



MARION COUNTY JUSTICE REINVESTMENT COUNCIL



Meeting Minutes

Monday, July 26, 2021 – 1:00-2:00 p.m.
Via WebEx Video Conference

Attendees:

Council members (present)

Chair Jeff Wood, Undersheriff, Marion County Sheriff's Office
Vice-Chair Kevin Karvandi, Commander, Marion County Sheriff's Office, Community Corrections
Joe Kast, Sheriff, Marion County Sheriff's Office
Tamra Goettsch, Director, Marion County Community Services
Ann-Marie Bandfield, Program Manager, Marion County Health and Human Services
Kristy McIntosh, Interim Director, Salem Health – Care Management, Regulatory and Patient Safety
Alison Kelley, Chief Executive Officer, Liberty House
Skip Miller, Deputy Chief, Salem Police Department
Jimmy Jones, Executive Director, Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency
Sherry Bensema, EMS Coordinator, Lyons Rural Fire District
Kevin Cameron, Commissioner, Marion County Board of Commissioners
Erik Andersson, President, Strategic Economic Development Corporation (SEDCOR)

Quorum is present.

Council members (absent)

Paige Clarkson, District Attorney, Marion County District Attorney's Office
Tim Murphy, Executive Director, Bridgeway Recovery Services
Dick Withnell, Business Member
Jessica Howard, President, Chemeketa Community College

Others

Mike Aranda (Attending for Tim Murphy)
Shannon Wilson, Executive Director, Public Defender of Marion County
Allycia Weathers, Sr. Administrative Services Manager, Marion County Sheriff's Office
April Cox, Director of Reentry Services, De Muniz Resource Center
Martha Dodsworth, Salem/Yamhill County Branch Manager, Vocational Rehabilitation
Ashley Hamilton, mwvaa.org
Virginia Barreda, Public Safety and Courts Reporter, Statesman Journal

Peggy Lowery as recorder

Welcome and Introductions

- Undersheriff Wood called the meeting to order and introduced the attendees.

Minutes Approval

- Commander Karvandi made a motion to approve the minutes from April 26, 2021.



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- Skip Miller seconded the motion.
- Motion passed unanimously.

Presentation-

Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency – The ARCHES Project

Jimmy Jones and Ashley Hamilton presented this item.

- ARCHES is a robust homeless service provider for Marion and Polk counties.
- Four distinct areas of service:
 - Basic Needs
 - Day center (615 NE Commercial Street)
 - Opened July 2019.
 - Over 53,000 visits since opening.
 - Located closest to some of the highest density and most vulnerable unsheltered population.
 - Services available:
 - Meals (37,000 this past year);
 - Showers;
 - Laundry;
 - Client care specialty and resource navigation;
 - Mail boxes;
 - Bus passes;
 - Hygiene Kits;
 - Pet food; and,
 - Computer & telephone access.
 - Extreme Weather Response (FKA Salem Warming Network) operates under several conditions:
 - Air pollution due to wild fires;
 - Extreme frost;
 - Extreme heat;
 - Flooding; and,
 - COVID.
 - Three different service scopes:
 - Traditional emergency congregate shelter
 - Duration opportunities
 - Move cohorts of individuals who are medically fragile into a facility with a guaranteed bed for up to 30 days with availability of extension.
 - Hotel program
 - During the COVID emergency, operated a hotel program



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where most medically fragile individuals were moved into a non-congregate hotel setting.

- All three service scopes combined provided over 16,000 bed nights (more than the last three years combined).
- Outreach
 - Team goes out into the community and encampment locations and connects with individuals one on one.
 - They provide hygiene packs.
 - They provide tents and tarps.
 - They help connect people to services.
 - Team averages over 500 outreach opportunities per month.
 - During most recent extreme heat wave, crews had over 500 service engagements in one weekend.
 - Distributing over 1,100 pounds of ice.
 - Transporting individuals to cooling centers.
- Supportive Services
 - Removal of barriers to housing.
 - Help individuals obtain birth certificates.
 - Navigating resources through DHS.
 - Teach tenant education class (RENT).
 - Veteran Service Officer Program
 - Marion County Partnership
 - Helps veterans and family members of veterans access and maintain VA benefits.
 - Helped veterans receive over \$7,000,000 in unclaimed benefits.
- Coordinated Entry
 - Allows for the assessment or pathway to triage an individual's vulnerability.
 - Add individuals to a housing list and then prioritize service programs based on vulnerability.
 - Provides approximately 129 assessments per week.
 - Assessments for currently unsheltered or tenuously housed.
 - Assessments are able to collect a lot of data on the unsheltered population in our community, which helps build strategic programming and evidence based practices based on the data.
 - Over 1,200 households awaiting services.
- Housing
 - Help to get individuals into housing by working with landlords who they have strong working relationships with.
 - While housed they provide case management services as well as financial



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assistance for up to two years.

- During the 2019-2020 fiscal year, 804 households were served with 566 of them exiting to permanent housing solutions upon program completion.
- New Programs
 - TANNERS Project
 - Veteran transitional housing.
 - 36-bed facility.
 - Eligible to stay on site for up to 2 years.
 - Male and female veterans.
 - Redwood Crossing
 - Long-term housing with onsite support.
 - Case Management.
 - Health Services Navigation.
 - Mental Health Support.
 - Peer Support.
 - Hotel Program
 - Served at-risk individuals during the COVID emergency.
 - 24/7 staffing at 2 facilities supporting 119 rooms.
 - Support services included:
 - COVID vaccine clinics;
 - Food pantry;
 - Shuttle van;
 - OHP assistance; and,
 - Access to health supports and housing assistance.
 - ARCHES Inn (Old Super 8 Hotel)
 - Old Super 8 Hotel is going to be transitioned into shelter opportunity for the chronically homeless with a wildfire survivor preference.
 - 24/7 staff, including one live-in manager.
 - Wrap around services to permanent housing:
 - Navigation to housing;
 - Medical care;
 - Mental health and addiction treatment;
 - Obtain identification documents;
 - Access to economic development opportunities; and,
 - Skills development to manage Activities of Daily Living (ADL's).
 - Addition Projects
 - COVID Rent Relief Program
 - Community Capacity Building
 - Supporting shelter providers, outreach providers, and case



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management service providers.

- What's Next
 - Shelter expansion.
 - Continuing COVID Rent Relief Program.
 - Designing health and housing navigation systems.
 - Working with City of Salem on recent acquisition of navigation center.
 - Building out basic needs and outreach support systems.
- Questions/Discussions
 - Question: Do a lot of the individuals you serve have transportation issues?
 - Answer: There are significant transportation issues within this population, especially with individuals who have mobility issues and children. During the extreme heat event transportation played a big part on getting individuals to cooling centers.
 - Question: What do you recommend for what you are lacking? Is there a resource that is desperately needed?
 - Answers:
 - The stronger we can make the relationship between health care (physical, mental, substance abuse) and housing, the more successful the housing outcome on the back end of transitional opportunities will be. These services exist, but there is a need to tighten these relationships and service pathways so they can be provided directly on sight in order to mitigate access or transportation issues.
 - Timing to get services and resources to these individuals is critical. Federal and state funds have been lacking and not dedicated to the homeless population. 1,000 individuals are living outside in the Salem area. Long term goal is to get that number down to 300-400 individuals. We need to continue to develop opportunities like Redwood Crossing so we can help folks who are suffering from years of chronic long-term homelessness.
 - Ability to offer emergency shelter for wintering nights has increased by 16 times compared to four years ago, but still the need is great. Mortality rate increased over the past year, partly because availability to services this population depends on dramatically decreased during COVID.
 - Resources have moved away from housing to focus on shelters over the past two years. This is a long-term losing strategy. It is a warehousing mentality and does not end homelessness for anybody. Despite this pressure we have been able to expand housing opportunities.
 - Question: What are you doing to create low barrier options to access to housing?
 - Answer: The motel program, shelters and navigation center will be low barrier.



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- Will allow pets and partners.
- Do not require alcohol and drug compliance.

Marion County Reentry Initiative Memorandum of Understanding

Tamra Goettsch presented this item.

- This is an agreement that is signed with our partners for the Marion County Reentry Initiative (MCRI) and the Justice Reinvestment Council helps us look at the contract itself.
- Members should have individually received an exhibit A to the MOU which is basically a statement of commitment.
- Hearing no questions or concerns, Tamra Goettsch's team will continue to move forward with the MOU and follow up individually with each member.
- Please send any changes of your individual sheets to Krista Ulm or Tamra Goettsch and they will work to get it through the County's process so it becomes the operating document.
- The MOU is used when we go after grants. It talks about the collaboration and is proof in hand that we are all doing different rolls.
- The MOU helps us understand the roles and responsibilities each of us have.

Community Corrections Budget Update

Undersheriff Wood and Commander Karvandi presented this item.

- Legislature session has ended.
- Funding for Community Corrections for a lot of the programs came through.
- A couple of bills that had significant detrimental fiscal impact for Community Corrections programs did not pass.
- Community Corrections is in good shape and contracted programs will be proceeding.
- Justice Reinvestment funding came through fully funded as well.

Future Meetings

- Next meeting will be face to face with the option to join virtually.

The next scheduled meeting will be held Monday, October 25, 2021, at 1:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:01 p.m. by Undersheriff Wood.

Completed by: Peggy L. Lowery

Completed date: July 29, 2021

Attachments: MWVCAA - The ARCHES Project Presentation
Draft MCRI Memorandum of Understanding