

EMERGENCY SHELTER ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

196 Lancaster Street

Thursday, November 16, 2017
9:00 am – 11:00 am

Minutes

Attendees:

Name	Organization	Name	Organization
Adam Harr	City of Portland	Tiffany Delisle	YFO
Brian Townsend	Amistad	Michelle Belanger	YFO
Chelsea Hoskins	City of Portland	Ginny Dill	Shalom House
Anna Bullett	TOA-WIC	Cullen Ryan	CHOM
Clark Carter	The Root Cellar	Jeff Tardiff	City of Portland
Jan Bindas-Tinney	Preble Street	Meaghan Void	City of Portland
Emma Veilleux	SNAP-ED	Joe Conroy	Preble Street

Monthly Statistics: There is a significant increase in families from last year mostly attributed to asylum seekers. Starting next month, warming center and safe haven statistics will each be represented on their own slides.

HVJ: Homeless Bill of rights is being appealed by Rachel Talbot-Ross and will have a meeting to support and talk about the proposed legislation on Monday 11/20.

OSS 24 Hour Services: OSS will open operations to 24 hours/day in the first two weeks of December. There will be computer kiosks for housing and job searches as well as outreach to third shift workers to sleep during the day. The day room is expected to be set aside from 9:00am – 12:00pm for community partners to offer programming and services. Plans include a portable external bathroom and locked storage. Access and services will be prioritized for shelter stayers.

Legislative Update: The Tax Proposal will eliminate the low-income housing tax credit which will affect the ability to create affordable housing and services. Rob made a MOTION to write a letter to our Congressional delegation voicing our concerns on the current tax plan. Jan SECONDED and MOTION PASSED without discussion. On the state level, the Opioid Assistance legislation is being appealed. November 30th is the appeal for every bill that did not pass so there is time to contact representatives; contact Jan for contact information: jbindastenney@preblestreet.org.

Christina Cook of TOA/PATH will take the lead on the Point in Time.

Coordinated Entry diversion and referrals will be access via 211 with shelters doing the full navigation.

Family Day Services

Day space: the warming center at the family shelter opened today. The sub-committee met with Clark Carter, the director of the root cellar to explore his space and programming.

Food: It was suggested to have a communication network to share weekly or daily food demands to determine the food need and inform that week's operations. FS sends the expected WC census to OSS

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staff early in the evenings; that email that could be sent to PSRC for determining the next day's lunch needs. The Salvation Army and Wayside met with the sub-committee and are assessing if they can create a new weekly meal. Anna found out that breakfast can only get a \$0.30 reimbursement and is exploring if head start has the capacity to do bagged lunches with a proposed capacity of 10-20 lunches. The group identified a need for cold storage for milk and formula; the root cellar has cold storage capacity but distance is a concern. PRSC is looking into if they can become a site for the CACFP.

Programming: Hannah and Julia are looking for funding for cultural orientation training. Julia is meeting with different programming. Chelsea is working on a programming packet that will be translated. The boys and girls club, the children's museum and SNAP Ed are interested in on-site programming. The current focus is on family programming while school aged children are in class.

An eligibility sheet may be needed to distribute to service providers clarifying that the Day center is only for families staying in the warming center.

Childcare: The group looked at volunteer run versus a paid position with regard to the fluctuating nature of the population. Michelle is looking into licensing and regs for the spaces. There is a large faith based community center in South Portland that would be available every day except Sunday but transportation would be a barrier; the group will try and get Metro to the table. A parent co-op is an option.

Fundraising: The group will look for public-private partnership grants that are relevant but may not be funding sources that agencies usually explore. There's a Maine Community Foundation RFP coming out in January 2018. Brick and Beam is committed to childcare with a fall RFP that comes with a volunteer base.

Next Steps: We will move to a monthly meeting following ESAC. Joe will explore his capacity and timeline for adding family bagged lunches.