



HOUSING and SUPPORTIVE SERVICE NETWORK

Providing a Continuum of Care for Vulnerable Populations in Washington County

Wednesday, August 7, 2013

8:30 to 10:00 a.m.

Beaverton City Hall - 1st Floor Conference Room
4755 SW Griffith Drive, Beaverton, Oregon 97075

AGENDA

- I. INTRODUCTIONS: 8:30 a.m.**
- II. GUEST SPEAKER: 8:35 a.m.**
 - Ms. Iris Savich, Portland Community College / TAP Unlimited
- Teambuilding 101
- III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: 9:20 a.m. Action**
- IV. REPORTS AND PROGRAM UPDATES: 9:25 a.m.**
 - Subcommittee Reports
 - Children
 - Youth
 - Homelessness
 - Permanent Housing
 - Income Support/Workforce Development Workgroup
 - DD Dialogue
 - Mental Health and Special Needs Community Consortium Steering Committee
 - Veterans
 - Seniors
 - Strategic Planning and Discharge Workgroup
 - Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)
 - Homeless Plan Advisory Committee (HPAC)
- V. GENERAL BUSINESS: 9:35 a.m.**
 - Development of Coordinated Intake and Centralized Assessment System – Progress Report
 - Oregon Building Sustainable Partnerships for Housing – Discussion on gaps in our system and alignment of housing and services for people with disabilities
- VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS: 9:50 a.m.**
- VII. ADJOURNMENT: 10:00 a.m.**

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, September 4, 2013

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

June 5, 2013 at 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
Baker, Raymond-U S Veterans Affairs
Bartz, Alicia-CODA Inc.
Brand, Leah-Community Action Organization
Browning, Rose-Good Neighbor Center
Burnham, Jeff-Luke-Dorf, Inc.
Bundy, Valerie-Domestic Violence Resource Center
Carlsen, Kurt-WorkSource Oregon
Carey, Alisha-DHS SSP
Carpentier, Kristen-Family Bridge Shelter
Chavez-Hernandez, Saul-Community Action Organization
Cooper, Patty- Or. Dept. Human Services Child Welfare
Demry, James-Homeless To Work/Bridges to Change
Eichorst, Kathy- Dept. of Housing Services, Wash.Co.
Evans, Annette-Dept. of Housing Services, Wash.Co.
Ferry, Nancy-Bridges to Change
Fletcher, Melanie-Dept. of Housing Services, Wash. Co.
Gibson, Erin-HomePlate
Hauth, Larry-Community Action Organization
Junke, Jessica-Neighborhood Partnerships
Kruse, Alexis-Sequoia Mental Health Services
Lauzon, Matt-Sequoia Mental Health Services
Lind, Stephanie-Washington County Coop. Library Svcs.
McIntire, Robert- U S Veterans Affairs

Nelson, Barbara-Community Volunteers
Nordall, Brian-Luke-Dorf, Inc.
Orr, Patrick-HomePlate
Peltz, Leslie-CODA Inc.
Perkowski, Kaja-Open Door Counseling Center
Poletski, Jessica-Community Action Organization
Rafal, Candy-Luke-Dorf, Inc.
Raschke, Zach- Or. Dept. Human Services Child Welfare
Reed, Rochelle-Boys and Girls Aid
Reiner, Kathryn-Project Bloom
Rogers, Patrick-Community Action Organization
Rogers, Rodney-American Red Cross
Spencer, Laura-Project Bloom
Stoullil, Vera-Boys and Girls Aid
Teifel, Gordon-Families for Independent Living/DEAR
Tong, Melanie-Wa. Co. Health & Human Services
Tovar, Laura-Oregon Food Bank
Turk, Nicki-Cascade AIDS Project
Watson, Rob-St. Francis Catholic Church-SWS
Werner, Judy-Lutheran Community Services NW
Whitney, Bill-LifeWorks NW
Wilson, Shannon-Community Partners for Afford.Housing
Wise, Samantha-Boys & Girls Aid

I. INTRODUCTIONS

Meeting commenced at 8:30 a.m.

II. GUEST SPEAKERS

Stepping Stones and CODA Programs

Alicia Bartz, CODA Inc. AliciaBartz@codainc.org

CODA Inc. has 15 programs in 10 locations across the Tri-county area and is a behavioral healthcare agency. The mission is to significantly reduce alcohol and drug problems and related social, health and behavioral consequences. Stepping Stones is a transitional women's drug free housing program. CODA, Inc. owns two homes which house 16 women who are in the process of or recently reunited with their children. We work with Department of Human Services (DHS) for women who are involved and in need of substance abuse treatment. They attend one of our outpatient clinics and live in a communal setting with a

house manager. We are recruiting for a peer recovery mentor to assist in the house. Refer candidates to CODA Inc. website or contact Alicia Bartz.

The house manager is in long-term recovery and oversees the property and provides role modeling. The resident's average stay is six to nine months, depending upon need and how long they are in treatment. The biggest need is when they transition from treatment to permanent housing. They pay rent and utilities. They learn how to budget, time management, etc., while establishing a rental history. Work and housing are the key components to helping these women move on.

Another CODA, Inc. program has two outpatient programs located in Hillsboro and Tigard. These programs provide a full array of services; up to intensive outpatient services. In Tigard, we have a 15 bed men's residential program. Attached to it is our six bed medically monitored detox center. We are one of the six detox facilities throughout Oregon. We recently received funding from the State to provide 24/7 medical monitoring. We use medication assistance with addictions. We have one of the largest methadone clinics in the state and is one of our longest running programs.

CODA, Inc. has a medical staff who run the program along with a care coordinator who makes sure that the next level of care is ready for the person when they are ready to transition from detox and the next step in their recovery. A care coordinator works with doctors, insurance companies, etc. to make sure the person gets to the next level. We have an outpatient clinic in Clackamas County and several mental health housing programs in Portland as well.

Annette Evans asked what percentage acquire employment while in the program? Alicia responded that more outpatient people are employed than the residential people. Our goal is to get people back into their community, safely, and as a participant. While they are in their last phases of transition, it's really about connecting them to the community. We have wonderful partnerships with faith-based groups and Salvation Army.

Josh Raschke asked if the men's program allows children, and if there are any age restricts for the children. Alicia responded that there are not any programs in the state that allow children in the men's program. At the Gresham site no children over 5 are allowed. At Stepping Stones there are no age restrictions. If the children are male and female, CODA follows Oregon-DHS room restrictions.

Nancy Ferry asked if a woman with six children would be accepted. Alicia responded that the most we've been able to accommodate was a woman with 5 children. Working with DHS they could accommodate six children.

Oregon IDA Initiative

Jessica Junke, Neighborhood Partnerships jjunke@neighborhoodpartnerships.org

Individual Development Accounts (IDA) are matched savings accounts that build the financial management skills of qualifying Oregonians with lower incomes while they save towards a defined goal. Individual Development Accounts are matched savings accounts where Oregonians with low to moderate incomes save, along with a typical 3-to-1 dollar match. The accounts can be used for home ownership, education, micro-enterprise, assistive technology, i.e. updating a van so it's accessible for a wheelchair. The program requires a minimum six month commitment from the client and a minimum \$25 a month deposit. Most clients save \$1000 in a year and get \$3000 matching funds.

Who is eligible? Oregon residents, at least 12 years old, must meet income limit for the county they live in (80% AMI), net worth under \$20K. Clients set goals and work on a savings program. Partner programs provide financial education and counseling for participants. The graduation rate in Oregon is 60% while the national average is about 50%. Partnerships are listed at www.oregonidainitiative.org and www.neighborhoodpartnerships.org.

Neighborhood Partnerships is looking for new new ideas how IDAs can be used, and how IDAs can serve communities not currently served. We will be setting up meetings in the near future, and all are welcome to attend. If interested in the funding process and want to be part of the conversation, email Jessica.

A question was asked how long does the client have to have the account before they can use it. Jessica responded that there is a six month minimum. Participants are encouraged to purchase their asset within three years.

Gordon Teifel asked how Social Security benefits affect IDA participation. Jessica responded that it is her understanding that the IDAs are tax exempt, so didn't believe it would affect IDA.

Oregon Foster Care Program and Discharge System

Patty Cooper, Oregon Department of Human Services Child Welfare patty.cooper@state.or.us Youth exit our system with permanency. They can be with family or a relative. The next best choice is adoption. Guardianship is next. Least desirable is "another planned permanent living arrangement (APPLA)" such as foster care, residential program, etc. This is the highest risk group for homelessness.

The Independent Living Program (ILP) partners with LifeWorks Northwest for case management. Youth have a DHS worker and a case manager from ILP who meets with them regularly to develop daily living skills. There are some discretionary funds that can be used for some employment related items. Educational Training Vouchers (ETV) and subsidized housing programs are also available. ILP participation is not mandatory. Services are available up to age 21.

ILP uses a multi-stage transition plan to prepare youth for independent living. The plan is a continual document and is reviewed and revised through casework contact. The plan includes education, housing, supportive relationships, employment, health, transportation, and life skills. It identifies short and long term goals as well as people who can help youth reach their goals.

At age 14-16, the focus is to identify needs, i.e. where do they want to go? This includes preparation planning, life skills training, get them involved in social activities, and job readiness. At age 16, we start talking about what they need to know, i.e. landlord/tenant law, how to read a lease, housing subsidy, identifying the cost of being on your own, identifying social and support needs, and talk about roommates and preparing for the reality.

There are a number of programs available to the youth. Chafee Education and Training Voucher (ETV) program provides up to \$4,000 per academic year if the youth is accepted and enrolled in post-secondary education and is based on need. Independent Living Subsidy is State funded for ages 16 and over. To qualify the youth need to be in DHS care for 180 days or more, be involved in 40 hours of productive work per week (combined school, work, volunteer activities), court approval, need to be near completion of high school or GED, and need to be in ILP. The program provides up to \$600 per month for a maximum of a year.

Chafee Housing Program is Federally funded for ages 18 or over and discharged from care on or after their 18th birthday. The youth are required to have 40 hours of productive activity to receive a maximum of \$6000 for one year or up to age 21, whichever comes first.

Six months prior to age 18 a benchmark review is conducted. People in the youth's life are invited to attend, make a plan, focus on supportive relationships, make sure they know where in the community to go for resources, look at a plan for employment and/or education, and medical and dental services.

What are the gaps in the program? Youth with borderline IQs of 70 to 90 are most at risk. Also those with learning disorders that don't qualify for development disabilities services and youth with AXIS II Mental Health disorders fall in the gap area. If youth have both low IQ and AXIS II, they have a very difficult time.

Vera Stoullil asked what is the main reason a child would end up on an APPLA plan? Patty responded that they're traumatized. They have been in situations where they did not learn appropriate boundaries, they may have ADHD, or may be children who are aggressive and destroy property or who refuse to stay.

Vera asked what is the age of the majority of kids who are aging out? Patty responded that they are generally 16 or older. They are the youth who haven't been able to find someone they connect with or connect with them. We try to avoid that because it's a sentence to life long foster care and instability. Sometimes they're in APPLA plan but foster parents are afraid to commit.

What about the youth who have children of their own? For those youth there are other programs such as Albertina Kerr. We have some foster parents who are willing to have the youth and infant. They can move on with some support from temporary assistance for needy family's self-sufficiency programs but there are requirements.

Service Center Activation for Displaced Formerly Homeless from Residential Fire

Rodney Rogers, American Red Cross

The Red Cross responds to a disaster in Washington County about once a week which are usually home fires. On Saturday, May 4, Red Cross was notified of a residential fire in Cornelius. Red Cross was told at one point there were 31 homeless/formerly homeless people living in the home and attached trailers. American Red Cross was able to get lodging for 3 nights in a motel for them. Many of the people said they would return to the site of the fire and stay in the trailers even though there was no water or electricity. On Sunday, the Emergency Manager was contacted who worked with Annette Evans to coordinate a number of organizations to respond on Monday to a Service Center. These agencies included Community Action, Luke-Dorf, Open Door Counseling Center, and Sunrise Church. We were able to set up a Service Center to assess households for housing and basic needs, and make referrals to community resources. Sunrise Church provided \$100 WinCo gift cards to the displaced households.

Pat Rogers provided an update on the displaced families to include five households qualify for the Shelter Plus Care program and one homeless veteran household was re-housed by Supportive Services for Veteran Families funds. Saul Chavez-Hernandez has been at the residential fire site several times to screen and assess homeless households for service needs. Saul reported a challenge in working with these households is the lack of documents

as most people lost personal identification records in the fire making it more difficult to get them into housing.

III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Motion: Approve meeting minutes of May 1, 2013

Action: Gordon Teifel

Second: Leslie Peltz

Vote: Approved by unanimous vote

IV. GENERAL BUSINESS

Nominations and Election of HSSN Co-Chair Position

Nominations for the HSSN Co-Chair position, a two-year term, was opened at the May 1 HSSN meeting where Melanie Fletcher nominated Judy Werner and Judy accepted the nomination. Annette Evans reported no additional nominations were received in the past month and asked for a last call of nominations. Not hearing any additional nominations, the HSSN moved to elect Judy Werner to fill the HSSN Co-Chair position effective July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2015.

Motion: Appoint Judy Werner as HSSN Co-Chair for the 2-year term ending June 30, 2015.

Action: Melanie Fletcher

Vote: Approved by unanimous vote

Adopt CoC Governance Policy in Compliance with HEARTH Act

Annette Evans commented that under the HEARTH Act the CoC will adopt policy's with written standards in compliance with the CoC Program and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) program. A CoC Governance policy previously adopted by the HSSN is in a narrative style document, of which Annette has incorporated into a formal policy document that includes references to the specific CoC Program federal regulation. Annette Evans provided the handout of the current policy (previously emailed to the HSSN listserv) and called for comment and/or questions. Upon review, the HSSN moved to adopt the new CoC Governance policy. We need to be fully HEARTH act compliant by August of next year.

Motion: Adopt CoC Governance Policy in Compliance with HEARTH Act

Action: Gordon Teifel

Second: Vera Stoullil

Vote: Approved by unanimous vote

Adopt 6-Year Work Plan of the 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness

Annette Evans reported A Road Home: 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness was adopted in June 2008 that embodies the local community goals and strategies to address preventing and ending of homelessness. A handout was provided that included an extrapolation of that document to develop the Year 6 work plan of activities in support A Road Home. The Work Plan includes modifications to language that aligns with the new HEARTH Act language. The document is updated quarterly, posted on the County website, and used to write the annual outcomes and challenges report that goes to elected officials and stakeholders.

Motion: Adopt 6-Year Work Plan of the 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness

Action: Gordon Teifel

Second: Judy Werner

Vote: Approved by unanimous vote

Year 5 Homeless Assessment Report, A Summary of Outcomes and Challenges

Annette Evans commented that she is preparing to write the County's annual progress report in preventing and ending homelessness. The report will include program and system data

extrapolated from HMIS for the period July 2012 to June 2013. All agencies that are serving people and using HMIS through June 30, 2013 need to complete data entry by July 15.

V. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Laura Tovar reported that the Oregon Food Bank Blues Festival will be July 4 to 8. The last day will feature Robert Plant from Led Zeppelin!
- Raymond Baker, US Veterans Affairs, reported the Housing Authority of Washington County has been awarded 35 more HUD VASH Vouchers. The vouchers should arrive soon and will begin distributing them in July.
- Vera Stouil announced the Governor's budget includes \$750,000 for runaway and homeless youth. She hopes that it survives the last version of the budget. The focus will be on allowing those dollars to be used for youth up to age 21. Previously it could only be used for youth under age 18.
- Gordon Teifel reported that the evening of June 25 the Autism Society of Oregon is putting on a housing workshop at Providence. The focus will be to help people know where to go, how to get help, and how to get housing. He will provide a copy of the flyer to Annette for sharing with the HSSN listserv.
- Stephanie Lind announced that June 1 the Washington County Cooperative Library Association started their annual summer reading program. This is county wide in and in all libraries for youth, teen, and adult. Youth need activities that help engage them in reading through the summer, which helps in school the next year. Also Hillsboro Public Library on Brookwood opened its upstairs and has free meeting space for groups.
- Shannon Wilson announced that there is a fundraiser for Community Partners for Affordable Housing (CPAH) tonight at Burgerville in Tigard and Lake Oswego. CPAH will receive a percentage of the proceeds.
- Melanie Tong announced that Monday, LifeWworks NW opened Zora House in Tigard, serving co-ed youth 17-24, Axis I or Axis II diagnoses. It will not be as stringent as adult population to get into. For referrals contact Melanie.
- Saul Chavez-Hernandez reported that the Community Resource Orientation is expanding. Sessions will now be held every Tuesday at Beaverton Community Action and continue with every Friday at Hillsboro. Please make sure to give out new information. People should not come expecting rent assistance dollars.
- Pat Rogers spoke about how emergency one time rent assistance is going to be scarce during the summer, meaning that there could be a couple of months that we cannot help anyone. We expect to see an increase of people at the resource orientations because of this.
- Melanie Fletcher announced that that HMIS data quality reports have been delayed, but will be out soon so data can be cleaned up before Annette's data pull on July 15.

VI. **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 10:02 a.m. The next HSSN meeting is Wednesday, August 7, 2013 at 8:30 a.m.

Minutes Prepared by
Kathy Eichorst
Washington County Department of Housing Services

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