

Continuum of Care Board Meeting

January 18, 2024

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM



Land & Labor Acknowledgement

Multnomah county rests on the stolen lands of the Multnomah, Kathlamet, and Clackamas Bands of Chinook Indian Nation; Tualatin Kalapuya; Molalla; and many others along the Columbia River. This country is built on stolen Indigenous land and built by stolen African people. This land was not stolen and people were not enslaved by ambiguous entities and actors. The land was stolen by, and African peoples were enslaved by White settlers who had government support.

We also want to honor the members of over 400 tribal communities who live in Multnomah County. Many of these People and their cultures still survive and resist despite the intentional and ongoing attempts to destroy them.

Let us please take a moment of silence to acknowledge the history of how we are here in this place and to honor the People.

Credit to: Dr. Aileen Duldulao and Heather Heater, Multnomah County

Community Agreements

1. Account for power dynamics in the room and in the work.
2. Assume best intentions while honoring impact. Acknowledge that intent does not trump impact.
3. Be accountable. Commit to acknowledging and working through harm caused.
4. Be mindful of privilege, historical structures of oppression, and the shared goal to lead with a lens of equity, inclusion, diversity, and anti-racism.
5. Expect and accept non-closure.
6. Honor the diversity in the room and stay open to different perspectives. There may be several different roads that lead to a great outcome.
7. Language matters. Use intentional, direct, non-violent language. Speak your truth responsibly.
8. Make space, take space. Make space for those who are not speaking up as often, take space if you usually don't speak up.
9. Maintain confidentiality. share lessons learned while keeping names and identifiers confidential.
10. Meet folks where they are at. Do not assume knowledge on behalf of others. Be thorough, clear, and transparent in our dialogue.
11. Refrain from stigmatizing language and use people-first language.

Racial Equity Lens Tool

Questions from GARE and BHD to guide us when a quick decision is needed (longer Equity Lens Tool [here](#)):

- What are the racial equity impacts of this particular decision?
- Who will benefit and who will be burdened by the decision?
- Are there strategies to mitigate these consequences? What targeted strategies do we add to meet the needs of people of color in order to reduce disparities?

Agenda

Time	Agenda Item	Facilitator
10 min	Community Agreements, Land and Labor Acknowledgement	Co-Chairs
30 min	HMIS MOU and Collaborative Applicant Renewal Votes	Co-Chairs
30 min	Proposed Public Communications Guidelines	Mark Morford
5 min	Break	
25 min	Action Plan Discussion	Co-Chairs
20 min	CoC Board Midterm Survey Discussion	Co-Chairs

2024 HMIS MOU

What: HMIS Lead Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

Why Board Approval: HUD Regulation § 578.7 Responsibilities of the Continuum of Care states that the Continuum of Care must "*((b) Designating and operating an HMIS. (1) Designate a single Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) for the geographic area; (2) Designate an eligible applicant to manage the Continuum's HMIS, which will be known as the HMIS Lead; ... (5) Ensure the HMIS is administered in compliance with requirements prescribed by HUD.*"

Who Wrote this Document: Adapted from HUD CoC Interim Rule & previous MOU with PHB; Tri-county CoC Leads, Tri-County Lawyers, IT experts, HMIS data experts

2024 HMIS MOU

Current Status of HMIS Tri-County Implementation: The HMIS Implementation project is currently in the validation and testing phase. The Tri-County teams have identified their critical and high importance test criteria. These validation tests must pass before we launch. We are currently at 38.8% passing. We have several validation tests that are waiting for reports. Some of the reports need reconfiguring from our vendor (WellSky). WellSky monitors our issue list throughout the week. The Core Project Team meets weekly with WellSky to ensure that they address issues on a timely basis. The Core Project Team is planning for the next Go-Live date which is either going to be late January or early February depending on testing in the next few weeks.

2024 Reauthorization of Collaborative Applicant

What: Reauthorization of the Collaborative Applicant

Why Board Approval: HUD Regulation § 578.9 Preparing an Application for Funding, requires the Continuum of Care Board to designate a Collaborative Applicant. A Collaborative applicant means the eligible applicant that has been designated by the CoC to apply for a grant for CoC funds under this part on behalf of the Continuum. In addition HUD Regulation § 578.7 Responsibilities of the Continuum of Care states (5) In consultation with the collaborative applicant and the HMIS Lead, develop, follow, and update annually a governance charter...

2024 Reauthorization of Collaborative Applicant

Background: As required by HUD the Continuum of Care Board, must designate a Collaborative Applicant for the geographic area. The below sections from the CoC Charter outline the roles and responsibilities of the Collaborative Applicant. Since 2016, Multnomah County, through the Joint Office of Homeless Services, has been designated the Collaborative Applicant for our geographic region. The board will be voting on the reauthorization of the Joint Office of Homeless Services as the Collaborative Applicant at the 1/18/24 Board Meeting.

Collaborative Applicant Roles and Responsibilities (Sections J, S, & T of CoC Charter)

CoC Board Public Comment Guidelines

Drafted Outline:

- Scope of Public Statements
- Process for Development of Public Statements
- Participation by Ex-Officio Board Members
- Form of Public Statements
- Individuals Statements

CoC Board Public Comment Guidelines

- Test guidelines by developing talking points on single topic:
 - Housing First policy
- Appoint communications committee to develop those talking points
- Use that experience to refine the guidelines if needed
- Select other topics for development of talking points. Possible topics:
 - Trauma informed care
 - Permanent supportive housing
 - Culturally responsive services.

**5 MINUTE
BREAK**

Action Plan Discussion

CoC Board Action Plan Updates

Leads and Co-leads met on December 4th to discuss ways to coordinate and assist others in leading their assigned strategies.

Strategy 1.1 (Mark Morford): Developing Guiding Principles for the CoC Board's Voice to the Community.

- Update: Strategy group completed initial draft and shared with board Jan. 2024

Strategy 1.2 (Drew Grabham & Cammisha Manley - Co-leads): Understand factors contributing to homelessness in the community and impediments to achieving solutions for individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

- Update: Strategy group would like to conduct group interviews of more front-line staff and present to board quarterly.

CoC Board Action Plan Updates

Strategy 2.1 (Laura Golino de Lovato): Gain comprehensive understanding of funding streams across Multnomah County and how they contribute to homeless services in the region.

- Update: Like many groups, scheduling and finding time to meet has been difficult due to capacity issues.

Strategy 2.2 (Xenia Gonzalez): Understanding and incorporating current equity and gaps analyses into decision-making.

- Update: Like many groups, scheduling and finding time to meet has been difficult due to capacity issues. CoC board was given a refresher training on the RELT and will begin more actively using the RELT as part of their decision making processes.

CoC Board Action Plan Updates

Strategy 3.1 (Patrick Reynolds): Develop and track CoC project performance measures to evaluate the effectiveness of our entire system of care and how its components impact overall system performance.

- Update: Strategy group set out to define realistic targets for improvement - focusing on economic outcomes, data quality, retention, and how PSH and RRH are prioritized. Group would like board and CAC to consider integrating the group's work into the CAC work.

Strategy 3.2 (Katie Cox & Xenia Gonzalez - Co-leads): Develop strategy to prioritize funding for BIPOC and LGBTQIA2S+ culturally specific organizations to support communities that are disproportionately impacted by homelessness in our region.

- Update: Strategy group has begun to collect a list of culturally specific providers to engage about their experience with CoC applications.

Member Survey Discussion