



Coalition of Service Providers for the Homeless

Meeting Summary for January 8, 2019

Next Meeting: March 11, 2020

10am-12noon at YWCA Clark County

Meeting Documents: http://www.councilforthehomeless.org/csp_docs/

Announcements: Excesses and Specific Needs, New/Increased Initiatives:

- CFTH is hiring! Check out the VHA Career Opportunities website.
- CFTH is hosting Project Homeless Connect on January 30th. There are postcards and flyers available. Goconnect.org to register as a volunteer for the event. OR email David@goconnect.org.
- Clark County Community Needs Assessment deadline is January 31st.
- Housing and Homelessness Advocacy Day is February 3rd.
- Janus Youth has boxes of hanging file folders.
- Human Services Council is changing their name. New name TBA.
- Family Promise of Clark County has four open beds for families. FamilyPromiseofClarkCo.org.

Presentations:

Drivers and Solutions for Unsheltered Homelessness, [Tedd Kelleher](#) from the WA Dept of Commerce

Excerpts from the Power Point:

- The state provides 25% of homelessness funding to counties in WA State. Where the money goes is listed on the website program by program. They roll all of the data into easily accessible information (WA State System Performance). Funds come from Local recording fees, state funds, and foundations.
- Key point: Rents are strongly associated with median incomes – there is a .83 correlation all MSAs Very strong gravitational pull between incomes and rents. As your rents go higher you have more and more people homeless. Rents vs. homelessness is a 0.7 correlation.
- If you have higher incomes, you will have higher rents and more people experiencing homelessness.
- Let's not get used to this. It is not normal for people to live outside. He showed comparisons to London, Vancouver BC, New York to show that it is NOT normal for people to live outside even if there is high % of homelessness. It is an objective fact and it is a political choice. We are exceptional that we do not universally supply section 8 vouchers. There would be 95% fewer people living outside if we provided a universal entrance to housing.
- Housing Affordability slide show rents going up and income going up. Obvious problem! This is especially difficult for people who live with fixed incomes.
- We are 163,000 units in the hole. There are other Drivers: But Rent is the main one.

2020 Legislative Session Priorities, Housing Assistance at Washington Low Income Housing Alliance (WLIHA)
Caroline Lopez, WLIHA Organizer

Caroline Lopez presented on the 2020 Legislative Priorities in preparation for the 2020 WA State Legislative session and WLIHA Advocacy Day, February 3rd.

The mission of the **Washington Low Income Housing Alliance** is to lead the movement to ensure that all our residents thrive in safe, healthy, affordable homes. We do this through advocacy, education, and organizing. WLIHA vision is that all Washington residents have the opportunity to live in safe, healthy, affordable homes in thriving communities.

WLIHA hosts Advocacy Day annually. This is an opportunity for residents to meet with legislators to discuss and advocate for better housing policies. It is a chance to uplift people who have experienced housing injustice and to educate lawmakers. This year there will be a phone app: HHAD2020 to keep everyone engaged. Clark County has 100 Resident Action Program members, people who have lived experience with homelessness and housing instability who are presently housed.

It is important to register for both the day itself and for the bus separately. You can do so at this link on the CFTH Website: <https://www.councilforthehomeless.org/advocacy/>

Providers are encouraged to attend the **Legislative Session Kick Off** on January 23rd, 5:30pm at Bridgeview Resource Center, 505 Omaha Way.

Shelter Programs and Renovation Update; Navigation Center Update

Katie Louis gave a quick report to say that Share House is now taking people through PeaceHealth directly from hospital placements. Now at Share House they then can receive assessments and become stabilized. Share is looking to expand this program, conducting a pilot project. Folks who access the program will receive care 7 days a week and an onsite social worker. In Home Care then follows them to their new place.

VHA Renovations include Share, Orchards Inn. The goal is to increase the # of people who can be served. The project is experiencing delays due to a lack of contractors, so the facility may not re-open until March.

The City of Vancouver is accepting RFPs for the Navigation Center Operator. Service providers must have 5 years of shelter operation or day center operation experience. The RFP instructions can be accessed here: https://www.cityofvancouver.us/sites/default/files/fileattachments/city_manager039s_office/page/40007/rfp_37-19_final.pdf).

CFTH Resource Guide in English & Spanish

Next Coalition Meeting: March 11, 2020, from 10:00am-12noon