



# WELCOME! Community Action Advisory Board Meeting

---

- This meeting is being recorded.
- Please identify yourself when talking so we can capture accurate minutes.
- “Chat” function is not available due to public disclosure rules.
- Closed Captioning now available 
  - Turn on Webex Assistant and follow the prompts to turn on closed captioning
- Lock participant videos in Webex
  - Lock up to 6 participants to see them regardless of who is speaking
  - Each person can customize their own set of pinned participants
  - Hover over the thumbnail location you want to lock a participant to
  - Click on More  and select *Lock a participant to this location*
  - Select the participant from the list you want to lock in that position



# Approval of May 2024 Minutes

## COMMUNITY ACTION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Hybrid Meeting: in-person at Center for Community Health and through Webex online platform  
May 1, 2024

| PRESENT                    | EXCUSED         | ABSENT                 | STAFF                     |
|----------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Melanie Green, Chair       | David Poland    | Karyn Kameroff         | Abby Molloy               |
| Alishia Topper, Vice Chair | Bridget McLeman | Clover Spears          | Rebecca Royce             |
| Amy Roark                  | Nickeia Hunter  | Rob Perkins, Secretary | Dawn Lee                  |
| Diana Perez                |                 |                        | Alissa Page, Finance Unit |
| Joyce Cooper               |                 |                        |                           |
| Jamie Spinelli             |                 |                        |                           |
| Megan Mulsoff              |                 |                        |                           |
| Faye Salomone              |                 |                        |                           |
| Ernie Suggs                |                 |                        |                           |
| Brittini Lasseigne         |                 |                        |                           |

**Guests:** Jackie St. Louis (consultant); CODAs interpreters; Ann Hawkins, (City of Vancouver); Sue Neal, (Battle Ground Healthcare Clinic); Curtis Rodgers and Alice Rodgers, Peer Counselors, (Community Foundation); Leticia Flores, Service Manager, (The Salvation Army)

### I. Welcome/Introductions

New members introduced: Brittini Lasseigne, CEO, YWCA Clark County; Faye Salomone, background in real estate and property management; Clover Spears, absent.

### II. Approval of March 2024 Minutes

Ernie Suggs motioned to approve March minutes; Amy Roark seconded; motion carried.

### III. Clark County Community Services' Strategic Plan and Mission Statement update/ approval (Org. Standards 4.1, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 6.5)

Jamie Spinelli questioned demographics. The total percentage of white population is 111%, with 11.4% being of Hispanic descent. Suggests Hispanic percentile be broken-out from white population for clarity. Diana Perez agreed with Jamie about clarifying ethnicity for the report. Ernie Suggs thanked everyone for their involvement in getting the report out.

Faye Salomone motioned to approve strategic plan and mission statement; Ernie Suggs seconded; motion carried.

### IV. Clark County Community Needs Assessment (Org. Standard 3.5)

Alisha Topper motioned to approve Community Needs Assessment; Megan Mulsoff seconded; motion carried.

### V. July-December 2023 All-Funding Finance Report (Org. Standard 8.7)

Alissa Page, Finance Unit, Clark County Community Services, provided presentation of County expense and revenue reports for July-December 2023. Program and funding sources are approximately 50% spent-out. Report breaks out Covid vs. Non-Covid funding and ARPA funds. Expenses and revenue are set-up the same. Local funds revenue is for two-years. Document recording fees are down significantly; having received extra funds, there is hope that no cuts to programs will result. ARPA and ESG-CV are the only two Covid revenue funds remaining.

Question by The Salvation Army to explain the RFA selection process for funding and stated she wasn't aware of 'mortgage' assistance, only 'rental' assistance available. Alissa Page responded that RFPs go out each year; the next RFP should be issued spring 2025. Abby explained that 'eviction' assistance is available and to check the legend at end of report for acronyms.

Ernie Suggs asked if there is a time-limit on fund expenditures; Alissa explained time-limits depend on the funding source (state, federal, local) and range from 1-5 years, with some funds allowing a carry-over

into the next funding year. Those funds ending, are prioritized of any carry-over funds to ensure spend-out by deadlines.

Jamie Spinelli asked if there are ARPA spending limitations for unsheltered and transitional households. Abby Molloy stated there are no specific funding distinctions between the two types of 'unhoused' households. There are a variety of programs which serve different target populations.

Diana Perez questioned if there will be a \$4 million dollar gap after ARPA funds run out. Alissa explained that ARPA was part of Covid funding and providers are aware that once the money runs out, there will no longer be funding for those programs. The expense report shows which providers spend ARPA/Covid funds for their programs.

Jamie Spinelli asked what happens if ARPA funds are not spent by the deadline; funds will be lost if not spent-out. Jamie also asked, in cases where ARPA funds can't be spent by deadline, can contracts be modified? This is a question for agency Program Coordinators for each provider. Rebecca Royce added that DCS works closely with providers to ensure funds are spent and currently, every contract is on-target for spending.

Alisha Topper reminded Board to advocate to state legislature during their budget allocations so housing programs can get funded!

### VI. Battle Ground Healthcare CAP Program Presentation (Org. Standards 4.4, 5.9)

Sue Neal, Battle Ground Healthcare (BGHC), provided presentation. All services of the clinic are free for individuals 18-years and older (no child services); serve households up to 300% federal poverty level; Medicaid or Medicare-eligible households; under/uninsured households or those who've exhausted insurance benefits; available to anyone, not just those who are homeless.

BGHC moved to new location in 2021, expanding their capacity by 58% and have room for future vaccine clinic. BGHC offers comprehensive integrated services including medical, dental, rehabilitation, health/lifestyle/spiritual care. 2023 demographics: 59% of patients live in Vancouver, 20% in Battle Ground, 4% Ridgefield, 3% Camas/Washougal, and 11% in North County; 36% of patients experience housing insecurity/homelessness.

BGHC offers a 4-bay dental clinic with pain-free digital CT scanner. BGHC operates on a 'hybrid' model with three paid staff and 90+ volunteers/students from Clark College, Legacy Vancouver, Cascadia Tech, other nursing programs. BGHC had 1,240 dental visits in 2023 (totaling over \$496k), a 200% increase since opening in 2021! The PowerPoint presentation will be emailed out to the Board; any questions to be sent to Abby Molloy.

### VII. City of Vancouver Affordable Housing and Homelessness update (Ann Hawkins) (Org. Standard 5.9)

- Affordable housing fund (AHF) application period opened January 29<sup>th</sup> and closed March 1<sup>st</sup>; 26 AHF applications received for a total of \$28.5 million; 13 total applications recommended, with City Council scheduled to review/approve May 6<sup>th</sup>.
- 7 Rental Unit Production/Preservation projects recommended; 9 applications not recommended.
- 3 Home ownership applications received and 2 funded at half of requested amount, due to funding available; only 2 emergency shelter applications received and both fully-funded; 4 rental assistance applications received with 2 recommended for funding.
- Council for the Homeless (CFTH) requested 3-year pilot project funding; 1-year funding recommended based on fund availability.
- Agencies not recommended/approved for funding can contact COV for feedback and technical assistance.

### VIII. Task Force updates

#### • Legislative Advocacy

Question arose at last meeting regarding HB 1590 (sales tax dollars). Revenue was approximately \$7.5 million for 2023; Jamie's department has utilized \$3.6 million for safe stays and safe park programs, serving 337 individuals and housing 90 households.

Alisha Topper inquired about a strategic plan for sales tax dollars and specific spending strategies.





# 2024 Clark County Point In Time Count

# PIT Count – What is it?

- Single Night Snapshot – normally last Thursday in January. This year it was January 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Required by HUD & WA Dept. of Commerce
- Only counts literal homelessness by HUD's definition
- New tools and increased effectiveness in counting each year
- Enables better planning and funding determinations
- *Best* available data



# Data Sources

- Sheltered Count
  - Homeless Management Information System
- Unsheltered Count
  - Non HMIS – Service Locations
  - School District Homeless Liaisons
  - Street Count
  - Project Homeless Connect Event



# 2024 Process Highlights

- Year-round professional outreach teams planned and performed street count.
- Conducted surveys using mobile app – “Counting Us” for 5th year.
- Growth in attendance at the Project Homeless Connect event.







# 2024 CLARK COUNTY, WA POINT IN TIME COUNT RESULTS

with 2023  
comparisons

# 1366

People were experiencing homelessness in Clark County on January 25, 2024.

▲ 5% from January 26, 2023



## 669

People were UNSHELTERED

▼ .4%



## 483

People were in an EMERGENCY SHELTER

▲ 13%



## 214

People were in TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

▲ 7%

OF THE 1366 PEOPLE:



42% WOMEN

56% MEN



323 Chronically Homeless  
(344 people)  
▼ 6% from 2023



98 Survivors of Domestic Abuse  
(113 people)  
▼ 13% from 2023

# 39%

PEOPLE OF COLOR  
19% of Clark County population (ACS 2021)





Overall more people counted again in 2024 but rate of increase may be slowing.

- 5% increase in total number of people counted in 2024 PIT count.
- 2023 had reported a 9% increase from the previous year.
- 2022 had reported a 31% increase from 2020.



# Increase of people within Sheltered count

- 483 people counted in ES in 2024 up from 428 in 2023.
- +13% in emergency sheltered clients largely due to increased number of year-round ES bed capacity.
- Two new safe-stay shelters were open in 2024 (“415 West” and “Safe Stay #4” that provide shelter for single adults or couples)
- 7% more people in Transitional Housing



## Increased % of people experiencing chronic homelessness within shelters

- Chronically homeless individuals or couples w/o children in shelters increased 47% in 2024.
- Unsheltered chronically homeless individuals or couples w/o children reduced by 33% in 2024.



# Slight decrease in total people within unsheltered count

- The 669 people surveyed in the 2024 unsheltered count is a .4% decrease from the 672 in the 2023 count.
- The decrease was driven by a reduction in the number of unsheltered single and couple households.
- 2024 was the first time in 9 years where the unsheltered number did not increase.

# More unsheltered families counted in 2024

In comparison to 2023 count:

- 19 more families with children were included in the 2024 unsheltered count.
- Families primarily counted through safe-parking program, school homeless liaisons, PHC and food banks.



## 2024 showed a reduction in number of unsheltered senior numbers

- Since 2017, we had been seeing a consistent annual growth in the number of seniors age 62+ experiencing unsheltered homelessness.
- 3 in 2017 and had increased to 40 by 2023.
- Additional shelters and shelters where seniors are prioritized contributed towards a reduction for unsheltered seniors to 27 in 2024

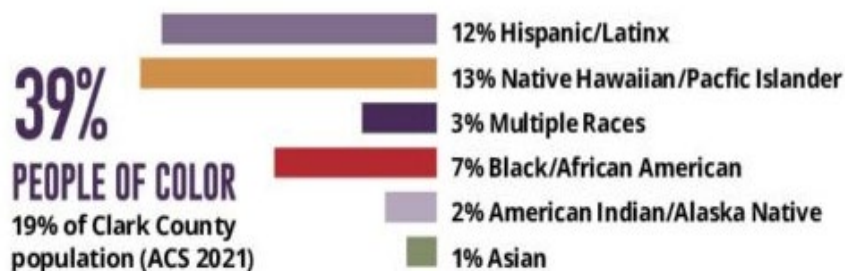


29% reduction in overall Veterans counted in 2024.

- 18 unsheltered veterans were counted in 2024 compared to 32 in 2023.
- 23 veterans were counted in shelters in 2023 compared to 21 in 2024.



# Homelessness effects BIPOC people at a disproportionate rate which has grown.



- This percentage was 31% in the 2023 count and 27% in 2022.





Project Homeless Connect attendees who identified as: deaf, hard of hearing, CODA, deaf of deaf, deaf of hearing, or other?

- Unsheltered homeless survey respondents = 8%
- Sheltered homeless survey respondents = 9%
- Unstably housed/at-risk survey respondents = 1%
  
- Of those who provided a specific response: Hard of Hearing = 10, Deaf = 2 and Other:Tinnitus = 1

# Affordable housing necessary to exit clients from homelessness

- Whether sheltered or unsheltered, all people counted in the Point In Time count were experiencing homelessness.
- Affordable housing units are essential to allowing a flow of people from an unsheltered situation to shelter and on to their own permanent housing.



Q & A:





# Thank You

Dale Whitley, HMIS Administrator

360-993-9571

[dwhitley@councilforthehomeless.org](mailto:dwhitley@councilforthehomeless.org)

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

Housing Hotline: 360-695-9677

# COUNCIL FOR THE HOMELESS

Providing community leadership, compelling advocacy,  
and practical solutions to prevent and end  
homelessness in Clark County, Washington.

Visit **[councilforthehomeless.org](http://councilforthehomeless.org)** for more info.



# July 2023 – March 2024 Outcomes Report

Abby Molloy



# City of Vancouver Affordable Housing and Homelessness Update

Samatha Whitley, City of Vancouver



# Task Force Updates

---

- Legislative Advocacy Task Force
  - Amy Roark
- Community Needs Assessment Task Force
  - Abby Molloy
- Policy Task Force
  - Abby Molloy





# CAAB Equity Initiative Discussion

---

## CAAB Equity Workshop Series

- Every even numbered month for the next year

## Discussion Questions:

- What topics do you want to prioritize?
- Is there anything specific you are hoping to learn or discuss?
- What do we want to get out of these workshops? What are our goals for the CAAB?



# Agenda Items

---

- Open Public Forum (up to 3 minutes)
- Other Business
- Adjourn

***Save the date:***

***Equity training – August (date and time TBD)***

***Next regular CAAB Meeting - September 4, 2024 starting at 9am***

