

HOUSING and SUPPORTIVE SERVICES NETWORK (HSSN) CoC Board

Friday, June 10, 2022 - 8:30 to 9:55 am

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89201646423?pwd=NUVoRU8waDAvMEJieGdrSFNOeDJYQT09>

Meeting ID: 892 0164 6423, Passcode: 231734 Phone/Call-In: +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

AGENDA

Chair: Annette M. Evans, Washington County Department of Housing Services
Co-Chair: Katherine Galian, Community Action Organization

- I. Introductions and Agency Announcements (8:30 a.m.)
Roll call – CoC Board Members
- II. Public Comment (8:35 a.m.)
- III. Minutes (8:40 a.m.)
A) Board Action: Approve CoC Board minutes for April 8, 2022.
- IV. Business Items (8:45 a.m.)
 - A) Community Connect & Built for Zero Update – Alex Devin
 - B) [Supportive Housing Services Program](#) (5 minutes) – Alex Devin
 - C) JOHS HMIS Implementation Update – Heather Skriver
 - D) A Road Home 2022/2023 Annual Work Plan – Katherine Galian
 - E) Project Reset Update – Rick Peel, Oregon Law Center
 - F) [CoC Board Recruitment](#) Update – Vara Fellger
- V. Adjournment (9:55 a.m.)

Future Meeting Schedule (8:30 to 9:55 a.m.):

- Friday, August 12, 2022
- Friday, October 14, 2022
- Friday, December 9, 2022

The CoC Board meeting is open to the public, with the [agenda](#) online. Please direct comments to [Vara Fellger](#), 503-846-4760.

CoC BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Virtual Meeting via ZOOM
April 8, 2022, 8:30 a.m.

COC BOARD MEMBER PRESENT

- Baker, Vernon – Just Compassion EWC
- Calvin, Mellani – ASSIST Program
- Cardwell, Shawn – Forest Grove Foundation
- Cohen, Megan – City of Beaverton
- Downen, Lindsay – New Narrative
- Deanne DSouza – Worksystems, Inc .
- Evans, Annette – WC Housing Services
- Galian, Katherine – Community Action Org.
- Gawf, Mandy – City of Hillsboro
- Grant, Bambi – WC Community Corrections
- Hille, Marcia – Sequoia Mental Health Services
- LeSage, Amy – Cascade AIDS Project
- Logan-Sanders, Andrea – Boys & Girls Aid
- Lopez, Nancy – Centro Cultural, Latino Policy Council
- Peel, Rick – Oregon Law Center
- Rogers, Patrick – Community Action Org.
- Smith, Gary – US Dept of Veteran Affairs
- Teifel, Gordon – Families for Ind. Living/DEAR
- Taylor, Rowie – DVRC

COC BOARD MEMBER NOT PRESENT

- Kalevor, Komi – Housing Authority of WashCo
- Pero, David – HEN/McKinney-Vento Liaison
- Ramirez, Bernadette – Bridges to Change

OTHER ATTENDEES

- Bartlett, Brenda – WC County Administrative Office
- Belgard, Hunter – Oregon Housing and Community Services
- Bittinger, Phyllis – WC Housing Services
- Devin, Alex – WC Housing Services
- Fellger, Vara – WC Housing Services
- Gibb, Courtney – Hillsboro SD/HEN
- Guiney, Bryan – HUD, Director of Community Planning and Development
- Moore, Kayla – WC Housing Services

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

Annette Evans called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

I. Roll Call and Announcements

No announcements.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Action: Approve February 11, 2022 meeting minutes.

Motion: Lindsay Downen

Second: Marcia Hille

Vote: Approved, unanimous.

IV. BUSINESS ITEMS

A. Oregon Housing & Community Services (OHCS) HMIS Data Lake Initiative – Hunter Belgard, OHCS HMIS Administrator

Hunter Belgard has been working on making state-level changes around how homeless information data is collected across the State of Oregon since 2019. A stakeholder review was originally convened which concluded that statewide homeless information data would be valuable and recommended the creation of a website where all Continuums of Care (CoC) would enter their HMIS information, Northwest Social Service Connections (NWSSC). Since

that time, four CoCs (Jackson County, Central Oregon, Marion/Polk County, Rural (Balance of State) Oregon) have shifted into a separate HMIS instance, with OHCS as their System Administrator, Lane County is in their own HMIS implementation and the Metro county CoCs (Washington, Multnomah, and Clackamas) are readying to move to their own HMIS implementation, with Joint Office of Homeless Services as System Administrator. With all CoCs in the state now entering data into separate instances, the Oregon legislature created a budget note for the collection of statewide homeless data. Hunter reported that will be accomplished through an HMIS data repository, a “data lake,” which would represent a new way to collect, upload and assess statewide HMIS information similar to how HUD captures this type of data through uploads of .csv files.

The Oregon Statewide HMIS (data lake) is set up through Wellsky as the software vendor and ready for continuums to start uploading their data. The type of data to be uploaded will be personally identifying information (PII); however, it will be uploaded in aggregate form, without the ability to see individual records. Hunter is now in the process of finalizing a data use agreement for presenting the data across the state and to allow agencies to access statewide data and use the tool to help improve their programs. The data use agreement is being developed collaboratively and will be executed by each CoC. Concerns have been voiced about publicly placed data in this new platform. The hope is to have a governing committee decide what information will be made public in the platform. Hunter shared, there was also discussion about including a privacy notice regarding disclosure of aggregate data.

Will the four counties mentioned be engaging in an agreement similar to Washington County or does their involvement with OHCS covers them contractually?

Those four counties will be signing the same data use agreement as everyone else.

B. HMIS Implementation Update – Annette Evans

Annette Evans shared the tentative date for the Joint Office of Homeless Services (JOHS) HMIS implementation was July 1, 2022 but there was still a fair amount of work to be done to transition the data with WellSky. JOHS has put together a team that is working on a timeline and getting a draft IGA to the three counties. Portland Housing Bureau has agreed to extend their HMIS support through June 30. A regional committee has been established for the regional HMIS implementation.

Why is Community Action part of the committee for the HMIS implementation?

Community Action is the pass-through entity for OHCS funds and have reporting requirements separate from what Washington County manages for several of the funds that come into the continuum. In Multnomah and Clackamas counties, Community Action is part of the government structure where their staff serve as representatives. With Community Action being separate from Washington County, both need to be involved to make sure everything is included in the implementation process.

C. 2022 Point-In-Time (PIT) Homeless Census and Housing Inventory Chart (HIC) – Pat Rogers, Vara Fellger and Annette Evans

Vara reported the 2022 Point-In-Time (PIT) count was conducted on January 26, 2022 with the sheltered data coming from HMIS and unsheltered data from a physical count. The total number of homeless households counted was 571 and included 808 individuals of which 496 (61%) individuals were in emergency shelters, 85 (11%) were in transitional housing, and 227 (28%) were unsheltered and outside. There was a noted increase in both survivors of domestic violence and adults with a serious mental illness, thought to be due to less stigma associated for people sharing their mental illness or domestic violence experience. There were 16 veteran

households counted in emergency shelters and 46 in transitional housing. There was an increase in the 2022 sheltered count over last year and a corresponding decrease in the unsheltered count due to increased shelter capacity.

Pat reported the unsheltered count primarily came from the Built for Zero (BFZ) street outreach group which meets throughout the year to coordinate contacts and engagements with those experiencing homelessness. Direct face-to-face interviews were made with all unsheltered individuals counted. There were 50 enumerators comprised of service providers, municipal staff, and local police department personnel. In accordance with COVID-19 protocol, all census staff wore personal protective equipment (PPE) and had been trained to work with the homeless population. A wellness assessment was conducted at the time of the PIT interview to assess the wellness of the homeless population and provided an opportunity to share information on COVID symptoms, access to testing and vaccinations. The counts took place in Beaverton, Tigard, Forest Grove, Cornelius, Hillsboro, Tualatin/Sherwood, and outlying areas of the county using a mobile app with GPS from Simtech Solutions. The mobile app provided a "Command Center" feature that enabled monitoring of PIT activities by providing real time data accumulation and location identification for each interview conducted. The resulting data showed 227 individuals contacted with 99 who self-identified as chronically homeless, 15 as veterans, 15 as having experienced domestic violence, and 182 as having a disability (substance abuse, disability, or mental health issues). The majority of interviews took place in Hillsboro and the majority of individual identified as white. For more information, contact Vara Fellger at Vara_Fellger@co.washington.or.us, Pat Rogers at progers@caowash.org or Jennifer Wacan at jwacan@caowash.org.

Annette Evans reported a draft of the Housing Inventory Chart (HIC) has been finalized with counts as of January 26, 2022. There was an increase in beds from 1,248 in shelter and housing in 2021 to 2,232 in 2022 (1,957 year-round and 275 winter shelter beds). This included 770 (470 year-round with 300 under development) from the new permanent housing initiative funded by the HUD Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV) and Metro Supportive Housing Services (SHS) levy. It also included 144 year-round beds funded by COVID Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds. She provided detail on the actual bed utilization within each housing type and an explanation for the differences compared to 2021, noting year-round and winter shelter beds had a 75% utilization rate on the night of the PIT. Shelters reporting less than 80% utilization was due to COVID protocols limiting capacity. Centro Cultural data was in the process of being reviewed and will be updated. Two programs ended reducing the total number of programs to three and there was a small reduction in capacity at The Salvation Army Veteran and Family Center and DVRC's Mary Mac House due to COVID protocols.

The Kaiser Metro 300 program ended creating a reduction in 57 beds, however those individuals moved into permanent housing. There was a reduction of HUD-VASH beds which led to a decrease of participants in the program. There was also a slight reduction in the Shelter Plus Care program as it was over-leased and there will be a decrease in rent assistance on the new grant in September.

Action: Approve the 2022 Point-In-Time (PIT) Homeless Count and Housing Inventory Chart (HIC) reports and authorize submittal to HUD.
Motion: Andrea Logan-Sanders
Second: Mellani Calvin
Vote: Approved, unanimous.

With multiple communicable diseases, why did COVID decrease placement shelters for the homeless?

Gary Smith responded, the Salvation Army instituted testing prior to taking part in the program which took some time so they needed to quarantine. There were also outbreaks of sickness which led to providing quarantine rooms and several veterans choosing not to have roommates because of COVID. Rowie Taylor echoed those same thoughts stating a number of individuals did not feel safe staying at a congregate shelter despite COVID protocols in place.

D. CoC Consolidated Application Scoring Criteria Recommendation – Subcommittee Members: Phyllis Bittinger, David Pero, Lindsay Downen, Lydia Radke, Rowie Taylor, and Annette Evans

Annette Evans reported the CoC Consolidated Application Scoring Criteria subcommittee had recommended the following revisions for the CoC Board to review:

- Include the term "housing" in question E in the Plan priority language and type of housing (e.g. TH, RRH, PSH).
- Add scoring criteria for Housing Retention.
- Use of a comparable database to evaluate domestic violence by including language that the domestic violence or VAWA providers use the COMP site to ensure privacy and security and update the score tool to include reference to COMP site and Osnum.
- Modify question K (length of time homeless) defining it from the program start to housing move in.
- Increase the number of days for Rapid Rehousing from 30 days or less, to 60 days or less and for Permanent Supportive Housing from 60 to 90 days or less, to address the difficulty in the current housing market.
- Add a narrative to the policy stating the diversity of the CoC Board to meet BIPOC representation.
- Add language to address the disparity within communities of color and disabled communities.
- Include sign language to be included in the scoring.

Upon discussion, a vote was taken.

Action: Approve the CoC Consolidated Application Scoring Criteria Recommendations
Motion: Marcia Hille
Second: Rowie Taylor
Vote: Approved, unanimous.

E. Supportive Housing Services (SHS) Program – Alex Devin

Alex Devin reported currently 376 households were registered in the HCMS program. Providers are working on their annual narrative reports and asking for programmatic expansions which will be used for contract planning next fiscal year. The SHS program will be launching a one-time financial assistance program for Rapid Rehousing (200 slots). This program will be expanded and enhanced to provide a projected 500 slots and additional HCMS slots. SHS will be overseeing ESG Rapid Rehousing funding and taking on the ESG/CV2 outreach program funding with goals to expand. HUDs fair market rents (FMR) for this year have increased dramatically and they are working on ways to keep people in their housing despite these rising costs. Governor Kate Brown will be signing the Emergency Declaration extension on April 16, 2022 which will allow providers to expand hotel rooms for shelters until the end of the declaration date. For more information, contact Alex Devin at alex_devin@co.washington.or.us.

F. CoC Board Recruitment

Annette reported CoC board position terms expiring on June 30 include Victims of Domestic Violence, Developmental Disabilities, Citizens at Large or Outreach, and Faith Based Organizations. There were also openings for the ESG/CBDG/HOME position, Substance Addiction, and HSSN Chair position due to her retirement. Recruitment will be open through May 23,2022 and applications can be emailed to Vara Fellger at Vara_Fellger@co.washington.or.us. A vote on the slate of nominees will be taken at the June 1 HSSN meeting.

G. CoC Board Future Agenda Topics - Built for Zero Case Conferencing

Alex Devin reported the Community Connect Oversight Committee will hold their next meeting in May or June. Adjustments and modifications will be discussed for the Built for Zero program at the next scheduled meeting. For more information, contact Alex Devin at alex_devin@co.washington.or.us.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:07a.m.

Minutes prepared by Michelle Rubio.