

Coalition of Service Providers for the Homeless Meeting Summary for March 11, 2019 Next Meeting: May 13, 2020 10am-12noon at YWCA Clark County

Meeting Documents: http://www.councilforthehomeless.org/csp\_docs/

#### **Presentations:**

Coronavirus, Kate Budd, Council for the Homeless

Coronavirus is weighing heavily on all of us. Thank you for all of your planning around what we need to do now to prevent the spread of the virus – and what should we do in the future if it does arise.

# **Clark County Public Health Information**

Kate was on a phone call between shelter providers and Clark County Public Health to share facts and answer questions. If you work with a shelter and your shelter was not engaged, feel free to let Kate know. Public Health is committed to continuing the conversation and keep everyone informed.

Click here for the one-pager of "Facts about Covid-19/Coronvirus."

#### Eviction Law Updates, Clark County Volunteer Lawyers Program, Elizabeth Fitzgearld and Ben Moody

CCVLP came to speak about the eviction reform that happened last year.

Click here to view all of the <u>CCVLP Eviction Update</u> Power Presentation Slides slides.

Presently, it is only legal to evict a tenant based on the late payments on the following two types:

- Literal recurring rent
- Utilities

"Rent" does not include: late fees, damages, attorney fees, other fees considered "concession chargebacks". All payment from the tenant **must go toward rent** before any other fees or costs. This means that tenants cannot be evicted based on added fees. The client may owe it, but they cannot be evicted for it. CCVLP is interested in knowing any other types of fees that landlords are trying to charge for. Elizabeth asked that if you see something that you haven't seen before let CCVLP know. Also, please encourage tenants/clients to get everything in writing. Nothing holds up in court if it is not in writing.

**Timeline of Notices**: (see the presentation for the slide) There is a certain timeline of notices for eviction. The specific amount of what types of payments must be included can be tricky and may require a lawyer to understand.

**Timeline of Reinstatement** You need to pay the rent and the utilities defined in the lease agreement. However, the specific amount of what payments must be included are tricky – and right now require a lawyer to understand.

### Two ways to stay in housing:

- Payment Plan, it is possible to ask a judge to consider this based on 7 presentation factors.
- Landlord Mitigation Fund (The request to use the fund is submitted with the statement that the client would be able to repay the loan to commerce within 90 days. The fund itself is funded by repayments.)

# 2020 Legislative Reforms Regarding Tenant Rights:

- 14 day instead of 3 day pay or vacate
- cap at \$75 late fees
- Limits on Attorney Fees
- Process of serving the summons/complaint
- Rent Increases
  - NONE during term of rental agreement
  - o 60 days-notice before end of rental period
- Changing use of space or demolishing (requires 120 days notice)
- More protections for service members

#### <u>Census 2020</u>

#### SW WA Census Coalition: Carmen Huizar

The SW WA Census Coalition is made up of many partners with the theme "Every Shade Counts" – to educate and help reduce the fear and mistrust in filling out the census forms.

Click here to view the entire <u>Census 2020 SW WA Census Coalition</u> Power Point Presentation including the following:

Why outreach matters (Specifically, immigrants, Latinx, and black communities have been historically undercounted in the census.)

- Implications of undercounting for each population
- How the Census will reach those experiencing homelessness
- The impact of not being counted

Click here to complete the Census: US Census 2020

#### Coalition and Homeless Action Plan, Kate Budd

HAP was adopted at the end of 2018 after conducting numerous surveys. It is a requirement of HUD and WA State Commerce. These two funding agencies require programs to align their programs with the Homeless Action Plan. The purpose of HAP is to chart a path forward for the reduction of homelessness.

Physical and Health providers are much more engaged and have more resources than ever before. SW Accountable Communities of Health is also working in the community solidifying these partnerships. We need all of these partners aligned. There are numerous systemic challenges to ending homelessness because it is connected to injustice.

**HMIS is a critical component of the HAP**: Our CoC includes 25 different agencies and 130 different users entering data into HMIS. Two HMIS groups formed through the CoC (Data Users and System Performance

work groups) take a look at data quality on a regular basis. According to the 2019 HMIS data, 6,117 people identified as experiencing homelessness. The data shows that we need to continue to work more closely with our culturally specific agencies to collaborate around the disproportionalities of homelessness among non-dominant populations.

See the <u>Homeless Action Plan 2019-2022 Update</u> Power Point Presentation for the following information:

- Who is Homeless in Clark County?
- Ages of Clark County Homeless
- Last Permanent Zip Code of those without homes
- Where to find current data: Dashboards: https://www.Councilforthehomeless.org/system-trackers/
- Homeless Action Plan Outcomes:
  - o Shelter
  - o Transitional Housing
  - o Rapid Rehousing
  - Permanent Supportive Housing

#### New Training Opportunities

April 22<sup>nd</sup> – 2019 by the Numbers: Homelessness in Clark County April 25<sup>th</sup> – Poverty Immersion Event, Register by Thursday, April 16th

# **CFTH Resource Guide in English & Spanish**

Next Coalition Meeting: May 13, 2020, from 10:00am-12noon