

CLACKAMAS COUNTY
 VETERANS ADVISORY COUNCIL
 January 27, 2022 Meeting Minutes
 Zoom
 2:30pm – 3:30pm

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

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

ITEMS / ISSUES	DISCUSSION	FOLLOW-UP
Meeting Called to Order	Adam Khosrobadi called the meeting to order.	
Minutes	A quorum was established. The minutes from September 23, 2021 moved to approve as written by Paul Edger, seconded by Tracy Bogard. The October 28, 2021 minutes moved to approve by Paul Edger with a revision to the spelling of Newell Creek, then seconded by Tracy Bogard. The November 18, 2021 minutes moved to approve as written by Paul Edger, seconded by Tracy Bogard. The Council has adopted all three sets of minutes.	

ITEMS / ISSUES	DISCUSSION	FOLLOW-UP
<p>Chair's Report</p>	<p>Executive Council's introduction and recommendations for new VAC Candidates.</p> <p>Janet Braman – Registered nurse, daughter of a Navy Veteran, mother of 2 Marines one deployed to Afghanistan.</p> <p>Betty Fish-Ferguson – Retired Navy veteran, 37 years Navy participation Active and Reserves. Deployment to Operation Desert Strom, 14 year member of the American Legion, volunteer with Father's Heart and Love Inc.</p> <p>Gregory Freetage – Veteran who served from 2007-2015 in both Iraq and Afghanistan. Sits on the Sandy Net Advisory Board.</p> <p>Adam Khosrobadi moved to approve the three Candidates named above to the Veterans Advisory Council. Jerry Craig seconded the motion and the Council has adopted the recommendations. Amy will forward the recommendations on to the Board of County Commissioners for a final approval.</p> <p>Administrative housekeeping items, request for increased Council engagement. Jerry Craig shared with the Council, at this time Jerry needs to withdraw his position as Chairperson. Adam Khosrobadi will step in until further notice.</p> <p>Adam expressed the importance for all member to step up and become actively engaged in the work of the Council.</p> <p>Afghan Letter follow up. The Afghan Letter sent to VAC networks and placed for viewing on the Clackamas County Veterans Services webpage. Veterans Services Clackamas County</p>	
<p>Veterans Service Office Update</p>	<p>Felicia Riding, Veterans Service Officer spoke of the ways the VSO plans to engage veterans during the ongoing pandemic.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Placing informational tear off flyers around the community. • Virtual monthly presentations beginning in February 2022. 	<p>Felicia Ridings fridings@clackamas.us 971-563-6342</p>

ITEMS / ISSUES	DISCUSSION	FOLLOW-UP
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase efforts to bring awareness to services that are available to veterans who have injuries, presumptive conditions and pension related concerns, along with resources for the spouse and children of a veteran. 	
Director’s Report	<p>Brenda Durbin, Director of Clackamas County Social Services presented a Winter Warming Shelter and Rent Assistance 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> <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. 	

ITEMS / ISSUES	DISCUSSION	FOLLOW-UP
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 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>	

ITEMS / ISSUES	DISCUSSION	FOLLOW-UP
	<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 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>	

ITEMS / ISSUES	DISCUSSION	FOLLOW-UP
	<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>Clackamas County Coordinating Housing Access Line cha@clackamas.us 503-655-8575</p>	
Member Updates	<p>Tracy Bogard shared with VAC the news of Meloni Beauchamp passing, and will share with the VAC an address to send condolences.</p> <p>Paul Edgar would like to see an outreach mailing list generated with current contact information of all veterans in Clackamas County.</p> <p>RB Green shared of an ODVA grant received for the next 18 months. The grant will help provide food and swag for local veteran’s events. RB Green will work in connection with Felicia Riding to host a Veteran Job Fair.</p>	
Public Comment	No Public Comment	
Next Meeting	<p>Veterans Advisory Council February 24, 2022 from 2:30pm-3:30pm via Zoom</p>	