

**MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 18, 2019**

**MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY HOMELESS ALLIANCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**

**MWVCOG Conference Room  
100 High Street SE, Suite 200  
Salem, Oregon**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

**CHAIR:** Mayor Cathy Clark, City of Keizer  
**VICE CHAIR:** Councilor Chris Hoy, City of Salem  
Dan Clem, Executive Director, Union Gospel Mission of Salem  
Rhonda Wolf, Deputy Director, United Way of the Mid-Willamette Valley  
Julie Conn-Johnson for Christy Perry, Superintendent, Salem-Keizer School District  
Jimmy Jones, Executive Director, Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency (MWVCAA)  
Tom Pessemier, City Manager, City of Independence  
Mayor Chuck Bennett, City of Salem

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Tribal Councilor Jon George, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde  
Commissioner Lyle Mordhorst, Polk County  
Commissioner Colm Willis, Marion County  
Chad Olsen, Interim City Manager, City of Monmouth

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Jan Calvin, MWVHA Consultant  
Janet Carlson, MWVHA Consultant  
Sean O'Day, Executive Director, MWVCOG  
Denise VanDyke, Admin. Specialist II, MWVCOG  
Sarah Owens  
Michael Livingston  
Lisa Trauernicht, Senior Policy Analyst, Marion County  
Kristin Retherford, Urban Development Director, City of Salem  
Carla Munns  
Tricia Ratliff, The Challenge to End Youth Homelessness

**CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS**

Mayor Clark called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. The presence of a quorum was noted. Introductions were made around the room for the benefit of new members and guests. Ms. Carlson introduced Carla Munns. The plan is to contract with Carla in January to assist with the Mid-Willamette Valley Homeless Alliance Continuum of Care development.

**CALL TO APPROVE AGENDA**

The agenda was approved by consensus.

**CALL TO APPROVE MINUTES**

**MOTION:** By Mr. Clem, **SECONDED** by Councilor Hoy, to **APPROVE THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 24, 2019, AS PRESENTED.**

Motion carried.

**IN FAVOR:** Clark, Hoy, Clem, Wolf, Conn-Johnson, Pessemier, Bennett. **OPPOSED:** None.

**ABSTAINED:** None.

## **JURISDICTION/ORGANIZATION UPDATES**

Mr. Pessemier stated that there are more homeless living in cars this season. There will be a warming shelter rotating among Monmouth, Independence, and Dallas this year, which will be run by Polk County.

Ms. Conn-Johnson reported that there has been an uptick this year in the number of homeless students. There are 120 more students experiencing homelessness than last year at this time. This may be partly due to the district being better at identifying the homeless students, and getting the information out about services that are available.

Mayor Clark said that the giving basket and giving trees are up and running. The Gubser Miracle of Christmas will soon be underway. This is the neighborhood that has a tour of light displays for three weeks. The event averages about \$30,000 and 30,000 pounds of food each year. This is a major boon for Marion-Polk Food Share. The City of Keizer has “no trespass” forms on file for most businesses, so the police can make contact and get people to needed services without waiting for a property owner complaint. Work is underway to convert the zoning on all commercial properties to mixed use.

Councilor Hoy reported on the Redwood Crossings project. This will include affordable housing units and transitional respite units. Yaquina Hall will have 92 affordable housing units and 20 permanent supportive housing units. However, the Yaquina Hall project is waiting for the State of Oregon to subdivide the property so the city can finalize the purchase.

Mr. Clem said that the men’s mission is under construction, and should be done and open in about 15 months. He gave a ‘shout out’ to Cherriots for providing transportation to shelters, and to Food Share for providing fresh food – especially produce – to the Mission.

Mr. Jones stated that there will be warming shelters in four locations in Salem, some will be rotating between sites, however. Warming shelters will activate when there is a forecast of 32° or lower. This year, information from the warming shelters will go into HMIS.

Ms. Wolf mentioned a fairly new partnership with Inside Out Ministries for a new shelter for women and children called SafeSleep. They hope to have a lease agreement tomorrow. The new shelter will start with 10-20 beds, and the hope is to expand to 50 beds within 90 days. The building is off 19<sup>th</sup> and Front streets.

Mayor Clark expressed her appreciation for the sharing of information with the jurisdictional reports, as they encourage everyone to continue the work serving people.

## **CONTINUUM OF CARE**

Ms. Carlson stated that she is working on the application to HUD, which is due by December 31, 2019. She used a PowerPoint presentation to accompany her report. The application will consist of a narrative and Appendices A-I, which will include jurisdiction resolutions, letters of support from provider agencies, as well as documentation of the Development Council vote from the September meeting. A Stakeholder vote will be held at the forum meeting on December 5<sup>th</sup>. Other appendices include documentation of communication with ROCC declaring the intent to separate, the Governance Charter approved at the October meeting, and evidence of establishing a coordinated entry system.

Mr. Jones reported that almost exactly three years ago, in October 2016, the Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency began to form a coordinated entry program for the Marion-Polk county portion of ROCC. Since then, more than 7,000 individuals have been assessed, with more than 100 data points for each person. The VI-SPDAT average is 9, while the national average is about 7.5 on the

vulnerability scale. The former method of serving people on a first come, first served basis was ineffective, as it self-selects low risk individuals. The Built for Zero program will refine wait list management and case conferencing, which is to be used throughout the system. Ms. Carlson added that a Kaiser Permanente representative will be at the stakeholder meeting to introduce them to the Built for Zero program. Mr. Jones continued: The Center for Hope and Safety is beginning to use a tailored coordinated entry system, specifically for use with their domestic violence clients. Coordinated entry is required by HUD to receive funding, and helps use funds in the smartest possible way.

The Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments' Board of Directors, at its November meeting, approved serving as the Collaborative Applicant. However, the approval was contingent that, if successful, the Alliance will form an ORS 190 entity to form the CoC.

A new item has been added to the required application items – a list of projects to be funded. Ms. Carlson referred to a table of proposed programs. The first four lines included projects recommended by the ROCC. The last three lines were “continuum-wide projects” that are being split between MWVHA and the ROCC. The November meeting with the ROCC to negotiate the separation went really well. MWVHA will be leaving with about 30% of the total for the continuum-wide projects. The grand total of the list will form the floor from which everything will be calculated in the future.

**MOTION:** By Mayor Bennett, **SECONDED** by Mr. Clem, to **RATIFY THE NEGOTIATED AMOUNTS FOR CONTINUUM-WIDE GRANTS AND AUTHORIZE THE CHAIR TO SIGN A COVER LETTER TO SUBMIT WITH THE HUD APPLICATION TO REQUEST CONTINUUM OF CARE STATUS.**

Motion carried.

**IN FAVOR:** Clark, Hoy, Clem, Wolf, Conn-Johnson, Pessemier, Bennett, Jones. **OPPOSED:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

### **THE CHALLENGE TO END YOUTH HOMELESSNESS**

Ms. Ratliff gave an overview of the 100 Day Challenge, which has been continued in the work of the Challenge to End Youth Homelessness. Through their work up to this point, 87 youth have been either reunified with their families or assisted into stable housing, an “immediate needs” cache was created that is accessible by police or by contacting a hotline, a youth shelter has been created, street outreach made contact with 49 youth in 100 days in a concerted effort to maximize efforts and make consistent service referrals, and a youth council has been formed to advise and drive changes in the systems that serve youth. The program works with 12-22 year old individuals.

New goals, moving forward, include: developing a coordinated entry system that works for youth and can integrate into the adult coordinated entry system; expanding outreach to better engage youth experiencing or at risk of homelessness; establishing a Host Homes program that would organize and make safe couch surfing, but would not be foster care; improving local youth data; and advocating for the use of and funding for evidence-based best practices addressing youth homelessness. The Host Homes program is about 90% ready to go, and the State Department of Education is very supportive. Staff funding is being sought to base the program in Keizer, and an aim of the program would be to allow youth to gain rental history, which would make it easier for them to find stable housing when they can afford it.

**MOTION:** By Mayor Bennett, **SECONDED** by Ms. Wolf, to **ENDORSE THE WORK OF THE CHALLENGE TO END YOUTH HOMELESSNESS AND APPROVE REVISIONS TO THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.**

**Discussion:** After discussion, Mr. Pessemier made a friendly amendment to ensure the definition of parties are accurate and appropriate. Mayor Bennett and Ms. Wolf accepted the amendment to the motion.

Motion carried.

**IN FAVOR:** Clark, Hoy, Clem, Wolf, Conn-Johnson, Pessemier, Bennett, Jones. **OPPOSED:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

### **CoC STAFFING CONTRACT AMENDMENTS**

Mr. O'Day provided a handout showing the MWVHA budget as it pertains to staffing. The contract amendments would move Jan Calvin and Janet Carlson to fixed rate contracts, which will help with budgeting. There is also an increase in Ms. Calvin's contract of \$12,000 to reflect the additional workload in developing the Continuum of Care.

**MOTION:** By Councilor Hoy, **SECONDED** by Mr. Clem, to **AUTHORIZE SEAN O'DAY TO SIGN THE CONTRACT AMENDMENTS WITH JAN CALVIN AND JANET CARLSON, AS PRESENTED.**

**Discussion:** The amendments were discussed, and displayed on screen for the benefit of the Council members. Mayor Clark instructed Ms. Carlson to track her hours and bill her time fully, and come back if she find she is exceeding the contracted number of hours on a regular basis.

Motion carried.

**IN FAVOR:** Clark, Hoy, Clem, Wolf, Conn-Johnson, Pessemier, Bennett, Jones. **OPPOSED:** None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

### **FOUNDATIONAL WORK**

Ms. Carlson gave a high-level overview of the key documents and early work of the Mid-Willamette Homeless Initiative, including the strategic plan, work plan, Resource and Service Inventory Map, and Money Map. The strategic plan will serve as a starting point for the CoC strategic plan, and a lot of progress has already been made on the objectives of the original plan.

Ms. Munns mentioned that a large regional group met to assess healthcare in Marion and Polk counties. Their number one topic was housing. The Alliance can and should align with what CCO and healthcare services will be doing as of January 1<sup>st</sup> – developing a community health plan. This is a good time to update the strategic plan.

Ms. Carlson continued the overview. Copies of the work plan and other key documents were handed out for reference. Many items in the work plan have been completed. In the resource map, which is a point-in-time type of snapshot, 550 services were mapped. One of the findings was that there was no hub to provide coordination between the various service providers, which led to the jurisdictions exploring whether to create a new Continuum of Care for Marion and Polk counties.

A money map, which is based on a model that was originally created by Salt Lake County, is included in the agenda packet. The mayor of Salt Lake County required service providers to align their goals and tracked the funds going in. The updated MWHI Money Map, done in 2017-18, shows that more than \$107 million were invested in the Marion and Polk county region. This should be updated periodically.

A list of metrics aligned with the strategic plan goal was included in the agenda packet. These metrics will be fundamental for developing a community report card.

Councilor Hoy stated that this is a good foundation to build on and update. Mayor Clark added that this will provide a good way to inform the community, partners, and eventual successors about the work of this group.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

The meeting dates through April 2020 will be sent out to the Development Council members as appointment invites by staff.

Ms. Carlson will send a draft of the ORS 190 agreement as soon as it is ready. Please review it and send comments or proposed changes to Ms. Carlson.

Kaiser Permanente will be sending a press release soon for the Built for Zero program. Please include it in your local newsletters, social media, or other appropriate media.

Ms. Calvin will be sending out the MWVHA newsletter soon.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Hearing no further business, Chair Clark adjourned the meeting at 4:45 p.m.

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Janet Carlson, MWVHA Consultant