



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

**Noon, Wednesday, June 13, 2018**

*Third-floor conference room, Roseburg City Hall*

**PRESENT:** Cheryl Carson, *DHS*; Lance Colley, *City of Roseburg*; Wayne Ellsworth, *Adapt*; Aric Fromdahl, *Juvenile Department*; Allen Hobson, *City of Winston*; *Housing Authority*; Melissa McRobbie-Toll, *LPSCC Coordinator*;

**ON THE PHONE:** Marie Dixon, *NAMI*; Sarah Thompson, *Cow Creek Tribe*

**ABSENT:** Lynn Antis, *Roseburg Rescue Mission*; Paul Coffelt, *DHS*; Mike Fieldman, *UCAN*; Janeal Kohler, *Douglas County*; Justin Mathison, *Cow Creek Tribe*; Sean Negherbon, *City of Myrtle Creek*; Karan Reed, *NeighborWorks Umpqua*; Arielle Reid, *Neighborworks Umpqua*;

\*\*\*

Housing Subcommittee Chair Allen Hobson opened the meeting at 12:04 p.m.

**MINUTES APPROVAL:** *Lance Colley moved to approve the draft minutes from the April 11 meeting. Marie Dixon seconded. Motion passed.*

**COORDINATOR UPDATES**

LPSCC Coordinator Melissa McRobbie-Toll provided the following updates:

- **BJA JMHCP grant** – The City of Roseburg, in partnership with Adapt/Compass, has applied for a \$750,000 Bureau of Justice Assistance Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program grant to launch a mobile crisis program in and around Roseburg that would operate 12 hours a day, 7 days a week. The application was submitted at the end of May, and awards will be announced in September.
- **Behavioral Health Forum** – A 4-person team from Douglas County attended a statewide Behavioral Health and Criminal Justice Forum in Salem on May 24. The Forum was hosted in part by the Council of State Governments, which is pushing to create a Behavioral Health Justice Reinvestment program on the state level similar to the existing JRI grant program. Counties are being asked to determine their desired level of participation in this effort. The LPSCC Behavioral Health Subcommittee will discuss this in more detail.
- **LPSCC Behavioral Health Subcommittee** – Marie Dixon will be bringing prints of our updated resource card to our next meeting on June 26. We will share that card with the Housing Subcommittee.
- **RSAT enrollment group** – This LPSCC subgroup, created last year to address the issue of low RSAT enrollment, has wrapped up a project to create an informational video about RSAT. The next step is disseminating the video. Allen Hobson noted the importance of high RSAT participation rates to show that our JRI-funded programs are working.

- **Second Chance Tour** – The Governor’s Re-entry Council and Dave’s Killer Bread are launching a statewide tour to increase the number of employers that hire people in re-entry. The tour will be making a Roseburg stop on **Sept. 19 from 10 a.m. to noon.**

### **MEMBER UPDATES**

- **Marie Dixon, NAMI** – A NAMI effort to open a clubhouse for individuals with mental health issues is gaining steam. The hope is to open in September.
- **Cheryl Carson, DHS** – DHS is now able to provide support services to families on cash assistance to help them stabilize their living situations. This is new; in the past, DHS hasn’t been able to provide money for rent or utilities but DHS is now expanding its support services to stabilize families. The lack of local affordable housing remains an issue.
- **Wayne Ellsworth, Adapt/South River Community Health Center** – South River staff have launched a program in partnership with the jail to do in-reach on Fridays to help inmates reactivate their Oregon Health Plan coverage. The jail will provide weekly lists of inmates who are about to be released. Last Friday, 25 people were on the discharge list, and 17 were available to meet with South River staff. Of those, two declined, so Wayne met with 15 people. Wayne takes inmates’ information, then enters the data and submits their reactivation application online on the morning of their release. Wayne also shared information about other services with each inmate, including UCAN, NeighborWorks Umpqua, the Housing Authority, DHS, Battered Persons Advocacy, the Opioid Treatment Program and Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT). Melissa will provide Wayne with copies of the resource card being developed by the BH Subcommittee and he will hand those out during the jail meetings. Wayne is looking for ways to track how many of those inmates end up engaging in services. Marie Dixon suggested getting them to sign releases to facilitate inter-agency information sharing. She recommended talking to Robert Wilson about this. Cheryl Carson said there is a self-referral form at the Early Learning Hub on which families check off the services they’re interested in and authorize the sharing of their information with those specific service providers. Cheryl also inquired about the possibility of having inmates fill out an online SNAP application prior to their release; Wayne said he likely won’t have time to help them with that process but he refers them to agencies that can assist. Lance Colley said the jail in-reach is a huge step in the right direction.
- **Aric Fromdahl, Juvenile Justice** – The department is about to get drawings from the architect for the Pitchford Boys Ranch project. Construction will begin soon and the goal is to open in early to mid-spring.

### **COTTAGE GROVE HOUSING WORKSHOP RECAP**

Chair Allen Hobson and Lance Colley provided a recap of the housing workshop they attended in Cottage Grove on June 7 along with Roseburg Community Development Director Stuart Cowie. The workshop was co-hosted by the League of Oregon Cities, Association of Oregon Counties, Oregon Housing and Community Services and the Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development. The workshop was one of several held statewide. Allen and Lance found the workshop helpful and shared highlights with the group, including the following:

- **Countywide homelessness board** - There is a poverty and homelessness board in Lane County that includes membership from the cities of Eugene and Springfield, the county, schools, health

professionals, community members, public safety leaders, faith groups and others. Lance noted that in Douglas County there are several groups working on housing issues, including the City of Roseburg, the LPSCC Housing Subcommittee and the Homeless Transitions Action Group (HTAG) but the efforts are not coordinated. He floated the idea of a local housing board that would meet quarterly to allow these groups to information and strategize together. **ACTION:** *The Housing Subcommittee will informally approach the full LPSCC to gauge interest in the creation of a housing board.*

- **Buildable lands inventories** – Lance said there is some funding available now through the Department of Land Conservation and Development to help hire consultants to do buildable-lands inventories.
- **Cottage Grove housing site** – Lance and Allen visited a low-income housing site in Cottage Grove consisting of a number of 800- to 1,000-square-foot homes built as single-family units. The homes are single-level, 2- to 3-bedroom units that stand about 10 feet apart from each other. They wondered if it is possible to build something similar here.
- **Profitability of local developments** – Allen said Douglas County development costs – labor, materials, etc. - are similar to development costs in other parts of Oregon, including large metropolitan areas. However, the rents here are lower, and therefore there is not as much return on investment.

*Regular meeting adjourned shortly before 1 p.m., and members headed to the Fowler House for a tour led by Aric Fromdahl*

## **FOWLER HOUSE TOUR**

**Background:** During a discussion at the May 9 Housing Subcommittee meeting on whether a group-home setting would be appropriate for transitional housing, Juvenile Department Director Aric Fromdahl offered to give Subcommittee members a tour of Fowler House, a transitional home for boys and young men operated by Juvenile.

**Tour:** Members walked from Roseburg City Hall to the Fowler House, located across from the Courthouse on Fowler Street. Key points from the tour included:

- Fowler House currently houses 15 boys between the ages of 15 and 20. Nine came from the Oregon Youth Authority, and six were referred by DHS.
- There are two day rooms, an industrial-size kitchen, a laundry room and a sunny back porch with plants and vegetables grown by residents.
- One goal is to add culinary arts program at Fowler.
- In a recent success story, a 20-year-old left Fowler after gaining employment experience at Camp Millennium.
- Lance wondered if a Fowler House-type setting would work with adults, who are older and more set in their ways.
- In the juvenile system, it is difficult to find startup funding but easy to cover operational costs, in part because providers receive per-child funding. In the adult system, there are many funding streams for startup costs but few for operations.

**NEXT MEETING:** *Noon, Wednesday, July 11, third-floor conference room, Roseburg City Hall*