



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

September 27, 2023 from 4 pm to 6 pm
Kalapuya Building, 4500 SW Research Way



Members Present: Catherine Biscoe* (Co-Chair); Karyle Butcher; Bruce Butler; Alice Carter; Bryan Cotter; Cade DeLoach; Sarah Devine; Anita Earl; Matt Easdale; Aaron Lewis; Barbara Hanley; Briae Lewis* (Corvallis City Councilor); Charles Maughan* (Corvallis Mayor); Pegge McGuire* CSC Director; Andrea Myhre; Ailiah Schafer; Nancy Wyse* (County Commissioner).

Excused: Ricardo Contreras; Joel Goodwin; Ari Grossman-Naples; Cindee Lolik*

Absent:

Staff Present: Julie Arena (Benton County Health, HOPE Program Coordinator); Paula Felipe (Benton County Public Health, recorder); Johnna Peters (Benton County Healthy Communities); Rebecca Taylor; Eric Bowling.

Guests: *Executive Committee Members.

- I. **Welcome and Introductions.** Reminder of culture and conduct agreement, such as kindness, open-mindedness, curious, respect, inclusivity. Board Members Introduced themselves and shared some personal details to better get acquainted with each other.
- II. **Board Membership and Meetings Update.** Four new members: Bruce Butler; Sarah Devine; Matthew Easdale, and Ailiah Schafer. Full membership now with 21 Board Members, per HOPE Bylaws.
 - Second Co-Chair position is open, Sarah Devine is interested in that role. Co-Chair election will happen at October meeting.
 - November meeting dates – one week earlier:
 - HOPE Exec Meeting – November 1st (instead of the usual Nov. 8th)
 - HOPE Board Meeting – November 15th (instead of the usual Nov. 22nd)
 - Julie will be on a two month leave for Oct. and Nov.
 - Rebecca Taylor, Project Manager, will be supporting HOPE board duties.
 - Libbi Loseke Winter, Grant Writer and Researcher, will support some meeting facilitation.
 - April Holland, Health Department Director, will help with other duties.
 - Kailee Olson, Health Department Communications Coordinator, will continue communications support.
- III. **Public Comments (limited to 2-3 minutes).** No Comment.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes: MOTION** made by Briae Lewis to approve the August 2023 Minutes; **Seconded** by Karyle Butcher; All in favor; **MOTION** passed. **Abstained:** Bruce Butler; Sarah Devine; Matt Easdale; Charles Maughan; Pegge McGuire; Ailiah Schafer; Nancy Wyse,

V. **Educational Component: Regional Approaches to Homelessness (Karen Rockwell, Director of Housing Authority, from Lincoln County).**

- Lincoln County’s HB 4123 Work: Lincoln County Homeless Advisory Board Update; Morant McCleod, Consulting.
- LCHAB Website: <https://www.co.lincoln.or.us/1028/Lincoln-County-Homeless-Advisory-Board>
- **Timeline of Activities for Lincoln County:**
- January: Developing a Collaborative Vision
- February - May: Grassroots Engagement through Workgroups
- June - September: Crafting a Comprehensive Strategy
- August - September: Workgroup Meetings and Data Collection
- September - October: Consultations with cities and municipalities within Lincoln County
- October - November: Final presentation to LCHAB
- November: Submit Finalized plan to State of Oregon
- **Four Work Groups:**
- Mental and Physical Health
- Community Engagement
- Service Provisions and Policy
- Finance and Economics
- **Data Collection and Analytics:** The size of unhoused population of Lincoln County is about 2,000 people.
- Average age: 46 years
- There is estimated 27,901 housing units in Lincoln County where 95.8 % are single family residential.
- 1.9 % are commercially owned residential (apartments)
- 2.3 % are multi-family residential.
- Of note: some of the single-family residences are rented to non-owners and VRBOs may take rentals out of the long term residential market.
- **Housing Information:**
- The majority of Lincoln County’s housing units are single family (95.8%) or multi-family (2.3%) residential homes.
- It’s estimated that between 30% to 40% of homes are used for commercial or second home purposes and are unavailable for local population housing.¹
- Per-capita income (\$32,776 in 2021) does not support home ownership or rental (between \$1,650 to \$3,500 per month for 2 bedroom) home costs.²
- The population is slowly increasing, primarily due to domestic migration. International migration and natural population levels are decreasing.
- **Mapping Services:**
- Lincoln County has over 150 service providers. This number increases to over 200 when health related services are included.
- Nonprofits and faith community organizations act as primary service providers.
- There are many connections between organizations within the community, but many

organizations are working independently.

- A small number of service providers have the greatest number of connections.
- The majority of service providers are along the coast.
- **Mental and Physical Health Key Points**
- It's common for unhoused individuals to get "caught in the system" of care.
- There are few incentives for organizations to work together.
- Transitions between services are often met with difficulties.
- Co-occurrences of service needs are common, and likely prevalent.
- Policies between organizations generally do not neatly align. Data management is an issue.
- **Where Are We Now:**
- Workplan and tentative budget submitted to state for \$765,277
- Shelter addendums submitted for competitive funds, 30% reduction on one particular partner application being considered for submission at the request of OHCS
- Working on final strategic plan elements

Discussion Questions:

- Continuum of Care conversations: Pegge McGuire: has been presenting at many City council meetings and shared a slide about what is a CoC and situation now. She talks about how does this work on regional basis with our 3 counties. Helping people get understanding of local planning groups and HB 4123 groups and how it connects with Continuum of Care. Most heartfelt desire is the local planning groups (as described in the slide) will continue as she believes they are key as we move forward. Pegge will get resolution from each council.
- Catherine: Thanks to Karen for advocacy! Question on OHNA (needs assessment): do we know where that is going to land for certain? Karen: some details still being worked out. Will get document to Julie to share link. It is a more uniform way for State to assess housing needs with equity lens. Housing units per demographic will be considered. Comes with technical assistance from the State, which will especially help smaller communities.
- Julie: we would like to invite you back later to find out what got adopted. Karen will keep us informed.
- Nancy Wyse: Technical assistance and equity lens are great; and we should be cautious when talking about a 'one size fits all' approach; our land use reflects our values. Karen: yes, agree and advancing equity is conversation to internalize by looking inside of ourselves to challenge our own bias.
- Aaron: Question about Point in Time Count? Pegge: with Covid, part of problem point in time depends on volunteer participation, and so few people willing to get out and meet people and get data; then everyone's count was low. OSU Professor and others creating a methodology to use going forward to improve better counts. Hope to see that change in future. Barbara: OSU did get data from community services consortium and from Sam health. Overcoming some obstacles and were able to merge data—now making sure there were no errors. Julie: This is separate from the PIT count.
- Karyle: Thanks for Pegge and Karen and appreciate the collaborative effort on the coast. Is that same buy in happening in Benton County? Pegge: Yes, in Benton and Linn Counties. Feels like enthusiasm higher in Lincoln County where routinely have mayors and council members participate in committee meetings. Karyle: sometimes we forget about

people on the streets while talking about process. How do we get larger sense of urgency?
Karen: HOPE has Nancy, Charles, Catherine, and you have service providers too. Lincoln is rural and all of the towns have population under 10,000---not like Corvallis. So, rural coastal areas need to work together to move forward. Julie: went to city council meetings like in Monroe and Philomath and they are interested and want to know more and to collaborate. Pegge: just wanting a better understanding. Maybe Julie could attend when the Women League board is interested in having a speaker.

- Pegge: Drive in Lincoln County with Karen and Donna is making a difference and moving forward.
- Julie: Veterans housing moving forward in Linn County too.

VI. Community Progress and Updates.

- **HB 5019 funding for shelter and rehousing**
 - \$ for emergency shelter to Unity
 - \$ for rehousing to Benton County to implement community plan priorities
 - Goals: 31 rehoused households; 50 shelter beds; First milestone due data extended to Jan. 2024.
 - Funds: Street Outreach: \$146,220; Unity Shelter: \$1,175,230.90; Rapid Rehousing: \$880,264; Data Collection: \$50,000; Administration: \$189,968. Funds can be adjusted between each category to meet community goals.
- **HB 4123 Strategic Plan**
 - Finalizing: Reviewing with Partners
 - Adopting: Reviewing with Policy Leaders
 - Submitting: Report to the Legislature on progress due 10/31
 - Strategic Plan due to the State: date 11/15.

VII. Announcements:

- CARE (Corvallis Area Resource Event) on 10/10/23. (Resources include housing assistance).
- Situation Table 2-day community training Thursday, 10/19 and Friday 10/20 for community partners who interact with people at-risk.
- Andrea: Has concerns; reviewed bylaws and changes should be brought to group for approval. Feel like we need more accountability with city and county. Want to follow our bylaws.
- Karyle: what is difference between Julie's job and our role. Need more clarity about what our roles are. Julie: those issues are being followed up by commissioners and more to come.

Meeting Adjourned at 6 pm