

Coordinating Committee to End Homelessness (CCEH) Meeting Minutes – March 21, 2012

Facilitated by: Marc Jolin & Shannon Singleton

Prepared by: Mary Welch

Reviewed by: Steering Committee & CCEH

Present: Asad Arkhidr, EV Armitage, Teresa Badel, Melissa Bensink, Kimberly Black, Stacy Borke, Heather Brown, Caitlin Campbell, Jennifer Chang, William Daniels, Paul Davis, Christina Dirks, Sally Erickson, Tina Fitzgerald, Kristen Funk-Tracy, Melissa Greeney, Tina Hadley, Brian Haggerty, Troy Hammond, Pam Hester, Amanda Hurley, Chris Iverson, Marc Jolin, Marylee King, Jes Larson, Jeremy Marks, Valerie Martinka, Michael Mellick, Susan Montgomery, Ibrahim Mubarak, Andrew Noethe, Rachel Post, Leo Rhodes, Art Rios, Sr., Natasha Roe, Erika Silver, Shannon Singleton, Michael Smith, Regina Somboonsiri, Cathy Spofford, Lynne Walker, Tom Wehrley, Melissa Wills, Michael Withey

Agenda Topic	Discussion Points	Outcomes / Decisions / Next Steps
<p>Introductions and Updates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● February’s CCEH meeting minutes were reviewed and approved. ● Welcome to new CCEH Steering Committee members: Stacy Borke, Jim Hlava, Jes Larson and Erika Silver. ● Michael Withey from Occupy Portland spoke about a suggested relief camp model for assist people experiencing homelessness in Portland. The focus could be to assist people with employment and housing services. It would be run by volunteers and be a drug- and alcohol-free site. ● A reminder of seasonal shelter and warming center closures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ March 31: PHB/Red Cross severe weather monitoring ends ○ March 31: Last night Portland Rescue Mission expanded winter shelter mats ○ April 9: Last night Transition Projects women’s warming center ○ April 15: Last night Salvation Army Harbor Light men’s winter shelter ○ April 30: Last night Salvation Army Female Emergency Shelter winter mats ○ April 30: Last night Human Solutions Family Winter Shelter ● Home Forward released an RFP for the Short Term Rent Assistance (STRA) for the next five years. A pre-conference is scheduled for March 27th at Home Forward located at 135 SW Ash at 9:30 a.m. Attendance is optional. Applications are due April 16th at 3:00 p.m. ● HUD has awarded Portland/Multnomah County \$542,773 in McKinney Funds for new projects with JOIN and Human Solutions. The JOIN provide 20 units for high barrier chronically homeless households and Human Solutions will provide scattered site housing for 22 families. ● NEW LOCATION FOR CCEH - Starting April 18th, 2012, CCEH will convene at the Bud Clark Commons, 650 NW Irving, 1st Floor conference room. 	<p>If anyone is interesting in speaking with Michael about this idea he can be contacted at: michaelwitheyjr@gmail.com.</p> <p>The RFP is located at: www.homeforward.org.</p>

<p>Update on Drug Free Impact Areas</p>	<p>Billy Prince, Deputy District Attorney at Multnomah County and Mike Boyer, Crime Prevention Coordinator with the City of Portland, gave an update on the Drug Free Impact Areas. The focus is to decrease open air drug deals in several areas in the County, including Old Town/Chinatown which has the highest rate of drug deals (cocaine, heroin and marijuana). In the first six months of its inception, approximately 240 criminal cases were filed in the Downtown and Old Town area. Individuals were offered enrollment in the Service Coordination Team (SCT) program to receive treatment and housing assistance. Of the individuals excluded, 70% were male and 30% were female. The ethnic breakdown was: 58% White, 37% African American, 3% Latino and 2% Other. One quarter (25%) were arrested for dealing and 75% for possession. Mr. Boyer provided additional updates and information on the individuals served through SCT and collaborative efforts between the County District Attorney and Portland Police Bureau.</p>	<p>Additional information for the drug Impact area can be found at: http://www.portlandonline.com/police/index.cfm?c=56404.</p>
<p>Diversion Courts & Involuntary Commitments: Serving Individuals with Mental Illness and Addictions in the Criminal Justice System</p>	<p>Jean Dentinger and Stephen Young discussed the Multnomah County Diversion Courts and services for chronically mentally ill and/or addicted individuals experiencing homelessness:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Court is for minor violations and misdemeanors only. The program offers restorative sanctions and opportunities to address quality-of-life crimes through opportunities for community service and/or engagement in social services. Court convenes on Thursdays, 2:30pm. Anyone is welcome to come and observe. • Mental Health Court is for severely mentally ill individuals who are at risk of incarceration based on commission of a crime. Participants agree to be supervised by the court for 12 months with support from mental health professionals and treatment agencies. Individuals must have an Axis 1 Diagnosis to be eligible. The program has been going for three years and has helped 50 people year each and has the capacity to serve 70 people. • Forensic Diversion provides support to mentally ill individuals in the criminal justice system, with the goals of: keeping people out of jail, keeping them from returning to jail and engaging in community service. A team works to place individuals into housing and assist them in connecting to the social supports necessary to stabilize. • Start Court is for felony property crimes (robbery, burglary, forgery, delivery) and individuals enter the court post-sentencing. People stay in the program for a minimum of one year with case management and regular court appearances. • Stop Court is for felony possession charges or tampering with drug records. Referrals are made by the DA's office. Outpatient treatment is available and participants can have cases dismissed upon successful graduation. 	<p>For more information, contact Jean at: jean.m.dentinger@multco.us or 503-988-5464</p> <p>For Community Court, contact Stephen at: stephen.young@multco.us or 503-988-5090, Ext. 26564</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DISP DUII Intensive Supervision is for those with misdemeanor and felony 2nd, 3rd and 4th DUII charges. Referrals are generally based on plea agreements between Defense and DA, and entry is post-sentencing. Participants may be in the program between 3 and 5 years. Successful completion of program may result in early end to probation. • It is estimated that the majority (60-70%) of people who go through the Community Court system are homeless. Some CCEH participants stated they have personally experienced going through the court programs and voiced their challenges and complaints of the system. More data should be collected on how many homeless actually find homes after going through this process and more tracking should be done to find the roots causes of why people end up there. • Another concern raised was the program involves conflict of interest between the court's community service program and the entity which benefits from the community service. • Several participants also voiced their support for the community court and other diversion court programs in assisting homeless individuals. • There was interest among several participants to continue the dialogue on the courts, including potential future dialogue on challenges and solutions. • The Community Court will soon begin at the Bud Clark Commons site on Fridays. 	
<p>Announcements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saint André Bessette Catholic Church will hold its annual memorial service for the remembrance of homeless who have died this year on April 4th at 2:00 p.m. • Next CCEH meeting will be held Wednesday, April 18th at the new location, Bud Clark Commons, 1st Floor multi-purpose room located at 650 NW Irving. Parking lots and metered parking available on surrounding streets. 	