



Safety off the Streets Minutes

Location: Commonwealth Building
Portland Housing Bureau, Broadway Conference Room
421 SW Oak St, Suite 105
Portland, OR 97204

Date: January 10, 2016

Time: 2:00 to 4:00 PM

Attendees: Walter Robinson II, Amy Anderson, Wendy Shumway,
Kevin Fitts, Chris Aiosa, Neal Sand, Kurt Braggs, Ben
Mauro, Lynnae Berg, Robert Shryock, Michleen Mickel,
Susan Madar, Hillary Houck, Tash Shatz, Tiffany
Kingery, Alex Bejarano, Rhea Graves

Agenda Items

1. Group confirmed the schedule for 2017. SOS workgroup schedule will remain the same.
 - a. Schedule is monthly on the 2nd Tuesday of the month 2PM-4PM
2. **Severe Weather Feedback**
 - a. Discussion about facilities for addicts in the warming centers?
 - i. Discreet users are not being asked to leave unless creating an unsafe environment for other folks.
 - ii. We don't want anyone outside unnecessarily.
 - b. Discussion about the need to have better clarity around getting out information regarding severe weather triggers and extended shelter opening
 - i. Suggestion to have separate Portland website that is updated regularly with this information
 - ii. Ryan mentioned that you can sign up for email and text updates from 211 when severe weather is predicted.
 - iii. Sign up on their website at 211info.org
 - c. Question raised about homeless folks with special needs- any additional resources for this population? Is priority assessed in shelter bed eligibility?



- i. TPI uses a vulnerability assessment to prioritize shelter placement at several buildings
 - ii. Shelters are typically “first come first served” outside of this.
 - d. JOIN has in reach teams that help folks navigate the internet to get information.
 - e. Clackamas Service Center concerned about their location and transportation getting folks to other sites.
 - f. 211 is open 24 hrs a day during Severe Weather and supports in transporting people to shelter sites during this time

3. RFI Update

- a. A Mobile in Reach team targeting homeless women.
 - i. A collaboration amongst several organizations to implement outreach, placement, case management, and track retention.
- b. Mobile Supportive Housing Team of providers
 - i. A collaboration amongst several organizations to implement strategies for folks suffering from chronic homelessness and needing mental health/recovery services.
- c. Discussion about reaching incarcerated populations clients especially those suffering from trauma.
 - i. Ryan mentioned that this is what the RFI process is designed to do
 - ii. Trauma informed care and assertive engagement is in the RFI’s. They were very important in the designing of these teams and remains an essential part of the program.
 - iii. Follow-up discussion about hiring trained peer specialists.

4. Point in Time Count Update

- a. Every 2 years the count on homelessness is conducted.
 - i. The count’s date is being rescheduled due to severe weather
- b. Data pulled from the shelter intake is logged in HMIS
- c. Coordinated outreach component provides adequate coverage and gauge how many folks were in camps or sleeping in shelter on 1/25/2017
- d. Volunteers track homeless folks seeking services, by being placed strategically at service sites.
 - i. Despite these comprehensive efforts we’re certain our numbers are an undercount. We are working to ensure that this year’s count is as accurate as possible.
 - ii. Question raised about how eviction records can be used to more accurately track the intersection between incarcerated populations and individuals experiencing homelessness



iii. Suggestion to specify definitions of homelessness as a city despite HUD's definition.

1. Conversation that we do this already in many instances

e. Oregon Harbor of Hope

i. Mike Withey mentioned that the Oregon Harbor of Hope project is moving forward, but the location is undisclosed at the moment.

5. Assertive Engagement

a. All the workgroups in AHFE adopted the Assertive Engagement model

b. The first Assertive Engagement training for managers and directors will take place on January 17, 2017 (pending the weather and any building closures)

i. Discussion about the interest in creating a condensed training for shelter staff

c. Discussion about support around managers/directors suggesting "AE champions" in the community that could engage in a "train the trainer" program in order to make the assertive engagement series more effective.

d. Suggestions about creating outcomes and performance measures for the AE programs implemented.

i. Some of the systems already do this. Group discussed a desire to create a more cohesive outcomes and performance measuring tool.

Next Meeting:

Safety off the Streets

February 14, 2017 2PM-4PM

Bud Clark Commons, Multipurpose Room