



**Jackson County Continuum of Care**  
**Homelessness Task Force**  
**January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025**

**Minutes by Devin Flores**

- 1) **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by Matt Rogers at 10:30 am.
  
- 2) **Community Partner Updates**
  - a) Documentary screening: “No Place to Grow Old.”
    - i) Home Share Oregon hosting the first screening of the documentary on Friday, January 24<sup>th</sup>.
  - b) Community Resource Guide
    - i) Next updated Community Resource Guide posting date has been postponed.
  - c) Ashland Community Resource Fair
    - i) February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025
    - ii) There is space available for more organizations to table at the event.
  - d) Talent Senior Center
    - i) Meeting on February 5th at 1 p.m. at the Talent Library Meeting Room
    - ii) All are welcome to join, but feedback is wanted from those who are 55 and older.
  
- 3) **Health-Related Social Needs (HRSN) Benefit Presentation**
  - a) Sam Watson presented an overview of the HRSN benefits
    - i) The benefits are available to those who have Jackson Care Connect.
    - ii) Benefits include housing support, climate devices, nutrition support, utility assistance. and other supports.
  - b) Designed to improve health outcomes for those using them.
  - c) Those who are deemed eligible for HRSN, are entitled to benefits.
  - d) Need qualifying health needs and be experiencing a life transition.
    - i) Currently, the only life transition for eligibility is being at risk of homelessness.
  - e) In addition to being an OHP member and experiencing a life transition, the member needs to have a qualifying clinical health need, and meet income eligibility (30% AMI).
  - f) Benefits are allowed once per household regardless of the number of OHP members there are in the household.
  
- 4) **Deflection Program Overview**
  - a) A collaborative program between law enforcement agencies and behavioral health entities that assist individuals to create community-based pathways to treatment and recovery support services housing issues. Assist those who may have:
    - i) substance use disorder
    - ii) another behavioral health disorder,
    - iii) or co-occurring disorder

- b) So our program begins with a law enforcement contact, then they can choose to enter deflection, and they can either be successful or not emergency, and they never need a public defendant.
- c) In lieu of arrest, an officer can offer deflection.
  - i) During standard business hours, the officer can bring the individual directly to the program office for same day enrollment.
  - ii) Individual must be willing to and agree to participate in the program.
- d) Eligible crimes include
  - i) Drug enforcement misdemeanor, and/or
  - ii) Trespass,
  - iii) Disorderly conduct,
  - iv) Offensive littering.
- e) Eligibility criteria
  - i) Individual must be legally an adult (18 years or older)
  - ii) Must not currently be in deflection
  - iii) Must be willing to engage with the program
  - iv) Those on Supervision may be eligible with Parole Officer (PO) contact and consent.
- f) The program lasts 30 days
  - i) Over the course of the 30 days, the participant is to make 10 engagements with the program.
    - (1) Five of the engagements can be peer engagements
    - (2) Five of the engagements must be with a counselor.
  - ii) Extensions are possible, so long as participant has attempts to reach the 10 engagements within the 30 days.

5) **Point-in-Time (PIT) Count Update**

- a) PIT count to begin on Monday, January 27<sup>th</sup>.
- b) The count will take place over the entire week, Monday-Friday.

6) **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 11:57 am.

**Next Meeting:** *Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am.*