

## Emergency Shelter Assessment Committee

### One City Center

Thursday, December 20, 2018

9:00 am – 10:00 am

## Minutes

#### Attendees:

| Name             | Organization       | Name            | Organization             |
|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Adam Harr        | City of Portland   | Harrison Deah   | City of Westbrook        |
| Brian Townsend   | Amistad            | Norm Maze       | Shalom House             |
| Carol Hutchins   | Bayside            | Vickey Rand     | CHOM                     |
| Joanie Klayman   | Preble Street      | Cullen Ryan     | CHOM                     |
| Ginny Dill       | Shalom House       | Amanda Methot   | City of Portland         |
| Sara Fleurant    | City of Portland   | Dave MacLean    | City of Portland         |
| Meaghan Void     | City of Portland   | Amy Geren       | Portland Downtown        |
| Sara Ewing Meril | Family Promise     | Chelsea Hoskins | City of Portland         |
| Jim Divine       | HVJ                | Colin Ayer      | Portland Fire Department |
| Kelley Walsh     | Trough These Doors | Chelsea Hoskins | City of Portland         |

**Monthly Statistics:** The August shelter statistics are available here:  
<https://www.portlandmaine.gov/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/940>

#### Monthly Stats:

- OSS Record High Census at 239 and 66
  - When under 80 family shelter will move to the resource center
- More families are being paroled at the southern border
  - Paroled status
    - Qualifies for 24 months of General Assistance coverage, avoiding the GAP (PCSF)
- Mat to lie on still, but chairs may be needed to all space available approaching capacity
  - The numbers are too great and there is not enough housing to open space at the shelter for those coming

## Emergency Shelter Assessment Committee

- Dave introduced Chelsea Hoskins who has worked with PCSF clients in order to increase the shelter's capacity to triage and refer people utilizing the warming center for food and shelter.

HVJ:

- Memorial Vigil
- Don't exclude us; include us
- Homeless Bill of Rights Sponsored by Rachel Talbot Ross
  - Access to public space

CTO

December 28<sup>th</sup> 10:30 in room 209

Community Outreach lieutenant

- Winter: when resources and shelter are exhausted on dangerously cold nights, how does the continuum serve this population?
  - Some are Criminal Trespassed from the hospital
  - Once they are seen; they must leave and cannot wait in the warmth of the building.
- Unified plan across all City departments that touch this population.
- City staff will meet initially then invite the wider service provider community.
  - Each department will explain their policies and how they operate with this population
    - Laws (What can and cannot be done by program)
    - Delivering services to this population is difficult without training or knowledge of what options may exist, or who can be contacted.
    - They will analyze offenses that lead to CTOs to see if there is opportunity to understand the need and process better and keep this population safe.

Include the long-term stayer update in new template

Legislation

Federal:

Continuing resolution to fund at 2017 levels

Bills being followed have no activity

- Opioid recover and treatment monies have started to come into the State
- A federal Judge deemed the Affordable Care Act (ACA, commonly known as Obamacare)
- Fair Housing Act of 2018 would prohibit housing discrimination based on veterans status and financial/economic status

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Agriculture and nutrition act

- Originally had significant cuts to snap (formerly food stamps) but those have been received in the current version

State:

Janet Mills nominated a former Obama administration deputy for health policy to lead DHHS.

- DHHS restricted BRAP over the past 12 months
  - There is a sense that some individuals experiencing homelessness will still be able to receive BRAPs
  - Dick Farnsworth is spear heading
    - It is the right time to reach out to state representatives
- Long Term Stayer Update
  - 94.9% success rate of individuals remaining in housing
  - BRAP and Section 8 have minimal
  - Over 200 individuals have been housed
  - Started a new list including people who are not yet LTS but are trending towards the long length of stay.
- Pathway from the criminal justice system into stable housing
- Systemwide view of resources
- 2018 was a great year for housing clients

Potential legislation: Legislative committee meets bi-weekly with state reps and state senators

Legislation to be proposed and suggested re changes

- Reinstate the reimbursement formula; if met a spending cap with GA, the reimbursement would jump from 50/50 to 90/10
  - This formula was to reimburse service center areas to serve statewide populations
  - Current is 70/30
- Looking to expand the narrow reading of the asylum seeker assistance law which granted 24 months of assistance to those seeking a lawful process.
  - Hoping to provide assistance from when an individual's visa expired and when they apply for asylum

Point in Time

- There will be a call for those who have volunteered before
- Other types of community providers are coming
- January 22<sup>nd</sup> is the point in time day with three service days where case workers inquire where people slept on the night of the PIT
  - Names captured from service provider days will deduplicate name from the list
  - Those who provide the required information will be counted (Individuals must provide certain personally identifiable information)
- The process is the same as last years, including the youth addendum

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### Coordinated Entry: Messaging around “the pause”

- Coordinated Entry and the Triage and Diversion element we conflated with each other
- Everyone in the Coordinated Entry EDA have been existed
  - These exists will have no negative affect on the NOFA application
  - It will only affect our own ability to look at the data
- Continue business as usual.

### Homeless Services Center

- One City-Owned and Operated Homeless Services Center will of up to 150 beds will be part of the recommendation made to the full council
  - Community partners who shared proposals: TOA Avesta and Preble Street.
- We hope to come to a plan that serves the need
  - There is a disparity between current need 150 beds as realistic
  - This capacity becomes more viable as partner agencies add beds in new programs that the City supports in some to be determined capacity
- Jim has not felt consumers have been part of the process.

Vickey recognized Joanie Klayman’s service in the community and that this is her last meeting. Dave thanked her on behalf of the City.