



HOUSING and SUPPORTIVE SERVICE NETWORK

Providing a Continuum of Care for Vulnerable Populations in Washington County

Wednesday, November 1, 2023 - 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85060025655?pwd=RE1zcWEzTmVWYnJ2S0JZRmV6YkgyZz09>

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.**
 - DaNene Dwyer, “PCC Opportunity Center Classes & Workshops”
 - Larry Hauth, “FREE Classes & Workshops from Community Action”
 - Surya Joshi, “IRCO Economic Opportunities Program and Outcomes”
 - Kelley Ilic, WorkSystems, Inc. & John McPherson, Open Door HousingWorks, “Washington County Housing Careers Program”
- III. **MEETING MINUTES: 9:35 a.m.**
 - **Action:** Approve the October 4, 2023 meeting minutes.
- IV. **GENERAL BUSINESS: 9:40 a.m.**
 - Sheltering in the Winter – Elise Ruiz Hom
 - PIT Update – Katherine Galian
 - New Advisory Body Naming & Progress Update – Nicole Stingh (10 minutes)
- V. **ANNOUNCEMENTS: 9:55 a.m.**
- VI. **ADJOURNMENT: 10:00 a.m.**

Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 6, 2023

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
October 4, 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:

Acuna, Jessica – Community Action Organization
Aguilar, Maria – City of Beaverton
Aguilar, San Juana – Open Door HousingWorks
Ambriz, Victoria – Community Action Organization
Avila, Monica – WC Housing Services
Babcock, Amy - DVRC
Baca, Melissa – Community Action Organization
Benavides, Denisse – Community Action Organization
Biggs, Brittney – Community Action Organization
Brownell, Amy – EMO-Second Home
Calderon Cindy - Bienestar
Camp, Kaylie – Oregon DHS
Cardenas, Lusía – Community Action Organization
Cardwell, Shawn – Forest Grove Foundation
Chamberlain, Nichole – Family Promise-Tualatin Valley
Cooke, Beth – New Narrative
Coppiano, Zoi – Community Action Organization
Denning, Kristen – Community Action Organization
Donner, Crystal – Community Action Organization
Dwyer, DaNene – Portland Community College
Dzubay, Dawn – Oregon DHS
Ezell, Kim – City of Tigard
Farr, Danielle – WC Health & Human Services
Fellger, Vara – WC Housing Services
Fleming, Kadi – Community Action Organization
Fletcher, Torey – Centro Cultural
Gallian, Katherine – WC Housing Services
Garcia-Gomez, Abelmar – Hillsboro SD/HEN
Gawf, Mandy – City of Hillsboro
Gibb, Courtney – Hillsboro SD/HEN
Greene, Jacen – PSU/HRAC
Greenough, Carol – Community Advocate
Harvey, Adam – The Salvation Army
Heath, Kelsey – Metropolitan Public Defender
Hoffman, Shawna – WC Housing Services
James, Karen –Community Advocate
Jeffers, Julia – Community Action Organization
Kennedy, Carolyn – New Narrative
Kinish-Omier, Kelsea – Community Action Organization
Laubach, Elise – Family Promise-Tualatin Valley
Lewis-Gannon, Josh – New Narrative
Lucas, Krishelle – Forest Grove Foundation
Ludlam, Mandie – Community Housing Fund
Markus, Michelle – Mental Health & Addiction Assoc. of OR
Marshall-Gordon, Kim – Project Homeless Connect
McVey, Drew – Citizen At-Large/Formerly Homeless
Melton, Holly – Community Action Organization
Mitchell, Royauna – Good Neighbor Center
Morozova, Kristina – Community Action Organization
Murdock, Rashaad – New Narrative
Oliverio, Kristina – Boys & Girls Aid
Palomar, Caitlin – Community Action Organization
Paul, Geeta - DVRC
Pero, David – Forest Grove SD/HEN
Pinto, Ursula – Sherwood SD/HEN
Polanco, Wendy – Community Action Organization
Potter, Yvette – WC Disability Aging and Veteran Services
Rega, Bela – Community Action Organization
Reno, Madison – Community Action Organization
Rose, Stephanie – Hope Community Network
Saint, Michelle – US Dept. of Veteran Affairs
Schutz, Rachel – Family Justice Center of WC
Sellars, Zena – New Narrative
Serrano, Nicolasa – New Narrative
Smith, Gareth “Gary” – US Dept of Veteran Affairs
Solis Ruiz, Marguarita – Bienestar
Sparks, Amber – HomePlate Youth Services
Stanwood-Gorvine, Alyssa – Beaverton SD/HEN
Studer, Hannah – Bridges to Change
Swearingin, Nicole – New Narrative
Tafoya, Erica – Community Action Organization
Taylor, Rowie – DVRC
Thomas, Lauren – WC Office of Community Development
Valdez, Bianeth – City of Beaverton
Valdovinos, Kelvin – WC Office of Community Development
Williams, Carrie – Community Action Organization
Williamson, Drew – Boys & Girls Aid
Wilson-Coleman, Alisa – Lifeworks NW
Woods, Nyaunu – Community Action Organization
Zimmerman, Leslie – The Salvation Army

Chair: Katherine Galian, Homeless Programs Manager
Co-Chair: Charlie Voss Flowers, CPAH

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

Rowie Taylor, Amy Babcock & Geeta Paul, DVRC, “Safety Planning, Housing and Working with Survivors”

Rowie shared DVRC has provided domestic violence support services in Washington County since 1975. The center provides advocacy, safe shelter, housing, and counseling.

Geeta Paul, Advocacy and Empowerment Director explained DVRC services are free, confidential, and voluntary. The Advocacy and Empowerment department provides protective orders, safety planning, short-term case management, resources and referrals, outreach, and accompanies clients to court. Detailed information on safety procedures can be found [here](#).

Amy Babcock, Housing Director, shared DVRC has three different categories of housing available to survivors: emergency housing at the Monica’s House shelter, transitional housing, and permanent housing that is scattered throughout the community. Crisis lines are monitored through Monica’s House which is usually the first point of contact. Housing is low barrier with the focus on survivors and the safety needs of the family. All housing programs include case management and advocacy services along with a variety of other services that assist with financial education, basic needs, and emotional support. The main goals of the housing program are to break the cycle of violence, develop self-sufficiency, awareness of resources available, and to support healthy relationships and interactions. There are several challenges with domestic violence survivors finding housing such as safety, children/pets, current leases, and financial issues to name a few. The domestic violence crisis line, established in 1982, is run out of Monica’s House with an average of 15-30 calls per day. The crisis line phone number is 503-469-4580. Detailed information on each of the housing options available through DVRC is available [here](#). Flyers on Domestic Violence Awareness Month are available in both [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

Is there a DV Outreach team?

There is not a specific outreach team, however presentations are given throughout the community.

Are participants able to move to transitional housing after their stay at Monika’s House?

If survivors meet the transitional or permanent housing requirements, and most importantly, if there are openings, survivors are eligible to move into those programs.

If someone must leave Monika’s House, but there is not space available at one of those programs, do they need to be re-referred?

They do need to be referred and we work to identify safe options and the referral process long before they need to leave.

Is there any barriers to folks with legal history?

We do not run background checks to come into shelter.

Rachel Schutz, Family Justice Center, “Services Provided and How to Access them”

The Family Justice Center (FJC) of Washington County was founded through a community planning process in 2014 to provide resources to survivors in one location. The role of the center is to collaborate with 18 agencies dedicated to providing safety, healing, and hope to those impacted by violence and abuse. A history of abuse is required to receive services. Individuals choose which service providers to work with and what services they feel best fit their needs. The FJC provides a secure entry where they are greeted by a receptionist. They are provided a badge number for identification (allowing for anonymity) and the option to identify themselves at their own discretion. Other services provided include onsite childcare, safe computer access, kitchen and food pantry, clothing closet, hygiene items and showers. To obtain a restraining order on the same day, individuals must arrive at the FJC between 8:30am - 9:00am. The FJC does not assist with custody issues; however, bi-monthly family law clinics are available onsite to aid with custody paperwork on the first and third Friday of each month. The FJC also do not assist with court fees, small claims, DNA tests, obtaining photo ID, or changing birth certificate information; however, many of these services are provided through the Washington County Courthouse. They do provide guidance on how to have their cars checked for tracking devices through local body shops. Long term shelter assistance is provided through DVRC. Child support and paternity clinics will now be provided on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. The number of clients served has increased 300 percent between 2021 and 2022 in part due to COVID and with the increased awareness of the center. The FJC is located at 735 SW 158th Avenue, Beaverton, OR 97006, walk-in hours are 8:30am – 4:00pm and can be reached at 503-430-8300, www.fjwc.org. For more information or questions, contact Rachel Schutz at rachel@fjwc.org.

Monica Avila, Washington County Housing Services, “Changes to VAWA Regulations”

Monica presented on the housing provisions of the VAWA Reauthorization Act of 2022. The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) is a federal law established in 1994 that protects individuals who are survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking regardless of sex, sexual orientation, or gender identify. In March 2022 the VAWA Reauthorization Act included extended protections of who is covered under the VAWA Act. These amendments took effect on October 1, 2022 and HUD published notice to the Federal Register to reflect how they affect HUD programs. Changes to the VAWA regulations are outlined in the [presentation](#). For details regarding the changes to VAWA regulations visit [HUD](#).

II. MEETING MINUTES

Motion: Approve the September 6, 2023 meeting minutes

Action: San Juana Aguilar

Second: Rowie Taylor

Vote: Approved, consensus.

III. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Elise Laubach, Family Promise of Tualatin Valley, “Bridges to Home” Shelter Program

Family Promise of Tualatin Valley opened their doors in 2019 serving 3-5 families who rotated weekly to 13 sites in Washington County until the COVID pandemic when the program shifted to a hotel-based model. Family Promise-TV provides shelter, eviction prevention, and graduate services and has a success rate of 78% for those exiting the program to permanent housing. The number of families served has grown to 40 families with a projected 70 families being served by the end of 2024. This growth has led to the development of a new shelter program, “Bridges to Home,” through a partnership with Project Turnkey, Washington County, and the City of Tigard. This partnership led to the purchase of a former Quality Inn hotel. Referrals to the program come through Community Connect and McKinney-Vento liaisons within local school districts. Ten of the rooms are adjoining to accommodate larger families. Changes implemented within the new shelter program include serving adult-only households who are

medically fragile and seniors, low barrier, an initial response position, onsite food and clothing pantry, kitchen manager, and plans to co-locate mental health services. A variety of enrichment activities are available to residents to create a sense of community as well as dedicated meeting spaces. The community is actively involved in making and serving meals, assisting with grounds projects, providing enrichment support, and monthly drives and events for residents. Planned renovations for the shelter include a commercial kitchen, filling in the pool to create an outdoor space, creating age-appropriate community spaces on each floor, new laundry facilities, makeover the parking lot and landscape, and space for co-located services.

How many people are currently on the waitlist and what is the estimated wait time for placement at the shelter?

The waitlist for all Washington County shelters are maintained through Community Connect, the coordinated entry system, and is dependent on the length of stay of current residents, the type of permanent housing they qualify for and how quickly they can secure that housing. If someone calls their offices, a Community Connect assessment will be given to place them on the waitlist. They are also provided with other resources to assist them until space becomes available.

B. One Governance DRAFT Bylaws – Kim Marshall Gordon, Transition Advisory Group (TAG)

The TAG was convened to guide the transition to one homeless advisory body in Washington County (One Governance) and includes members from HSSN, CoC Board and HPAC. TAG members have provided project updates throughout the process and will review the draft Bylaws today. Recruitment for board positions on the new advisory body is expected to launch within the next few weeks with final adoption of the Bylaws and appointments to board positions by the Board of County Commissioners scheduled for December. The name temporarily being used for the advisory body, “Homeless Advisory Body (HAB)” will be replaced by the official name selected in early November. The new board is planned to be seated in January 2024.

The Bylaws define the structure, scope, and authority of the new governance structure. The HAB will be comprised of 9 to 15 members that will serve up to two, 3-year terms and include diverse geographic and expertise representation as well as a minimum of two people with lived experience. The County’s Boards and Commissions process will be used for recruitment. For the initial slate of nominees, individuals can submit an application for board positions and the list of candidates will be reviewed by the TAG and county staff, with final recommendations submitted to the Board of County Commissioners for appointment. Five (5) standing committees will be established where most of the work of the homeless system will be performed and include a Lived Experience Advisory Committee, Performance Evaluation Technical Sub-Committee, an Equitable Procurement Technical Sub-Committee, a Community Connect, Coordinated Entry Technical Sub-Committee, and HMIS Technical Sub-Committee. There will also be temporary workgroups convened as needs arise and membership convenings, to include the HSSN, Homeless Youth Forum, and other convenings as needed. This [presentation](#) and [One Governance Draft Bylaws](#) are available for review on the HSSN webpage.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Katherine announced the CoC Application for FY 2022 was submitted on September 26, 2023.
- Vara announced anyone needing the recording link for today’s meeting, should contact her. Also, a more detailed [domestic violence training](#) will take place at the Learning Community scheduled for next Wednesday, October 11, 2023; 10:00am - 12:00pm.
- Kim Marshall Gordon announced the PHC one-day event will take place on October 20, 2023.
- Elise Laubach announced Family Promise of Tualatin Valley is holding their annual fundraiser on October 14, 2023.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:03am.

Minutes prepared by Michelle Rubio.

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