



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

Noon, Wednesday, Dec. 12, 2018

Third-floor conference room, Roseburg City Hall

PRESENT: Karen Berkey, *Citizen*; Cheryl Carson, *DHS*; Larry Clark, *UCAN*; Lance Colley, *City of Roseburg*; Marie Dixon, *NAMI*; Wayne Ellsworth, *Adapt*; Mike Fieldman, *UCAN*; Dave Grammon, *TrueNorth Star Ministries*; Shelly Hendrickson, *Battered Persons' Advocacy*; Allen Hobson, *City of Winston*; Janeal Kohler, *Douglas County Housing Authority*; Justin Mathison, *Cow Creek Tribe*; Melissa McRobbie-Toll, *LPSCC Coordinator*; Karan Reed, *NeighborWorks Umpqua*;

ABSENT: Aric Fromdahl, *Juvenile Department*; Arielle Reid, *Neighborworks Umpqua*;

Housing Subcommittee Chair Allen Hobson opened the meeting at 12:01 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVAL: *Marie Dixon moved to approve the draft minutes from the Oct. 10 meeting. Lance Colley seconded. Motion passed.*

UPDATES

- **Transitional Housing Fund** – Mike Fieldman reported that six people have been assisted by the Justice Reinvestment Transitional Housing Fund to date. Approximately \$2,000 of the \$24,000 in the fund has been spent. LPSCC may want to reconsider assistance amounts and duration in the next JRI biennium. Janeal Kohler noted that rent for one of the Housing Authority's transitional studios is \$428 monthly including utilities. Justin Mathison said clients might be better served with six months' worth of assistance rather than three. **Action:** *Subcommittee will evaluate program data over the coming months and make a recommendation to the full LPSCC on potential changes to the program's structure.*
- **Tiny homes** – UCAN is engaged in a project with the nonprofit Valiant Seed to develop 3 to 4 tiny homes on Cobb Street. Dozens of veteran volunteers recently built the framework for one tiny home over three days as part of a training workshop. UCAN hopes to see the tiny homes go up on Cobb Street sometime in the spring.
- **Sobering Center** – Momentum is building to launch a new effort to create a Sobering Center in Roseburg. A stakeholder meeting will be held on Jan. 17 at noon at the Roseburg Police Department to identify possible funding sources for operations. Lance Colley asked Subcommittee members to share the invitation with anyone who might be interested in providing supportive funding.

SIM HOUSING ACTION GROUP

At the Douglas County Sequential Intercept Mapping (SIM) in October, dozens of stakeholders met to identify gaps and resources in the local criminal justice system related to individuals with behavioral

health issues – particularly mental illness. Action groups were created to address five priority areas, including a Housing/Supportive Housing Action Group that met for the first time on Dec. 10. Karan Reed gave an overview of that meeting and the group discussed goals, priorities and whether the SIM Housing/Supportive Housing Action Group should be absorbed by the LPSCC Housing Subcommittee. Discussion points included the following:

- **Funding opportunities** - Subcommittee should closely track what funds are becoming available and should be poised to go after those funds, including through Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS). Subcommittee should also understand requirements attached to any given funding opportunity. The Governor’s Recommended Budget includes funding for supportive housing, but that funding likely won’t become available for a year or more.
- **Land** – Subcommittee should investigate what land is available for development of supportive and other types of housing. OHCS is offering a low-interest, long-term loan that allows entities to hold the loan during the land-development process. **Action:** *Subcommittee will seek to obtain lists of city- and county-owned land (Lance Colley noted the city has very few properties not being used for a specific public purpose but that some foreclosures are pending)*
- **Tiny homes** – Fieldman said constructing tiny homes is a low-cost way to add affordable housing with local funding and less bureaucracy. One funding approach could be asking community members to “adopt” a tiny home.
- **Rental assistance/vouchers** – The group noted there is no comprehensive list of rental assistance funds and vouchers available for housing-challenged populations. **Action:** *LPSCC Coordinator will develop a list of rental assistance funds/vouchers and which populations are eligible for each.*
- **Nearby examples** – Eugene’s Sponsors program and Bay Area First Step in North Bend could provide some lessons on what works. **Action:** *LPSCC Coordinator will inquire with Sponsors about sending a guest speaker to Roseburg, possibly for a joint meeting of Subcommittee and HTAG.*
- **Women’s transitional housing** – Dave Grammon and Karen Berkey pointed out the need for more transitional housing for women. Melissa McRobbie-Toll said female jail and prison usage is increasing statewide.
- **Additional items** – Other possible action items identified by the SIM Action Group at its Dec. 10 meeting included creating a comprehensive list of supportive housing in Douglas County; researching vacancy rates in transitional housing and other types of housing; and pursuing the creation of a low-barrier shelter in Douglas County.

Chair Allen Hobson said it appears there is substantial overlap between the goals of the SIM Housing/Supportive Housing Action Group and the LPSCC Housing Subcommittee and recommended that the Action Group merge with the Subcommittee.

ACTION: *Mike Fieldman made a motion to incorporate the SIM Housing/Supportive Housing Action Group into the LPSCC Housing Subcommittee. Justin Mathison seconded. Motion passed.*

MEMBER UPDATES

- **Lance Colley, City of Roseburg** – Roseburg has initiated its buildable lands inventory and housing needs analysis. The Ford Family Foundation has provided grant funding for an enhanced

Point in Time Homeless Count in January to better understand the demographics and needs of the local homeless population. A consultant is working with UCAN on the data-gathering aspect.

- **Justin Mathison, Cow Creek Tribe** – The Tribe is in negotiations with the Department of State Lands and will soon have wetland mitigation credits for sale.
- **Wayne Ellsworth, South River Community Health Center** – During his jail in-reach on Fridays, Ellsworth has processed 357 applications for Oregon Health Plan reactivation. Of that number, he has seen only 26 repeat offenders.
- **Dave Grammon, TrueNorth Star Ministries** – In the wake of the Second Chance Tour stop in Roseburg, WorkSource has created a felon-friendly jobs program.
- **Cheryl Carson, DHS** – Funding is coming through SNAP for employment and training. Individuals are able to receive funding assistance to cover gas costs, work clothing, tools and other employment-related expenditures.

NEXT MEETING: Noon, Wednesday, Jan. 23, 2019

Mission statement: *“The LPSCC Housing Subcommittee’s mission is to increase the availability and affordability of re-entry housing in Douglas County.”*

Vision statement: *“A safe and healthy community where those in re-entry from incarceration have a place to live and there is sufficient affordable housing, including for veterans, those with mental illness, people in recovery and others.”*