

Housing Coalition Minutes

Tuesday, April 24th, 2018

9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

See PowerPoint presentation – reports and interactive link can be found at www.healthygh.org/directory/housing

Additional context for stories of success/barriers

- For many Housing Authority clients the deposit is the barrier to finding a unit to apply Section 8
- No rental history vs. bad rental history
 - No rental history is not indicator of risk
- If damages are directly related to documented disability reasonable accommodations can be requested
- For many social security (SSI) is the end goal of programs like HEN and ABD, but does not allow them to sustain private market housing
- Lack of budgeting/money management skills
- Housing Authority has difficulty serving individuals experiencing homelessness due to outreach model and long wait times

Agency updates

Housing Authority

- Currently providing subsidized housing to 741 households – over 1400 people in Grays Harbor
- Received financing through low income tax credits and other programs to preserve existing units to ensure they continue to be viable
- Project started in 2014 and construction on units will begin in June 2018
 - Day rehab only – no tenants displaced from units during construction
- 681 households are on the waiting list for subsidized projects
- 400 households on the waiting list for Section 8/Housing Choice vouchers

Coastal Community Action Program

- “The Homestead” project CCAP has been developing would provide 80+ units for HEN and Social Security payee clients
 - Submitted application for tax credits in 2017 and were 1st on the waiting list (not funded)
 - Submitted application for tax credits in 2018 and were 3rd on the waiting list (not funded)
- Former program manager Nora retired in February and Jason Hosenev is new program manager for housing

- CCAP is in process of rolling out “Foundational Community Services” or Medicaid Waiver services
 - For the first time in Washington State contracted agencies can bill Medicaid for supportive housing and supported employment services for qualified clients
 - Target population are clients with behavioral health disabilities who need additional support in housing and/or employment to be successful in recovery
 - CCAP has received 12-15 referrals, program is in early stages
 - Potential for informational forum on target population and referral process in the near future
- Coordinated Entry process for housing assessment and referral has been streamlined in recent months
 - No longer requires appointment – primarily walk in system with short wait times
 - Working to strengthen quality of referrals for clients
 - Housing resources are not able to meet the need of all who seek assistance