



SHS Advisory Committee Meeting

May 8, 2025 | 3:00-4:30 pm

Attendance: Julia, Jamar, Patrick, Daniel, Ed, Jessica, Sandra, Cheryl, Lauren, Ria, Dwight, Yvette, Theo

STAFF: Mack, Anna, Bill

Agenda Item	Discussion Points	Decision/Action
Welcome Land and Labor Introductions SHS Updates		
County Budget Process Update & Engagement Opportunities / Q&A	<p><i>See slides for content</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Multnomah County budget was approved today. However, it won't be final until June.• Public hearings will take place Wednesday evenings in May.• Budget Resources:<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Budget dashboard◦ Budget documents with narrative and numbers• Sara Ryan—intake/outtake person, fielding questions. Receives 50-100 questions a day on the budget. Answering what was funded, and why. Three County commissioners are new so there are a lot of questions.• There has been an increase in resources, but expenses overall are up. Everything is more expensive, and we need to reduce some line items to pay for essential services.• \$4 billion total, but about \$3 billion to work with—the rest is in reserves, etc.• Within the \$3 billion, there is about \$900M in the	

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	<p>general fund that the Chair has discretion over. These are funds that are not mandated or funded by something else.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not enough to do all the things we'd like to do, especially with reductions in pandemic funding. • Ongoing funds vs one-time only funds—tried to be good stewards of the money and only fund ongoing services with ongoing funds. Some pandemic era programs continued longer because the funding was available, but that has since ended and we're unable to continue them. • A lot of the positions that were cut were vacancies. The Chair tried to prioritize removing vacant positions vs staffed ones. • Health dept is our largest budget/dept. and had a large reduction. School based mental health was cut in half. • Homelessness services also had a big cut—most challenging budget because SHS is a huge funding source and is also decreasing quite a bit next year. • Additional money in sheriff's office to help in recruitment of jail staff. • Question—Does the county get state funds? The governor's priorities seem to align around mental health, housing, homelessness—are there opportunities to work together? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We do get state funds. The state is in their long session right now and we have folks advocating at the state level frequently right now. Have a big ask for homelessness services. • In late summer/fall we'll open up the budget and modify for additions or subtractions based on where state and federal funding lands. • Question- Opioid settlement funds—does SHS have access to those funds for harm reduction services or housing first programs for folks struggling with opioid use disorder? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We do get a very small amount. Guessing it does fund the things you mentioned, probably goes through the health dept. Funds some work in behavioral health. ○ If you want to know more just let SHS team know and we can follow up with Sara. • Question about permanent supportive 	
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	<p>housing—what does permanent mean and is that being factored into the budget? For each person we're currently supporting in the system, how long will support continue? How sustainable is that if our houseless population continues to increase?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It isn't really permanent. For PSH we have SHS funding, but before SHS there was very little general fund going into long term rent assistance with support. Metro and the counties involved in the ballot measure are talking about going back to the ballot this fall to extend the measure for longer because originally it was only for 10 years. We are going into year five so it's time to start thinking about next steps. If the original 10 year sunset went forward, we would continue spending out those resources until they are gone. ● Question—Is there a budget for elder care, especially those experiencing homelessness? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Department of County Human Services has a number of programs for elderly folks. Mental health services, home support to live independently, etc. ● Outcomes—Commissioners are concerned about what the programs are, are they doing what they say they're doing, and want to know the perspective of boards like ours to understand if programs and services are effective. ● May public hearings—the hearings on the 14th and 28th will be viewable online via Youtube. The other one in Gresham may not be. ● Really helpful to have people with lived experience come in and talk about their experiences and share about why these programs are important to you and should be maintained or added back in ● The primary function of the board is to pass the budget and commissioners really want to hear from the community about what is important to you. 	
Defining Accessibility, Part 3	<p><i>See slides for content</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Feedback on the difference between accessibility and access—maybe for clarity's sake we could say accommodations instead of accessibility. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SHS team note—the overall goal could be access and accommodations could be a category within access. ○ And then specify what kind of accommodations we're talking about for different groups. ● Discussion question: Knowing what the committee has already recommended, are there any things within the categories from the accessibility whiteboard activity that you would like to focus on/explore more? ● Feedback/question- I'm not as familiar with the HMIS expansion—from our perspective as a provider HMIS is not helpful because you put info in but can't see data analytics. Could SHS dollars invest/is there a plan to make HMIS actually be a better system? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Yes! Our data team is involved in a regional procurement for a new HMIS system. ● Question—Have all these past recommendations been acted upon? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Leadership has provided initial reactions to the recommendations, and the committee can always follow up and ask for an update. ● Question—In our recommendations should we consider what is feasible based on budget constraints? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Budget constraints are a reality that we would have to do this work within—good to keep in mind ● Feedback—I'm interested in ensuring fair compensation for people with lived experience and would want to continue elevating this. This group tends to have lower rates of compensation, and are often the first people to get fired. ● Feedback—I would be interested in an equity eval tool for people accessing services to give feedback on policies that are antithetical to their ability to access housing, and an eval that gathers the perspectives of the workforce. It would be a way for the workforce and people accessing services to have their input considered in policies and programming. ● Feedback—Want to keep prioritizing smaller culturally specific providers—smaller orgs. ● Question—What are the qualifications to become a culturally specific provider, other than an org just 	
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	<p>saying they are?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Homeless Services Dept has descriptions/definitions of what it means to be a culturally specific or responsive provider. ● Feedback—For the past recommendations, specifically equity metrics for providers receiving SHS dollars—At Urban League 80% of our leadership /employees are African/African American, and we got dinged for not having a diverse enough workforce. The assessment also only wanted to know about SHS funding—which is a big data admin burden for our staff. The SHS committee and lived experience committee could give a lot more info about how these recommendations could be implemented to avoid adding undue burden and unintended consequences ● Feedback— I'm having trouble with this exercise because I'm not sure what has been implemented and in what capacity. It would be helpful to have a progress report. It would be problematic to keep honing in on the same recommendation if it's not being implemented at all or implemented in a way that is creating other issues. ● Member suggestion—How does the committee feel about doing a brief check in on updates with where we are with priorities like this—checking in on recommendations once a quarter, 6 months, etc? Overview of any movement on recommendations rather than having to make a direct ask. Would that be useful to folks? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ There was some agreement in the chat. ○ Comment—It would be helpful to know what actions have happened that could be reported. Tracking that process better and making sure we are continually part of the conversation ○ Comment—Could you make an excel spreadsheet with the recommendations on one side, and a check box to see if they've been addressed / a link to more info? ● Question—With the budget changes and things happening with undocumented populations, is there any tracking of how people are participating or being served? There is distrust because it's a scary situation for folks—privacy protection for folks is really 	
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	<p>important.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Multco data team has published a statement in their recent HMIS newsletter to help providers and the community understand how personal data is protected in HMIS. Big picture: HUD does not have and will not have direct access to our local HMIS database. While we are required to share some data with HUD, this data never includes participant names, social security numbers, or other details that could identify someone personally. 	
Member Updates/Advocacy Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Urban League lobby day in Salem <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Voices United Legislative Day of Action ○ May 21st ○ JD will share a flyer ● "The Trauma You Bring With You" Training <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Washco library mental health training presentation—how to navigate trauma you bring with you while you are helping others with theirs ○ May 22nd from noon to 4:30 ○ In person for now; looking into virtual options ○ PA will send out info—PA speaker 24 ● Welcome Home Coalition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Call to action for city councilors to put more money into housing vs shelters ○ SC will send invitation to join advocacy list 	
Next Steps		

Zoom Chat:

15:01:48 From Daniel Carrillo to Hosts and panelists:

Hello everyone!!

15:05:55 From Jamar Summerfield to Hosts and panelists:

I'm excited to join this Supportive Housing Services meeting and contribute to the important discussions ahead. I bring a perspective that centers the Black community, elderly individuals, and those who have been formerly incarcerated. Ensuring equitable access to housing and services for these populations is crucial, and I look forward to collaborating on solutions that uplift and support those most in need.

15:10:15 From Daniel Carrillo to Hosts and panelists:

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Hello , my name is Daniel Carrillo, he him, I represent NAYA and the Latino community

15:11:21 From Anna J, she/her to Theo's iPhone, Hosts and panelists:
Hey Theo! Do you want to be promoted to a panelist?

15:12:02 From Pastor Minnieweather to Hosts and panelists:
Good afternoon everyone I hope everyone is doing well pastor Minnieweather

15:33:55 From Lauren Link to Hosts and panelists:
wow, what a process--thank you!

15:34:48 From Cheryl's iPad to Hosts and panelists:
Is there a budget for elder care especially homeless

15:38:12 From Cheryl's iPad to Hosts and panelists:
Thank You 🙏

15:40:37 From Cheryl's iPad to Hosts and panelists:
Sounds good

15:45:52 From Anna J, she/her to Theo's iPhone, Hosts and panelists:
Yes--please let Mack or I know if additional questions pop up after the meeting.

15:54:19 From Anna J, she/her to Hosts and panelists:
I think we might consider the overall priority name as being Access--and accommodations (previously accessibility) as a facet of access.

15:56:00 From Cheryl's iPad to Hosts and panelists:
I like the idea of accommodation

15:57:38 From Mack VoHS (they/them) to Hosts and panelists:
Coordinated entry point / service delivery: Are there topics that stand out or that you'd like to explore more?

16:05:57 From Mack VoHS (they/them) to Hosts and panelists:
Program policies and practices: Are there topics that stand out or that you'd like to explore more?

16:13:57 From Mack VoHS (they/them) to Hosts and panelists:
Systemic policies and practices: Are there topics that stand out or that you'd like to explore more?

16:18:06 From Pastor Minnieweather to Hosts and panelists:
All of this information is great to share with each other. To help us complete our mission and goals happy to be here with you all.

16:18:28 From Ria Tsinas she/her to Hosts and panelists:
❤️👏❤️👏❤️YES!!!!

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16:19:48 From Ria Tsinas she/her to Hosts and panelists:

The problem is that these concepts are being operationalized by beaurocrats that are incredibly removed from the day to day

16:20:43 From Ria Tsinas she/her to Hosts and panelists:

Good point Lauren!

16:24:14 From Lauren Link to Hosts and panelists:

Yes, I would like updates on previous recommendations. It is hard for me to think through what to prioritize and elevate this year, if we don't have a progress report on past recommendations.

16:26:28 From Pastor Minnieweather to Hosts and panelists:

I agree

16:31:38 From Ria Tsinas she/her to Hosts and panelists:



16:32:29 From Cheryl's iPad to Hosts and panelists:

Great ideas and thank you all for the plugs

16:33:16 From Yvette Hernandez to Hosts and panelists:

I'm sorry, but I have to go

16:33:18 From Ria Tsinas she/her to Hosts and panelists:



16:33:20 From Lauren Link to Hosts and panelists:

Yes, that would be great!

16:33:46 From Pastor Minnieweather to Hosts and panelists:

That would be great

16:34:06 From Lauren Link to Hosts and panelists:

Thank you!

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