



HOUSING and SUPPORTIVE SERVICE NETWORK

Providing a Continuum of Care for Vulnerable Populations in Washington County

Wednesday, April 5, 2023 - 8:30 to 10:00 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89697002260?pwd=UGNabUQ5M0s5d2pzaWxpN01ac2Zzdz09>

Meeting ID: 896 9700 2260; Passcode: 300417 | To Join by Telephone: +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

AGENDA

- I. **INTRODUCTIONS: 8:30 a.m.**
- II. **GUEST SPEAKER(S)/TRAINING: 8:35 a.m.**
 - Kaylie Camp, Oregon DHS | Community Partnership Coordinator
“SNAP/OHP/TANF”
 - Ana Maria Carter, WC District Attorney’s Office | Child Support Division
“Child Support”
- III. **MEETING MINUTES: 9:15 a.m.**
 - **Action:** Approve the March 1, 2023 meeting minutes.
- IV. **GENERAL BUSINESS: 9:20 a.m.**
 - 2023 Homeless Census – Dr. Marissa Zapata/Carolyn Niehaus/Katherine Galian
 - Washington County Programs Update
 - Landlord Liaison Program – Monica Avila, WC Housing Services
 - Partner Agency Program Spotlight
 - Eviction Prevention Program Update – Wendy Polanco & Eduardo Guzman Andrade, Community Action Organization
- V. **ANNOUNCEMENTS: 9:55 a.m.**
- VI. **ADJOURNMENT: 10:00 a.m.**

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 3, 2023

The HSSN is open to the public and all are invited to join – see [HSSN](https://www.washingtoncountyor.gov/hssn) website for additional information and past meeting agenda, minutes and handouts. Comments regarding the agenda can be directed to CoCinfo@washingtoncountyor.gov



HOUSING AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES NETWORK
Providing a Continuum of Care (CoC) in Washington County
March 1, 2023, 8:30 a.m. (Virtual Meeting)

Mission: Housing and service provider agencies working to bring a broad spectrum of organizations together as partners in the community to perform strategic planning, gaps analysis, prioritize resources needed to provide a continuum of care for individuals and families who are at-risk of or experiencing homeless.

ATTENDEES:

Adams, Jessi – WC Housing	Markus, Michelle – Mental Health & Addiction Assn of Oregon
Aguilar-Vazquez, Maria – City of Beaverton	Marshall-Gordon, Kim – Project Homeless Connect
Baker, Vernon – Just Compassion EWC	Martinez, Omar – City of Hillsboro
Banek, Mario – Open Door HousingWorks	McVey, Drew – Citizen At-Large (Formerly Homeless)
Benavides, Lucia – Adelante Mujeres	Meyer, Dawnell – Just Compassion
Briggs, Gena – Open door HousingWorks	Michelini, Dara – Boys & Girls Aid
Brownell, Amy – EMO-Second Home	Moshkowski, Melody – The Salvation Army
Camp, Kaylie – DHS Oregon	Negrete, Ana – Open Door HousingWorks
Cardwell, Shawn – Forest Grove Foundation	Nevin, Breck – HomePlate Youth Services
Cordell, Robin – Mental Health & Addiction Association of Oregon	Palestino, Sara – Beaverton SD/HEN
DeJarnette, Grace – Care Oregon	Paul, Geeta - DVRC
Dent, Lindsay – WC Housing Services	Pero, David – Forest Grove SD/HEN
Dwyer, DaNene – Portland Community College	Potter, Yvette – WC Disability Aging and Veterans Services
Dzubay, Dawn – Oregon DHS	Ram, Sarala – The Salvation Army
Fallon, Brigid – DVRC	Rivera, Sarai – Centro Cultural
Farr, Danielle – WC Health & Human Services	Rose, Dixie – Providence St. Vincent Hospital
Fellger, Vara – WC Housing Services	Saldana, Austin – WC Housing Services
Fetters, Dannica – Family Promise-Tualatin Valley	Sanchez, Esmerelda – Bienestar
Fleming, Hannah – Community Action Organization	Sanchez, Annie – Oregon DHS
Francia, Belinda – Open Door HousingWorks	Schimmel, Brian – Centro Cultural
Gaines, Katherine – Project Homeless Connect	Simmons, HomePlate Youth Services
Gallian, Katherine – WC Housing Services	Skriver, Heather – WC Housing Services
Gibb, Courtney – McKinney-Vento Liaison	Smith, Gareth “Gary” – Dept of Veteran Affairs
Grant, Bambi – WC Community Corrections	Stanwood-Gorvine, Alyssa – Beaverton SD/HEN
Greenough, Carol – Family Promise of Tualatin Valley	Stoller, Rick – Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon
Guajardo, Roumaldo – Mental Health & Addiction Assn of Oregon	Tabib, Mohamed – Open Door Housing Works
Guillen, Estela – Community Action Organization	Taylor, Rowie – DVRC
Hasan, Connie – Family promise-Greater Washington County	Taylor, Molly – Oregon DHS
Heath, Kelsey – Metropolitan Public Defender	Thomas, Lauren – Office of Community Development
Hoffman, Shawna – WC Housing Services	Thomas, Netosha – Open Door HousingWorks
James, Karen – WC Behavioral Health Council	Trinkle, Jamie – Oregon Law Center
Johnson, Rebecca – Open Door HousingWorks	Valdez, Bianetth – City of Beaverton
Kass, Peter – WC Housing Services	Valdovinos, Kelvin – WC Office of Community Development
King, Frances – Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon	Voss-Flowers, Charlie – CPAH
King, Kandace – Here Together	Williamson, Drew – Boys & Girls Aid
Long, April – Metropolitan Public Defender	Yan, Courtney – WC Office of Emergency Management
Ludlam, Mandie – Community Housing Fund	

Chair: Katherine Galian
Co-Chair: Charlie Voss-Flowers

Katherine Galian called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.

I. INTRODUCTIONS

In lieu of verbal introductions, HSSN members were asked to identify themselves by listing their name and organization in the chat.

II. GUEST SPEAKER(S)/TRAINING

Courtney Yan, Washington County Office of Emergency Management, "Disaster Sheltering Program Updates."

Courtney recognized that Washington County Homeless Services has a network of homeless shelters that includes year-round and inclement weather shelters operated by contracted service providers. The focus of her presentation would be on disaster shelters which were different and opened in response to a man-made or natural disaster. Disaster shelters are open to all persons and managed by Emergency Management with support by partner agencies such as the American Red Cross, FEMA, HUD, and national and state community organizations which would be activated in a disaster. She noted, overlaps in services might occur in certain instances between Homeless Services and Emergency Management. Additional resources would be available in disaster relief such as points of distribution providing food, evacuation reception sites which provide food and facilities in outdoor spaces, and indoor resource centers that provide services during the day. The majority of people accessing a disaster shelter have not utilized services in the past and are triaged for needs and behavioral and medical support. The support individuals receive in disasters were dependent on their pre-disaster housing situation and ability to provide supporting documentation. Once needs were assessed, provisions would be made for appropriate temporary housing, food, and transportation needs.

Washington County generally responds to disasters such as severe wildfires that affect 2,000 individuals inside or outside the county requiring mass care services, and catastrophic earthquakes that affect 60,000 individuals (1,800 requiring shelter) within the county. The objectives of disaster shelters are to build out the shelter portfolio by identifying and engaging facility owners and growing a volunteer corps to train and cross train shelter workers. A mass care exercise series will begin in March to build countywide capabilities to support disaster shelters. A disaster recovery planning project will kick off March 28 to build a framework for long term recovery after a disaster.

Washington County Emergency Management encouraged HSSN members to be familiar with the [2-Weeks Ready Program](#) to personally prepare for a disaster and agencies were asked to have an organizational preparedness and emergency plan. HSSN members were asked to share the upcoming workshops and exercises to their staff to become part of the disaster relief network. For questions or more information, contact Courtney Yan, cyan@washingtoncountyor.gov. This presentation can be found on the March 1, 2023 [HSSN meeting webpage](#).

How do you sign up for the upcoming workshops and exercises?

The link to the virtual workshops and exercises will be distributed to the HSSN and the mock disaster shelter will be a shelter volunteer recruitment training opportunity.

Rosemary "Rowie" Taylor, Brigid Fallon and Gita Paul, DVRC, "Safety Planning"

Rowie shared the Domestic Violence Resource Center's (DVRC) mission is to support and empower survivors and their children affected by domestic violence. Federal funding in the 1970's allowed organizations like DVRC to be created to meet the needs of survivors of domestic violence. Federal, state, and local funding as well as trust foundations and personal donations continue to provide the financial resources needed to operate DVRC. Current programs include short-term emergency shelter, transitional housing, and scattered site permanent housing. Advocates are available to provide protective order assistance, case management services, community trainings, and counselors. Sojourner's House provides scattered apartments for singles and families with

supportive rents for up to two years. DVRC is located in the Family Justice Center (FJC) in Washington County which includes fifteen other agency partners to provide seamless support services to survivors and their children. Sequoia Mental Health Services is becoming an active partner at the FJC whose staff provide acute mental health services and substance abuse counseling on-site two days per week, filling a role that was not previously available. DVRC staff are located at three Oregon DHS sites (Tigard, Hillsboro, and Beaverton) as well as the FJC, and assist with court paperwork and accompaniment if needed. Rowie announced, DVRC will be expanding their geographic coverage with the implementation of their mobile advocacy services, expected to be available soon.

Brigid Fallon, Housing Director reported DVRC provides emergency shelter for up to 90 days with intensive support and a safety plan to formalize next steps for survivors. They also provide transitional shelter and scattered apartments for up to a year with assistance from employment and housing specialists to help survivors move forward and live independently. A crisis line is open 24-hours a day to provide planning to ensure safety, and a safety plan is developed with each caller. Confidentiality, protecting information that is shared, is a top priority for DVRC and something they take very seriously. Brigid noted the emergency shelter will be receiving upgrades to maintain a safe environment for individuals with pets, through the generous support of Greater Good Northwest and Red Rover.

Due to audio difficulties, Geeta Paul, Program Director for DVR's Advocacy and Empowerment Program was unable to provide safety planning information and committed to re-scheduling a presentation on the topic at a future HSSN meeting. For questions or more information, contact Rowie Taylor at rowie@dvrc-or.org, Geeta Paul at geetanjali@dvrc-or.org and Brigid Fallon at brigid@dvrc-or.org.

Is there enough shelter availability for domestic violence impacted community members?
DVRC currently has seven crisis beds in Washington County. Oftentimes shelters are full and staff work to find creative ways to provide resources for people in need. Individuals are encouraged to call 911 in an emergency and DVRC will refer them to Community Connect when appropriate..

What is the county doing to address housing needs for those fleeing domestic violence?
The county contracts with service providers who provide the needed services.

How well do crisis lines like Community Connect, 988, and 911 connect with DVRC?
DVRC refers people to the appropriate resources. The 988 resource is not used often but would like to receive an update on how that resource is working.

Is there a safety planning worksheet that could be shared with HSSN members?
Geeta Paula will provide that worksheet to HSSN members following the meeting.

III. MEETING MINUTES

Motion: Approve the February 1, 2023 meeting minutes

Action: Rowie Taylor

Second: Melody Moshkowski

Vote: Approved, consensus.

IV. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Washington County Programs Update

Katherine Galian reported winter shelter capacity in February was at 85%, which is below capacity due to reserved COVID beds and other beds kept offline. The current wait time for a shelter bed is less than a week. There have been 114 exits from shelter into permanent housing

since November. The winter shelters will close on May 31. Inclement weather shelters have activated four times in the last 30 days.

Will thresholds be modified to have inclement weather shelters open consecutive days as opposed to closing for 24 hours and opening the next 24 hours?

Adjustments will continually be made to the system to align with needs.

Peter Kass reported Rapid Rehousing was implemented in July 2022 to provide medium-term rental assistance to provide up to 24 months of rent assistance to those in Metro Supportive Housing Services population categories **A** (people with extremely low income; and one or more disabling conditions; who are experiencing or at imminent risk of experiencing long-term or frequent episodes of literal homelessness) and **B** (people experiencing homelessness, or have substantial risk of experiencing homelessness). There are currently 17 contracted agencies in Washington County (Bienestar, Boys & Girls Aid, Centro Cultural, Community Partners for Affordable Housing (CPAH), EasterSeals, Family Promise of Greater Washington County, Family Promise of Tualatin Valley, Good Neighbor Center, HomePlate Youth Services, IRCO, JOIN, Just Compassion, NARA Northwest, New Narrative, Open Door HousingWorks, Project Homeless Connect and Urban League) and include 13 case managers throughout the partner agencies with 9 more in the training process bringing the capacity from 260 to 440 households that could be served (20 households per case manager). To date 194 households have been enrolled into the program, 101 of those are housed and 2 have been permanently exited and are living independently without assistance. Once housed, case managers work with participants to provide supports around employment, budgeting – planning for debt repayments, and whatever else they might need.

Jessi Adams, Capacity Program Supervisor with SHS, reported the Tri-County [REFPQ](#) is open until March 17 and is the entry point for agencies to become pre-qualified to receive SHS contracts. Anyone who may want to contract with SHS in the future is encouraged to apply. Technical assistance is available for writing and utilizing this application process.

Washington County's first permanent supportive housing building called the Aloha Inn will be opening in the next few weeks and includes 54 studio units with on-site services (case manager and behavioral health support) provided by Sequoia Mental Health Services. Community Partners for Affordable Housing (CPAH) will be providing resident services to the building and Bienestar will have a culturally specific case manager on-site as well. Cascade Management will be the property manager and there will be 24-hour staff and security. Agencies are encouraged to submit qualified participants (chronically homeless with a qualifying disability). There will be a grand opening for the Aloha Inn a couple of months from now. On April 1 from 1:00-3:00 the community is invited to provide input and provide items that reflect the Aloha community to assist in renaming the building. An artist will be onsite to incorporate the items that will be used to create an art piece to be displayed in the building and to inform name suggestions. Jessi can be contacted at, jessi_adams@washingtoncountyor.gov with any additional questions or comments.

Where should partners who don't have access to HMIS start the referral process?

Referrals can be made through a Phase I assessment completed at Community Connect, (503) 640-3263.

B. Partner Agency Program Spotlight

Dara Michelinini, Boys & Girls Aid, "Infant Adoption Program"

Dara shared Boys and Girls Aid's Infant Adoption Program provides Options Counseling that includes pregnancy options and will assist those who choose to adopt to create an adoption plan and connect them with an adoptive family of their choosing. Adoptions are open with a

lifetime of support to reconnect with their child at any time and is an available option at any time, even if the child is in foster care. The program is primarily for children under the age of two, with a separate program available for older children in foster care. For more information about infant adoptions at Boys and Girls Aid, contact Dara Michelini at dmichelini@boysandgirlsaid.org or call 971-222-7420.

What is the best way to make a referral to connect someone to the services of Boys and Girls Aid?

Referrals to the adoption program can be submitted on the program's website, <https://www.supportiveadoption.org> or by calling 503-542-2333.

C. Gov. Kotek's Housing & Homelessness State of Emergency – Katherine Galian

Governor Kotek's State of Emergency declaration on homelessness provides access to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) system which creates efficiency in procuring allocation of resources and flexibility around the rules for use of those funds. One of the goals of the executive orders signed by the Governor on that day was to increase the supply of affordable housing units statewide. The emergency order also includes a provision for rehousing and prevention of homelessness throughout the state and addresses unsheltered homelessness in the five (5) continuums of care. The goal for the Portland Metro area (to include Washington County) is to re-house an additional 100 unsheltered households, create 50 - 60 shelter beds, and prevent 800 additional households from becoming homeless. The reporting required is built on the data the county is already collecting in the System Performance Measures (SPM). A Multi Agency Coordinating Group (MAC G) has been convened and is a subcommittee of the CoC Board. The MAC G will meet twice per month to focus on system improvements to reduce unsheltered homelessness. This group is a subcommittee of the Continuum of Care and will provide the HSSN with updates. Re-housing and prevention of homelessness is also part of the emergency order. For additional questions/comments, contact Katherine Kalian, katherine_galian@washingtoncountyor.gov.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Vara Fellger noted the voting refresher attached to the March meeting addresses questions about voting requirements during meetings. Voting is only limited (attendance at 6 meetings within prior 12 months) when discussions pertain to resource prioritization or CoC Board appointments. Motions and seconds can be made by anyone in attendance.
- Carol Greenough invited HSSN members to Here Together's 2023 Roadmap to Address Homelessness on Thursday, March 2 at 7pm, <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81776147886?pwd=RnpBckJpNIRpVkd4VUZzSERkUIJ3Zz09>
- Katherine Gallian encouraged everyone to complete the One Governance [survey](#) that will help guide the development of the new governance structure for the homeless system in Washington County.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:01 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Michelle Rubio.

Send an email to cocinfo@washingtoncountyor.gov to be added to HSSN listserv.