

A Home for Everyone (AHFE) Executive Committee

Meeting Minutes – June 19, 2017

Facilitated by: Initiative Director Marc Jolin

Prepared by: Emily Volpert; Reviewed by: Jurisdictional Staff Members

Members present: Simone M. Brooks, Stacy Borke, Michael Buonocore, Chloe Eudaly, Marc Jolin, Deborah Kafoury, Sharon Meieran, Ben Sand, Shannon Singleton, Joe Walsh (Counselor Echols rep.), Ted Wheeler. **Staff:** Martha Calhoon, Jennifer Chang, Christian Elkin, Sally Erickson, Renee Huizinga, Tiffany Kingery, Robin Mullins, Berk Nelson, Anna Plumb, Bimal RajBhandary, Ian Slingerland, Liz Smith Currie, Denis Theriault, Emily Volpert, Joe Walsh, Carrie Young. **Guests:** Uma Krishnan, Debi Elliot, Sheila Martin.

Agenda Item	Discussion Points	Decision/Action
<p>Welcome, Introductions, Review & Approval of Minutes</p> <p>– Marc Jolin, Initiative Director</p>	<p>Marc Jolin, Initiative Director, called the meeting to order.</p> <p>Members reviewed the May 2017 minutes. Minutes were approved with no changes.</p>	<p>Motion to approve May 2017 minutes. All in favor.</p>
<p>Third Quarter Outcomes Report</p> <p>– Anna Plumb, Multnomah County Department of County Management</p>	<p>Ann Plumb, Multnomah Department of County Management, presented an overview of the FY 2017 Third Quarter Outcomes Report. Highlights of the report included</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Placements are at 81% of annual goal and 10% higher than previous year. • Prevention services are at 76% of annual goal and 15% higher than previous year. • Retention • Expansion of emergency shelter beds has allowed more people to be served; an increase of almost 1,500 people served in emergency shelter is a 29% increase over the third quarter last year. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This number represents seasonal shelter bed utilization and not severe weather shelter utilization. • Prevention services have increased, but percentages are not changing all that much by race/ethnicity. • Among those assisted with permanent housing placement, most remain successfully housed 6 and 12 months following end of assistance. • While placement, prevention services, and emergency shelter have increased, percentages by race/ethnicity have not changed much over last year and moving forward: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Improve analysis and clarify how race/ethnicity is reported with new suite of reports. ○ Look at retention and other measures of housing success as well to more fully understand how we are serving people of color. 	
<p>Point-in-Time Count Overview</p> <p>– Marc Jolin, Initiative Director</p>	<p>Marc Jolin, Initiative Director, expressed appreciation for the Portland State University (PSU) partners in work on the Point-in-Time Count that processed the data and analysis. They are still hard at work to finish the final comprehensive report and that final data will be released in July/August 2017. Data for the report was collected for the night of February 22, 2017, a month later than previous counts due to severe weather experienced. Marc mentioned that cities along the West Coast are publishing data this week, and our community is prepared to release the complete analysis at this time. Marc noted that the data being released is high level currently available to be transparent and provide data when we previously stated that we would.</p> <p>Marc walked members through the 2017 Point-in-Time Count of U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Homelessness Preliminary Briefing for Executive Committee presentation. Highlights of the presentation included:</p>	

- Limitations of the count.
 - Point-in-time and does not account for inflow and outflow
 - Inherently undercount especially for communities of color, immigrant and refugee communities, unaccompanied youth, and families with children.
 - HUD-homelessness does not include doubled-up populations.
 - PSU to provide recommendations for methodology that includes doubled-up populations.
- Overall, the number of unsheltered has gone down, and the number of HUD-defined homelessness increased slightly.
- Overall, we continue to see disparities in rates of HUD-homelessness for African Americans, Native Americans and Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders compared to their overall share of Multnomah County's population.
 - African Americans, like Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders, continue to experience homelessness at a rate more than twice as high as their percentage of the total Multnomah County population.
 - The most significant documented disparity is for Native Americans, whose rate of HUD-homelessness is about four times higher than their percentage of the total Multnomah County population.
- Confident that the Latino community number is an undercount.
- Rate of communities of color in shelter and transitional housing versus unsheltered higher than whites, with the exception of Native Americans.
- Number of unsheltered families is essentially unchanged, likely to expanded family shelter and no-turn-away policy for families in our community.
- The number of unaccompanied youth (24 or under) has gone up 13% (from 266 to 300), and youth providers expressed historically the population has been undercounted and this may be a more accurate representation.
- People 55 and over make up a slightly higher percentage of the HUD-homeless population than two years ago (about 1%) and the highest unsheltered age category is 24-44.
- Increase of total women experiencing HUD-homelessness (up about 16%), while the number of unsheltered women has gone down (decrease of more than 20%).
- Twice as many people identified as transgender over previous count and had a lower unsheltered rate than those who identified as men or women.
- Number of individuals with disabilities increased 16% over previous count, growing faster than the overall HUD-homeless population, and was higher among the unsheltered population and among Veterans.
- Number of chronically homeless increased 24% over the previous count, and a significant majority of our chronically homeless population remain unsheltered.
- Domestic violence is a significant driver of homelessness and 55% of the women identified as people who have experienced domestic violence.

Marc Jolin closed the presentation reporting, the Point-in-Time is an important source of data to apply to system capacity modeling, what it means for policies in place, where do we see gaps in data and how to address those gaps.

We have made a commitment to move to an annual count, and staff will work with PSU and the Coalition of Communities of Color to determine how we could/should change the methodology to make this effort more feasible to produce every year.

Marc Jolin added that a one-page (front and back) [Multnomah County, Oregon Homeless Point-in-Time Count 2017 handout](#) is included in the meeting packet.

In response to a member asking for ways for members to talk about the data to the Public, Marc Jolin said the fact that the number of unsheltered people is down is significant—and reflects the community investments that have been made. He commented that it is hard to see that HUD-defined homelessness is up, and we also know that drivers in our community that continue to work against us (increased rent, stagnant wages, etc). Marc Jolin assured the members that we are contrasting those drivers and making effort to change those drivers. In terms of sub-population dynamics, we are seeing the rates of disability in homelessness rise, and we need to come to grips with this and make some changes. When we see the racial disparities, we know we need to refocus our energies. We have made some policy commitments and we have made some progress on those fronts, but we have a lot of hard work to do to improve the situation.

Ben Sand, Portland leadership Foundation, commented that he sees a counter-narrative in terms of how we ask for help in the community—how we are making these investments and what this means for the community and their engagement—and brought up the idea of creating a call to action.

Marc Jolin commented that we have done some planning and with the challenges that are in place, we have acknowledged our wins—we are tracking our goals and meeting needs of a lot of people.

Mayor Wheeler commented that there are some slivers of hope in this report, but that we should be thinking about this more broadly up. He mentioned that up and down the West Coast we see an increase in homelessness and increase in unsheltered populations. That is despite the increase in efforts and initiatives. The fact that we do have these slivers of hope on the unsheltered side is important. We get the data and we have this opportunity to look at the disaggregated data and the way that we can bring the public into our efforts a more significant way. There is not a day that goes by where people are not asking for what they can do to help. We should get the people in our community more involved.

In response to a member question regarding confidence in our numbers, Uma Krishnan, Portland State University, said that the HUD-definition of homelessness is required and consistent. They lay down the framework for the methodology to keep it consistent throughout the country. Over the years, the methodology has gotten better (in light of the limitations). As an analyst, Uma said, she has tremendous respect for the numbers and methodology. Uma acknowledged that there will be under-count and limitations in the methodology, but that she sees this data, these 4,177 people on the streets, not as data points, but as people.

Michael Buonocore, Home Forward asked, are we doing better than other West Coast cities. Uma Krishnan responded that Seattle completes a head count and a more rigorous and comprehensive data collection process is done in our community. The de-duplication process that we do is really important, as well.

	<p>Marc Jolin added that some cities change their methodology and then caution the comparison in trying to compare year over year. We have maintained our methodology so we have some confidence in terms of how our numbers have been changing over the years.</p> <p>Marc Jolin reported that there is opportunity to change how to conduct the Point-in-Time Count in off years, given our commitment to perform a count like this every year. He acknowledged that there are time constraints, and that we can talk about how we want to change it if the data is not answering the questions we want it to answer.</p>	
<p>Initiative Updates – Marc Jolin, Initiative Director</p>	<p>Marc Jolin talked about A Home For Everyone Initiative plans for the summer and how those plans have been informed by the data collected in the Point-in-Time Count. Our chronic homelessness work is supported by the Point-in-Time Count data. A Home For Everyone will be planning around those practices, starting within the Housing Workgroup, Health Workgroup and Workforce and Economic Opportunity Workgroup. Those workgroups will focus on permanent supportive housing, the need, and how it relates to chronic homelessness. On the family side, we did some work with Commissioner Lori Stegmann’s office for kids in the shelter in the short term. We are also building out with current funding, Joint Office of Homeless Services budget and Tax Title money, figuring out how to alleviate the number of families in shelters. With a combination of short term intervention plus diversion and that planning, we plan to re-procure the family system entirely in the beginning of 2018 that will lead to new contracts.</p> <p>There are two new pilot programs that will be launched the fiscal year:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Long-Term Voucher Pilot (Bobby Weinstock Voucher) 2. The Eviction Pilot (working with Portland Housing Bureau) to help families that may otherwise lose their housing <p>We are also starting a conversation about being ready for severe weather next year.</p> <p>Finally, Kenton Women’s Village is open. It is a pilot project, and a testament to what can be done when collaborating with neighborhood associations, providers, community members, etc. It is a huge deal for the 14 women who live there.</p> <p>Stacy Borke, Coordinating Board Co-chair, mentioned that they drove by and saw the residents having a shared meal outside together, which was a very positive thing to see.</p>	
<p>Board Member Updates – Marc Jolin, Initiative Director</p>	<p>Marc Jolin, Initiative Director, opened the floor to members to share updates.</p> <p>Shannon Singleton, Coordinating Board Co-chair, provided an update Affordable Housing Bond Stakeholder Advisory Group. She mentioned efforts to coordinate some small group meetings with Coordinating Board members to help align resources in leveraging services.</p> <p>Ben Sand, Portland Leadership Foundation, mentioned that he and Marc Jolin are going to meet with a representative of the Murdoch Trust to welcome two different groups to discuss inter-faith involvement in efforts to reduce homelessness. He mentioned that they will be asking the trust to consider making an investment. Marc Jolin added, that this arises from the conversation regarding community involvement and volunteer opportunities to address homelessness in our community.</p> <p>City of Portland Commissioner Chloe Eudaly provided an update on her statewide lobbying efforts for House Bill 2004. She mentioned that her office is relatively disappointed with the amendments to House Bill 2004 and</p>	

	<p>believes it still constitutes steps forward and does not inhibit us from making positive change.</p> <p>Commissioner Eudaly also mentioned hearing a desire from leaders statewide to have a statewide conversation about the state of homelessness. If anyone is interested in helping with the planning efforts, please contact the Office of Commissioner Eudaly.</p> <p>Commissioner Eudaly is headed to Austin, Texas to a tiny house village with 450 units housing people formerly experiencing homelessness, being managed in a unique way.</p>	
<p>Coordinating Board Membership – Marc Jolin, Initiative Director</p>	<p>Marc Jolin initiated the following Coordinating Board membership motions for consideration and approval by the Executive Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The following individuals are appointed to a second two-year term on the Coordinating Board to fill the identified representation/positions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Family Service Provision: Shannon Singleton, JOIN b. Governments/Health Organizations: Sam Chase, Metro Council and Coalition of Community Health Clinics 2. Staff are authorized to solicit applications for the following vacant Coordinating Board representation/positions: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. East County/Gresham b. School Districts 	<p>Motion to appoint two Coordinating Board members for an additional two-year term. All in favor.</p> <p>Motion to approve solicitation of applications to fill two vacant Coordinating Board positions. All in favor.</p>
<p>Closing Comments – Marc Jolin, Initiative Director</p>	<p>The next meeting will be 2:00 – 4:00 PM on Monday, August 21, 2017 at the Multnomah Building, Room 315.</p> <p>Meeting adjourned.</p>	