



DEPARTMENT OF
HOMELESSNESS AND
SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

September 26, 2017

Mwangi Mukami, Chair
Shelter Monitoring Committee
1380 Howard Street, 1st Floor
San Francisco, CA 94103

Dear Chair Mukami,

Thank you for your letter regarding the Shelter Monitoring Committee's oversight of Navigation Centers. The Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing appreciates the work of the SMC in ensuring that the standards of care are met and that our shelters are safe, sanitary and dignified environments for people experiencing homelessness. HSH is interested in working with the SMC to expand your work to include monitoring of the Navigation Centers in a way that makes sense and supports the unique needs of Navigation Center guests.

Navigation Centers are an important component of the homeless crisis response system in San Francisco. They offer HSH and the community flexible, low-barrier program model that is nimble enough to meet the unique needs of people exiting encampments.

We propose the establishment of a reconciliation working group made up of SMC members and staff, HSH staff, and Navigation Center providers to work out how best for the SMC and standards of care to be applied to Navigation Centers. The topics that will need to be discussed by the reconciliation working group include:

- Which Standards of Care can and cannot be applied to Navigation Centers given their unique program model
- How the SMC will monitor Navigation Centers
- Timeline for SMC expansion to Navigation Centers

HSH looks forward to working with the SMC and our provider partners to address these outstanding questions and develop a plan to move forward.

Please coordinate with Emily Cohen (Emily.Cohen@sfgov.org) from HSH to set up the first meeting of the reconciliation working group.

Thank you,
Jeff

Jeff Kositsky
Director
Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing

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