



Home, Opportunity, Planning, and Equity (HOPE) Advisory Board Meeting Approved Minutes

July 26, 2023 from 4 pm to 6 pm
Kalapuya Building, 450 SW Research Way



Members Present: Catherine Biscoe; Karyle Butcher; Ricardo Contreras; Cade DeLoach; Anita Earl; Joel Goodwin; Barbara Hanley; Briae Lewis* (Corvallis City Councilor); Charles Maughan* (Mayor, Corvallis City Council); Pegge McGuire* (CSC Director); Nancy Wyse* (Benton County Commissioner).

Excused: Alice Carter; Melissa Isavoran; Aaron Lewis; Ari Grossman-Naples; Cindee Lolik; Andrea Myhre.

Absent: Bryan Cotter

Staff Present: Julie Arena (Benton County Health, HOPE Program Coordinator); Paula Felipe (Benton County Public Health, recorder); Sara Hartstein, Interim Public Health Deputy Director, Benton County; Rebecca Taylor: Sam Bailey (Executive Assistant); Damien Sands (Director, Behavioral Health, Benton County); Eric Bowling.

Guests:
*Executive Committee Members.

I. **Welcome and Introductions.** Reminder of culture and conduct agreement, such as kindness, open-mindedness, curious, respect, inclusivity. Announcement: Chanale Propst indicated she will no longer be able to participate in HOPE. We will miss her!

II. **Public Comments (limited to 2-3 minutes).** No Comment.

III. **Approval of Minutes: MOTION** made by Pegge McGuire to approve the May 2023 Minutes; **Seconded** by Briae Lewis; All in favor; **MOTION** passed. Abstained: Karyle Butcher. One Correction: Pegge: Dina’s first name was misspelled and will be corrected.

IV. **Community Progress Updates and Discussion**

Situational Table in Benton County (Captain Joel Goodwin, Corvallis Police Department) and Eric Bowling, MSW, LCSW (Benton County Health Department)

- **History and Process:**

- HOPE Board researched best practices for care coordination and recommended to adopt the Situation Table model. *HOPE Bylaws: prioritize community safety for all and our most vulnerable community members.*
- Then we formed a group of community partners to discuss the situation table, FUSE, case conferencing. There was support from all community partners for this model.

- A **Situation Table (ST)** is a collaborative meeting where participants work together to reduce risk for individuals or families at an **Acutely Elevated Risk (AER)**.
- Participants in ST meetings include people from a variety of entities that work together
- in a multi-disciplined team approach to solve problems.
- The Situation Table model uses a **four filter** approach to ensure consensus and formulate a plan for quick response:

- **Filter One:** the initial contact (first responder, shelter worker, etc.) identifies the person as being at AER and refers the situation to the Situation Table
- **Filter Two:** Members of the Situation Table review anonymized information to determine if the situation meets the criteria for AER.
- **Filter Three:** The ST members receive additional information to better identify what services are available to reduce risk.
- **Filter Four:** ST members who have identified a role in reducing risk meet to formulate a response plan, and meet the person where they are.
- Identify people who should be involved; May not be just homeless situations.
- For Example: A 67-year old woman with health issues was facing eviction; core engagement team met to find providers and develop plan. The Sheriff's office was in process to evict her. Sheriff asked if a team was available: She had medical issues and needed physical safety. Searched for solutions and decided taking her to the hospital was the safest place and she is still at the hospital. If the situational table was in place, maybe we could come up with a better solution before she was evicted.
- At a Glance: Situational Table Outcomes: Focus Toronto: Outcomes: most situations referred by law enforcement while most agencies who responded came from the community and social services sector.
- 93 percent of situations use services.
- 88 percent had lowered risk – pretty impressive results.
- Who is going to facilitate? Does not require new staff; need existing staff.
- Core team logical place to house situational table; mental health professionals respond and consult, as needed.
- Staff capacity 4 hours a week for facilitator role; could be 8 hours a week if responding. For core team participating.
- **Where are we now?** Multiple meetings have been held to ensure consensus with community partners that the ST should move forward.
- The Benton County/Corvallis PD CORE Team has been identified to facilitate ST meetings.
- IHN-CCO has committed to funding the training and initial implementation of the ST in our community.
- In a position to make this happen.
- **Next steps:** Planning training for this Fall with community rollout by the end of 2023.
- Folks from Massachusetts to help with 2 day training.
- Contact Joel or Eric if you are a community service provider interested in participating.
- Additional information at: <https://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/cnt/cntrng-crm/crm-prvntn/nvntr/dtIs-en.aspx?i=10015>

Questions or Discussion:

- Sara Hartstein: Glad CCO willing to sponsor training. About a year ago, interest in FUSE model in neighboring counties, heard CCO might be looking at rolling out in entire region; is there any updates in neighboring county? Or, did we decide to go with situation table instead? Julie: FUSE is separate; it is for permanent supportive housing for those who need it. IHN interested in FUSE model in tri county area. Linn County picked where to house it; Lincoln still rolling it out. Benton has not picked out best place for FUSE model; still on-going conversations. Rebecca: In Albany there are working with the fire department and in Lincoln County with Sheriff's Depart. Joel: There is support for both

FUSE and Situational Table; different functions; complement each other well, so not an either/or. Julie can follow up and connect Sara with IHN. Sara: has CCO talked about funding either of those models? Julie: ready and willing to fund one position in each county to implement FUSE; waiting for community partner and provider. We can talk more about it.

- Sara Hartstein: Training--can they be looped in with Situational Table?
- Joel: Yes, and Corvallis Police/BH renewed our commitment to core team and included that responsibility as part of our duties.
- Julie: dates looking at Oct 19-20 (Thursday and Friday). Will check to see if those dates work.
- Pegge: unclear what details of acutely elevated risk? Joel: not tied to any one factor; tied to multitude of factors: homelessness could be one. Also, could be mental health crisis; don't want to limit to homeless nexus.
- Pegge: People at risk are those who come to awareness of law enforcement? Joel: could be from a variety of sectors to make referrals. Eric Bowling: Hits the social determinants of health from Behavioral and Social Health perspective.
- Charles: excited about this program. When I was a property manager if something like this exists and there were health crisis causing issues with tenants; this kind of program could have helped a lot. Helps affordable housing property managers. Reach out to person to provide services to help keep them housed. Could look at property managers to bring on board.
- Julie: along with the 2-day training, we have online suite of resources/scenarios for training in first six months too.
- Catherine Biscoe: clarify the data outcomes in Toronto. Joel: 2/3 of calls for cases came to law enforcement; but response out, law enforcement used only about 3 percent of time.
- Catherine: are we tracking this? Joel: yes, we will be tracking situation table; tracking to do best we can and make adjustments.
- Catherine: Thank you for all the hard work; we owe a lot of success to you for bringing this to the table.

V. Educational Component: Creating Housing Coalition (CHC) Tiny Home Village (Stacey Bartholomew, Executive Director)

- With a successful groundbreaking on June 10, Hub City Village is officially on its way to becoming Albany's first tiny house village, dedicated to providing a home and community for our unhoused neighbors.
- If all goes smoothly, residents will begin moving into the 27 tiny homes in the spring of 2024.
- People told Stacy, If you do it, I'll do it.
- Resources available; all volunteers with a few employees.
- Map shown of Draft Plans: on left side U shape 1,200 square foot community center.
- North corner: office to meet one on one with residents and providers.
- Building use for residents: A meeting place for group activities; can gather on monthly basis to discuss village on how things are running.
- Cooperative village; everyone contributes to how this village works. Make decisions; assist one another.

- 27 tiny homes; right side of picture big open space for garden area. Fire regulations need fire engines to reach in the back.
- Received funding from various sources
- 8 units for persistent mental illness; working with case managers.
- 2 houses closest to resident center will be fully ADA accessible houses; wheelchair access; front and back porch. In case of fire, can exit in a wheelchair.
- Other homes have one doorway/entrance.
- Bedroom, bathroom, kitchen and living area (312 to 500 sq feet).
- Parking lot area: access to electric vehicle charging units-provide option in future;
- Bike covered parking area – next to trash area; more bike storage.
- Key element of village; great to hear about coordinated system of response/crisis response; in our village we have peer support specialist working in outreach capacity and living on site and providing that facilitation. Name is Heather; working with her program COAT (Community Outreach Assistance Team); goes out 4 days a week; access areas around Albany and nearby community to attend to folks.
- Not taking applications at this time; just laid the forms to pour concrete for meeting room.

Questions and Comments:

- Karyle: very interesting: where is funding coming from; where is this located?
- Stacey: Albany do things if it makes sense; at first quite a bit of opposition when first started; people did not understand it would be permanent homes. Helps to build accountability and dignity. Changing from unhoused to housed situation so that they have enough peer support, training, restorative justice; and able to navigate their own way in the community. Most are older and some have physical disabilities.
- Stacey: a number of funding sources, including Federal Government and state OHA Homelessness Fund; HB fund; and a lot of fundraising funds.
- Julie: how long ago did you start? Stacey: started 6 years ago in 2017; started as an idea; got community involved in 2018; Dan Bryant from Eugene Village made presentation; people from Corvallis and Albany; 65 people attended a meeting. Good response; headed in right direction.
- Location: 241 Waverly Drive SE in Albany; between Pacific Hwy and Salem road on Waverly; close to grocery stores; near mental health; 3 blocks from Fred Meyer; and near Samaritan clinic; previously private owned land; extremely run down home area; previous owner wanted apartments; that voted down; owner decided to sell and negotiated. Had to finish environmental review which was required by our funding.
- Concrete slabs; one story; eight of them have lofts.
- Julie can share the preliminary map with members.
- Charles: googled it; future home of village--shows up on google maps
- Julie: what a heavy lift; 6 years; once complete can we talk about doing this in Benton County. Stacey: already getting calls from Lebanon; looking for more places to try again.
- Lots of folks congratulating you Stacey!

VI. Benton County Coordinated Homeless Response Office Update – Community Progress Update: House Bill 5019 (Julie Arena and Rebecca Taylor)

- **HB 5019 Balance of State Funding and Community Planning**

- State Sponsored; Locally Driven
 - Benton County's HB 4123 Coordinated Homeless Response structure and staff to develop Community Plan to be incorporated into grant agreements.
 - Local Planning Groups to include culturally specific and responsive organizations, cities, counties, coordinated care organizations, mental health providers, and other critical partners supporting the needs of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness when developing plans.
 - Plans will outline specific strategies that a community plans to use to reach their goals.
 - **Benton County's Goal: Rehouse 33 people by June 30, 2025**
 - Formula Based: Rapid Rehousing ~\$19.5M across 26 counties
 - Benton County to receive ~\$1.4M; Goal to rehouse 33 people.
 - Competitive Based: Sheltering Projects ~\$6.6 across 26 counties
 - Competitive RFP funding process:
 - **Readiness:** Demonstrate ability create and operate shelter sites or additional shelter beds by 6/25/2025.
 - **Operations:** Demonstrate low barrier operational plan.
 - **Support:** Demonstrate local support for project from community leaders and regional partners.
- **Benton County Community Plan Development Process**
 - June 30: Local Planning Group working with partners supporting people experiencing homelessness.
 - July 7-11: Survey for Qualitative Data Collection.
 - July 12: First planning meeting: review data; identify populations.
 - July 12-18: Sheltering and RRH Focus Groups meet. Identify action items for 2 year plan to rehouse 33 people; prepare draft plan.
 - July 19: Second meeting; review plan and data.
 - July 19-21: Sheltering and Focus Groups Meeting; finalize plan; partner roles; plan signed by Contract Manager.
 - Critical component is Equity: Look at data for disparities; prioritize them.
- **Data Overview: (Libbi Loseke Winter) – Grant writer and researcher for Coordinated Office**

Context for Existing Data: Point in Time Count; HMIS and CE; McKinney-Vento; and Unity Shelter and Corvallis Daytime Drop in Center.

 - **Key numbers for size of unsheltered population:**
 - 168 unsheltered individuals (45.2%) out of 372 total homeless population. (PIT 2023)
 - 102 unsheltered individuals have a current CE assessment (HMIS)
 - 17 unsheltered students (McKinney Vento)
 - 62 unaccompanied homeless youth
 - **Provider numbers show about 1,000 total homeless individuals.**
 - 950 guests at CDDC (2022, unduplicated)
 - 1,004 guests at Unity Shelter (July 2022 - June 2023, unduplicated)
 - **Reviewed data by Race and Ethnicity; looked at several contributing factors:**
 - Data on disabilities is complicated. It can include physical disability, mental health, chronic health conditions, substance use, and developmental disability, depending on the source.

- 100% of the multi racial homeless population is unsheltered 9 individuals. (PIT 2023)
- 97.6% of Serious Mental Illness homeless population were unsheltered 41 of 42 individuals. (PIT 2023)
- We recognize the intersections among different identities and factors and the limits of the data to tell that story.
- Black and Native American communities are most overrepresented in the data.
- Plans to address barriers.
- Funding and Goals: Total Award for Benton County: \$1,480,946 through June 2025.
- Goals: Benton County: Rapidly rehouse 33 people experiencing unsheltered homelessness by June 2025.
- Statewide: Add a minimum of 100 emergency shelter beds by June 2025.

- **Funding Categories – 2 year:**

• Street Outreach	• \$86,600
• Emergency Shelter	• \$86,600
• Rapid Re-housing	• \$976,800
• HMIS	• \$50,000
• Administration	• \$222,141
• <i>Not yet categorized</i>	• <i>\$58,805</i>
• TOTAL	• \$1,480,946

- **Funding Calculations:**

- Rapid Re-housing: \$14,800/person/year x 33 people x 2 years= \$976,800
- Administration: set by OHCS -\$222,141 (approx. 15%)
- HMIS: based on input from CSC -\$50,000
- Remainder (\$173,200): split evenly between Street Outreach and Emergency Shelter
- Nancy: 33 people- how is that calculated? Rebecca: to be determined; we want to understand what criteria for people to access long term rental assistance program. We are asking the questions.

Questions and Comments:

- Rebecca: investing in long term solutions; make sure building community plan and preventing other people from becoming homeless; planning includes how to sustain beyond the two years.
- Caden: I'm excited to see the future units added, Affordable housing prevents homelessness for the working poor and those who go thru periods of housing security /insecurity
- Pegge: how fabulous you all got it done and collect such amazing input; heartening; all parties that came together having deep and meaning discussions. Wonderful job!
- Sara: What does Administration cover?
Libbi: Administration will likely include things like reporting requirements, managing grant funds, and setting and managing contracts with providers that receive the HB 5019 funds. OHCS also includes Training on OREGON'S ALL IN Requirements as part of Admin.
- Karyle: where is this housing going to be? Bottom line: We don't have any land. No place for people to go. Great plan, but if no building? Julie: Corvallis has 400 units in pipeline

for affordable housing. Pegge: Yes, but those are affordable homes for people coming back to Corvallis and who are here. Not enough houses; the pent up demand is huge. Julie: 100 in southwest Corvallis; and behind 3rd Street Commons too. Pegge: affordable housing not for unhoused; need for homes like 10 times more than we have—huge competition for places. Not saying this isn't great work, but need more housing.

- Pegge: conversations happening in each county--Linn, Benton, and Lincoln; many bringing up point you brought up; my bigger concern is being able to maintain any shelter beds we are losing due to funding going away as covid funds go away.
- Charles: agree with need and land issues; I am excited about 400 affordable housing development; aware of lack of land for additional housing; focus on tax exemptions for housing development; single level businesses; want to encourage housing; no one solution; looking at every possible option.
- Karyle: waste of land to do tiny homes when you can do larger apartments.
- Nancy: That is your opinion and there are multiple different opinions; some support for tiny homes.
- Julie: There are folks who need their own space like in Tiny villages; some have PTSD; glad to have units for those who need that type of home.
- Rebecca: money and community plan not operating in isolation from others – working on various issues; education; stabilization; long journey from unsheltered to being housed; prepare for other problems in parallel way. Reach out to direct service providers to connect people when opportunities arise.
- Sara: I continue to be impressed by your fantastic work—thank you!
- Nancy: Teamwork makes the Dream work!

VII. Strategic Plan Draft: Community Engagement (Julie Arena & Rebecca Taylor)

- **Strat Plan purposes:**
- **Goal 1:** Strategic Plan communicates our local work to the State within the framework they are funding.
- **Goal 2:** Strategic Plan guides staff work to implement policy recommendations.
- **Goal 3:** Community Roadmap
- **HOPE Feedback Purpose:** Help us effectively communicate our local work to the State and to Benton County communities.
- We are organizing our 5 year strategic plan with the same broad priority areas from the 10 year plan to accomplish the following:
- Strategic priorities that are inclusive and relevant for community partners working on urban and rural solutions.
- Showing alignment for collective impact.
- Community roadmap of all the work beyond HOPE recs and HB 4123 requirements.
- Holding space for countywide and even regional approaches.
- See slide for 5 year timeline with integrated metrics.
- Community Partner Strategic Priorities:
- **Already reviewed in May:**
- Intercommunity Health Network Coordinated Care Organization (IHN CCO) Medicaid insurance for tri county
- Community Services Consortium (CSC) community action agency (CAA) for tri county

- **New items to share today:**
- **Cascade West Council of Governments (COG):** Senior and disability services: Area agency on aging; Aging and disability resource connection (ADRC); Do assessments and connect eligible people with personal care attendants.
- Casa Latinos Unidos (CLU) culturally specific organization for our Hispanic community
- NAACP for Linn and Benton Counties
- **Yet to come:**
- United Way for the Tri County area meeting in August
- Linn Benton Housing Authority planning for August

VIII. Central Point of Communications:

- HOPE Website; Storytelling; e-Newsletter; Social Media.

IX. Meeting next week to discuss funding streams; Julie will send out invite.

Closing Comment: Catherine: thank you all for the hard work and amazing team. I cannot express my gratitude enough for all the hard work. The resources, experience, wealth of knowledge, and you and your team fast tracking it—good work!

X. Meeting was Adjourned at 6 pm.