



Workforce & Economic Opportunity Workgroup Minutes

DATE: June 2, 2017

TIME: 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

LOCATION: The Lincoln Building
Oak Conference Room
421 SW 4th Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97201

ATTENDEES: Caitlin Campbell, Clay Cooper, Patrick Gihring, Melissa Hicks, Nancy Jason, Peter Katon, Ricardo Lopez, Andrew McGough, Rachel Post, LeRoy Pallou, Walter Robinson II, Chuck Smith, Stacey Triplett, April Turner, Emily Volpert.

MEETING DISCUSSION

- Welcome and Introductions
 - Rachel Post began the check in with acknowledgment of the recent violence in Portland, how it affects our community, our populations served and our partners. She acknowledged the difficulties in synthesizing an event like this.
 - There will be a moment of silence on TriMet transportation today at 12 PM.
- Legislative Updates
 - HB 2531 Presentation (Patrick Gihring)
 - The group discussed HB 2531 and other bills of interest in the House and the Senate. There was not much new information to report on HB2531 since the last update.
 - HB 2531 is also called Prosperity 1000. Requests \$5,000,000 from General Fund to Oregon Workforce Investment Board for Worksystems, Inc. for training and case management of 1,000 potential job applicants.
 - HB 2531 leverages the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) 50/50 program to provide training and employment services to SNAP recipients. There has been tremendously positive feedback across the board, but this is a difficult budget year to make room for this item.
 - HB 2531 is in the Ways and Means committee and is being considered. It came out of the Education Workforce committee and is part of the Ways and Means package.
 - Walter Robinson II from the Joint Office of Homeless Services has been advocating in Salem for the Emergency Housing Account (EHA).
 - Requesting to sustain funding, but also requested an extra \$30,000,000.
 - With the extra flexible funding, three shelters have been opened, adding over 649 shelter bed capacity, and prevented people from becoming homeless. It has been helping with the inflow/outflow model.
 - There were 300 bills at the beginning, and 8 bills that are still alive in the housing arena that are being tracked:
 - HB 2002, preserves affordable housing
 - HB 2004, local preemption and evictions
 - HB 2011, study for fair market rent calculations

- HB 2433, pilot program for public school billing affordable senior living arrangements when seniors work with the schools—this is illegal, however, and they have had to change the language
- HB 2570, affordable housing grants for nonprofits to use to house people, buy property, rehabilitate housing, or build housing—will benefit Habitat for Humanity
- HB 2724, rent guarantee program
- SB 277, regulates mobile home evictions
- SB 310, additional dwelling units (ADUs) and loft spaces debate
- The County is also engaged in examining threats to the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program (cuts to time limits).
 - The proposed cuts would impact 11,000 children in Oregon, and there is a \$1.4 billion shortfall.
- Program Inventory Discussion and Update
 - The workgroup proposed a budget last year to address employment services for those exiting homelessness and secured more than \$1,000,000 for those needs.
 - In order to represent not only the \$1,000,000, investment, and all employment programs that are operating in the County for people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness, the workgroup has begun work on creating an employment inventory.
 - The group reviewed the first draft of the inventory, and in addition to showing what our community has for employment services, it will also help us determine the gaps that exist.
 - Group discussed what they think might be missing in the Program Inventory draft, whether this is a useful presentation or if there are other fields we should include. Stacey Triplett walked the group through the Program Inventory handout.
 - Clay Cooper and Rachel Post mentioned that gaps exist in the inventory because the programs listed are exclusive to those that are related to A Home for Everyone (AHFE). Clay will relay this back to his team so the document can be updated.
 - The EOP that is listed would include the list of agencies as well.
 - The group agrees that EOP should be represented, and it could be broken up by agency within the EOP (as to not leave out one of the two, but not to duplicate).
 - Under source of funding, we may want to include a category that says “Administered By…” to represent the contracting work that is being done, where it’s relevant it would be Worksystems, Inc., whereas if it says “City or County” it would represent a direct contract.
 - The group discussed the most straightforward and least complicated version of “sources of funding” to accurately represent the total unduplicated number of people, the total number of dollars, and a pie chart that represents the dollars that are at risk of being lost to show the County how much we are spending versus how much we are bringing in from other sources.
 - ◆ It would be ideal to reflect the total number of funding by source (possibly in a pie chart format).
 - ◆ Although this changes constantly, the group would still like to represent the funding picture as accurately as possible to highlight where funding is coming from and communicating it in a compelling and simple way.
 - ◆ The amount of leverage that the employment programs bring in is significant.
 - Addition of SE Works and Cascadia Behavioral Healthcare information to this chart
 - Missing information from LifeWorks (which is mostly Washington County), but the group agrees that we should reach out to them to determine whether they have Multnomah County Programs.

- ◆ Clay Cooper can contact David Lipoff, who is on the board of LifeWorks.
- Constructing Hope and Oregon Tradeswomen will be in the capacity breakout.
- Group discussed additional numbers from the Prosper Portland Employment Opportunity Program (EOP) demographics (April 2016-2017) data sheet.
- Graphs representing race/ethnicity, gender, age would be beneficial to add to the Inventory handout draft.
- Group agreed that this draft is very strong and there is a lot of potential for this document to be very helpful/informative.
- **GOAL:** By the next meeting, we should have a closer-to-final draft of this document that will be reviewed and finalized after that meeting.
- **GOAL:** By late summer/early fall, we should have a summary draft of an actual narrative (# of providers, resources, people served, gaps, etc.) to then make a statement/estimate of what we really need to significantly impact the community.
 - No specific time decided, and will happen after the next meeting.
 - The Point-in-Time Count (PIT) report will be released in mid-June. We can wrap some of the analysis from the PIT into the inventory review process.
 - Group discussed the way to define homelessness, given that individuals have varying definitions of what homelessness is, how it looks for individual people is different and that can impact the numbers.
 - Group discussed the variety of sources that should be represented (Department of Human Services, PIT, Income threshold for risk of homelessness, etc.).
 - Be thinking about the variables that come into play in how we represent the need.
 - How can we feed that in to the conversation we will be having two months from now?
 - Should we add Portland Business Alliance?
 - The unduplicated people served in the Clean and Safe program.
 - In November, the county budget process will begin again, so our timeline can match that and give great purpose to this group.
 - Group discussed the use of the new funding.
 - Members should come to the next meeting with latest updates of performance for this year.
 - We can incorporate a review of quarterly program data on our employment workgroup agenda every three months.
- Monthly Recurring Meeting Schedule
 - Monthly meetings will be taking place on the first Friday of every month from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM.
 - If the group deems bi-monthly meetings necessary in the future, those will be scheduled.
- Federal Budget Update
 - The group discussed proposed Federal budget cuts.
 - Within the proposed budget, we would have to make a decision about staying in Youth Services or not.
 - Group discussed need for advocacy and the advocacy that has already begun.
 - California Workforce Association has already taken the lead to help members of Congress understand the far reaching implications of these cuts.
 - There is not a clear constituency, so the advocacy is not as clear-cut and the programs are in trouble.
 - Informational documents could be created that provide a visual and contextual impact of the proposed cuts on the populations served.

ACTION ITEMS

ITEM	ASSIGNED
1. Schedule meetings and rooms for the 1 st Friday of every month from 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM.	Emily Volpert
2. Confirm email subscription to workgroup list for meeting attendees.	Emily Volpert
3. Members should come to the next meeting with the latest updates and data from their programs.	All members
4. Members to send program inventory information, if they have not done so already, to workforceinventory@worksystems.org .	All members
5. Update the Program Inventory List	Stacey Triplett
6. Think about someone who we could bring in to share an assessment of the employment needs of the homeless community in Portland.	All members
7. Contact LifeWorks to determine whether they have any Multnomah County-focused employment programs.	Clay Cooper

NEXT MEETING

Friday, July 7, 2017
10:00 AM to 11:30 AM
Lincoln Building
Pine Conference Room
421 SW Oak Street
Portland, OR 97204