

Joint Office of Homeless Services  
 Provider Conference  
 Homeless Response Action Plan  
 Presentation Follow-up

Theme	Question	Response or References
Politics and Policy	What is being done and what can be done to influence public policy and policy makers views on homelessness and poverty as a character flaw or deserved condition?	The driving causes of homelessness are set out and discussed in the Homelessness Response Action Plan (HRAP) with a focus on systemic causes, like lack of affordable, available housing, and access to supportive services, including behavioral health care.
	<p>Has this plan considered Universal Basic Income and/or Housing First Policies?</p> <p>I see UBI as a way to cut out red tape and get money directly where it needs to go.</p>	While UBI is a proven strategy to address housing instability, it isn't currently a strategy in the HRAP.
	How does JOHS hold space for this plan while there is a larger Metro and national push criminalizing and marginalizing this population through banning camping and the upcoming Supreme Court Case?	

Data and Evaluation	How many rental vacancies does the county currently have?	
	Is the “Coordinated Access data entry process changing?	That is not addressed in the HRAP.
	Can one be trained for entry to use the Veterans “By Name List?”	If you are a homelessness services provider contracted with the Joint Office of Homeless Services, you could reach out to your contract liaison to inquire.
	<p>What are the current research projects underway and how can we get more into them?</p> <p>(It seems like we’re sitting on a gold mine of data here in the Portland area including on homelessness, behavioral health, and the justice involved community.)</p>	There aren’t currently research projects identified in the HRAP.
	Can you share more about the evaluation plan?	There will be a data dashboard that will report the progress of the goals and actions items in the HRAP. It will include how many people have been served via applicable action items in plan.
	Is there data on the percentage of	Data from Joint Office

	homeless youth that come directly out of foster care? What about not from foster care?	Service providers shows youth coming into the homeless youth system asks them about prior foster care involvement. Based on recent data, approximately 40% of youth served in the system have past foster care involvement, and nearly 8% have current involvement in the foster youth system.
The Plan	What will accountability look like in the new Homeless Response Action Plan?	The newly formed Homeless Response System as described in the HRAP will have a three committee governance structure, with the bulk of the responsibility being shared between the Steering and Oversight Committee and the Implementation Committee.
	What progress or areas of the HRAP offer collaborative ways forward for the City and The County?	The HRAP is jointly adopted through an Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Portland and Multnomah County, as to how they will collaborate to address homelessness over the next

		three years.
	What does it mean that we have a 33,000 unit deficit now if we don't have 33,000 unhoused people?	The short version: This represents people who are doubled up because they can't afford a place of their own (for example: roommates who can't afford to move into housing of their own, or adult children who remain living with their parents when they otherwise would move into a place of their own). Lots of weedy details p. 12-14 of <a href="#">this report</a> .
	Why hasn't Portland kept up with building units? What was Portland's vision 20 years ago?	
	How do we reflect communications in our data?	
	Will the new plan have more Permanent Supportive Housing?	The HRAP includes the following action item: 5.4.2: Explore potential to expand permanent supportive housing capacity by bringing supportive services to existing affordable housing units.

	<p>What thinking went into determining the target years 2025, 2026, 2027 respectively for ending discharges from inpatient treatment, incarceration and foster homes?</p>	<p>The Homelessness Response Action Plan was developed by Multnomah County, the City of Portland, and community leaders. The respective goals for ending discharges to homelessness were set as ambitious, aspirational goals to help shape subsequent planning, programming, and budget development.</p>
	<p>Why do we focus on the population aged 62+ when most senior housing is for those aged 55+?</p>	<p>The plan has action items and participation guidelines consistent with some existing programs. Staff and partners who are working on the plan may adjust some aspects of the action items to best or better fit the intended impact of the action item or goal.</p>
	<p>How much of this work is in JOHS and how much includes opportunities to collaborate with community partners?</p>	<p>The work across the HRAP touches several systems, including those administered in the Joint Office on Homeless Services, and some of the work is led by or includes partners across health care, housing, and</p>

		human services, among others, in partnership with JOHS.
	What is the justification of the family shelter system being funded less per placement than the adult system? Families are typically bigger and take more resources to find housing.	This is not addressed in the HRAP.
ADL/SHS	1. What is the plan for houseless folk that cannot get into shelter because they cannot meet their activities of daily living (dressing, hygiene, transfers, toileting)?	There are action items in the HRAP that work to bridge the needs of older adults and people with disabilities that want support addressing their activities of daily living and the barrier to shelter and housing that those needs may create.
	2. Has anyone attempted to promote engagement with treatment centers for those battling substance abuse?	There is a strong role in the HRAP identified for partners working in behavioral health at the systems and direct service level.
	3. Are there any plans to offer shelter beds for folks that need help with physical care?	Please see the response to question 1 in this section.
Equity	How do we create affordable housing for BIPOC families who make less than 60	Goal 6 identifies the need for expanded affordable

	percent AMI/AMI?	housing. The HRAP identifies the disparate impacts of racism in our systems as a key strategy to address the disparate impact of homelessness on Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) community members to obtain housing that is affordable.
	What specifically in the plan addressing housing Black and African American people into permanent sustainable housing?	Please see the answer to question 1.
	What is currently in place to address shelter/housing previously incarcerated Black and African American people?	People leaving incarceration are a prioritized population for support and resources in the HRAP. The plan identifies additional understanding through action item 4.3.1: Conduct Assessment & Referral Center/Transition Service Unit needs analysis to determine changes and capacity needs to prevent all people leaving incarceration from entering homelessness, along with additional

		strategies outlined in Goal 4.
Discharge to the Streets	1. Our clients are frequently discharged from the hospital without proper support. Is there a way providers can participate in discussions around how to address this issue?	The Homelessness Response Action Plan was developed by Multnomah County, the City of Portland, and community leaders. The respective goals for ending discharges to homelessness were set as ambitious, aspirational goals to help shape subsequent planning, programming, and budget development. The current process, particularly the Community Advisory Council and the Implementation Committee are two spaces where providers' voices can be channeled and amplified.
	2. What is the plan to end behavioral health discharges to the street? Where will people go or will they stay at the behavioral health centers until they can be housed?	Please see the answer to question number 1 in this section.
Committees	Why is the governance/Steering Committee composed of only elected officials and no providers?	The governance structure has included an opportunity for providers to have voice via the Implementation



		Committee, and as possible members of the Community Advisory Committee.
	What is the role of “Business and Labor representatives” on the Community Advisory Committee?	Business and Labor representatives are among sets of experience and expertise that the membership of the Community Advisory Committee may bring to that group.
Provider Capacity	Do you have financial support from funders to support this plan?	Currently the work is funded by Multnomah County through the County General Fund, along with city, state, and federal funding streams. At this time we are unaware of any foundations contributing to the ongoing operations of the Homelessness Response System.
	What is the plan to close the gap between government employees and non-profit employees so there is not high turnover?	There are goals for future consideration included in the plan.
	What can be done to streamline the budget process to fully fund provider contracts at	This is a helpful piece of feedback on the current

	the beginning of the fiscal year and not dole out based on shifting political priorities throughout the year and be subject to one-time-only funds?	contracting environment, that we will share back with in our work.
Systems and housing resources	As the number of shelters increases, providers will likely take on more programs. What kind of capacity building funds will be provided to ensure that providers can successfully take on more operations to the HRAP goals?	Thank you for identifying this need. The HRS team will share it back in our work and conversations.
	What steps are being taken to create fully sustainable permanent supportive housing?	Bill Boyd This is another one that might be better answered by the JOHS.
	Is there funding to bring health care into shelters permanently? (I.E. - a counselor in each location or a nurse)	There is not funding attached to the HRAP, specifically, but to programs and services referenced in the plan. However, thank you for surfacing this need.