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MID-WILLAMETTE HOMELESS INITIATIVE TASK FORCE
Strategic Planning: Preliminary Summary Document
November 7, 2016

Additional recommendations are being developed for future consideration in the following subcommittees.

- Transitional Housing/Shelters November 8 and November 28, noon-1:00 PM
- Public Safety November 9, 10:00-11:00 AM
- Support Services/Education November 9, 2:00-3:00 PM
- Focus Groups/Coalition Coordination November meeting to be scheduled
- Affordable Housing/Financial November meeting to be scheduled

RECOMMENDATIONS ALREADY APPROVED BY THE TASK FORCE	STRATEGIC CHALLENGES		
	Funding	Coordination	Advocacy
1. Prioritize runaway and homeless youth as our major focus: Work to identify gaps in services and resources needed to fill the gaps; and move forward with a grants conceptual group to expand homeless and runaway services in Marion/Polk counties. <i>Gaps identified. Grants team convened and exploring funding options. Cyndi Leinassar from Community Action Agency taking a lead role, as well as Stephen Goins from NW Human Services, and KendraSue Phillips-Neal from Jackson Street Youth Services in Corvallis. Grant deadline 11/30/16.</i>	X	X	
2. Endorse step one of the Marion County District Attorney’s Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) plan. <i>This is already being implemented by the Marion County District Attorney’s Office. Step 2 is being shaped by a LEAD workgroup.</i>		X	
3. In anticipation of the Oregon Health Authority’s Medicaid 1115 waiver renewal, the Health and Housing Subcommittee recommends that the Mid-Willamette Homeless Initiative Task Force endorses and supports Willamette Valley Community Health Coordinated Care Organization in taking the lead role in the pursuit of a regional Coordinated Health Partnership on contingency that the waiver is approved by the Center for Medicaid Services. <i>If approved, Coordinated Health Partnerships can begin July 2017.</i>			X
4. Develop a Landlord Assessment Tool for assisting high barrier clients in obtaining housing. <i>Health and Housing Subcommittee is willing to work on this.</i>		X	
5. Conduct surveys and focus groups of homeless youth and adults, and the general population to gauge community perceptions and attitudes about homelessness, and better understand the needs of local homeless. <i>Already being done. Results may drive implementation of recommendations.</i>		X	
6. Advocate for the development and implementation of a Multi-Jurisdictional Development Team through a collective Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for coordination of funding sources. <i>Governing body changes in 2017 (new city council members and Salem Mayor). Ongoing</i>			X

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<i>commitment needs to be long term.</i>			
RECOMMENDATIONS ALREADY APPROVED BY THE TASK FORCE	STRATEGIC CHALLENGES		
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7. Assist NEDCO, Maps Credit Union, and others in implementing site-based financial literacy training at selected community nonprofit organizations (UGM, Simonka House, St. Francis, etc.). <i>NEDCO (Neighborhood Economic Development Corporation) and Maps Credit Union have financial literacy programs ready to take to groups. It's a matter of coordinating the effort.</i>		X	
8. Assist the school districts within Marion and Polk Counties to offer effective and relevant financial literacy training in selected schools through proven curriculum materials and community trainers. <i>Maps Credit Union is willing to take training into middle and high schools. Maps had an agreement with 24J to take the Student Saver program into schools and is willing to reinstate that program.</i>		X	
9. Advocate for funding allocations across the state of Oregon from Oregon Housing and Community Services to reflect the poverty levels through American Community Survey (ACS) and Asset Limited Income Constrained Employed (ALICE) data in each area including homeowners and those currently without housing and to use current, local demographic information in the scoring process.			X
10. Advocate for reinstatement of the Federal Tax Credit for homebuyers for up to \$8,000 per household.			X
CONCEPTS PENDING TASK FORCE APPROVAL	STRATEGIC CHALLENGES		
	Funding	Coordination	Advocacy
1. Support Mountain West Investment Corporation's plans to develop 300-600 affordable housing units in 2018. <i>Conceptual</i>			X
2. Encourage a portion of all new housing to offer a priority to victims of domestic violence. <i>Conceptual</i>			X
3. Endorse Marion County's plans to develop a twenty-four bed reentry transitional housing unit. <i>Conceptual</i>			X
4. Endorse Westcare's plans to provide ten new veterans transitional housing beds in Salem this year, with an additional 10-20 over the course of the next year. <i>Conceptual</i>			X
5. Support population-specific projects for victims of domestic violence: emergency and transitional housing. <i>Conceptual</i>			X
6. Endorse UGM's plan to provide 300 new shelter beds for men without children. <i>Conceptual</i>			X
7. Support the Housing Authorities to prioritize housing vouchers for survivors of domestic violence. <i>Conceptual</i>			X

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8. Develop an inventory of vacant buildings to determine if repurposing properties into shelters, transitional housing, or supported housing facilities is viable. <i>Conceptual</i>		X	
9. Create a Memorandum of Understanding among regional entities to constitute a Development Team to provide coordinated, inclusive, and transparent management of the region's approach to emergency housing and related services, as well as affordable housing. The Development Team will: a. Seek to maximize HMIS participation, so as to appropriately represent the degree of community coordination in future cooperative applications. b. Prioritize, plan, and pursue available grants (federal, state, private) for future projects. c. Analyze the advisability of allowing, supporting, or facilitating some form of temporary, support-coordinated camping. d. Inventory vacant, derelict or other suitable sites for potential re-purposing as support-coordinated emergency housing. Such sites may include houses, motels, apartments, or closed schools. <i>Conceptual</i>		X	
10. Support the City of Salem's plan to develop a work program for people experiencing homelessness, similar to a program in Albuquerque, NM. <i>Conceptual</i>		X	
11. Implement step 2 of the Marion County District Attorney's Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) plan. <i>LEAD work group has formed.</i>	X	X	
12. Support City of Salem's strategy to address panhandling. See Salt Lake City's Homeless Outreach website <i>Conceptual</i>	X		
13. Expand HOME Youth and Resource Center. <i>Conceptual</i>	X		
14. Support expansion of the Dream Center in West Salem, and advocate for other communities to adopt the center's mode, to expand services throughout Salem. <i>Conceptual</i>			X
15. Promote collaboration among local service providers and Worksource Oregon to maximize workforce development by: a. Increasing communication among service providers, and providing organizational training, to help case workers prepare their clients for referrals to Worksource Oregon, by providing for their basic needs; and b. Referring clients to Worksource Oregon for job skills training, employment workshops, educational opportunities, and job placement. <i>Approved by Support Services/Education subcommittee. Needs Task Force approval.</i>		X	

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16. Boost relationships between Salem Keizer Transit and service providers/agencies by endorsing and supporting the travel training program designed to educate community members and providers on available transit services that connect the community. <i>Approved by Support Services/Education subcommittee. Consider updating to include support for CARTS service in the Santiam Canyon.</i>			X
17. Initiate a conversation with 24J to; advocate for amendments to the ten day absenteeism policy to accommodate homeless students; promote more school-based work skills development programs; provide tutoring/mentorship for students in the gap between mainstream and alternative school; and provide professional development opportunities for educators and staff dealing with homeless and high risk populations. <i>Conceptual.</i>			X
18. Explore Community Data Link (CDL) as a regional tool for improving service coordination. <i>Approved by the Support Services/Education Subcommittee. Already used by Salem-Keizer School District, Marion County Reentry Initiative, and UGM Restoration House. Twelve local service providers also subscribe to CDL.</i>	X	X	
19. Explore and adopt a comprehensive statewide resource network. <i>Approved by the Support Services/Education subcommittee. Currently exploring for Marion County. Polk County has developed its own database.</i>	X	X	
20. Promote widespread usage of Homeless Management Inventory Service by service providers to maximize collaboration among organizations and better serve clients. The Rural Continuum of Care may have opportunities for incentivizing organizational participation. <i>Conceptual.</i>	X	X	