



WELCOME! Community Action Advisory Board Meeting

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Election of Executive Officers (action)

- Open to all board members who have been appointed for at least one year
- Can serve up to 3 years in each position
- Current executive team:
 - Chair: Melanie Green, served 2 years
 - Vice-chair: Vacant
 - Secretary: Rob Perkins, served 2 years
- Nominations received:
 - Chair: Rob Perkins
 - Vice-chair: Melanie Green
 - Secretary: None received



Approval of Nov and Dec 2024 Minutes (action)

COMMUNITY ACTION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Hybrid Meeting: in-person at Center for Community Health and through Webex online platform
November 6, 2024

PRESENT	EXCLUDED	ABSENT	STAFF
Melanie Green, Chair	Ernie Suggs	Karyn Kameroff	Abby Molloy
Rob Perkins, Secretary	Megan Mulsoff	Lilly Pidhainyi	Rhonda Hills
Amy Roark	Diana Perez	Nickeia Hunter	Alissa Page
David Poland			Nooreen Ebrahim
Clover Spears			
Brittini Lasseigne			
Faye Solomone			
Joyce Cooper			

Guests: CODAs interpreters; RJ Stangland (Impact Northwest); Al Holschbach (Impact Northwest); Samantha Whitley (City of Vancouver)

I. Welcome/Introductions

II. Nominations for 2025 CAAB Executive Team

Executive positions for the board will be up for election in January 2025, and preliminary nominations for Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary were taken. Staff clarified that you must be on the board for at least a year to be eligible for nomination. Rob Perkins was nominated for Chair and Melanie Green nominated for Vice-Chair. No other nominations were made.

III. Approval of September and October 2024 Minutes

Brittini Lasseigne made a motion to approve the minutes which was seconded by Rob Perkins and approved unanimously by the board.

IV. Vote on equity training attendance expectation

A brief overview of the discussion from the October 2nd meeting was given.

- The Board discussed the attendance expectations for equity training meetings.
- Q: What if a medical emergency occurs, will board members still be penalized as if it were unexcused?
 - Absences for this reason will be retroactively excused as they are unforeseen circumstances.
- Rob Perkins made a motion for equity meetings to have the same attendance expectations as regular CAAB meetings which was seconded by Brittini Lasseigne. A roll call vote was taken in which 5 members voted yay, 2 members voted nay, and 1 member abstained from voting. Motion passed.

V. Vote to approve CAAB Code of Conduct and Bylaws revisions

Brittini Lasseigne made a motion to approve the revisions to the CAAB Code of Conduct and Bylaws as presented which was seconded by Clover Spears and approved unanimously by the board.

VI. Impact Northwest Presentation (Org Standard 5.9)

RJ Stangland, Assistant Director of Housing and Safety Net Services and Al Holschbach, Clark County Program Supervisor

- Outline of the services provided in the 2023 and 2024 fiscal years for permanent supportive housing (PSH), rapid rehousing (RRH) and homeless prevention (HP) programs was provided.
- Success stories from the PSH, RRH, and HP programs were presented.
- Program achievements, including relationship and trust building with clients and assistance of marginalized and underserved communities were highlighted. The challenges the program faced were lack of access to mental and behavioral health services, difficulty finding living wage jobs, and more.

COMMUNITY ACTION ADVISORY BOARD EQUITY TRAINING MINUTES

Session 2: Interdependence and Generative Conflict
Hybrid Meeting: in-person at Center for Community Health and through Webex online platform
December 4, 2024, 9:00 – 11:00 am

PRESENT	EXCLUDED	ABSENT	STAFF
Clover Spears	Lilly Pidhainyi	Nickeia Hunter	Abby Molloy
Rob Perkins	Megan Mulsoff	David Poland	Ma. Caroline Lopez
Diana Perez	Amy Roark	Ernie Suggs	Nooreen Ebrahim
Melanie Green	Karyn Kameroff	Joyce Cooper	
Brittini Lasseigne	Faye Salomone		

1) **Introductions, grounding, and teambuilding**

- a) Grounding in the moment.
- b) Acknowledgement of the National Day of Mourning.
- c) Share name, pronouns, cultural identities, affiliations you want to share, an old, new, or reclaimed tradition practiced during the winter holidays, solstice, or for the new year.

2) **Community Commitments**

- a) Discussed additions to the Community Commitments.
- b) Brought to space sections that the group felt were important to touch on.

3) **Principles of Emergent Strategy**

- a) What would the group like to bring into space?
 - i) Having introductions may seem repetitive, but it helps us learn more about each other.
 - (1) It is okay to be uncomfortable.
 - ii) Diversity within the group, everyone brings something different to the table.
 - iii) Building trust within the Board for the impactful choices CAAB makes.
 - iv) Politicization of situations diminishes the amount of trust we have in each other.
 - v) Equity and Inclusion training is valuable for the Board and Agencies to attend.
 - vi) These trainings allow us to see where and how CAAB can progress.
 - (1) Reflect on the reasons Board members joined CAAB

4) **Interdependence**

- a) What does this mean to the group?
 - i) Relying on each other.
- b) Defining terms of interdependence shared with the group.

5) **Principled Struggle and Generative Conflict**

- a) Discussion: Scoring applications equitably and inclusively.
 - i) Staff created the scoring system for CAAB to use.
 - ii) Have CAAB members assist in creating the scoring criteria in the future?
 - iii) CAAB members will have a training to go over scoring process
 - iv) Cuts in funding will be influential in scoring applications this year.

6) **Closing**



Adopt 2025 Work Plan (action)

- Provided in meeting reminder
- 2025 Focus:
 - Increase board driven equity efforts.
 - Publish a Community Action report to the community.
- Includes regular program updates by providers at each meeting
- Living document, updates as board's needs change



Mental Health Sales Tax Process

CAAB January 2025 Meeting

Jordan Boege – Senior Policy Analyst

1/10/25



Mental Health Sales Tax (MHST) Overview

- **RCW 82.14.460**: Sales and use tax for chemical dependency or mental health treatment services or therapeutic courts
 - 1/10 of 1% sales tax
 - Must be for new/expanded programming



Mental Health Sales Tax (MHST) Process

- **Clark County – uses MHST for both internal/external purposes**
- **8 member Mental Health Sales Tax Advisory Board (MHSTAB) reviews applications and makes recommendations to County Council**
- **Annual External RFP Process**
- **For 2025 Funding: 25 proposals requesting ~\$40M**
 - **Approx \$15M available**
- **Current MHST fund balance – ~\$4M**



Mental Health Sales Tax Calendar

Date	Activity
Late June	MHST RFP Published
Mid/late July	RFP Bidder's Conference
Mid-August	RFP Submission Deadline
Mid/late September	Deadline for MHSTAB, initial review & scoring of proposals
Late September	MHSTAB group review of proposals
Early October	Applicant Presentations
Mid-October	Final Scoring & MHSTAB recommendations made to County Council
November	Notices out to RFP Applicants (pending council approval)
December	Council finalizes County budget; contracts executed with applicants
January 1	Contract effective date



Mental Health Sales Tax (MHST) – Bridge Shelter

- Initial request ~\$26M over 10 years (capital + operating)
- County Council requests Vancouver utilize existing MHST funding process
- Vancouver applies for MHST funding; MHSTAB does not recommend bridge shelter funding to council in this cycle
- Opportunity for Vancouver to reapply in 2025 process for operating funding in 2026 when bridge shelter opens



Thank you!

Comments and questions





Housing Team Updates

- HEAR Program
- CDBG/HOME Applications
- CSTE Program

Samantha Whitley, Housing Programs Manager
Economic Prosperity & Housing



HEAR Program

WA Climate Commitment Act

\$1.48M

Energy efficient upgrades for small businesses and households with low income:

- Ducted Heat Pumps
- Ductless Heat Pumps
- Residential Induction Cooking
- Commercial Induction Cooking
- Heat Pump Water Heaters
- Heat Pump Clothes Dryers
- New Electrical Panels
- New Electrical Wiring



**NORTHWEST
NATIVE
CHAMBER**



2025 CDBG & HOME Applications Received

Agency	Category	Program	# Served	Request
Fourth Plain Forward	Microenterprise	Business Assistance	60	\$147,000
Hispanic Chamber	Microenterprise	Business Assistance	70	\$150,000
MESO	Microenterprise	Business Assistance	40	\$116,000
Upwards	Microenterprise	Boost Childcare Program	19	\$150,000
Community Mediation	Public Service	Eviction Diversion Initiative	2,750	\$75,000
Council for the Homeless	Public Service	Dynamic Diversion	100	\$100,000
Friends of the Children	Public Service	Youth Mentorship	300	\$70,800
Housing Connector	Public Service	Housing Connection	50	\$74,000
Latino Youth	Public Service	Promotoras de la Comunidad	150	\$75,000
Janus Youth	TBRA	Rental Assistance	30	\$202,500
Share	TBRA	Rental Assistance	22	\$250,000
Council for the Homeless	Homelessness	Outreach	120	\$220,000
Housing Connector	Homelessness	Housing Connection	175	\$249,000
Thrive 2 Survive	Homelessness	Rental Assistance	15	\$250,000





Construction Sales Tax Exemption

- SSB5755: sales tax deferral for development of affordable housing on parking lots
- After 10 years, deferred taxes are forgiven
- Example for \$6M development:

Taxing District	Sales Tax %	Tax Amount
State of Washington	6.50%	\$390,000
City of Vancouver	1.15%	\$69,000
C-Tran	.70%	\$42,000
Clark County	.40%	\$24,000
Total	8.75%	\$525,000



Department Update

Clark County Community Services

Vanessa Gaston, Director

January 10, 2025



Community Services Overview & Highlights

Vanessa Gaston



Listening Session 10/22/2024

Community Services

Mission

Empower and uplift our community by providing essential support, resources, and opportunities aimed at overcoming barriers to ensure a stable, healthy, and engaged community for all.

Vision

We are dedicated to fostering a culture of empathy, service, and accountability, where the dignity of every individual is upheld, and the interconnectedness of our well-being is recognized. Through strategic partnerships, we commit to enhancing economic security and well-being, addressing the root causes of poverty, and building a foundation for a prosperous future.



Community Services

Equity Statement

Clark County Community Services recognizes past and present injustice, and we work to heal it. We believe that everyone deserves to live a healthy and safe life. We have a moral obligation to support all members of our community who are underserved and underrepresented.

To achieve more equitable services, we must be inclusive and work in partnerships within our community. We use our commitment to equity to inform everything we do to address disparities. We actively listen to and center the voices of those who have been historically underrepresented in order to challenge structural and institutional racism and discrimination. We honor and respect the experiences and perspectives of the people we serve. We look inward to challenge our own beliefs and barriers. We engage and support diverse communities so that they thrive.

We celebrate our community becoming more diverse and hold that our journey and success are intertwined with each other.



Values

Guiding principle	Demonstrated by
Integrity	We commit to transparency, honesty, and ethical behavior in all our interactions. We hold ourselves accountable to the highest standards of public trust and stewardship.
Compassion	Our services are delivered with empathy and a deep understanding of the human experience. We approach each individual's situation with sensitivity, seeking to empower rather than patronize.
Inclusivity	We recognize the strength that comes from diversity and strive to create spaces where every individual can contribute and belong. We work to ensure that all voices are heard and valued in the fabric of our community.
Equity	We pledge to confront inequities head-on and dismantle the systemic barriers that hinder access to opportunity. We advocate for equity and justice in the distribution of resources and opportunities.
Innovation	We embrace creativity and are committed to finding new and effective ways to meet the challenges of our community. We encourage experimentation and learning, understanding that progress often requires a departure from the conventional.
Collaboration	We believe in the power of partnerships and collective action. By working together with individuals, private funders, elected officials, organizations, and sectors, we can achieve outcomes that are greater than the sum of our parts.
Resilience	We aim to foster a community that is adaptable and robust, capable of withstanding challenges and bouncing back stronger. We invest in the social and economic foundations that support long-term sustainability.
Service	At our core, we are public servants. We exist to serve the community of Clark County, to improve lives, and to contribute to the public good. Our dedication to service is unwavering and defines our path forward.

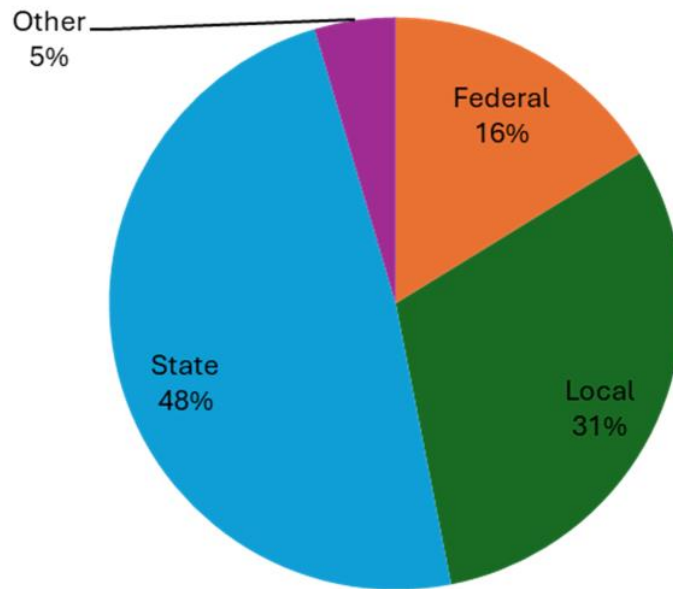


Overview

- Current FTE - 34
- 2024 DCS Budget - \$73.4 million
- 126 active contracts with providers
- Received 38 funding grant agreements
- Most funds are contracted out to providers to deliver services to the community.



2024 DCS Revenue Type



2024 Department of Community Services Budgeted Expenses

- Community Action Housing and Development (CHAD)
\$47,214,991
- Behavioral Health (BH) \$16,267,952
- Developmental Disabilities (DD) \$9,958,508



Department Highlights of 2024

- Completed department 5-year strategic plan.
- Worked with community stakeholders to complete low-income affordable housing report.
- Completed the Mental Health Sales Tax Report for 2023 for all funded programs that outlines outputs and outcomes.
- Completed the community needs assessment and translated in different languages.
- Successfully passed all local, state and federal audits.
- Created job foundation program 5 years ago for people with developmental and intellectual disabilities and now have 21 students enrolled.
- Successfully spent out all ARPA COVID funds.
- Youth programs had 102 youth collectively volunteer 3953.5 hours, which has a value of \$159,246.98.



Department 2025 Priorities

- Implement new strategic plan
- Train staff on LEAN principles and processes again
- Implement any county changes or prepare for potential budget cuts



Thank you!

Questions?



Listening Session 10/22/2024



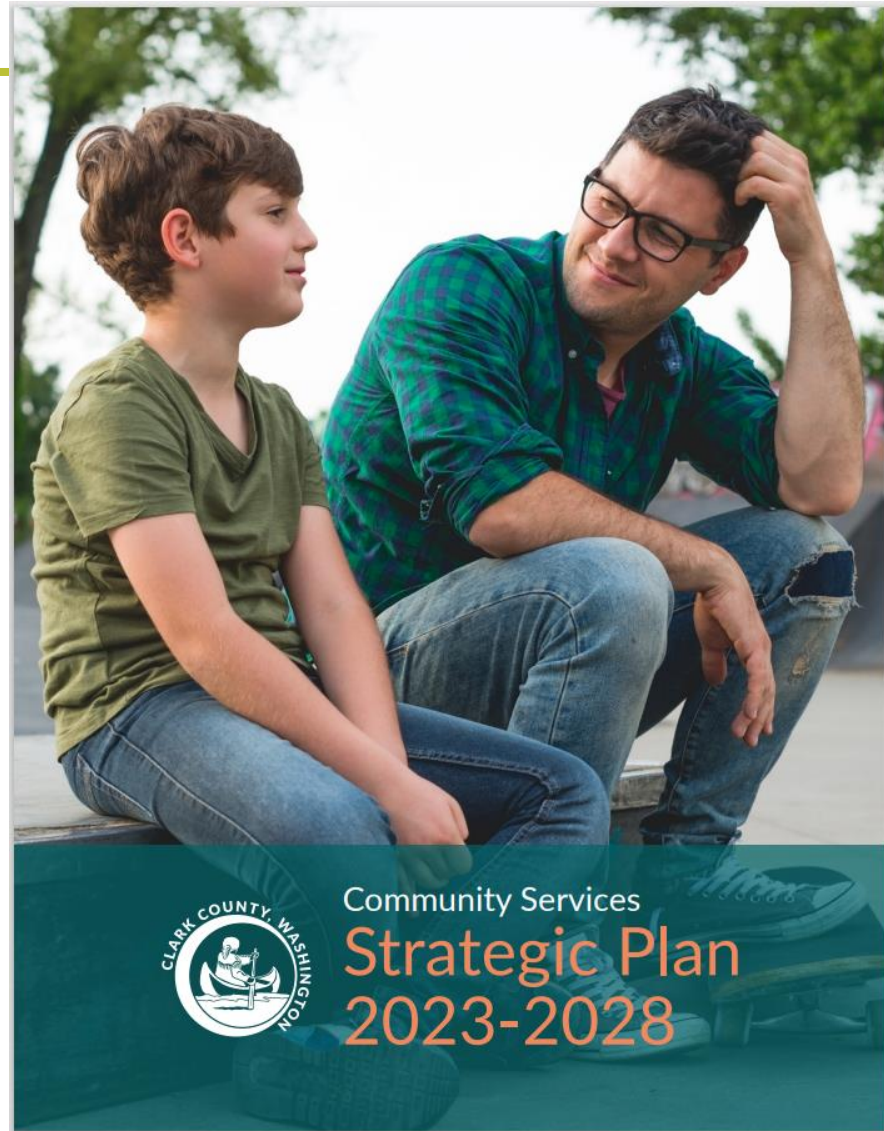
Community Services Strategic Plan Update

Org Std 6.5

Michael A Torres
Clark County Community Services
Jan 10, 2025



- Adopted by CAAB May 1, 2024
- Built on insights learned from Community Needs Assessment and County demographic trends, Community information, and various workgroups.
- Process that was inclusive of input from Department Staff, CAAB, community Partners.



Areas of Department Focus

- **Outcome-Focused Programs:** Make sure there is a tangible on meaningful positive impact of our programs on the people they serve.
- **Date-Driven Decision Making:** Better understand community needs and effectively allocate resources.
- **Equity and Inclusion:** Focus on racial disparities, removing barriers that prevent people from accessing services.
- **Strategic Partnerships:** Work with community leaders, service providers, other funders, and systems of care to improve coordination, enhance service delivery, and maximize impact.
- **Provider Coordination and Integration:** Support providers in becoming more coordinated and integrated, ensuring services are delivered seamlessly and efficiently.



Primary Objectives

- Advocate for Equity, Inclusion and Social Justice
- Address Housing Insecurity and Combat Poverty
- Improve Behavioral Health and Well-being
- Cultivate Inclusive Community Engagement
- Strengthen Support Systems
- Youth Empowerment and Development



Status

- Communications Office is in process of formatting finalized strategic Plan for publication (January-February)
- Staff connecting personal performance evaluation goals to department Strategic Plan Objectives
- Program Outcomes explicitly listed in contracts
- Support structures for services and providers being looked at



Thank you!

Comments and questions





See you in 10 minutes!



July 2024 – September 2024 Outcomes Report

Abby Molloy



Board Business (information)

- Access to CAAB Bylaws and Code of Conduct
 - Updated/approved in November 2024
 - Clark County website: <https://clark.wa.gov/community-services/caab-community-action-advisory-board>
 - Sent via email
- Annual signing of Conflict of Interest form
 - Sent via DocuSign
- Annual review of Board Member Responsibilities
 - Sent via DocuSign
- Organizational Standards Update
- Board Member Roster for 2025
- County Ethics Policy update



Task Force Updates

- Legislative Advocacy Task Force
 - Amy Roark
- Community Needs Assessment Task Force
 - Abby Molloy



2025 Meeting Time and Cadence Discussion

2025 Board Chair



Agenda Items

- Open Forum (up to 3 minutes)
- Other Business
 - March 5 and April 2 Meetings extended to 9:00 am – 12:30 pm

January CAAB Meeting Part 2: RFA Training
January 17, 2024 starting at 9am

