Mid-Willamette Valley Homeless Alliance

CoC Collaborative Committee

Wednesday, October 21, 2020 * 10:00-11:30 a.m.

MINUTES

1. **Welcome and Introductions**
   Ian Dixon-McDonald began the meeting at 10:04 am with a welcome and request to introduce yourself in the chat box.

2. **Consent Agenda**
   The consent agenda items to be approved were 9/16/20 Meeting Minutes and the Warming Shelter Subcommittee Charter. Tricia made motion to approve. Hilary seconded. No discussion or opposition expressed. Consent agenda approved.

3. **Voices of Lived Experience**
   The Voices of Lived Experience task force has been working since June to identify the best ways to incorporate the voices of lived experience in CoC decision-making. Tricia Frizzell shared an overview of the document created which provides the group's ideas and recommendations. Feedback received from the Collaborative Committee was positive and that the document was "very well done." The MWVHA board currently has one member with lived experience and two alternates with lived experience. Discussion took place around whether or not this task force should be an ongoing sub-committee, and how to proceed with endorsing or adopting the document and/or guiding principles. A comment was made that the Willamette University PACE Team could use the document and principles in their work around equity. Support from the board is critical in choosing to begin this work.

   A motion was presented to 1) adopt the guiding principles and strategies as presented in the Voices of Lived Experiences document (below); 2) recommend the MWVHA Board of Directors adopt the guiding principles; and 3) approve the creation of an ongoing sub-committee for Voices of Lived Experience. Noelle Gore made the motion, Carol Salter seconded the motion. Motion passed with no opposition expressed.

   Guiding Principles:
   - Seek authentic feedback and participation, and avoid tokenization.
   - Provide appropriate supports to make participation accessible and welcoming.
   - Be open to different and often unfamiliar forms of communication.
   - Understand that this work is challenging and slow, and that it will take time to get it right.
   - Strive for "lived experience" to mean that individuals have experienced homelessness within the last 5 years.
   - Take in to account that lived experience from one group or identity is unique and different from another. Aim for inclusion of a diverse range of identities and forms of lived experience.

4. **Collaborative Committee Operations**
   The co-chairs lead a conversation reflecting on the past nine months since the group's first meeting with the intent of gathering input on committee operations, as well as suggested topics for the next six months

and the first *CoC Summit* (joint meeting of the Collaborative Committee and Board of Directors) expected to be scheduled for February. A survey was distributed to Collaborative Committee participants in advance of the meeting. Results from the survey were shared and can be found at http://mwvhomelessalliance.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Collaborative-Committee-Survey-Summary-10.21.20.pdf

The large group broke into break out rooms to discuss survey results and what to focus on moving forward. Feedback included:

- The flow of information was concerning because it feels like items are buried in a packet and feel like they come out of nowhere. Suggestion to break up pieces of information and send as separate attachments with same email. The way it is sent out now, it's easy to overlook items and get lost.
- Feels one-sided and lecture-style.
- What changes do we need to make for the CoC perform better? Presentation on CoC basics and what that means to all of us in terms of operationalizing the collaboration between organizations.
- ESG-CV2 priorities for discussion collectively.
- Explore how to be more inclusive and collaborative of organizations that are not at table, simple messaging.
- The Collaborative Committee can help create understanding in the housing and homelessness system.
- Increase transparency and understanding information and activities of different committees.
- Use our time now before NOFA drops to build structure and communication.
- Gear up for PIT Count and how it will look given COVID restraints.
- How will communication and support for PIT Count and need for volunteers be distributed?
- Use the website to increase clarity, communication, and access to information.
- Include more sharing of achievements, where we have moved forward and made successes, as well as challenges and short comings.
- Explore how to have agendas that are goal-oriented, tied to the strategic plan or CoC goals.

Kim encouraged people send emails to Carla or Jan with additional thoughts or ideas.

5. Gap Analysis Brief

Carla screen-shared the final draft of the Gap Analysis Brief, which was created in response to a previous Collaborative Committee request to make a quick facts overview for sharing information with stakeholders and partners. Participants noted they will share this document with boards of directors, staff, and councils. Participants also said the document will be helpful in legislative work and when meeting with stakeholders. The graphics really help make it visually appealing, will help establish need internally within agencies and externally with grant requests, will aid in leveraging more resources, helps provide background information for grants and reports, and statewide grant reporting on housing needs and availability in the region.

Feedback for improvement included adding that the document was created by the Alliance in the footer so it appears on each page in case the pages get separated. A hope for the future is to improve local data using HMIS and Coordinated Entry after data quality improves and the community is fully represented in this coordinated system.

6. **Warming Shelters**

Lindsay Dent described the plans for the coming season, developed by the Warming Shelters Network, including activation criteria, facilities, partnerships, COVID protocols, and volunteer recruitment. She noted the two different types of warming shelters – Duration Warming Shelters and Temperature-Activated Warming Shelters. Filling duration warming shelters will occur by pulling everyone from CE assessed in past six months. Community Action Agency will 1) create a prioritized list for: women, women with children, elderly, and adults with chronic health conditions; 2) determine placement programs and locations; 3) enroll individuals/families in programs; and 4) participants will participate in their program and stay at placement site for a maximum of 29 days. Re-enrollment is allowable.

Family units with mom and dad will be given preference to hotel stays, even without COVID symptoms. The Warming Shelters Network is implementing COVID-19 precautions, which includes nightly testing. Please go to https://arches.volunteerhub.com/ if interested in volunteering.

7. **MWVHA Board, Committee, Subcommittee Highlights**
   a. **Board of Directors—**approved Community Action Agency Agreement to manage CE, HMIS and PIT Count; had presentation from Fair Housing Council of Oregon (same presentation that was held with the Collaborative Committee.)
   b. **Coordinated Entry Committee—**ROI approved by Collaborative Committee on 8/19. Next steps are to create a protocol and info sheet to aid in implementation as well as provide guidance for sub-populations (i.e youth or DV systems, individual vs. household, Veterans). Additional work group created for the annual CE System evaluation using HUD assessment tool; PSU intern on-boarded to deepen the work on understanding geographic coverage and access to the homeless services system.
   c. **HMIS Users Workgroup -** new Agency Participation Agreement and User Agreement are being finalized; joining the new state HMIS model, which will go live on July 1, 2021.
   d. **Performance & Evaluation Committee—**PE Committee received training from Hunter at last meeting and will bring a data evaluation plan to the committee next month for discussion around evaluating the performance of the CoC system.
   e. **Challenge to End Youth Homelessness—**voted to move forward with becoming an official committee of the CoC as a sub-committee of the Collaborative Committee.
   f. **PIT Count Workgroup** – working on a three-pronged approach: agency/shelter, regional mobile teams, and static resource hubs. Please make sure everyone gets information and signs up for trainings and volunteers. ARCHES will host a magnet event. Seed of Faith Ministries noted interest in hosting an event at one of its sites.

8. **Organizational Updates and Next Steps**

ESG-CV2 funding opportunity will be dropping soon, please join the meeting on November 9th at 1pm if interested in participating in a collaborative application for $5.5M to address needs in Marion-Polk region. Contact calvin.jan@yahoo.com for more information.

9. **Next Meeting:** November 18, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Tentative Agenda:

Voices of Lived Experience (follow-up)
Collaborative Committee Operations (follow-up)
PIT Count Plans

Agency	Attendance	Attended by Zoom 10/21/20	# Agencies
CANDO	Sarah Owens	1	1
CANDO	Michael Livingston	1	
Catholic Community Services	Ryan Gail	1	1
Catholic Community Services/ISN	Jacqueline Gould	1	1
Center for Hope and Safety	Jayne Downing	1	1
Church at the Park	DJ Vincent	1	1
Church at the Park	Noelle Gore	1	
Easterseals	Carol Salter	1	1
Easterseals	Breanna Harig	1	
Fair Housing Council of Oregon	Jamie Gatewood	1	1
Family Promise	Doug Odell	1	1
Habitat & Hope Village	Joe Dabek	1	1
Marion County	Lisa Trauernicht	1	1
Marion-Polk Food Share	Ian Dixon-McDonald	1	1
MWVCAA, ARCHES	Lindsay Dent	1	1
MWVCAA, ARCHES	Ashley Hamilton	1	
MWVCAA, ARCHES	Breezy Aguirre	1	
MWVCAA, ARCHES	Scott Eastburn	1	
MWVCAA, HOME Youth Services	Tricia (Ratliff) Frizzell	1	1
MWV Homeless Alliance	Jan Calvin	1	1
MWV Homeless Alliance	Carla Munns	1	
MWV Homeless Alliance, PSU Intern	Denae Overman	1	
NW Human Services	Kristin Kuenz-Barber	1	1
PacificSource	Christine Lewis	1	1
Recovery Outreach Community Center	Christina Korkow	1	1
SafeSleep UNITED	Lynelle Wilcox	1	1
Salem Housing Authority	Nicole Utz	1	1
Salem-Keizer School District MVP	Julie Conn-Johnson	1	1
Seed of Faith	Evelyn McCoy	1	1
Shangri-La	Dominique Schoessler	1	1
Silverton Sheltering Services	Hilary Dumitrescu	1	1
Silverton Sheltering Services	Emily Neves	1	
St. Francis Shelter	Jill Tucker	1	1
Veterans Affairs HUD/VASH Portland Healthcare System	Lindsey Bittman	1	1
Willamette Workforce Partnership	Kim Parker-Llerenas	1	1
Willamette Univ. PACE	Wade	1	1
Willamette Univ. PACE	Michael Greiger	1	
		37	27