

HOUSING and SUPPORTIVE SERVICES NETWORK Strategic Planning and Discharge Workgroup (The CoC Board)

Friday, August 14, 2015

8:30 to 10:30 am

Washington County Public Services Building - Room 105/115
155 North First Avenue, Hillsboro, OR 97123

AGENDA

Chair: Annette M. Evans, Washington County Department of Housing Services

Co-Chair: Katherine Galian, Community Action Organization

I. Introductions (8:30 a.m.)

II. Approve Minutes (8:35 a.m.)[Action]

A) June 12, 2015 HSSN Workgroup Minutes

III. Business Items (8:40 a.m.)

A) Legal Clinic Initiative

B) HPAC support of Standardize Conversion Rate for Community Service Work –
Next Steps

C) FY2015 McKinney-Vento CoC Program Grant Application \$2.8 million

1. CoC Renewal Project Ranking[Action]

Project Ranking and Rating Criteria in Alignment with FY2014 HUD Priorities

- Move people to permanent housing through alignment with HUD priorities defined in *Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan*: *Permanent Supportive Housing for Chronic Homeless, and *Permanent Rapid Re-housing for Families with Children
- Increase Cash Income (Employment, etc.) and Non-Cash Income (Mainstream Resources) at Program Exit
- HUD funds leverage 150% other private/public funds
- 85+% Bed Occupancy of HUD-funded Projects
- Reduce De-Obligation of Funds

D) Review Community Plan Summary to end veteran homelessness. Can we leverage this to address federal goal of ending chronic homelessness by 2017?

Future Meeting Discussion:

E) Review draft Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Administrative Plan – Annette Evans

IV. Agency Announcements and Open Discussion (10:15 a.m.)

V. Workgroup Meeting Schedule, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. – Save the Date

- Friday, October 9, 2015
- Friday, December 11, 2015

VI. Adjournment (10:30 a.m.)

HSSN STRATEGIC PLANNING AND DISCHARGE WORKGROUP

Administrative Board of the Continuum of Care in Washington County

Public Service Building Conference Room 105/115

June 12, 2015

Workgroup

Role: The Workgroup is comprised of public and private representatives of the homeless subpopulations that exist within the CoC geographic region, a formerly homeless consumer representative, and the Emergency Solutions Grant recipient agency. The Workgroup is the jurisdictional CoC Administrative Board, as established by the HSSN Mission and Governance Policy.

Responsibilities: Perform CoC strategic planning, coordinate with and/or assist in State and local discharge planning, review performance outcomes of HMIS and HUD-funded programs, develop housing and service systems alignment, make funding decisions, and approve the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance grant application to HUD.

ATTENDEES:

Burton, Valerie – Luke-Dorf, Inc.

Bundy, Valerie – Monika's House

Clevidence, Veronica – Wash. Co. Housing/HMIS

Erickson, Dennis – Community Corrections

Evans, Annette – Wash. Co. Housing Services

Harbin, Angie – Cascade AIDS Project

Hille, Marcia – Sequoia Mental Health Services, Inc.

Johnson, Ellen – Oregon Law Center

Knapp, Mona -- Luke-Dorf, Inc.

Logan-Sanders, Andrea – Boys & Girls Aid

Pero, David – Homeless Education Network

Proctor, Jennie – Office of Community Development

Rogers, Pat – Community Action Organization

Schwab, Jack – Good Neighbor Center

Smith, Leslea – Oregon Law Center

Stoller, Rick – Salvation Army Vet. and Family Center

Taylor, Molly – Oregon Department of Human Services

Valfre, Adolph "Val" – Wash. Co. Housing Services

Voiss, Karen – Housing Independence

Werner, Judy – Lutheran Community Services NW

Chair: Annette Evans, Public Agency Representative Annette_Evans@co.washington.or.us

Co-Chair: Judy Werner, Nonprofit Agency Representative jwerner@lcsnw.org

Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m.

I. INTRODUCTIONS

II. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Motion: Approve Workgroup meeting minutes for February 13, 2015.

Action: Judy Werner

Second: Jack Schwab

Vote: Approved - Unanimous

III. BUSINESS ITEMS

A) Report on Court Decision to Standardize Conversion Rate for Community Service Work– Dennis Erickson

Dennis Erickson synopsised the HSSN Workgroup presentation from Elizabeth Soenneker in October, 2014, regarding converting court fees and fines to community service, and detailed Washington County's efforts to create a similar initiative. In support of this renewed effort, Dennis and Annette Evans researched BOLI's (Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industry) wage standards and noted that BOLI's job description for Landscape Technician was similar to most Community Service work, with the prevailing wage for that position at \$16.94/hour. Dennis researched the data from Community Connect clients that had a criminal history. There was about \$220,000 in court fees and around \$50,000 in corrections fees that was eligible for conversion to community service. In February letters were written by several county departments in support of the proposal and a meeting was scheduled to further explain and

clarify the proposal to the court. An April 27 meeting was scheduled with Presiding Judge Bailey with data and a proposal to increase the existing conversion rate of \$10/hour to \$16.94. Judge Bailey contacted Annette and informed her that the meeting wasn't necessary because the judges unanimously decided to keep the existing \$10/hour conversion rate.

Community Corrections has community corrections conversions in place, and would be glad to add hours and people to existing work conversion plans in support of this initiative. Ellen Johnson said that it would be appropriate to look directly at some of the demographics that are affected by these costs; fathers that can't pay child support because their wages are being garnished for these fees, people losing their housing because garnishment is keeping them from being able to pay their rent, etc. Ellen stressed the need to create information that can be disseminated to the public. She said that putting together a real story showing those who are most affected by these issues might be a good way to push it forward and suggested a study and story be put together.

Annette mentioned impacts to county departments based on this decision. Leslea Smith said the county bar association and the BenchMark committee might be good places in which to look for support. Dennis recommended the workgroup as a sounding board to move this initiative forward. Mona Knapp asked if the \$10/hour would have to be raised when the minimum wage rises above \$10/hour. There was discussion, but nobody present was certain of the answer.

B) Legal Clinic Events – Leslea Smith

Leslea Smith – Oregon Law Center (OLC). Each Legal Aid office has different subjects on which they focus, based on community need. The Portland office focuses on homelessness, and the new director there identified working in outlying areas, selecting Sandy as a community in which to increase awareness by offering clinics. Two clinics have been presented thus far consisting of an attorney who provides presentations at the Sandy Public Library, and the clinic is advertised via the Food Center. The attorney provides brief follow-up after the presentation. It might be too early to know all the positive impacts this is having on the community, but Leslea thinks the attendees have been successfully moved to the next step in obtaining public services and better understanding laws and ordinances that affect the homeless (camping, trespassing, etc.). The OLC always has a presence at Homeless Connect and they encourage folks in need to follow-up afterward.

Leslea said OLC is open to providing a clinic in Washington County. Annette Evans asked if the group has people that would come to this type of clinic, and solicited ideas for a location. Jack Schwab mentioned the Community Café in Tigard at St. Anthony's every Sunday that draws a lot of people. Libraries would also be optimal locations, because they are already a common source of information and a gathering place. Valerie Burton suggested having a clinic planned prior to Project Homeless Connect in July so the clinic can be advertised there. Ellen Johnson mentioned that offering food at an event would help bring people in. It was suggested that Community Connect and other community access numbers can give the information regarding clinics as well. Leslea recommended a static time such as the third Thursday of every month, so people always know where they can access legal advice. Suggestions were made regarding providing food, water, socks, other items that would draw the desired crowd and give them more value from the experience. Leslea said she or others at OLC would be happy to come out and have clinics at some of the different agencies, either for clients or for staff. She said she would work with Ellen and some others to put together a proposal.

C) Review and Recommend Year 8 Work Plan to HSSN for Adoption – Annette Evans

Annette provided a worksheet showing proposed Action Steps, Status and Leads for specific points from year 8 of the 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness. There was discussion regarding preserving existing low-income housing. Ellen Johnson said she would look into some of the

properties facing loss of low-income housing. Karen Voiss said that in the state, many Developmentally Disabled beds would be lost due to a grant ending this year.

Motion: Recommend the Year 8 Work Plan be presented to the HSSN for final approval.

Action: Dennis Erickson

Second: Marcia Hille

Vote: Approved - Unanimous

D) Review and Recommend 2015-2016 CoC Planning Calendar to HSSN for Adoption – Annette Evans

Annette provided a hard copy of the draft calendar to the group and briefly explained the timelines and flexibility necessary to meet HUD guidelines and timelines. More guest speakers will be added as certain topics are determined to be useful to the group, and speakers have availability. No additions or edits

Motion: Recommend the FY2015-16 CoC Planning Calendar be presented to the HSSN for final approval.

Action: Marcia Hille

Second: Pat Rogers

Vote: Approved – Unanimous

E) Report on the Affordable Housing Workgroup – Annette Evans

The Affordable Housing Workgroup was convened in January by Vision Action Network (VAN) to address the findings of the Washington County Homeless Cost Study. This group is looking to create housing for households with extremely low income. Currently, there is a gap of about 13,000 units.

Glenn Montgomery reconvened workgroup when he came on board in April. The group is currently working toward finding ways to link for-profit and non-profit developers with funding in Washington County. Karen Voiss said there is a senate bill currently in process to put together an affordable housing task force in Oregon for low income/disabled populations.

F) Recreational Marijuana and Palcohol (Granulated Alcohol SB 937) in Shelters – Annette Evans and Pat Rogers

Currently, shelters don't allow marijuana or palcohol, but since marijuana becomes legal for adult consumption in July, Oregon had to look at the possible ramifications. Federal law still prohibits the use of these substances. Jack Schwab said if someone had a medical marijuana card, they wouldn't be able to store the marijuana on-site. Policies are being developed to ensure churches and others providing severe weather shelters don't end up dispensing.

G) Data Research on Employment Projection by Industry and Occupation with Housing Overlay – Annette Evans and Jill Cuyler-Crook, Workforce Analyst, Oregon Employment Department

At the Workforce Development Forum Annette Evans attended in May, 2015, she saw a presentation from Jill Cuyler-Crook, a workforce analyst for the Oregon Employment Department. The presentation looked at a 10-Year Overview of Economic and Job Growth Projections in Washington County and Multnomah County. The projections showed that this region will grow by 136,700 jobs between 2012 and 2022. Some of the sectors in which growth is anticipated are construction, business services, leisure and hospitality, retail, government and manufacturing. Annette asked how many of these jobs will be paid at a rate which would enable the employee to afford fair housing. The answer was that it hasn't yet been looked at from that point of view. Ellen said Metro does a housing and transportation cost-study analysis looking at housing and income costs. They include several different categories of income, and calculate the housing and transportation costs for each category, from very very low income up

to \$300,000 and above. It could be very helpful to overlay this on Jill's study. Ellen asked for an email to remind her to send the Metro study to Annette.

H) FY2015 McKinney-Vento CoC Program Grant Application seeking \$2,728,665 – Annette Evans

Annette Evans said the registration process for the FY2015 CoC Program Grant has been submitted to HUD. This group needs to rank and rate performance outcomes once we have the Notice Of Funds Available (NOFA). Annette will call a special meeting if the NOFA is released prior to the August HSSN Workgroup meeting.

I) Goals and strategies for messaging work to create greater access to housing and services – Annette Evans

Annette Evans provided goals and strategies for messaging work detailing barriers, goals, and action steps geared toward increasing access to affordable housing.

Ellen Johnson asked for the demographics related to those with criminal history to assist in telling the story about who these barriers are affecting. Annette had hoped that DAVS (Disability, Aging and Veterans Services) would be able to be a sponsor agency to help seniors find housing with SPC vouchers, but DAVS doesn't have the resources. They can, however, provide match services once clients are housed. Karen Voiss said Housing Independence receives some funding from Oregon Developmental Disability Services when they contract for housing, and asked if there is a similar program for seniors. Valerie Burton mentioned Oregon Works, which focuses on older people getting back into the workforce.

The Luke-Dorf Housing Navigator model has been working very well for Housing TEAM, and has been a real collaboration. Karen Voiss said Housing Independence wants to apply for the section 811 project-based vouchers available through the state, but a prospective project needs to have OHCS (Oregon Housing and Community Services) funding, and can't already be designated for people with disabilities. Karen needs a partner that would be able to go in with her on it.

Future Meeting Discussion:

J) Review draft of Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Administrative Plan – Annette Evans

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPEN DISCUSSION

- Annette Evans announced there is an initiative to move forward with a Family Justice Center in Washington County. This would be a centralized place for domestic violence survivors to have assistance in finding housing, child care, legal assistance, everything they would need in one place. This will be the third such facility in the state. There is not yet a location, and the second strategic planning meeting is scheduled. The goal is to have the center open by July, 2016.
- Marcia Hille announced Sequoia's 6th Avenue house is now contracted with Family Care to provide on-site services for clients with a high level of need.
- Valerie Bundy announced the Pets Programs has been very well-utilized. They are on their 7th pet since implementation, and at least ten more have wanted to participate in the program.
- Val Valfre announced the Department of Housing Services closes today (6/12/15) on a new 236 unit project in Beaverton. It's the first new construction project the department has ever done. He is also meeting later today to participate in a discussion regarding the Veteran's NOFA.
- Molly Taylor announced the Tigard, Beaverton and Hillsboro branches of the Oregon Department of Human Services have been remodeled to be more welcoming.
- Jack Schwab announced Good Neighbor Shelter is full.
- Pat Rogers announced the Community Action Family Shelter is back open and housing two families, one of which is coming back through the system.

- Angie Harbin announced Cascade Aids Project (CAP) was awarded money for transitional housing starting in the fall.
- Karen Voiss announced Housing Independence has added 6 new staff, and they are up to 11 individuals and are full with clients. The state is moving to Employment First, and they are in the process of submitting their application next week.
- Andrea Logan-Sanders announced Safe Place is offering services extending to parents and family members of youth including laundry, meals, etc., as this contributes to the overall welfare of the kids they are serving. Helping the parents reduces the stress on the kids, and helps them to focus on school and work.
- Veronica Clevidence reported that work is in progress on the 2014-15 Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) Annual Performance Review (APR), and thanked the agencies and individuals that have been helpful in cleaning the HMIS data.

V. WORKGROUP MEETING SCHEDULE – SAVE THE DATE

- Friday, August 14, 2015
- Friday, October 9, 2015
- Friday, December 11, 2015

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Veronica Clevidence, Washington County Department of Housing Services

To be added to HSSN Workgroup email list, or the HSSN Coordinated and Centralized Assessment System, contact Annette Evans at Annette_Evans@co.washington.or.us.