

BY-LAWS
El Dorado County Community Action Council

ARTICLE I
NAME OF THE ADVISORY BOARD

The name of this Advisory Board shall be the El Dorado County Community Action Council.

ARTICLE II
PURPOSE

The purpose of this Advisory Board is to advise the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors, as the designated Community Action Agency, and Board of Directors thereto, for the County, and the Department of Human Services, as the County Department designated by the Board of Supervisors to administer Community Action programs and activities, including the Community Services Block Grant, about the needs of the community on issues relating to human services needs for low-income residents of El Dorado County and to provide an avenue of participation for local government, private organizations, and private citizens of the community in serving the most vulnerable populations. The Council will provide advice and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors, provide assistance in educating the community on human services and available resources in El Dorado County and participate in developing collaborative solutions to meet ongoing community needs, while working together to meet the basic needs and to improve the quality of life for residents of El Dorado County.

ARTICLE III
MEMBERSHIP

The term “members” in these By-Laws will include both representatives and alternates unless the contrary is specifically indicated. The representative is the principal member, and the alternate shall only vote in the absence of the representative. Although alternates shall be encouraged to attend all meetings and to participate in orientation and special training sessions, it shall be the responsibility of each principal member to notify and encourage alternate attendance in the event of the representative’s absence.

Council members shall actively participate in efforts to resolve issues of poverty in El Dorado County and shall be responsible for representing their constituencies, as well as informing the Board of Supervisors regarding problems and activities in their areas.

The Council shall be a tripartite board and consist of fifteen (15) members with five (5) members in each of the three (3) categories. Criteria for representation on the Council shall be as follows:

1. Public Official Sector
 - a. Shall consist of 1/3 (5) of the Council and shall be elected officials or their designated representatives. The Board of Supervisors of El Dorado County shall

appoint three (3), the City Council of South Lake Tahoe shall appoint one (1) and the City Council of Placerville shall appoint one (1).

2. Low-Income Sector

- a. Shall consist of 1/3 (5) of the Council as low-income representatives. Representatives of the low-income population shall be elected by democratic process in accordance with procedures adequate to assure that these members are representative of low-income individuals and families in the County served. Vacancies among low-income representatives shall be posted and publicized for at least thirty (30) days. Representatives shall be elected, from among those qualified candidates who apply for membership, by majority vote of those Council members present at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Council with a quorum present. Each low-income representative that is elected to represent a specific geographical area must reside in the area of representation.

3. Community Sector

- a. Shall consist of 1/3 (5) of the Council as community representatives. Representatives of the community shall be selected in such a manner as to assure that the Council will benefit from community involvement and resources. Priority shall be given to Community organizations demonstrating a commitment to advancing the purposes and activities of the Council. Rotation shall be employed among equally qualified groups to insure an equal opportunity for representation on the council.

4. Each of the above members in individual categories will represent a separate segment of the County population or district.
5. No person may sit on the Council who is an officer or an employee of an organization contracting to perform a component of the Community Action Agency (CAA) work program funded by the federal Community Services Block Grant, nor may they be an employee of the County Human Services Department.
6. All non-public official appointments to the Community Action Council and all terms of office must be approved by a majority vote of the Community Action Council and shall be effective on the date of approval.

ARTICLE IV
TERMS OF OFFICE

1. Public Official Sector

- a. Public Official Representatives and their alternates shall serve on the Council until recalled by the electing body or when the Public Official leaves office.

2. Low-Income Sector

- a. Low-Income Representatives shall serve on the Council for a four (4) year term. In the event a representative is unable to complete his/her term of office, a new representative will be elected by democratic process and appointed by the Council to complete the term.

3. Community Sector
 - a. Community Representatives shall serve on the Council for a four (4) year term. In the event a representative is unable to complete his/her term of office, a new representative will be appointed by the Council to complete the term.
4. Limitations on Council Service
 - a. Representatives of the Public Official Sector shall serve a term coterminous with their elected term.
 - b. Representatives of the Low-Income and Community Sector may serve up to five (5) consecutive terms, but for no more than twenty (20) years.
 - c. Any member who is absent for three (3) consecutive meetings or is absent from more than fifty (50) percent of the last twelve (12) regularly scheduled meetings, unless otherwise excused, may be deemed to have resigned from the Council and may be removed from the Council by a majority vote.

ARTICLE V
OFFICERS

1. The Officers of the Council shall be a Chair and Vice Chair.
2. Officers will be nominated by an Election Committee and elected by a majority vote.
3. The Officers shall be elected in May and take office at the subsequent meeting.
4. Elected Officers shall hold office for a maximum of three consecutive (3) terms. Each term is one (1) year in duration.
5. The Chair shall preside over all meetings of the Council, and perform such additional duties as required by the Council.
6. In the absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair shall preside at meetings, and perform such additional duties required by the Council.
7. El Dorado County shall provide support staff to keep correct records of all meetings of the Council, keep a record of representatives, and mail notices of special meetings and perform such other support duties, as may be needed.

ARTICLE VI
VACANCIES

Vacancies in the membership shall be filled by the Community Action Council employing the following procedures:

1. Vacancies at the end of a term
 - a. All vacancies at the end of a term shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment. Low-Income and Community Sector members shall be chosen from among individuals or organizations that meet the specified criteria.

2. Other Vacancies

- a. In the event a regular member resigns, or for any reason is unable to act, a successor shall be elected or selected within ninety (90) days of such vacancy pursuant to Article III of these bylaws.

ARTICLE VII
MEETINGS

The El Dorado County Community Action Council shall schedule nine (9) regular meetings per year at the convenience of the Council. Meetings will be held the fourth (4th) Wednesday of each month, except months which are declared "dark" (June and August) by the Council. The November and December meetings shall be combined into one meeting to be held the second Wednesday in December.

Notice of meetings shall be published at least five (5) days prior to the meeting. However, in case of a special meeting, the notification period may be set at three (3) days. An agenda will be sent to all Council members.

A quorum of the Council shall be at least fifty (50) percent of the total current seated members of the Community Action Council.

Unless otherwise specified herein, actions taken by the Council shall be by majority vote of the members present at a regularly scheduled meeting, with a quorum in attendance.

Written minutes, including record of all votes on all motions, shall be kept for each meeting and distributed to all Council members prior to the next meeting. Minutes shall also be made available for public inspection.

ARTICLE VIII
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Director of Human Services for El Dorado County shall serve as Executive Director of the El Dorado County Community Action Council. The Executive Director shall serve as an ex-officio member, without vote, on the council and all committees.

The Executive Director shall be responsible for keeping the Council informed on Community Action Agency and program activities.

The Executive Director shall be responsible for assuring that written minutes of all meetings are kept; and that all minutes include a record of votes on all motions; and that minutes of all meetings are mailed prior to the next meeting; and that minutes shall be made available for inspection by the public where applicable.

ARTICLE IX
AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS

These By-Laws, which have been adopted by El Dorado County Community Action Council, may be amended by the Council in accordance with the following procedures: An amendment to these By-Laws may be proposed by a Council member for discussion at any regular meeting. The amendment shall then be presented in writing in for review at the next two (2) regular meetings. The By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at a regularly scheduled meeting, with a quorum in attendance, or at a meeting especially called for the purpose of amending these by-laws, with a quorum in attendance. Amendments shall then be submitted for approval of the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors as the designated Community Action Agency.

ARTICLE X
PROCEDURES

All Council activities shall be conducted in accordance with the Brown Act.

Approved by the El Dorado County Community Action Council September 24, 2008

Approved by the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors December 9, 2008