



Community Advisory Forum Minutes

DATE: April 19, 2017

TIME: 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

LOCATION: Bud Clark Commons
Multipurpose Room
655 NW Irving Street
Portland OR 97209

ATTENDEES: Mose Berkowitz, Caitlyn Kennedy, Karissa Moden, Montgomery Thompson, Tom Wehrley, Walter Robinson II, RJ Stangland, Halle Young, Ginny Jenkins, Virginia Larson, Ernie Garcia, Louise Dix, Anna Keene,

MEETING DISCUSSION

- Fair Housing Council of Oregon (FHCO): Fair Housing and Shelters
 - FHCO received an 18-month grant with HUD to provide education and outreach to shelters
 - Shelters and transitional housing are dwellings
 - Housing does not need to be federally funded to be considered a dwelling
 - They are still subject to fair housing standards (in most cases)
 - Federal protective classes include:
 - Race
 - Color
 - National origin
 - Religion
 - Gender
 - Males experiencing domestic violence (DV).
 - Familial status
 - Male children
 - Disability
 - Oregon Protected classes:
 - Source of income
 - Marital status
 - Sexual orientation
 - Gender identity
 - Opportunity to join Review committee for FHCO to update their new manual
 - Email Louise at: ldix@fhco.org
 - Fair Housing in Shelter Discussion:
 - Shelters are required to accept service animals
 - Members discussed that this may not be enforced at all shelters.
 - Louise confirmed that service animals are required to be accepted at shelters.
 - Shelter providers cannot request medical documentation for the service animal.
 - Many folks experiencing homelessness face a barrier in obtaining the paperwork due to inconsistent medical care.
 - Providers cannot deny stay because of refusal to disclose information about a disability.
 - FHCO will have trainings available to address these topics and more in the Fall of 2017.

- Louise will follow-up with more information.
- Faith based shelters requiring church service: is this legal?
 - Louise commented that this is a gray area but faith based organizations can require church service attendance as a requirement for shelter use.
 - They cannot require someone to change their religion.
 - There are restrictions on mandating participation in the service.
 - Example: A requirement for shelter use might be to attend a religious service, but the provider cannot mandate that the person pray.
 - Although not explicitly stated in this discussion, group members would likely be interested in seeing this topic covered at an upcoming training.
- Legislative Priorities:
 - What is the JOHS budget for Emergency Housing/Shelter
 - Walter to follow-up with this information
 - Consumer Price Index vs Market Value in rent stabilization bill?
 - Walter to follow-up with further clarification.

ACTION ITEMS

ITEM

1. Follow-up on Joint Office of Homeless Services budget for emergency housing and emergency shelter
2. Consumer Price Index vs Market Value: Rent Stabilization bill

ASSIGNED

Walter Robinson II
Walter Robinson II

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, June 21, 2017

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Bud Clark Commons, Multipurpose Room
655 NW Irving Street, Portland OR 97209