

**SHS Advisory Committee
Meeting
September 12, 2024
3:00 PM - 4:30 PM**



Agenda

Time	Agenda Item	Facilitator	Action
3:00	Welcome Land and Labor Acknowledgement Introductions SHS Updates	Breanna Flores	Inform
3:15	Equity Workgroup Recommendations	Breanna Flores	Review, Discuss, Vote
4:00	SHS Advisory Committee Priorities for FY25 – Survey Results	Breanna Flores	Review, Discuss
4:30	Session closes	Close	

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

Introductions

- Name
- Pronouns (if comfortable sharing)
- Organization/community you represent

SHS Updates

Co-Chair Update

- Both positions are open
- Nominations will open in coming months
- Duties are described in detail in the SHS Advisory Committee Charter
- Questions? Reach out to anna.johnson@multco.us

Community Agreements

When the SHS committee was founded, members identified the following community agreements:

- Take care of yourself.
- Make the best effort to be engaged and ready to support one another.
- Be aware of your own space and positionality.
- Practice cultural humility by respecting other perspectives, experiences and cultures.
- Share the air and give everyone a chance to speak.
- Be authentic and speak your truth.
- Respect and listen to each other, honor each other's perspectives and story.
- Respect confidentiality and don't share other's stories without their permission.
- Give feedback and be open to feedback.
- Differentiate between safety and comfort.
- Be curious and ask questions. Be patient.

Community Agreements Pt. 2

- Differentiate between opinion and informed knowledge.
- Interrupt oppression.
- Expect and accept discomfort and ambiguity.
- Be open to trying something different.
- Be open to hearing something different.
- Share gratitude for feedback.
- Be aware of time.
- Correct with care—assume good intentions.
- Respect names and pronouns (help others when they may make mistakes).
- Stay focused/stay present.
- Understand we are all collectively learning and growing.

SHS Advisory Committee Equity Workgroup Recommendations



Framing the Conversation: Equity Workgroup

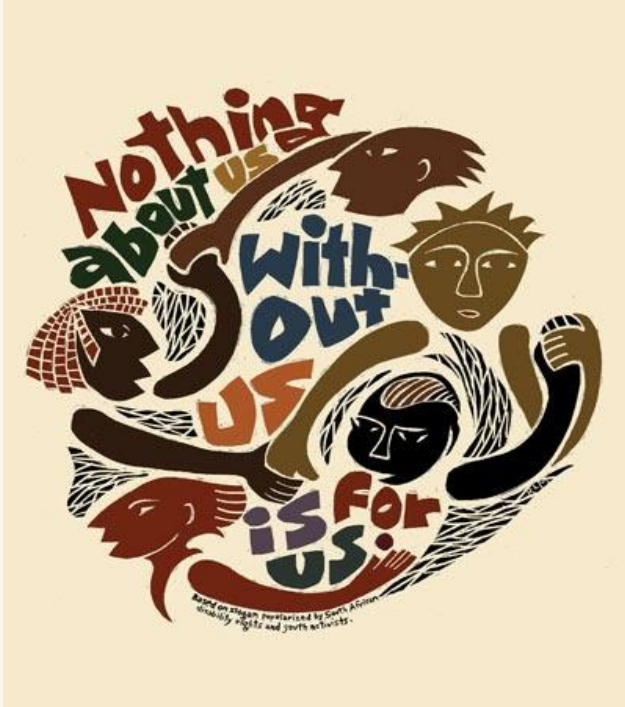
What are we talking about?

The equity workgroup met from September 2023 to May 2024 to address one of the SHS committee's top FY24 priorities: **ensuring equity** in SHS programming.

Why is it important?

This is an opportunity for the committee to provide guidance on funding and policies related to equity in our SHS work.

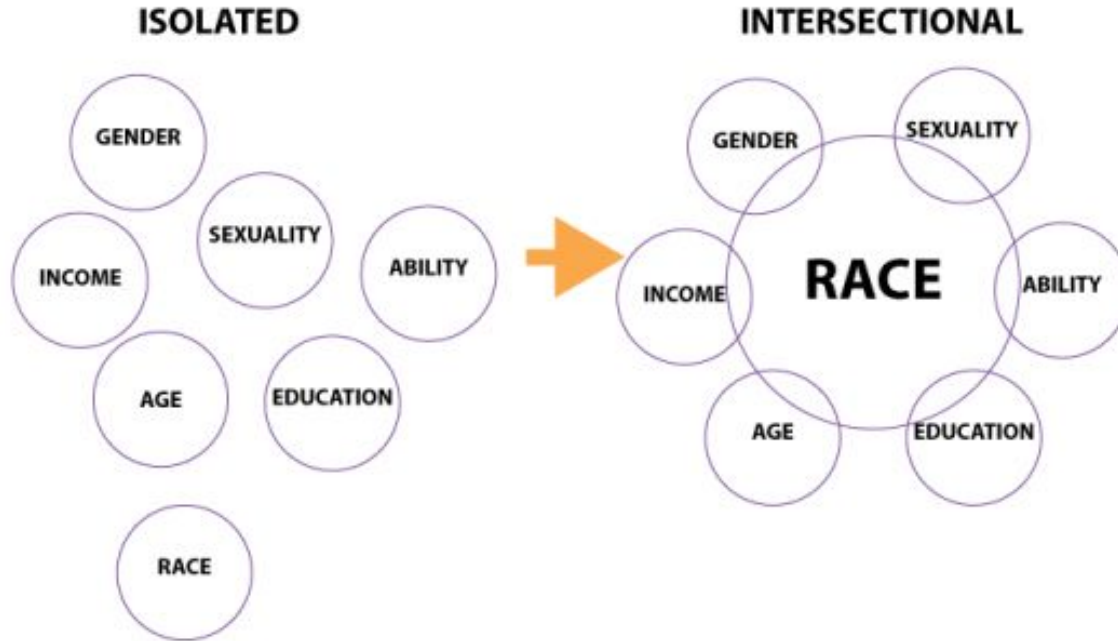
Additional Framing: Inclusively Leading With Race



To counter the ongoing mechanisms of racism and create systems that prioritize communities of color, Multnomah County is committed to integrating racial equity into all organizational functions and SHS service strategies.

- Centering lived experience and voices of BIPOC communities
- Understanding racial disparities in homelessness and housing
- Data-driven local plans
- Robust community engagement
- Racial equity goals and metrics

Additional Framing: Inclusively Leading With Race



Equity Advancement Via Other JOHS Advisory Bodies

Equity Advisory Committee:

- Provides guidance and recommendations to help address racial disparities in the Joint Office's work on ending homelessness.

Lived Experience Advisory Committee:

- Is comprised of and uplifts the voices of people who are or have been unhoused to ensure that the work of the Joint Office centers their experiences. Helps provide insight and recommendations to the Joint Office that can help improve the services and programs we support.

Recommendations

The group's recommendations fell into three categories:



INTERSECTIONAL EQUITY

Consider intersectional identities when developing SHS programming, & involve folks most impacted by disparities in housing & homelessness in discussions, communications, and decision making.



EQUITY INVESTMENTS

- direct cash assistance
- long-term rent assistance
- priority populations
- small, new, and emerging organizations



EVALUATION & ACCOUNTABILITY

Identify specific equity goals, provide clear guidelines, and ensure accountability.

Review Time

- 10 minutes to review the recommendations
- Return for discussion

Section 1: Intersectionality & Equity in SHS Work

Discussion questions:

- Strengths of this section?
- Points of confusion to clarify?
- Is there anything that would prevent you from voting to move the recommendations in this section forward?

Section 2: Evaluation and Accountability

Discussion questions:

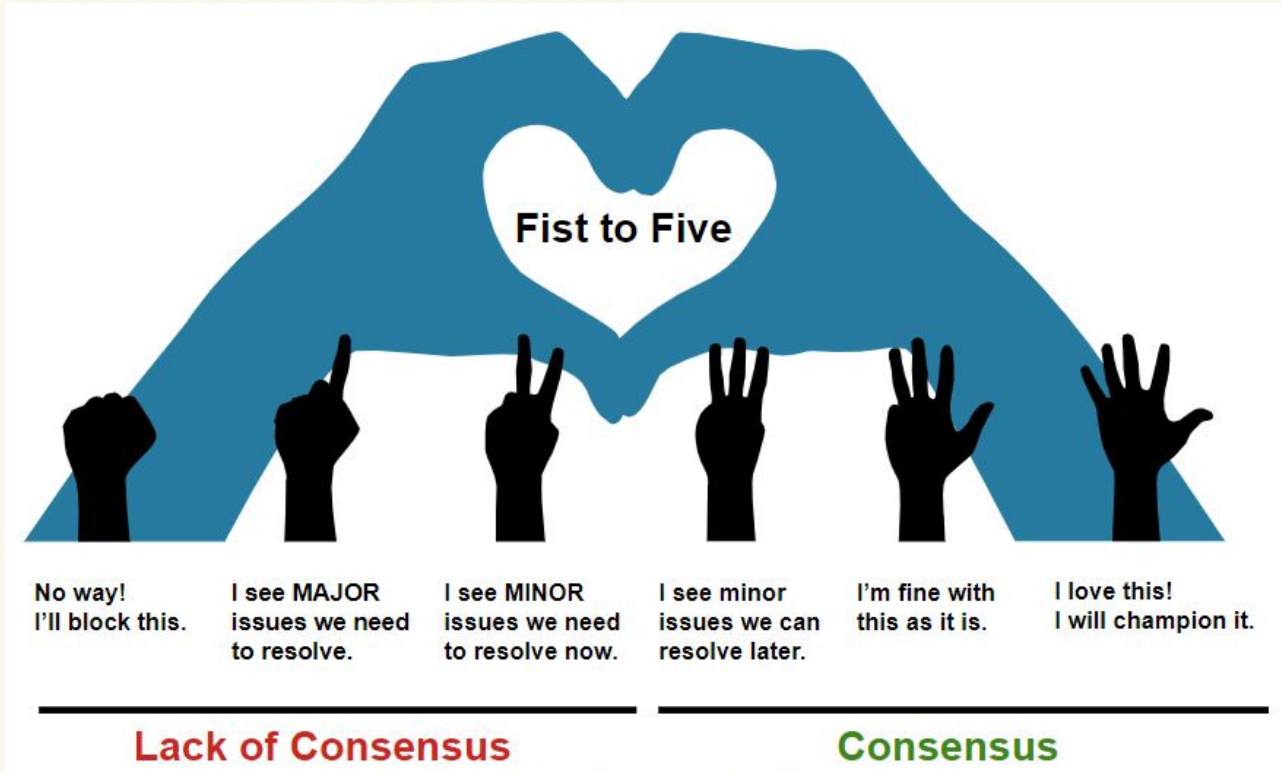
- Strengths of this section?
- Points of confusion to clarify?
- Is there anything that would prevent you from voting to move the recommendations in this section forward?

Section 3: Equity Investments

Discussion questions:

- Strengths of this section?
- Points of confusion to clarify?
- Is there anything that would prevent you from voting to move the recommendations in this section forward?

Voting: Equity Recommendations



Next Steps: Equity Recommendations

- If approved, the recommendations will be shared with JOHS executive leadership.
- If significant revisions are suggested, SHS team will revise and bring back to the committee.

SHS Advisory Committee Priorities for FY25



Framing the Conversation: FY25 Priorities

What are we talking about?

Each year the committee identifies its top two SHS priorities. These priorities guide meeting content for that year.

Why is it important?

The committee has the opportunity to determine where it places its focus and where it would like to make the biggest impact.

Priority Gathering & Refining Process

- **June:** In-Person Committee Retreat
- **July:** Priorities Jamboard
- **August:** Regular Committee Meeting, Priorities Survey
- **September:** Regular Committee Meeting

What are your top priorities for SHS committee work in FY25?

To have a sign up for the homeless people in the SW Library and the Safeway on 10th Ave for the waitlist and access to information on treatments and other services available

Women's crisis center here in the SW area

Maintain ongoing conversation concerning equity

Making sure services are accessible for physical and neurological (invisible) disabilities.

Ensure appropriate vouchers for different folks.

Equity for undocumented and immigrant clients.

Create data collection practices that track users' requests and successes or challenges in connecting to services that providers can use and analyze

make sure to elevate formally incarcerated voices

get out and see who's doing the work that we talk about

Maintain/enhance commitment to equity as #1 priority

Ensure future grant applications don't get stuck in needing to fit a certain formula to get approved.

Establish training parameters for funded projects.

Accessible data that providers can use.

Access to true housing first, robust 24 hour supportive housing. This would include people who use drugs and people with chronic and persistent mental health diagnoses.

Increase in family shelter and services dedicated to pregnant and parenting people who use drugs. Appropriate, evidence based training and education for the staff that work with them

Extreme weather coordination and criteria.

Comprehensive, user friendly access to service provision. I.e, Making it easier for people to know where to go to get the things that they need.

Expanding access to initial entry points to housing and other services. Training or increasing the number of community partners that can provide assessments.

Creation and maintenance of paid seats on advisory boards and governing bodies comprised of people with lived or living experience.

Keep the Metro housing bond.

City/county coordination and shared goals and practices that don't work against each other.

Maintain connections with other departments (behavioral health) etc.

More in depth collaboration on building evaluation criteria.

Maintain and develop relationships with researchers to ensure creation of good evaluation measures that center/prioritize lived exp./people on the ground.

connect more of the elderly with the work that we do so they can be properly served

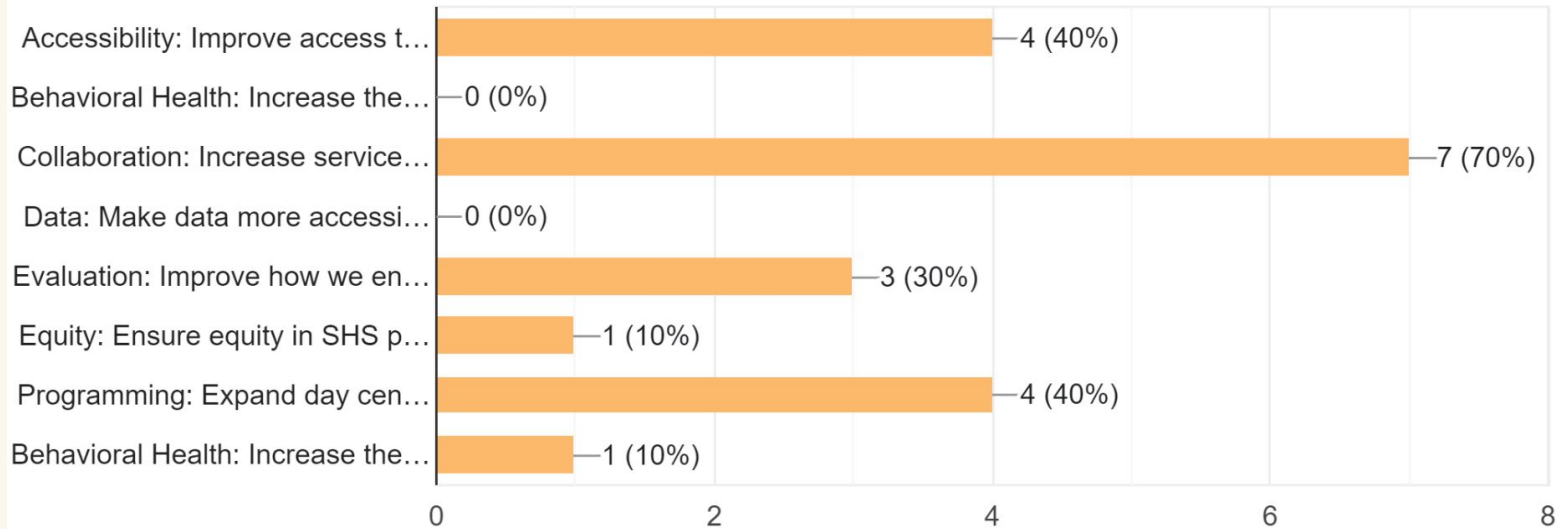
Emerging Themes

- **Accessibility:** Improve access to homelessness and housing services in Multnomah County.
- **Behavioral Health:** Increase the amount of quality, evidence-based services available for those with behavioral health needs.
- **Collaboration:** Increase service system coordination within Multnomah County and with external partners.
- **Data:** Make data more accessible to providers and create better tools for data sharing.
- **Evaluation:** Improve how we ensure accountability and measure success.
- **Equity:** Ensure equity in SHS programming
- **Programming:** Expand day center and street outreach programming.

Survey Results

Possible SHS Advisory Committee Priorities for FY25 (select your top two choices)

10 responses



Goals for Today

Hear from everyone regarding their top two priorities for committee work in FY25.

Discussion Questions

What **two things** from the emerging themes list would you most like to see the committee focus on this year?

Are there any **high-level** priorities missing from the current list?

Close

