

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



Date: April 14, 2009	Location: First United Methodist Church	Recorded by: Dove Hotz
Time: 3 pm to 5 pm	Facilitated by: Jean DeMaster and Marc Jolin	Reviewed By: Steering Committee
Present: Wendi Anderson, E.V. Armitage, Caren Baumgart, Kari Brenk, Caitlin Campbell, Rachel Carlson, Ryan Deibert, Patty Doyle, Melanie Duncan, Fern Elledge, Naomi Harris, Amanda Hurley, Pat Janik, Liv Jossen, Kristin Kane, Leslie Kay, Beth Kaye, Steven Keenan, Tiffany Kingery, Traci Manning, Rosanne Marmor, Jen Matheson, Molli Mitchell, Wayne Miya, Susan Montgomery, Dayna Morrison, LeRoy Patton, Rachel Pryor, Fay Schuler, Shannon Singleton, Ian Slingerland, Barbara Sloan, Larry Turner, Bobby Weinstock, Jennifer Wilcox		
TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION/ DECISION
Introductions		
Approval of March minutes	Approved without dissent.	Approved
Announcements / Updates	Jean encouraged nominations for the Second Annual CCEH Achievement Awards, to be held at the June 17 meeting; nominations are due Friday, May 29. Think of people in your agency that we can recognize for outstanding achievement, particularly those who may otherwise go unrecognized. The form is online at www.portlandonline.com/bhcd/index.cfm?c=39871	Submit nominations by May 29
Short-term rent assistance (STRA) program evaluation	Ian Slingerland gave an overview of the HAP-administered short-term rent assistance program (STRA), including information on how to access services and a list of involved agencies. He provided a summary of the history and implementation of the program as well as some demographics. STRA funds pay for rents, mortgages, move-in costs, deposits, and 10% non-leasing expenses, but no case management. The total last year was \$1.8 million. The next RFP will be released in spring 2010. The program has received provider feedback that it is a bit more flexible overall than the previous system, and that better outcome measures are now in place. For more information on the regional STRA program, see the HAP website at http://www.hapdx.org/newsroom/pdfs/STRA-overview.pdf	
Federal stimulus update (Sally Erickson, City's Bureau of Housing & Community Development (BHCD); Marc Jolin, CCEH co-chair)	<p>Sally Erickson reviewed the ESG stimulus funds - Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP). City of Portland is one of four ESG grantees in the State. Eligible activities include homelessness (eviction) prevention and "rapid re-housing" of homeless persons. Both rent assistance and services are eligible uses. The funds must be applied for as amendment to the Consolidated Plan. The deadline for the application is May 18. BHCD is facing possible cuts to "one time only" General Funds that support existing, effective eviction prevention and rapid re-housing programs. BHCD would like to fund all existing eligible programs, by supplementing with stimulus funds. BHCD does not want to cut existing high-performing programs. Remaining funds could be directed to eligible activities in existing programs and access points, such as STRA</p> <p>Marc Jolin reported the Steering Committee recommendation for HPRP. After reviewing CCEH input from March meeting they recommend: 1) Use existing access points, especially STRA. 2) Maintain current programs versus starting new ones. 3) Eviction prevention should receive about 60-70% of the funds, with the remainder for housing placement. 4) Spend some on case management.</p>	The group agreed that the community need is great, and as many dollars as possible be directed to expanded eviction prevention and re-housing capacity through existing channels, such as STRA. One caveat: other providers (not among the 19 STRA

	<p>CCEH participants were in general agreement with the focus on eviction prevention. To prevent more people from becoming homeless, the safety net and services for chronically homeless people should also be preserved. The group discussed how to prioritize the three groups (people facing eviction, people newly homeless due to the poor economy, and the chronically homeless).</p> <p>Group feedback included thinking about how to include agencies that are not currently STRA participants. The group also discussed what percentage to go toward prevention or placement, with a range from 50%-70%.</p>	agencies) be able to refer eligible households to STRA agencies.
Federal Stimulus overview (Beth Kaye, BHCD)	<p>Beth Kaye said there were 57 different “chutes” delivering funds to jurisdictions through ARRA. Some money has left DC already; the competitive funds will need to be coordinated so that agencies are not requesting the same resources. CDBG, HPRP, weatherization, some transportation funds, and Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) go to the City of Portland and Multnomah County. In DC, the second round of neighborhood stabilization funds is being worked out. This is a way to get foreclosed properties back onto the market. These funds will be competitive; we are still waiting for rules. The 57 chutes are good at distributing the money – but they are not so helpful at connecting the chutes to each other or how to connect a person with services coming down the chute. We need to identify what is missing, and send that message that back to DC, so they can rework it better in the future. Jean asked about how that messaging would work. Beth said CCEH should speak with one voice. There have been a few technical changes to some of the current chutes, but a year from now, a bill may possibly be passed to improve things in the second year with the second \$2 million.</p>	
Results of 2009 Street Count	<p>Ryan Deibert provided highlights of the 2009 Street Count. He acknowledged the excellent work by consultant Kris Smock; who provided some helpful context. The Street Count has its limitations (it’s almost certainly an undercount), but it’s helpful in seeing shifts over time. It used similar methodology to 2007 in order to make comparisons more valid.</p> <p>There were 1,591 unduplicated unsheltered persons, 150 more than 2007, an 11% increase. There was a great effort to coordinate the shelter and street counts. 850 were sheltered or vouchered, with a total of 2,430 people experiencing homelessness – a 13% increase. East County was almost certainly undercounted. Even with an 11% increase, we are somewhat holding the line. Other cities saw much greater increases. The NAEH is projecting 35% increases each year for the next two years. A lot is related to the economic downturn; 21% reported being homeless less than six months. There was also an increase in chronic homelessness. Find the entire street count report on the BHCD website: http://www.portlandonline.com/bhcd/index.cfm?c=43985</p> <p>The counts are a mandate in order to receive federal funding. The county does it on the same date; Julie Osburn will be here next CCEH meeting to discuss the shelter count. It’s possible that the increased numbers come from better counting, but the number of forms submitted was not significantly higher than in 2007.</p>	
Review of 2008 Supported Employment Survey	Item was tabled until the next meeting.	
Next CCEH meeting	Wednesday, May 20, 2009, 3-5 p.m., FUMC, Room 202.	