



Statewide Homeless Populations Task Force

Emergency Support Function 6 (ESF 6)
Mass Care Operations Team (MCOT)

Agenda

DATE: **Friday, July 17th 2020**
TIME: 10:00am to 11:30am
Zoom URL: <https://zoom.us/j/7217534128>



Agenda Items and Discussion

Introductions, Welcome, and Taskforce Updates – 10 min

Zoom Meeting Housekeeping Notes

Connor McDonnell

**Regional Updates by Continuum of Care (CoC) Geographic Areas
– 30 min**

Local Designated Point-of-Contact

Legislative Updates – 10 min

Nicole Stoenner, OHCS and Alison
McIntosh, Oregon Housing Alliance

State Agency Updates– 20 min

- **Oregon Housing & Community Services**
- **Oregon Health Authority- Contact Tracing Work & Other Items**
- **Dept. of Human Services**

Future In-Focus Sessions Brainstorm- 10 mins

Connor McDonnell and Mike Savara

Adjourn

Questionnaire to follow

COVID-19 Homeless Populations Taskforce

Statewide Regional Updates - July 17th, 2020

Continuum of Care	Counties	Name	Summarized Update
OR 502- Medford, Ashland, Jackson County CoC	Jackson	Connie Wilkerson	Cooling centers are opening for the warm weather. Family shelter has closed due to volunteer testing positive. Another organization is providing meals and families are using hotel/motel vouchers. Work on year-round and winter shelters to maximize bed space. Landlords prefer vacant units over risk of positive tenants occupying. Campsites are having services provided such as hot meals and hygiene stations.
OR 503- Central Oregon CoC	Deschutes, Crook, Jefferson	Colleen Thomas	Intergovernmental agreements for utilization of isolations motels. Work to support smaller landlords and those affected with rental assistance. Mobile services and shelters are operating well. Smaller organization have concerns about spreading to vulnerable populations. Stakeholder engagement with partners and government to strategize the local solutions for unhoused neighbors.
OR 504- Salem, Marion, Polk Counties CoC	Marion, Polk	Ashley Hamilton	FEMA application for hotel program is submitted and under review. Health and Housing intersection conversations happening. Bringing more wrap-around services to those in need. ESG funds looking at adding rural, cultural specific, and farmworker communities. Would also like to widen the scope on encampment resources and hygiene services for those unhoused members. Low vacancy rates because 30 days notices have been canceled by renters at the bringing of this pandemic. Rent Relief is a being distributed. Working on two shelter models: emergency temperature activated shelters and duration warming shelters.
OR 505- Oregon Balance of State Coc	26 Counties (Below)	Jessica Adams	Providing support for 26 counties.

OR 507- Clackamas County Coc	Clackamas	Abby Ahern	Updates, we are going to spend about half of the ESG-2 funds from HUD on Rapid Rehousing to get unsheltered folks housed instead of paying double for hotel/motel. Rent assistance efforts are staffing up. We have a separate rent assistance and support fund for those who are sick and/or have to quarantine due to contact with someone who is sick. Most case managers are not struggling to get people accepted into rental housing, but processing can be slow.
OR-505 Balance of State	Coos, Curry	Beth Barker- Hidalgo	Curry: 18mons open for community. CCOs providing funding for assistances. Hygiene kits have been distributed and stations are in place to serve unsheltered members. Capacity and lack of resources has been a struggle to keep warming shelter open. Congregate shelters verses Hotel vouchers, which is preferred during COVID? Rates have increased, sometimes to double, for hotel stay.
	Josephine, Douglas	Kelly Wessels	Drills for positive screening of staff. 'Not the if but when' feeling. No cooling stations at this time but hoping to pull together a navigation station to help direct those needing resources. Struggling with messaging with some wanting to have agencies take responsibilities for homeless neighbors. Stigma contributing to negative nomadic infected stereotypes. Displayed outcomes of mobile shower units with success and local providers have been working to get a pull list of resources available. Need is sheltering - warming or cooling. Need infacture that isn't price gouging at a project level, not just hotel/motel programs.

	Klamath, Lake	Christina Zamora	Working on rapid rehousing and rental assistance to those in need. Capacity concerns for upcoming winter shelters. COVID-19 system is in place and ready for a positive neighbor. Collaborating with local non-profit for Non-congregate shelter's needs. Sharing resources has been a positive for the community.
	Grant, Union, Wallowa, Baker	Rochelle Hamilton	Warming station in LaGrande, working on how to get it open in the Fall in guideline with CDC safety precautions. The number of homeless is more than able to accommodate so working on building accommodations. Working one-on-one with housing placements needs. 18mon waitlist is being worked with partnerships and has dropped to about 3mons to be placed with housing choice vouchers.
	Hood River, Wasco, Sherman	Alisha Fowler	Finishing interviews for Homeless TF with community members and those experiencing homelessness. Working on getting water and especially hygiene stations efforts. Unsheltered neighbors are being assisted with new federal funds. Warming shelter is being planned. Waso- County and City working on identifying problems and solutions. 'Starfish' method with one-on-one case management.
	Gilliam, Morrow, Umatilla, Wheeler	Christina Zamora Susie	Rent relief out the door, concerned about fall with capacity guidelines needed. Working on housing solutions for those experiencing unsheltered needs.

Communities that did not give updates: Portland/Gresham/Multnomah County CoC; Lane County CoC; Washington County CoC; Harney/Malheur; Clatsop/Columbia/Tillamook; Lincoln/Benton/Linn; and Yamhill.

[Alison McIntosh](#) – Urge to write your Senators for more Rental Assistance funding; Senate in session next week and will be discussing further COVID relief packages. Find you representative with this [LINK](#).

[Nicole Stoenner](#) – OHCS is currently on the reduction list with rental assistance for Permanent Supportive Housing. No other budget reductions are being presented. Public Meetings start next week and share those views of rental assistances needs in the community.

[Mike Savara](#) – CVRRP fund update- \$50 Million allocations federal funds (with 80%AMI) can be used for undocumented Oregonians that meet requirements and need to access assistances. Department of Administrative Services have confirmed.

[Bill Baine](#)y – COVID Response and Recovery Unit with OHA and DHS. Series of services going online in the next few weeks; wrap around services, testing, and outreach.

[Gus Bedwell](#) – Upcoming Virtual Veteran Homeless Convening is set for August 19th at 1pm, [Save The Day](#) and will be followed with a workshop series in the fall (late September into October).