



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

Noon, Wednesday, April 10, 2019
Room 310, Douglas County Courthouse

PRESENT: Larry Clark, *UCAN*; Lance Colley, *City of Roseburg*; Stuart Cowie, *Roseburg Community Development Director*; Betsy Cunningham, *Citizen*; Marie Dixon, *NAMI*; Wayne Ellsworth, *Adapt*; Mike Fieldman, *UCAN*; Kathryn Garland, *DHS Self Sufficiency*; Allen Hobson, *City of Winston*; Melissa McRobbie-Toll, *LPSCC Coordinator*; Jerry O'Sullivan, *Adapt*; Sarah Thompson, *Cow Creek Tribe*;

ABSENT: Cheryl Carson, *DHS*; Aric Fromdahl, *Juvenile Department*; Janeal Kohler, *Douglas County Housing Authority*; Karan Reed, *NeighborWorks Umpqua*; Robert Wilson, *Treatment Court Coordinator*

Chair Hobson opened the meeting at 12:03 p.m.

MINUTES APPROVAL: *Mike Fieldman moved to approve the draft minutes from the March 27 meeting. Marie Dixon seconded. Motion passed.*

UPDATES

The Connecting Point: The Connecting Point resource room, an initiative of the LPSCC Behavioral Health Subcommittee, has moved to the Dream Center. It operates on Monday mornings and provides service connections to individuals releasing from Jail and others. Locating the Connecting Point at the Dream Center has been a win-win for both entities. Key updates/discussion points included:

- **Providers** - Wayne Ellsworth said participating providers have included himself, Adapt peer mentors, HIV Alliance, Larry Clark of UCAN and Debi Hollander of Compass.
- **HIV Alliance** - HIV Alliance has been providing a needle exchange, passing out condoms and conducting naloxone trainings.
- **Increase in contacts** - Wayne estimated weekly contacts at about 15 people (up from 0-2 when Connecting Point was located in Room 310 at the Courthouse). It is not clear whether any of those individuals had just been released from Jail.
- **Intake form** - LPSCC Coordinator said LPSCC Behavioral Health Subcommittee will discuss having an intake form that would capture information including whether someone is a tribal member.
- **OHP in-reach** – During Wayne's OHP in-reach at the Jail on Fridays, he tells people about the Connecting Point and hands out the Douglas County Resource Guide.
- **Dream Center info** - Marie Dixon suggested adding the Dream Center hours to the resource guide. Melissa suggested the Dream Center info could be printed on the back of the Connecting Point flier. Marie said NAMI could do some of the printing.

- **Accessibility** – In an email to LPSCC Coordinator, Betsy Cunningham expressed concern that the Dream Center is not ADA-accessible and therefore it is inappropriate for Connecting Point to meet there.

Sobering Center: Recently retired Grants Pass Police Chief Bill Landis, who helped create the Grants Pass Sobering Center, will meet with a group of stakeholders in Roseburg later this month to discuss the Roseburg Sobering Center project.

Mobile Crisis: Mobile Crisis program is up and running on a preliminary basis. One Compass counselor is co-responding with police, and Compass is still working to recruit a second counselor.

Frequent system users: Behavioral Health Subcommittee has discussed the idea of creating a group to discuss frequent justice system users with the intent of connecting them to the services they need. LPSCC Coordinator has worked with Jail Lt. Mike Root to obtain a list of everyone booked into jail three or more times in the past year.

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING FUND

LPSCC Coordinator reviewed points from last meeting, including that LPSCC last year set the rental assistance amounts for the Transitional Housing Fund at \$200 for the first month, \$150 for the second month and \$100 for the third month. About \$1,500 of the allocated \$24,000 has been spent so far. Subcommittee members feel these amounts are too low. Discussion points included:

- **Increase amounts, set a maximum** – Group favored the idea of setting a maximum per-person rental assistance amount (possibly \$1,000), but allowing for flexibility in how that total is allocated (over 2 months or 3, for example). Amounts allocated would vary according to individuals' specific needs. For instance, someone paying \$100 a month to live at a relative's house may be allocated less than someone paying for an entire apartment.
- **Two-pronged question** – Marie Dixon pointed out that the Subcommittee needs to address two questions: How to spend the remaining \$22,500 before the end of December 2019, and what to recommend in terms of how the program should operate in the 2019/21 biennium.
- **JRI uncertainty** – Transitional Housing Fund comes from the Justice Reinvestment (JRI) funding Douglas County receives from the state. It is not clear how much the Legislature will allocate to JRI for the next biennium. Additionally, the grant process is expected to become competitive, so Douglas County may not receive the same percentage of the statewide grant this time.
- **Communication** – Communication issues may have resulted in delays in determining whether Parole/Probation is paying for the first month's rent. To avoid delays in getting folks housed, Lance Colley suggested disbursing the JRI funding without waiting to confirm with P&P.
- **Transportation** – Wayne Ellsworth mentioned that some inmates he meets with during his Jail in-reach are incarcerated because they missed an appointment with a PO due to a transportation issue. Group favored exploring whether some of the JRI Transitional Housing fund could be earmarked to help the target population access transportation. Transportation options include buses, UCAN volunteer drivers, OHP-covered transportation and Dial A Ride.
- **One-time expenditures** – Jerry O'Sullivan wondered if there were some housing-related one-time expenditures that could be identified to ensure the remaining funding will be spent on the target population before the end of the year.

- **Universal application** – Group again briefly discussed the idea of a universal housing application that could be used by landlords countywide.

ACTION ITEMS: LPSCC Coordinator will create a draft outline of the Housing Subcommittee recommendations for the Transitional Housing Fund that will be edited and fine-tuned at the May 8 meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 1:06 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Noon, Wednesday, May 8

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.”