OR-506CoC Hillsboro/Beaverton/Washington County Continuum of Care (CoC) Board

Applicant Summary

Applicant: Bambi Grant

Organization: Washington County Parole and Probation

CoC Board Position: Community Corrections or Jail

Professional or lived experience in:

- Food Assistance
- Employment Services
- Transportation Assistance
- Mental Health Supports
- Affordable Housing

- Rent/Energy Assistance
- Training/Education
- Homelessness Services
- Legal Services

Bambi shared in her professional role as Probation and Parole, she is often asked if she can provide assistance in various areas. While working in Texas, Bambi created a resource booklet which provided all county resources broken into focus areas. It was easy to provide contact information and assist people with applying for services; especially if there were deadlines associated with the services. It's so helpful knowing what is available and how to access these resources.

Experience and willingness to serve on behalf of and advocate for people experiencing homelessness:

I work with sex offenders and believes it is a human being's right to have a roof over their headit may not be the best roof, but a roof. There is no designated homeless housing available for level 3 sex offenders in Washington County. It is difficult for an individual to work toward rehabilitate if they are worried about meeting their basic needs. There is also a population of individuals that are homeless with mental health concerns, with limited resources which becomes more complicated when add a sex offense background. Over many years working as a parole officer, I have encountered a number of homeless individuals, some who prefer living out of a tent instead of a being in a building, but they were still provided a space close to the shelter. The system in Texas included counselors, social workers, and mental health providers all located within reach. I seek the opportunity to participate on the CoC Board to support the work in developing a systemic response to preventing and ending homelessness, to include addressing the housing and service needs of sex offenders and other justice-involved people experiencing homelessness.