



March 19, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 2:07 PM by Chair Julie Graves

Attendance: *Julie Graves – Chair, Darlene Cook – Vice Chair, Sarah VanCleve – Secretary, Chris Brunnel – Member at Large, Penny Lamping, Linda Kerkes, Linda Hollingsorth, Diana Gilman, Jessica Reed, Sheryl Piercy, David Wadley, Michael Toro, Ginny Duff, Eileen Brown, Kirsten Jewell, Trudy Stacy, Clara Ann Ness, Justin McBride, Ruth Westergaard, Dave Frederick, Jackie Brown, Robin O’Grady, Sandra Paulino, Marta Holt, Terry Schroeder*

Introductions were made around the table.

**Agenda Review:** No changes made.

**Minutes:** The minutes from the February 2014 meeting were **approved as written. Sheryl Piercy moved to approve and Penny Lamping seconded.**

**Underserved Populations – Marta Holt:** Marta described her internship with the KRCC, letting everyone know that today’s presentation is a truncated version of the full report, which can be found on the KRCC website, [www.kitsapregionalcouncil.org](http://www.kitsapregionalcouncil.org) on the Housing Grant Programs and Overview tabs. The underserved populations identified in the report are those reentering from institutions, including jails and prisons, mental health facilities, chemical abuse treatment facilities, hospitals and foster care. Other populations identified are chronically homeless and elderly homeless persons. Underserved populations are characterized by multiple high barriers to housing. The key findings in the report are:

- Most difficult to serve ~ no income, chronically homeless, ex-offenders, those coming out of hospitals and needing respite
- Households not considered underserved, but needs are going unmet ~ single moms with teen sons, couples who wish to remain together, people with pets. It was stated that single moms with teen sons are now being served
- Gaps in housing facilities and programs ~ no overnight shelter, limited harm reduction services, lack of coordinated discharge policies, permanent subsidized housing, especially for seniors with very low income, existing rental assistance program does not meet the demands.

Information from Housing Solutions Center for the period of February 2012 through May 2013, was provided for the underserved populations. There were 39 households comprising 50 individuals reentering from jails/prisons; 41% were literally homeless and 20% were unstable or imminently losing their housing. Kitsap County Jail has no program to serve those who are leaving homeless and they are not required to have release plans. They are provided with printed

literature providing some of the resources available to them. From prison, those with a housing plan may receive an Earned Release Date (ERD) Housing Voucher for \$500 for three months. For those who fulfill their full sentence, there is no discharge plan. There were 8 households, comprised of 8 persons who came out of mental health treatment and received services from HSC. All but one were literally homeless. There were 78 households, comprising 93 individuals coming out of substance abuse treatment who received services through HSC; 59% were literally homeless and another 17% were imminently losing their housing. HSC worked with 19 households, comprised of 20 individuals being released from the hospital; 79% were literally homeless. The statewide HMIS database, with information from February 2012 through May 2013, showed 15 individuals aged 18-20 sought housing services in Kitsap. HSC data showed that 513 chronically homeless households, comprising 929 individuals received services from HSC. There were 42% that were literally homeless and 17% were imminently losing their housing. There were 4441 Elderly homeless household, comprised of 581 individuals, ages 55 and older receives services through HSC. There were 30% that were literally homeless and 28% that were imminently losing their housing. From August 2012 through May 2013 HSC tracked persons that they were unable to serve. There were 477 households, comprised of 1,028 individuals, with 18% who were literally homeless and 30% who were imminently losing their housing.

Two types of homeless services were identified in the report as not being available in Kitsap County: an overnight shelter and respite housing for those released from the hospital. Some housing models and innovative ideas were discussed, including rapid re-housing, harm reduction housing, single room occupancy units, and tiny houses.

**Legislative Update – Kirsten Jewell:** The Homeless Housing Grant Program is funded by document recording fees and typically brings in \$1 million to the county for homeless housing as well as an amount that is sent to the state to be used for homeless housing. The fee is currently \$40/transaction. There is a sunset on those fees that would reduce the fee to \$10 over the next few years. There was a bill in the legislature to remove the sunset permanently. There was a compromise which kept the recording fee surcharge at \$40 until June 30, 2019, requires Department of Commerce to use a percentage of the surcharge funds that goes to the State, for private rental housing payments, and requires an independent audit of the Department of Commerce.

**Coordinated Grant Application – Kirsten Jewell:** The Coordinated Grant Application will be starting soon. Kirsten provided some important dates:

- May 27 – 10 am – Public Hearing – Norm Dicks Government Center
- May 28 – Mandatory Technical Assistance Meeting
- July 1 – Noon – Application due
- September 3 to September 12 – Interviews

The full calendar for the Coordinated Grant Application will be on the KRCC website soon. On March 25, KRCC will be considering the HSC contract.

## **AGENCY UPDATES**

**Kitsap Recovery – Linda Kerkes:** They are totally full; Guest, Detox, Inpatient and Triage are all full right now.

**Employment Security – Linda Hollingsworth:** They work with anyone in Kitsap County and often refer folks who are difficult to serve to the Compass Vocational program.

**Naval Fresh Start – Jessica Reed:** They expect to be full by April. They are looking for employment resources for their tenants and have a need for men’s pants. Westsound’s Compass Vocational Program and WorkSource were two options noted for good employment resources. Anyone who has men’s pants available, contact Jessica at 360-981-9898.

**Coffee Oasis – Dave Frederick:** Their remodeled Port Orchard site is now open at 807 Bay Street. There is a forum in Kingston to bring Coffee Oasis to the Kingston area. Their Youth Shelter is full most of the time. They have been working with a program called “Safe Families” and their board will be voting on partnering with them and bringing the program to Kitsap. The program places youth into homes outside the DSHS system.

**Bremerton Housing – Sarah VanCleve:** Pearl Village, a Section 202 housing project for seniors, will be completed. Sarah will be opening their Section 8 wait list sometime this year.

**Parent-Child Assistance Program – Clara Ann Ness:** Clara Ann brought brochures about the PCAP program. They work with moms who are pregnant or have recently given birth and are or did use drugs/alcohol.

**Benedict House – Chris Brunell:** Benedict House staff are pleased with their partnership with Westsound Treatment and the Compass Vocational program. They have three open beds at this time.

**Alive Shelter – Jackie Brown:** They currently have a bed available for a single woman. The list of women who were chosen for this year’s Women of Achievement Award was just published and can be found on their website, [www.ywcakitsap.org](http://www.ywcakitsap.org)

**Kitsap Transit – Trudy Stacy:** Trudy wanted to clarify that at the Project Connect, they put the tokens that were given to them at the event onto ORCA cards; they did not give out ORCA cards with money loaded on them.

**Housing Kitsap – Julie Graves:** Julie announced that the Notice of Funding was just released for the 811 Program. This is a housing program that serves disabled persons. The application is for a single asset agency providing supportive housing. It is typically for serving those with severe mental illness.

Julie will have a couple job openings as they had a couple people resign to take positions elsewhere. They are reconfiguring so she is not sure what the positions will be, but will get the information out.

Kirsten announced that she will be providing basic and report HMIS training on April 10<sup>th</sup>. Please RSVP to Kirsten if you plan to attend.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sarah VanCleve, Secretary