



HOUSING and SUPPORTIVE SERVICE NETWORK

Providing a Continuum of Care for Vulnerable Populations in Washington County

Wednesday, May 6, 2020

8:30 to 10:00 a.m.

>>> Virtual Meeting: Dial +1 (971) 337-3439 or TEAMS link in 4/17/20 email <<<

AGENDA

I. INTRODUCTIONS: 8:30 a.m.

II. MEETING MINUTES: 8:40 a.m.

- **Action:** Approve the March 4 meeting minutes.
Note: April 1 meeting cancelled due to Governor Brown’s order on social distancing and response to COVID-19.

III. GENERAL BUSINESS: 8:45 a.m.

- Consultation with CoC for Federal COVID-19 CDBG and ESG Funding Allocation Plan (20 minutes) – Mari Valencia Aguilar and KarenAlice Jones, Office of Community Development
- Consultation with CoC for Federal COVID-19 CDBG and ESG Funding Allocation Plan (20 minutes) – Vicki Massey, Oregon HCS, and Katherine Galian, Community Action
- Results of the 2020 Point-In-Time Homeless Census (15 minutes) – Pat Rogers and Cecilia Bonvino, Community Action
- CoC Board vacant position representing faith-based organization with term ending 6/30/2022 (5 minutes)
Action: Elect Vernon Baker to the vacant faith-based organization position.

Positions	Slate of Nominees
Faith-based Organization	Vernon Baker, Just Compassion EWC

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS: 9:45 a.m.

V. ADJOURNMENT: 10:00 a.m.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 3, 2020

The HSSN is open to the public and all are invited to join – see website for additional information and past meeting agenda, minutes and handouts at <https://www.co.washington.or.us/Housing/EndHomelessness/hssn.cfm> Comments regarding the agenda can be directed to Annette Evans, Homeless Program Manager, at 503-846-4760 or email Annette_Evans@co.washington.or.us



HOUSING AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES NETWORK
Providing a Continuum of Care (CoC) in Washington County
Beaverton Building
March 4, 2020, 8:30 a.m.

Mission: Housing and service provider agencies working to bring a broad spectrum of organizations together as partners in the community to perform strategic planning, gaps analysis, prioritize resources needed to provide a continuum of care for individuals and families who are at-risk or experiencing homeless.

ATTENDEES:

Alexander, Allie—Good Neighbor Center	Martinez, Omar—City of Hillsboro
Angeles, Nic—Housing Independence	Pardee, James—Beaverton Ctr for Mediation & Dialogue
Blaylock, Mark—Bridges to Change	Perkowski, Kaja—Open Door Counseling Center
Brownell, Amy—Ecumenical Ministries-Second Home	Potter, Yvette—WC Dept of Aging & Veteran Services
Burnham, Jeff—Luke-Dorf, Inc.	Ram, Sarala—CODA, Inc.
Cartmill, Andy—WC Health and Human Services	Rogers, Pat—Community Action Organization
Castrejon, Deena—Bridges to Change/Transcending Hope	Schaff Laubach, Elise—Metro HomeShare
Chavez-Sam, Karmen—APANO	Sheller, Gayle—DVRC
Cockeram, Tami—City of Hillsboro	Smicker, Ron—Union Gospel Mission
Cottrell, Tonia M.—Citizen-Vose NAC	Smith, Gary—U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs
Evans, Annette—WC Housing Services	Trunnell, Alan--Citizen
Fellger, Vara—WC Housing Services	Turk, Nicki—Cascade AIDS Project
Franco, Magali—Tuality Alliance	Valencia-Aguilar, Mari—WC Office of Community Dev.
Galian, Katherine—Community Action Organization	VanTersch, Meghan—CAP
Hunsaker, Naomi—WC Health and Human Services	VanVleet, Emily—City of Beaverton
Jones, Ariana--DVRC	Williams, Natalie—WC Office of Community Dev.
Kasim, Bashar—Luke-Dorf, Inc.	Yanez, Michael—Northwest Housing Alternatives
Koulax, Ashley—Luke-Dorf, Inc.	Younis, Balen—Lutheran Community Services

Chair: Annette Evans, Public Agency Representative annette_evans@co.washington.or.us
Co-Chair: Katherine Galian, Nonprofit Agency Representative kgalian@caowash.org

I. INTRODUCTIONS

II. GUEST SPEAKERS

Naomi Hunsaker and Andy Cartmill, Washington County Health & Human Services, “Tri-County and Washington County Opioids Strategic Plan and Resources

Naomi provided a historical background of the three waves of opioid overdose experienced in Washington County since 1999, noting a steep rise recently (since 2013) in synthetic (fentanyl) opioid overdoses among the younger population (ages 20-30). There was also a more recent fourth wave identified of poly-substance and amphetamine deaths which surpassed opioid deaths in 2018. On a positive note, Washington County has seen a decrease in opioid deaths, poisonings had stabilized and, through the Oregon Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP), decreased the number of prescriptions written and quantities of drugs being prescribed. Washington County also spearheaded the drug takeback legislation passed by Oregon voters in 2019, requiring pharmaceutical companies to provide medication disposal receptacles at pharmacies where their drugs were sold. Receptacles should be available January 2021. Washington County also increased the number of healthcare providers authorized to prescribe Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) to help sustain recovery and partnered with the Washington County Jail (Jail) to incorporate MAT in treatment programs. Andy Cartmill andy_cartmill@co.washington.or.us and Naomi Hunsaker at naomi_hunsaker@co.washington.or.us

Questions & Answers

- *How do gamblers connect to the treatment services?* Information on gambling treatment services are available at, <https://www.opgr.org/>. LifeWorks Northwest was the treatment provider.
- *Is the Drug Takeback Program applicable only to pharmacies serving the general public, or would it include pharmacies located at treatment providers?* It should include any pharmacy serving the general public regardless of where they are located.
- *Would drop boxes be tracked to confirm arrival at intended destinations?* DEA has strict guidelines for the handful of companies providing drop box logistics. Ultimately the medication was destined for incineration.
- *Has there been any thought given to making Naloxone kits available to housing programs?* Many treatment providers connected with housing programs already utilize MAT treatment options. Many grants; however, specifically prohibit the purchase of Naloxone.
- *How many people were on the Community Opioid Response Team?* The team consisted of four probation officers each with an average caseload of 70 individuals, two CODA representatives, a care coordinator, a peer, and three addiction staff from Washington County Health and Human Services.

Meghan Von Tersch and Nicki Turk, Cascade AIDS Project (CAP) "Housing and Testing Programs"

Meghan and Nicki provided an overview of the services provided by CAP to the HIV/AIDS community. Prevention and healthcare services included HIV/AIDS education, testing, primary care, medical and wellness case management, peer support, service and Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) navigation and insurance support. In 2018 CAP served a total of 458 individuals with short term housing vouchers (up to 2 years), 425 individuals with long term housing assistance and 1,014 with supportive services. Short term housing assistance ranged from one-time emergency assistance, to rent assistance for up to 24 months. Emergency assistance included help with application fees, rent assistance to prevent eviction, move-in costs, utilities and on a limited basis, mortgage assistance. Long term assistance ranged from 3 months to permanent. Housing supportive services included navigation services (connect individuals to medical care, mental health and substance abuse services, food, clothing and housing resources and education), peer support, 1:1 counseling, housing readiness, housing case management, emergency rent and homeless prevention assistance and employment services support. They noted CAP can conduct intakes offsite if needed and have recently removed criminal history as a barrier to the intake process.

Questions & Answers

- *Should people call your intake line for PrEP, if they feel they were exposed to HIV/AIDS?* Studies show the effectiveness window for PrEP medication is less than 36 hours. As a result, CAP recommended getting a PrEP prescription from a doctor prior to calling the intake line.
- *What is the typical caseload size for a housing case manager?* A Housing Case manager typically manages approximately 40-45 clients.
- *What is the average wait time for someone on your housing waitlist?* CAP maintains one waitlist for all housing programs which currently contains 250+ names. As space in housing programs open up, those on the wait list are checked against program requirements for qualification.
- *Is a positive diagnosis of HIV/AIDS the only qualification for CAP services?* An HIV/AIDS diagnosis is required for CAP's prevention and healthcare services. An individual is required to further qualify as "literally homeless" or at risk of homelessness with an income of less than 80% Median Family Income (MFI) for housing services.

- *Once stable and independent, do program participants move off assistance? CAP's goal is to move clients toward independence and off their housing program as soon as possible and require clients to simultaneously add their name to Section 8 and Public Housing waitlists when entering their housing programs. They also work with participants to increase their income while on their programs.*

James Pardee, City of Beaverton Center for Mediation and Dialogue (CMD), "Conflict Resolution Services"

The Center for Mediation and Dialog was established in 1988 as a community program within the Mayor's Office at the City of Beaverton to provide conflict resolution and restorative justice services to individuals and organizations in Washington County. Community mediation services include neighborhood disputes, landlord/tenant, HOA, manufactured dwelling, business/consumer disputes. Mediation volunteers are trained to offer conflict coaching, facilitate dialog between parties (via phone and in person) and conduct conflict management workshops but were currently underutilized. James encouraged agencies to refer clients with conflict issues to take advantage of services which were free, voluntary and confidential. For more information, access the website, beavertonoregon.gov/CMD.

Questions & Answers

- *Have you done any mediation for communities living in homelessness/individuals living in homeless camps? The program has not provided services to any homeless as of yet. His goal for presenting at this meeting was to reach service providers who work with those who do not advocate for themselves but may need mediation services. He noted staff typically have parties to the dispute come to their office as a neutral setting but can make alternate accommodation if requested.*
- It was noted, Oregon currently does not require written rental/lease agreements between parties and that it would be good to see collaboration between like organizations to advocate for written rental agreements that include protective and fair housing clauses for both landlord and tenant.

III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Motion: Approve February 5 meeting minutes.

Action: Katherine Galian

Second: Meghan Von Tersch

Vote: Approved, unanimous.

IV. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Consultation – Mari Valencia-Aguilar

Mari consulted with the HSSN membership regarding the \$192,189 of Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding for FY2020 (7/1/20 - 6/30/21). She noted the consultation only applied to ESG funds administered through Washington County Office of Community Development (OCD). To reduce the administrative burden associated with these funds, OCD was again proposing to allocate all ESG funds to support rapid rehousing rental assistance in FY 2020 (\$177,775), less 7.5% allocated for administration (\$14,414). CAO would provide funding to the remaining activities (Street Outreach, Emergency Shelter Operations, and Homeless Prevention) through state funds they receive to address homelessness. The estimated number of households assisted for Rapid Re-Housing would remain at a minimum of 60 (20 households, averaging \$6,000 per household).

Questions & Answers

- *What does Rapid ReHousing include?* It is rent assistance for those individuals who are literally homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness.
- *How much is allocated per person/family?* The amount allocated is an average based on household income. ESG is aligned with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. All funds are administered by Community Action Organization through the Community Connect system to serve only homeless and those at imminent risk pursuant to HUD's definition of homelessness.
- *Is Transitional Housing where an individual is not actually paying rent, considered homeless?* In order to qualify for McKinney-Vento funds, housing programs must be dedicated to serving homeless persons only.
- *Does a Housing Navigator qualify to do housing outreach for Rapid ReHousing?* ESG funds specifically go to paying rent assistance only. Housing navigation is provided as part of the service but is not funded by ESG.
- *How quickly are funds depleted?* The need is high, and it is not a lot of money so funds are depleted pretty quickly.
- *How do the funds get designated?* ESG rent assistance is available for up to one year. The ByName List for case conferencing within the *Built For Zero* initiative is used to house the most chronic homeless as vacancies occur through attrition. Over the course of a year the funds could provide rent assistance for possibly up to 35 individuals/households.

Motion: Approve the ESG allocation methodology.

Action: Gayle Sheller

Second: Mellani Calvin

Vote: Approved, unanimous.

B. Open Nominations for CoC Board – Annette Evans

Annette Evans announced nominations were open for the Faith-Based Organizations position on the CoC Board. She acknowledged and thanked Brian Schimmel, who recently vacated the position when he resigned from the Board. Brian nominated Vernon Baker, Executive Director of Just Compassion of East Washington County who has accepted the nomination. She asked that additional nominations be submitted through March 18, 2020 to either herself or Katherine Galian so that nominee voting could be included on the April 1 HSSN meeting agenda.

C. Built For Zero Initiative Implementation – Annette Evans and Katherine Galian

The Street Outreach Coverage and Coordination workgroup led by Katherine Galian is in the process of developing procedures to govern the coordinated work required to engage individuals not already known and entered in the HMIS database (ServicePoint). The next meeting was scheduled for March 12, 9:00 a.m. at Community Action Organization, 1001 SW Baseline Street, Hillsboro. For more information contact Katherine at kgalian@caowash.org.

Annette reported the first case conferencing meeting held on February 28 focused on persons scoring 110+ points out of the 120 chronic homeless on the By-Name List. Case workers were assigned, and housing resources identified for 9 individuals. Washington County's *Built For Zero* Improvement Coach attended the meeting and shared very positive feedback regarding the communication, collaboration and willingness of agencies to focus on Housing First. Quarterly surveys on the effectiveness of the meetings and the process will be ongoing. The next meeting is scheduled for March 13. <https://www.co.washington.or.us/Housing/EndHomelessness/by-name-case-conferencing.cfm>.

D. Prospective Regional Point-In-Time (PIT) for 2021 – Annette Evans

Annette shared there was a discussion underway with Multnomah, Clackamas, and Washington (represented by Community Action Organization) for a regional 2021 PIT count with share costs. The count would occur on the same night across all three counties with data collected by an agency under contract (e.g. Portland State University) who would analyze and compile the data into a regional report on homelessness. HUD required a street and shelter count every two years. If a biennial regional count was agreed to for 2021, the request from the other counties was that Washington County not conduct its own street count in the intervening years. More information will be provided at the next HSSN meeting.

E. Year-Round Adult-Only Shelter Development Group – Annette Evans

Annette reported the CoC has identified the need for a year-round emergency shelter to serve adult-only households. She was looking to convene a group to manage shelter development, e.g. find a site, find an agency to manage it, determine costs (pro forma). She asked agencies to contact her regarding potential sites and individuals interested in participating on a Shelter Development Team.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Sarala Ram announced the closure of CODA's Detox Center and that all of CODA's sites utilize Medication Assisted Treatment in their programs including the Seaside location which recently opened.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:03 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Vara Fellger, Washington County Department of Housing Services

To be added to the HSSN email list, contact Annette Evans at Annette_Evans@co.washington.or.us