



HOUSING and SUPPORTIVE SERVICE NETWORK

Providing a Continuum of Care for Vulnerable Populations in Washington County

Wednesday, October 2, 2019

8:30 to 10:00 a.m.

>>> The Beaverton Building at “The Beaverton Round”, **Council Chambers (Room Change)** <<<
12725 SW Millikan Way, Beaverton, OR 97005-1641

AGENDA

I. INTRODUCTIONS: 8:30 a.m.

II. GUEST SPEAKERS: 8:35 a.m.

- Fawn Preston, Founder and Director for AWARE Consulting
“Advocacy, Wellness, Action, Recovery, Education”
- Cole Merkel, Deputy Director Outreach and Engagement for Here Together
“Ending Homelessness at a Regional Level”
- Tanya Hawkins, Founder and Director for Gung Ho Ministries
“Rent and Energy Assistance Program for Veterans”

III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: 9:40 a.m. Action Item

IV. GENERAL BUSINESS: 9:45 a.m.

Election of HSSN Workgroup (CoC Board) positions. Seeking nominations!..... Action Item

Positions	Slate of Nominees
Business Sector	

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS: 9:50 a.m.

VI. ADJOURNMENT: 10:00 a.m.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 6 2019

Guest Speaker(s):

- Stacey Triplett, Economic Opportunities Program
 - Erin Parrish, HIV/STI Program
- Jennie Proctor, 2020/2024 Consolidated Plan Funding Priorities

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.



HOUSING AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES NETWORK
Maintaining a Continuum of Care in Washington County
Beaverton Building
September 4, 2019, 8:30 a.m.

Goal: Housing and supportive service agencies working to bring a broad spectrum of organizations together as partners in the community to secure funding and other resources needed in providing a continuum of care for individuals and families who are homeless or with special needs.

ATTENDEES:

Axe, Melody—Homewatch 1915i	Martinez, Omar—City of Hillsboro
Bittinger, Phyllis—WC Housing Services	Palma, Victor—CPAH
Brownell, Amy—Ecumenical Ministries-Second Home	Perkowski, Kaja—Open Door Counseling Center
Caress, David—Unite Us	Peterson, Marlys—Safe Families for Children
Cervantes, Maria—DHA-Tigard	Preston, Jeremy—DHS-Beaverton
Chichester, Lezlie—Luke-Dorf, Inc.	Ram, Saraia—CODA Inc.
Cockeram, Tami—City of Hillsboro	Rodriguez, Juan—Sequoia Mental Health
Coppiano, Zoila—Community Action Organization	Ruiz, Ally—Community Action Organization
Cox, Laurence—Homewatch 1915i	Segura, Adriana—Community Action Organization
Crites, Josh—WC Housing Services	Sheller, Gayle—DVRC
Dailey, Melisa—WC Housing Authority	Smith, Gary—U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs
Evans, Annette—WC Housing Services	Stoller, Rick—Ecumenical Ministries-Second Home
Farr, Danielle—WC Health & Human Services	Taylor, Rosemary “Rowie”—DVRC
Franco, Magali—Tuality Alliance	Teifel, Gordon—Families for Ind. Living & DEAR
Galian, Katherine—Community Action Organization	Valdez, Bianetth—HomePlate Youth Services
Higuera, Celia—Unite Us	Valencia, Mari—WC Office of Community Development
Hoyt, Devon—Metro HomeShare	VanTersch, Meghan—CAP
Ignatowski, Crystal—Boys & Girls Aid	VanVleet, Emily—City of Beaverton
Lamberger, Katie—DHS SSP	Waltshew, Ivana—Community Action Organization
Ludlam, Mandie—Community Housing Fund	Yokoyama, Kelly—Housing Independence

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

Crystal Ignatowski, Options Counselor and Birth Parent Clinician at Boys & Girls Aid, described how the All-Options Pregnancy Counseling Program and Infant Adoption Program work to help homeless expectant parents. She pointed out that services can start at any stage of the pregnancy, before and after delivery, and they serve clients in both states of Washington and Oregon. Clients can be expectant parents, their partners, their parents, grandparents—anyone who is connected to an expectant parent can access counseling services. The program also offers referrals and support for abortion and parenting, as all options are treated equally. If an expectant parent explores adoption, financial support may be available in the form of payments towards rent, utilities, cell phone bills, gas, groceries, maternity clothes and paid counseling sessions. Clients of all ages can contact the program on their own, or soft referrals may be made by agencies while they are meeting with the expectant parent.

Melody Axe and Laurence Cox provided an overview of the 1915i Support Program—Homewatch CareGivers of Portland—which offers assistance to individuals with chronic mental health issues. The name of the program is derived from the technical section code associated with the Medicaid waiver program governing the services provided. Clients served are those who live independently in the community, but need help with skills necessary to continue and/or improve their ability to maintain an engaged independent lifestyle. The program is open to those currently on Medicaid and who also have a chronic and persistent mental health condition. Clients must also need assistance in at least two Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADL), which comprise activities necessary for independent functioning in the community. These include managing finances, transportation, shopping/meal preparation, housecleaning/home maintenance, managing communication, and managing medications. Referrals for services come from mental health providers, case managers, support coordinators, therapists, doctors, clinics, or the County. The agency uses a referral packet to collect information needed to submit an authorization request. Prior authorization also requires the client's most recent mental health assessment, a signed treatment plan and 30 days of progress notes. The information is sent for authorized hours to KePro/IQA, which is a separate company from Homewatch. KePro staff meet with the client to determine eligibility and needs level before writing a service plan. They then let Homewatch know the client's eligibility status and the number of hours approved over a specified time frame. Homewatch employs direct support specialists who then assist the clients with IADLs that will improve their housing stability and ability to continue living independently.

David Caress from Unite Us explained that Thrive Local is the name of the network that Kaiser Permanente is sponsoring in partnership with Unite Us to connect health care providers with social services providers. He shared a demo of what it looks like when community organizations log into the Unite Us site. Kaiser is currently paying for all license fees. He demonstrated the processes involved in sending and receiving referrals. The system uses proprietary software that Unite Us built, and it is web-based, so there is no need to download anything. The software system is 42 CFR Part 2 compliant, as well as HIPPA and FERPA compliant; it will also be compliant with VAWA. Integration services are offered to many DHRs to reduce the need to duplicate clinical information. Celia Higuera, also from Unite Us, said that strategy and training sessions for Thrive Local will be conducted throughout the Portland metro area prior to launching the network at the end of this year or early next year. Thrive Local provides trackable referrals, which connect people to service arrays that include housing, employment, help with food, utilities, behavioral health and other needs.

III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Motion: Approve August 7, 2019 meeting minutes.

Action: Rowie Taylor

Second: Katherine Galian

Vote: Approved, unanimous

IV. GENERAL BUSINESS

Election of HSSN Workgroup (CoC Board) positions

One nominee for the Substance Use Disorder Position: Sarala Ram of CODA, Inc.

Motion: Appoint Sarala Ram to Substance Use Disorder Position.

Action: Gordon Teifel

Second: Katherine Galian

Vote: Approved, unanimous

Annette Evans announced that nominations are open to fill the Business position on the HSSN Workgroup. She acknowledged and thanked Denise Turner, who held the position prior to relocating out-of-state. She asked that nominations be submitted by September 16, 2019 so that nominee voting can be included on the next HSSN meeting agenda.

Approve MOU Outlining CoC role in Foster Youth to Independence (FYI)

Josh Crites and Melisa Dailey introduced a new voucher program that would enable Washington County to add housing units for foster youth. The HUD Family Unification Program—Foster Youth to Independence Initiative would house individuals 18-24 years old who are aging out of the foster system and who could end up in a precarious or homeless situation upon exit without intervention. Melisa reported the Housing Authority of Washington County (HAWC) is requesting the CoC participation in signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the program. The MOU will be between the HAWC, Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS) and the Washington County Continuum of Care (CoC). The youth served must meet the following criteria: between 18-24 years old; left foster care or will leave within 90 days; homeless or at risk of homelessness. Youth accepted in the program will receive a tenant protection voucher and services provided through DHS or CoC for 36 months. If someone receives a voucher when they are 24, they will still have the voucher and access to program services for the 3-year duration. Services are optional. MOU roles: DHS performs outreach and marketing activities; CoC integrates prioritization and referral processes into the CoC coordinated entry process and can refer homeless youth to DHS; DHS confirms eligibility of youth and sends referrals to HAWC. Melisa noted that the voucher is tied to the person, and 45 vouchers can be applied for per fiscal year. Vouchers cannot be reassigned if someone exits the program early.

Motion: Sign MOU Outlining CoC role in Foster Youth to Independence (FYI)

Action: Rick Stoller

Second: Gordon Teifel

Vote: Approved, unanimous

FY2019 CoC Consolidated Application seeking \$4,249,793

Annette Evans provided an update on the Consolidated Application which is 98% complete. Project application scores were ranked by the CoC Board at the regular public meeting on August 9, 2019. The Reentry Housing Program, which is a new initiative, scored the highest and will go forward in the application as a new project. The application for Safe Haven ranked lowest and will have the funds reallocated to cover the costs of the new Reentry Program. Washington County has a vested interest in the Safe Haven project because there is a 20-year use restriction that was signed along with Luke-Dorf, who owns the property. Washington County will continue to work with Luke-Dorf to see how those units can be reprogrammed to continue to serve the chronic homeless population, though it will not be a Safe Haven model but rather seek to make this permanent supportive housing. The Consolidated Application will be released on or before September 7 for a 10-day public comment period ending September 17, 2019, the date the Washington County Board of Commissioners will take Board Action to approve submittal of the application on behalf of the CoC. Annette would like to submit the application to HUD by September 25, in advance of the September 30 deadline. The CoC Board conducted a racial equity analysis, which will be included in the application, so please take a moment to review this document. The data shows that people of color are disproportionately represented in the homeless population, with fewer people of color accessing permanent housing.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Cascade AIDS Project is hiring for two new positions: two housing navigator positions, one being bilingual.

- The Latino Festival takes place in Tigard this weekend.
- The Sojourner's House case manager has been hired. Monica's House, which has been undergoing remodeling, will be operational by the end of this week.
- The Office of Community Development with Washington County will be conducting CDBG application workshops on November 19, 2019. Attendance is mandatory for all program applicants.
- The Washington County Consortium is hosting a presentation entitled The Latino Experience in the Pacific Northwest on Monday, September 30, 2019 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. presented by Emeritus Professor Dr. Erasmo Gamboa and Maria Rubio, Executive Director of Centro Cultural of Washington County.
- The City of Hillsboro's grant application is open and available in the amount of \$200,000.
- On October 1, 2019, CareOregon will provide a three-hour training on the role of a health plan in coordinating care.
- Next month's HSSN meeting is downstairs in Council Chambers.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Phyllis Bittinger, Washington County Department of Housing Services

Handouts:

- Thrive Local brochure
- Boys & Girls Aid information sheet

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