



HOUSING and SUPPORTIVE SERVICE NETWORK

Providing a Continuum of Care for Vulnerable Populations in Washington County

Wednesday, May 1, 2019

8:30 to 10:00 a.m.

>>> The Beaverton Building at “The Beaverton Round”, Third Floor Training Room <<<
12725 SW Millikan Way, Beaverton, OR 97005-1641

AGENDA

- I. INTRODUCTIONS: 8:30 a.m.**
- II. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: 8:35 a.m.** Action Item
- III. REPORTS AND PROGRAM UPDATES: 8:40 a.m.**
 - Subcommittee Reports
 - Homeless Education Network
 - Youth
 - Homelessness
 - Developmental Disability (DD) Dialogue
 - Seniors
 - Veterans
 - “Community Connect” Oversight Committee
 - Housing and Health Subcommittee will meet June 24, 10:00 a.m., Room 258 (combine MHSN Consortium and Permanent Housing subcommittee)
 - HSSN Workgroup [the CoC Board]
 - Homeless Plan Advisory Committee HPAC
- IV. GENERAL BUSINESS: 9:00 a.m.**
 - HSSN Governance – Term Expiration and Resignations. Submit nominations by May 20 with election at the June 5 regular business meeting.
 - HSSN At-Large
 - Co-Chair (Term ends 6/2019)
 - HSSN Workgroup (CoC Board)
 - Chronic Homeless Population (Term ends 6/2019)
 - Families with Children (Term ends 6/2019)
 - Community Corrections or Jail (Term ends 6/2019)
 - McKinney-Vento Homeless Student Liaison (Term ends 6/2019)
 - ESG/CDBG/HOME (Term ends 6/2022): Vacant due to resignation
 - Victims of Domestic Violence (Term ends 6/2022): Vacant due to resignation
 - Dialogue: CoC 2018 System Performance Measurements (SPM). Data presentation on outcomes that will be submitted to HUD by May 31, 2019
- V. ANNOUNCEMENTS: 9:50 a.m.**
- VI. ADJOURNMENT: 10:00 a.m.**
Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 5, 2019

The HSSN is open to the public and all are invited to join. Comments regarding the agenda can be directed to Annette Evans, Homeless Program Manager, at 503-846-4760.



HOUSING AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES NETWORK
Maintaining a Continuum of Care in Washington County
Beaverton Building
April 3, 2019, 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:

Auslander, Jay—WC Mental Health
Baker, Vernon—Just Compassion
Blaylock, Mark—Bridges to Change
Bransford, Philip—WC County Administrative Office
Brown, Andrew—Ecumenical Ministries-Metro Homeshare
Brownell, Amy—Ecumenical Ministries-Second Home
Burnham, Jeff—Luke-Dorf, Inc.
Bushmore, Sarah—US Census Bureau
Calvin, Mellani—ASSIST Program
Cervantes, Maria—DHS-Tigard
Charley, Wesley--TriMet
Chavez-Hernandez, Saul—Community Action Organization
Cohen, Megan—City of Beaverton
Coppiano, Zoila—Community Action Organization
Cottrell, Tonia M.—Citizen-Vose NAC
Deters, Melia—Community Action Organization
Fellger, Vara—WC Housing Services
Franco, Magali—Tuality Alliance
Galian, Katherine—Community Action Organization
Garcia-Gomez, Abelmar “Abel”—Hillsboro SD-HEN
Garcia-Snell, Amanda—WC County Administrative Office
Gray, Kelly—Tuality Alliance
Hawkins, Ann—WC Office of Community Development
Herron, Carol—Just Compassion SWS
Knutson, Jennifer—Boys & Girls Aid
Ludlam, Mandie—Community Housing Fund
Martinez, Omar—City of Hillsboro
Mojira, Emily—Boys & Girls Aid
Chair: Annette Evans, Public Agency Representative annette_evans@co.washington.or.us
Co-Chair: Katherine Galian, Nonprofit Agency Representative kgalian@caowash.org

Nash, Fletcher—Luke-Dorf, Inc.
Palma, Victor—CPAH
Palmer, Terri—Aloha Community Library Association
Peoples, Cathy—City of Beaverton
Perkowski, Kaja—Open Door Counseling Center
Potter, Yvette—WC Dept of Aging & Veteran Services
Ram, Sarala—CODA Inc.
Ritter, Jeanne-Marie—Luke-Dorf, Inc.
Robert, Lydia—Housing Independence
Rogers, Pat—Community Action Organization
Romano, Janice--Citizen
Salo, Jenny—Impact NW
Schimmel, Brian—Old Town church
Sell, Wendy—LifeWorks NW
Shaver, Joanie—Oregon Food Bank
Sheller, Gayle--DVRC
Smith, Gary—U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs
Stoller, Rick—Ecumenical Ministries – Second Home
Swearingin, Nicole—Luke-Dorf, Inc.
Taylor, Molly—Oregon Dept of Human Services
Taylor, Rosemary “Rowie”—DVRC
Teifel, Gordon—Families for Ind. Living & DEAR
Trunnell, Alan—City of Beaverton CDBG
Valdez, Bianetth—HomePlate
Valencia, Mari—WC Office of Community Development
Vervynck, John—CPAH
Weller, Sarah—Write Around Portland
Yokoyama, Kelly—Housing Independence

I. INTRODUCTIONS

II. GUEST SPEAKERS:

Wesley Charley, Tri-Met
“Low Income Fare Programs”

Mr. Charley provided an overview of the three programs available at TriMet for economically disadvantaged populations. The Fair Relief Program offers grants of up to \$30,000 to 501(c)(3) organizations serving low income clients specifically for services critical to employment, housing and personal stability. The agency is required to enter into an agreement with TriMet and Ride Connection to provide administrative (enrollment and

eligibility) services for clients participating in the program. Fares are available in 2.5 hour and one-day increments using disposable, single use “Hop” cards and monthly refillable “Hop” cards. The grant application period opened recently and will run through May 10, 2019. A Fare Assistance Program is available to 501(c)(3) organizations to purchase fares for low-income clients at a discounted rate for services critical to employment, housing and personal stability. The Honored Citizen Program was originally established to provide heavily discounted fares to seniors (65+ years old) and individuals with a disability, and has now expanded to include adults, 18-64 years of age, with incomes $\leq 200\%$ Federal Poverty Level. Enrollment in SNAP, TANF, OHP, HUD Housing, WIC, Free and Reduced Lunch, Unemployment or Energy Assistance Program or proof of income meets program eligibility requirements for low-income riders with applications valid for two years. A reloadable Hop Card (with Photo ID) is issued to program participants which is a smart card that uses fare capping technology and assures the best possible fare given individual riding habits. Currently, Centro Cultural provides enrollment services for TriMet’s low-income fare programs with three other organizations in the Beaverton-Tigard area joining in the near future. For more information go to <https://trimet.org/accesstransit/> or contact Wesley at charleyw@trimet.org or (503) 962-2226. Presentation handouts are available online at <https://www.co.washington.or.us/Housing/EndHomelessness/hssn-agendas-and-minutes.cfm>

Questions & Answers:

Does the Hop card have a chip?

Yes, A tap is required to register the card as valid fair.

Can a smart phone be used in place of a card?

Not at this time. The card is personalized with Photo ID which allows regulation of its use.

Are partners contracted with TriMet to provide eligibility/qualification services for low-income fare programs, or providers serving the eligible/qualifying population?

TriMet’s partners fall into both categories. Currently, there are 40 partner agencies, ten of which are contracted and serve the general public and 30 that only work with the populations they serve. Of the non-public sites, there is a mix of contracted and non-contracted partners and include government and volunteer agencies.

Is there automatic qualification for a client served by a homeless shelter?

A screening process is still required in order to qualify income at $\leq 200\%$ Federal Poverty Level.

Once a client is qualified for the Fare Relief Program, is the agency required to automatically reload the card?

No, the agency has flexibility to provide a one-time use Hop card (2.5 hour or one-day use), or a monthly reloadable card. If the monthly reloadable card is used, there is no requirement to automatically reload the card.

Can the agency load a Hop card to prepay fare one-year in advance?

Yes, the maximum that can be loaded onto a Hop card is \$300 which is close to a one year fare. When loading large amounts to a Hop card, it is recommended the card be registered so that the card can be suspended or funds transferred in the event it is lost or stolen. Registration can be completed online or on the phone.

Sarah Bushore, Partnership Specialist, U.S. Census Bureau & Phillip Bransford, Communications Officer, County administrative Office
“2020 Census”

Ms. Bushmore provided an overview of the purpose of the Census, the laws and history governing the information obtained from the Census and the process by which the 2020 Census will take place. The constitution requires a count be performed every ten years of everyone living in the United States, regardless of their immigration or voter status and is used to determine the number of state seats in the US House of Representatives, allocation of federal funds to each state and affects school re-districting (rebounding). The 2020

Census, for the first time, will be a self-report via the internet, telephone and paper. The Census Bureau is currently negotiating with Library Associations in Oregon and Washington to provide computers and assistance for self-reporting. Information via the internet and toll-free telephone will be available in 13 different languages, all paper forms will be available in English and Spanish and census Enumerators will be bilingual. A mailer will go out in early March, 2020 and direct individuals to self-report via a website or toll-free telephone number. If no response, two additional invitations will be mailed. The fourth attempt will include a short form for individuals to complete and mail back. A fifth mailer will be sent and if still no response, a Census Enumerator will be sent to the physical address to make three attempts to obtain the information. She reviewed the demographic questions to be asked and their importance for validation purposes. She acknowledged the controversy surrounding the citizenship question and the fear expressed by immigrants of reporting, noting the case is currently before the Supreme Court who is expected to make a ruling on the question. She emphasized, responses to all census questions whether via the website, on the telephone, on paper or in person, are voluntary and are not required. All Census Bureau personnel are bound by a confidentiality agreement and cannot divulge any information obtained from census activities and face prison time and/or fines if found to be in violation. The purpose of the census questions and/or the job of the enumerator is purely to obtain demographic information for counting purposes. She urged agencies to get the message out to the hard-to-count population (Foreign-born/immigrants, children under 5, seniors, homeless, migrant workers, renters and those with low internet access) to make sure everyone is counted. She solicited the membership for open Enumerator positions available directing anyone interested to 2020census.gov/jobs or 1(855) JOB-2020. For more information, contact Sarah at sarah.m.bushore@2020census.gov.

Mr. Bransford announced the formation of a Complete Count Committee for Washington County and encouraged agencies working with under-represented and under counted populations to participate. The committee hopes to hold approximately six organizational meetings to coordinate messaging and outreach and have scheduled the first meeting for April 22 at Washington County Service Center East at 3:00pm – 4:30pm. He urged agencies to participate in the committee and/or sign-up to receive regular communication updates from the committee. For more information, contact Philip at Philip_Bransford@co.washington.or.us or Amanda Garcia-Snell at Amanda_Garcia-Snell@co.washington.or.us.

Questions & Answers:

Will the citizen question dissuade undocumented people from self-reporting?

The hope is that it will not discourage people from participating.

Will individuals who do not answer the citizenship question be counted in the census?

Yes, they will be included in the count. Leaving too many questions unanswered will; however, trigger an Enumerator to be sent out to obtain more information.

Is it illegal to say that you are a citizen, when you are not?

There is more punishment involved in lying on the census than not answering a question.

Will the online self-reporting process require establishment of an online account?

No, the mailed invitation to self-report will include a unique User ID to be used to log in to the website. A physical address can be used to search for a User ID when attempting to self-report online or on the phone.

How would homeless be counted who don't have a physical address and don't receive a mailer?

Homeless are counted using a "Service Enumeration" where only a headcount is performed without gathering any other details. A "Group Enumeration" includes buildings which house a large group of people such as a college dorm, a retirement facility or a prison.

Could HMIS data be used to reach out to homeless individuals?

Sarah will keep it in mind for the nationwide coordination that is expected to begin in January 2020.

If a foster parent reports a child living in the home and the child moves, will the system know the child may be counted twice?

No, everyone should be reporting where they lived on April 1, 2020. For example, if husband or wife are in jail on April 1, 2020, they should not be reported as living in the home on that date, even if their jail stay is just for two weeks.

Is there a window within which to self-report online?

Self-reporting (online or via telephone) will be open March 23, 2020 through July 31, 2020. The Census Bureau is required to report census results by December 31, 2020.

What is the hourly rate for the Enumerator position?

Numerators will indicate what hours they can work for the following week. The position pays at least \$17 per hour and includes mileage reimbursement.

Megan Cohen, City of Beaverton

“Safe Parking Program”

Ms. Cohen shared the Safe Parking Program is a one-year pilot targeting families and individuals experiencing homelessness and provides assistance to help them transition from living in their vehicle to housing. The City has contracted with Just Compassion to provide program management which includes case management, intake and wait list maintenance. Up to five host sites will be providing three spaces each for people to park their vehicles and a space for ADA restrooms, a hand washing station and Pod storage. Host sites will also provide garbage service and a contact person who is available onsite to assist guests and communicate with Just Compassion. Site names and locations will not be published to maintain privacy of the guests and to ensure intake is centralized through Just Compassion. Megan is scheduled for a second round of outreach to faith-based organizations and other organizations who might be interested in hosting the last remaining site. They hope to start doing intake now and begin placing guests at two of the sites by April 15. Guests can stay at a site for a 30-day probationary period during which they agree to a case management plan with Just Compassion. If they follow the terms of the agreement they can stay for an additional 90-days (four months total). Some discretion is available if housing is imminent. The vehicle (car or camper) has to be the guest's primary residence, be operational and have current registration. A background checks is required. The pilot program will exclude individuals with violent felonies and sexual offenders. The provision of additional services such as gas cards will be reviewed as the program gets underway. For intake services, contact Just Compassion at safeparkingbeaverton@gmail.com or (503) 624.4666. Megan Cohen can be reached at mcohen@beavertonoregon.gov or (503) 526-2584.

Questions & Answers:

What if the potential guest can't afford to register the vehicle?

City of Beaverton will work with the individual to get the vehicle properly registered. They are also willing to work with guests if a vehicle just needs minor repairs in order to make it operational.

Will you accept referrals from other programs (such as Supportive Services for Veteran Families), even if individuals are already receiving case management?

Yes. They don't want people who live out of their vehicles to be towed. Referrals from SSVF are especially appropriate since participants are already working on housing.

Did Beaverton's City Council amend the Development Code to approve the land use for the sites?

The City of Beaverton did some Municipal Code changes to allow businesses to participate as host sites in the pilot. They are currently reviewing to see if Development Code changes need to be made.

Is there a residency restriction?

No, the program is low barrier and they will not be doing address searches, although, once at full capacity, there may be a preference for Washington County residents.

Will more sites be added upon full capacity?

The pilot year is limited to five sites. If the pilot is deemed to be successful and should continue (and any and all development code changes are in place), Phase II may include additional sites.

Does the driver of the vehicle need to be licensed and insured?

That is not a requirement of the program.

If the temperature drops, can guests use their electric heaters?

It is up to host sites as to any additional amenities they wish to provide. During severe weather, guests would most likely be directed to the closest severe weather shelter.

III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Motion: Approve the March 6, 2019 HSSN meeting minutes.

Action: Tonia Cottrell

Second: Zoila Coppiano

Vote: Approved, unanimous.

IV. GENERAL BUSINESS

Results of the 2019 Point-In-Time (PIT) Homeless County Census – Pat Rogers and Katherine Galian

Pat Rogers provided an overview of the 2019 Point-In-Time (PIT) Count held January 23 - 30. The purpose of collecting homeless data is to demonstrate need in Washington County, plan for programs and services, prioritize funds, accurately identify needs of specific sub-populations, measure performance of efforts to reduce homelessness and to raise public awareness of homelessness in our communities. He noted programs such as the Safe Parking Program, Homeless to Work, the Severe Weather Shelter system and Rent Assistance programs were just a few of the programs developed in response to awareness provided by PIT Count homeless data. The PIT was better organized this year with volunteers from municipalities stepping up to lead counts in their cities and recruit volunteers to assist. A total of 131 people volunteered. Hillsboro, Beaverton, Tigard and Forest Grove were all able to conduct counts on the same day (January 23) which reduced duplication and increased data quality. The remaining outlying area counts were conducted January 24 – 30. The use of “Sign Up Genius” software made volunteer registration easy and provided a text reminder of volunteer commitment which was instrumental in the increased volunteer turnout. Volunteer training was held in four different cities and provided flexible date options. Pat acknowledged the efforts of those involved, noting it would not have been as successful without them.

There were 530 adults and children counted of which 298 people in 209 households were sheltered, and 232 people in 207 households unsheltered. In comparison, 163 people in 112 households comprised the sheltered count in 2018 and 301 people in 359 households unsheltered. Most of the change in sheltered and unsheltered counts was due to guests of severe weather shelters counted as “sheltered” this year, rather than “unsheltered” as in the past. He noted 127 people self-reported as having a substance disorder compared to 31 in 2018 and 25 in 2017 and admitted not having an explanation for the increase.

Using Klik Sense, Katherine provided a more a detailed breakdown of the PIT data. Of the total 530 homeless counted, 23.8% were chronically homeless, 15.7% were veterans, and 23.8% experienced domestic violence. In comparison, of the unsheltered individuals (232), 38% were chronically homeless, almost 10% were veterans and 29% experienced domestic violence. Similar to last year, more people were encountered in Hillsboro and Beaverton who indicated not staying in the area and reflected the movement of homeless people

looking for services not provided in their own community. Disability status tends to vary by household type, 69.4% were unsheltered and 53% were sheltered. Households with children are less likely to include a disabled member and more likely to be sheltered. Households without children are more likely to have a disabled member and be unsheltered. The top five “Reasons for Homelessness” for the unsheltered population continue to be: 1) Unable to afford rent, 2) Unemployment, 3) Lack of Family Supports, 4) Criminal History and 5) Mental or Emotional Disorders. There were 6.6% of unsheltered individuals who reported being “homeless by choice” and noted it was a misnomer as data indicates the longer a person is outside, the harder it is for them to come inside. Anyone interested in a specific presentation targeting a municipality or sub-population should contact Cecilia Bonvino at cbonvino@caowash.org. Katherine will provide a PIT data snapshot in pdf format to Annette to send out to the Listserv.

Questions and Answers

Would it be beneficial to look at responses to “Reasons for Homelessness” and compare it to “length of time homeless” to see how the answers change over time?

It might be interesting to aggregate the data by length of time homeless.

Do you have data on LGBTQ count?

There were 10 unsheltered individuals and 11 sheltered. Those who identified as LGBTQ were primarily single adults, 50/50 disabled/non-disabled, 1 veteran, 4 male, 3 gender non-confirming, 2 female, 1 trans male to female, 1 trans female to male.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Rick Stoller recognized Megan Cohen for her effort in developing and launching the Safe Parking Pilot Program.
- Katherine introduced Saul Chavez-Hernandez, the new Energy & Emergency Rent Program Manager at Community Action Organization.
- Pat Rogers announced the hiring of Tracy Downer, the new Housing Program Supervisor at Community Action.
- Saul Chavez-Hernandez announced Community Action Organization is accepting energy assistance applications. Updated information is available at <https://caowash.org>.
- Alan Trunnell invited the membership to stay after the HSSN meeting to hear and provide comment on the Annual Action Plan presentations by Washington County, Beaverton and Hillsboro.
- The membership was invited to visit the Cornelius Place Library which opened last weekend and includes forty-four units of senior housing on the second floor.
- Sarala Ram announced CODA, Inc. was still hiring for various positions at different sites in the Portland/Hillsboro/Clackamas area and would provide an email for Annette to send out via the HSSN Listserv.
- Megan Cohen announced the City of Beaverton’s Annual Volunteer Fair and encouraged anyone interested to complete an application online at <https://www.beavertonoregon.gov/1898/Volunteer-Fair>. The City of Beaverton is also partnering with Write Around Portland to hold a Volunteer Engagement Workshop on April 19. Anyone interested should talk to her after the meeting.
- Yvette Potter announced the Veterans Stand Down event scheduled for August 22 at the Hillsboro Elks Lodge; 10am-3pm. Also, anyone interested in receiving a Vietnam veteran lapel pin and Certificate for the Certificate of Honor Program should contact Vicki Horn of Washington County Disability, Aging and Veteran Services at (503) 846-3051.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:58 a.m. Minutes prepared by Vara Fellger, Washington County Department of Housing Services

HSSN April 3, 2019 Minutes