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.

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:

- What are the racial equity impacts of this particular decision?
- What intersectional identities will be impacted by the proposal?
- 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	Welcome and opening remarks	Co-Chairs
10 min	CoC NOFO Next Steps	Alyssa Plesser
30 min	Community Agreements Review	Co-Chairs
5 min	BREAK	
55 min	Strategy 1.2 – Discussion & Next Step Decision	Co-Chairs
10 min	Housekeeping – December and January Board Meetings	Co-Chairs

CoC NOFO Next Steps

Joint Office of Homeless Services

Regular CoC NOFO Update

Application was submitted to HUD on October 29th 🎉

[Can view presentation on the Collaborative Application to the Multnomah County Board of County Commissioners here](#).

Next steps:

- Each provider that submitted an application, new and renewal, will receive a detailed score analysis
- 1:1 Technical Assistance meetings will be offered to any interested provider to discuss scores and room for improvement
- Providers with low rates of spend down will be supported with additional Technical Assistance
- Survey to CAC and all providers about their experience
- We can expect to hear results from HUD in late winter or early spring

Community Agreements

2022-2024 CoC Board Community Agreements

These community agreements were created by and with consensus from the Continuum of Care Board on 10/20/2022. These agreements represented the collective vision for how the board wanted to be in relationship with one another and what every person in the group committed to, to feel safe(r), supported, open and trusting in order to take transformational action. These community agreements were enforced by the group itself.

As the CoC Board, comprised of many new members, moves into its second two-year term, it is essential to review and update the community agreements with input from the current board.

Prioritizing Specific Voices

Community agreements come from a consensus-driven process to identify what every person in the group needs from each other and commits to each other to feel safe, supported, open, productive and trusting so that we can do our best work, achieve our common vision, and serve our houseless neighbors.

When we talk about "safe" or "safer" spaces it is important to recognize that for people representing dominant cultures and/or identities almost all, if not all, spaces are safe/safer spaces for them.

To act on our value of centering voices that are overrepresented in our homeless community, the needs/desires of board members that represent these identities and communities will be prioritized in the creation of our community agreements (i.e. Black, Indigenous, Hawaiian and Alaskan Native, Pacific Islander, Latinx, LGBTQIA2S+, & disabled)

The entire CoC Board will be approving the community agreements through consensus.

Edits Offered at 10/17 Meeting

- Delete "at" in #10
- #11 is confusing as written
  - add a comma after the word "language"
  - add "instead"
  - write it as "Use people first language and refrain from using stigmatizing language"
- #7 - "…Speak your truth responsibly": What protects me to speak from my truth/worldview, even though it may traumatize another person and their worldview?
  - Purpose of agreements is creating psychological safe space, noting that people in marginalized communities may never feel safe
  - Others need to be prepared that I will speak my truth
  - Some agreements say address the problem, not the person
- #6: the roads metaphor feels off; maybe "a cumulative perspective helps us reach a greater truth"
- More intentionally/directly responding to anti-blackness

CoC Board Community Agreements

What should the community agreements of the 2024-2026 CoC Board look like?

- Board members can offer edits to current language in community agreements

- Ask to strike certain agreements

- Ask to add certain agreements

- Make any changes needed to reach consensus and ensure the community agreements represent the needs & wishes of everyone

5 MIN BREAK

CoC Action Plan:
Strategy 1.2

HATTIE REDMOND

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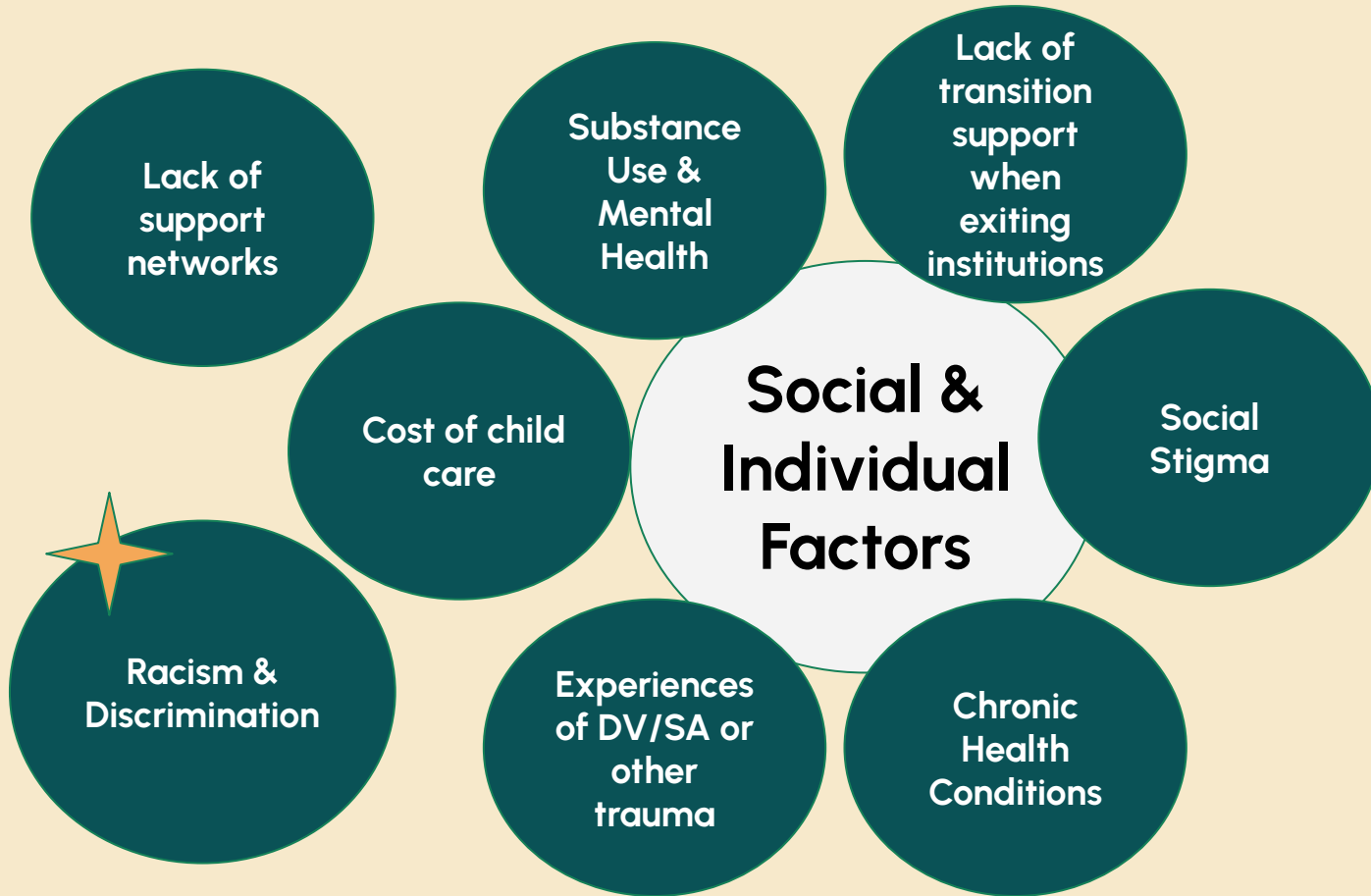
Strategy 1.2: Factors & Impediments

In May, we discussed factors contributing to homelessness in the community & impediments to achieving solutions for individuals & families experiencing homelessness.

Shortage of Affordable Housing

Static Wages

Economic Factors

Rising rent & housing costs

Strategy 1.2: Factors & Impediments

Lack of support networks

Substance Use & Mental Health

Lack of transition support when exiting institutions

Cost of child care

Social & Individual Factors

Social Stigma

Racism & Discrimination

Experiences of DV/SA or other trauma
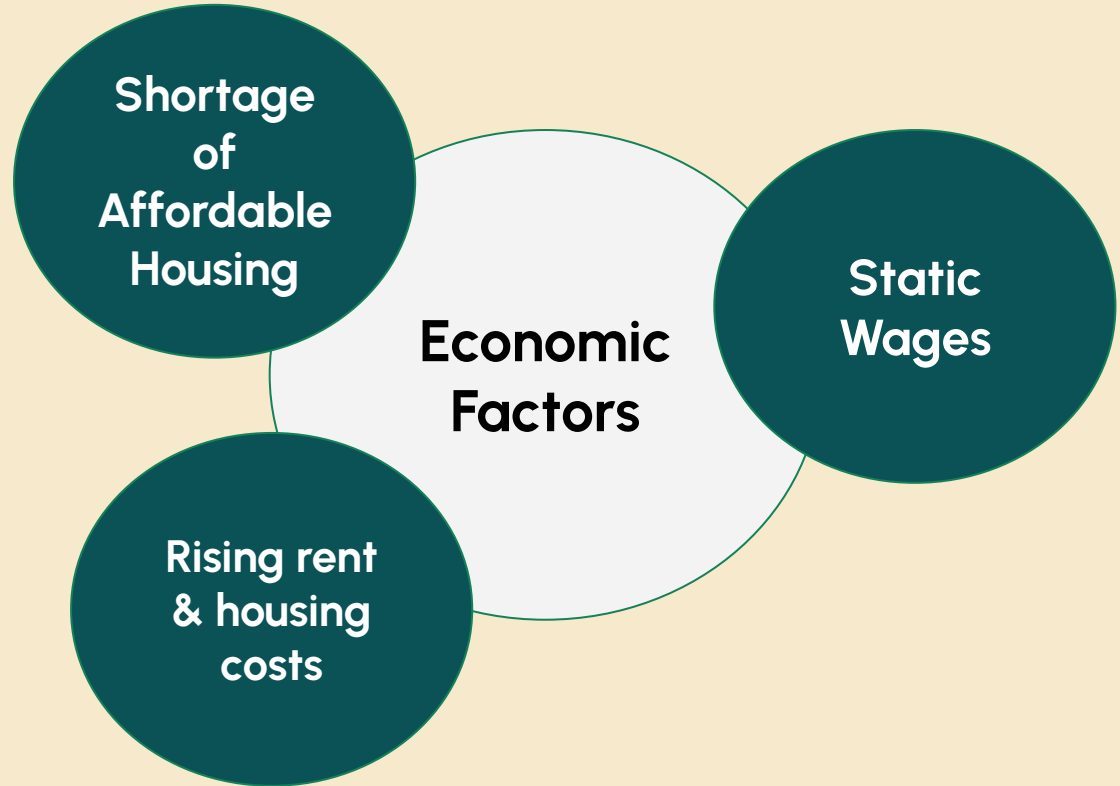
Chronic Health Conditions

Individual level factors can increase an individual's vulnerability and likeliness of experiencing homelessness, yet these factors are not the cause of the homelessness crisis. The traumatic conditions of unsheltered homelessness exacerbate the social determinants of homelessness.
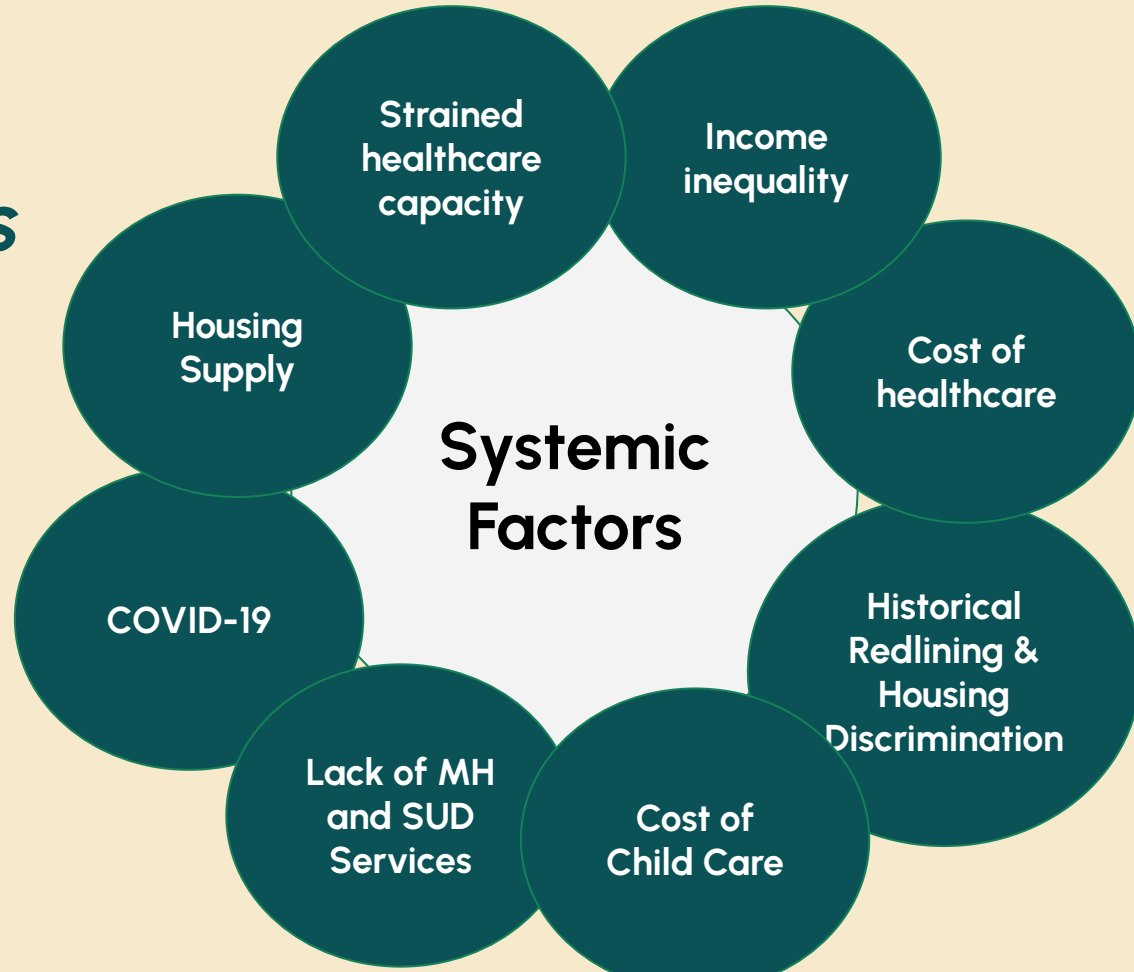
Strategy 1.2

Impediments

- Housing supply
  - Portland needs 5,200 per year
- Criminalization of addiction
- Criminalization of homelessness
- Stigma and discrimination
- Inadequate data systems/outdated HMIS
- Capacity constraints among housing service providers
  - Demand > Supply
  - Workforce burnout
  - Limitations to service coordination
- Lack of metrics to demonstrate successful outcomes
- Political tension and leadership
- NIMBYism (Not In My Backyard Mentality)

Strategy 1.2 - Going Further

After meeting the goal of Strategy 1.2, the workgroup wanted to take the strategy a bit further to discuss possible solutions to these issues based on the Board's experience and the current state of strategic planning at the county level.

Workgroup decided to focus on the Homelessness Response Action Plan. The plan is ambitious, aiming to better target and improve homeless services across Multnomah County. Given the size of the new plan (with its nine goals and many action items), the Board began with discrete goals that best aligned with the CoC's ongoing efforts. Discussion quickly centered on Goal 4, focusing on how to align efforts and recommend areas for the County to complement its actions.

Strategy 1.2 - Going Further

Goal 4 of the Homeless Response Action Plan aims to establish interventions to prevent homelessness among youth aging out of foster care, individuals exiting the criminal justice system, and people discharged from healthcare or behavioral health settings. The goal includes providing housing vouchers, navigation services,, and immediate care coordination for those at risk. It also emphasizes creating data exchange agreements and developing best practices to identify housing, medical, and educational needs, ensuring continuity of care and secure housing, healthcare, and employment pathways for these vulnerable populations to significantly reduce their risk of homelessness and recidivism.

This goal naturally aligns with our roles and responsibilities as a CoC by emphasizing coordinated efforts, resource allocation, and strategic partnerships to provide comprehensive support and secure permanent housing solutions, particularly for vulnerable populations transitioning into permanent housing various institutional settings.

Strategy 1.2 - Recommendations

In March, the discussion was broken up into those three topic areas, with a discussion of "current state" and concrete recommendations to be made to the Homelessness Response System:

1. Addressing Housing Stability and Employment for Youth Aging Out of Foster Care
2. Reentry Support and Housing Navigation for Individuals Exiting the Criminal Justice System
3. Immediate Care Coordinator Processing Initiatives for People Discharged from Healthcare or Behavioral Health Settings

After reviewing the recommendation document, created based on the Board discussion, Board will vote on whether to forward these recommendations to the HRS.

Strategy 1.2 - Recommendations

From page 2: "The CoC believes that improved coordination with the County around these action steps can dramatically improve our local response to homelessness."
Improve coordination between county and whom? COC [Not sure COC makes sense]? COC Board [what is it that our board can do?]?

From page 3: The CoC Board could improve coordination by ensuring that youth provider(s) have a permanent seat on the CoC Board.
Unless we are prepared to suggest permanent seats for all of our priorities as part of this document, I think this recommendation is unwise.

Page 4 "Recommendations": Is this intended to be a summary of the recommendations in the preceding bullets? This document would be clearer if the recommendations were consistent. Possibly, eliminate this 4-point summary and move these boldface recommendations to the bullets above to replace the less carefully worded recommendations in those bullets. The way the recommendations are presented in the next section regarding folks exiting incarceration works better.

December Meeting

Regular December Board meeting will be cancelled

JOHS will be organizing an appreciation event for all advisory committees/boards in connection with National Homeless Day of Remembrance. Official date TBD.

January Board Meeting

At every January Board meeting the CoC Board completes the following required business:

- Reauthorization of the HMIS and CoC Lead Agency
- Revisions and Approval of the CoC Governance Charter
  - Several areas for revision and improvements have already been identified, which should lead to robust discussion

Potential other topics:

- 2025 Work Plan topics for the CoC Board
- More community building and getting to know each other

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January Board Meeting

Some Questions for the Board:

1. Given the previous listed topics, is the CoC Board interested in having a 4-hour in-person gathering in lieu of the January Meeting? → POLL

2. If yes, how would folks want to extend/schedule the in-person meeting?

3. Is the Multnomah Building (501 SW Hawthorne) an accessible location for folks?

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Media & Graphic - Example 1

MultCo LIP Goals

Increase Shelter Capacity & Street Outreach

Supporting Culturally-Specific Providers and System Capacity

Regional Coordination, Community Engagement and Data

Reduce Racial Disparities within Service Outcomes

PSH   RRH

Housing | 2,500 placements annually

Our Annual Goal

Homelessness Prevention | 1000 Households

Joint Office of
Homeless Services

Media & Graphic - Example 2

Housing & Program Quantitative Goals

Total number of housing placements: 1,345 people.

690 people

**Rapid Rehousing &
Short-Term Rent Assistance**

655 people

Supportive Housing

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Table - Example 1

	SHS Unanticipated Revenue	Multco Direct American Rescue Plan (ARP)	Total
Available Resources	*$50,530,962*	*$12,417,438*	*$62,948,400*
Proposed Investments to Reduce Homelessness			
Expanding Shelter Access	$21,851,333		$21,851,333
Behavioral Health, Crisis Stabilization & Housing Services	12,964,000		
Shelter to Housing Flow through	8,182,895	1,150,438	9,333,333
Increasing Daytime Support Services	3,333,333		3,333,333
Preventing Households from Homelessness		10,140,000	
Improving Systems + Access to Services	2,279,520		2,279,520
Total Homeless Related Investments	**$48,611,081**	**$11,290,438**	**$59,901,519**
Plus: Addt'l Countywide ARP Investments*		1,127,000	1,127,000
Available Balance	**$1,919,881**	**$0**	**$1,919,881**

Table - Example 2

Plans for the $58.1M in FY24:	FY24 Adopted Budget	FY24 Proposals	Total
Employment Programs	$0.4M	$1.5M	$1.9M
Housing Placement & Retention	$20.9M	$1.4M	$22.3M
Safety Off & On the Streets	$3.6M	$4.7M	$8.3M
Supportive Housing	$0.6M	-	$0.6M
System Support, Access, & Coordination	$15.0M	$10.0M	$25.0M
Total	$40.5M	$17.6M	$58.1M

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Joint Office of **Homeless Services**

Media & Graphic - Example 2

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Joint Office of **Homeless Services**

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