

COMMUNITY ACTION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Meeting held remotely. Audio at: <https://www.clark.wa.gov/community-services/community-action-advisory-board>

September 1, 2020

PRESENT	EXCUSED	ABSENT	STAFF
Alishia Topper, chair	Amy Boget		Michael Torres
David Poland	Linda Glover		Rebecca Royce
Melanie Green			Beth Landry
Thomas Breitenbauch			Janet Snook
Jamie Spinelli			
Doug Boff			
Hilaree Prepula			
Karyn Kameroff			
Amy Roark			
Bridget McLeman, secretary			
Adam Kravitz, vice chair			

Guests: CODAs Interpreters; Peggy Sheehan (City of Vancouver); Kristi Addis, Marisa McDowell (Cascade Aids Project); Dale Whitley (Council for the Homeless)

I. Roll Call

II. May 2020 Minutes

The minutes were approved unanimously on voice rollcall vote following a motion by Doug Boff that was seconded by Bridget McLeman.

III. July 2019-March 2020 Outcomes Report (Org. Standards 4.4, 5.9, 8.7)

The Report shows customer satisfaction, describes what is funded and those expenditures, provides performance measures for the Community Action and the Homeless Crisis Response System, and identifies demographics. Most programs are on target.

IV. Task Force update: Community Needs Assessment

Two English, a Russian and a Spanish forum are being scheduled for the last week of October. Volunteers are needed. The Assessment is due in May.

V. COVID funding update

In addition to CSBG COVID grant funds awarded by CAAB, Clark County's housing program is contracting the following grants:

- CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) combined with County CARES Title V funds: \$1M microenterprise grant assistance coordinated through Mercy Corps NW.
- COVID-19 Emergency Housing Grant and CARES Title V: \$3.4M for quarantine, isolation, and shelter expansion for people at high risk and are unable to socially isolate through October 31, 2020.
- EFSP (Emergency Food and Shelter Program): FEMA funds provided directly to providers.
- ERAP (Eviction Rental Assistance Program): \$4.9M to provide up to three months rental assistance to households that owe rent and are at or below 50 percent AMI.
- ESG (Emergency Solutions Grant): Phase I: \$759,000 for persons experiencing or at risk of homelessness. Phase II amount and timeline remain unknown.
- FEMA is providing funds through counties' emergency management systems. It is unlikely this will be used towards quarantine and isolation.
- HEN and HEN Pilot: \$1.07M for rapid rehousing for HEN-eligible households.
- Department of Commerce Shelter grant: \$2.5M in coordination with City of Vancouver to expand shelter capacity.

VI. City of Vancouver Affordable Housing Fund and Homeless Services Updates (Peggy Sheehan)

- Coordinating business technical assistance with County.
- Received 8 applications for \$300,000 towards additional COVID-related services.
- The Affordable Housing Fund projects are moving forward. Four are starting construction this fall. The RFQ for the next two-year funding cycle starts soon. See the City's website for details.
- The City's Housing Commission will begin in January.

VII. Point-in-Time Count (Dale Whitley)

Point-in-Time Count is an annual snapshot of what homelessness looks like in a community on a single night, counting people who are sheltered and unsheltered in places not meant for habitation. It provides trend data. Counting effectiveness is improved each year through the use of technology, lessons learned, and additional volunteers. In 2020, the total homeless count was down 4% over the previous year, however unsheltered homelessness increased 6%. For more details, refer to <https://www.councilforthehomeless.org/point-in-time-count-2020/>.

VIII. Open Forum

No discussion.

IX. Other Business

- The January 2021 meeting will be virtual. Send suggestions to Rebecca.
- Next meeting: 8-9:30am, November 3, 2020, virtually

Meeting adjourned.

Bridget McLeman, secretary

rr