

HOPE Advisory Board Public Engagement Update – November 2020

HOPE Advisory Board Purpose: provide policy recommendations to Benton County and the City of Corvallis regarding code changes, budget decisions, staff time, partnership suggestions, and funding opportunities. Topics center around housing, long-term planning, services, and equity.

November 2020 Update: on 10/28/20, the HOPE Board adopted four priority topics for public engagement. These topics come from months of research, data collection, and examination of model systems. These topics are where the board is beginning based on prioritizing by safety, vulnerable populations, and racial and ethnic justice. The Board will continue to work through all topic areas on the spectrum of housing and services, as well as engage in education and advocacy work once policy recommendations and long-term plans are adopted by the City and County.

The [HOPE Public Engagement website](#) has information on these four priority topics and public feedback.

Values: the HOPE Advisory Board Bylaws articulate values that have guided research and data collection. These values continue to be at the forefront of community engagement and will serve as the foundation for the policy recommendations.

- Use data to drive assessments, prioritization, and accountability.
- Take a comprehensive systems and multi-sector approach.
- Engage and involve the community, not just direct service providers.
- Prioritize vulnerable populations.
- Promote community safety for all.
- Promote racial and ethnic justice using a racial equity lens across all program recommendations.

Priority Topic Areas and Board Member Assignments:

1. Strengthen Crisis Response Resources: Align Services	2. Strengthen Crisis Response Resources: Location	3. Transitional Options	4. Permanent Supportive Housing
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1. Strengthen Crisis Response Resources: Align Services – Operational Changes for Improved Care Coordination.
 - a. Coordination between existing providers with street outreach and Hub Model of care coordination. Increased case managers to support this care coordination from entry, transition, and permanent case management support to remain in housing.
 - i. Follow up case management and rental assistance to stay housed in whatever environment works for the individual.

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- b. Data tracking coordinated between providers. Data collection coordinated between providers from entry, to transition, to permanent options.
2. Strengthen Crisis Response Resources: Location – Safe place to be 24/7 for all populations without housing that respects and addresses the needs of each individual.
 - a. Long-term (2-5 years): Resource Center with Emergency Shelter
 - i. Co-locate services/providers for care coordination and coordinated entry
 - ii. Co-locate services and beds for multiple populations at one location.
 - iii. Data system with staff and training for any provider who wants to opt in.
3. Transitional Options for Safety, Health, and Stability
 - a. Current providers are COI, Corvallis Housing First, and SafePlace.
 - b. Additional examples include microshelters/conestoga huts, managed camping, RV and car camping in locations that are safe, sanitary, stable, and provide services for health.
4. Permanent Supportive Housing Units
 - a. Definition: affordable, community-based housing for individuals and families who have experienced long-term or chronic homelessness and have been diagnosed as having a physical or developmental disability, a severe mental illness, substance abuse problems or HIV/AIDS; or are members of another designated group within the homeless population.
 - b. Structures may include apartments, single-family houses, duplexes, group homes or single-room occupancy housing.
 - c. Supportive services vary, most programs offer case management and housing support, but may also offer more intensive mental health, substance use, vocational, employment or other services which help promote independent living. Supportive services may be offered on-site or off-site, or be provided by a mobile service team. (LA County Taxonomy)