

Homeless Plan Advisory Committee

**Thursday, April 15, 2021
2:30 p.m.
Virtual Meeting via ZOOM**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88232771132?pwd=RzFPQS9TdWRlejVwZ05GdUJFazNrQT09>

Meeting ID: 882 3277 1132

Passcode: 715699



WASHINGTON COUNTY
OREGON



Purpose Statement

The purpose of the HPAC is to provide oversight to the implementation of the plan and leadership to effectively collaborate with state and local partners to develop additional resources to meet the ambitious goals included in “*A Road Home: Community Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness.*”

The HPAC will be advisory to the county Homeless Program Manager, the Director of Washington County Department of Housing Services, the County Administrator, and the Board of Commissioners for Washington County (“Board of Commissioners”).

Equity Statement

The Department of Housing Services provides housing opportunities to all eligible persons no matter their race, color, religion, national origin, age, disability, familial status, marital or domestic partnership status, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, veteran status, legal source of income or type of occupation.

In order to be relevant and effective in a rapidly changing and increasingly diverse environment, the Department of Housing Services commits to the principles of diversity, equity and inclusion for all members of the community we serve. Equitable access to resources and opportunity is the means to healthy, economically vibrant people and communities. We believe that authentically listening to, working inclusively with, and being accountable to the community we serve increases innovation and effectiveness and leads to more successful outcomes.



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Future Meeting Schedule:

2021 HPAC Meeting Schedule 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.
July 15
October 21



HOMELESS PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Thursday, April 15, 2021, 2:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81975214158?pwd=d2lzRkpQS2wvSmVFRTJDZVRxa052UT09>

Meeting ID: 819 7521 4158 Passcode: 531143

Chairperson: Rachael Duke, Community Partners for Affordable Housing

Chairperson Elect: Kara Kazemba, Ancora Therapy

Secretary: Komi Kalevor, Housing Authority of Washington County

Officer terms end January 2022

AGENDA

- I. **INTRODUCTIONS – 2:30 P.M.**
- II. **ACTION - APPROVE AGENDA – 2:35 P.M.**
 - A. **ACTION**: Approve the April 15 Meeting Agenda.
- III. **ACTION - APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 2:40 P.M.**
 - A. **ACTION**: Approve the January 21 Meeting Minutes.
- IV. **COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENT – 2:45 P.M.**
- V. **NEW BUSINESS – 2:50 P.M.**
 - A. HPAC Vacancies – Rachel Duke (5 minutes)
 - a. County Commissioner – Retirement of Dick Schouten.
Appointment of Commissioner Pam Treece on April 6, 2021
 - b. Sheriff's Office/Jail – Resignation of Commander Erroll McCrea.
Applicant for future appointment is Chief Deputy Al Roque
 - B. 2021 Point-In-Time Homeless Census – Annette Evans (15 minutes)
 - C. Metro Supportive Housing Services Local Implementation Plan – Jes Larson (15 minutes)
 - D. Metro Affordable Housing Bond – Shannon Wilson (15 minutes)
 - E. COVID Response: Rent's Relief Funds and CDBG/ESG-CV Funds – Washington County Office of Community Development (15 minutes)
 - F. Future New Business: Review and Amend Homeless Plan Advisory Committee By-Laws – Annette Evans (5 minutes)
- VI. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS – 4:00 P.M.**
 - A. Use of Terms: Homeless v. Houseless – All
 - B. Addressing Homelessness Through Community Engagement and Information - All
- VII. **REPORT OF THE COMMITTEES – 4:15 P.M.**
 - A. Housing and Supportive Services Network (HSSN) – Annette Evans
 - B. Supportive Housing Services Program – Jes Larson
- VIII. **ANNOUNCEMENTS – 4:25 P.M.**
- IX. **ADJOURNMENT – 4:30 P.M.**



MINUTES
HOMELESS PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF WASHINGTON COUNTY
January 21, 2021
Virtual Meeting via ZOOM

A. COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Brenda Christoffer
Rachael Duke
Carol C. Herron
Komi Kalevor
Kara Kazemba
Michelle Markus
Erroll McCrea

Kemp Shuey
Vera Stoullil
Stacey Triplett
Elena Uhing
Beth Uno, M.D.
Phillip Williams
Kasi Woidyla

B. COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

Steven Berger
Talia Buchsbaum

C. STAFF PRESENT

Annette Evans
Vara Fellger

D. GUESTS PRESENT

Ally Jamieson
Marci Nelson
Paige Spence
Val Valfre

Chair Duke called the meeting to order at 2:31 p.m.

I. INTRODUCTIONS – A quorum is present.

II. ACTION – APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: Approve agenda of January 15 meeting.

Action: Brenda Christoffer

Second: Vera Stoullil

Vote: Approved, unanimous.

III. ACTION – APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: Approve minutes of January 21 meeting with correction.

Action: Kara Kazemba

Second: Carol Herron

Vote: Approved, unanimous.

IV. COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. 2021 Legislative Agenda – Paige Spence

Paige Spence provided an overview of the Government Relations Team who provide federal/state/local lobbying support for departments within Washington County. Paige provides support for Health and Human Services, Housing Authority/Housing Services and Community Development. Washington County also contracts with a lobbying firm located in Washington DC to help with federal strategies. She explained the federal and state legislative cycles, noting today



was the first day of the State's regular legislative session which are held in odd-numbered years (January to June) while short sessions were held in the month of February of even-numbered years. Regular sessions allowed for an unlimited number of bills as opposed to short sessions which have a limitation on the number of bills that can be introduced. On the federal side, the 117th Congress convened on January 3, 2021 and will end on January 3, 2023.

Legislative priorities are adopted by the Board of Commissioners (BOC) before each State legislative session and before each Congress. Paige shared the legislative priorities for the 2021 State Legislative session which included a focus to secure funding for houseless populations, renters, and homeowners. The Oregon legislature, at their special session in December 2020 extended the Eviction Moratorium through June 30, 2021 purposefully setting it to coincide with the end of the school year but did not extend the mortgage assistance and foreclosure mitigation program. Her focus for this legislative session was to work to increase capital for homeless shelter construction (working through Housing Authorities and Housing Alliance of Oregon), increase funding for services and supports for homeless in Washington County, extend the eviction moratorium if needed and provide more mortgage foreclosure relief. She highlighted bills of interest included those introduced by the Governor's Racial Justice Council to provide long term rent assistance for at-risk youth for stable housing to those aging out of the foster care system, and a bill to expand the definition of an eligible veteran for Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) veteran programs to not only include those honorably discharged, but also those who left due to pregnancy or the "Don't ask/Don't Tell" policy. Paige reviewed the 2021 federal legislative priorities which included securing funding for COVID-19 related programs and services; supporting federal legislation and policies that advance the health, vibrancy and resiliency of local communities through evidence-based preventative services and increasing access to care, services and housing; and supporting federal financing tools to support, build and preserve affordable housing and legislation that provides for the creation of a long-term funding source dedicated to affordable housing.

Paige encouraged board members to participate in the process as personal stories shared by those doing the work had more impact on legislators and it was easier now more than ever to participate as all committee hearings were being held virtually. Ways to participate might include writing to legislators, testifying in committee hearings and/or meeting with legislators, which she offered to arrange. She asked to return to this board at the end of the session to review and share successes and outstanding needs to inform 2022 legislative goals and priorities. Annette Evans, Komi Kalevor, and others had signed up to help Paige determine which bills would have the greatest impact on housing and homelessness. As she reviews the 3200 bills that have been introduced so far, they should expect to see "Bill Review Requests" from her. For more information, contact Paige at paige_spence@co.washington.or.us.



Councilor Uhing inquired of any bills for the Elderly or Disabled to ensure stability and equity.

Paige shared Rebecca Miller of Washington County's Disability, Aging and Veteran Services (DAVS) works with another lobbyist whose focus is veteran, aging adult and disability services. The Governor's budget included funding for Oregon Project Independence and also includes protections for current eligibility criteria and service levels to support optimal staffing for providers supporting older adults, people with disabilities and veterans. Program funding is also available through the federal Older American's Act. Paige admitted she had not put forward any policy bills for this legislative session. The county was in a dire state of need for funding and that has been her focus. She will provide Annette with a list of bills she will be advocating for and forward any additional information regarding funding, programs and services targeted to older adults and people with disabilities for her to share with the board.

Chair Duke added, seniors and people with disabilities will also benefit from the housing stabilization work/eviction moratorium.

Marci Nelson from Community Corrections, attending on behalf of board member Steven Berger, hoped housing advocacy efforts included funding to subsidize housing for justice-involved individuals. Measure 110 and other Community Corrections budget challenges will likely mean a significant reduction to the Community Corrections budget to support that effort.

Councilor Uhing also shared, she took offense at the use of the term, "houselessness" to describe homelessness. In her experience, being homeless was more than just not having a structure. A home represented a life and a deep commitment, the soul and core of a family. She asked board members for their opinions on the use of the term and whether the board should push back on its use.

Paige appreciated her honesty. Her use of the term stemmed from individuals without a house, sharing they felt they still had a home wherever that might be. She was open to more appropriate terminology and encouraged feedback.

Carol Herron was given to understand, after discussions at Just Compassion, that "houselessness" was the more correct terminology. She was delighted to hear of the positions for each.

Annette Evans tended to use the term "homeless" because that was the terminology of HUD, but she had also been told the term "houseless" had less stigma attached.

Komi Kalevor's preference was to use the term "homeless" in the course of his work, but recognized it was dependent upon context. The first time he heard the



term “houseless” was at a neighborhood meeting in Portland where people who were homeless, were saying they considered themselves still part of a neighborhood (that they grew up in), even though they were currently houseless.

Annette suggested at the next board meeting, having each board member drop a comment in chat as to their preferred term, “homelessness” or “houselessness” and reasons why, to provide some perspective for the discussion.

Vera Stoullil was involved with Homeless Alliance, a network of providers serving children, families and communities, who introduced a bill in the current session. She was wondering if Paige might advocate for that bill as well. Paige asked Vera to provide Annette the bill number so she and Komi could review and then share with Paige.

Stacey Triplett will also provide Annette with the Housing and Career Coaching federal bill number that WorkSystems, Inc. had been working on (health careers employment training program) that includes systems alignment work with the homeless population.

B. A Road Home Annual Report – Annette Evans

Annette provided an overview of the 2020 Annual Assessment Report covering the period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 which included 2020 Point-In-Time data with a historical summary, racial analysis data, inflow and outflow of households through the homeless system, a summary of the System Performance Measurement (SPM) outcomes as reported to HUD, 2019-2020 homeless student data and finally, the strategic direction for homeless programs for 2020-2021. New information provided in the report this year included a funding comparison of the amount needed to fully fund homeless programs for the period versus the actual amount expended (a deficit of almost \$12.5 million), as well as information on the funding received from the CARES Act for renter’s relief and the Continuum of Care’s COVID-19 response.

Kemp Shuey inquired whether the \$14.3 million was funding received by Washington County, or that of all parties serving the homeless population. Annette clarified it included data captured from all who had invested in the homeless plan and provided an enumeration for the value of the work being done.

Kasi Woidyla inquired about the funding from healthcare. The actual \$14.3 million expended, encompassed all of the resources brought to bear for the period, in order to implement the strategies under each of the six goals listed for *A Road Home*. The funding source from the healthcare sector could have been Medicare/Medicaid billed services or healthcare that was covered as a match.

Kasi Woidyla also inquired why public education was not funded during the period.



At the time of the homeless program's development, stakeholder groups felt public education could be absorbed into websites, media releases and using existing staff within government and non-profits. As previously raised by this committee, a public education plan is critical to raising awareness of the work being done; however, the homeless program has never had the funding to be able to do public education. Going forward, the Supportive Housing Services (SHS) Program has plans to include public education within the funding stream which the homeless plan hopes to leverage.

Councilor Uhing inquired whether there was thought given for how the already vulnerable renters would be expected to pay off the accumulated rent or mortgages upon the expiration of the Eviction Moratorium.

Councilor Uhing also suggested the term "houselessness" be replaced with "homelessness" throughout the annual report until such time as the Board could have a full discussion and agreement for the correct terminology to be used going forward.

Annette confirmed the term "homelessness" was used throughout the 2020 Annual Assessment Report. HUD uses the term "homeless" and many of the charts in the report were being submitted to HUD so use that terminology as well.

Brenda Christoffer inquired what efforts, if any, were being made to address the funding shortfall.

Annette deferred the question to Ally Jamieson's presentation later in the meeting who will talk about the projected funding stream and system alignment that will hopefully address the shortfall.

Annette asked the Board to review the draft that was previously emailed and provide comments/changes no later than 5:00 p.m. January 27.

Motion: Approve the draft of the 2020 Annual Assessment Report with suggested changes and recommend release to the Board of Commissioners.

Action: Kemp Shuey

Second: Kasi Woidyla

Vote: Approved, unanimous.

C. Metro Affordable Housing Bond and Permanent Supportive Housing Initiatives – Komi Kalevor

Komi reviewed the Metro Bond projects under construction and those approved to receive funds through Washington County's Affordable Housing Bond NOFA. The Viewfinder (Phase I), an 81-unit development located in Tigard with 33 units set aside for households <30% Median Family Income (MFI). Of those, 8 would



receive assistance from Project Based Vouchers and 8 from VASH Vouchers. Construction started in June 2020 and completion was estimated to be October 2021. Plaza Los Amigos, will be a 113-unit development in Cornelius with 26 units for households <30% MFI (16 to receive Project-Based Vouchers). The Aloha Project will be an 82-unit development in Aloha with 33 units for households with <30% MFI. Basalt Creek will be a 116-unit development located in the Basalt Creek area of Washington County, with 47 units for households <30% MFI (8 to receive Project-Based Vouchers). South Cooper Mountain Project will be a 75-unit development near Mountainside High School and includes 14 units for households <30% MFI. Forest Grove Family Housing Project will be a 36-unit development located in downtown Forest Grove and will include 8 units for households <30% MFI (all 8 to receive Project-Based Vouchers). Terrace Glen will be a 144-unit development in Tigard with 44-units set aside for households <30%MFI (3 to receive Project-Based Vouchers). Tigard Senior Housing will be a 58-unit development for seniors in downtown Tigard with 23 units set aside for households <30% MFI. All units will receive assistance from Project-Based Vouchers. He also reported the Housing Authority was working to acquire Aloha Quality Inn, a 52-room hotel where they will be looking to add additional units and kitchenettes. All units will be permanent supportive housing units with services funded through the SHS Program. The hotel was chosen for its location (proximity to services, transit, and jobs) for the people that were to be served. The transaction was expected to close by the end of the month and a service provider RFP to be issued later this year.

D. Metro Supportive Housing Services Local Implementation Plan (LIP) – Ally Jamieson

Phase One of LIP development ran from August through December 2020 and culminated with the LIP Committee developing draft recommendations for what needed to be included in the plan and preliminary findings from community engagement and outreach. Phase Two will run from January through July 1 of 2021 with a Local Implementation Advisory Committee that includes 75 members, representing 40 organizations (private and public) who, working in small groups, will provide feedback and contribute to the final document expected to be submitted to Metro in April, 2021. She encouraged those on the board not on the Advisory Committee to review the first draft and provide feedback using the forms developed to easily submit feedback. Upon completion of the LIP, submission of an Operational Plan is also required outlining the plans for operationalizing the LIP. The SHS Program has been working to build up the infrastructure, bring on the people and develop the procurement system needed to implement a homeless program of \$40-\$50 million per year beginning July 1, 2021. She encouraged board members to participate both individually and/or as a group as the process moves forward to implementation. For more information, contact Ally at ally_jamieson@co.washington.or.us.

E. Report on Winter Shelter Operations – Annette Evans



The winter shelter system implemented an enrolled shelter program for the 2020/2021 winter season providing 165 beds in congregate and non-congregate shelter facilities with grant funding of \$1.5 million from a variety of sources. By enrolling, homeless were assured of a bed at a shelter co-located to where they normally stayed for 120 days. Three congregate shelters were located in Beaverton (operated by Beaverton Just Compassion and Project Homeless Connect) and one in Tigard (operated by Good Neighbor Center) with a maximum capacity of 30 beds per shelter. Ten (10) shelter beds at Just Compassion in Beaverton were dedicated specifically for homeless individuals being discharged from hospitals. The remaining shelters were all non-congregate facilities in hotels (operated by Salvation Army and Project Homeless Connect), two located in Hillsboro and one in Forest Grove. A grant through Kaiser Permanente provided assistance for shelter guests in applying for health insurance, housing navigation services and care coordination for health needs. Within the first 8 weeks, 529 people had been registered for a shelter bed through the online registration system. Demographic and racial data gathered during the online registration process provided insight as to who our homeless were and where they were residing. The enrolled-shelter system has been a very efficient way to help people, keeping beds at about 98% utilization. To date 279 people have been served, 28% of whom were persons of color and 9% have exited to housing. With the help of the CARES Act rent relief funds, many who registered because they thought they would be evicted, removed themselves from the list.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Addressing Homelessness Through Community Engagement and Information
Annette clarified; this topic was related to the public education discussion earlier in this meeting. The goal was to develop a communication plan to keep the community informed of the work being done. The agenda item was tabled to ensure adequate time for a full discussion.

VIII. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEES

- A. Housing and Supportive Services Network (HSSN) – Annette Evans
Annette referred the board to her report provided in the meeting packet and solicited comments or questions to which there were none.

IX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Komi Kalevor announced Housing Services was awarded 30 new VASH vouchers and 75 new mainstream vouchers.
- Komi also announced the Housing Authority had several vacancies on the Housing Advisory Committee.
- Vera Stoullil announced the Oregon Alliance was awarded \$1 million which will be going to providers that currently hold contracts with DHS to serve homeless youth. In Washington County, both HomePlate and Boys & Girls Aid should be receiving additional funding.



- Vera Stoulil shared the Oregon Alliance was very optimistic for the passage of a bill they were advocating for which would provide \$4.4 million for the biennium for homeless youth systems across the state.
- Kasi Woidyla was interested in connecting Virginia Garcia's school-based health centers to the youth programs in Washington County. Often, the health center was the first to learn of a student's homelessness. She was interested in including them in their school-based health center pages and making sure her staff was aware of them as well.
- Rachael Duke shared, at CPAH 10% of residents in their portfolio had been unable to pay rent during the pandemic, averaging about \$3,000 in arrears per household. They were very fortunate in that the State of Oregon, Washington County and Community Action came through with resources that will allow all arrearages through December, 2020 to be cleared.
- Rachael also announced that Red Rock Creek Commons in Tigard is almost all leased up and Cedar Grove Apartments is more than halfway there.
- Komi Kalevor announced the passage of HB4401, Landlord Compensation Program, which provides \$150 million for landlords who agree to accept 80% of their tenant's rent arrearages (at the time of application) and forgive the remaining owed. Applications would be made by landlords through Oregon Housing and Community Services (on behalf of their tenants) and funds would be disbursed directly to landlords through local public housing authorities.

X. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Komi P. Kalevor
Secretary, HPAC
Executive Director, Housing Authority of Washington County



VI. COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENT – 2:45 P.M.

VII. NEW BUSINESS – 2:50 P.M.

- A. HPAC Vacancies – Rachel Duke (5 minutes)
 - a. County Commissioner – Retirement of Dick Schouten.
Appointment of Commissioner Pam Treece on April 6, 2021
 - b. Sheriff’s Office/Jail – Resignation of Commander Erroll McCrea.
Applicant for future appointment is Chief Deputy Al Roque
- B. 2021 Point-In-Time Homeless Census – Annette Evans (15 minutes)
- C. Metro Supportive Housing Services Local Implementation Plan – Jes Larson (15 minutes)
- D. Metro Affordable Housing Bond – Shannon Wilson (15 minutes)
- E. COVID Response: Rent’s Relief Funds and CDBG/ESG-CV Funds – Washington County Office of Community Development (5 minutes)
- F. Future New Business: Review and Amend Homeless Plan Advisory Committee By-Laws – Annette Evans (5 minutes)

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – 4:00 P.M.

- A. Use of Terms: Homeless v. Houseless – All
- B. Addressing Homelessness Through Community Engagement and Information - All

IX. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEES – 4:15 P.M.

- A. Housing and Supportive Services Network (HSSN) – Annette Evans

COVID-19 RESPONSE FOR UNHOUSED POPULATIONS

- Coronavirus (COVID-19) Response Plan continues to address the prevention of COVID disease transmission for the sheltered and unsheltered homeless populations through coordination and deployment of resources to serve a diverse population (e.g. age, disabilities, race/ethnicity) who are at high risk due to age and/or underlying health conditions.
- Winter Shelters comply with COVID Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) requirements and provide a critical element of disease transmission through access to sanitation, wellness checks, nutritious meals, and other basic needs.
 - Three (3) congregate winter shelters closed on March 15, 2021. All persons were offered shelter beds at alternative winter shelter locations that expanded capacity and will continue to operate through June 30, 2021.
 - CareOregon has partnered to provide Basic Health Care Navigation and Education sessions for shelter participants. Washington County purchased laptops that were distributed to the seven (7) winter shelters, with costs covered by a donation from CareOregon. The integration of



health care navigation services is well received by the shelter participants with many attending virtual sessions provided by the CareOregon health care coordination team.

- Shelters continue to work toward delivery of culturally responsive services that evolve through engagement with communities of color in the design, delivery and evaluation of appropriate services. This include employment of bilingual staff representing communities of color, providing shelter information in multiple languages, and referral to culturally specific service organizations.
- Shelter Outcomes: 18 individuals have exited shelter to housing, with a total of 312 individuals having exited, with nearly 100 exits from one shelter to alternative shelter location.

COVID-19 CARES ACT PROGRAMS SERVING HOUSELESS POPULATIONS

	Program Start and End Date	# People Served To-Date	# People Age ≤17 years (Child)	# People Age 18-44 Years (Adult)	# People Age 45+ years (Adult)	% Chronic* Homeless	% Persons of Color (Race)	% Persons of Color (Ethnicity)	# People Exit	% Exit to Housing	% Exit to Street/ Shelter	Avg. Length of Stay- Stayers (Days)	Avg. Length of Stay- Leavers (Days)
Winter Shelters: 200-beds [Funds: CARES CRF, EFSP; ESG; EHA; SHAP; and County \$]	11/15/2020 to 4/1/2021	473	7	229	237	37%	21%	15%	312	6%	94%	55	19

*Chronic = A person with disabling condition(s) and experiencing 12 or more months of homelessness (4+ episodes over 3 years)

**RV Parking exit to housing includes owned RV that is habitable

HOMELESS SYSTEM FUNDING, CoC REPORTING AND ACTIVITIES

- The CoC Board approved submittal of the Federal [FY2020 System Performance Measurement](#) (SPM) data to HUD. There are two primary uses of the SPM report: 1) HUD will use the data as selection criteria to award projects under future NOFA's, and 2) Support local CoC system evaluation, identify gaps in data and service areas, and make recommendations. Positive Outcomes: An increase in adults with income at exit and housing stability. Improvement Needed: Returns to homelessness from permanent housing programs and number of days homeless have both increased.
- The Federal [FY2021 Continuum of Care \(CoC\) Program](#) competition registration was submitted to HUD on behalf of the County's CoC members. This is the first step in the competitive process to apply for Federal CoC Program grant funds to compete for renewal of \$4.2 million in housing programs and new competitive project funding.
- [Point-In-Time \(PIT\) Homeless Count \(Census\)](#) was performed on January 27, 2021. Washington County Housing is the lead agency for compiling and submitting to HUD the sheltered and unsheltered PIT data. Community Action Organization is the lead agency coordinating, resourcing, and training staff to perform the street count (unsheltered) census data collection. The HSSN will receive an overview of the data on April 7, and



the CoC Board will review with action to approve submittal to HUD on April 9, 2021. Washington County Department of Housing Services will release the PIT data upon CoC Board approval.

- [Built for Zero \(BfZ\)](#) is a national initiative aimed at ending homelessness through a comprehensive list of persons and prioritizing the most vulnerable for housing. Community Solutions and Kaiser Permanente convened a Washington County cohort of public health and housing staff to consider a new *Health Care & Homelessness (HC&H)* pilot aimed at bringing together health care organizations with housing.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

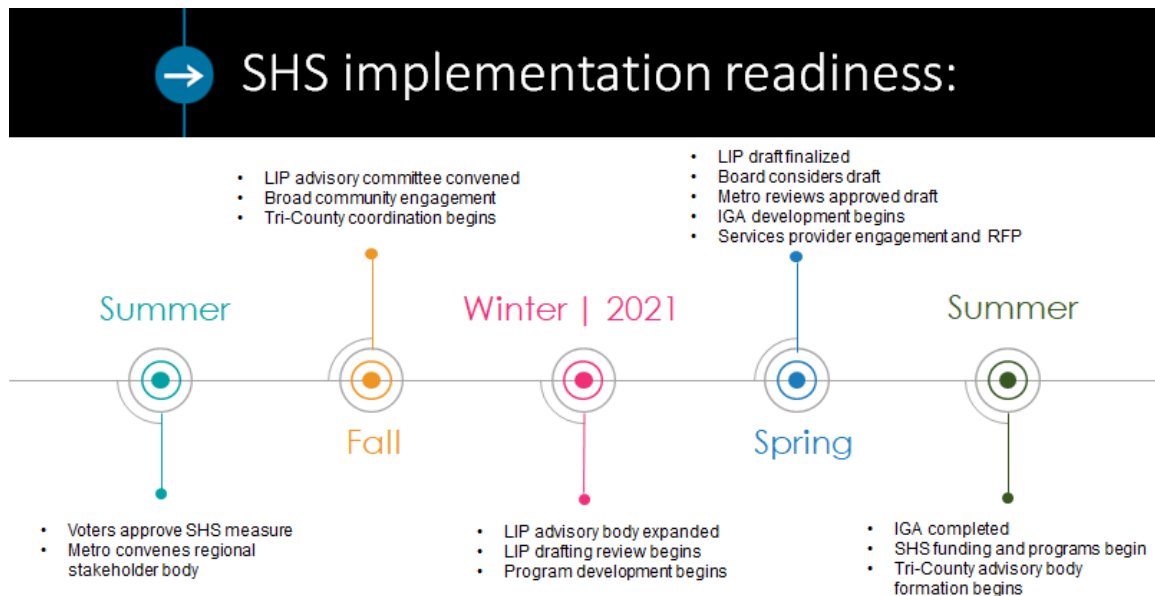
- The 2021 Oregon Legislative Session (January 21 to June 28) includes a few bills under consideration that address homelessness.
 - [HB 3115](#) codifies into state statute that it is against the 8th amendment for a local jurisdiction to penalize a person for sleeping on publicly owned lands, and states: “Any city or county law that regulates the acts of sitting, lying, sleeping or keeping warm and dry outdoors on public property that is open to the public must be objectively reasonable as to time, place and manner with regards to persons experiencing homelessness.” On March 25 the Oregon Law Center’s proposal passed out of committee on party lines to the House Floor.
 - [SB 410](#) requires state agencies to implement policies to ensure humane treatment of homeless individuals, and to provide standards for storage facilities used for unclaimed personal property given to law enforcement officials when homeless individuals are removed from establishing camping sites. Sen. Gorsek (D-Troutdale) will continue on with the original intent of SB 410 but limit it to Multnomah County. The amendment may add a Task Force to look at the rest of the state and how we return items.
- The [Housing and Supportive Services Network \(HSSN\)](#) is a consortium of more than 60 agencies working collaboratively to deliver services and housing through an equity lens with outcomes measured by Federal and local metrics defined in *A Road Home*, the County’s strategic plan to end homelessness. [Agendas](#) are online and the public is welcome to attend.
- [A Road Home: 2020 Homeless Assessment Report](#) was released following a comment period that included presentations to the CoC Board and the Homeless Plan Advisory Committee. The 12th in a series of reports (July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020) charting progress and challenges to prevent



and end homelessness, the report highlights the planned actions in response to COVID-19 and the efforts underway to develop a Local Implementation Plan (LIP) for implementation of the new [Metro Supportive Housing Services \(SHS\) Program](#) funds beginning July 1, 2021.

B. Supportive Housing Services Program – Jes Larson

Implementation readiness for the new [Supportive Housing Services](#) program continues with many areas of work. Here is a review of the overall timeline, with specific areas of work described in further detail below:



Local Implementation Plan (LIP) development: The LIP is a programmatic framework that will guide implementation with overarching values, program commitments, and high-level outcome goals. The LIP has been under development with a community advisory body for more than six months and has included extensive community engagement and data analysis to understand the unmet need and nature of racial disparities in Washington County. From this engagement and analysis, and under the guidance of the advisory body and Board of County Commissioners’ direction, staff have completed a draft LIP which includes strategies to advance racial equity, geographic equity, regional coordination, as well as planned investments targeted to achieve specific outcome goals for the program’s priority populations. [The draft LIP](#) has been posted for public comment through March 24th. Feedback on the draft will be compiled to refine the final draft. The final LIP draft will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners for their approval on April 6th, and then presented to the Metro regional oversight committee for a recommendation on April 26th. This body of



work will inform implementation and be reconsidered annually for updates, as needed, through further program evaluation and community advisory body review.

At a high level, the SHS program goals for year 1 include:

- 500 supportive housing placements
- 500 additional households achieve housing stability
- 100 year-round shelter beds added to current capacity
- Capacity building underway for a culturally specific network
- Measurable goals that demonstrate advancing racial equity

Service provider contract partnering: Staff are preparing to release a procurement process for potential service provider partners who are interested in contracting with the Department of Housing Services to provide services funded through the SHS program. This procurement process will begin with a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to qualify all interested service providers who will then be considered for more specific contracting opportunities by service type. The RFQ is anticipated to be released in April and open for a full month. In advance of the RFQ release, staff will engage service providers to learn more about their interests and needs as service providers. These service provider engagement events are scheduled for Wednesday March 24th and Friday 26th. [More information can be found here.](#)

Tri-county program coordination: Staff continue to work with Multnomah and Clackamas County supportive housing service programs to coordinate for program implementation that can be enhance through Tri-county partnership, planning and program design. Currently, these coordination efforts are focused on data management and program access; a regional long-term rent assistance program; coordinated investments in culturally specific provider capacity building; and, culturally responsive services training for the entire system of care.

X. **ANNOUNCEMENTS – 4:25 P.M.**

XI. **ADJOURNMENT – 4:30 P.M.**