



Whatcom County Housing Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date/Time/Location: August 14, 2008 - 9:04-10:23 AM – Whatcom County Health Department, 509 Girard Street, Bellingham

WCHAC Members Present: Regina Delahunt, Dave Finet, Michelle Hall, Rebecca Johnson, Nancy Larsen, Sue Parrott, Paul Schissler, Gary Williams

WCHAC Members Absent: Ronald Buchinski, David Cahill, Laura DeRose, John Harmon, Gary Tomsic

Whatcom County Health Depart Staff/Guests: Gail DeHoog, Health Department Housing Specialist; Vicki McClure, Health Department Clerk; Bill Henkel, Whatcom Homeless Service Center; Greg Winter, Whatcom Homeless Service Center; Steve Powers, AHA, Terry Hinz, Health Department

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action/Who
1. Review July 10, 2008 minutes.	The meeting was called to order at 9:04 AM. The July 10, 2008 minutes were approved unanimously as presented.	
2. Update on HGAP I & II Projects	<p>Homeless Service Center Update</p> <p>Bill Henkel presented Whatcom Homeless Service Center Update. Bill began by announcing that he is moving on to Skagit Community Action in Mt. Vernon, effective September 1, 2008 and that Greg Winter will assume Bill's position as WHSC Director. Bill will assist in the transition and will continue to serve on the WHSC Advisory Board as needed. Fifty-six clients have been served from 6/13 to date, with 22 housed. While challenges still exist, most especially for secondary and tertiary access to housing, Bill will work with Greg toward reaching the Center's goals. Effort is going into opening spaces through Whatcom Counseling and Psychiatric, and Opportunity Council may become the fifth sponsor for Shelter Plus Care. Reentry Coalition may either provide sponsorship or partner with another entity. The challenge is to find match; individuals need not be Medicaid eligible, but must have</p>	

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<p>2. Update on HGAP I & II Projects (con't)</p>	<p>mental health diagnosis. Sponsor must rely on case management to provide and track the match, monitor clients and situations, as case management contact is required at a frequency of more than once per month.</p> <p>Gail reported that the county is hoping to reissue the HGAP II RFP. No viable proposal was submitted the last round. CTED has allowed for a re-issue of the RFP and has granted a contract extension, and that the RFP should be submitted between August 22 and the end of the month. A redraft allows for more flexibility in the project design.</p> <p>A draft proposal for "HGAP III" was given to Gail and Bill while at the Balance of State Advisory Meeting. Looking at 80% of future unobligated HGAP funds for mental health client housing. Concern is that funding is tied to the state definition of mental health disorders. Program Assertive community Treatment (PACT) pays for treatment, but not housing. Funding to be considered has 50% match requirement. Draft appears to indicate that some HGAP funds are going to be available for renewal of successful existing projects.</p>	
<p>3 Budget Projections for 2008 and '09-'10</p>	<p>Terry Hinz provided graphs illustrating housing fund revenues, which indicate a downturn. 2060 fund discussed and handout explained, which shows fund balance, projected revenue and expenditures for 2008 through 2010. Plan would allow for funds to be spent down and leave a fund balance of approximately 2 months of average expenditure; but it is based on projections. 2163/1359 Funding discussed with revenue projections for 2008 through 2012. Concerns with current funding level regarding ability to fund HGAP I and II in 2011 and after. Due to existing project commitments, it is suggested that funding for new projects not be considered at this time. HGAP I contract with state is only a three-year commitment. County will need to do some aggressive fund development due to a possible decrease in availability of current funding sources. County is requiring the Health Department to look at contracts being funded through general funds. Shelter Plus Care administrative support is funded through the General Fund. Regina reports that she should have</p>	<p>ACTION: Motion: WCHAC supports and RFP to be issued for 2060 R&R funds for a total of \$105,000 for 2009. Yea 9; Nay 0; Absent 5; Abstain 0</p> <p>ACTION: Motion: WCHAC supports the expenditure of \$160,000 on 2060 O&M funds for 2009. (this will result in an RFP to be release of \$58,428 for 2009 and renewable to successful applicants for 2010.) Yea 9; Nay 0; Absent 5; Abstain 0</p>

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<p>3. Budget Projections for 2008 and '09-'10 (con't)</p>	<p>more information for the board's September meeting, after her budget meeting with the Executive's office. Motions put forth, discussed and seconded regarding issuing RFP for 2060 R&R funds and expenditure of 2060 O&M funds.</p> <p>The passage of the 1/10th of 1% sales tax goes into effect on January 1, 2009. County won't get funds until probably April 2009, and should be able to start contracting end of 2009. Late this year or early next year an advisory board will form to discuss how dollars are spent. Existing programs will not be considered for funding. Suggestion has been made that the Hargrove Advisory Board recommends funding evidence-based programs.</p>	
<p>4. Shelter Plus Care</p>	<p>See discussion under items 2 and 3. Dave discussed the need for increased administrative funds, and retaining a minimum balance in 2163/1359 funds due to possible excessive damage fees. Asks that Board establish protocol for "risk mitigation fund" as this issue will impact sponsors.</p>	<p>ACTION: Topic to be added to September agenda</p>
<p>5. Review of process & timeline for R&R RFP</p>	<p>Review of process discussed. RFPs to be released in August for O&M and R&R additional funding.</p>	
<p>6. WCHAC Committee Membership</p>	<p>Application of Steve Powers to join WCHAC discussed. Motion was made, seconded and approved to recommend Steve for appointment. Another vacancy, to be filled by a homeless or formerly homeless individual still available.</p>	<p>ACTION: Motion: To support Steve Powers' application to the WCHAC. Yea 9, Nay 0; Absent 5; Abstain 0</p> <p>ACTION: Gail to send notification to Executive's office in support of Steve Powers' application</p>
<p>7. HUD Samaritan Bonus Project</p>	<p>Steve Powers presented information on AHA's expansion plan, which includes construction of a 50-unit apartment building, of which 25 units will be for homeless individuals and/or families, and is consistent with Whatcom County's 10-year Plan to End Homelessness. Steve seeks a letter in support of their application to the WA State Housing Trust Fund. Gail to draft letter in support of AHA's application.</p>	<p>ACTION: Discuss application of homeless/formerly homeless applicant at September WCHAC meeting.</p> <p>ACTION: Motion: To draft a letter of support for Archdiocesan Housing Authority's application to the WA State</p>

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8. Other	<p>Rebecca reported that Interfaith has made application for a grant to fund a social worker position to help with housing. She will e-mail board members more information.</p> <p>Paul reported that an 80th home is now in trust through KCLT.</p> <p>Nancy reported that Skagit Housing has been approved for a third subdivision and the building of 17 homes.</p>	<p>Housing Trust Fund. Yea 9; Nay 0; Absent 5; Abstain 0</p>
Adjourn	The meeting was adjourned at 10:23 AM	
Next Meeting	<p>9:00-10:30 AM - 2nd Thurs. – September 11, 2008 Whatcom County Health Department Administrative Conference Room 509 Girard Street,</p>	