Coalition of Service Providers for the Homeless
--A Continuum of Care and Homeless Task Force
Wednesday, March 9, 2022
10:00am-11:15am
Via Zoom

Register in advance for this meeting:

https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcvdu-prj4oE9IRgp6WfCAY-yHcbLEmxy_o

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Meeting Notes

10:00am	Welcome	Laura Ellsworth,
	Please introduce yourself in the chat	Council for the
	Feel free to ask questions in the chat box	Homeless
Issues, Hot To	ppics & Discussion	
10:05am	Breakout Room Discussion	All
	Participants discussed the pros and cons of returning to in person	
	services, and how that might impact access or reasonable	
	accommodation for the people they serve.	
10:15am	2022 Legislative Session Update	Caroline Lopez,
	Lead Policy Priorities that died:	Washington Low Income Housing Alliance
	HB 2017 (Housing Justice Act)	
	Did not go to vote in Housing Human Services, and Veterans committee.	
	HB 1904 (6 months notice for rent increases of more than 7%)	
	Went to rules committee and did not go to vote.	
	HB 2023 (Enforcement of Tenant Protections)	
	Did not go to vote in Housing, Human Services, & Veterans committee.	
	 Landlord-tenant laws in Washington are considered "self-help" 	
	which means it is up to individual tenants to enforce their rights,	
	 on their own. There is no entity charged with the enforcement of laws protecting 	
	tenants from unscrupulous or neglectful landlords.	
	HB 2023 adds enforcement mechanisms to the Residential	
	Landlord-Tenant Act, through the Attorney General's enforcement	
	of the Consumer Protection Act.	
	Lead Policy Priorities that Passed:	
	HB 1643/SB 5642 (Real Estate Excise Tax Exemption) Tax exemption for sellers who sell to affordable housing providers	
	Other Bills supported or followed that passed:	
	SB 5749 Rental Payment Options	
	HB 1866 Apple Health & Homes	
	HB 1905 Prevent Homelessness for Youth Exiting Systems of Care HB 2075 DSHS Services to be Open and Accessible	
	HB 1724 PSH Task Force at Dept. of Commerce and PSH Seat on Affordable	
	Housing Advisory Board	
	SB 5793 Stipends for People with Lived Expertise on State Boards and	
	Commissions	
	HB 1755 Time Limit Extension to the Five-year Limit for TANF SB 5566 Expanding Eligibility for the Independent Youth Housing Program	
	As the 2022 legislative session closes, many of the bills that didn't make it	
	and more will be brought up again in the 2023 session to support renters	

	and affordable housing in Washington State.	
	2022 was a successful year for budget priorities.	
	With \$500 million going to investing in affordable homes, giving \$430 million to the Housing Trust Fund.	
	The ABD Cash Grant was increased to \$417 a month \$55 million is to go to organizations to support front line workers and workforce stabilization.	
	Other budget wins include additional funds for pre-eviction legal aid, tenants' rights, foreclosure prevention, and Medicaid expansion to support those going into PSH.	
	The total two year capital investment for building or acquiring affordable homes and shelter is over \$734 million dollars.	
10:30am	Columbia River Mental Health Services Mobile Health program	Dawn Tec Yah, CRMHS
	The mobile health team has been in service since November 2021, the team is comprised of multiple medical professionals who go to various places in	Mike Delay, CRMHS
	the county to serve the homeless community. In February 2022, 60	
	individuals were served by the mobile service. 12 individuals were given	
	mental health assessments which are requirements for housing, more clients were connected with other services. A prescriber has joined the	
	mobile team so homeless individuals are able to receive critical medication.	
	The mobile team is currently in Vancouver twice a week, one day in Battle	
	Ground, and one day in Vancouver. A second mobile health team is in the	
	works so it is a seven day a week operation.	
10:50am	Update on Rental Assistance	Rebecca Royce, Clark
	ERA 1.0 and ERA 2.0 is expected to spend out in June 2022 with over \$50 million available in assistance between the programs.	County
	Funding since August 2020 has included utility and rent assistance that served roughly 5,225 households, specifically households where the head is a member of a marginalized community.	
	While vital to keeping clients in their homes, there are obvious struggles due to the unprecedented amount of funding available. There have been no guidelines set from the Treasury Department and very little guidance for organizations to operate. Along with the lack of guidelines, organizations struggle with staffing as needs arise. Temporary staff have been contracted to help with the burden of the ongoing need.	
	Beyond staffing challenges, clients will face long wait times and overwhelming waitlists to ensure organizations do not take on more clients and run out of funding. With the end of the eviction moratorium, timing is critical in keeping clients housed. There is also the need for increased cooperation from landlords that includes them being willing to communicate with housing providers and keep clear and accurate ledgers.	
	For help finding resources, contact 211 or go to 211info.org.	
11:05am	PIT Count/PHC Recap The 2022 count recently concluded, is a combination of federally/state required count of people experiencing homelessness in Clark County. HUD granted waivers to not perform the unsheltered part of the count in January of 2021 prior to the full vaccine roll out. In 2022, HUD gave an exception due to Omicron to push the final count out to February. The	Dale Whitley/Laura Ellsworth, Council for the Homeless

	count is conducted by outreach teams working in the field, and from the HMIS system, which counts individuals in shelter. Project Homeless Connect was originally to take place in January but was pushed out to February. The event was overall successful but due to the change of date and weather, the dental van was unable to come out. About 70 clients came, which is much smaller than past years, and 13 people were able to get vaccinated.	
11:15am	Adjourn	Laura Ellsworth, Council for the Homeless

<u>CFTH Resource Guide & Spanish Resource Guide</u> <u>CFTH COVID-19 Web Page</u>

Next Coalition Meeting: May 11, 2022, from 10:00am-11:15am

The Coalition meets on the 2nd Wed, bi-monthly for planning to prevent and end homelessness in Clark County. **General Contact or Accessibility Needs:** Council for the Homeless (360) 993-9561 or acconnolly@councilforthehomeless.org For more information on the Coalition, visit www.councilforthehomeless.org and click on Agency Resources.

Individuals attending this meeting may have serious medical sensitivities to perfumes, colognes, scented lotions, aerosols, cleaning products, and scentproducing items, such as glue, markers, and scented candles. We ask that you respect their needs by voluntarily refraining from wearing or using scented products during the meeting. Thank you.