

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

Friday, December 12, 2014

8:30 to 10:30 am

Washington County Public Services Building - Room 105/115
155 North First Avenue, Hillsboro, OR 97123

AGENDA

Chair: Annette M. Evans, Washington County Department of Housing Services
Co-Chair: Judy Werner, Lutheran Community Services Northwest

I. Introductions (8:30 a.m.)

II. Approve Minutes (8:35 a.m.)[Action]
A) October 10 HSSN Workgroup Minutes

III. Business Items (8:40 a.m.)

A) Update: Policy and/or Programming (e.g. Next Steps) discussion to Provide Community Service for Persons with Criminal History.– Annette Evans and Dennis Erickson

B) Update: FY2014 McKinney-Vento CoC Program Grant Application requesting \$2,677,553. Application was submitted to HUD on 10/29/2014 – Annette Evans

C) Update: Draft Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Administrative Plan – Annette Evans

D) Discussion on proposed action steps to address barriers to housing. Begin messaging work to address creating access and rights to housing and services.

- Barriers Identified by Community Connect Oversight Committee
- Barriers Identified by HSSN Workgroup

IV. Workgroup Meeting Schedule, 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. – Save the Date (10:15 a.m.)

Approve the calendar year 2015 meeting schedule[Action]

- Friday, February 13, 2015
- Friday, April 10, 2015
- Friday, June 12, 2015
- Friday, August 14, 2015
- Friday, October 9, 2015
- Friday, December 11, 2015

V. Agency Announcements and Open Discussion (10:20 a.m.)

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

DRAFT GOAL AND STRATEGIES FOR MESSAGING WORK

The HSSN Workgroup (the CoC Board) and the Community Connect Oversight Committee have collectively identified barriers to affordable housing designed to help people use stable housing as a platform for health, recovery and movement to self-sufficiency.

HOUSING BARRIERS IDENTIFIED ACROSS HOMELESS POPULATIONS:

- a) Persons are left out in the cold as county has less than 2% housing vacancy rate.
12/5/14: 51 homeless households with rent subsidy out looking for housing; additionally 38 households looked for housing more than 90 days and were not able to lease up.
- b) Persons with a criminal history comprise nearly 50% of the Community Connect assessed households with many owe debt (e.g. court fees and restitution) and loss of Driver License.
12/5/14: 48% of assessed households have criminal history (248 households with 117 literally homeless). Elderly sex offender population very difficult to house, especially in low vacancy housing market.
- c) Tax credit housing properties do not accept people with criminal history.
- d) Persons age 60+ years becoming homeless and entering the Community Connect system is on the rise given housing rents increase faster than income (e.g. fixed incomes to include social security and pensions). Increase in elderly population entering the DV shelter system.
12/5/14: Community Connect will begin tracking and reporting.
- e) Housing inventory in Washington County is lacking in 1-bedroom units and affordability.
- f) Persons with landlord debt are on the rise. Stipulated Dismissal Process increases debt owed by households going through eviction process.
- g) Housing application fees range from \$35 to \$60 (e.g. credit and background check) and move-in costs have increased (e.g. requiring 2 or 3 months rent), with few discretionary funds to bridge this gap for households.

GOAL: Increase access to affordable housing opportunities through the implementation of strategic action steps in alignment with employment and supportive service systems.

Action Steps	Policy/Legislation	Funding	Who	When
Opportunity for alignment with Welcome Home Coalition to create funding resources that will develop revenues to create affordable housing serving persons earning less than 50% MFI	X Local/State	X Local/State	HSSN HPAC Washington County Thrives	12/3/14 HSSN Presentation 1/15/15 HPAC Presentation
Seek new funds to create affordable housing at 30% MFI: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gain Share (Local) • Other 	X Local	X Local	HSSN WG HPAC	
Advocate for increased State of Oregon funding; e.g. Emergency Housing Account (EHA), State Homeless Assistance Program (SHAP), Oregon Foreclosure Avoidance (OFA), Governor's proposed budget \$100 million Bonds for affordable housing.	X State	X State	HSSN HPAC Washington County Thrives	
Develop landlord partnerships to serve vulnerable populations through outreach, engagement and education; e.g. Tax Credit Properties not leasing to people with criminal history.	X Local		HSSN	

GOAL: Integrate systems and deliver client specific services that promote sustainability of housing and self sufficiency through health care, treatment services, education, employment, and increased economic supports.

Action Steps	Policy/Legislation	Funding	Who	When
Advocate for an increase to the Community Service conversion rate (e.g. work off court fees), and create policy to provide persons not on probation/parole an opportunity to work off fees from other jurisdiction.	X Local		HSSN WG HPAC Community Corrections	10/10/14 Presentation 12/5/14 Meeting with Community Corrections and Sheriff Office
Seek other public/private partnerships, policy and/or funding: * To pay Landlord Debt, Application Fees, etc. * To develop landlord partnerships that rent to high-risk households; e.g. people with evictions, debt, disabilities, etc.	X Local	X Local/State	HSSN WG	
Secure funding to support the faith-based Severe Weather Shelter operations to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shelter Operations Hotel/Motel Voucher Capital Improvement Projects 		X Local	Washington County Housing Services Community Action	11/13/14 Funders Meeting, with faith-based shelters 12/5/14: \$33,000 Meyer Memorial award to Community Action
Align eligible recently homeless households with the Department of Labor Reboot NW initiative serving "long-term and unemployed training in manufacturing and IT sector" grant.	X Local		Workforce Development Workgroup HSSN	1/8/15 Workgroup Meeting

HSSN STRATEGIC PLANNING AND DISCHARGE WORKGROUP
Administrative Board of the Continuum of Care in Washington County
Public Service Building Conference Room 105/115
October 10, 2014

Workgroup

Role: The Workgroup 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, make funding decisions, and approve the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance grant application to HUD.

ATTENDEES:

Browning, Rose – Good Neighbor Center	Proctor, Jennie – Wash. Co. Office of Community Development
Bundy, Valerie – Domestic Violence Resource Center	Sechrist, Lauren – Wash. Co. Office of Community Development
Burton, Valerie – Luke-Dorf, Inc.	Soenneker, Elizabeth – Public Defenders
Clevidence, Veronica – Wash. Co. Housing/HMIS	Stoller, Rick – Salvation Army Vet. and Family Center
Duncan-Perez, Martha – Wash. Co. Re-Entry Council	Stoullil, Vera – Boys and Girls Aid Society
Evans, Annette – Wash. Co. Housing Services	Voiss, Karen – Housing Independence
Harbin, Angie – Cascade AIDS Project	Werner, Judy – Lutheran Community Services NW
Knapp, Mona -- Luke-Dorf, Inc.	
Matisoff, Lisa – Oregon Department of Human Services	
Pero, David – Homeless Education Network	

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

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

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

I. INTRODUCTIONS

II. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Motion: Approve Workgroup meeting minutes for August 8, 2014, as amended, adding Rick Stoller to the attendance

Action: Judy Werner

Second: Valerie Bundy

Vote: Approved - Unanimous

III. BUSINESS ITEMS

A) Guest Speaker: Elizabeth Soenneker, Metropolitan Public Defenders

Presentation on Next Steps Program

Elizabeth shared her background with the NextStep Program and provided handouts detailing the NextStep Proposal, Design and relevant statutes. The goal is to remove barriers to housing and employment that persons with criminal history experience through policy change that provides for working off debt owed.

Elizabeth described the different organizations involved in such a program, which would include Community Corrections, the Courts, the District Attorney's Office and the Sheriff's Office. She also explained in detail the impact that each agency's director (or lead) would have on the acceptance or lack thereof on such a proposal, as well as the success of the program, should it be implemented, as well as the history of this concept in Washington County. While there are

several hurdles inherent to such a proposal, including availability of Community Service hours, public perception, etc., the last time it was proposed in this county, the main point of contention seemed to be determining how much money each community service hour is worth. In Multnomah County, each hour is worth \$100. Washington County didn't want to offer more than \$10 per hour.

Since NextStep was first introduced to Washington County, there have been changes in key positions in the relevant county departments, and there is a possibility that the proposal would be better received now than it was then.

Discussion ensued regarding different approaches to the program, potential barriers and responses to those barriers. Annette will work on creating a committee to work on this as a possibility in the coming year.

B) FY2014 McKinney-Vento Coc Program Grant Application

1. CoC Application due 10/30/14 to HUD
2. CoC Renewal and New Project Ranking (Tier 1 and Tier 2)

Annette explained the CoC process for ranking and rating of projects, taking into account HUD priorities and definitions. Annette provided handouts detailing specific criteria from each program's Annual Performance Reviews. Group discussion determined how each program should be ranked, and ranking was applied to Tier 1 and Tier 2 projects.

Motion: Adopt Ranking of CoC 2014 CoC Grant Application Projects as determined by board

Action: Lauren Sechrist

Second: Karen Voiss

Vote: Approved – Unanimous

C) Carry Forward to December Meeting – Review Draft of Continuum of Care (CoC) Administrative Plan

Update: Draft document is 80% edited, and a copy will be emailed prior to the December meeting to provide adequate time for review.

D) Carry Forward to December Meeting – Identify Strategies and Develop Messaging to Address Greater Access and Rights to Housing and Services

E) Carry Forward to December Meeting – Improve our Ability to Link Homeless Families and Individuals to Income

IV. WORKGROUP MEETING SCHEDULE – SAVE THE DATE

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V. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPEN DISCUSSION

- Vera Stoullil announced that Boys and Girls Aid was ranked 20 in the Oregon list of Top 100 Non-Profits.
- Angie Harbin announced that she is replacing Amanda Hurley representing CAP.
- David Pero announced that in Forest Grove, the gainshare funds went to fund teachers and reduce class size. Hillsboro and Beaverton brought back cut days and decreased teacher load.

- Veronica asked that get their data updated in HIMS as soon as possible and let her know of any issues so that she can address them.
- Annette announced that Metro wants to partner with Washington County in connecting homeless folks to the system.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Veronica Clevidence, Washington County Department of 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.

