

## MINUTES OF MAY 14, 2020

### MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY HOMELESS ALLIANCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS Zoom Meeting/Conference Call

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

**CHAIR:** Mayor Cathy Clark, City of Keizer

**VICE CHAIR:** Council President Chris Hoy, City of Salem

Christy Perry, Superintendent, Salem-Keizer School District (SKSD)

Jimmy Jones, Executive Director, Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency (MWVCAA)

Tribal Councilwoman Lisa Leno, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde

Commissioner Mike Ainsworth for Commissioner Lyle Mordhorst, Polk County

Josh Lair, Navigator, Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD)

Dan Clem, Executive Director, Union Gospel Mission of Salem

Ian Dixon-McDonald, Co-Chair, MWVHA Collaborative Committee

Leilani Slama, Vice President, Community Engagement, Salem Health

Nicole Utz, Housing Administrator, Salem Housing Authority

Suzanne Dufner for Chad Olsen, Interim City Manager, City of Monmouth

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Commissioner Colm Willis, Marion County

Rhonda Wolf, CEO, United Way of the Mid-Willamette Valley

Tom Pessemier, City Manager, City of Independence

Christian Ebelblute, Executive Director, West Valley Housing Authority

Eric Enderle, Veteran Services Officer, Polk County Veteran Services

Mayor Chuck Bennett, City of Salem

Kim Parker-Llerenas, Co-Chair, MWVHA Collaborative Committee

Candace Jamison, Executive Director, Marion County Housing Authority

#### **OTHERS PRESENT**

Jan Calvin, MWVHA Consultant

Janet Carlson, MWVHA Consultant

Carla Munns, MWVHA Consultant

Renata Wakeley, Acting Executive Director, MWVCOG

Denise VanDyke Admin. Specialist II, MWVCOG

Julie Conn-Johnson, McKinney-Vento Liaison, Salem-Keizer School District

Sarah Owens, CANDO

Michael Livingston, CANDO

Robin Winkle, Homeless Services and Facilities Director, Shangri-La

Jayne Downing, Executive Director, Center for Hope and Safety

Tara Stephen, Housing Supervisor, Center for Hope and Safety

Kim Carbaugh, Continuum of Care Coordinator, Center for Hope and Safety

#### **CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS**

Mayor Clark called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m. Roll call was taken and the presence of a quorum was noted.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION:** By Councilor Hoy, **SECONDED** by Commissioner Ainsworth, to **APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA, AS PRESENTED.**

- **AGENDA APPROVAL**
- **MARCH 12, 2020 MINUTES**

- **FINANCIAL REPORTS**
- **COMMITTEE ROSTER UPDATES**
- **COMMITTEE CHARTERS**
- **DESIGNATION OF MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY TO RECEIVE STATE EMERGENCY BOARD DOLLARS FOR SAFE SHELTER ALTERNATIVES AND RENTAL ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS RELATED TO COVID-19**
- **STAFF REPORTS**

Motion carried.

**IN FAVOR:** Clark, Hoy, Lair, Ainsworth, Perry, Slama, Leno, Dufner. **OPPOSED:** None.

**ABSTAINED:** None.

### **JURISDICTION/ORGANIZATION UPDATES**

Ms. Conn-Johnson reported that the Salem-Keizer School District is moving forward with its program to identify and conduct outreach to homeless and at-risk youth through the end of June. The program is currently serving just under 1,200 students. Most students have connectivity for schoolwork.

Mr. Dixon-McDonald stated that Marion-Polk Food Share has been busy. There is a new source of supplies through a federal program from local companies. Products available include fresh produce, meat, and dairy. A new program is being developed to work with various partners, including a partnership with the Salem-Keizer School District, for distributing large quantities to the community. Distribution will double in the next year. All are refrigerated goods, so refrigerated trucks are a necessity.

Mr. Jones said that MWVCAA received about \$800,000 from the Emergency Board for rental assistance for people in danger of eviction from lost income due to COVID-19.

Tribal Chairwoman Leno reported that the Grand Ronde Tribe has had no positive COVID-19 cases and continues to provide services to its membership. The tribe is looking to begin opening up facilities using a phased approach starting May 18. There is no opening date yet for the casino. The tribe is being creative in how it reaches out to its members.

Commissioner Ainsworth stated that Polk County is disappointed that it is not allowed to begin opening at this time. However, this was not completely unexpected, as hospital cases are increasing. This will be an ongoing discussion. People need to be smart, safe, and patient. Take things one day at a time.

Ms. Perry said that Ms. Conn-Johnson covered things well. The school district is serving up to 20,000 meals per day. The district is worried about the kids, but has the right teachers doing the right work. The virtual connections are working okay.

Ms. Slama reported that COVID-19 hospitalizations continue to decrease. Currently, the hospital is at about 25 percent of the April 6 peak. Work has begun to reschedule elective surgeries. The hospital has plenty of capacity.

Councilor Hoy announced that the City of Salem Budget Committee passed the budget, which now goes to City Council for review. Funds were restored for the Homeless Rental Assistance Program (HRAP) and funding for a navigation center was included.

Mayor Clark added that the Keizer Budget Committee also passed Keizer's budget with funding for MWVHA.

Ms. Utz stated that Salem Housing Authority has an additional 25 individuals housed with assistance from ARCHES, and it has added clients for the housing assistance program. The programs are still operating while housing authority offices are closed to the public. Placements are continuing through HRAP and more landlords have been added to the program. A ton of education regarding COVID-19 has been done, masks and PPE have been provided, and a basic needs supply phone line was set up for clients.

Mr. Clem reported that UGM is taking intakes, testing people before allowing them to come in. UGM facilities are open at about half capacity. Thermometers are needed to allow clients to come and go. UGM is working in partnership with Northwest Human Services. Construction of the new shelter facility is ongoing and is ahead of schedule and under budget. He is looking forward to giving tours of the new construction, which will be done in small groups with PPE. He also gave a shout out to the Performance and Evaluation Committee for its work and to Michael Livingston for his great presentation.

Ms. Dufner announced that Chad Olsen will be staying on as interim City Manager for Monmouth. The first round of recruiting did not result in a hire, so the recruitment is currently on hold. Mr. Olsen will be working part time, and Ms. Dufner will be helping with some of the responsibilities.

Mayor Clark thanked everyone for their good work.

### **SYSTEM PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

Mr. Livingston gave a brief, high-level overview of how the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) will be measuring Continuum of Care (CoC) performance. He referred to the performance measures brief that was distributed prior to the meeting, and he screen-shared the document for those participating in the video conference. Mr. Livingston explained what a CoC is and generally how the performance measures can affect the CoC. There are seven performance measures, which are outcome focused. Measure 6 may or may not be applicable to this CoC, as it applies only to a CoC that has specifically been authorized by HUD to work with clients who do not fit other categories but are housing unstable. All of the measures, together, reflect the quality of data and the overall effectiveness of the programs. He encouraged the board members to keep this list for future reference. Data will be used by HUD for determination of funding awards and for self-evaluation by the CoC. The measures apply to all programs, whether they are applying for HUD funding or not. Links in the briefing document go to primary sources for this report. Continuum-wide use of the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is essential to have the best data possible, and there is a minimum level of participation in HMIS for HUD to consider our data complete. He recommended that the Strategic Plan include a section about developing the CoC in relation to these measures.

Ms. Carlson asked for examples of strategies needed to develop the Continuum of Care. Mr. Livingston used the example of having continuum-wide use of HMIS. He suggested that contracts with organizations providing services funded through the City of Salem, for example, with HUD funds, city general funds, or Community Development Block Grant could be required to use HMIS and/or conduct Coordinated Entry. Or in the grant review process, those organizations using HMIS or conducting Coordinated Entry could receive a weighted score. Ms. Munns reported that the Coordinated Entry Committee and HMIS Users Group met jointly recently to coordinate an action plan for universal use of HMIS and Coordinated Entry.

### **STRATEGIC PLANNING**

Ms. Calvin segued into the Strategic Planning report. The full Strategic Plan will be a robust document that builds on the Mid-Willamette Homeless Initiative's Strategic Plan. The Collaborative Committee began the discussion, and feedback is being gathered via a SurveyMonkey survey. The proposed plan will be brought to the June board meeting for approval. Ms. Calvin reviewed the draft logic model via screenshare (also provided prior to the meeting). Changes are shown in redline. The needs are data driven with the latest information. She explained each column of the logic model. May 15 is the last day to provide input via SurveyMonkey. Ms. Carlson thanked Ms. Calvin for her work. The plan has been taken

to the next level. Mayor Clark asked that any comments be sent to Ms. Calvin.

### **PRESENTATION: SHANGRI-LA**

Ms. Winkle gave a presentation via screenshare (provided prior to the meeting) about permanent supportive housing provided at Shangri-La. She attended the recent Performance and Evaluation Committee meeting, and she was glad to hear the information presented. Shangri-La had, at one time, expanded its permanent supportive housing to include Lincoln and Linn counties, but there is only one property on the books in Lincoln County now. That family will be moved to another program as soon as it receives its Section 8 housing assistance. For the Shangri-La program, only one member of the household needs to be designated as having a disability. The program can help with almost anything that helps the client(s) be successful. There are two grant programs available that are funded through the Continuum of Care. SHAP-0 has been increased from \$150,000. SHAP-1.2 (aka SHAP-3) is a combination of the original SHAP-1 and SHAP-2, and started with a combined \$122,000. Statistics for the Shangri-La programs were shared. Ms. Winkle reviewed the impact section of the presentation. Among the important findings was that when people have the supplies they need, their self-confidence grows, and they can make better changes for themselves.

Mayor Clark asked how Shangri-La staff is able to comfort and explain things to clients in this scary time. Ms. Winkle said that clients are contacted by phone or can meet with staff in person at a safe distance. Food and supply drops are done, and staff is in contact with clients as consistently as needed by whatever means works best for that individual – phone, Facetime, or in person.

### **PRESENTATION: CENTER FOR HOPE AND SAFETY**

Jayne Downing introduced Kim Carbaugh who provided an overview via screenshare about the rapid rehousing program at the Center for Hope and Safety. A handout was provided prior to the meeting. The rapid rehousing program is run in connection with ARCHES. There are different standards of data for domestic violence programs, and the Center for Hope and Safety program uses different HUD-approved software for confidentiality reasons. The program currently has \$180,000 in Continuum of Care funding, and new grants are coming. In 2021, the program should be able to add 15 households. The domestic violence rapid rehousing program is adding trained staff. Ms. Carbaugh shared two success stories of households that were housed during the COVID-19 crisis.

Mayor Clark added that she is hearing from the police department that domestic violence calls have increased, possibly because of the additional situational stress. Ms. Downing asked that the members let folks know that the Center for Hope and Safety is open 24/7 to help, even now. The center is super busy in four different counties, and it will do everything possible because people may have no other options. The team is doing an amazing job removing barriers for clients.

Mayor Clark praised the center's caregiving for caregivers, which is vital. Ms. Downing explained that, in addition to the training up front regarding self-care and secondary trauma for staff and volunteers, there are regular check-ins. She is trying to find ways to include fun; i.e., Zoom bingo. Also, there is an employee assistance program. She is glad to share ideas with others.

Ms. Carlson thanked the presenters. It is important to know what permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing are, especially before we go into the funding application process. She proposed that the Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency (MWVCAA) present next month.

Program websites for more information:  
Hopeandsafety.org  
ShangriLaoregon.org

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

The next board meeting will be June 11. The agenda will include approving the Strategic Plan and the

ORS 190 Entity intergovernmental agreement. The Executive Committee will meet on June 2.

Ms. Utz reported that construction of the 37-unit complex, Redwood Crossings, is still underway and should be finished by the beginning of July.

#### **NEW MWVHA WEBSITE**

Ms. Calvin gave a brief tour of the new website: [www.mwvhomelessalliance.org](http://www.mwvhomelessalliance.org). The site is constantly being improved and updated. She thanked Sarah Owens for starting the framework and to COG information technology staff for creating the new site. The website home page includes a blog format, which can be subscribed to. Subscribers automatically receive new posts once or twice a month. She went through each tab on the website. The *Committee* tab will have agendas and minutes embedded as meetings happen. The *Contact* form automatically forwards to Ms. Calvin's email. There is a [staff@mwvhomelessalliance.org](mailto:staff@mwvhomelessalliance.org) email that also is auto-forwarded to Ms. Calvin.

Mayor Clark asked that any ideas or comments for the website go to Ms. Calvin, including topics for posts.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Hearing no further business, Chair Clark adjourned the meeting at 4:39 p.m.

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Janet Carlson, MWVHA Consultant