



HOUSING and SUPPORTIVE SERVICE NETWORK

Providing a Continuum of Care for Vulnerable Populations in Washington County

Wednesday, September 4, 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. Marilyn Miller, Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS)
- CoC Consultation for the Emergency Solution Grant (ESG) Program
- III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: 9:05 a.m.** Action
- IV. REPORTS AND PROGRAM UPDATES: 9:10 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 [the CoC Board]
 - Homeless Plan Advisory Committee (HPAC)
 - Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)
- V. GENERAL BUSINESS: 9:25 a.m.**
 - Adopt the 2013/2014 CoC Planning Calendar Action
 - Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) Funding Allocation Action
 - FY2013 CoC Program – Update on Registration and NOFA
 - Oregon Building Sustainable Partnerships for Housing (BSPH) – Update on planning project to align housing and services for people with disabilities
- VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS: 9:50 a.m.**
- VII. ADJOURNMENT: 10:00 a.m.**

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, October 2, 2013

Guest Speaker: Andrée Tremoulet, Ph.D., PSU - Homeless Encampments in Public Right-of-Way

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
September 4, 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	Layton, Amber—HomePlate
Atterberry, Amy—Sequoia Mental Health Services, Inc.	Lauzon, Matt—Sequoia Mental Health Services, Inc.
Barr, Alicia—CODA Inc.	Mahoff, Lisa—Oregon Dept. of Human Services, SSP
Brand, Leah—Community Action	McVey, Jaycanna—Boys and Girls Aid
Brown, Ann—Oregon Housing and Community Services	Miller, Marilyn—Oregon Housing and Community Services
Browning, Rose—Good Neighbor Center	Nelson, Andrea—City of Beaverton, CDBG Coordination
Bruce, Renee—Community Action	Orr, Patrick—HomePlate
Bundy, Valerie—Domestic Violence Resource Center	Portman, Cheri—Job Corps
Burton, Valerie—Luke-Dorf, Inc.	Proctor, Jennie—Wash. Co. Community Development
Carpentier, Kristen—Family Promise of Wash. Co.	Roberts, Dave—Luke-Dorf, Inc.
Chavez-Hernandez, Saul—Community Action	Schmitt, Allan—Holy Trinity Catholic Pantry
Demry, James—Homeless To Work/Bridges to Change	Schwab, Jack—Good Neighbor Center
Evans, Annette—Washington C. Housing Services	Sechrist, Lauren—Wash. Co. Community Development
Ferry, Nancy—Bridges to Change	Skryha, Vicki—US Department of HUD
Fletcher, Melanie—Washington Co. Housing Services	Squeglia, Frank—Recovery Association Project
Fowler, Alisa—Luke-Dorf, Inc.	Steeves, Chynna—Luke-Dorf, Inc.
Galian, Katherine—Community Action	Stoller, Rick—The Salvation Army – Harbor Light
Godil, Samira—Southwest Community Health Center	Stoullil, Vera—Boys and Girls Aid
Hauth, Larry—Community Action	Teifel, Gordon—Families for Independent Living/DEAR
Holland, Marah—Washington Co. Public Health	Tovar, Laura—Oregon Food Bank
Knapp, Mona—Luke-Dorf, Inc.	Turk, Nicki—Cascade AIDS Project
Knudsen, Nick—Worksystems Inc.	

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

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

I. INTRODUCTIONS

II. GUEST SPEAKERS

Continuum of Care (CoC) Consultation for Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program

Marilyn Miller, Oregon Housing and Community Services

The Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), formerly called the Emergency Shelter Grant Program, began in 1987 as part of the McKinney Act administered through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). HUD now requires that states consult with all CoCs who receive ESG funding. OHCS wants to play a stronger role in supporting CoCs. This is the state's first presentation and we are asking for your comments, thoughts and advice, including the consultation process and how the state can be most helpful to you.

CoC consults include four topics:

- Allocation formula and process – who gets funds, how
- ESG performance and measurements
- HMIS (Homeless Management Information System) policy and procedures
- Written standards for providing ESG assistance

Allocation Formula

The Community Action Network is mandated to be the delivery system for services. It's not a competitive process because of that, but we do it biennially. Community Action agencies must submit a work plan in order to spend the money. There are three data sets used for the formula: severe housing burden, poverty, and the homeless count.

Speaking of the count, how we gather information is not exactly in line with HUD, and we've gotten feedback about that. Is that something that would behoove us to have statewide consistency on and be in line with HUD?

Marilyn provided a handout, *Oregon ESG Funding Allocation Draft Table 2013*. It shows how funds are distributed to Community Action agencies across the state. The funds are pretty evenly split between three categories: emergency shelter, rapid rehousing, and prevention. The state, much like HUD, has taken a philosophical approach that rapid rehousing is the approach we like to see, but we understand that it's not the approach for everyone.

ESG performance and measurements

We've not had performance measures until this year. We're looking at two community level performance measures for increased housing stability. The first measure is the percentage of total households served who reside in permanent housing at time of program exit. The - preliminary- statewide target is 30%. This may be low, or not, but we don't have good data to zero in on a measurement that we think is doable. It's challenging to move the "hardest to serve" into permanent housing. We'd like feedback.

The second measure is the percentage of households placed in permanent housing who maintain stays of six months or longer. The - preliminary- statewide target for this is 80%. Of those who go into permanent housing, we want to follow up to see if they remain in the permanent housing for six months. I understand how challenging that is, to follow up. Before I worked for the state, I worked in the field. My own agency went through this process and struggled. It takes staff/volunteer time and means you can't serve as many people. But we need to get an idea of the success rate of this. We think it's valuable to have a sense of how we are doing on that.

Written standards for providing ESG assistance

The requirements for written standards are somewhat broad. There are likely some standards where consistency across the state would be really valuable. I totally understand the need to have local relevancy and flexibility, but at the same time the state can be in a better position to help you and get more resources if we can identify key places where consistency would help.

The standards include:

- Client eligibility.
- Client targeting for street outreach. In our plan we talk about families with children, chronically homeless, veterans. We are looking for communities to answer the question of "Is there a target population that has cross-over through the whole state on which we could focus our efforts?"
- Policies for emergency shelter stays and essential services. Some states have taken a stronger role around performance measures regarding a length of stay benchmark for emergency shelter, but we haven't. Looking for feedback.
- Prioritization of prevention and rapid re-housing assistance.
- Duration and amount of housing stabilization/relocation services.

- Duration, amount and client contributions for rental assistance.

Should we be more definitive/restrictive in some of those standards to get statewide consistency and do some comparisons/measurements? It would give us strength and ability to compete with other states, in addition to increasing our ability to learn and share that across the state.

OHCS CoC Consultation Process

We've assigned staff to each CoC to act as liaison. Marilyn Miller covers Washington, Clackamas and Multnomah counties, and Central Oregon. Ann Brown covers Lane and Jackson counties and the balance of the state. Email us at CoC.Consultation@hcs.state.or.us.

Our hope is that we would continue to come to meetings, hear those discussions, be your contact. We want to know how our homeless service system is operating, even beyond ESG? What could we do differently? How do we reinforce the things we are doing well? We're looking for ideas from you, because you're on the ground and making this happen.

Audience Questions & Presenter Answers

Q: Jennie Proctor asked about the ESG performance measurements of 30% at exit and 80% six months later. Were those numbers set using any kind of baseline data, maybe with HPRP or ESG in the past?

A: The data is very preliminary. We used what little data we have seen. The reason the second number is higher is because those are the people who exited into permanent housing; it's a smaller base. Also, it is based on an average of the whole state, including rural areas.

Q: An audience member asked Marilyn Miller to speak to the possibility that OHCS might see some severe budget cuts.

A: When the housing market went down, the department got into some financial challenges. This was part of the reason the governor marked our department to go through transformation. We're in process of looking at what's the best delivery system for our programs. In February we'll report on how the department should operate, or if it should operate. So far, we've been able to maintain current funding except for the federal programs. The state funding has not been cut.

For the Emergency Housing Account (EHA) we were able to get additional funds that will be targeted to serving veterans. There are three other funds we distribute: SHAP (State Homeless Assistance Program), emergency housing assistance and housing stabilization.

Q: Vicki Skryha added that each jurisdiction that gets funds from the state has to have written standards. HUD reviews the standards, which CoCs present as part of the annual action plan.

A: Marilyn Miller added that they allow for local flexibility in other cases, and may do so for written standards. For example, there are three models for rent assistance; instead of the state picking one, we allow communities to choose.

Q: Annette Evans asked if the state has received written standards from other CoCs and does the state have a copy of Washington County's ESG written standards?

A: We have not. Each CoC is very different in its progression. We want to be supportive and informed from the ground up.

Q: Annette Evans added the homeless definition varies. When we're looking at across the state, we're not necessarily comparing apples to apples. Can we look at aligning the state's definition more with federal definitions for ESG and CoC Programs?

A: Absolutely. That's something we're looking at. With the homeless Point-in-Time count, our question to the community is what value is there in aligning this with HUD? ESG is a very small financial part of the homeless system. HUD's general direction is good. It's based in best practice, or promising

practice. Things like the Housing First model have been surprisingly successful. (<http://www.endhomelessness.org/library/entry/what-is-housing-first>). I understand the barriers.

Again, we're really wanting your thoughts and input. I'm kind of competitive and I think that Oregon could be one of those states that HUD could say "Hey, you want to look at how to be successful? There's a state you can look at!" Oregon has the opportunity to make an impact on addressing homelessness in both rural and urban areas.

Q: Kristen Carpentier reported affordable housing is very hard to find because of the economic boom that's happening here. Can you address how we might deal with this shortage with ESG funds?

A: There's an opportunity in the private market: if you can minimize the risk, private landlords are willing to help. My former agency really had to have a relationship with the landlords plus some kind of financial guarantee. The landlords knew that if something went wrong we would be there; it wouldn't just fall on the landlord. Some places create these relationships by having housing specialists who can work on finding units. The bottom line is there's just a need for more advocacy and understanding and that housing is being developed that will address the needs of our families.

Q: Annette Evans asked about the state's Ending Homelessness Advisory Council (EHAC)? What happened to that?

A: EHAC is on hold. Right now it's being looked at in the context of the Oregon Prosperity Initiative (<http://www.oregonprosper.org/>). We need a statewide homeless policy level advisory group -- if not exactly like EHAC, something like that. This might be something that can evolve with tighter connections with CoCs.

III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Motion: Approve the August 7 2013 minutes, with a correction to the spelling of Gordon's last name on item 3.

Action: Gordon Teifel

Second: Lauren Sechrist

Vote: Approved - Unanimous

IV. REPORTS AND PROGRAM UPDATES

Children Subcommittee: [Vacant Position]

Homeless Education Network (HEN) update: Alice Beggs, homeless liaison for the Forest Grove School District, is no longer with the school district.

Youth Subcommittee: Vera Stoullil vstoullil@boysandgirlsaid.org

Next meeting: September, 2013 at 10:30 a.m. in Room 225, 155 N First Avenue, Hillsboro.

Homelessness Subcommittee: Pat Rogers progers@caowash.org

Next meeting: Sept 16, 2013 at 9 a.m. in Room 195, 3700 Murray Boulevard, Beaverton.

August 19 meeting was cancelled.

Permanent Housing Subcommittee: Andrea Nelson anelseon@ci.beaverton.or.us

Next meeting: September 12 2013 at 8:30 a.m. at 4755 SW Griffith Drive, Beaverton.

Andrea Nelson reported that the Housing Advocacy Group (HAG) changed its name to the Coalition of Housing Advocates (CHA). We met last month after HSSN and talked about how to be more impactful. We have all of our housing developer members, who are doing their best to develop more units. We are talking about how we can interact with the community and also decision and policy makers to create better advocacy to create more quality affordable housing.

We are working with LT Public Relations (<http://ltpublicrelations.com/>) who will help us craft our message better. Also getting the word out so citizens who want to offer support know where/when to show up to

have their voice heard. We are working on creating a Facebook page, dabbling in social media. Currently we are pushing to identify organizations to be new members.

Income Support/Workforce Development Workgroup: *Katherine Galian* kgalian@caowash.org
Next meeting: September 5, 2013 at 10 a.m. at PCC Willow Creek (185th and Baseline Road).

Katherine Galian reported that a newly-formed subcommittee is partnering to consider submittal of an application for future Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program (HVRP) grant. Worksystems, Inc. is the lead agency on putting that application together. Also, a workforce initiative survey went out through the HSSN list, asking for comments and input. Annette Evans will resend the survey.

DD Dialogue: *Gordon Teifel* mainlight@me.com

Next meeting: TBA.

DD Dialogue is a coalition of parents and service providers (brokerage/county) to help get out the word about developmental disabilities and issues such as the K Plan, which is a new Medicaid state plan option authorized under the Affordable Care Act (<http://www.oregon.gov/dhs/k-plan/Pages/index.aspx>).

In August, Patrice Botsford from Oregon's Office of Developmental Disabilities Services (ODDS), met with DD Dialogue to describe two important changes in the K Plan. The first change, which was one of our great apprehensions, was about paying guardians for services rendered to their son/daughter/other relative. This had been a red flag because of the potential for fraud. Well, there's good news. There is now a workaround that allows guardians to get paid and still comply with federal fraud prevention.

The next change was in how ODDS is going after medicaid funding. Formerly, it went after the waiver services first. Patrice Botsford talked to the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare services (CMS) and they said go after your state entitlement money first and then go after the waiver money. That means the matching percentages, which were at 66 fed/33 state, will now become 69% fed/31% state, so that means an increase in funding.

Mental Health and Special Needs Community Consortium Steering Committee: *Lisa Davila*

Next meeting: September 26, 2013 at 11 a.m. in Room 245, 155 N First Avenue, Hillsboro.

Mona Knapp reported on an interesting evolution at Luke-Dorf. We are working very hard to become the ally of landlords and infiltrate the world of private landlords so that they appreciate the benefits of leasing up to disabled people. We help them see that we can prevent evictions and keep their units full. With persistence, charm, and persuasion, we've managed to get a lot of people signed up. A large complex in Tigard that originally said no now is asking for more units. Progress! Many thanks to the housing department for modifying the MOU to make it more appealing to landlords.

Valerie Burton reported that we have housed five people and potentially are moving in three more within two weeks. Then we'll be close to 20 for the year. Annette pointed out these are all chronically homeless adults with disabling conditions.

Also, as part of this we also have the Virginia Garcia Health Clinic. They've streamlined the referral process so it's working really well now. We can now get people health care with a co-pay they can mostly afford. It's pretty phenomenal.

Veterans Subcommittee: *Molly Finnegan* molly.finnegan@va.gov

Rick Stoller reported that they are adding 10 alcohol and drug-free units some time this fall for people coming out of the Salvation Army's Harbor Center.

Seniors Subcommittee: *Julie Webber* julie_webber@co.washington.or.us

No update.

Strategic Planning and Discharge Workgroup: *Judy Werner* jwerner@lcsnw.org

Next meeting: October 11th, 2013 at 8:30 a.m. in Room 105, 155 N First Avenue, Hillsboro.

Homeless Management Information System: *Melanie Fletcher* melanie_fletcher@co.washington.or.us
Next meeting: TBA via Webex. If you have special training needs or questions please contact Melanie. Melanie Fletcher reported that the federal fiscal year closes at the end of this month. The Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) data collection period also closes 9/30. Emergency housing providers (emergency shelter, transitional, safe haven) and permanent supportive housing programs (Shelter Plus Care) should catch up on any HMIS data entry for clients served through the month of September by the first week of October.

Homeless Plan Advisory Committee (HPAC): *Annette Evans* annette_evans@co.washington.or.us
Next meeting: September 12, 2013 at 2:30 p.m., 4755 SW Griffith Drive, Beaverton. Annette Evans reported that HPAC will receive the draft *2013 Homeless Assessment Report: Year 5 Outcomes and Challenges*. One of the really great outcomes is the drop in evictions. Our *10-Year Plan to End Homelessness* identified evictions as a huge problem in Washington County. In 2008, over 4000 evictions were filed; four years later 2012 closed out at 3235. That's over 1000 less evictions filed. This year we are already below where we were last year at this time. So, the work you are doing leads to improved outcomes. HPAC will review the report and talk more about the cost study. We will set up a presentation for you all after it comes out.

V. GENERAL BUSINESS

Adopt the 2013/2014 CoC Planning Calendar

Motion: Approve the CoC meeting and planning calendar as presented.

Action: Gordon Teifel

Second: Rick Stoller

Vote: Approved - Unanimous

Tasks and plan activities labeled "To Be Determined" include:

- October 2013: HUD CoC Program NOFA. Anticipate release of the grant competition in October.
- December 2013: HUD will establish the date for submitting the Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR).

Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) Funding Application

Annette Evans provided a handout that outlined the mission and eligible activities under the EFSP. She reported there is potential that funding may not come through as anticipated if we do not meet federal formula benchmarks; e.g. unemployment and poverty data. Jurisdictions are preparing a response in hope that federal funds are available.

Today the HSSN will look at the gaps/needs in our community, and determine the priority for aligning EFSP funds to support these gaps. Historically the recommendation has been:

- 20% Food/Meals
- 36% Shelter
- 44% Rent/mortgage assistance (once in 12 months only)
- 0% Off-Site Lodging

Annette Evans continued that we never know if these funds are coming or not, and the funds cannot be budgeted in agency accounts. Rent/mortgage assistance is administered through one agency (Community Action) to support the tracking and reporting requirements of the federal regulation that households only receive one-month rent assistance during a 12-month period.

Discussion followed that included several funding options. Katherine Galian reported on the need for additional rent assistance given the current gap/need identified by people seeking this service at the Community Resource Orientations (CRO). Laura Tovar reported the Oregon Food Bank has received 20% allocation for many years, and this is not keeping pace with the cost of rising food costs. More than

95,000 emergency food boxes were provided last year in Washington County, and the OFB is finding it difficult to maintain this capacity. Allan Schmitt with Holy Trinity Food Pantry reported on the number of people who receive food and resources from their pantry, and the need for food resources provided by OFB.

During the Phase 29 allocation received from the State Set-Aside funds, Washington County chose to fund only rent assistance and food activities. This may be the situation in Phase 31 due to the federal sequestration that reduced available funds. To address this, the HSSN established a \$75,000 benchmark and created two allocation formulas for Washington County EFSP Phase 31 funds.

Motion: Approve two-tier approach based on \$75,000+/- in EFSP Phase 31 funds as follows:
a) \$75,000 or more in EFSP allocate to rent/mortgage assistance (47%), food (23%) and shelter (30%).
b) Less than \$75,000 in EFSP allocate rent/mortgage assistance (70%), food (30%) and shelter (zero%)

Action: Katherine Galian

Second: Gordon Teifel

Vote: Approved - Unanimous

FY2013 CoC Program – Update on Registration and NOFA (Notice of Funding Availability)

Annette Evans reported that she is working on a grant inventory worksheet. She will notify agencies with renewal projects once its been submitted. Anticipate HUD to release the Notice of Funding Availability in mid October. The CoC Planning calendar will be updated accordingly to accommodate new project presentations at HSSN should HUD provide new funding for Permanent Housing Initiative (Bonus).

Oregon Building Sustainable Partnerships for Housing – Update on Planning Project to Align Housing and Services for Persons with Disabilities

There was a check in with Luke-Dorf, Inc., Community Action and Department of Housing Services to review planning project updates. The Oregon Health Care Authority will be posting this work on their website. Some of the keys will be the work Luke-Dorf is performing in building relationships with private landlords to create greater access to housing for persons with disabilities, and Community Action's work with the Centralized Assessment System.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Samir Godil from Southwest Community Health Center (<http://swchc-pdx.org/>). The main clinic is at 7754 SW Capital Highway, and will be reopening the Essential Health Clinic in Hillsboro. We are recruiting the same volunteers and funding streams. The new model is very similar with a goal to start with an urgent care clinic on Mondays. By the end of our fiscal year, we hope to ramp up to three days a week – Monday, Wednesday, Thursday. We will refer people to agencies for assistance with applying for insurances and other benefits, depending on volunteer levels. Initially, we will refer out to partner agencies.
- Gordon Teifel announced that Beaverton-based DEAR (Daytime Enrichment & Activities Recreation, Inc., <http://www.dearadayprogram.com>) which serves adults with profound disabilities, just had a grand opening for our Apple Café Food Cart. Right now it's a cash calf; we're working on turning it into a cash cow!
- Lauren Sechrist reminded everyone that the CDBG applications are due October 4, 2013 by 5 pm.
- Andrea Nelson announced:
 - The City of Beaverton is recruiting for boards and commissions. There are two new official committees: the Diversity Advisory Board and the Social Services Funding Committee. Please refer clients, colleagues, and friends.
 - The Beaverton CAPER (Consolidated Annual Performance Evaluation Report) public comment period is September 4 – 19, 2013 with a public hearing on September 19, 2013 at 7 pm.
 - Beaverton Community Parade and Fun Run is September 7, 2013.

- A Beaverton Business Start-up Class, provided by Micro Enterprise Services of Oregon, starts September 11, 2013 in this room. (<http://mesopdx.org/events/beaverton-business-start-up-class-3/>)
- Patrick Orr introduced Amber Layton, HomePlate's new AmeriCorps Volunteer.
- Cheri Portman reported Job Corps is back. It was on hold for a while, but students are coming back. Send young people ages 16-24 our way! There will be an 11-26% cut in bed space; in a couple months the wait list will be really dramatic, but right now we have open beds. There still is the approval process, but I've never seen people get in as quickly as they are right now. Contact me if you want more info.
- Vicki Skryha announced a September 25 and 26 workshop for HUD CoC grantees about HEARTH and interim rules. It's not just financial.
- Nancy Ferry announced that this HSSN meeting is her last. She will be working under a new grant with Bridges to Change. Mary Graham of the Homeless to Work program will be taking Nancy's spot.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m. The next HSSN meeting is October 2 at 8:30 a.m.

Minutes prepared by:

Amanda McCloskey, Washington County Department of Housing Services

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