Grays Harbor Housing Coalition

January 22, 2019

Agenda

- 2019 Housing Plan Update
- Updates
- Data snapshot July – December 2018

2019 Housing Plan Update

Goals of Meeting:

- Provide orientation about what is required as part of the plan update *(2019-2024 Grays Harbor Plan to Address Homelessness)*
- Where can the community provide input on the 2019 plan update?
- Ask this group to share their priorities in more flexible areas (i.e. "vote" on strategies they feel are most important to address homelessness in Grays Harbor)

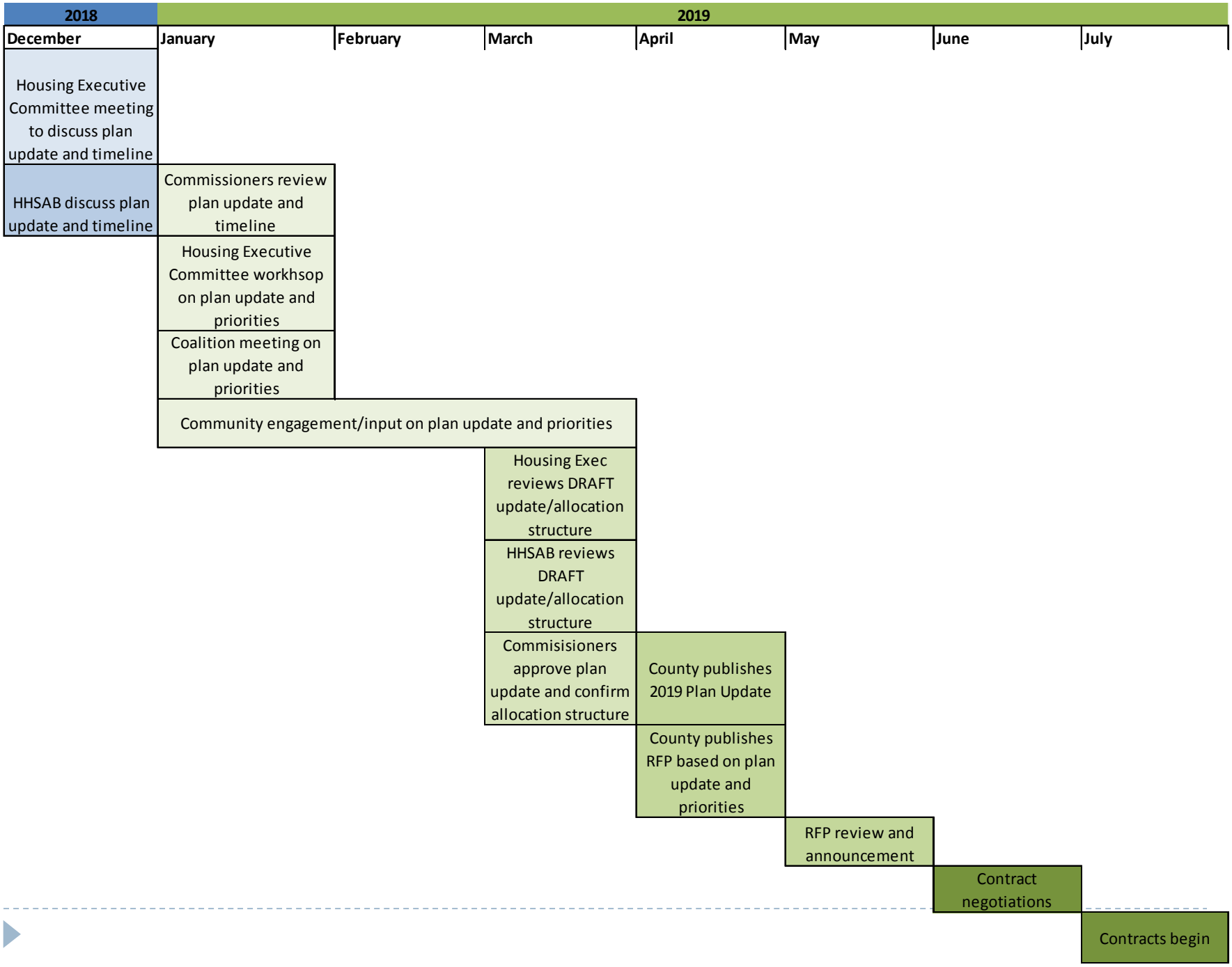
County Housing Plan Update

- GHC Current plan published early 2016
- Legislation in 2018 required the State to publish guidance on required elements to local plans
  - Commerce published final draft of guidance November 30
- New Plan must cover 2019-2024
- Local plans are required to describe actions that will be taken to meet objectives
  - Must include responsible parties, timelines, at least one milestone completed prior to 2022, and description of how success will be measured

4 required goals/objectives:

- Quickly identify and engage people experiencing homelessness √
- Prioritization of homeless housing for people with the highest needs √
- Effective and efficient homeless crisis response housing and services √
- Projection of the impact of the fully implemented plan on number of households housed and number still left unsheltered

- **Per RCW** local funds **MUST** be invested in strategies/activities that directly accomplish the goals laid out in the local plan


2018
2019
December
January
February
March
April
May
June
July
Housing Executive Committee meeting to discuss plan update and timeline
HHSAB discuss plan update and timeline
Commissioners review plan update and timeline
Housing Executive Committee workhsop on plan update and priorities
Coalition meeting on plan update and priorities
Community engagement/input on plan update and priorities
Housing Exec reviews DRAFT update/allocation structure
HHSAB reviews DRAFT update/allocation structure
Commisisioners approve plan update and confirm allocation structure
County publishes 2019 Plan Update
County publishes RFP based on plan update and priorities
RFP review and announcement
Contract negotiations
Contracts begin

Grays Harbor 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness Priorities

Read the complete plan at: www.healthygh.org/directory/housing

Fully develop Coordinated Entry system

- **System Goals:** Maximum efficiency of available resources
- **Client Goals:** The right assistance at the right time

Maintain and Expand Affordable Housing Resources

Invest in Housing for Vulnerable Populations

- Domestic Violence Survivors
- Youth and Young Adults (18-25)
- Veterans and their families
- Expand Emergency Housing options
- Individuals with Behavioral Health challenges

Build Capacity of Housing System

- Training and Technical Assistance in Evidence Based Practices
- Create and utilize mechanisms to evaluate system performance

Increase Community Awareness and Discussion

- Report progress towards goals and incorporate community feedback
- Share and incorporate information from all areas of the County

What must be included in the 2019 update?

Housing Plan Must Haves

	Source
Goal 1: Develop and Refine a robust Coordinated Entry system to assess, prioritize, and refer those in need	
Quickly identify and engage people experiencing homelessness	Local Plan Guidance Obj. 1
Invest in robust Coordinated Entry system with sufficient FTE, tools, and training	State Contract/CHG Guidelines
Update Coordinated Entry Policies and Procedures in response to HUD Guidance	Local Plan Guidance Measure 1
Create formal training program for CE and community stakeholder staff to create uniform understanding and system	State Contract/CHG Guidelines
Create formal community outreach calendar and strategy with CE staff to ensure community partner education, awareness, and input	State Contract/CHG Guidelines
Goal 2: Maintain and Expand Affordable Housing	
Invest in Landlord Liaison position to connect more high barrier clients to affordable housing	RCW
Goal 3: Invest in Housing for Vulnerable Populations	
Prioritize existing resources based on highest needs	Local Plan Guidance Obj. 2
Develop policies procedures to prioritize available resources based on highest needs	Local Plan Guidance Measure 2
Implement new legislation intended to close loop hole and expand eligibility for HEN funds to ABD clients	State Contract/CHG Guidelines
Goal 4: Increase Capacity of System to Address Homelessness	
Develop robust training tracks for County and subcontractor staff on Evidence Based Practices in delivering housing services	State Contract/CHG Guidelines
Identify and offer trauma-informed care training on a regular basis for providers	State Contract/CHG Guidelines
Identify and offer CHG and Commerce related training on a regular basis for providers	State Contract/CHG Guidelines
Identify and offer HMIS training on a regular basis for providers	State Contract/CHG Guidelines
Report and track system performance measures	Local plan guidance Obj. 3
Provide access to training on best practices	State Contract/CHG Guidelines
Goal 5: Increase community awareness and discussion	
Develop annual unmet need estimate from counts, and match with reported costs data to derive an estimate of the costs and intervention types needed to house all people living unsheltered	Local plan guidance Obj. 4
Administer Point-in Time Count of people experiencing homelessness. Collect and report results.	RCW
Develop robust coordinated entry data to supplement Point in Time	State Contract/CHG Guidelines

Where can the community provide input on the 2019 plan update?

- Who/how are they prioritized?
  - Policy
  - "Menu" items – i.e. program types and target populations
- Maintain and expand affordable housing
  - We won't discuss this in-depth today – stay tuned!
  - Affordable Housing funds vs. Homeless housing funds

Key Local Homeless Housing Plan and Investment Values:

- **County seeks to support homeless crisis response systems that efficiently reduce the number of people living outside, *and that when scaled appropriately can house all unsheltered people***
- Investments are sustainable – *annual spending ≤ annual revenue*
- Fund of last resort – *use all other resources before tapping local funds*
- Whenever possible leverage existing funding sources to increase likelihood of positive outcome
- Investments clearly align with community-driven Plan
- Investments are data driven with high return on investment
  - *Look at long-term and big picture impact beyond immediate result – generational and community-wide impact are important factors*
- Identify gaps to focus investments that augment (don't duplicate) existing system
- State-required performance metrics measure our ability to prioritize unsheltered clients, increase exits to permanent housing, and decrease returns to homelessness

County seeks to support homeless crisis response systems that efficiently reduce the number of people living outside, ***and that when scaled appropriately can house all unsheltered people***

Grays Harbor Homeless System Performance

August 2018

Between July 2017 - June 2018,

453

homeless households sought housing services in Grays Harbor.

Of that total,

73% were single adults;

26% were families;

and

113 were enrolled in Rapid Rehousing.

Together, we are working to make homelessness in Grays Harbor:

rare,

Households	2017-18	2016-17
Total assessed	453	564
Single adults	*73%*	*59%*
Families	*26%*	*41%*
Total enrolled	**113**	**158**
Unmet need	**340**	**406**

brief,

Length of time household was homeless
2017-18: 54 days
2016-17: 59 days

and one-time.

Moved into permanent housing
2017-18: 75%
2016-17: 67%

Increased or maintained income
2017-18: 59%
2016-17: 69%

Our partners provide a variety of housing services to our community.

Emergency shelters provide temporary housing to alleviate the immediate crisis of homlessness.

	2017-18	2016-17
Households served	**98**	102
Shelter utilization	**59%**	51%

Homelessness Prevention includes financial assistance and/or case management to prevent a household from imminent homelessness.

	2017-18	2016-17
Households served	**140**	152
Rental vacancy	**2.5%**	3.8%

Rapid Rehousing quickly stabilizes households that are actively experiencing homelessness with financial assistance and short-term, intensive case management.

	2017-18	2016-17
Households served	**219**	269
Unsheltered	**59%**	51%

Factors contributing to homelessness

- Tenants need access to sustainable income to pay rent
  - Jobs
  - Benefits (SSI, TANF, etc.)
- Low barrier programs and units are critical to ending homelessness
  - Behavioral Health
  - Pets
  - Criminal/eviction history
  - Lack of income
  - Physical disabilities
- Individualized and long-term supports are needed to obtain and maintain housing for many
- Need all steps of continuum from emergency shelter to help now – all the way to permanent housing and supports
- Not enough affordable housing for low-income clients

Homeless Housing Glossary - Basics

- **Intervention Type:** Categories of programs/services designed to resolve the client's homelessness or housing instability
- **Literally Homeless:** person/household who is actively experiencing homelessness i.e. sleeping outside, a car, emergency shelter, place not meant for human habitation, or actively fleeing Domestic Violence
- **At Risk of Homelessness:** low income person/household who will imminently lose their current accommodations and no other alternatives can be identified i.e. couch surfing, staying in a motel paid for by client, will be exiting a system of care with no housing plan, been issued an eviction notice with timeline

Homeless Housing Glossary – Intervention types

- **Homelessness Prevention:** short-term housing relocation and/or stabilization services – and/or temporary rental assistance necessary to prevent an individual or family from becoming literally homeless
- **Diversion:** help identifying immediate alternate housing arrangements, and if necessary connecting them with services and financial assistance to help them return to permanent housing
- **Emergency Shelter:** facility-based or other crisis housing alternatives for individuals/families (i.e. motel vouchers) to prevent them from becoming unsheltered (typically 90 days or less)
- **Rapid Rehousing:** Program aimed to quickly connect people who are literally homeless to a home and providing short-term rental assistance and case management to achieve stabilization
- **Permanent Supportive Housing:** Permanent (or very long-term) program that combines low-barrier affordable housing, health care, and supportive services to help the most vulnerable residents

Prioritize intervention types

Intervention Types to Address Homelessness	
Homelessness Prevention/Diversion	
Emergency Shelter	
Rapid Rehousing	
Permanent Supportive Housing	

Homeless Housing Glossary - Populations

- **Youth:** Under 18
- **Young Adults:** 18-24
- **Veterans:** Individuals/families who have served in the military
- **Adults:** Individuals or households over 24
- **Families with Children:** Families with at least one adult and one child (under 18)
- **Low Barrier:** Harm-reduction philosophy to maximize access – i.e. does not require sobriety and/or participation in supportive services, allows pets/couples to stay together, etc.
- **Individuals/families fleeing Domestic Violence:** clients who are fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, have no other residence, and lack resources or support networks
- **Therapeutic Court/Justice involved:** Individuals enrolled in drug court, diversion, or community court programs and/or clients preparing to discharge from incarceration

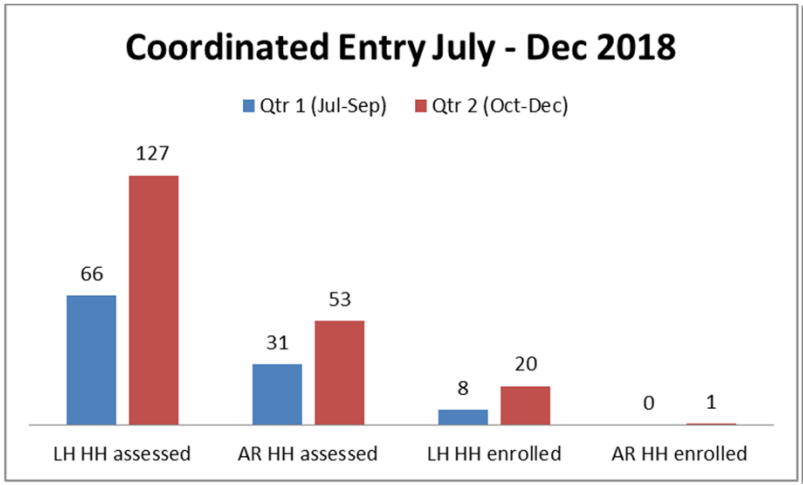
Intervention Types to Address Homelessness by Population	
Homelessness Prevention/Diversion	
Youth (Under 18)	
Young Adults (18-24)	
Veterans	
Adults (24+)	
Families with Children	
Emergency Shelter	
Youth (Under 18)	
Young Adults (18-24)	
Veterans	
Adults (24+)	
Families with Children	
Low barrier	
Individuals/families fleeing Domestic Violence	
Rapid Rehousing	
Young Adults (18-24)	
Veterans	
Adults (24+)	
Families with Children	
Therapeutic Court/Justice involved	
Individuals/families fleeing Domestic Violence	
Permanent Supportive Housing	
Young Adults (18-24)	
Veterans	
Adults (24+)	
Families with Children	

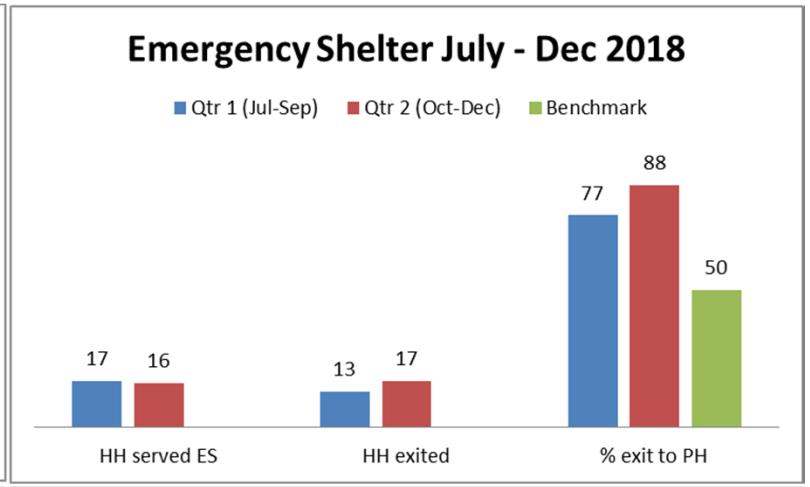
Update- housing funding

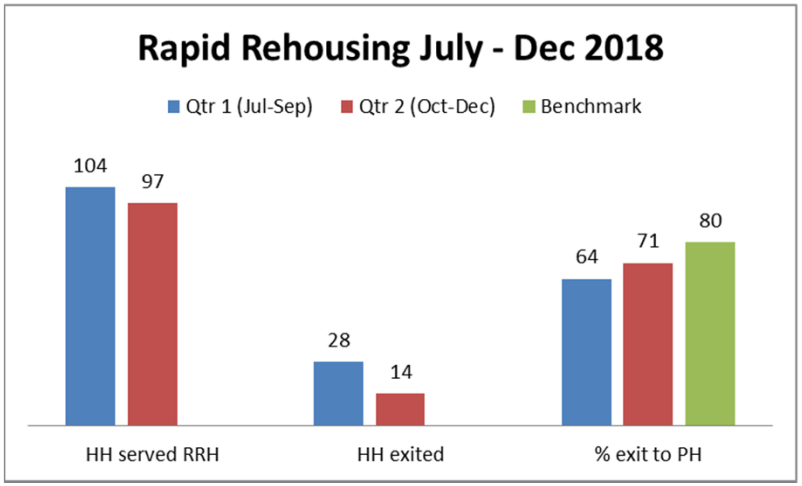
Funding Source	Target Population	Additional Households Served/year*
Local Doc Fees/HH RFP	Literally Homeless Families	25
Local Doc Fees/HH RFP	Literally Homeless Young Adults	7
Local Doc Fees/ HH RFP	Behavioral Health/Therapeutic Court clients	15
Pooled Benevolence Fund	Prevention/Diversion	12
Criminal Justice Treatment Account	Drug Court clients	10
Department of Commerce	FCS Supportive Housing clients	30
McKinney Vento/HUD	Chronically Homeless	16
HUD Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project	Youth and Young Adults	10
HUD Family Reunification Vouchers	Families and youth exiting foster care who are homeless	25
TOTAL		**125**

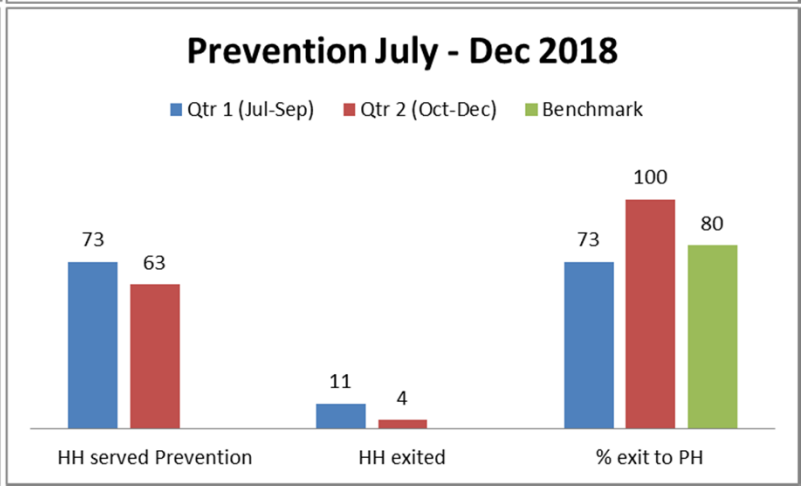
Other Updates

- Homeless Youth Shelter Request for Qualifications
- Affordable Housing Inventory – Hoquiam
- Point in Time/Project Connect
- Other agency updates









Glossary:

- LH: Literally Homeless
- AR: At Risk of Homelessness
- HH: Households
- PH: Permanent Housing

What does this tell us:

- Need > Resources
- System is serving many people experiencing homelessness now
- Grays Harbor's system performance has been recognized as one of the top four of rural/suburban Counties in Washington

**Note data is for County-funded programs only*