

**COORDINATING COMMITTEE TO END HOMELESSNESS (CCEH)
MEETING MINUTES**



Date: March 18, 2009	Location: First United Methodist Church	Recorded by: Ruth Benson
Time: 3 pm to 5 pm	Facilitated by: Jean DeMaster	Reviewed By: Steering Committee
Present: Sally Erickson, Howard Cutler, Ruth Benson, Madeleine Mader, Caren Baumgart, Fern Elledge, Molli Mitchell, S. Cathie Boerboom, Ryan Karnes, Ian Slingerland, Ryan Deibert, Allison McIntosh, Marietta Loudon, Rick Stoller, Kim Tierney, Patty Doyle, Larry Turner, Lynn Walker, Heather Brown, Kari Brenk, Fay Schuler, Victoria Waldrep, Traci Manning, Jennifer Wilcox, Israel Bayer, Sandy Cooper, Clover Mow, Renata Wilson, Bobby Weinstock, Juan Serratos		
TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION/ DECISION
Introductions & Announcements	Sally Erickson presented the fifth year, 2009, 10-year plan goals. She asked that people review and send comments or changes to her. Updates will be provided via email and the BHCD website. She also asked that the CCEH consider items listed in the parking lot section. Several of the goals listed do not have champions or need more details added. Erickson also announced the HUD McKinney award. Portland received its largest award to date. 28 projects were renewed and 3 new projects were funded. Two of the three new projects will provide treatment and housing to chronically homeless adults. The Clifford Apartments will provide 15 units to adults with mental illness and the Safe Home project will provide 20-25 units to adult victims of domestic violence. The third new project is the Rapid Re-housing for Families project. Portland project is one of only 23 across the nation that were funded. The project will assist 40 homeless families.	
Approval of February minutes	Approved without dissent.	Approved
Updates	<p>Warming Center 08: Fern Elledge, TPI, and Jean DeMaster, HSI, provided updates on the Winter Warming Centers. Elledge reported that the adult warming centers opened on Dec. 18 and will close on March 31. The centers were well received by clients. They were able to provide shelter, minimal food/beverages, and assistance to homeless adults, many of whom were medically vulnerable. Jean DeMaster reported that the Family Warming Center would be open till the end of April. It serves 20-25 households each night. The Warming Center has seen an increase in the number of couples and pregnant women. The Center has been able to connect clients to other housing and services.</p> <p>Legislative Updates: DeMaster announced that the Document Recording Fee bill was passed. This bill could generate up to \$19.6 million over 2 years. Most of the funds will be directed to produce more affordable housing with 10% being allocated to assisting homeless households. She noted there are two other bills that are proposed that will need support. SB 5535 will use lottery proceeds to back bonds for affordable housing. These bonds would also provide assistance to mobile home parks. Another bill being recommended is SB199. This bill will increase the percent of federal funds dedicated to affordable housing.</p>	Ask your legislators to allocate more State general fund dollars to community needs such as hunger and homelessness.
Employment Panel	A panel provided information on employment programs, particularly those that serve homeless households. Presenters were, Clover Mow, Worksystems, Inc.; Howard Cutler & Madeleine Mader, Bureau of Housing and Community Development (BHCD); Sandy Cooper, State of Oregon; Jennifer Wilcox, Central City Concern (CCC); and Traci Manning, CCC.	

	<p>Mow reported recent changes to program outline and delivery for Worksystems, Inc (WSI). WSI has been mandated by the State of Oregon to merge with another large employment system to provide more customer-focused services. WSI will provide skill development on a one-on-one basis and move away from employment placement. There will be 19 regional products provided and more coming. Products include development circuit rider classes, ESL, computer literacy, mathematics labs, reading labs, job workshops and resume writing workshops. All centers will be standardized.</p> <p>Howard Cutler and Madeleine Mader reported on BHCD’s Economic Opportunity Initiative program. This program provides funding for 34 projects and serves 1,805 individuals. Programs are focused in either workforce development or microenterprise. Each program provides wrap around services to its clients including housing assistance and case managers.</p> <p>Victoria Waldrep provided updates on the State of Oregon’s Vocational Rehab programs. Voc Rehab has started a waitlist. Clients seeking assistance will be evaluated and then placed on the waitlist. The State does not anticipate drawing from the waitlist until June. Those on the waitlist are taken according to degree of disability and date placed on the list. Currently the waitlist has 1,800 clients.</p> <p>Jennifer Wilcox described the Supportive Employment Program at CCC. The program provides a housing case manager and an employment specialist for clients. The CCC center offers 2 orientations and 14 classes each week on a drop in basis.</p> <p>DeMaster asked meeting attendees to list the most significant gaps they see in the employment system with regards to the clients served by their organizations. They reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A need for transportation to and from job interviews and centers • More treatment and stabilization assistance • A program specific to DV survivors • Assistance with legal barriers • More opportunities to reach self sufficiency • Flexibility to adapt work situations to those with chronic illnesses, e.g., HIV • Better alignment with rent assistance resources • More programs that pay stipends while a client is in training • Child care was mentioned by several members • More wrap around services • Creating templates of successful programs to facilitate other organizations ability to provide services • Barter systems between organizations to provide better services to clients • More direct referrals to jobs • Homeless families need more assistance with soft skills • Awareness of huge competition of newly homeless due to economy and existing homeless • Better connection/communication between providers • Attention to cognitive issues that create barriers for many clients 	
Announcements	Kim Tierney with Multnomah County Health Department reported that June 30, 2009 is the final day of the medical mobile van. Due to budget constraints the van will no longer be able to provide on site	For OCHH

	<p>services. Tierney also announced that the adult mental health program is providing more psychiatric appointments and that the pediatric and prenatal appointments have been moved out of the downtown clinics. The County will also be cutting the Outreach Nurse position.</p> <p>DeMaster provided information about Oregon Coalition on Housing and Homelessness conference on April 15th through the 17th in Hood River and noted that due to the conference the April meeting of CCEH would be moved to Tuesday April 14th in the Fireside Room.</p>	<p>conference info go to www.ochh.org</p>
Next CCEH meeting	Note different day: TUESDAY, April 14, 2009, 3-5 p.m., FUMC, FIRESIDE ROOM.	