



Homes for All Leadership Group

“Providing innovative leadership toward ending homelessness”

Tuesday, May 8, 2018, 9:00 am

Meeting Notes

Welcome & Introductions

Commissioner Garrido opened the meeting and thanked everyone involved for their hard work on this important project. Attendees introduced themselves. No comments or changes were noted for the previous March 13th meeting materials or meeting notes.

Reports/Updates

i. Kitsap Housing and Homelessness Coalition

Kirsten Jewell provided a brief report on the Kitsap Housing and Homelessness Coalition’s current projects. The KHHC is working to update the Homeless Housing Plan. There is also work underway to prepare for National Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week which will occur November 11-17, 2018. In the previous several years there was a small march, the church interfaith network provided a Blessing of the Scarves, and elected officials made proclamations for Hunger and Homelessness Week. This year there are plans to expand for larger public awareness of hunger and homelessness in our community.

- *If you are interested in hosting an event or participating in Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week, please reach out to Sarah Van Cleve or Kirsten Jewell.*

ii. Low-Barrier Shelter

Monica Bernhard from Kitsap Mental Health Services noted that her agency is in the process of trying to identify a site for a 60-80 bed low-barrier shelter. This shelter would have 10 beds dedicated to respite care for people leaving hospitals and treatment centers. The plan is for KMHS to provide on-site behavioral health specialists, and a partnership with the Salvation Army to have access to their hygiene services. This proposal is going forward to the KMHS board. The next step will be to talk with the elected officials. She also anticipates writing grants over the summer to fund the project.

iii. Kitsap Connect

Robin O’Grady from Kitsap Connect provided a presentation about the program and outcomes. Kitsap Connect is an evidence-based, collaborative project in partnership with Kitsap Mental Health Services, the Housing Solutions Center, and Kitsap Public Health. The project focuses on providing intensive outreach and engagement to the highest utilizers of 911, emergency medical services, hospital emergency rooms, jail/corrections,

mental health providers, and substance use treatment providers. These providers identify high utilizers of their services and provide referrals to Kitsap Connect. The purpose of outreach and engagement is to get these clients engaged with appropriate services available in the community.

The program started in July 2016 and has assisted 49 clients since the beginning of the program. There are currently 16 active clients engaged in tailored care plans. Relevant partners work together to provide input to help shape a plan for each client. To be admitted to the program, clients are required to have five or more encounters with community partners within a nine-month period before engagement. Once enrolled this nine-month period prior to engagement is used to longitudinally compare the client's behaviors and costs to emergency and treatment services before and after engagement.

Client improvement is assessed with a measurement tool known as KBS, Knowledge, Behavior, and Status. These assessments are performed at intake and regularly throughout engagement. Tracked improvements include obtaining housing if the client is not housed, client has increased income, and/or has improved well-being in a medical condition. Based on the results from the assessments and charts, 85% of clients engaged for three months or longer have improved in these areas.

Many clients have been temporarily or permanently housed, and not all clients in the program are homeless. The Housing Solutions Center has helped to house 19 clients. Housing remains a challenge. Kitsap Connect is working with clients with multiple barriers to housing including income, employment history, and eviction histories. Clients do not have special access to county housing resources, but partners are able to help make sure that applications for housing are submitted and clients with higher vulnerability assessments are prioritized for housing services.

Please see the attached summary of the Kitsap Connect program for additional statistics and outcomes.

iv. Homeless Housing Plan Update

Kirsten Jewell announced that the draft of the Homeless Housing Plan has been released for public comment. This plan is the product of many people providing public input and the thoughtful work of the Update Committee. There was a Community Stakeholder and Provider Survey with 220 responses providing feedback. Clients staying in shelter were also surveyed to take into account their self-identified needs, feedback, and ideas. A Community Stakeholder Workshop was held for anyone interested in providing input.

This plan has looked at best practices and both local and national trends to inform the methods and goals of the plan. The plan includes an executive summary, a history of homelessness overall, and the progress made since the last plan was released in 2016. It includes a demographics summary for 2017 with the caveat that this is collected only from participants in services willing to share information about themselves, and does not

include information for participants unwilling to share their information or who have not accessed services.

One of the ways that data is collected is the annual Point-in-Time Count (PIT). This outreach and survey project helps to collect information over a 24-hour period from individuals who may not be accessing services in other ways. Information regarding the PIT count for 2018 was shared in a previous Homes for All meeting.

Since 2016 there has been a shift from providing shelter and housing services on a first-come first-served basis, to prioritizing individuals. All individuals applying for housing assistance at the Housing Solutions Center are given a vulnerability screening and individuals with greater vulnerabilities are prioritized for services. The 2018 plan builds on this work and addresses the ongoing goals of helping clients with high needs to stay permanently housed. It calls for 60-80 units of permanent supportive housing for individuals with high vulnerabilities and multiple barriers to housing. The plan also recognizes that the Salvation Army Winter Shelter has been critical, and has demonstrated that the need for low-barrier shelter is year-round. The plan calls for developing night-by-night low-barrier shelters distributed throughout the county. Other needs for beds include respite care shelter beds for individuals leaving medical institutions needing a place to recover.

It includes an Action Plan with high level goals, performance indicators of success, core strategies, and new action steps to meet the goals. The new action steps include implementation timelines and agencies committed to working on the action steps. Additional organizations are welcome to step forward to participate in any action steps in which they feel they are a fit or can contribute.

The Plan recognizes that the single largest driver of homelessness is the lack of affordable housing, however the scope of this plan is the response to the crisis of homelessness, It calls for the development of an Affordable Housing Task Force to develop a separate plan with specific strategies to promote development of affordable housing.

The Homeless Housing Plan is currently open through May 14th for public comment. There will be a public hearing on May 14th at the Commissioner's Chambers. Written public comment can be submitted in advance to Kirsten Jewell.

Discussions for Today

i. Physical Site: Update

The Port Orchard Church of Christ is considering hosting the Tiny House village. The county is providing information and guidance to the church leaders while they conduct their due diligence. The Department of Community Development has had discussions regarding development and the village management plan has been provided to the church. Commissioner Garrido is meeting with leaders on an as-needed basis. The church leaders have been on a site visit to the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in the Central District of Seattle which hosts a tiny house village. The church has asked for

one tiny house to be placed on their property, and Tim Blair has placed unit #2 on the site. Work is underway to create a diagram of the proposed village and the best site placement. The County has conducted preliminary site investigation to establish that the site has water, septic, power, and bus lines. Blueprints are being created for the cabin interiors and the construction trailers which will be repurposed for use as facilities for the village. One large trailer will house the kitchen and community center, the second will house the bathrooms and laundry facilities, and a third trailer will operate as a checkpoint and community services office. Through May the church is gathering information; in June the decision to host the village will go to a vote. After the vote a 30-day period of prayer and reflection will be observed. Following this period in July a go/no-go vote will be held.

Work also continues to find alternative and/or additional suitable sites.

ii. Human Services: Update

Doug Washburn from Kitsap County Human Services announced that the village management plan is ready to go. If the village is located in unincorporated Kitsap County on land that is donated or purchased then Housing Kitsap would become the property manager and leaseholder. If a church plans to operate the tiny house village then the church would become the manager and leaseholder. In either scenarios, the Kitsap Rescue Mission would assist with outreach to the surrounding neighborhoods about the proposed plan for the village.

Agency partners that will be screening and selecting the tenants of the village and providing case management services are prepared to start. Drug screening will be conducted by the Housing Solutions Center in the same fashion as their current programs. There is a zero tolerance policy for the use of meth or heroin.

iii. Communications Team

Members from the Communications Team were not present at the meeting, and a report on progress has not been provided. There is a great need to ensure that unified messaging is developed and disseminated. A new meeting convener and additional team members were solicited.

➤ *Tim Blair will convene the next meeting and Victoria Hilt, Gerald Harris, Tamara Ingwaldson, Tim Blair, Judy-Rae Karlsen, Connie Sayapin, and Monica Bernhard, will be joining the Communication Team.*

iv. New Idea: Using Existing Structures

Tom Pinkham discussed additional ideas for sheltering options utilizing existing structures such as strip malls, schools, or portables. Central Kitsap School District has double-wide, double-long portables used for additional classrooms on school property. These units sell for \$175,000 new, and cost about \$25,000 to move. Tom estimates that based on the space Salvation Army used for the Winter Shelter that approximately 18 people could be housed in each portable. CKSD first has to offer the portables to other school districts, if the portables are not acquired by another school district the district

then CKSD has the option to sell them publicly.

Commissioner Garrido asked to have a plan developed to determine the costs and steps needed to be able to purchase, refurbish the units, acquire land, and relocate the units.

Commitments and Closing Comments

Commissioner Garrido thanked the Salvation Army for hosting these meetings.

Summary of follow-up items:

- *If you are interested in participating in planning or hosting events during Hunger and Homelessness Week Nov 11th-17 please reach out to Sarah Van Cleve or Kirsten Jewell.*
- *Any organizations wanting to add their names to specific new action steps in the 2018 Homeless Housing Plan should contact Kirsten Jewell.*
- *Tim Blair will convene the next meeting and Victoria Hilt, Gerald Harris, Tamara Ingwaldson, Tim Blair, Judy-Rae Karlsen, Connie Sayapin, and Monica Bernhard, will be joining the Communication Team.*

Next Meetings: 9 a.m. at the Salvation Army

June 12

July 10

August 14

Meeting Participants

Commissioner Charlotte Garrido	Kitsap County
Mayor Becky Erickson	City of Poulsbo
Mayor Greg Wheeler	City of Bremerton
Angie Silva	Kitsap County Commissioner's Office
Bridget Callahan	Housing Solutions Center
Carollyn Zimmers	League of Women Voters
Connie Sayapin	League of Women Voters
Cory Derenburger	Kitsap County Human Services
Doug Washburn	Kitsap County Human Services
Dr. Susan Turner	Kitsap Public Health
Gerald Harris	Homeless Advocate
Janelle DeMatteo	Kitsap Community Resources
Jim Bolger	Kitsap County Department of Community Development
Judith Richerzhagen	Citizen
Judy Rae Karlsen	Citizen
Kim Siebens	Their Voice
Kirsten Jewell	Kitsap County Human Services
Lisa Kurek	Eagle's Wings
Lisa Nickel	Kitsap County Prosecuting Attorney's Office

Monica Bernhard	Kitsap Mental Health Services
Randy Spitzer	Citizen
Redge Campbell	Kaiser Permanente
Robin O'Grady	Kitsap Connect
Roland Arper	Port Orchard United Methodist Church/Project Share
Sally Jo Martine	West Sound for Social Justice
Tamara Ingwaldson	United Way of Kitsap County
Tim Blair	Project Share – Ekklesia Church
Tom Pinkham	Citizen
Victoria Hilt	Citizen

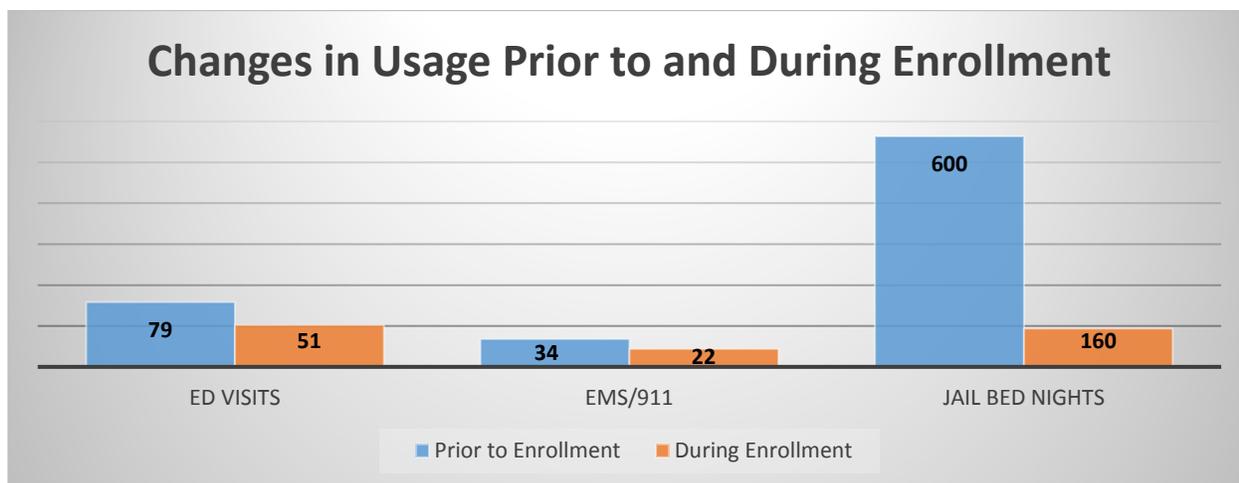
KITSAP CONNECT EVALUATION OF PROGRAM TO DATE

Kitsap Connect is a *collective impact* approach to helping the most vulnerable residents in our community (who experience or are at risk of chronic mental illness, chemical dependency, comorbid physical illnesses and housing instability/homelessness) effectively access the care they need. Using a multi-disciplinary, team-based intervention, the project aims to reduce the use of costly health, public, and social services by improving the well-being and stability of at-risk members in our community through the provision of intensive care coordination services.

The project is collaboratively designed and facilitated by Bremerton Housing Authority, Kitsap Community Resources, Kitsap Mental Health Services, and Kitsap Public Health. Other integral partners include the City of Bremerton and its Fire and Police Departments, CHI Franciscan/Harrison Medical Center, Peninsula Community Health Services, and Salvation Army, among many others. The project is funded by the 1/10th of 1% Mental Health, Chemical Dependency, and Therapeutic Courts fund and the City of Bremerton.

Forty-eight high-utilizer clients have been provided with Kitsap Connect services between 8/15/16 and 3/31/18. Fifteen clients are currently enrolled, engaged in Kitsap Connect services, and have tailored care plans. Between 1/1/17-3/31/18, encounters were calculated by comparing the number of days individual clients were in Kitsap Connect Services to the same length of time prior to engagement in Kitsap Connect services. Kitsap Connect clients that have engaged for 3 months or longer in services and have completed our program, have:

- Decreased overall ED encounters from 79 to 51 (cost savings of \$67,200 at avg. cost \$2,400)
- Decreased jail bed nights were reduced from 600 to 160 bed nights (cost savings of \$40,066 at avg. cost \$91.06 per night)
- Decreased EMS/911/Ambulance encounters from 34 to 22 (cost savings of \$9,600 at avg. cost \$800) for a total projected cost savings thus far of \$116,866.



Cost Savings Due to Enrollment 3 months or longer (n=25)



Knowledge, Behavior and Status (KBS) Scores are used to show improvements in the following domains; Abuse, Health Care Supervision, Medication Regimen, Mental Health, Substance Abuse, and Residence

Results indicate significant improvement in the areas of Knowledge, Behavior and Status; 85% of clients had an improved knowledge score (22 out of 26 clients), 77% of clients had an improved behavior score (20 out of 26 clients), and 88% of clients had an improved status score (23 out of 26 clients).

Knowledge Ratings



Behavior Ratings



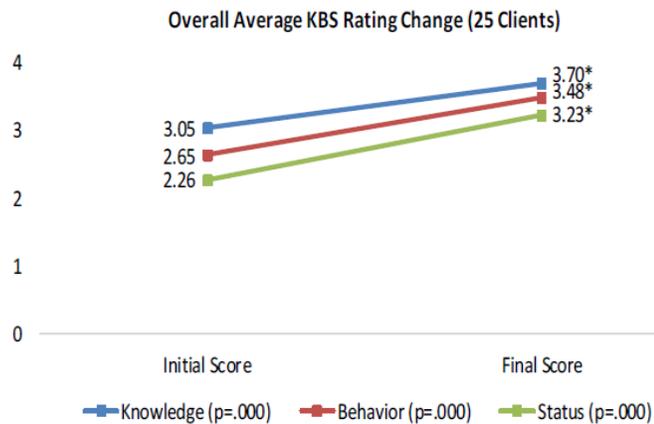
Status Ratings



Overall Group Improvement in Knowledge, Behavior, and Status:

3.) Overall Group Improvement [Figure 1]:

Overall as a group, clients made statistically significant improvement in their knowledge ($p=.000$) behavior ($p=.000$), and status ($p=.000$) scores.



$P < .05$ = statistically significant improvement

Next Steps:

- Research and secure longer-term sustainable funding resources
- Refine and expand data collection and analysis capacity
- Create closer care-coordination opportunities with community care providers
- Deepen collaboration with integrated medical and behavioral health services

*For more information, contact Robin O'Grady, Kitsap Connect Program Coordinator, at robin.ogrady@kitsappublichealth.org or call (360) 633-6632