

COMMUNITY ACTION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Hybrid Meeting: in-person at Center for Community Health and through Webex online platform
May 7, 2025

<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>EXCUSED</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>	<u>STAFF</u>
Amy Roark, Secretary	Ernie Suggs		Abby Molloy
Brittini Lasseigne			Alissa Page
Brondalyn Clark			Kayla Renee-Williams
Clover Spears			Michael Torres
Diana Perez			Nooreen Ebrahim
Emily Wilson			Rhonda Hills
Faye Solomone			
Katie Favela			
Lilly Pidhainyi			
Megan Mulsoff			
Melanie Green, Vice Chair			
Nickeia Hunter			
Rob Perkins, Chair			
Sandra Zavala-Ortega			

Guests: Jasmine Gruenstein and Ruth Henry (Cascade AIDS Project SW Washington); Stephen Sprague and Hannah Nelson (Catholic Community Services); Samantha Whitley (City of Vancouver); Nate Powers (Community Mediation Services); Peggy Sheehan (Community Roots); Nathalie Aguilar and Katie Martin (Council for the Homeless); Al Holschbach (Impact NW); Alaire de Salvo, Scott Conger and Keeva Diestra (Janus Youth); Carl Robinson (New Life Recovery Services); Ren Autrey and Adam Kravitz (Outsiders Inn); Johanna Inoke (Pacific Islanders Community Association of Washington); Megan O'Keefe (Reach CDC); Adam Wright, Molly Evjen and Thalia McDaid O'Neill (Share); Sean Moore (Unknown); Beth Landry and Vanessa Yarie (YWCA)

I. Welcome/Introductions

II. Approval of March and April Minutes

Amy Roark made a motion to approve the minutes from the March and April meetings which was seconded by Megan Mulsoff and approved unanimously by the board.

III. CAP and HCRS Funding Recommendations

Staff reminded the board that Community Action Program funding recommendations are based on the categories that were identified in the Community Needs Assessment. Funding was recommended as scored by the board is shown in the tables below.

Physical Health			Available funding: \$113,500.00	
Applicant	Program	Total Score	Requested Amount	Award
Share	Share's Meal and Nutrition Programs	95.5	\$113,500.00	\$113,500.00
Children's Home Society DBA Akin	Vancouver and Washougal Family Resource Centers Food Assistance Programs	89.75	\$40,000.00	
Battle Ground Healthcare	Battle Ground HealthCare Dental Services	85.25	\$80,000.00	
Free Clinic of SW WA	Free Clinic Dental Assistance	81.5	\$50,000.00	
New Life Friends Church	Food Assistance	71.5	\$46,000.00	
			Total Funded: \$113,500.00	

Income and Asset Building			Available funding: \$99,500.00	
Applicant	Program	Total Score	Requested Amount	Award
Save First Financial	Save First Financial Wellness	70.67	\$99,500.00	\$99,500.00
			Total Funded: \$99,500.00	

Transportation			Available funding: \$71,000.00	
Applicant	Program	Total Score	Requested Amount	Award
New Life Recovery Services	Support Assistance Transportation (SAT) Program	83.25	\$71,000.00	\$71,000.00
			Total Funded: \$71,000.00	

The board discussed whether funding should be awarded in the Income and Asset Building category as the total score for the applicant was lower than the unawarded applicants in the Physical Health category. Staff reviewed the application from Save First Financial with the board prior to voting taking place. The board will discuss changes to the RFA process at a future meeting.

Faye Salomone made a motion to approve CAP funding recommendations as presented which was seconded by Melanie Green. Motion approved with five members abstaining, eight members in favor, and one member opposed.

HCRS funding recommendations as scored by the CAAB are shown in the tables below.

Homeless Outreach			Available funding: \$ 874,105.00	
Applicant	Program	Total Score	Requested Amount	Award
Share	Homeless Outreach	95	\$ 824,105.00	\$ 824,105.00
Janus Youth Program	Homeless Outreach	90.67	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
Outsiders Inn	Homeless Outreach	85.33	\$ 282,624.00	\$ -
Council for the Homeless	Homeless Outreach	83	\$ 550,000.00	\$ -
Catholic Community Services of Western WA	Homeless Outreach	78	\$ 492,012.00	\$ -
			Total Funded: \$ 874,105.00	

Temporary Housing Supports			Available funding: \$ 571,764.00	
Applicant	Program	Total Score	Requested Amount	Award
YWCA Clark County	Transitional Housing	89.8	\$ 141,764.00	\$ 141,764.00
YWCA Clark County	DV Shelter Addition/Enhancement	88	\$ 180,000.00	\$ 180,000.00
Outsiders Inn	St. Pauls Men's Shelter	76.4	\$ 321,737.00	\$ 250,000.00
			Total Funded: \$ 571,764.00	

Rapid Re-housing			Available funding: \$ 588,415.00	
Applicant	Program	Total Score	Requested Amount	Award
Impact Northwest	Impact Northwest's Rapid Re-Housing	93.75	\$ 488,415.00	\$ 488,415.00
Janus Youth Programs	Nest	88.5	\$ 207,858.00	\$ 100,000.00
YWCA Clark County	Rapid Re-Housing for Survivors of Domestic Violence	87.75	\$ 200,000.00	
Share	Share's Rapid Re-housing Program	87.5	\$ 400,000.00	\$ -
Lifeline Connections	Lifeline Connections' Rapid Re-housing Program	66.75	\$ 150,000.00	\$ -
			Total Funded: \$ 588,415.00	

Permanent Supportive Housing			Available funding: \$ 931,863.00	
Applicant	Program	Total Score	Requested Amount	Award
Impact Northwest	PSH HUD	92.33	\$ 20,215.00	\$ 20,215.00
Impact Northwest	PSH	92	\$ 266,648.00	\$ 266,648.00
Share	PSH HUD	89.33	\$ 195,000.00	\$ 195,000.00
Share	PSH	88.67	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 450,000.00
			Total Funded: \$ 931,863.00	

EPRAP			Available funding: \$ 3,307,000.00	
Applicant	Program	Total Score	Requested Amount	Award
Native American Youth & Family Center	EPRAP	85.5	\$ 653,818.00	\$ 653,818.00
Share	EPRAP	85	\$ 850,000.00	\$ 850,000.00
Impact NW	EPRAP	81.5	\$ 786,082.00	\$ 786,082.00
Janus Youth Program	EPRAP	79.75	\$ 732,297.00	\$ 732,297.00
YWCA Clark County	EPRAP	78.5	\$ 565,000.00	\$ 284,803.00
Cascade AIDS Project SW WA	EPRAP	78.25	\$ 215,000.00	\$ -
Family Promise of Clark County	EPRAP	70.5	\$ 100,000.00	\$ -
Reach CDC	EPRAP	62.25	\$ 313,992.40	\$ -
Community Mediation Services	EPRAP	59	\$ 300,000.00	\$ -
Council for the Homeless	Targeted Prevention	58	\$ 315,000.00	\$ -
			Total Funded: \$ 3,307,000.00	

SOAR			Available funding: \$52,000	
Applicant	Program	Total Score	Requested Amount	Award
Sea Mar- CNSW	SOAR (SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery)	72.8	\$52,000	\$ 52,000.00
			Total Funded: \$ 52,000.00	

The board discussed funding recommendations and the updates made to funding based on updated budget estimates from Commerce.

A motion was made to approve the HCRS funding recommendations as presented by Megan Mulsoff and seconded by Faye Salomone. (8 for, no opposed, 6 abstained). Motion passes.

IV. RFA Reflection

This item was skipped and returned to later in the meeting.

V. Finance Reports

Revenue Report: The bulk of funding received for HCRS and CAP comes from the state (\$20 million). Funded categories were shared, with \$24,000,000 allocated to HCRS, \$771,000 allocated to CAP, and \$450,000 allocated to other programs.

Expenditure Report: Funding sources and amount expended from July-December 2024 were shared. EPRAP received the most funding. 37% of funding was spent to support shelter services, 25% spent for rent assistance- prevention, and 16% for rent assistance- rapid rehousing. Additional funding that was received during COVID has been fully spent.

VI. Task force Update

Legislative Advocacy Task Force:

The rent stabilization bill was passed with major amendments. A list of legislation that is relevant to the board will be sent to CAAB members.

Community Needs Assessment Task Force:

The task force is meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 11 a.m. Outreach strategies have been discussed, including how to receive answers from more diverse groups. The CNA survey is anticipated to launch in January 2026 and remain open until March 2026. Board member Perez and board secretary Roark asked to be added to the task force.

VII. City of Vancouver Affordable Housing and Homelessness Updates

The city's rental registration program is under development, with the program's code going to city council for approval by June 2025. The hope is to have all long-term rentals registered. The 2025 Affordable Housing Fund funding recommendations were discussed, and the chosen programs were outlined.

VIII. May is Community Action Month

Outreach and promotion for Community Action Month will be shared with CAAB members. The funding for these programs is under threat, so it is important to share their impact in the community.

IX. RFA Reflection

The board discussed what went well, what challenges were faced, and what could be improved in the RFA process. The board agreed that more detailed scoring instructions and meetings amongst scoring groups would be beneficial.

A system level refresh on HCRS programs will be provided by staff, breaking down staff and CAAB member roles.

X. Open Forum

Sarah Gongora-Garcia from Sea-Mar commented that agencies received direction from County staff to submit their application with a 20% reduction of funds in mind.

Ren Autrey from Outsider's Inn hopes a review of the RFA process is done and a funding cap is implemented so that large agencies are not allocated the majority of available funding.

Adam Kravitz from Outsider's Inn shared that as a former CAAB member, today's meeting was not inspiring. There is also concern that the RFA process puts new and smaller programs at a disadvantage.

XI. Other Business

- Next Equity Training 9-11 a.m., June 4th, CFCH and Webex
- Next Regular Meeting July 2nd, 9-11 a.m., CFCH and Webex

Meeting adjourned at 11 a.m.