



HOUSING and SUPPORTIVE SERVICE NETWORK

Providing a Continuum of Care for Vulnerable Populations in Washington County

Wednesday, December 1, 2021 - 8:30 to 10:00 a.m.

Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86437839959?pwd=UTYweFhuV0dEZ2hhVDUxUENBVU4xUT09>

Meeting ID: 864 3783 9959, Passcode: 384195; By phone dial (253)215-8782

AGENDA

I. INTRODUCTIONS: 8:30 a.m.

SURVEY: The HSSN Membership.

- Person with lived experience homelessness (PLEH) providing advocacy and/or volunteering to improve the homeless system of care.
- Person with lived experience homelessness (PLEH) employed by agency providing homeless services/housing supports.
- Person employed by agency providing housing and/or support services to include treatment, healthcare, DV, outreach, other wrap-around services.
- Person employed by agency providing services aligned with public institutions of care, e.g. Employment, Education, Criminal Justice, Foster Care, public resources/benefits to include SNAP, Social Security, VA Benefits.
- Citizen Volunteer/Advocate.
- Other to include elected official, funding organization/foundation, etc.

II. MEETING MINUTES: 8:32 a.m.

- **Action:** Approve the November 3, 2021 meeting minutes.

III. GUEST SPEAKERS: 8:35 a.m.

- Brandon Schrader, Oregon Department of Employment
Low-Income Employment and Housing Implications

IV. GENERAL BUSINESS: 9:05 a.m.

- Report on Winter Shelters and [Metro Supportive Housing Services Program](#) – Alex Devin
- CoC Sheltered and Unsheltered [2022 Point-In-Time Homeless Count](#) – Angela Mullins and Pat Rogers
- [FY2021 CoC Program Homeless Grant Application](#) was submitted on 11/9/2021 requesting \$4,400,262 to fund 263 units of housing and services – Annette Evans
- Cancellation of the [HSSN meeting](#) on January 5, 2022.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS: 9:50 a.m.

VI. ADJOURNMENT: 10:00 a.m.

Meeting Canceled: January 5, 2022 (Happy New Year!)

Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 2, 2022

Guest Speaker(s): Dario Hunter, Fair Housing Council of Oregon

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 Annette Evans, Homeless Program Manager, at 503-846-4760 or email Annette_Evans@co.washington.or.us

HOUSING AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES NETWORK
Providing a Continuum of Care (CoC) in Washington County
November 3, 2021, 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 or experiencing homeless.

ATTENDEES:

Aguilar, Maria—City of Beaverton
Alexander Sheridan, Allie—WC Health and Human Services
Angeles, Nic—Housing Independence
Bailey, Lisa—City of Beaverton
Beckman, Shana—Family Promise-Tualatin Valley
Bernard, Kathleen—Good Neighbor Center
Blasco, Martin—WC Cooperative Library Services
Boyd, Mancin—WorkSystems, Inc.
Brownell, Amy—Ecumenical Ministries
Burnett, Amanda—DVRC
Burnham, Jeff—New Narrative
Calvin, Mellani—ASSIST Program
Chavez, Guadalupe—Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Ctr
Coppiano, Zoi—Community Action Organization
Crouch, Alan--
Deters, Melia—Community Action Organization
Devin, Alex—WC Housing Services
Dunn, Candace—Project Homeless Connect
Dwyer, DaNene—Portland Community College
Elogbi, Safia—CPAH Oregon
Emrick, Hannah—Boys and Girls Aid
Espinoza-Cotero, Rocio—Hillsboro Public Library
Evans, Annette—WC Housing Services
Farr, Danielle—WC Health and Human Services
Fellger, Vara—WC Housing Services
Fields, Kaylie—Oregon DHS
Fletcher, Torey—Centro Cultural
Fox, Karen—City of Tualatin
Franco, Magali—OHSU-Tuality Alliance
Gonzalez, Ilse—Hillsboro SD/HEN
Gonzalez, Miguel—Open Door HousingWorks
Green, Vanessa—Easter Seals
Guajardo, Roumaldo—Mental Health Assoc. of Oregon
Hageman, Heidi—New Narrative
Hawkins, Ann—WC Office of Community Development
Heath, Kelsey—Metropolitan Public Defender
Holmes, Alli—WC Public Health
Kirchner, Brandon—Centro Cultural
Lamberger, Katie—Oregon DHS SSP
Legere, Josh—WC Public Health
Lloyd, Rhonda—The Salvation Army
Ludlam, Mandie—Community Housing Fund
Markus, Michelle—Mental Health Assoc. of Oregon
Martinez, Omar—City of Hillsboro
McCauley, Ryan—Boys & Girls Aid
Mendoza, Melissa—Community Action Organization
Mercer, Annette—Good Neighbor Center
Miller-Kennington, Laine—Community Action Organization
Montijo, Jennee—WC Health and Human Services
Moshkowsky, Melody—The Salvation Army
Mullins, Angela—WC Housing Services
Parrish, Erin—WC Health and Human Services
Penney, Darcie—DVRC
Perkowski, Kaja—Open Door Counseling Center
Pero, David—Forest Grove SD/HEN
Potter, Yvette—WC Disability, Aging & Veteran Services
Radke, Lydia—WC Community Corrections
Rogers, Patrick—Community Action Organization
Romero, Malu—New Narrative
Rostampour, Theresa—Boys and Girls Aid
Ruiz-Hom, Elise—Centro Cultural
Saldana, Austin—WC Housing Services
Schaeffer-Bisht, Blair—WorkSystems Inc.
Schimmel, Brian—Centro Cultural
Schwoeffermann, Ty—WC CAO//Housing Services
Sell, Wendy—LifeWorks NW
Smith, Gareth "Gary"—US Dept of Veteran Affairs
Smith, Mikaila—Providence
Sparks, Amber—HomePlate Youth Services
Stoller, Rick—Ecumenical Ministries
Swearingin, Nicole—New Narrative
Taylor, Alex—Community Action Organization
Taylor, Rowie—DVRC
Toevs, Jeremy—Open Door Counseling Center
Valencia Aguilar, Mari—WC Office of Community Dev.
Valfre, Val—West Tuality Habitat for Humanity
Waltshew, Ivy—Community Action Organization
Watson, Tireeka—Metropolitan Public Defender
Williams, Carrie—Community Action Organization
Williams, Stacy—WC Housing Services
Wilson, Alisa—Citizen At-Large
Youngs, Steven—Bridges to Change

Chair: Annette Evans, Public Agency Representative, annette_evans@co.washington.or.us
Co-Chair: Katherine Galian, Nonprofit Agency Representative, kgalian@caowash.org

I. WELCOME

Mental Health Wellness Moment observed.

II. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Motion: Approve October 6, 2021 meeting minutes.

Action: Val Valfre

Second: Rick Stoller

Vote: 74% Yay, 26% Abstain (Consensus)

III. GUEST SPEAKERS

Josh Legere, Washington County Housing Services and Alli Holmes, Washington County Health and Human Services, "[Homeless Encampment Management Program](#)."

Josh shared the Homeless Encampment Management Program is a one-year pilot project that started in August to respond to the rise of encampments. Beginning with unincorporated areas of the County, the goal is to create encampment management standards that could be implemented across all jurisdictions to ensure health and safety of the campers and surrounding communities and align with current CDC COVID-19 guidance as well as the Martin vs. Boise court ruling. All program elements incorporated trauma-informed care and harm reduction principles and included bi-weekly assessments of encampments and provision of sanitation and waste management to mitigate the effects to the area and provide harm reduction services to individuals housed at the encampments. The program includes participation of the Washington County Sheriff's Office HOPE Deputy and other county staff and regular communication with stakeholders and constituents. Josh reviewed the process by which the program operates which started with the receipt of an encampment report via the [web portal](#) followed by a field assessment conducted by a field assessment team and outreach providers. A risk assessment is completed at that time with a recommendation made based on the risk assessment score. Risk assessment scores of <50 include a recommendation for support with sanitation, hygiene and waste removal and regular re-assessment. Encampments receiving scores between 50 and 75 are provided a two-week grace period during which time staff would work with campers to address problematic areas identified during the assessment followed by a reassessment. Encampments with risk scores of >75 or >50 after a grace period, were recommended for cleaning (camper removal and the encampment cleaned). The program cannot prevent campers from returning after the encampment is cleaned, so monitoring and bi-weekly assessment would continue.

Alli Holmes reviewed the risk assessment and the weight applied to each criteria and noted several areas had been identified for improvement: (1) scores should be objective and observable (not subjective); (2) differences exist between encampments located in green spaces and those in urban settings which should be reflected in the assessment; (3) a need to isolate and remediate specific individuals who may be at the source of persistently high risk scores in lieu of closing down the camp for cleaning, and (4) the focus of the program was on healthy and safe conditions on publicly owned/managed property. An updated assessment has been developed incorporating feedback received from outreach providers and camper input which they hope to implement shortly. Josh shared, beyond assessment criteria, they continuously evaluate all aspects of the program and have looked at how other communities (within and outside of the 9th Circuit, Portland Metro area and other communities in Oregon) have approached camp management to make ensure they were aligned with the best practices. For more information or additional questions, contact Josh Legere at Josh_Legere@co.washington.or.us.

When the score is >75, or >50 after a grace period, and the camp is cleaned, is the county required to provide shelter options to comply with Martin v. Boise?

The court ruling requires that shelter options be provided if an encampment was being permanently closed. When an encampment is cleaned, it is only temporarily unavailable, not permanently closed.

Could you give some details on what the process of cleaning a camp looks like?

A 72-hour notice is posted of the impending cleaning and includes information about 30-day storage and retrieval of personal property. They give campers five days before the cleaning contractor comes out. Any remaining garbage left by campers is sorted for storage. The contractor works with remaining campers to pick up their areas and help them pack up. The program takes a very non-aggressive, trauma-informed approach, helping campers move out of the area as gently as possible. It may take longer to clean the area (2-3 days), but does not re-traumatize the campers being displaced.

What kind of aggressive tactics do other communities use when cleaning homeless encampments?

Tactics Josh has observed include coming out with law enforcement after a strict three-day notice period, moving people out as quickly as possible, aggressively sorting through things and either discarding or moving items into storage. The objective is to clean the site as quickly as possible, without regard for the campers who oftentimes were highly agitated and ultimately arrested during the process. The cleaning may have been completed in less time, but that approach can be very traumatic to the people living there.

How has the approach been received by campers when notified their encampment would be temporarily closed for cleaning?

It is never taken well by the people that are staying there. The County and local outreach try to take the approach that will be the least disruptive and cause the least amount of stress. Sanitation is extremely important; however, and if left unmanaged, can potentially be a deadly public health issue.

Are there referrals made to community resources for individuals that may have asked for additional support?

Ideally, the individuals are working with outreach who are coordinating referrals for services when requested. Generally, there are outreach workers assigned to each site.

Do campers have an option to remain in place during cleaning, instead of moving away to return later?

The program is new and to date has only cleaned three encampments. The option to allow people to remain may be something they can explore as they continue to improve the program, but is limited by the location of the camp.

IV. GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Winter Shelters and Metro Supportive Housing Services Program – Alex Devin

Alex reported winter shelters will officially open November 15 and will operate through March 15 with 187 beds available in five (5) locations. The agency web portal opened November 1 allowing outreach workers, case managers, housing navigators and discharge planners to prioritize clients for a shelter bed. To date, there were 81 households on the waitlist, with seven days remaining before the waitlist opened to the general public on November 10. Community members looking for winter shelter are directed to *Community Connect* where Community Action agents can start adding them to the waitlist. Annette committed to re-sending the provider flyer via the HSSN listserv.

Where are the shelters located?

The Cloverleaf in Hillsboro will provide 50 beds in a congregate setting (bunkbeds). Just Compassion will provide 30 beds in Beaverton and 20 beds in Tigard. Project Homeless Connect will be providing 38 motel rooms scattered across the county. Boys & Girls Aid will provide 5 shelter beds in Hillsboro. Family Promise of Tualatin Valley will have 22 motel rooms for families with children. Family Promise of Greater Washington County will provide 22 motel rooms for families with children in Beaverton. All congregate shelter

providers will have rapid COVID tests available on-site and the respite beds at EconoLodge will continue to be available for anyone needing to quarantine.

If participants get on the winter shelter waitlist, do they have to call in every week to stay on the list?

No, they just need to stay in touch with their case manager. *Community Connect* will let the case manager know when their participants have been paired with beds/units.

B. HOME-ARP Program (American Rescue Plan Act of 2021) Update – Ann Hawkins

The Washington County Consortium (includes joint entitlement cities of Beaverton, Hillsboro and Tigard) has been allocated \$6,101,728 from the American Rescue Plan Act. The hiring of additional staff for the management of the funds is in process. Ann expects to go before the HSSN membership for the community consultation at either the February or March 2022 meeting. For question or more information, contact Ann Hawkins at ann_hawkins@co.washington.or.us.

C. CoC Governance Policy to Add Culturally Specific Organization to Membership – Blair Schaeffer-Bisht, Lydia Radke and Vara Fellger

Lydia reported the subcommittee's goal was to ultimately have a CoC Board that was demographically representative of the community. A recruitment plan was drafted that included a proposal to promote for open board positions from within municipal leadership development organizations that train BIPOC community members, and add a board position, "Culturally Specific Organization." Vara reviewed the demographic survey questions that were developed as part of the recruitment plan and solicited comment. She noted the questions aligned with HUD's current data standards and Washington County's Boards and Commissions application. Upon review and discussion, a vote was taken. Additional questions or comments should be directed to cocinfo@co.washington.or.us.

Motion: Recommend the CoC Board amend the CoC Governance Policy to add Culturally Specific Organization Position to CoC Board Membership.

Action: Rosemary "Rowie" Taylor

Second: Mellani Calvin

Vote: 88% Yay, 4% Nay, 8% Abstain (Consensus)

D. FY2021 CoC Consolidated Application – Annette Evans

Annette reported Washington County has completed the final [FY2021 CoC Program Consolidated](#) grant application that includes the FY2021 CoC Consolidated Application, the FY2021 Project Priority Listing and the Project Applications requesting \$4,400,262 in new and renewal funding to provide 263 units of housing and services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness in Washington County. She shared the information was publicly posted for review and comment on October 25 with written comment to be received through 5 p.m. on 11/4/2021.

E. Subcommittee Reports

Children (Homeless Education Network (HEN)): David Pero dpero@fgsd.k12.or.us

Next Meeting: November 4, 2021 (virtual meeting)

David shared Dona Bolt had officially retired and Chris James named the new McKinney-Vento Program Coordinator at the State of Oregon. In addition to managing the liaison program, Chris will also be managing the American Rescue Plan - Homeless Children & Youth (ARP-HCY) program. There have been several changes within the HEN so the next meeting will provide an opportunity to meet the new people and learn of the new roles assigned. He was particularly interested to learn how the ARP-HCY I and II monies were being spent by school districts. The complete list of McKinney-Vento Liaisons for the entire State of Oregon is available [here](#).

Youth: Drew Williamson dwilliamson@boysandgirlsaid.org

Next Meeting: November 29, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

Annette Evans provided a report on behalf of Drew Williamson. The Transitional Age Youth (TAY) subcommittee will meet at the end of the month. Anyone interested in attending should contact Drew Williamson. The Safe Place Youth Shelter opens November 15. Any young adults ages 18 – 20 seeking winter shelter will need to be added to the shelter waitlist through *Community Connect* via Community Action Organization. The Monday evening drop-in services in Forest Grove provided by Ecumenical Ministries-Second Home and HomePlate continue weekly and available for youth and young adults needing assistance with shelter, housing, basic needs and education. For more information, contact Drew at dwilliamson@boysandgirlsaid.org or Celeste Goulding at cgoulding@emoregon.org.

Homeless Outreach: Pat Rogers progers@caowash.org

Next Meeting: October 7, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

Pat reported the subcommittee meets twice per month working collaboratively with Washington County, service providers, representatives from municipalities and law enforcement from Hillsboro, Beaverton, Tigard and Tualatin. The close coordination allows for almost real time location of homeless individuals/campers and provide timely outreach response. With the impending sale of the property at the end of the month, the “Carwash” encampment located at 874 Baseline Street is up against a deadline. The outreach team conducts a daily huddle to ensure as many campers as possible are engaged and willing to move to the winter shelter system or be on a pathway to a bridge shelter and doing what needs to be done to move the many RVs off the property (assist in repairs). Open Door Counseling Center and Project Homeless Connect are both engaged with the campers at the encampment; however, it is a complex situation with many issues. There are about 60 campers who have been identified and several others that don’t want to be known or identified. There are also individuals who may not be staying there but come and go throughout the day. Also, community members, with a desire to help, have been dropping off items and actually adding more trash to the area. A subcommittee has formed to begin planning the 2022 Point-In-Time (PIT) Count with an eye toward a regional count in 2023. Just like last year, the 2022 PIT Count will be conducted using a phone app with a simultaneous count planned in each municipality on the same day.

DD Dialogue: Gordon Teifel dearinc@me.com

No new report.

Seniors: Yvette Potter Yvette_potter@co.washington.or.us

No new report.

Veterans: Gary Smith gareth.smith@va.gov

Next Meeting: November 15, 2021 at 10:30 a.m. (Third Monday of the Month)

Gary reported the Veteran subcommittee continues to case conference veterans on the third Monday of the month. They have needed to be creative to find safe community resource options in some complex situations where seniors have not been a good fit for shelters. The Salvation Army Veteran and Family Center, with 58 beds, has openings. Single, homeless adult veterans share a room while families have their own. Screenings are held every Thursday at 9:30am. Veterans are required to be working on sobriety as part of the program. The center is finally fully staffed and moving forward in helping veterans take advantage of VASH vouchers.

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS): Angela Mullins

Angela_mullins@co.washington.or.us

Angela reported the HMIS system is growing with new providers and users added in response to the growing list of homeless resources and programs. Training on HUD’s

updated data standards occurred October 1. Data cleanup was proceeding as part of the move to a regional HMIS implementation (with Multnomah and Clackamas counties) with Joint Office of Homeless Services as HMIS Lead. Angela will be working closely with shelter and transitional housing programs during the 2022 PIT sheltered count to make sure data is clean and ready to be pulled for reporting. Community Action Organization and agency partners will be responsible for the data in the unsheltered count. She is encouraging HMIS agencies to review their data for accuracy and timely entry in preparation for System Performance Measurements (SPM) and Longitudinal System Analysis (LSA) reports that she will be submitting to HUD in January/February 2022.

HSSN CoC Board: Annette Evans Annette_evans@co.washington.or.us

Next Meeting: December 10 at 8:30 a.m.

Annette reported, the board met on October 8 to conduct ranking and rating of new and renewing project applications and approved submittal of the FY2021 CoC Consolidated Application pending public feedback through November 4. In lieu of a special meeting, the CoC Board was recently asked to provide comment and vote on a proposal to increase the income eligibility for CoC rapid rehousing programs from ≤30% MFI to ≤50% MFI. An email vote was held on November 2 to increase the income limit to 50%. Of the 19 board members, 17 voted for the increase and 2 board members did not vote. The change will go into effect as of today. At their December meeting, the CoC Board will be voting on the recommendation to expand the CoC Board membership to include a Culturally Specific Organization position.

Homeless Plan Advisory Committee (HPAC): Annette Evans

Annette_evans@co.washington.or.us

Next Meeting: January 20, 2022 2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

At their October 20 meeting, the HPAC received a presentation on Low-Income Employment and Housing Implications from Brandon Schrader, an Oregon Department of Employment Analyst. The committee also voted to recommend HPAC Bylaw amendments to expand their advisory role to include the SHS Program, increase their meeting frequency from quarterly to bi-monthly and to continue the work of the HPAC Workgroup indefinitely. The proposed HPAC Bylaw changes will be added to the Board of County Commissioners 1/18/2022 meeting docket for action to approve.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Candace Dunn announced Project Homeless Connect opened a day center in mid-October to provide food, laundry, showers, and case management. Located at 363 SE 6th Avenue in Hillsboro, it is open Monday – Friday 10:00am – 4pm. For more information contact Candace at (971) 713-3930.
- Mari Valencia Aguilar announced Washington County's Office of Community Development (OCD) hope to have a contract executed in about a month with Community Alliance of Tenants (CAT) to provide tenants' rights services for low income individuals in Washington County. OCD is also in discussion with the larger municipalities (Beaverton, Hillsboro, Tigard) to fund a full-time individual at CAT dedicated to providing tenants' rights provision and services for the county.
- Rocio Espinoza-Cotero announced Hillsboro Public Library has selected *Nomadland: Surviving America in the Twenty-First Century* by Jessica Bruder and *No Fixed Address* by Susin Nielsen as their final selection for the Hillsboro Reads Program to be held in March 2022.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:52 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Vara Fellger, Washington County Department of Housing Services

To be added to the HSSN email list, contact Annette Evans at Annette_Evans@co.washington.or.us