



# Poverty and Homelessness Board

## 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

### Enabling Legislation and/or Bylaws

The Poverty and Homelessness Board (PHB) meets both the requirements of the HUD Continuum of Care Board and the Community Action Agency. The PHB Governance Charter and organizational structure is required for all funds governed by the Continuum of Care title IV McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act 42 U.S.C. 11301 and the Continuum of Care Program Interim Rule. The PHB Governance Charter and organizational structure is also required for all funds governed by Community Action Agencies, Chapter 319yy, Section 17b-885 and Sec. 17b-887.

Through a public process and Continuum of Care member participation, it was determined that Lane County be designated as the Continuum of Care (CoC) to serve as the Collaborative Applicant to operate the Continuum of Care. Lane County was also designated an Administrator of the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to review and approve privacy, security, and data quality plans, policies and procedures, and performance measures for HMIS.

### Scope and Function

The function of the Committee/Task Force is to provide recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners in the following areas:

- Recommend approval of proposed candidates for committee
- Governance changes
- Submission of Continuum of Care grant, including reporting requirements
- Request for Proposal (RFP) awards
- Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) report submission

### Membership

The PHB meetings are open to any county employee or member of the public. The 2022 PHB is officially comprised of the following members:

	Voting Board Positions	Board Members and Agency Affiliation
1.	Elected Official or Designee Lane County	Pat Farr Commissioner, Lane County
2.	Elected Official or Designee City of Springfield	Sean VanGordon City Councilor, City of Springfield
3.	Elected Official or Designee City of Eugene	Lucy Vinis Mayor, City of Eugene
4.	Elected Official or Designee Rural Lane County	Michael Fleck City Councilor, City of Coburg
5.	At Large Elected Official	Cliff Harrold Sheriff, Lane County

	Voting Board Positions	Board Members and Agency Affiliation
6.	Business	Brittany Quick-Warner Eugene Chamber of Commerce
7.	Direct Services Provider	Paul Solomon Sponsors
8.	Education/ McKinney-Vento Homeless Students Liaison	Donna Butera McKinney Vento Liaison
9.	Faith Based Organization	Pastor Aaron Box North Park Community Church
10.	Homeless/ Formerly Homeless Consumer	Kris McAlister Community Member
11.	Healthcare Representative	Dr. Willy Foster Community Health Centers of Lane County
12.	Mental Health	Shawn Murphy Laurel Hill Center
13.	Philanthropic	Shelly Galvin CBT Nuggets
14.	Homeless Youth Representative	Mattias Smith Community Member
15.	Victim Services (Children’s Services)	Susan Lopez Oregon Department of Human Services
16.	Victim Services (Adult Services)	Julie Weismann Hope & Safety Alliance
	Non-Voting Board Positions	Board Members and Agency Affiliation
17.	Public Housing Authority Co-Applicant CoC grant	Jacob Fox Homes for Good
18.	Veterans	Dave Heavirland Department of Veterans Affairs
19.	Training & Employment	Cindy Perry Lane Workforce Partnership
20.	Mainstream Resource Provider State Department of Human Services	Sheila Wagener Oregon Department of Human Services, D5
21.	Housing Co-Applicant CoC grant, ESG recipient	Foster Martinez St. Vincent de Paul Vet LIFT Program
22.	Emergency Shelter Services	Sheryl Balthrop Eugene Mission
23.	Lane County Coordinated Care Organization	Debi Farr Medicaid Services, Trillium
24.	Lane County Coordinated Care Organization	Katharine Ryan PacificSource

## **Staff Contacts**

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Diana Alldredge	Recorder	(541) 682-3798	diana.allredge@lanecountyor.gov

## **Meeting Frequency**

The PHB met on the following dates:

- January 20, 2022.....Executive Committee
- February 17, 2022 ...All Member
- March 17, 2022 ... ..Executive Committee
- April 21, 2022 ..... ..All Member
- May 19, 2022 ..... ..Executive Committee
- June 16, 2022 ..... ..All Member
- July 21, 2022 ..... ..Executive Committee
- August 18, 2022.....All Member
- September 16, 2022....Executive Committee
- October 20, 2022.....All Member
- November 17, 2022...Executive Committee
- December 15, 2022...All Member

## **Committee Topics of Note/Accomplishments**

Starting in April 2020, all PHB meetings met virtually due to the COVID pandemic. The PHB continues to serve as an important communication avenue for COVID assistance resources and information as Lane County navigates the ever changing effects of COVID-19.

The PHB heard and discussed the following topics in their 2022-2023 strategic plan:

- Increase Shelter and Alternative Shelter Beds
- Improve safety of and accessibility to facilities that support people experiencing homelessness
- Increase opportunities for households to move to permanent housing
- Reduce homelessness among youth in Lane County by 25% through the Collaborative Community Plan
- Increase employment opportunities, education, and employment and training activities for participants who are in poverty, and/or homeless with special needs
- Advocate for support to reduce poverty and homelessness
- Improve equity within Coordinated Entry and the Shelter System
- Ensure Coordinated Entry allows those deemed most vulnerable access to all resources they qualify to receive
- Improve care coordination at discharge from institutions (hospital, jail, behavioral health hospital)
- Clarify Governance and Future Planning for PHB

## **Topics and Reports**

- Point In Time Count
  - FY22 Methodology
  - FY22 Count and Housing Inventory Chart
  - FY23 Methodology
- 2016-2021 Strategic Plan Summary
- FY22-23 Strategic Plan
- YHDP Coordinated Community Plan
- House Bill(s) Advocacy
- Committee Reports
  - Employment, Shelter, Health Care, Coordinated Care, LEAGUE, Membership, Youth Homelessness
- Jurisdiction Reports
  - City of Springfield, City of Eugene, Rural Communities
- Fiscal Reports and Dashboards
- Behavioral Health Updates
- Non-Profit Capacity Building Listening Session Feedback
- Eugene Chamber of Commerce Update
- COVID Response and Shelter Resources
- Continuum of Care (CoC)
  - PHB Roles in CoC
  - FY21 Application Debrief
  - Unified Funding Agency Information
  - FY22 Application Ad Hoc Committee
  - Annual NOFO
- Community Action
  - CAA Month/Week Celebration
  - Organizational Standards
  - County Audit Update
- Housing First Partnership Conference
- Unsheltered Homelessness HUD Super NOFO
- Program Updates
  - Outputs and Outcomes
  - Navigation Center
  - The Nel
  - Capacity Building RFP
  - Capacity Building Technology RFP

- PHB Membership
  - Vacancies and Interviews,
  - New Membership and Chair Voting
  - Committee Membership Positions
- Cold Weather Response
- Youth Leadership Board TH/RRH Referral Prioritization

## **Focus Areas**

The PHB will focus on the following objectives in the upcoming 2023 year:

- Increase shelter/alternative shelters beds and safe sleep sites, with a focus on the medically fragile and those with acute mental illnesses
- Increase support services for youth and young adults experiencing homelessness through Host Homes and Street Outreach
- Create and adopt a new/updated housing assessment tool for Coordinated Entry that is more culturally sensitive
- Streamline the PHB committees and workgroups in order to develop and strengthen partnerships
- Develop systems to better support individuals experiencing homelessness who are discharged from the hospital
- Participate in system mapping to understand how an individual moves through the homeless system
- Increase cultural awareness in shelters
- Engage with landlords to incentivize them to rent to individuals with special needs

## **Challenges and Strategies**

The following are the greatest challenges before the PHB and the strategies planned to overcome them:

- The economic impacts of COVID-19 have proven to have had long lasting effects on Lane County residents, and most acutely those living in poverty and those experiencing homelessness. The PHB will continue to advocate for and assist in the administration of Federal, State, and Local resources to address the needs of the community.
- Insufficient affordable housing in the community and the extremely low vacancy rate present significant barriers to fully addressing the crisis of homelessness. The PHB will continue to seek resources, advocate for, and build partnerships to increase the supply of affordable and supportive housing in Lane County.