



# HOPE Advisory Board

December 2023 Public Meeting

Meeting facilitated by HOPE Coordinator, Julie Arena

12/20/2023



# Virtual Meeting Housekeeping

- Please mute your microphone until it is your turn to share.
- All attendees can unmute themselves and choose to be seen visually by clicking “Mic” or “Camera” at the top right of the screen.
- Public comment:
  - Type your name into the “Chat” area, say you want to make a public comment, and on what topic. Example: “Julie – public comment – crisis response.”
  - For those on the phone, there will be an opportunity to comment, too.
- Questions during the meeting:
  - Type into the “Chat” area and send it to host, Julie Arena.

# Meeting Agenda

- I. Welcome, Meeting Housekeeping, Overview of Agenda.....4:00pm
- II. Public Comment (up to 10 minutes) .....4:00pm
- III. Roll call and approve October 2023 meeting minutes .....4:10pm
- IV. Community Updates.....4:15pm
  - Unity Shelter update and HB 5019 funding for emergency shelter operations
  - Continuum of Care (CoC) update from Community Services Consortium (CSC)
  - City of Corvallis update
- V. Educational Component.....5:30pm
  - HOPE Advisory Board Bylaw amendments to align with HB 4123 Coordinated Homeless Response Office (CHRO)
- VI. HOPE Board Advocacy Discussion.....5:45pm
- VII. Next Steps .....5:55pm



# Agreements for our culture + conduct:

Fun

Inclusive ✓✓

humor

Food ✓

Action/roll up sleeves

Change the face of Homelessness

honesty

Respect ✓

Consensus

Think before you speak

Courtesy ✓

transparency

Recognize personal bias

Kindness ✓

time management

Concise communication

Open minded ✓

opinions matter

data driven

Do your homework!

patient

authentic

Valuing personal experience

dedication/work ethic  
honor the expectations of  
the work

# Public Comment

10 minutes

- Comment limited to 2-3 minutes based on number of people wanting to comment
- Type into the “Chat” and say you want to make a public comment and on what topic.
- For those on the phone, I will ask if there are any public comments from callers.
- Can also submit written comments to the Board via email to [Julie.Arena@co.Benton.or.us](mailto:Julie.Arena@co.Benton.or.us)

# Vote on October 2023 minutes, roll call

Catherine Biscoe\* (Co-Chair) (excused)

Karyle Butcher

Bruce Butler

Alice Carter

Ricardo Contreras (excused)

Bryan Cotter

Cade DeLoach

Sarah Devine \* (Co-Chair) (excused)

Anita Earl (excused)

Matt Easdale

Joel Goodwin

Aaron Lewis

Ari Grossman-Naples (excused)

Barbara Hanley

Briae Lewis\* (Corvallis City Councilor)

Cindee Lolik\* (Business Community)

Pegge McGuire\* (CSC Director)

Andrea Myhre

Ailiah Schafer

Nancy Wyse\* (County Commissioner)

\*Executive Committee Members



# New County Website

- All old links/bookmarks, favorites, etc. will direct to the new website, but will encounter a “404 error” and folks will have to navigate through the site to find what they’re looking for.
- Here’s the link to the sign-up form (it is a Constant Contact link so no change): <https://bit.ly/HOPENewsAndUpdates>
- HOPE Advisory Board link will redirect you to the new page, even if you click this old link: <https://bit.ly/HopeAdvisoryBoard>
- The former Housing and Homelessness page now redirects to: <https://health.bentoncountyor.gov/coordinated-homeless-response/>

# Community Updates

- Unity Shelter update and HB 5019 funding for emergency shelter operations
- Continuum of Care (CoC) update from Community Services Consortium (CSC)
- City of Corvallis update





## HOPE: Update on HB 5019 and services



Shawn Collins / Executive Director

12/20/2023: HOPE Meeting

hJMSuarez [CC BY 2.0 (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0>)]

[https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/84/Homeless\\_New\\_York\\_2008.jpeg](https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/84/Homeless_New_York_2008.jpeg)





# Spectrum of need in our community

Solutions and needed services vary across the spectrum of need.

*Unity Shelter*




**While the chronically homeless and provision of basic shelter draws much of the spotlight, there is a continuum that must be addressed to fulfill our community's shared need for safe, affordable housing.**

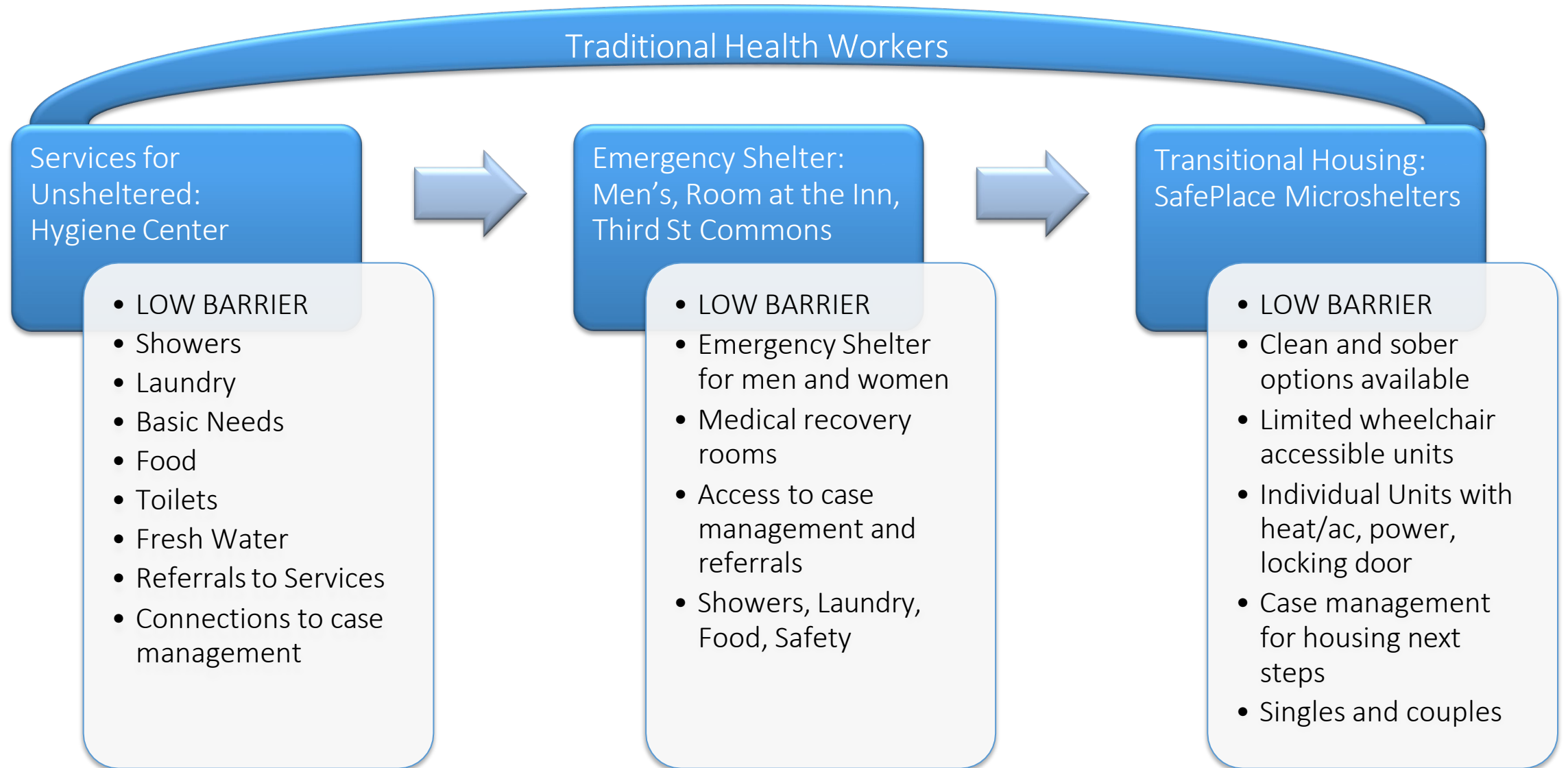




# Unity Shelter: Responding to Needs, Integrating Successful Programs


- Mission: Providing Safe Shelter through Collaborative Care
  - Vision: Community supported collaboration across services and sites, to ensure safe shelter, stability, access to basic hygiene and resources for persons experiencing homelessness, in a setting appropriate to each individual or couple's needs and circumstance.
  - Values: Collaboration, Community Engagement, Safety
- 

# Unity Shelter: Range of Services





# Unity Shelter: June-November 2023

- Financial realities forced changes in June
    - Stop shelter at 211 SE Chapman
    - Co-Ed Shelter at Room at the Inn for 25 men and 25 women
    - Changes across all programs to achieve \$75k-\$100k in monthly savings allowed us to run off reserves, donations, and grants from City of Corvallis Social Service Fund and IHN-CCO.
  - Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) funding made available through the Coordinated Homeless Response Office, and direct support from OHCS, allowed a return to full service in all programs through March 2024, and through June 2025 at Men's.
- 



# HB 5019 and Shelter Operations funding

- HB 5019 planning efforts began this summer in communities across Oregon through “local planning groups.” In Benton County, the Coordinated Homeless Response Office and providers served as the local planning group.
- Men’s Shelter funding requested through “Shelter Addendum” to the community plan. Reductions from original ask, but still able to re-open and renovate Men’s and expand capacity for women at Room at the Inn.
  - Renovations focused on meeting code requirements for year-round operations in the 211 SE Chapman building.
    - Additional toilets and showers are primary target for renovation.
      - Currently meeting required toilets and shower capacity through portable toilets and Benton County shower trailer.
    - Year-round operations and expanded ability to deliver services by late 2024!
  - Shelter Operations funding for Room, Third St, SafePlace, Emergency Hotel Shelter through March – short session may provide additional \$.



# Unity Shelter: Program Partnerships

- First Congregational United Church of Christ and partner churches
  - First United Methodist Church
  - Corvallis Evangelical Church
  - Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
  - Church of the Good Samaritan
  - Life Community Church
- Corvallis Daytime Drop-In Center
- Good Samaritan Mobile Medical and the Homeless Resource Team
- Benton County Health Department Harm Reduction & Health Navigation
- Coordinated Homeless Response Office
- Veterans Services
- Corvallis Housing First Case Management Team
- Linn-Benton Food Share
- Stone Soup of Corvallis
- First Alternative Co-op
- Meals on Wheels
- Community Restaurants, Donors and Volunteers





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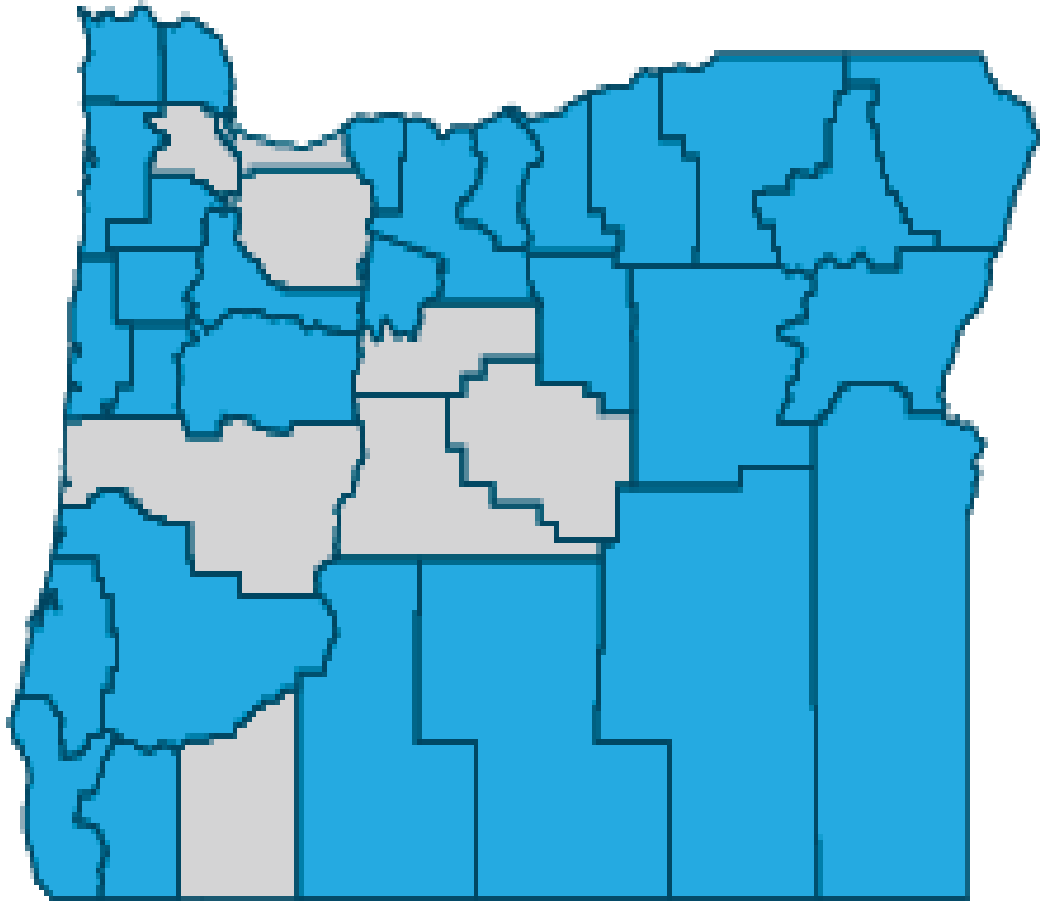
[www.unityshelter.org](http://www.unityshelter.org)





**Community  
Services  
Consortium (CSC)**

- **Pegge McGuire, Director**



# Rural Oregon Continuum Of Care

# One-woman roadshow tries to convince Linn, Benton cities to join homeless effort

Penny Rosenberg – Albany Democrat-Herald – Nov 14, 2023

Acting Executive Director of the Community Services Consortium Pegge McGuire addresses the Adair Village City Council on Nov. 7. She is seeking support from cities across Linn, Benton, and Lincoln Counties for an effort that would see those counties break away from the state's rural counties in order to net more homeless dollars for service providers.



# Updates from City of Corvallis Housing Services

- Hosting a hybrid class for grantees to share info about Corvallis funding programs outside the RFP process to answer questions. January 11<sup>th</sup> at 4pm at Madison Ave Meeting Room and virtual.
- COVID waivers are now gone for CDBG funding, now able to allocate about 15% like normal, roughly \$82k annually to all social services. The rest of CDBG is capital projects, brick and mortar, housing.
- The first of over 450 units of affordable housing in Corvallis is coming online. Families are moving into affordable rentals located at 53<sup>rd</sup> and County Club. The development is 53<sup>rd</sup> flats. Details about additional affordable units can be found here.

<https://www.corvallisoregon.gov/cd/page/affordable-housing>

# Benton County Coordinated Homeless Response Office:

## Update on HOPE Bylaws & HB 4123 Strategic Plan

Julie Arena, HOPE Program Coordinator



# Update and Discussion

## HOPE Advisory Board Bylaw Amendments



Integrating HB 4123 Organizational Components.



Scope and Purpose of Amendments

What is Changing?



Next Steps

# Integrating the organizational components required by House Bill 4123 for a Benton County Coordinated Homeless Response System that includes:

- Formation of a Coordinated Homeless Response Office (CHRO) and hiring necessary support staff. Includes:
  - HOPE Program Coordinator, HOPE Project Manager, and Grant Researcher and Writer.
- An Advisory Board with representation from the governing body from each member government.
  - To date, Benton County has entered a Memorandum of Understanding (HB 4123 MOU) with the Cities of Corvallis and Philomath, and Community Services Consortium (CSC).
- Support coordinated communications, public engagement and outreach for policy development.

# Scope and Purpose of Amendments

Presented to Board of Commissioners 10/24 & HOPE on 10/27

- Create clear distinction between the operational and policy functions within the Coordinated Homeless Response System.
- Formalize the formation of the Advisory Board as specifically required by HB 4123.
- Define the role of the HOPE Board within the System.
- Increase transparency of the System for improved community engagement.





- Board of Commissioners
- City Council
- Community Services Consortium
- Government Operations



- Board of Commissioners
- City Council





# NEW STRUCTURE



- **Board of Commissioners**
- **City Council**
- **Community Services Consortium**



**Coordinated  
Office  
Staff**



**HOPE  
Executive  
Committee**



**HOPE  
Community  
Engagement  
Board**

# Coordinated Homeless Response System: The HOPE Advisory Board's Role



**Forum** for community and stakeholder engagement, consisting of a wide array of community expertise and representation of groups working on homelessness, housing, and social determinants of health.



**Liaison** between the community and the governing boards of each member government of the Intergovernmental Council in collaboration with the Coordinated Office for policy improvement.



**Input** to support the development and ongoing updates of the 5-year Strategic Plan.

# Next Steps from October – all done.

- 10/10: Direction from BOC.
- 10/11: Update to Executive Committee.
- 10/24: Present first draft amendments to BOC.
- 10/25: Update to HOPE Advisory Board.
- 11/6: Informational update to City Council.
- 11/13: BOC adoption
- 12/4: City Council adoption.
- 12/18: First meeting of HOPE Executive Committee new members.

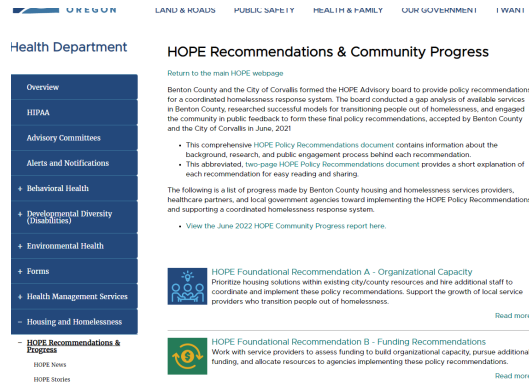
# Next Steps:

- **HB 5019:**
  - Meeting tomorrow 12/21 with city and county partners to figure out next steps for HB 5019 rehousing funds. No update yet, working on it.
  - Working internally and with community partners to continue to align with local planning group priorities.
- **HB 4123:** in January the HOPE Exec Committee will meet to move forward HB 4123 Strategic Plan adoption by end of January 2024.

# HOPE Board Advocacy Discussion

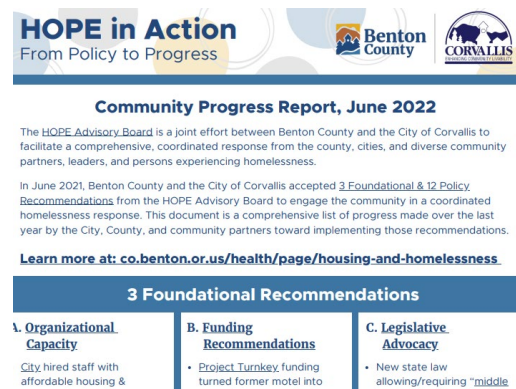
- HOPE Executive Committee guidance on advocacy
- Round table updates from HOPE Board members on personal advocacy or upcoming opportunities

# Central Point of Communications



## HOPE Website

- [Central point of communication](#)



## Graphics & Visuals

- [Storytelling](#)



## e-Newsletter

- [Subscribe to HOPE News & Updates](#)



## Social Media

- [Amplifying aligned messaging through partner engagement](#)



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