



HOUSING and SUPPORTIVE SERVICE NETWORK

Providing a Continuum of Care (CoC) in Washington County

March 6, 2013

8:30 to 10:30 a.m. **Extended Meeting Time**

Beaverton City Hall - 1st Floor Conference Room

4755 SW Griffith Drive, Beaverton, Oregon 97075

AGENDA

I. INTRODUCTIONS: 8:30 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: 8:35 a.m.Action Item

III. SUPPORTIVE HOUSING PROGRAM PRESENTATIONS: 8:40 a.m. (5 minutes each)

Project sponsors will provide overview of legacy Supportive Housing Program projects funded with McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance federal HUD grant funds.

1) HopeSpring Housing Program - Judy Werner, Lutheran Community Services NW

2) Youth Transitional Living Program - Andrea Logan, Boys and Girls Aid

3) Transitional Housing Program - Gary Calvert, Washington County

4) Housing Stabilization Program – Rose Browning, Good Neighbor Center

5) SAFAH Program (SSO) – Pat Rogers, Community Action

6) Mental Health Outreach (SSO) – Kaja Perkowski, Open Door Counseling Center

7) Safe Haven – Lydia Radke, Luke-Dorf, Inc.

8) Hillsboro Graduated Independent Living Program – Lydia Radke, Luke-Dorf, Inc.

9) Tom Brewer – Deb Allison, LifeWorks Northwest

10) Tri-Haven – David Pump and Alexis Kruse, Sequoia Mental Health Services Inc.

11) Shelter Plus Care TRA – Melanie Fletcher, Washington County Housing Services

12) Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) – Melanie Fletcher, Washington County

IV. GENERAL BUSINESS: 9:40 a.m.

- Ms. Lauren Sechrist, Washington County Office of Community Development
- Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Consultation with the Continuum of Care (CoC)
- Ms. Ann Brown, Oregon Housing and Community Services
- State Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Consultation with CoC

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS: 10:15 a.m.

VI. ADJOURNMENT: 10:30 a.m.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, April 3, 2013, at 8:30 a.m.

Guest Speaker(s): *Ms. Alexis Kruse and Mr. Matt Lauzon, Sequoia Mental Health Services Child and Family Program
*Mark Noonan, Elders in Action Program

Department of Housing Services

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Equal Housing Opportunity

HOUSING AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICE NETWORK
Maintaining a Continuum of Care in Washington County
Beaverton City Hall, First Floor Conference Room
February 6, 2013 - 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:

Adams, Jessi – Community Action Organization	Kline, Nancy – Recovery Association Project
Atterberry, Amy – Sequoia Mental Health Services Inc.	Kruse, Alexis – Sequoia Mental Health Services, Inc
Baca, Melissa – Community Action Organization	Laughlin, Ginger – Citizen Volunteer
Brand, Leah - Community Action Organization	Lauzon, Matt – Sequoia Mental Health Services, Inc.
Brillman, Linn – Community Partners for Afford.Housing	Lind, Stephanie – Wash.Co. Coop. Library Services
Browning, Rose – Good Neighbor Center	Nelson, Andrea – CDBG Coord., City of Beaverton
Burnham, Jeff – Luke-Dorf, Inc.	Nelson, Barbara – Community Volunteer
Bundy, Valerie – Domestic Violence Resource Center	Peltz, Leslie – CODA Inc.
Burton, Valerie – Luke-Dorf, Inc.	Perkowski, Kaja – Open Door Counseling Center
Carpenter, Kristen – Family Bridge	Poletski, Jessica - Community Action Organization
Chavez-Hernandez, Saul - Community Action Org,	Proctor, Jennie - Office of Community Dev, Wash. Co.
Comp, Chris - Citizen	Pruyn, Gerry – Jubilee TH & Severe Weather Shelter
Comp, Chris, Jr. – Boy Scout Troop 208	Rafal, Candy – Luke-Dorf, Inc.
Connor, Anne – U. S. Veterans Affairs	Reed, Rochelle – Boys and Girls Aid
Daniel, Bridget – HomePlate	Rogers, Patrick - Community Action Organization
Davila, Lisa – Luke-Dorf, Inc.	Schaeffer, Blair
Demry, James – Homeless to Work Program	Schwab, Jack – Good Neighbor Center
Dondero, Russell – Homeless Plan Advisory Committee	Schweitzer, Don – Pacific University
Eichorst, Kathy - Dept. of Housing Services, Wash. Co.	Sechrist, Lauren – Community Development, WC Office
Ensley, Eric – DAVS Washington County	Skryha, Vicki – U. S. Dept. of HUD
Evans, Annette – Dept. of Housing Services, Wash. Co.	Spencer, Laura – Project Bloom
Ferry, Nancy – Bridges to Changes	Squeglia, Frank – Recovery Association Project
Fitzpatrick, Sean – HomePlate	Stoullil, Vera – Boys and Girls Aid
Fletcher, Melanie - Dept. of Housing Services, Wash. Co.	Teifel, Gordon – Families for Independent Living/DEAR
Fowler, Alisa – Luke-Dorf, Inc.	Tong, Melanie – Wash. Co. HHS Residential Specialist
Gibson, Erin – HomePlate	Tovar, Laura – Oregon Food Bank
Hauth, Larry - Community Action Organization	Turk, Nicki – Cascade AIDS Project
Hennessey, Jaidra – Housing Independence	Vitela, Leticia – Community Action Organization
Herron, Carol – St. Anthony's Catholic Church	Wallace, Andy – Sequoia Mental Health Services, Inc.
Jamison, Jeanne – Love INC.	Wilson, Shannon – Community Partners for Afford. Housing

I. INTRODUCTIONS

II. GUEST SPEAKERS

“Running on Empty: Services and Citizens Stretched to the Limit”

Donald Schweitzer, PhD

Pacific University

<http://commons.pacificu.edu/casfac/51>

Jennie Proctor gave an introduction to Dr. Schweitzer's presentation. The Consolidated Plan 2010-2015 included an Anti-Poverty Plan to address needs assessment of people receiving services and living in affordable housing, and the challenges facing them. In 2008, a study was performed on the challenges facing people living in poverty. The Anti-Poverty Workgroup, a committee formed to implement the goals and strategies outlined in the Consolidated Plan, wanted to revisit the impact of the recession on families living in poverty. Don Schweitzer and his students from Pacific University performed the study resulting in the findings and recommendations published in "Running On Empty".

Don Schweitzer reviewed the demographics of the study that included data collected during 3 focus groups and 5 individual interviews.

Key findings of the report included barriers people encounter in obtaining services, benefits are not keeping up with cost of living, high cost of healthcare, and loss of insurance when laid-off from employment. Helpful services include access to internet, bus passes, counseling, employment services, Rent Well, energy assistance, help paying for school, Head Start, and Preferred Workers Program. The study determine that improvement could be made in accessing services, utility company policies, assistance bubble', and service bottlenecks.

The study recommendations included better communication of available programs and services, proposed policy change to restrict utility company charging fees to turn utility back on when public funds are used. improved access to dental and hearing care, taking services to the community, and expunge criminal history records reducing barriers to housing and employment.

Gerry Pruyn asked what is the name of the program in Multnomah County that helps expunge criminal history.

Don reported the program is Project Clean Slate (a reference is included in the study report).

Linn Brillman asked about the size of the study and how many adults.

Don indicated there were 26 in the focus groups plus 5 individual interviews.

Linn Brillman asked if the participants in the interviews and focus groups had ever had similar situations prior in their lives or was this the first time? Don indicated that while that would have been an interesting question it was not asked.

Gordon Teifel asked who in HSSN should take ownership of working with the utility companies regarding their fees when public money was being used?

Pat Rogers responded that Community Action is currently engaged in talks with utility companies.

Don indicated that there might be some legislation around this as well.

Annette proposed the recommendation may be applicable to people living in poverty across the state of Oregon, and suggested that a coalition with other Community Actions to raise the focus at the State legislative level might merit greater support. Nancy Kline proposed approaching the Public Utility Commission.

Don Schweitzer indicated that there are many programs providing a service but that isn't enough. What we can do is empower those we work with and have them take those leadership roles so they can host meetings like this and tell us what we need to do.

"Job and Career Education Resources"

Stephanie Lind

Washington County Cooperative Library Services

<http://www.wccls.org/>

Stephanie provided an overview of the library structure, locations and services. 53% of Washington County population have library cards. The issue is not getting people cards, but getting them to know the services and resources that are available from their library.

Online resources include:

- Oregon Career Information System www.wccls.org/cis. On this site users can take tests, career tests, online courses, etc. People do need a library card to use the services, but can use them remotely.
- Internet Access Computers and Wi-Fi
- Computer Classes and Job Workshops
- Electronic Subscription Resources:
 - *Oregon Career Information System*
 - *Learning Express Library*
- Free language learning system - Mango Languages
- ESL: Learning Express Library offers ESL for Spanish speakers.
- Teen programs, homework help.
- The library can be a break for people. They can attend library events for themselves or their children and also checkout free cultural passes.

A question was asked about library fine forgiveness?

Stephanie indicated that people who owe library fines can ask for a payment plan, however, forgiveness plans vary by library.

Recovery Association Project (RAP)

Nancy Kline

<http://www.rap-nw.org/>

RAP holds the state contract for Oxford House in Oregon. Oxford House is a National 501c3 program that is a self-sufficient, democratically-run, and recovery housing model. RAP houses serve domestic violence survivors, homeless, and turned out foster children. Each house averages 8 beds totaling approximately 1,350 adults and 200 children. In Washington County there are 22 houses and 168 beds as well as 2 domestic violence survivor homes. People exit Oxford Houses with a rental history.

Ultimate goal of the program is to develop a sense of community. When opening a new house, a facilitator works with residents to help them learn appropriate communication techniques, and a core team helps set up the democratic process. Each house holds weekly meetings, has forms that must be completed, and assigns house officers with specific duties that must be performed.

Questions include:

*What is the average stay?

Nancy stated the average stay is 18 months; domestic violence housing is longer at approximately 2 years; and homeless housing is much less.

*What do you do to support them saving money so they can move out if they are paying rent?

Nancy replied that life skills are learned in community living while program participants save money with affordable rents.

*Is the housing gender specific?

Nancy stated that Oxford is 2/3 men.

*How are utilities and rent split up?

Nancy answered that the treasurer is typically the check signer, and the decision to pay is voted on by everyone in the house.

*What is the referral process?

Nancy replied that they have a telephone number.

*How many homeless houses?

Nancy replied that there are 5 in Multnomah County.

*How do you go about starting one in Washington County?

Nancy would work with Annette.

*What is the screening process?

Nancy answered that the house interviews people. If for some reason they are not a good fit for that house, they may be referred to another house that may work better. 100% of the houses are child-friendly.

*How does RAP address zoning and land use in jurisdictions which have codes regarding how many unrelated adults can live in a home before it's considered a group home?

Nancy indicated that it was adjudicated to the United States Supreme Court. Under the Federal Fair Housing Act, they are considered single family housing.

*Are residents briefed about Fair Housing?

Nancy indicated that all are trained on Fair Housing and Oregon Landlord and Tenant Law.

III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Motion: Approve January 2, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Action: Gordon Teifel

Second: Vera Stoullil

Vote: Approved – Unanimous

IV. GENERAL BUSINESS:

2013 Point-In-Time (PIT) Homeless Count Debrief

Pat Rogers reported that they did a blitz approach. Staff from Luke-Dorf, Community Action Organization, and Ann Conner of U. S. Veterans Affairs participated as well as volunteers from Hands On Portland. There were 4 different Veterans events that took place with various degrees of attendance. The Veterans Subcommittee involvement really

helped. A training session on how to enter the data into HMIS is scheduled for February 6.

One anecdotal story - Jessi Adams made contact with a family who was living in their car at the Beaverton State of Oregon Department of Human Services office. She was able to get them housed a week later!

Pat stated that they still have the institutions that aren't in HMIS to count. Salvation Army transitional program had an unfortunate occurrence with one of the staff members, and we had to hold off. School districts are turning in their information. A program assistant has been hired to focus on entering data in HMIS.

Annette said that state's target goal is to have numbers available by April 1.

Gerry Pruyn asked if Oxford Houses were included?

Pat indicated that they were not since they are considered permanent housing.

Submission of FY2012 McKinney-Vento CoC Homeless Assistance Grant Request for \$2,466,564

Annette Evans reported that the HUD application was submitted January 16, 2013. \$2.5 million was requested with additional \$2.5 million leveraged beyond the 25% match Washington County General Fund contributes \$1 million bringing total resources to more than \$6 million.

Vicki Skryka reported that HUD is transitioning from HUDHRE website to OneCPD. Please be patient; currently can be hard to find things. Please work with Annette or contact her.

Year 5 Work Plan

Annette Evans report the HSSN will perform a quarterly update to the County's 10 Year Plan To End Homelessness. If you chair a committee and have updates to the work plan, email Annette.

March 5, 2013 HSSN Meeting

Annette Evans recommended the March 5 HSSN meeting be extended to 10:30 a.m. to accommodate the annual HUD project performance presentations and ESG consultation process.

Motion: Extend the March 5, 2013 meeting to 10:30 a.m.

Action: Andrea Nelson

Second: Gordon Teifel

Vote: Approved – Unanimous

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Andrea Nelson reported that if you're applying for Beaverton Social Service funding, applications are due this Friday. Also Garlic Jim's Pizza fundraiser for Boys and Girls Aid is today.
- Laura Spencer reported that Project Bloom has partnered with Restorative Garden Designs at Portland Yard, Garden and Patio Show this coming weekend. 5% of proceeds will go to Project Bloom.

- Valerie Bundy reported that Domestic Violence Resource Center has hired a new Executive Director, Ms. Sara Wade.
- Jack Schwab reported that on March 9, Good Neighbor Center is having its 2nd annual fundraiser, "In Other Words An Evening of Storytelling for Grownups" at the Broadway Rose Theater.
- Gerry Pruyn reported that Love, INC has hired a new Executive Director, Ms. Jeanne Jamison.
- Letecia Vitela reported that 211 has launched Family Info. This is a service for parents and caregivers of children up to age 8 to get advice.
- Annette Evans reported that Washington County Housing Services is going to accept project sponsors who want to work with the Shelter Plus Care program. Email Annette if interested.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:07 a.m. The next HSSN meeting is Wednesday, March 6, 2013 at 8:30 a.m.

Minutes prepared by
Kathy Eichorst
Washington County Department of Housing Services