

Oregon Statewide Unhoused Response & Recovery Network for COVID-19 and Wild Fires

Agenda

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



Agenda Items and Discussion

Introductions, Welcome, and Taskforce Updates – 5 min
Zoom Meeting Housekeeping Notes

Connor McDonnell

Project Turnkey Updates - 10 min

Megan Loeb, Oregon Community Foundation

Ensuring Shelters and Homeless Service Providers are Prepared for COVID- 25 min

Sam Kenney, OHCS Homeless Service Section
Orion McCotter and Neeti Vyas, OHA Public Health Epidemiologist for COVID-19 Response & Recovery Unit

Regional Updates by Continuum of Care (CoC) Geographic Areas – 25 min

Local Designated Point-of-Contact

State Agency Updates– 15 min

- **Oregon Housing & Community Services**
 - Emergency Board Legislative Updates
 - Homeless Service Section Winter Shelter Investments
- **Oregon Health Authority**
- **Dept. of Human Services**

Nicole Stingh and Mike Savara, OHCS

Wild Fire Response & Recovery- 10 min

Melanie Zamora & Connor McDonnell

Any additional items & Adjourn

Questionnaire to follow

Meeting Discussion:

Project Turnkey: Megan Loeb

If you are interested in learning more about Project Turnkey, you can contact Megan Loeb, Oregon Community Foundation and/or Ariel Nelson with the League of Oregon Cities at mloeb@oregoncf.org and anelson@orcities.org

Winter Shelter Planning: Sam Kenney, Orion McCotter and Neeti Vyas

- In-Focus Session on “**Local Winter Shelter Planning**” on 9/30 that included Andy Goebel from Do Good and Nick Pearson from the Jupiter Hotel
 - [Agenda](#) and [Session Recording](#)
- “**Winter Shelter Webinar**” on OHCS Homeless Service Section Strategy on 10/5:
 - Winter Shelter Webinar [recording](#)
 - Winter and Severe Weather Shelter Strategy [document](#)

Ensuring Shelters Are Prepared for COVID presentation by Stefanie Murray from OHA's Public Health Division and the COVID Response & Recovery Unit (CRRU). Here are a few helpful items

- Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Guidance for Homeless Services Providers and Shelters
 - COVID-19 Infection Control Inventory and Planning (ICIP) [Tool for Homeless Service Providers](#)
 - Infectious Disease Toolkit for Continuums of Care: [Preventing & Managing the Spread of Infectious Disease Within Shelters](#)
 - CDC - Interim Guidance for Homeless Service Providers to Plan and Respond to COVID Disease 2019 ([updated 8/5/20](#))

What Questions were Identified:

1. Checklist of what you need to know when you enter in the door
2. What is your relations with the local health authority
3. What assessment tools are you using
4. What is working, and what isn't
5. What cleaner and disinfectants are you using (sanitation list and daily checklist merge together)
6. How can we support you
7. What do we pay staff – sick leave for staff?
8. Who do we pay for sanitation services to uphold safe cleaning standards?
9. What is the protocol for sick staff
10. What are the testing procedures – screening protocol
11. Are there informal warming shelters or small local (faith based organization) that are assisting your efforts?
12. How are you doing street outreach during this time.
13. What resources are you identifying that you will need to be successful
14. How are you communicating risks and mitigation efforts
15. What PPI are your staff using to protect themselves
16. What are your those unique challenges you are seeing with COVID-19 and the upcoming winter season?
17. Do your shelter/community have a plan to deal with a potential or known case of COVID 19? If not, what is needed to make this a reality?
18. What additional items/topics would be helpful to include in the guidance?
19. What are your top concerns for your shelter/community regarding COVID and sheltering?

20. Regarding street outreach: do you have clear protocol for staff and clients? What questions and concerns have arisen?
21. How folks are planning on maintaining screening protocols in severe weather or winter shelters when we know cold and flu will overlap. How are you preparing your non-congregate spaces for the uptick in referrals? Any creative partnerships?

Regional Updates

Continuum of Care	Counties	Name	Summarized Update
OR 500 - Eugene Springfield/ Lane County CoC	Lane	Lora Ashworth	Stood up a warming network in 3days as temperatures dropped. Had space for 96 only 62 utilized. Looking into why. Have purchased 120 pallet shelters and are working location and have a hotel under covid management for those needing NCS. Planning efforts in the next 6 months housing solutions. working in building on equity committee revamp.
OR 501- Portland, Gresham, Multnomah County CoC	Multnomah	April Rohman	Working on opening winter shelters, working on 300 beds, opening by mid november. Looking for sever weather sites. Following COVID guidance, are looking for larger spaces. Press conference to request support from locals to help support shelter needs. Concerns around screening. planning shelter and outreach strategies to expand what is already existing.
OR 502- Medford, Ashland, Jackson County CoC	Jackson	Connie Wilkerson	As part of its wildfire disaster response, Jackson County has developed an interim plan to help persons transition from Red Cross-sponsored hotels until the Multiagency Shelter Transition Team (MASTT) becomes operational. Jackson County Mental Health, the CoC, and other community agencies are staffing a resource line and working in concert with the Red Cross and other agencies to meet ongoing sheltering needs and to provide connection to additional support and services. We expect the MASTT to become functional in Jackson County during the week of November 9th. The demand for rental assistance continues, and some agencies are hiring and training additional staff to meet this need. One seasonal winter shelter begins its season next week, and two year-round shelters that were recently impacted by COVID are resuming operations. On a positive note, plans are underway to transform the temporary urban campground in Medford to a permanent urban campground and to double the campground's capacity on a new, larger site. Currently, 57 people reside at the campground. The agency that oversees the campground has recently received a gift of 10 pallet shelters. It is hoped that the cost of additional pallet shelters will be donated and all those at the campground can be housed in one.

OR 503- Central Oregon CoC	Deschutes, Crook, Jefferson	Molly Heiss	Final walk throughs for warming shelter in Bend. Maybe have room for permanency. Winter shelters are starting Nov 15th. Warm Springs opened 10/22. Hotel contract for COVID Positive cases. Rental Assurances is going out the door. Balance of people still needing assistances.
OR 505- Oregon Balance of State Coc	26 Counties (Below)	Caleb Green	Counties from Balance of State will provide individual updates
OR-505 Balance of State	Hood River, Wasco, Sherman	Darcy	Pallet shelters delivery next Thursday - 8 in Wasco and 15 in Hood River.
Counties Unavailable:		Marion, Polk, Washington, Clackamas, Coos, Curry, Josephine, Douglas, Klamath, Lake, Harney, Malheur, Grand, Union, Wallowa, Baker, Gilliam, Morrow, Umatilla, Wheeler, Clatsop, Columbia, Tillamook, Lincoln, Benton, Linn, Yamhill	

State Agencies Updates

OHCS Update: Emergency Board Legislative Updates: Nicole Stingham

EBOARD met on Friday, 10/23 and there were three items:

- **[Project Turnkey Statewide](#)** \$35 million – This is an effort to purchase hotel/motels to use for non-congregate shelter with the long-term goal of converting them to affordable housing. Shelter providers, local governments, and others would apply to purchase a hotel/motel and operate it as shelter. The Oregon Community Foundation (OCF) would serve as the fiscal agent with an Advisory Committee made up of diverse organizations making policy decisions, designing the Request for Applications, and approving applications. OHCS worked with OCF, the League of Oregon Cities, the Association of Oregon counties, the Oregon Restaurant and Lodging Association, and others on this concept, inspired by **[California's Homekey](#)** model. This proposal DID NOT pass (Senate vote: 5-6 | House vote: 8-1).
- **[Project Turnkey Wildfire](#)** \$30 million – This is the same effort described above, but only for wildfire impacted communities. **[OPB covered this conversation](#)**. This proposal DID pass (Senate vote: 7-4 | House vote: 8-1).
- **[Safe Sheltering, Out of the Cold Initiative](#)** \$10 million – The Housing Stabilization Division recently allocated \$2 million to Community Action Agencies (CAAs) to support non-congregate shelter. OHCS requested an additional \$10 million from the Emergency Fund to provide additional resources to CAAs, with funding prioritized for wildfire impacted communities. These funds will address the increased cost associated with shelter in the age of COVID. CAAs are expected to collaborate with culturally specific organizations. In fire impacted areas, the CAAs are required to work in coordination with county emergency command centers pursuant to disaster recovery plans. This proposal DID pass (unanimously).

DHS Updates: DHS Self-Sufficiency is embarking on work with the Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH) to assess the housing needs for youth experiencing homelessness. To learn more about this, please send **Matthew.rasmussen@dhs.ohio.gov** an e-mail as well you can find more information on the **[Homeless Youth Advisory Committee \(HYAC\) here](#)**.

Wildfire Updates: Playbook Updates – Connor McDonnell and Melanie Zamora

- Adult Homeless Playbook – it's currently with OHCS leadership for review and approval. This will include legal counsel. Once that is done, we will send it to OHA's HIC, which is our main communications arm and ensures that the language in the playbook matches current communications. After that point, we will post the playbook on the web. All of this could potentially happen quickly and by the end of the week.
- Youth Homeless Playbook – we are holding our second - and hopefully final – process mapping session at the same time as the planning meeting (which is why I can't attend). Once that is completed, the lead agencies will need to approve and send to their legal counsel. This timeline is slightly behind the Adult process; depending on edits from partners, I am hoping this can be completed by the end of next week.

OHA's Contact Tracing and Safety Net Services, you can find more information on what type of wrap-around services are being provided by these community-based organizations as it relates to COVID-19: <http://healthoregon.org/communityengagement>. You can search by county and population on our list of grantees