Goals of today’s workshop:

- Review themes of June 9th discussion of 2021-22 season
- Review options for 2022-23
- Discuss/reach consensus for model(s) for cold weather shelter for Winter 2022-23 (if any)
Timeline of Cold Weather Shelter services in Grays Harbor County

2017-18
Temperature dependent Volunteer based
Revival Aberdeen Methodist Church
Terminated in February due to lack of insurance coverage/site

2018-19
No County Funded shelter
Revival Downtown Aberdeen business
Closed due to code enforcement concerns

2019-20
Temperature dependent Volunteer based
CCAP
Aberdeen Senior Center, Pearsall Building, Polish Club, and F Street Property

2020-21
Seasonal Paid staff
CCAP and Chaplains
Aberdeen Middle Swanson's and Westport Church

2021-22
Seasonal Paid staff and hotel vouchers
WHOLE Harbor, Chaplains, and CCAP
Aberdeen Alfie’s Building, Westport Church, and Hotels
Layers of the issue

- **Extreme weather** – reduce risk of death/severe health impacts
- **Seasonal weather challenges** – reduce health and publicly funded system impacts for vulnerable people
- **Provide shelter to people experiencing homelessness** – alternative to public spaces, way to connect to services, reduce health and system impacts for clients served
Scope of Control

- Went well – outside our control: Day center in Westport
- Went well – within control: Have a place for people to go when it’s cold
- Needs work – outside our control: Loitering/place for people to go during the day
- Needs work – within control: Staffing ratios/training
## Summary of 2021-22 Services

### Positive Outcomes
- Save lives and reduce suffering
- Have place for people to go that is not parks/other illegal spaces
- Triage/Connection to services

### Challenges
- Location (Aberdeen)
- Potential impact of any location on neighbors (see rules)
- New location each year
- Learning curve for new providers
- Need for more collaboration/engagement with stakeholders
- More clarity and consistent enforcement of rules – focus on overnight shelter/sleeping
- More lead time/planning
- Lack of options during the day (info sharing, changing COVID restrictions, etc.)
- Gaps in Behavioral Health services (particularly crisis)

### Potential negative impact of no or reduced shelter
- Police/EMS response
- Hospital ER use
- Hypothermia/Impacts on chronic health conditions
- Death by exposure and/or preventable overdose or other medical emergency deaths
- Increase in crime – burglary, break-ins, vandalism
- Increase in demand in crisis services
Commissioner input

• Consensus:
  • Clients expressed appreciation for services
  • Aberdeen shelter location was not ideal
  • Lack of clarity on rules and seemed insufficient to mitigate neighbor impacts
  • Minimal negative impact from hotel vouchers/Westport shelter

• Differing views:
  • What is true impact/risk of winter weather on individuals experiencing homelessness?
  • Whether winter weather is motivator or additional hardship
  • Who is target client/who should we be serving or not serving?
  • County’s role in facilitating these services
## Available Funding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Source</th>
<th>Amount Unspent</th>
<th>Grant Deadline</th>
<th>Allowable Uses</th>
<th>Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WA State Emergency Shelter Fund</td>
<td>$293,087</td>
<td>June 2023</td>
<td>Capital and operational funds for shelter—<strong>must be used for year-round beds</strong></td>
<td>Grant from Commerce. Requires joint proposal from Aberdeen/County.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WA State Hotel/Motel Fund</td>
<td>$223,000</td>
<td>June 2023</td>
<td>The leasing of hotel and motel rooms and associated operations</td>
<td>Grant from Commerce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARES Act Emergency Solutions Grant</td>
<td>Approximately $140,000</td>
<td>September 2023</td>
<td>Minimal capital expenses and staff salaries and other operational funding</td>
<td>Emergency COVID Grant passed from HUD to Commerce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus (CDBG CV)</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>June 2023</td>
<td>Mitigate and respond to challenges related to COVID-19 on low and moderate income populations</td>
<td>Emergency COVID Grant passed to Commerce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Document Recording Fees</td>
<td>$80,000 has been historic/budgeted amount from this fund</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Support strategies in 5 Year Plan</td>
<td>Local Document Recording Fees</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Models for consideration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option A</th>
<th>Option B</th>
<th>Option C</th>
<th>Option D</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • No County-funded Cold Weather Shelter | • Limited/restricted County-funded Cold Weather Shelter that could include some or all of:  
  • Hotel Vouchers  
  • Westport Shelter only  
  • Congregate shelter (Aberdeen, Westport, others)  
  • Could be open days of extreme weather only | • Continue County-funded Cold Weather Shelter service level from 2021-22  
  • Seasonal (Nov – March)  
  • Multiple sites  
  • Hotel Vouchers  
  • Could include more targeted guidance for requirements like location, shelter rules, security presence, etc.  
  • Could include a variety of models from hotel vouchers, to congregate shelters, to pallet shelters/tiny home sites | • Expand County-funded Cold Weather Shelter service level from 2021-22  
  • Beyond Nov – March  
  • Additional geographic sites  
  • Add additional services (Behavioral Health) |