

**Coalition of Service Providers for the Homeless**  
**Meeting Summary – May 3rd, 2017, 10:00-11:30am, YWCA Community Room**

Flyers, Sign In Sheets, and Other Meeting documents can be found at  
[http://www.councilforthehomeless.org/csp\\_docs/](http://www.councilforthehomeless.org/csp_docs/)

**Welcome & Introductions**

- Kate Budd opened the meeting. She wanted to remind folks that we have a resource table. Feel free to bring resources that other colleagues may be interested in.
- She also invited attendees to each take home and send three postcards to the legislators regarding the passage of SBH1570. Email [cwelch@councilforthehomeless.org](mailto:cwelch@councilforthehomeless.org) for postcards.
- She invited folks to introduce themselves and share the following:
  - Excesses of items they have to share and Specific Needs they might have.
  - Announcements

**Issues, Hot Topics & Discussion**

**WorkSource Presentation, (<https://www.worksourcewa.com/>)**

Samantha McCrady, Employment Connections Outreach Specialist [Michael Benko](#),  
One Stop Operator [Alicia Grieco](#), Employment Specialist

WorkSource offers several classes and claims a 33% quicker job results for those who take all of the classes which include the following: Resume and Cover Letters; Applications; Skill Building; Interviewing; Job Search Assistance

**Program:**

- WorkFirst is required for folks who are receiving TANF and who are mainly referred to the program by DSHS.
- There is also a voluntary program called Strategies for Success (ie. Communication, Health, Cultural Awareness) for people who do not receive TANF.
- There is also a program called Befit, which offers services for people who are underemployed and is also a resource for interview clothes and bus passes.

Other resources are as follows:

- Training Assistance Program (Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act) for retraining
- WorkSource Wellness Center is the website where job seekers can upload resumes.

WorkSource staff is available at CFTH Housing Solutions Center once a week at which time many clients are able to enroll.

**Housing First and Lincoln Place Update, Amy Reynolds, Share**

In the Continuum of Care we want to make people aware of the spectrum of services, for example, Housing First. Kate invited Amy to give an overview on Housing First:

- The concept is that we would work with people as they are. They do not need to be “ready” for housing.
- Chronic homelessness affects neighborhoods, and it takes a toll on emergency room and jail services.

- So, this is a holistic approach to house folks and then wrap around services to help them move forward.
- Housing First can be successful in both on- site and scattered site housing.
- There are many success stories around Housing First. Programs across the nation average 80-90% success rate.
- Lincoln Place is site based housing, studio apartments for 30 individuals.
- CSNW provides on-site mental health services. There is a team of support services.

Lincoln Place has been a great project, and it has been great to see that the clients can live indoors and that we are able to support them indoors within neighborhoods.

**2017 Point-In-Time Count Summary, [Dale Whitley](#), Council for the Homeless**

Dale gave a quick update on Data Quality of HMIS data entry. Service providers have been working to get up to an “A” grade. This year we have been above 95% up to 98% with HMIS data.

Dale shared the results of the Point in Time Count that happened on January 26<sup>th</sup>. It is collected by the following means: There is a huge group effort of teams that go out, school homeless liaisons collect it, we get it from shelters, and also an event at St. Joseph’s where people who are currently experiencing homeless can come to receive services.

Stable Numbers (capped by the number of beds in the community)

- Emergency: 250 (full)
- Transitional: 229 (full)

Fluctuating Number:

- Unsheltered: 269 – This is an increase over last year of 228, a 15% increase.

Veterans: 30 as compared to 40 last year because of the new housing opportunities that have come online for Veterans.

The Point in Time Count information is posted on the website and also shared with the community and government to communicate the need around affordable housing.

**Updates & Upcoming Events:**

**CoC Steering Committee, Amy Reynolds, Share**

Specifically, they are looking at the length of stay for families. The stay has been determined largely by the funding source. So, now we are looking at benchmarks of success related to length of stay to encourage more success around exits.

**Community Needs Assessment Forum (May 18, 2017, 6-8pm Downtown Vancouver Library)**

[Rebecca Royce](#), Clark County

- A survey is conducted every 3 years to collect data around poverty and moving people toward self-sufficiency. We worked with 65 organizations and received 1165 responses.

- The next phase is a feedback forum on May 18. It will include a data walk where folks can view the data and then offer feedback on different categories, such as housing, education, etc. This will help to identify the gaps in Clark County.

**Clark County and City of Vancouver Homelessness Work Session  
(held May 1, 2017, 4-6pm, Downtown Vancouver Library)**

Kate gave a report, but folks are encouraged to review the entire meeting on [CVTV](#). There was a great discussion among council members as to how we can move forward more collaboratively around the issue of housing.

**Legislative Advocacy Update, Kate Budd**

State legislature is in their first special session and there is a good chance that there will be a second special session. Please send postcards to support House Bill 1570 – to save funds for Homelessness Crisis Response System.

**Coalition Planning Group, Kate Budd**

Kate is putting together a committee of agencies that do not receive program dollars to monitor the programs. It's about 26 hours of time to meet with Kate as to what to look for in the files and going out to the agencies to review files to make sure they are following the CoC regulations. Please call Kate if you are interested by May 19<sup>th</sup> and pick up an application.

Also, Kate is looking for a committee to plan the coalition meetings. How do we make sure we are creating a meeting that meets the expectations of HUD as well as bringing in presenters that are of the most value to you and your colleagues.

**Next Meeting: July 12, 2016 10:00-11:30am  
3609 Main Street, Vancouver, WA 98660**

The Coalition meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday bi-monthly for planning to prevent and end homelessness in Clark County.

**Contact:** Council for the Homeless (360) 993-9561 or [asilver@councilforthehomeless.org](mailto:asilver@councilforthehomeless.org). For more information on the Coalition, visit [www.councilforthehomeless.org](http://www.councilforthehomeless.org) and click on Agency Resources.