

CLACKAMAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Sitting/Acting as (if applicable) Policy Session Worksheet

Presentation Date: 12/11/2018 **Approx. Start Time:** 10:30PM **Approx. Length:** 30 min.

Presentation Title: Veterans Village Update

Department: Health, Housing & Human Services

Presenters: Vahid Brown, Housing Policy Coordinator

Other Invitees: None

WHAT ACTION ARE YOU REQUESTING FROM THE BOARD?

Receive an update on operation of the Clackamas County Veterans Village

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The Board of Commissioners requested an update on the Veterans Village. Do Good Multnomah is the service provider for the Veterans Village Transitional Shelter Community since the first week of October. This update for the Board of Commissioners contains current outcomes, including the following:

- Seventeen houseless veterans have been served by the Village program to date. There are currently fifteen Veterans Village program participants, and two prior participants have transitioned into permanent housing. Those housing transitions were made through Social Services housing programs, indicative of the close coordination of County services and the Veterans Village program staff.
- There are significant outcomes in employment, education and health care:
 - Two individuals in the village have secured employment since entering the program. A neighboring business, Precision Truss and Lumber, approached Do Good staff in the week prior to opening the Village with an offer to provide employment to villagers seeking work. One of the two individuals who are now employed is working at Precision Truss.
 - Member of the Estacada Fire Department approached the Village about employment opportunities in their fire department, and three Village participants are actively pursuing this opportunity.
 - One individual has enrolled in classes at Clackamas Community College.
 - Two individuals who had previously been relying on emergency medicine to treat medical conditions have established primary care physicians and are making regular medical visits.
- A variety of programs serving veterans are now making regularly scheduled visits to the Veterans Village:
 - Staff from the Veterans Administration visit twice a week.
 - A Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing program (VASH) case manager visits weekly, this program provides permanent rental assistance linked to VA case management case.
 - Food by Design, a non-profit partnering with Do Good to provide gardening and nutrition training, comes weekly to provide a class on making healthy meals, at the end of which the entire Village shares the meal. Beginning the week of December 10th Food by Design

and the Village participants will be designing and building gardens for food production at the Village site.

- A Veterans Service Officer comes every two weeks and assists veterans establish or re-establish their receipt of veterans' benefits.
 - Two staff from Social Services visit frequently to assist in procuring permanent housing.
 - Easter Seals staff visit weekly to assist in finding employment and obtaining needed job certifications.
 - Goodwill Jobs also makes periodic visits to connect participants to employment opportunities.
- Members of the community have also spontaneously volunteered a variety of services to the Village:
 - A nurse in the community comes weekly on a volunteer basis to provide vitals checks, do wound care, and provide other basic medical services.
 - A social worker seeking to complete their LCSW has been coming to the Village multiple times a week to run group and individual counseling sessions as a way to earn the hours in the community that they need for their degree.
 - Every Monday a group of churches provides the Village with dinner, and two women from the community do the same for the Village every Friday evening.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (current year and ongoing):

Is this item in your current budget? YES NO

What is the cost? \$100,000

What is the funding source? County General Fund

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT:

- How does this item align with your Department's Strategic Business Plan goals?
Individuals and families in need are healthy and safe
Increased self-sufficiency for our clients
Improved community safety and health
Efficient and effective services
- How does this item align with the County's Performance Clackamas goals?
Ensure safe, healthy and secure communities

LEGAL/POLICY REQUIREMENTS: N/A

PUBLIC/GOVERNMENTAL PARTICIPATION:

County Counsel	Do Good Multnomah
H3S	PGA
BCC	Social Services

OPTIONS:

RECOMMENDATION: Informational only

ATTACHMENTS: N/A

SUBMITTED BY:

Division Director/Head Approval _____
Department Director/Head Approval _____
County Administrator Approval _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'V. Brown', is written over the three approval lines. The signature is written in a cursive style and spans across all three lines.

For information on this issue or copies of attachments, please contact Vahid Brown@ 503-742-5345

