



**Jackson County Continuum of Care
Homelessness Task Force
, 2024**

Minutes by Devin Flores

In attendance:
Sheila Giorgetti, James Harley-Rose, Nancy Fadling, Lauri Brownson, Sean Fletcher, Ben Peteit, Gail Bashans, Traci Hisey, George Jarvis, Delaney King, Nicole Ritterbusch, Rhionna Watson, Thaddeus Crawford, Gavin Vorderstrasse, Pearl Golding, Lilia Caballero, Carina Whittemore, Devin Flores, Kerri Johnson, Rosa Von Gordon, Rachel Baker, Noah Werthaiser, Jason Worman
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes Would you like a spot on the upcoming agenda? <input type="checkbox"/> No

1) **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order by Jason Worman 10:32 am

2) **General Updates**

a) Collaborative Application

- i) HUD is working on getting funding prepared for the collaborative application that was completed last year.
- ii) We are hoping to hear back from them soon with the awards.
- iii) There are five organizations that are receiving funding from the collaborative application

b) Rating and Ranking workgroup

- i) Performance evaluation is being completed by the Rating and Ranking workgroup.
- ii) The performance evaluation as well as a presentation on homeless service types will be discussed at the next Homelessness Task Force meeting.

c) Coordinated Entry

- i) The Coordinated Entry Workgroup has been working hard to get the Coordinated Entry system set up with how the list, prioritization, and referrals will work.
- ii) The Oregon Rehousing Initiative (ORI) program will be using Coordinated Entry
- iii) The Long-Term Rent Assistance (LTRA) program was originally planned to use Coordinated Entry to pull from for Priority 2 enrollments. This is no longer the case.

d) HMIS Workgroup

- i) This workgroup is getting data quality standards set up.
- ii) HMIS is the main housing tool for Coordinated Entry.
- iii) The CoC can fund the membership of HMIS, as well as technical assistance to get staff trained on the system.

3) **LTRA Program Update**

- a) The program was originally planned to use Coordinated Entry as a tool to pull a list for second-round enrollment.

- i) We are still set to enroll everyone that we committed to enrolling prior (participants that are coming from the EO 23-02 program).
- b) The program is now underfunded, and currently we are being asked to not enroll new participants through Coordinated Entry.
 - i) This is to ensure that the program will have the funding to continue to support the households who are already committed to enrolling into LTRA.
 - ii) We will know in February if the LTRA program will be funded for the next biennium.
- c) The Housing Authority has pulled out from participating as the voucher partner for LTRA
 - i) ACCESS has stepped in as the agency for vouchers.

4) Feedback on General Membership Meeting

- a) Jason opened up a discussion to reflect on the General Membership Meeting.
 - i) This is to let us know what we can improve and let us know what works well.
- b) Some feedback that was shared includes:
 - i) The meeting was too short, and it would be nice to have some more time to talk about all the information that was shared.
 - ii) there is a lot of turnover of programs, especially after COVID. We need to keep learning so we can help and refer our participants to programs that are in the community.
 - (1) It is beneficial for us to remain in contact to make sure we know the community resources and can do warm hand-offs
 - iii) The event was helpful for us to see how many people are involved throughout the CoC, as well as putting a face to the name.

5) PIT Count Discussion

- a) The Point In Time (PIT) count is coming up, and this count drives a lot of decision-making, capacity building, as well as budgets.
 - i) Asking people for a specific date where they were on that day/evening-where you were sleeping that evening. This count hopes to see how many unhoused people there are in Jackson County. Last year's was great and well-organized, and we are hoping for that this year.
- b) A lot of work has been to move people out of city centers, and so there is more people now moving to other "out there" areas that may not get counted regularly, or are overlooked
- c) Sometimes people will "disappear" for the day of the PIT count. They are not always interested in doing surveys or talking to people.
- d) There is a concern about data collection within rural areas. The state is worried about rural area outreach.
- e) Numbers may be skewed this year, for Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF),
 - i) A lot of vets are coming from other states to here from word-of-mouth recommendations (people say that it is easier to get assistance and get on program here than in other states).
 - ii) The PIT count is the only data that we have year over year. While it is not always accurate, this is what we have consistently, and it will still show trends.
- f) You do not need to be a member of an organization to participate in the PIT count. Anyone who wants to do this and has an interest in helping to solve the program can participate.

6) Group Reflection

- a) The group was welcomed to participate in a group reflection about what is next for the Homelessness Task Force.
 - i) Should we make a public service announcement to let people know more about the Homelessness Task Force?
 - ii) Maybe we can get people on the outreach teams, or different community partners to join.
 - iii) Could we reach out to some people in the medical field?
 - (1) Unhoused people can spend a bit of time at hospitals, and the social workers there can offer valuable information.
 - iv) There is a need for marketing the Homelessness Task Force.
 - (1) Once people become aware of how beneficial the CoC is, they may be more willing to help and participate.

7) Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 12:01 pm.

Next Meeting: **November 19th at 10:30 am**