



Oregon Housing and Community Services

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

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Farmworker Housing Facilitation Team

Meeting Notes

Thursday, July 25, 2013

10:00-12:00 PM Room 124A

Oregon Housing and Community Services

FACILITATOR: Theresa Wingard

ATTENDEES:

Alan Trunnell	John McCulley	Maria Elena Castro M.
Anzhela DePlois/Phone	Karen Shawcross/Phone	Roberto Jimenez
Betty Markey	Laurie Hoefler/Phone	Teri Watson
Daniel Quinones	Luis Guerra	Trudi A. Tyler
Ian Tolleson	Margaret VanVliet	

WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS:

OHCS Transition Update – Director Margaret VanVliet provided an overview of the transition plan for OHCS. She provided two handouts, the OHCS Transition Timeline available on the OHCS website at <http://www.oregon.gov/ohcs/DO/messages/OHCS-Transition-Timeline.pdf> and the OHCS Envisioning our Future, a draft document which provided a snapshot of OHCS’ decision making process.

Margaret noted OHCS is required to have a plan for the February 2014 session. She provided three possible scenarios for OHCS’s transition; reorganization, disbandment and moving programs out of state government. She advised the group that OHCS would have a list of scenarios by November at which time input from partners would be welcomed.

She also noted there will be an advisory committee in place to review the scenarios and that Roberto Jimenez would be a member of this committee. Roberto noted that the Opportunity Network has felt truly engaged in the transition process.

Margaret remarked, it is important to ensure that the good work being done by groups like the FWHFT not be lost during the transition and she considered this one of her priorities.



Margaret agreed to attend this groups November meeting to report on and discuss the status of OHCS' transition. She suggested the group e-mail any comments to her directly regarding today's update.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Needs and Research: Stephanie Page/Chair, Laurie Hoefler, Jean Godfrey, Natasha Detweiler, KAREN Shawcross, Martin Compos-Davis.

Sub-Committee Focus:

- Needs survey/where do farmworkers want to live?
- Labor camp housing/changing OSHA standards.
- Survey other agencies and groups for housing needs
- Research

Stephanie unavailable:

- No report at this time.

Policy and strategy: Roberto Jimenez, Carol Kowash, John McCulley, Ken Ross, Karen Shawcross

Sub-Committee Focus:

- Input & recommendations to OHCS/Priorities
- Tax credit
- Holistic approach to housing/farmworker needs
- Farmworker access to OHCS programs and other state services
- Immigration reform

Roberto reported: Roberto noted this sub-committee needed to review their role. He suggested the group draft an outline to define their focus further.

Alignment and streamlining: Ian Tolleson/Chair, Claudia Cantu, Roberto Jimenez, Karen Shawcross, Stan E. Stradley

Sub-Committee Focus:

- Stream-lining of funding sources
- Innovative funding

Ian reported:

- This group has not met. Ian noted that Mike McHam (OHCS) and Jeff Rap (appraiser) had met to discuss the market study. He suggested that the FWHFT define work that they are prepared to do; being more focused and purposeful.

Theresa suggested the team might want to review the focus of all of the subcommittees at this point since some were more active than others.

INFORMATION SHARING:

- Trudi Tyler advised the group she will be retiring in November.
- Natasha Detweiler moved to Alaska but will be telecommuting.
- Alan spoke about taking a more holistic approach to the sale of tax credits and recommended everyone work together to increase the price of the credits.
- Alan mentioned that Claudia Cantu and streamlining group are doing some work around the NEPA process to align HUD HOME Program and RD environmental review processes. Apparently there is some issue on trying to streamline the two processes. Betty Markey will check for an update.
- Daniel Quinones noted he has an employer looking for a grant or funding stream for housing up to 80 farmworkers. One suggestion was to contact CASA. Alan wants to meet with the employer and will work with Daniel.
- Maria Elena Castro talked at length about the need to take a more holistic approach to health care noting that isolation was an issue for farmworker communities. She stressed the need for comprehensive support efforts. Maria Elena discussed Care Organizations, suggesting team members reach out and establish relationships. Betty Markey noted there is a Coordinated Care meeting in Salem August 1st.

ACTION ITEMS

- Theresa will forward the link to the Oregon Housing and Community Services Transition Timeline to the FWHFT.
- Maria Elena Castro will e-mail the link Care Organizations to Theresa to forward to the group.

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, November 27, 2013
10:00 AM- 12:00 PM
OHCS/North Mall Office Building
725 Summer St NE, Room 124A
Salem, Oregon