



Douglas County Local Public Safety Coordinating Council (LPSCC)  
**Housing Subcommittee meeting minutes**

**Noon, Wednesday, Jan. 10, 2018**

*Third-floor conference room, Roseburg City Hall*

**PRESENT:** Andrea Chaney, *UCAN*; Lance Colley, *City of Roseburg*; Marie Dixon, *NAMI*; Wayne Ellsworth, *South River Community Health Center/Adapt*; Aric Fromdahl, *Juvenile Justice*; Allen Hobson, *City of Winston*; Melissa McRobbie-Toll, *LPSCC Coordinator*; Justin Mathison, *Cow Creek Tribe*; Karan Reed, *Neighborworks Umpqua*; Sarah Thompson, *Cow Creek Tribe*

**UPDATES**

Melissa McRobbie-Toll reviewed the minutes from the last meeting and provided the following updates:

- **SAMHSA grant** – There is a SAMHSA grant available for re-entry treatment programs, of which about a third can be used for housing. Adapt may be applying for this grant. The deadline is Jan. 26.
- **Jail inmates' housing needs** - Melissa has reached out to the jail to inquire whether the Release Assistance Officer might be able to track how many people being released from jail are without housing. Andrea Chaney said UCAN is in the process of getting two case managers approved to go into the jail to talk to inmates about housing. Their focus will be on getting people out of homelessness.
- **Re-entry resource flyer** – The LPSCC Behavioral Health Subcommittee is working on creating a resource flyer or wallet-size card that could be given to inmates upon their release from jail. The card would contain resources on housing, transportation, Adapt, peer mentoring and more.
- **Frequent users** – The Behavioral Health Subcommittee is also looking into how to identify frequent users of the criminal justice system and steer them into services. One starting point may be for the jail to look at who has been booked more than 4 times over a one-year period (an approach used by the NORCOR jail).
- **Other updates** – Sarah Thompson said the annual Point-in-Time Homeless Count is coming up at the end of the month. Here is a link to information on past years' homeless counts:  
<http://www.oregon.gov/ohcs/Pages/research-point-in-time-homeless-count-in-oregon.aspx>

**TRANSITIONAL HOUSING LIST**

Melissa asked for the group's help in putting together a list of transitional housing in Douglas County. Entities on the draft list so far include: the Mission; Oxford Houses; UCAN/Adapt; TrueNorth Star Ministries housing; Casa de Belen; Orchard Knolls; Samaritan; and Safe Haven.

**ACTION:** *Melissa will contact these housing providers and create a comprehensive list for the group of whom they serve, how many units are available, etc.*

## **KIM TRAVIS VISIT**

Kim Travis, Housing Integrator for Oregon Housing and Community Services, participated in a Douglas County LPSCC Housing Subcommittee meeting back in April. When the Subcommittee was revitalized in December, the group asked Melissa to reach out to Kim to invite her to another meeting. It is likely that Ms. Travis and her colleague Connor McDonnell will be attending a Subcommittee meeting in February or March.

Topics the group would like to cover at that meeting include Local Innovation and Fast Track (LIFT) funding and housing for people with mental health issues.

## **VISION STATEMENT/GOALS**

Suggestions for words/concepts to include in the group's vision statement include: Transitional housing, safety, mental health, recovery, affordable, Critical Time Intervention.

The group will also create a list of focus areas and goals. Focus areas so far include:

- Expanding general transitional housing
- Increasing housing availability for people in recovery and those with mental illness
- Exploring operating funding sources for housing that requires services
- Gathering data on the extent of the need for re-entry housing
- Reducing homelessness

***ACTION:*** Subcommittee members will email Melissa additional thoughts on the vision statement & focus areas/goals. Melissa will compile the goals into a list and create several draft vision statements for the group to discuss and edit at the next meeting.

## **MEMBERS**

Subcommittee members around the table introduced themselves and gave an overview of their departments and responsibilities. Below are some highlights:

**Wayne Ellsworth** – Homeless outreach coordinator for the South River Community Health Center/Adapt. Works to promote primary care for those who are homeless or at risk of being homeless. Assists people with getting signed up for OHP. Participates in Homeless Transition Action Group (HTAG). Helping with a project to open a sobering center in Roseburg where people under the influence could be taken to sober up and be connected to resources. Volunteers at several food banks, the warming center and elsewhere.

**Karan Reed** – Housing development project manager with Neighborworks Umpqua. Was manager of Eagle Landing project in conjunction with UCAN. Neighborworks itself doesn't have transitional housing, but works to get folks into permanent housing as they get back on their feet. Neighborworks does have some donated land that has been earmarked for veterans' housing; the current proposal calls for about 60 units, and the agency will be applying for funding and may ask for a letter of support from LPSCC. Neighborworks has almost 600 units of housing in Douglas, Coos and Curry counties, and parts of Jackson and Lane counties.

**Marie Dixon** – Volunteer with the local affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI). Has experienced being a family member of someone with mental illness, and understands how difficult that is. Many family members can't find help and their loved one ends up in jail. Works to reduce the stigma associated with mental illness. Hopes to see more progress on mental health-related issues now that there is systemic stability with Adapt/Compass in charge of mental health services. Feels strongly that Douglas County needs a crisis respite center (an effort Adapt is working on). NAMI sponsors an annual Crisis Intervention Team training in Roseburg.

**Sarah Thompson** – Resident manager for Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians. Manages 39 low-income units for tribal members. Also manages the transit program and bus pass program for tribal members. Provides fuel vouchers and Goodwill clothing vouchers. Runs a 6-unit complex in Canyonville for tribal members.

**Justin Mathison** – Housing Director for Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians. Work includes rental assistance, emergency assistance, medical adaptation, down-payment and repair assistance. Also works on infrastructure projects and grant management. The Tribe has two safe houses for domestic situations.

**Andrea Haney** – Program operations director, UCAN. She currently oversees utility assistance program, home weatherization, the development department, the transportation program. UCAN has done some housing development, but the last project was several years ago. UCAN has 92 units of housing spread from Canyonville to Drain; most are small, multi-family complexes, and most are designated for specific populations such as those in recovery or those with mental health issues. Noted that housing development dollars have become harder to obtain. UCAN has a housing rental assistance program. One challenge is that landlords are reluctant to rent to certain populations, even when they are able to pay the rent.

**Allen Hobson** – Winston City Councilman. Sits on the League of Oregon Cities' general government committee. Retired. Took an interest in housing because he noticed the scope of the homelessness problem in Douglas County and statewide. Sees the need for more low-income, transitional and affordable housing. The "frequent users" of the criminal justice system are costly to the city of Winston, which pays \$90 per night to house them in the jail when they are arrested.

**Aric Fromdahl** – Director of Juvenile Justice. His agency serves youths ages 11-24 and operates three residential facilities with a total of 48 beds: the 16-bed Creekside facility for girls; the 16-bed Fowler House for boys; and the River Rock facility adjacent to the jail. These facilities serve similar purposes to transitional housing for adults. Juvenile Justice is also working to reopen the Pitchford Boys' Ranch as a shelter facility that could serve 25 youths as young as 6 years old. The plan is to include an on-site medical/dental/mental health clinic. The Pitchford project has received a \$1 million grant from the state. The children served would include those in the care of DHS. Douglas County is the largest residential provider for DHS in the state of Oregon.

**NEXT MEETING:** Noon, Wednesday, Feb. 21, third-floor conference room, Roseburg City Hall