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**Consensus Achieved Amongst Operators and Funders**

PROS Board publishes four homeless service evaluation and reporting principles and continues work to develop four to six more standards

**San Diego, CA (February 7, 2023)** – Today the San Diego County Taxpayers Educational Foundation’s new Public Regional Outcomes Standards (PROS) Board released four finalized principles for how the success of homelessness programs in the San Diego region should be measured and reported in order to standardize the evaluation of these programs and increase effectiveness.

1. **Outcomes:** How to report the long-term housing outcomes of individuals serviced by an operator using standard data in the Homelessness Management Information System to more efficiently determine whether an applicant individual ends up back on the streets and why that is occurring systematically.
2. **Case Information:** How to report the degree to which appropriate case information is shared amongst operators so all operators are more effectively prepared for engagements with an individual experiencing homelessness, reducing rework and increasing probability for success.
3. **Process Improvement:** How to report the conduct of continuous process improvement so investors know that providers prioritize after-action review of service outcomes for the purposes of improving those services.
4. **Data Sharing:** How to report that an organization is sharing relevant information with others in the region to increase the likelihood of successful service delivery.

These recommendations were developed over a series of robust and in-depth meetings of working groups of public agencies, private funders, service providers, and individuals who have experienced homelessness, all of whom brought different expertise to the crafting of these regional evaluation and reporting principles. These working groups met bi-weekly since June 2022 and were designed to be as inclusive as possible, rotating meeting locations around the county with options for virtual participation. The PROS Board invited public commentary on the drafts in November 2022, and the working groups considered all the public commentary before reaching consensus on the finalized standards published today.

“Today we move the San Diego region many steps forward in ensuring transparency on what we are doing to end homelessness,” said Haney Hong, member of the PROS Board and also president of the San Diego Taxpayers Educational Foundation. “While the work is far from over – and we thank the operators, public funders, private funders, and individuals who’ve experienced homelessness for continuing to meet to develop four to six more reporting requirements this year – these four rules move us closer to a future with standard reporting for operators, standard requirements from funders, and most importantly, trust in performance.”

The goal of the PROS Board’s effort is to adopt regionally accepted public good evaluation and reporting standards that will create a common language for how San Diego tracks outcomes in reducing homelessness. Homeless service providers and all funders, public and private, can use these rules to self-audit and independently audit performance and create assurances that the network of individuals and



organizations working to end homelessness are acknowledging where things work well in the system. Ultimately, the consistency in reports will permit the optimal investment of limited resources from their myriad sources.

In parallel with this work by the San Diego Taxpayers Educational Foundation's Public Regional Outcomes Standards Board, the San Diego County Taxpayers Association – the region's trusted watchdog since 1945 – is convening local accountants and public auditors to create the shared procedures of reviews and performance audits that will assure performance reports are indeed material representations of the outcomes as defined through the PROS Board principles. This group is also organizing guidelines for the consistent presentation of the current and future reporting requirements of the PROS Board. By year's end, the PROS Board will publish illustrative and standardized statements of effectiveness and service that will allow anyone to evaluate how a community or service provider is performing.

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The San Diego Taxpayers Educational Foundation supports the San Diego County Taxpayers Association and the general taxpaying public with in-depth research and educational programming for community leaders and civil servants. The Foundation convenes the regional community of public policy practitioners, educators, and artists who want to study issues objectively and to facilitate civility and citizenship in public policy discussions. The Foundation also administers the new Public Regional Outcomes Standards Board (PROS Board), which sets regionally accepted principles in evaluating and reporting public good outcomes.