dennisha Marsh participated in the new dog park and Wespac project discussions in the city of Pittsburg
 - Armando Morales has art project, “Dia de los Muertos” underway for the youth in the City of Oakley.
 - Ahmed Burden has established a youth basketball training in the City of Antioch

Accomplishments

- The BOS Community Action Month presentation occurred on May 7th.
- 4,670 households were served in the LIHEAP services and 360 homes were weatherized through the Weatherization Program.
- 25 Clerical Assistant Trainees completed this CSB program. Seven obtained employment.

Attendance/Representation

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- Nine general business meetings were scheduled in 2014. Eight of the nine general business meetings achieved quorum.
- Joint meeting of the EOC Board Members, HS/EHS Policy Council, and Board of Supervisors occurred on April 16, 2014.
- Joint orientation and training of EOC Board Members and the HS/EHS Policy Council on October 25, 2014. Trainers sponsored by California Nevada Community Action Partnership conducted the EOC Board Member's Training

Training/Certification

- 2 EOC members attended the Facilitative Leadership Training conducted by the Community Services Bureau/EHSD in February 2014
- Joint Meeting of the EOC, PC, and the Board of Supervisors was held on April 16, 2014.
- Chair, Rachele Gomez, members, Dennisha Marsh, and 2 EOC staff members attended the Cal/Neva Region IX Annual Conference on April 29- May2, 2014 in Sacramento.
- 50th Commemoration at the State Capitol on April 29, 2014 at Sacramento was attended by the Chair, Vice Chair, six EOC members and six staff members.
- Chair, Rachele Gomez, Vice Chair Dennisha Marsh, and 2 EOC staff members participated in the National Community Action Partnership Annual Convention on August 19-29, 2015 in Washington DC.
- The EOC and PC Joint Orientation and Training was held on October 25th.
- EOC members participated in the Strengths Finder Training held on July 29, 2014 and October 28, 29, 2014. EOC/CSB staff members also attended the Strengths Finder Training.

2015 Proposed Work Plan

- The Economic Opportunity Council will hold Community Action Public Hearing at three locations in the county (East, Central, and West County). The EOC will receive public input for the needed services in the community which will be incorporated in the Contra Costa County Community Action Plan 2016-17.
- The 2016-2017 Community Action Plan (CAP) will be submitted to California Department of Community Services and Development before June 30, 2015. The CAP will include results of the Community Assessment, Public Hearing, and Strategic Plan.
- Increase community involvement and information sharing in the areas of interest identified in the Community Action Plan will be the focus of the Contra Costa County CAA/EOC
- May, June, and July 2015 the EOC members are scheduled for subcontractor onsite monitoring.
- Release Request for Proposals for Community Action service providers to be funded by the Community Services Block Grant to the subcontractors in July 2015.