

Housing Opportunities Action Council

Governing Board

Minutes 01-24-2018

Board Members in Attendance: Biff Traber (co-chair), Anne Schuster (co-chair), Chris Quaka, Aleita Hass-Holcombe, Martha Lyon, Brigetta Olson (alt-Moorefield), Andrea Myhre, Jennifer Moore, Jennifer Morris (alt-Wilson), Bettina Schempf, Kari Whitacre, Chris Hawkins, Ann Craig, Lauren Schaffner (alt-Latimer), Kenny Lowe, Blake Pang, Shawn Collins (Program Manager)

Time	Type	Presenter	Topic / Notes
1:30 pm	Report	Co-Chairs and Program Manager	<p>Introductions Approve December Minutes Co-Chair Comments Program Manager report</p>
<p>Approval of December Minutes: Motion: Kari Whitacre, Second: Andrea Myhre. Approved</p> <p>Co-Chair Comments: No comments in the interest of time.</p> <p>Program Manager Report: Written comments were distributed, and are available online (http://bentonhoac.com/monthly-meetings/). Highlights:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shelter capacity increase in review with Corvallis Development Services and Fire Department (UPDATE: Permit amended to increase to occupancy of 50, January 25, 2018) - C.A.R.E. Corvallis Area Resource Event, scheduled for March 6th at the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library - Homeless Outreach Team in development, working to support unsheltered PIT count, and engage those experiencing homelessness who are camping in the area - Bylaws review: Recent discussion in HOAC Leadership Committee has highlighted the need for review of bylaws, and alignment of bylaws and current workgroup structure 			
1:40 pm	SMART Team update	Andrea Myhre, chair of SMART team	
<p>Workgroup Updates</p> <p>Housing Supply and Messaging, Brigetta Olson: Group has been reviewing policy priorities, and is supportive of Housing Task Force recommendations. Training for messaging and advocacy, funded through Meyer Memorial Trust grant, has begun. Train the trainer sessions were completed in December, and those who were trained (some from this workgroup) will be sharing the learning in other forums. Housing Opportunity Day is planned on Feb 15. Big focus of advocacy will be the proposed document recording fee increase, which would fund development of affordable housing. WNHS will be coordinating carpooling -- see their Facebook page (or the Benton HOAC Facebook page) for details and registration.</p>			

Suggestion: Traber: February 5, 6pm, City Council will be discussing voter approval of annexations. It's an open hearing to collect community input on this topic. May impact City approach to conclusion of lawsuit over voter approved annexations, and the manner in which annexations are managed going forward. Meeting will be at LaSells Stewart on OSU campus, in anticipation of a large turnout.

Comprehensive Care Coordination, Martha Lyon for Pegge McGuire and Letetia Wilson:

Recent meeting included demo of CHANCE Touch Tracking software and Service Point. Ronda Lindley-Bennett and Mike Blythe from RHIC/IHN-CCO are part of the workgroup, and had previously demonstrated their software. CSC is contracting with 211 to administer VI-SPDAT -- required as part of assessment/intake for clients. Data will go to CSC, who will enter in ServicePoint.

Other update: Homeless Vulnerable Patients meeting - CCO did analysis of data surrounding people in Shelters, showing frequency of use. Those without housing and supports cost the system more, due to ER visits, etc. Good information sharing, and exploration of different approaches to serve this population. Pointed out that there are multiple groups in the community focused on care coordination.

Question: Whitacre: Did data analyzed include COI? (Not clear from discussion)

Suggestion: Traber: Suggest a summit to pull together multiple groups and coordinate.

Mental and Behavioral Health, Bettina Schempf: Mental and Behavioral Health: Community meeting planned for April 9, 1-4, at the Western Center. Big project is getting clear on gaps in services and connecting folks to services. Part of the intent of the community meeting is to build a more comprehensive picture of capacity and gaps. Next workgroup meeting Feb 16, 3pm at Benton County Board of Commissioners meeting room.

1:50 pm	Funding Coordination Team update	Jim Moorefield, chair of Funding Coordination team	
No report			
1:55 pm	Care Coordination for Chronically Homeless: Update from pilot project at CDDC	Lucille Oeder, LPN and Jennifer Wilkens, RN, Samaritan Internal Medicine	
<p>Update on a pilot project which placed two care coordinators and a health navigator at the Corvallis Daytime Drop-In Center. (Copy of handouts available online: http://bentonhoac.com/monthly-meetings/) Project began Nov 2016, partnership between SHS Internal Medicine and Corvallis Daytime Drop-In Center. Bringing "medical home" to the patients OHP enrollment, screening, connections to PHP, housing and other service application assistance, medication verification</p>			

<p>Able to identify highest risk individuals Last year - after close of shelter, dramatic drop in visits Hoping to continue pilot on a long term basis</p>			
<p>2:15 pm</p>	<p>Update on Lane County's approaches to homelessness</p>	<p>Pat Farr, Lane County Commissioner, District 4, North Eugene</p>	
<p>(Copy of handouts available online: http://bentonhoac.com/monthly-meetings/)</p> <p>Significant poverty in county - 1 in 3 children eligible for food benefits Loss of timber revenue has had a dramatic impact on the economy</p> <p>Large county, with a large metro with 65% of population (Springfield/Eugene). Consolidation of services, and coordination of funding has been easier in that metro area.</p> <p>Benton Co is similar to Lane Co in the makeup of population density/services.</p> <p>Collaboration: In Lane Co, formed a Poverty and Homeless Board 5 years ago. Reports to Human Services Commission, which reports to Board of Commissioners. Board has senior electeds, head of United Way of Lane County, Executive Director for SquareOne Villages, and clients who have lived in subsidized housing, plus rep from state and a rural mayor.</p> <p>Poverty and Homeless Board is the Continuum of Care, and the Community Action Agency (CSC is the Community Action Agency in Benton County).</p> <p>The Poverty and Homeless Board meets once a month -- subcommittees also meet.</p> <p>Shelter and Supportive Housing Committee: Operation 365: House 365 homeless vets and their families in 1 year (Vets Day 2016-Vets Day 2017). By identifying a specific population, able to reach out to community and discuss specific issues that people could relate to.</p> <p>Held a summit of stakeholders and partners to identify paths to housing for this population. Partnerships with St Vinnies, ShelterCare, and other groups. Success: Made the goal, and have housed more since. Part of the success was having a single, focused agenda</p> <p>Food For Lane County: Focus on hungry kids. Easy to communicate and build on common shared values.</p> <p>Permanent shelter: Need to develop a clear, true narrative of what this means to have in neighborhood.</p>			

Operation 600: Create 600 Housing First units to address folks with active MH and substance abuse issues. We spend a lot in our communities on "Million \$ Murrays"

Adopting FUSE model (Frequent User System Enhancement) -- identify the highest users, and focus on how to address their needs, with an aim to stabilize them, and reduce their emergency encounters. By housing those in active addiction, it can provide enough stability to connect them to services.

50% reduction in ER visits, similar reduction in arrests.

With the data about effectiveness, it's been easier to build support and bring funding to the table.

Funded by Meyer Memorial Trust: \$56K, housed 16 people for a year.

Other initiatives:

Lane Co/Eugene: Warming Centers

Camping program -- year round program begun in 2001. Spreads campers out through entire metro, and allows screening of people who are in the campsites. Service delivery to the campsites. In 14 years, there's been 1 police call.

Winter response: MASH tents Nov-April. Cots in a MASH tent, adjacent to a facility with showers. Many clients work, go to school. About 200 per night. Administered by St Vincent DePaul

Stepping up Security, Sanitation for homeless campers is important.

Rest Stops: Residents can stay for 90+ days. Secure tent camping with tents on raised platforms and/or conestoga huts.

Nightingale: Conestoga Huts: Warm, safe place. <100 sft. Bed, no electricity

Opportunity Village: Hard walls, doors, no power/water. Shared kitchen/bath facilities.

Emerald Village: True "tiny houses" with bathrooms and kitchenettes.

Subsidized Housing

Home ownership

Having appropriate facilities, strong communication, and collaboration have been keys to success.

Questions:

Myhre: How does the Continuum of Care funding work?

\$3M in funding, distributed through a grant process. This leverages other grant funding.

Whitacre: Population of homeless in Lane Co?

3800 on any given night. Swells in summer due to travellers, but most homeless are local

Whitacre: How much does County/City contribute to Continuum of Care funding?

Eugene: \$1.5M, Springfield about 50%, Lane Co: \$1.4 M -- all sent through Human Services Commission

Hass-Holcombe: Winter Response – does this include families?

No - different program for family shelter.

Camping program?

Two programs: Vehicle, and campsites on county property that have to be cleared daily.
Sobriety (behavioral based)

Olson: How do you pay for supports and case management?

Building a new facility with 50 subsidized apartments and a floor for case management. Paid through medicaid reimbursements.

Quaka: How do you communicate about focusing on a specific population, when there are so many populations, and how does your community respond?

Coordinated through Strategic plan, and the Poverty and Homeless Board. It helps with coordination and minimizing competition among the non-profits. United Way is also an asset in coordinating this effort.

Lowe: How are you addressing "prevention" efforts to keep people from being homeless?

Federal \$ have been focused on chronic homeless, but it's cheaper to keep people in housing. Rent assistance, MH assistance in jail, options for cops to take people to "Hourglass" for MH screening and assignment to appropriate treatment, rather than jail.

No public comment sign-ups or request from audience