

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

Friday, December 13, 2019

8:30 to 10:30 am

Washington County Juvenile Services Building - Room 258
111 NE Lincoln Street, 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.)

- A) Welcome to our new member Blair Schaeffer-Bisht, Worksystems Inc., representing business/employment sector.

II. Public Comment (8:35 a.m.)

III. Approve Minutes (8:40 a.m.)

- A) Approve the October 11, 2019 HSSN Workgroup Minutes[Action]

IV. Business Items (8:45 a.m.)

- A) Project Reset and Court Ordered Fees and Fines – Attorney Ellen Johnson
B) Washington County Public Safety Levy – Philip Bransford and Erin Calvert, County Administration Office
C) OHCS \$3.5 million Shelter Capacity NOFA in Spring 2020 and Regional Shelter Discussion – Annette Evans
D) 2020 Point-In-Time (PIT) Count – Pat Rogers and Annette Evans
 1. 2021 PIT Homeless Count Regional Discussion
E) 2020 U.S. Census Service-based Enumeration Team scheduled 3/30/20, 3/31/20 and 4/1/20 – Annette Evans
F) Built For Zero Implementation – Annette Evans, Katherine Galian, and Lindsay Downen
G) Christian Kaylor will present research on Housing Affordability and the Employment Sector on 1/16/20 to the Homeless Plan Advisory Committee Meeting.
H) Release of A Road Home: 2019 Homeless Assessment Report on Outcomes and Challenges (Handout Provided) – Annette Evans

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

VI. 2020 HSSN Workgroup Meeting Schedule, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. (10:25 a.m.)

- Friday, February 14, 2020
- Friday, April 10, 2020
- Friday, June 12, 2020
- Friday, August 14, 2020
- Friday, October 9, 2020
- Friday, December 11, 2020

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

The HSSN Workgroup is the CoC Board providing oversight to the continuum of care. Meeting are open to the public and all are welcome to attend. Comments and questions can be directed to Annette Evans at 503-846-4760 Annette_Evans@co.washington.or.us

Department of Housing Services

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HSSN STRATEGIC PLANNING AND DISCHARGE WORKGROUP
Administrative Board of the Continuum of Care in Washington County
Washington County Facilities Building, Conference Room 258
October 11, 2019

Role: The HSSN Workgroup (the CoC Board) 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, seek out and prioritize funding, and approve the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance grant application to HUD.

COC BOARD MEMBER PRESENT

- Calvin, Mellani – ASSIST Program
- Downen, Lindsay – Luke-Dorf, Inc.
- Evans, Annette – HSSN Chair
- Fischer, Shawn – WashCo Sheriff’s Office
- Galian, Katherine – HSSN Co-Chair
- Gustafson, Hanna – Cascade AIDS Project
- Hille, Marcia – Sequoia Mental Health Services
- Pero, David – Homeless Education Network/
McKinney-Vento Homeless Student Liaison
- Ram, Sarala – CODA
- Rogers, Patrick – Community Action Org
- Schimmel, Brian – Old Town Church FG
- Smith, Gary – U.S. Dept of Veteran Affairs*
- Taylor, Rowie – Family Justice Center
- Valencia, Mari – Office of Community Dev.*

OTHER ATTENDEES

- Anderson, Kelcie – Calvin Presbyterian SWS
- Baker, Vernon – Just Compassion
- Cockeram, Tami – City of Hillsboro
- Eckhardt, Kristy – WC Housing Services
- Fallon, Bobbi – St. Francis SWS
- Goulding, Celeste –FG/Cornelius SWS
- Herron, Carol – St. Anthony SWS
- Igarashi, Kiley – FG/Cornelius SWS
- Marshall, Kim – SOS SWS
- Nash, Fletcher – Beaverton SWS
- Salisbury, Susan – CAO
- Schweitzer, Don – Pacific University
- Terhorst, Michael – FG/Cornelius SWS
- Trunnell, Alan – City of Beaverton

COC BOARD MEMBER NOT PRESENT

- Brouse, Renee – Good Neighbor Center
- Johnson, Ellen – Oregon Law Center
- Kalevor, Komi – Housing Authority of WashCo
- Logan-Sanders, Andrea – Boys & Girls Aid
- Schnitzer, Cole – U.S. Dept of Veteran Affairs
- Teifel, Gordon – Families for Independent
Living & DEAR

*Indicates representative attending on behalf of elected Board Member not able to attend in person.

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

Co-Chair: Katherine Galian, Nonprofit Agency Representative kgalian@caowash.org

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

I. INTRODUCTIONS

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Action: Approve August 9, 2019 meeting minutes.

Motion: Katherine Galian

Second: Brian Schimmel

Vote: Approved, unanimous.

IV. BUSINESS ITEMS

A. **Severe Weather Shelter (SWS) Data Analysis Findings – Professor Don Schweitzer, MSW, BSW, Pacific University**

Pacific University Professor Don Schweitzer analyzed the Severe Weather Shelter (SWS) HMIS data from the 2018/19 winter shelter season and presented his findings to the workgroup. Professor Schweitzer prefaced his results with a note of caution due to the limitations of the HMIS software, missing data, data errors, and extensive manipulation by hand of the data.

Policy makers need to be made aware that even if SWS do everything perfect there are not enough resources on the other end. Annette spoke on system capacity reporting 495 PSH and 230 RRH beds are full. Shelter Plus Care beds have a low annual turnover rate of 20 per year but could increase if agencies demonstrate services are no longer needed for a client. The County offers a move-on option to transfer persons to Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) program when rent subsidy becomes available.

Does the data support the idea that persons are coming here from Multnomah County? Don reported the data reflects the number of guests remain steady throughout season. Kim reported the SOS-Shelter saw a slight uptick in February when the Multnomah County shelters closed. Katherine stated that persons will go wherever beds are available. Kim's experience with the homeless population is they consider areas to be their home and will stay there regardless of bed availability. Marcia explained that Sequoia takes persons to Multnomah County all year long for services not provided in Washington County.

Sarala asked if the data included LGBTQ or transgender population. Don stated there were a few transgender persons in the data. Katherine explained the HMIS gender question is referring to gender identity and not sexual orientation and the response options cover all genders.

Question was asked if the data gave us a "good handle" on who is out there with dual diagnosis of mental illness and drug/alcohol addiction and whether the SWS were accessible to these persons. Brian explained that the shelters are accessible to everyone, however, they are not equipped to provide medical care or storage of medications. Katherine explained that the number one priority is housing and dual diagnosis piece is for agencies to address after someone is accepted into a program.

Kristy pointed out the data quality is already better than what was given to Don because of deduplication and data cleaning. He feels the data is good for benchmarks and for policy making and data will become more useful for trends overtime.

Discussion on funding allocation to sustain/expand winter shelter operations scheduled to open 11/2/2019 and close on 3/29/2020. Discussion on process to achieve exits to permanent housing outcomes through alignment with the CoC system.

If the State were to issue funds for SWS, those funds would be used to sustain the current 8 sites ensuring they are able to provide basic needs of shelter and food. State funds for SWS would not be used for rental assistance. Any public funds would require shelters to do HMIS and require an intentional effort at the shelters to engage with persons regarding their housing needs and resources.

Aligning with the SWS this year is a Housing Navigator aimed at providing direct client services that would guide persons through system by interacting with them and acting as a bridge from outside to inside.

Community Action Organization will dedicate \$60,000 in EHA funds to be allocated to the shelters based on bed stays from last year. Contracts will be managed by CAO and will be sent to shelters. If OHCS awards the \$150,000 to our community, \$60,000 would be pulled from that to fund rapid rehousing rent assistance.

OHCS has put aside approximately \$1.5 million dollars to be allocated to 10 communities throughout Oregon to build up and expand shelter capacity. Instead of a competitive application process, communities need to fill out a survey demonstrating community collaboration and willingness to leverage these funds with existing funds and resources in the community. OHCS is asking for one recipient per community to act as the fiscal agent. Annette will be responding to the OHCS survey as the lead for SWS. If awarded, these funds would be distributed to the SWS based on bed stays from last season.

Action: Approve CAO to administer funds to go out to the 8 Severe Weather Shelters based on a proration value and hold \$60,000 back for rent assistance.

Motion: Brian Schimmel

Second: Rowie Taylor

Vote: Approved, Unanimously

B. 2020 U.S. Census Service-based Enumeration Team scheduled 3/30/2020, 3/31/2020, and 4/1/2020

U.S. Census Service-based enumeration team will be in Washington County collecting 2020 Census data on March 30, 31 and April 1, 2020. To collect homeless population data, the team will be put in contact with the Severe Weather Shelters and Outreach workers. More information to follow at future meetings.

C. Project Reset and Court Ordered Fees and Fines – Attorney Ellen Johnson

Project Reset is a program currently operating in Multnomah, Clark, and Columbia Counties for persons to work off court fines and fees through community service. These fees cannot be tied to victim assistance. Metropolitan Public Defenders Office is working with Project Reset on a proposal to bring the program to Washington County. The proposal will include a couple options for hourly rates and caps for community service hours. The topic will be brought to the Public Safety Coordinating Council meeting in November. Once the proposal is brought to the District Attorney's office, the County will need to agree to participate in order to be included in the request for funding that Project Reset will conduct after the first of the year. Community Connect data shows 406 persons in our system with approximately \$1.4 million dollars in court fees and fines. Of those, 132 persons also experienced domestic violence. It is common for DV survivors to incur court fees while leaving their abuser.

Fletcher Nash shared the story of a client that participated in the Project Reset program and was able to work off \$55,000 in court fees through community service and treatment hours. Once the fees were paid, he was able to get housing, a car, and a stable good paying job.

Annette reported although Project Reset is not available in Washington County, persons with court fees/fines in Multnomah, Clark, or Columbia counties can participate in the program. Annette will load a 10.10 to the cloud for Community Connect Assessors to use for referrals

D. Review draft annual A Road Home: 2019 Challenges and Outcomes report – Annette Evans

Annette shared the draft of A Road Home: 2019 Challenges and Outcomes. No edits were suggested and the draft will be presented to the HPAC on October 17 for approval.

E. HSSN Workgroup vacant position(s): Business Representative

V. AGENCY ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPEN DISCUSSION

VI. WORKGROUP MEETING SCHEDULE – SAVE THE DATE

- Friday, December 13, 2019
- Friday, February 14, 2020
- Friday, April 10, 2020
- Friday, June 12, 2020
- Friday, August 14, 2020

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:43 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Kristy Eckhardt, Washington County 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.