



## HOUSING and SUPPORTIVE SERVICE NETWORK

*Providing a Continuum of Care for Vulnerable Populations in Washington County*

**Wednesday, May 4, 2022 - 8:30 to 10:00 a.m.**

\*Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84243017456?pwd=OHVodXgyVE8rZ0p6c3NyTFJFcDhQQT09>  
Meeting ID: 842 4301 7456, Passcode: 616533, By phone dial 253-215-8782

### AGENDA

- I. **INTRODUCTIONS: 8:30 a.m.**
- II. **GUEST SPEAKER(S)/TRAINING: 8:35 a.m.**
  - Connor McDonnell, Mike Savara and/or Samuel Kenney, Oregon Housing & Community Services (OHCS)  
“OHCS Homeless Services Division Initiatives”
- III. **MEETING MINUTES: 8:55 a.m.**
  - **Action:** Approve the April 6, 2022 meeting minutes.
- IV. **GENERAL BUSINESS: 9:00 a.m.**
  - [Supportive Housing Services \(SHS\) Program](#) Report – Alex Devin, Washington County
  - County Emergency Rent Assistance (ERA) Program Report – Katherine Galian and Wendy Polanco, Community Action
  - Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) Phase 39 and ARP-A Application – Vara Fellger
  - Subcommittee Reports.  
If you would like to join a subcommittee, please email the contacts below:
    - Children (Homeless Education Network) – [David Pero](#)
    - Youth – [Drew Williamson](#)
    - Built For Zero Outreach/Homelessness – [Melia Deters](#) and [Staci Yehle](#)
    - DD Dialogue – Gordon Teifel
    - Veterans and Seniors – [Gary Smith](#) and [Yvette Potter](#)
    - [HMIS](#) – [Kayla Moore](#)
    - [HSSN CoC Board](#) next meeting is June 10 at 8:30 a.m.
    - [Homeless Plan Advisory Committee](#) (HPAC) next meeting is May 19 at 2:30 p.m.
  - CoC Board recruitment for vacant and term ending positions with [CoC Board Applications](#) due May 23 and election at the June 1 HSSN meeting. The [CoC Governance](#) policy defines the election process for CoC Board positions – Vara Fellger
- V. **ANNOUNCEMENTS: 9:50 a.m.**
- VI. **ADJOURNMENT: 10:00 a.m.**

Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 1, 2022  
Guest Speaker: Todd Ferry, PSU Homelessness Research & Action Collaborative,  
[“PSU Village Research and How To Guide”](#)

The HSSN is open to the public and all are invited to join – see [HSSN](#) website for additional information and past meeting agenda, minutes and handouts.  
Comments regarding the agenda can be directed to [CoCinfo@co.washington.or.us](mailto:CoCinfo@co.washington.or.us)

**HOUSING AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES NETWORK**  
**Providing a Continuum of Care (CoC) in Washington County**  
April 6, 2022, 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 Services	Lloyd, Rhonda – Salvation Army
Alexander Sheridan, Allie – WC HHS	Ludlam, Mandy – Community Housing Fund
Bailey, Lisa – City of Beaverton	Lukban, Minette – OHSU – Tuality Alliance
Baker, Vernon – Just Compassion EWC	Marshall, Kim – Project Homeless Connect
Beckman, Shana – FP Tualatin Valley	Martinez, Omar – City of Hillsboro
Benavides, Denisse – Community Action Organization	Money, Rose – Family Promise TV
Bittinger, Phyllis – WC Housing Services	Moore, Kayla – WC Housing Services
Blasco, Martin – WC Cooperative Library Svc.	Navarro, David – CAP Oregon
Brownell, Amy – Ecumenical Ministries	Nelson, Barbara – Citizen Community Advocate
Burnham, Jeff – New Narrative	Nordhagen, Jay - Community Action Organization
Calvin, Mellani – ASSIST Program	Parrish, Erin - WC HHS
Camp, Kaylie – DHS Oregon	Penney, Darcie – DVRC
Cardwell, Shawn – FG Foundation	Perkowski, Kaja – Open Door Counseling
Coburn, Crystal – New Narrative	Potter, Yvette – WC DAVS
Coppiano, Zoila – Community Action Organization	Rogers, Pat - Community Action Organization
Crouch, Alan – Easter Seals	Ruiz, Roseanna – CPAH Oregon
Cruz, Kelsie – Community Action Organization	Schimmel, Brian – Centro Cultural
Deters, Melia – Community Action Organization	Sell, Wendy – Lifeworks Northwest
Devin, Alex – WC Housing Services	Simmons, Lucinda – HomePlate Youth Services
Donner, Crystal – Community Action Organization	Smith, Gareth "Gary" – US Dept. of Veteran Affairs
DSouza, Deanna – WorkSystems, Inc.	Sparr, Nina – US Dept. of Veteran Affairs
Dunn, Candace – Project Homeless Connect	Stark, Melissa – CPAH Oregon
Evans, Annette – WC Housing Services	Stoller, Rick – Ecumenical Ministries
Fellger, Vara – WC Housing Services	Tate, Jason – WC Housing Services
Fink, Kathy – WCCCA	Taylor, Rosemary "Rowie" – DVRC
Galian, Katherine – Community Action Organization	Tena-Lopez, Martha – Community Action Organization
Gawf, Mandy – City of Hillsboro	Thomas, Lauren – Office of Community Development
Gibb, Courtney – Hillsboro SD/HEN	Toevs, Jeremy – Open Door Counseling Center
Grant, Bambi – WC Community Corrections	Trinkle, Jamie – Oregon Law Center
Green, Jacen – PSU HCAC	Tuininga, AmyMae – DVRC
Hagerman, Heidi – New Narrative	Valfre, Adolph "Val" – Forest Grove Foundation
Hasan, Connie – New Narrative	Wacan, Jennifer – Community Action Organization
Hawkins, Anne – WC Office of Community Development	Williams, Carrie – New Narrative
Heath, Kelsey – Metropolitan Public Defender	Williams, Natalie – WC Office of Community Dev.
Hunsaker, Naomi – WC HHS	Williamson, Drew – Boys & Girls Aid
Jeffers, Julia – Community Action Organization	Woods, Nyaunu – Community Action Organization
Kass, Peter – WC Housing Services	

Chair: Annette Evans, Public Agency Representative [Annette\\_Evans@co.washington.or.us](mailto:Annette_Evans@co.washington.or.us)  
Co-Chair: Katherine Galian, Nonprofit Agency Representative [kgalian@caowash.org](mailto:kgalian@caowash.org)

Meeting called to order at 8:31 a.m.

## I. INTRODUCTIONS

Annette announced Pat Rogers will be retiring on April 29 and thanked him for his tireless work in homeless services. She also introduced Kayla Moore who is the new CoC HMIS Specialist.

## II. GUEST SPEAKER(S)/TRAINING

Naomi Hunsaker, Systems Coordinator, Washington County Health & Human Service Addictions Program, "Substance Use Trends, Response, and Initiatives."

Naomi shared Washington County uses the National Survey of Drug Use and Health to assess trends not only in the county but nationwide. In Oregon, the latest statistics show 27% of residents have experienced mental illness and 18% have experienced substance abuse in the past year, ranking second in the country in both categories with the latter doubling from the prior year. According to Point-In-Time (PIT) statistics from 2021, 15% of the homeless population in Washington County self-reported having mental health issues and 7% self-reported with a substance abuse disorder. Oregon is ranked first in illicit drug use (methamphetamine and prescription drug misuse). Oregon has experienced three waves of drug usage beginning with prescription drugs in 2000, then a rise in heroin use in 2010, and fentanyl in 2019. During the COVID pandemic there was a notable increase in substance related deaths. Washington County is rated fifth nationally in all substance-related deaths and rated second in fentanyl, double what is seen statewide. She noted, in the last two years there has been 1000% increase in the amount of fentanyl pills seized statewide. About 14% of those who overdose, identify as homeless. A lifesaving medication called Naloxone is used with those who have overdosed to counteract the effects of an overdose and help assist in breathing. Organizations can request Naloxone for distribution to clients they serve upon completion of training. Steps taken to combat the increase in drug related fatalities include improved data collection and monitoring, sharing information with the community through media and campaigns with the sheriff's office, providing training (over 120) within school districts and prevention partners, distribution of Naloxone, the use of fentanyl test strips, and reducing drug availability through the Drug Take Back program.

Naomi also provided an update on the development of the Center for Addiction Triage and Treatment (CATT) in Washington County, which will provide collaborative and co-located services for sobering, withdraw management (men and women), residential treatment, provide stabilization to support those transitioning from services, and assess individuals for appropriate resources. The Board of County Commissioners have already approved the purchase of a site that will provide 80-beds, with the intent to add a second building as well. More information is available on the [CATT website](#), where you can also subscribe to the newsletter. Naomi also provided a [link](#) where organizations could request quantities of Naloxone, find a [list](#) of syringe disposal sites and access information on the [Drug Take-Back Program](#). For more information, contact Naomi Hunsaker at [naomi\\_hunsaker@co.washington.or.us](mailto:naomi_hunsaker@co.washington.or.us). A copy of her [presentation](#) is available online.

**Will the CATT be a place where individuals can be sent after treatment to receive additional care so they don't immediate return to the street to continue the cycle of abuse?**

Medication assisted therapy is planned to be provided when the CATT facility opens; however, that will not for a few more years. In the meantime, there are nine different substance abuse providers in the community that can assist at this time.

## III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Motion: Approve HSSN Workgroup meeting minutes for March 2, 2022

Action: Katherine Galian

Second: Val Valfre

Vote: Approved, consensus.

### III. BUSINESS ITEMS

#### A. Election of CoC Board Positions

After a short presentation by Bambi Grant from Washington County's Department of Community Corrections, the sole applicant for the Community Corrections or Jail position, the HSSN membership took a vote. Annette reported the recruitment for the Substance Addiction Organization position would be ongoing.

Motion: Approve applicant to the respective CoC Board position and continue recruitment to fill vacant CoC Board positions.

Action: Rowie Taylor

Second: Rick Stoller

Vote: Approved, consensus.

Annette reported recruitment will also open for the ESG/CDBG/HOME position vacated by Mari Valencia Aguilar and upcoming HSSN Chair position to be vacated by Annette upon her retirement on April 29. She reported five CoC Board positions have terms expiring on June 30, to include Victims of Domestic Violence (currently held by Rowie Taylor), Citizen At-Large or Outreach (currently held by Shawn Cardwell), Developmental Disabilities (currently held by Gordon Teifel) and Faith-Based Organization position (currently held by Vernon Baker). She encouraged those currently serving to renew their positions. Recruitment for all open positions will close on May 23 and voting will take place at the June 1 HSSN meeting.

#### B. 2022 Point-In-Time Homeless Census Results – Vara Fellger of Washington County Housing Services and Pat Rogers and Jennifer Wacan of Community Action Org.

Vara reported the 2022 Point-In-Time (PIT) count was conducted on January 26, 2022 with the sheltered data coming from HMIS and unsheltered data from a physical count. The total number of homeless households counted was 571 and included 808 individuals of which 496 (61%) individuals were in emergency shelters, 85 (11%) were in transitional housing, and 227 (28%) were unsheltered and outside. There was a noted increase in both survivors of domestic violence and adults with a serious mental illness, thought to be due to less stigma associated for people sharing their mental illness or domestic violence experience. There were 16 veteran households counted in emergency shelters and 46 in transitional housing. There was an increase in the 2022 sheltered count over last year and a corresponding decrease in the unsheltered count due to increased shelter capacity.

Pat reported the unsheltered count primarily came from the Built for Zero (BFZ) street outreach group which meets throughout the year to coordinate contacts and engagements with those experiencing homelessness. Direct face-to-face interviews were made with all unsheltered individuals counted. There were 50 enumerators comprised of service providers, municipal staff, and local police department personnel. In accordance with COVID-19 protocol, all census staff wore personal protective equipment (PPE) and had been trained to work with the homeless population. A wellness assessment was conducted at the time of the PIT interview to assess the wellness of the homeless population and provided an opportunity to share information on COVID symptoms, access to testing and vaccinations. The counts took place in Beaverton, Tigard, Forest Grove, Cornelius, Hillsboro, Tualatin/Sherwood, and outlying areas of the county using a mobile app with GPS from Simtech Solutions. The mobile app provided a "Command Center" feature that enabled monitoring of PIT activities by providing real time data accumulation and location identification for each interview conducted. Jennifer Wacan reported, the resulting data showed 227 individuals contacted with 99 who self-identified as chronically homeless, 15 as veterans, 15 as having experienced domestic violence, and 182 as having a disability (substance abuse, disability, or mental health issues). The majority of interviews took

place in Hillsboro and the majority of individual identified as white. For more information, contact Vara Fellger at [Vara\\_Fellger@co.washington.or.us](mailto:Vara_Fellger@co.washington.or.us), Pat Rogers at [progers@caowash.org](mailto:progers@caowash.org) or Jennifer Wacan at [jwacan@caowash.org](mailto:jwacan@caowash.org).

**Are McKenny-Vento school liaisons involved in the PIT count?**

The McKinney-Vento liaisons are involved with submitting information on students who are unaccompanied on the day of the PIT count through the Simtech Solutions mobile app.

**Is there specific data on families in the PIT count?**

No families with children were encountered during the unsheltered PIT count this year.

**Is there data on how many people report SSI or SSDI income?**

Income source is not a question that is asked during the PIT interviews.

**C. SHS Program Update – Alex Devin**

Alex reported the Housing Access Fair was scheduled for April 19-21 at the Washington Street Conference Center in Hillsboro. The primary purpose of the event was to connect people to a housing provider although, the first two hours of each day of the event will be a meet-and-greet to provide housing case managers and other staff an opportunity to get to know one another. The fair will officially open at 10:30 each day for shelter and outreach workers to bring clients needing housing to either get assessed and/or connect with an HCMS Case Manager that has an open slot and be enrolled in the HCMS Program.

Alex reported the majority of winter shelters will be closing on April 30 with the exception of the Beaverton shelter which has been extending through May 30. Also, the *Community Connect* Phase 2 assessment implementation and training was launched two weeks ago and is aligned with tenant screening alerts to allow case managers to run free tenant-screening reports on their participants who are in a housing program to identify barriers that need to be overcome.

**IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPEN DISCUSSION**

- Washington County, Hillsboro, and Beaverton will be holding [Fair Housing trainings](#) in the month of April. The first one is April 7 for advocates with landlord training and consumer training to follow. For more information contact Lisa Bailey at [lbailey@beavertonoregon.gov](mailto:lbailey@beavertonoregon.gov).
- Katherine Galian invited everyone to join the staff at Community Action to celebrate the retirement of Pat Rogers on April 29. An email invitation should be sent out shortly.
- Annette reminded the HSSN membership that she sent out the Village Research report prepared by Portland State University via the HSSN listserv and was hoping to have a member of the PSU-HCAC present at an upcoming HSSN meeting.
- Kim Marshal-Carlson shared comments of appreciation to Annette Evans on her impending retirement and the work within the HSSN over the past 17 years.

**V. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 10:02 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Michelle Rubio.

To be added to HSSN email list, contact Vara Feller at [vara\\_fellger@co.washington.or.us](mailto:vara_fellger@co.washington.or.us).