



Continuum of Care Board Minutes

5/15/2025

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Attendance:

Board Members: Casady Monroe, Laura Golino de Lavato, Hannah Studer, Brandi Tuck, Trevor Nissen, Christina McGovney, JJ, Mark Morford, Xenia Gonzalez, Jamar Summerfield, Adriana Rangel-Ponce, Helmi Hisserich, Jessica Harper, Ian Slingerland, Steven Gilbert, Kat Salas
[Absent – Lizzie Cisneros, Tonya Jones]

JOHS & County Staff: Alyssa Plessner, Malka Geffen

Agenda Item	Discussion Points	Decision/Action
Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Land & Labor Acknowledgment• Review Community Agreements• Review Racial Equity Lens Tool• Review Agenda	
Update on HUD/New Administration Impacts	<p>CoC Lead shared updates with the CoC Board (see presentation slides).</p> <p>Q&A</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Under- and undocumented community members are being targeted by landlords who are afraid of retribution, and this should be talked about with providers A: We will track and ask to identify trends from our Landlord Liaison team.• Can you explain the gender data issue? We license HMIS separately from HUD and we can continue to collect gender data, but HUD is asking us not to report gender data in PIT count. We will use the data in our community to make sure we are still providing equitable services.<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ HUD will likely change universal data standards, but no indication of when.◦ As of now, we can still collect it if participants want to provide it.• Since we're collecting less data and less revenue, are we not heading into a situation where we can't provide services to whole swaths of our community? Every jurisdiction is fighting with each other. A: The County has a workgroup tracking the administration's moves. It is the County's intention to continue to serve and prioritize communities disproportionately impacted by homelessness. The funding situation across SHS and the County General Fund means	

	<p>that some services will be cut but we will continue to prioritize service for marginalized groups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Been difficult to navigate the systems; executive orders are affecting black and trans community members now. Is there a plan for pushing back? A: Multnomah County is fully committed to our equity values and requirements regarding disproportionately affected communities, even if we have to report to HUD differently. 	
Budget Update	<p>CoC Lead gave the CoC Board a multijurisdictional budget update (see presentation slides).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will discuss again at the July meeting, when the budgets are final. • This is an effort to support new CoC responsibility #7 in the charter: "Understanding how CoC funding intersects and aligns with local and state government funding and supporting grantees in maximizing utilization of CoC grants." • President's 'skinny' budget would effectively end PSH, but there's not a lot of appetite in Congress for the logistical issues. Federal FY ends Sept. 30th. • CBAC feedback about the HSD budget highlighted need for continued funding for culturally specific providers, more funding for Permanent Supportive Housing, and a living wage for direct service workers. • PHB director added: strong city council support for housing and homelessness; the deficit is serious and there are thoughts of layoffs, but PHB is not facing layoffs immediately. Proposed a 10% budget cut, including some rent subsidies and eviction legal defense, Mayor restored eviction legal defense and City Council trying to restore additional eviction prevention and rent subsidies. HUD entitlement funding had only 1% cut. Big portion of funding coming from bonds is going into new affordable and PSH units that are already fully committed. Looking for new resources for new housing projects. • City of Gresham had 16% cut from HSD funds and are adjusting rent assistance as a result. • HSD will communicate to the community that services are still available. 	
Selection of CoC Board Focus Areas	<p>Co-Chairs want to find 2 focus areas for CoC Board work for the next year. See presentation slides for review of previous brainstorm and different focus area options.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Option A is super broad; extremely low probability to have effect on this administration. Would also make us a target. Would remove this option. • Option D is manageable; doesn't need to be a focus area 	

	<p>but an oversight function Lead is already working on. Staff to report to the Board and get feedback.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ultimate goal of focus areas is not necessarily "success" (re: option A); allows us to build advocacy muscle and identify priority issues, going deeper as a board. • Best strategy is to focus on what we're doing on the local level. Still some value in building advocacy muscle, with focus on local government. • Interested in multijurisdictional funding streams focus (option C); often feels like missing link <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Same for option B • Helpful if the Board understands better something providers understand - options B and C; would help us better advocate for recommendations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Would help the Board be nimble in changing environment <p>Board took a first-to-five vote for option C as a focus area: Casady Monroe: 5, Laura Golino de Lavato: 5, Hannah Studer: 5, Trevor Nissen: 5, Christina McGovney: 5, Mark Morford: 4, Xenia Gonzalez: 5, Jamar Summerfield: 4, Adriana Rangel-Ponce: 5, Helmi Hisserich: 5, Jessica Harper: 4, Ian Slingerland: 3, Steven Gilbert: 5, Kat Salas: 4</p> <p>June meeting cancelled for Juneteenth; Will look at a second focus area in a rescheduled 1-hour June meeting</p>	
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