



HOUSING and SUPPORTIVE SERVICE NETWORK (the CoC)
Providing a Continuum of Care for Vulnerable Populations in Washington County

Wednesday, December 6, 2023 - 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85060025655?pwd=RE1zcWEzTmVWYnJ2S0JZRmV6YkgYz09>
Meeting ID: 850 6002 5655 | Passcode: 294026 | To Join by Telephone: +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

AGENDA

- I. **INTRODUCTIONS: 8:30 a.m.**
- II. **SPEAKERS/TRAINING: 8:35 a.m.**
 - Angelina Garcia, BGA & Frances King, EMO-Second Home, “Education Re-engagement Program”
 - Rebecca Quintana, HomePlate Youth Services, “Education Program”
 - Abelmar Garcia Gomez, Courtney Gibb and Sara Palestino, “Washington County School Districts’ McKinney-Vento Program”
 - Peter Ladley, WC Housing Services, “FYI – Building Bridges to Self-Sufficiency”
- III. **MEETING MINUTES: 9:30 a.m.**
 - **Action:** Approve the November 1, 2023 meeting minutes.
- IV. **GENERAL BUSINESS: 9:35 a.m.**
 - Homeless System Performance – Katherine Galian
 - County Budget Process Overview – Nicole Stingham
- V. **ANNOUNCEMENTS: 9:55 a.m.**
- VI. **ADJOURNMENT: 10:00 a.m.**

Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 3, 2024

The HSSN is the meeting of the continuum of care in Washington County and is open to the public - all are invited to join – see [HSSN](#) webpage 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
November 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:

Aguilar, San Juana – Open Door HousingWorks	James, Karen –Community Advocate
Baker, Vernon – Just Compassion EWC	Joshi, Surya – IRCO
Baker, Melissa – Clackamas County	King, Frances – EMO-Second Home
Barrera de Gomez – Community Action Organization	Lloyd, Rhonda – The Salvation Army
Biggs, Brittney – Community Action Organization	Lucas, Krishelle – Forest Grove Foundation
Briggs, Gena – Open Door HousingWorks	Ludlam, Mandie – Community Housing Fund
Calo, Lauren – WC Office of Community Development	Markus, Michelle – Mental Health & Addiction Assoc. of Oregon
Camp, Kaylie – Oregon DHS	Marshall-Gordon, Kim – Project Homeless Connect
Cardwell, Shawn – Forest Grove Foundation	Mcabee, Mary – Transcending Hope
Cooke, Beth – New Narrative	McCauley – Boys & Girls Aid
Denning, Community Action Organization	McGuire-Anderson, Acacia – Clackamas County
Dent, Lindsay – WC Housing Services	McLeod, Mike – WC Housing Services
Donner, Crystal – Community Action Organization	McVey, Drew – Citizen At-Large (Formerly Homeless)
Dunford, Tachelle – Good Neighbor Center	Melton, Holly – Community Action Organization
Dwyer, DaNene – Portland Community College	Oliverio, Kristina – Boys & Girls Aid
Dzubay, Dawn – Oregon DHS	Pinto, Ursula – Sherwood SD/HEN
Farr, Danielle – WC Health & Human Services	Rose, Stephanie – Hope Community Network
Fellger, Vara – WC Housing Services	Ruan, Elvi – Community Action Organization
Ferguson, Rosana – Community Action Organization	Saldana, Austin – WC Housing Services
Fleming, Hannah – Community Action Organization	Sell, Wendy – Lifeworks NW
Fleming, Kadi – Community Action Organization	Solis Ruiz, Marguarita – Bienestar
Fletcher, Torey – Centro Cultural	Sparks, Amber – HomePlate Youth Services
Francia, Belinda – Open Door HousingWorks	Stingh, Nicole – WC Housing Services
Gallian, Katherine – WC Housing Services	Stoller, Rick – EMO-Second Home
Gibb, Courtney – Hillsboro SD/HEN	Taylor, Molly – Oregon Health Authority
Greene, Jacen – PSU/HRAC	Teifel, Gordon – Dear, Inc.
Guillen, Estela – Community Action Organization	Valdez, Bianeth – City of Beaverton
Hageman, Heidi – New Narrative	Valdovinos, Kelvin – WC Office of Community Development
Harvey, Adam – The Salvation Army	Voss, Charlie - CPAH
Hauth, Larry – Community Action Organization	Williamson, Drew – Boys & Girls Aid
Henkemeyer, Karen – Community Action Organization	Wilson-Coleman, Alisa – Lifeworks
Hill, Amanda – Family Promise GWC	Yehle, Staci – Community Action Organization
Howard, Nathan – WC Housing Services	
Ilic, Kelley – WorkSystems, Inc.	

Chair: Katherine Galian, CoC Program Manager
Co-Chair: Charlie Voss Flowers

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

I. INTRODUCTIONS

HSSN members were asked to identify themselves in the chat listing their organization followed by their name for purposes of attendance and voting.

IV. SPEAKERS/TRAINING

DaNene Dwyer, “PCC Opportunity Center Classes & Workshops.”

PCC’s Opportunity Center in Washington County is located at the Willow Creek Center on the corner of 185th and Baseline in Hillsboro, right on the MAX line. Opportunity Centers provide services to explore careers, education, training, skill building, and resources. These centers are open to anyone in the community to obtain resources and build an educational plan that fits their needs. On-site partners include WorkSource Oregon and Dress for Success with classes provided in ESOL and Adult Basic Education.

College and Career Prep classes and workshops are grant and college funded and offered to participants at no cost. Classes are also available to non-English speakers and people with justice involved backgrounds. Career Exploration is a 3-day workshop that provides an opportunity to research careers for people at all experience levels. Financial Wellness Workshops focus on financial stability and help to develop financial plans over a 3-day period and include budgeting for college or training. Computer Basics Workshops are available for beginners seeking to improve their digital skills and are offered monthly and in-person only. Math Refresher courses are specifically for manufacturing and trades and allow participants to brush up on their skills. Classes are no cost to participants and are in-person. Discover Classes are 1 – 3 weeks in duration and offered in a variety of settings for Technology, Manufacturing and Healthcare fields that allow participants to explore careers, meet employers and build skills. Explore Careers and College is a program specifically for immigrants, refugees and non-native English speakers. Many of the students that come through this program are highly skilled in their own countries but need help figuring out a plan to bring those skills to fruition here in the US. The class provides access to Coursers, a program specific to non-English learners and EnGen, a self-paced workplace learning tool for non-English speakers. VR headsets are available to provide an opportunity for participants to see what it might be like to work in an environment. PCC works closely with industry partners, who join classes and provide on-site visits.

The two-week Quick Start Semiconductor Technician paid training program provides skills in the tech industry. Participants receive a \$500 stipend for each week of completed training with 90% attendance and upon completion are guaranteed an interview with Intel. This program is a partnership with Intel, WorkSource Oregon, WorkSystems, PCC, and the City of Hillsboro. To sign up for classes, click on the [link](#) and select the class and the date and time that works best for you. You can also register over the phone at (971) 722-2688. The full presentation can be found [here](#).

What are the maximum classes sizes for the workshops?

The maximum class size is 16 but most are between 6-10 students.

Are certificates still given for these classes?

Clients receive a certificate if they attend the entire class.

Larry Hauth & Elvi Ruan, “Financial Education and Workforce Development Classes from Community Action”

Community Action offers two series of five financial education classes annually from February through June and then again July through November. Classes are presented by Innovative Solution NE via Zoom with Spanish interpretation provided simultaneously. Classes are free and available to all with preference given to Washington County residents. All classes are not required to be completed or are required to be taken in sequence. In 2023, 94 participants attended the free financial education classes, with 40 who attended 2 or more classes during the year. Several chose

to attend classes more than once. Often, a participant will register for one class, then join the other classes thereafter. For more information, contact Elvi Ruan at ida@caowash.org.

Larry Hauth shared, the Career Boost program provides coaching services for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) also known as “Food Stamps” recipients. This program partners with WorkSource Portland-Metro, PCC, and WorkSystems, Inc. It provides employment and training to increase the ability to obtain living wage employment in a career of their choosing. Trainings are focused on in-demand careers such as healthcare, manufacturing, truck driving, construction, and trade jobs. The career coach assists with career readiness, resources for training scholarships, employment search, and overall support to each participant. There is a requirement to be registered with WorkSource to take part in this program. Funding is made available by the US Department of Agriculture. Information sessions are offered monthly in a hybrid format (Zoom and in-person). For more information, contact Isabela Rega at careerboost@caowash.org.

Community Action has also been providing a cohort for PCC’s Quick Start Semiconductor Technician program so that clients can go through the training together and support each other during the process. Several people who have gone through the training have been hired by Intel upon completion.

Karen Henkemeyer shared, the Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) program helps build the supply of high quality, developmentally appropriate, culturally and linguistically responsive, child care in Washington County. Participants interested in an early childhood career are provided free individualized support to develop a career plan and, upon completion, connected to job openings at childcare programs that are hiring. Required trainings are free and available online with scholarships available for cost-related trainings. Those interested in becoming an early educator can work as an aid, assistant teacher, teacher, or open up their own childcare business. Staff is available that speak Spanish, Arabic and Somali and interpretation services are available for other languages. Training are provided in the evenings and on Saturdays. Eligibility for this program requires a background check, residency within Washington County, and an interest in working with young children. More information is available [here](#), via email at crr@caowash.org or 971-223-6100. The full presentation can be found on the HSSN [webpage](#).

Surya Joshi, “IRCO Economic Opportunities Program”

The Workforce Development department of IRCO provides career-based planning and training, work experiences, and job placement in the tri-county area. They serve youth, adults, immigrants, refugees, houseless, low-income, and skilled and unskilled job seekers. This program offers a variety of support services such as job search and training services as well as provisions with transportation support, books, study materials, tools, utility assistance while training, and referrals.

The Youth Workforce programs in Washington County include NextGen (training and occupational coaching for on-ramps to employment pathways for ages 17-24), and OYE (occupational skills training for ages 14-24). Contact Rekha Koirala, rekhak@irco.org, for more information.

Other youth workforce programs include SummerWorks (temporary paid internships (up to 160 hours) with transportation assistance and other job-related supports) and WEXY (year-round paid work experience (up to 150 hours) that includes career coaching support). Contact Anna Klinestekier, annak@irco.org, for more information.

SNAP recipients living in Washington County qualify for the Economic Opportunity Program for career specific training and job placement with career coaching and job readiness support available throughout the program. Special funding is currently available for construction and healthcare trainings. Other Adult Programs include:

- TechRise, a cohort for software development (CompT1A A+ certification), data analysis, UX/UI bootcamps
- Equitable Economic Recovery offers trainings in healthcare and CDL driving careers.
- Southwest Corridor Economic Development (SWED) provides job search, training, and small business technical assistance to those living in the SW corridor.
- Washington County Housing Careers provides peer support training and work experiences to those with lived experience who are interested in the housing field. The training includes two weeks of paid training prior to being placed in a paid work experience within a Washington County Supportive Housing Services provider organization. More information is available below.
- Advanced Tigard Workforce (ATW) provides coaching, training, and skills enhancement for those living in the City of Tigard.

The full presentation can be found on the HSSN [webpage](#).

Are those on TANF eligible for the IRCO programs?

Programs are available to anyone, however those with SNAP benefits are given priority to specific programs, such as Career Boost. Other resources are available for TANF recipients.

Kelley Ilic, WorkSystems, Inc., “Washington County Housing Careers Program”

The Washington County Housing Careers Program is funded by Washington County Supportive Housing Services and a partnership with Open Door HousingWorks, WorkSystems, IRCO, and PCC. The goal of this program is to increase capacity within the supportive housing workforce in Washington County. Participants take part in two weeks of paid training followed by 500 hours of paid work experience with a supportive housing service provider. Each person is assigned a career coach that offers support throughout the program. Within the first year of the program, 29 participants enrolled in this program and 16 completed the training and began working within eight different worksites. The goal in the second year is to enroll 45 participants and increase the worksite locations to 15. Worksites provide a position description and work experience for participants along with supervision to provide guidance. Participants are paid through a third-party employer of record, so there is no cost to the worksite. Becoming a worksite location is beneficial as it expands the workforce capacity without additional costs and allows participants to give back to the community in which they are serving. Partner agencies interested in becoming a worksite for the Housing Careers program should reach out to Kelley Ilic at kilic@worksystems.org or 503-478-7322. The presentation can be accessed [here](#).

III. MEETING MINUTES

Motion: Approve the October 4, 2023 meeting minutes

Action: San Juana Aguilar

Second: Dixie Rose

Vote: Approved, consensus.

IV. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Sheltering in the Winter – Nathan Howard

Washington County received funding that enabled all of last year’s winter shelters to remain open year around. There will not be additional winter shelter beds added this year, however inclement weather beds will be available in Beaverton and Hillsboro during extreme temperature emergencies. Washington County’s Street Outreach team is a great resource to connect with for people who need resources or supplies but may be hesitant to access services. For questions or more information, contact Nathan at Nathan_howard@washingtoncountyor.gov.

B. PIT Update – Katherine Galian

The county is recommending moving to the HUD requirement of a biennial Point-In-Time count. The increased street outreach of the Locally Coordinated Command Centers (LC3) which were developed as part of Governor Kotek’s Emergency Order on Homelessness, produces the same data that is measured during the PIT count. Conducting the PIT every other year will allow for an increased focus on building out the unsheltered ByName lists.

C. New Advisory Body Naming & Progress Update – Nicole Stingh

The Bylaws for the new advisory body were approved by the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) on October 24. Recruitment was launched on October 25 with applications accepted until November 15. Interviews will begin November 8 with final recommendations to be submitted to the BOCC in December and the new body appointed and seated in January, 2024. Those interested in applying should complete the application [here](#).

The membership is now being asked to assist in the naming of the advisory body. Several names were recommended by stakeholders, HPAC and CoC Board. After discussion, a poll was launched to receive feedback from the membership on the four most recommended names. For more information or questions on recruitment of the new board, contact Mike McLeod at Michael_McLeod@washingtoncountyor.gov

The word “homeless” communicates a negative connotation. Several members recommended using the word “houseless” instead.

The choice to use this word provides clarity in what this new advisory board will be responsible for and distinction from other Washington County advisory boards.

Is this new advisory body providing solutions for homelessness or coordinating services for those who are homeless?

This new governance will help set policy direction with the BOCC and staff for the housing system in Washington County. They will be overseeing, finding solutions, and be responsible for ensuring services are solutions.

Is this new body fulfilling the HUD required CoC Steering Committee role?

It is a HUD requirement to have a CoC and governing body that is responsible for carrying out the work of the CoC. There is also other non-HUD funding with other requirements. The goal of this new structure is to have a fully aligned system from the governance structure all the way through to service provision.

Is this new structure necessary?

There needs to be a structure and leadership to organize the function of how things are done within the continuum.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- On behalf of New Narrative, Vara announced they have an open position for a Peer Support Specialist in their Rental Assistance program. The listing and a job description is available [here](#).
- Vara announced the November 8 Learning Community will be a more in-depth [training](#) on the workforce development programs at Portland Community College.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:04am.

Minutes prepared by Michelle Rubio.

To be added to the HSSN email list, submit a request to cocinfo@washingtoncountyor.gov