

CLACKAMAS COUNTY
 VETERANS ADVISORY COUNCIL
 November 18, 2021 Meeting Minutes
 Zoom
 2:30pm – 3:30pm

FACILITATOR		Scott Southard and Erika Silver			
NOTE TAKER		Amy Kelsey - Administrative Specialist 1 - Clackamas County Social Services			
VETERANS ADVISORY COUNCIL					
E	Jerry Craig	E	Tracy Bogard		
P	RB Green	P	Scott Southard		
P	Paul Edger	E	Casey Curry		
P	Laurie Kimmell	E	Ben Heir		
P	Adam Khosrobadi	E	Ian Newland		
P	Larry Moseley				
CLACKAMAS COUNTY STAFF					
P	Gus Bedwell	P	Tito Mendoza		
P	Erika Silver	P	Amy Kelsey		
P	Felicia Ridings	P	Brenda Durbin		
GUESTS					

P-Present, A -Absent, E-Excused, O-Other Attendee

ITEMS / ISSUES	DISCUSSION	FOLLOW-UP
Meeting Called to Order	Erika Silver called the meeting to order.	
Minutes	A quorum was unable to be established, therefore the minutes from September 23, 2021 and October 28, 2021 will be adopted during the January 27, 2022 VAC meeting.	
Chair's Report	Response to the Veteran's Survey – The survey is in circulation and currently 33 surveys have been received, 4 of the 33 were completed by non-veterans. The survey will remain open to	

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	<p>encourage participation. Moving forward the following are suggestions in an effort to spread the word.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ramp up another Social Media Push • Advertise in the Clackamas Review • Print in the American Legion Post newsletters. <p>VAC Open Recruitment – Recruitment is currently open and will be closing on December 9, 2021. At this time, there are 8 openings on the VAC. Paul Edgar suggested posting flyers at Grandma’s Kitchen and the Redland Café in Oregon City. Laurie Kimmell suggested posting flyers at the Get and Go Market in Estacada.</p> <p>Brief discussion on establishing a Legislative Committee – VAC members have requested to establish a Legislative Committee. The focus of the committee will be to keep VAC informed about Senate and House Bills that will be impacting veterans. The committee chair will be Laurie Kimmell, members who expressed interest in participation are RB Green and Paul Edgar. Gus Bedwell will work closely with this committee. As mentioned during the November VAC Exec meeting the plan is to have the County Lobbyist join the first VAC Legislative Committee meeting to insure the committee remains in alignment with County policies and protocol.</p>	
<p>Director’s Report</p>	<p>Brenda Durbin, Director of Clackamas County Social Services presented the H3S Winter Congregate and Non-Congregate Housing Update.</p> <p><u>Winter Warming Centers</u></p> <p>For over 10 years, Clackamas County has supported a network of overnight warming centers to ensure that people living outdoors have a safe place to sleep on nights when the temperature is forecast to fall below 33 degrees. Each year, the network looks a little different depending on community capacity and available funding resources.</p>	

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	<p>For the upcoming winter, Social Services released a NOFO (Notice of Funding Opportunity) that included requests for winter warming centers, summer cooling centers, smoke shelters for days when the air quality is poor, volunteer coordination, and behavioral health support. To date, the NOFO has resulted in the following resources being available for the coming winter season.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Molalla Hope is a small non-profit that has operated warming centers for 8 years. Their site can accommodate 32 guests. County staff are in the process of finalizing the contract. • Father’s Heart is our longest-serving warming center. Their conditional use permit was denied by Oregon City. They are appealing that decision and also working with Oregon City to look at alternate sites. Their current site can accommodate 49 guests. • The Estacada Food Bank, in partnership with Estacada Cares and the Estacada First Baptist Church, has submitted an application. This will be a new site that has a large capacity for guests (official capacity is 1200, but Fire Marshall will have final say). Staff will review their application next week. • There may be additional applications from North Clackamas, Sandy and Canby. • Negotiations are in process regarding volunteer coordination services and behavioral health supports. • H3S leadership is considering the possibility of using county sites and staff to provide “surge” capacity in case of an extreme weather event that requires more resources than community organizations can provide. <p><u>Motel Shelter (These Individuals/families might otherwise need to access Winter Warming Centers)</u></p> <p>For nearly one year, H3S has provided shelter via motel rooms for houseless people who are at high risk for COVID due to their age or underlying health conditions. As of today, 94 households comprising 121 people have housing at five locations. One location has only one</p>	

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	<p>participant. Approximately by the end of March 2022, H3S plans to phase out the motel shelter program.</p> <p><u>Distinguishing the Two Types of Services</u></p> <p><i>Winter Warming Center:</i> The temperature based winter warming center program provides houseless county residents with a warm place to stay on nights when the overnight temperature is forecast to fall to 33 degrees or below. Most Centers are open from 6 PM to 7 AM. Each site provides guests with a warm beverage, and a cot or mat to sleep on. Many sites provide additional services, including meals.</p> <p><i>Motel Shelter:</i> Motel shelter guests are provided with a room with basic amenities. A contracted provider ensures that all of the guests' basic needs are met and acts as a liaison with motel staff. Starting in the next few months, shelter guests will have the support of a Housing Navigator to help them transition to longer term housing options. Navigation Services included the first and last deposit.</p> <p><u>Funding</u></p> <p>A combination of federal, state, and county general fund dollars are budgeted to provide winter congregate and non-congregate shelter to Clackamas County residents. The cost per night at a winter warming center is \$35. The cost per night at the motel shelter is \$116. The motel shelter model is funded with Supportive Housing Services tax revenue and federal ESG CV2 funds. Below, there is an H3S Extreme Weather Shelter FY22 Budget to respond to extreme weather events.</p> <p>Brenda Durbin also shared an Emergency Rent Assistance update. Along with a Program Improvement Plan to ensure a greater spend out of rent assistance. Clackamas County received \$12,522,540 in the first allocation of federal Emergency Rent Assistance (ERA) funding directly from the Treasury Department. \$10,143,257 of these funds are allocated for</p>	

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	<p>direct client assistance. The remaining funds are used for housing stability services and administrative costs.</p> <p>Additional funds were received via the State of Oregon, OHCS. This report details expenditures from the direct-from-Treasury allocation only.</p> <p>Clackamas County took a hybrid approach to the delivery of these funds, using both a team of county staff and entering into sub-recipient agreements with three non-profit providers; AntFarm, Clackamas Women’s Services, and Northwest Family Services.</p> <p>To date, county staff and community partners have expended or obligated the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial Assistance, including rent, rent arrearages, utilities costs and utility arrearages - \$4,675,063 • Housing Stability Services - \$454,512 • Administrative Costs - \$39,238 • 914 households have received assistance paying for rent and utilities <p>With over 2,000 requests pending, and using an average payment of \$5,000 per household, Clackamas County estimates that we have at least \$10 million in additional request. \$5,468,194 in ERA funds are currently available for Financial Assistance.</p> <p>Clackamas County expects to receive \$9,908,500 in ERA 2 funding, \$8,015,976 of which will go toward direct client payment. However, to date the Treasury has allocated only 40% of these funds.</p> <p>In summary, if Clackamas County receives our full ERA 2 allocation, funds are available to cover the estimated current requests. However, the demand for rent assistance has not abated, and the number of households requesting assistance will soon exceed our available resources.</p>	
<p>Member Updates</p>	<p>Tracy has been traveling, and inquired about the 4 full time County Veterans Services Officers. (Currently there is funding for 5 new positions.)</p>	

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	<p>Paul mentioned after building an outdoor shed that a similar design could be an option for affordable housing or extreme weather shelters. Paul also spoke of the City of Bend housing project which developed small cottages for veterans. Paul suggested to the Council to look into the Central Oregon Veterans Outreach program.</p> <p>Larry met with Gus Bedwell, Human Services Supervisor and Felicia Ridings, Veterans Services Officer from the Clackamas County Veterans Services Office.</p>	
Public Comment	No Public Comment	
Next Meeting	<p>Veterans Advisory Council January 27, 2021 from 2:30pm-3:30pm via Zoom</p>	