Balance of State Continuum of Care Steering Committee
February 1, 2017 10:00am-3:00pm

10:00-11:00 Introductions & Community Updates

Attendees:

Kathy Morgan – OlyCAP – Jefferson
Craig Kelly – Hopesource – Kittitas
Jenn Semanko – Hopesource – Kittitas
Catherine Reid – Island County
Jenell DeMetteo – Kitsap Community Resources
Emily Nolan – Corporation for Supportive Housing (Veterans TA)
Theresa Slusher – DSHS ESA OAS
Ricky Holmes – CCAP – Pacific
Tammie Smith – HA Thurston County
Michaelle Sorio – Lewis County
Schelli Slaughter – Family Support Center – Thurston
Lori Call – Washington Gorge Action Programs – Klickitat/Skamania
John Epler – Consultant to BoS
Joe Ingram – BoS Chair
Nick Mondau – Commerce
Barbara Johnson-Vinna – Whatcom County
Steffanie Bonwell – Grant County
Elizabeth Guerra – Blue Mountain Action Council – Walla Walla
Susana Angel-Sanchez – Coastal CAP
Tedd Kelleher - Commerce
Ian Kinder-Pyle - Commerce

Kathy Morgan, Jefferson OlyCAP- Working on housing levy, on the ballot by November.
Estimated revenue $1.3 Million/year

Craig Kelly & Jenn Semanko, Hopesource Kittitas- PIT count, Grant county has some housing but only SSVF is present. Cold Weather shelter has 50% increase in utilization due to weather. Less than 1% vacancy rate in Kittitas. Cold weather shelter has been open 3 years, run by 7 churches- Nov 1-March 1 generally.

Catherine Reid, Department of Human Services Island County- Cold weather shelter, southern part of Whidbey Island, required forecasted temperature below 35 degrees, 49 nights open so far, average of 5 people/night. Majority of homeless population lives in the north of Whidbey-additional barrier to using cold weather shelter. PIT count. Affordable housing task force has been formed with County commissioners and mayors. Will provide recommendations for elected officials to act on. More visible homeless population.

Jenelle DeMatteo, Kitsap Community Resources Kitsap- CE about 50 people seen a day. More winter shelters (5). Project connect-50 high users being served.
Theresa Slusher, DSHS-Reviewing HMIS Data looking for a correlation between being sanctioned or timed off of TANF and a family’s likelihood of becoming homeless. 100 Day Challenges will be presented at National Conferences on Youth and Family Homelessness.

Schelli Slaughter, Family Support Center Thurston-lots of individuals sleeping in cars, 300 unsheltered in downtown between Warming Shelter and the cold weather shelter. Concerns around how the local government is funding. Tension between serving the most vulnerable and not. Rapid rehousing is present but finding units for the most vulnerable is difficult. Bonus project is exciting.

Tammie Smith, HA of Thurston- CoC to create capital pipeline. Negative progress in returns to homelessness measure (which is a positive) in County Report Card.

Michaelle Sorlie, Lewis County Public Health and Social Services- Cold weather shelters are present. PIT count project homeless connect. New housing for veterans.

Emily Nolan Vets@home

Ricky Holmes, Pacific County-New CoC Program awarded funding in 2015 competition, HEN, 25% of funding from faith based community. Landlord liaison is present.

Lori Call, Washington Gorge Action Programs (WGAP)-Skamania-Klickitat- PIT count-all offices hired homeless individuals, large count of Native American population. Klickitat County is giving an apartment complex to WGAP.

Barbara Johnson-Vinna, Opportunity Council-Whatcom- PIT count, add more sites next year, increase volunteer recruitment. CE recruitment. Lighthouse is independently funded but opted into CE. Trying to increase funding to hire new in house facilitators to promote/implement housing first models. Increase in opiate use. Landlord liaison position at Opportunity Council. Medicaid funding for clinical services.

Liz Guerra, BMAC-Walla Walla, Affordable housing levy, worse affordable housing need in state. Winter weather challenges, cold weather shelter. Tourism industry and college town nature present unique challenges.

Steffanie Bonwell-Grant County- Warming Center, increase in unsheltered persons

11:00-11:45 Committee Updates

Theresa Slusher, FWC- training on how to offer employment services, related to having exits from homelessness.

Joe Ingram, Youth- There is a lack of inventory for homeless youth. Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project application was rejected. Seattle/King County received grant. Disappointing outcome, but lots of counties took part and produced some great work. We’ll build off of this momentum. Youth Advisory Board was created.
Joe Ingram, Veterans - Emily Nolan, Vets@Home initiative. Overview of current effort to house Veterans experiencing homelessness, detailing of upcoming by name list efforts.

11:45-12:15 Legislative Updates - Tedd Kelleher

Rep Macri Bill- removes sunset from document recording, increases from $45-$98

Senator Fain Bill- mostly the same but does not increase the document recording fee. If there is not an adequate amount of housing, rent increases, review the Growth Management Act which is 25 years old.

Senator Miloscia Bill- No increase of fee, no land use fee, changes definition of gravely disabled to include opiate addiction, removes OHY's jurisdiction of individuals over 18, providers do daily counting of beds, criminalize homelessness if there are beds available as per daily counting.

Senator Angel- Performance audit recommendations will become legal.

Bill to allow unaccompanied minors to provide written informed consent for themselves (currently can’t do it). Opt-out rather opt-in to HMIS is the preferred model. DV discussion surrounding privacy opt-in and opt-out system.

12:15-1:00 Lunch

1:00-1:30 Ad Hoc Governance & Data Committees

Ad Hoc Committees will be meeting over the next three months to give recommendations to Steering Committee at next meeting.

Data Committee- Last two years of APR data is used to determine performance for each individual project compared to other projects within the CoC. Metrics have included bed utilization rate, grant utilization, exits to permanent housing destinations and change in income among others. Ad Hoc Data Committee will review process and develop recommendations to be brought to the Steering Committee.

Data Committee Members to include:
- Katie Sly
- Kathy Morgan
- Michaeille Sorlie
- Theresa Slusher
- Joe Ingram
- Lori Call
- Nick Mondau

Governance Committee- review the policies and procedures documents for the CoC, the committee will modernize and update the governance of the CoC and provide recommendations to the Steering Committee.

Governance Committee Members to include:
Two projects have been lost due to administration issues in the last few years. As a result, the CoC will be implementing procedures to mitigate and prevent the chances of these occurrences by notifying other grantees and other entities in a position to provide TA.

1:30-2:00 CoC NOFA - John Epler, CoC Consultant

8 prospective bonus projects, 2 bonus projects were submitted to HUD, 1 bonus project was funded. 4 reallocations from TH to PSH/RRH. 1 Reallocation projects was not funded by HUD. Exact reasoning for the loss of funding is unclear but we should have additional information soon.

What are the priorities that the CoC should set? CH? PSH or RRH? Youth? Veterans? Subpopulation committees will discuss and make recommendations to the Planning Committee.

2:00-2:30 State of the Balance of State: Performance Data

Review of the NOFA debriefing and score. WA-501 scored 162.25 points out of 200 possible, about 8 points above the median score for all CoCs at 154.5. John and others speculated that it appears that HUD has taken an all or nothing approach related to increase or decrease in PIT count, homeless veterans, RRH beds and other categories.

The Housing Inventory Count (HIC) is critically important for our NOFA performance.

Draft State Plan will be sent out; Subpopulation committees will discuss and recommend priorities for the CoC NOFA.

2:30-3:00 Chair Elections

Nomination of Joe Ingram (West) and Phoebe Nelson (East) as Co-Chairs of the BoS CoC by Kathy Morgan. Seconded by Michaelle Sorlie. Following a unanimous vote, Joe Ingram and Phoebe Nelson were reelected as co-chairs as the BoS CoC at 2:35 PM.

3:00 Adjourn