
From: Lauren Rettagliata <rettagliata@gmail.com>

Sent: Friday, July 2, 2021 10:32 AM

To: Mariana Moore <MMoore@richmondca.gov>

Cc: Housing That Heals <housingthatheals@gmail.com>; Lisa Driscoll <Lisa.Driscoll@cao.cccounty.us>; Teresa Pasquini <tcpasquini@gmail.com>; BK Williams <bkwiliamsmeasurex@gmail.com>; Suzanne K. Tavano <Suzanne.Tavano@cchealth.org>; Jill Ray <Jill.Ray@bos.cccounty.us>

Subject: Re: Please see attachments for consideration by Measure X CAB under Item 4-Focussed Presentation and Discussion-Mental Health, Behavioral Health, Disabled Residents

Dear BK and Mariana,

In this week's discussion, I heard BK's concern of allowing both developers and entities that do not have nonprofit status from receiving Measure X funds. While I share her concern about developers and corporations unjustly profiting from Measure X funds -- there is the stark reality that the treatment and care of one of the most vulnerable populations in our county has been outsourced to Providers, many of whom are LLC's. There are both good and bad developers and corporations just as there are good and bad government run and nonprofit run programs.

If Measure X funds can only be accessed by nonprofits this will eliminate most of the Providers who provide treatment, care and residences for those with a Serious Mental Illness. While all mental health challenges and situations are serious, Serious Mental Illness is a defined category in the Welfare and Institutions Code. Serious Mental Illness is a "Disability". Those with a Serious Mental Illness die 15-30 years before the national average. There is no other disability that has such huge disparities.

As a county we have failed to provide for the housing this population needs. Many with this diagnosis will not be able to live on their own but instead need an enclave or campus like setting that allows them to live within the greater community.

Thank you Mariana and BK for the most informative discussions on the needed improvements in our county. I totally support the "ask" of \$12 million put forth by Health, Housing and Homelessness, but we must not forget "housing for the Seriously Mentally Ill" falls under Behavioral Health. I do so hope that Behavioral Health places an "ask" for funding that will allow for the development of programs that will house those in our community that could return home who now reside in Mental Health Rehabilitation Centers and large Board and Cares because all placements in this county are full. This county should also be aware that the state of California is making plans to return all those with a LPS conservatorship who reside in the Department of State Hospitals back to their county.

With more that Hope,
Lauren Rettagliata