



## **MEETING AGENDA**

<b>9:00 am</b>	<b>Check-In</b>
<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Welcome &amp; Agenda</b> Anthony Hassan, Director, CIR Margaret Thomas, Collaborative Coordinator, CIR
<b>9:40 am</b>	<b>Announcements and Review of Issues To Be Addressed in Working Groups</b>
<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Working Group Sessions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>♦ Behavioral Health</li><li>♦ Career Advancement</li><li>♦ Families &amp; Children</li><li>♦ Housing &amp; Homelessness</li><li>♦ Legal &amp; Re-Entry</li></ul>
<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>Review of Working Group Sessions</b>
<b>11:25 am</b>	<b>Administrative Items &amp; Closing Remarks</b> Margaret R. Thomas
<b>11:30 am</b>	<b>Collaborative Meeting Adjourns</b>

**I. Welcome & Agenda**

Margaret Thomas, Community Liaison, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. She discussed the focus group and survey process and status.

Conducted a short questionnaire of the attendees to determine strengths of the collaborative, ways the collaborative could improve, any asked for additional comments and suggestions.

Announcements made regarding upcoming events and projects to include: UCLA conference – How are Veterans Changing America? And USC SoarTech Project for family and friends of those who have served.

James Schickle from CalVet spoke.

**II. Working Group Breakout Sessions**

The working groups then met for one hour. The working groups that convened were:

- **Behavioral Health**
- **Career Advancement**
- **Families & Children**
- **Housing & Homelessness**
- **Legal & Re-Entry**

**III. Working Group Session Summaries**

All attendees then re-convened to review the discussions from each working group. Groups were asked to think about what information from such a survey would help them the most.

**a. Behavioral Health Working Group**

Discussed Evidence Based Practices (EBP). Introduced 3 new people to the collaborative. Additionally, the group is considering compiling a list of organizations which are not performing and or offering stated services. Still discussing criteria to use to evaluate poor performing services and organizations.

**b. Career Advancement Working Group**

This month the group broke into 3 smaller groups for more in depth conversation on specific issues facing the group. The group also identified next steps and tasks for ongoing projects to be completed for next month's meeting.

Introduced new individuals to the collaborative.

**c. Families & Children Working Group**

To start the working session the group reread the group's mission statement. Discussed the upcoming survey and input. Traded and shared resources within the families and children area. Discussed foster children issues and new First 5 LA resources. Also discussed the definition of family member v. military dependent.

**d. Housing & Homelessness Working Group**

Introduced new member of the group to the collaborative. Concentrating on making new and greater connections with greater resources. Phil Bowers with VOA announced availability of funding for specific homeless families. The group also discussed the effects of sequestration on VASH and other programs.

**e. Legal & Re-Entry Working Group**

The group named Jodi Galvin as a second chair to the Legal and Re-entry working group. The group introduced a new member to the collaborative. The group has been successful in getting a meeting with the Criminal Division Judge in LA to discuss greater presence at LA based stand downs to assist with clearing of traffic tickets and other such tickets that act as a bar to housing assistance. Also working to get a meeting with folks at the VA to discuss claims and the claims backlog.

**IV. Administrative Details**

**a. Upcoming Collaborative Meetings**

The Collaborative meets on the second Wednesday of each month. The three upcoming meetings are as follows:

- May 8, 2013
- June 12, 2013
- July 10, 2013

**b. Closing Remarks**

Margaret Thomas thanked everyone for coming and reminded everyone again about the survey and to pass along any information and ideas to CIR.

**c. Collaborative Mailing List**

To join the Collaborative's mailing list, or any of the working group mailing lists, please contact Margaret Thomas at [Margaret.thomas@usc.edu](mailto:Margaret.thomas@usc.edu)

**V. Next Meeting**

**Wednesday, May 8, 2013**

9:30 - 11:30 am

USC CIR Office

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