

Cold Weather Shooter Debrief and Discussion

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16



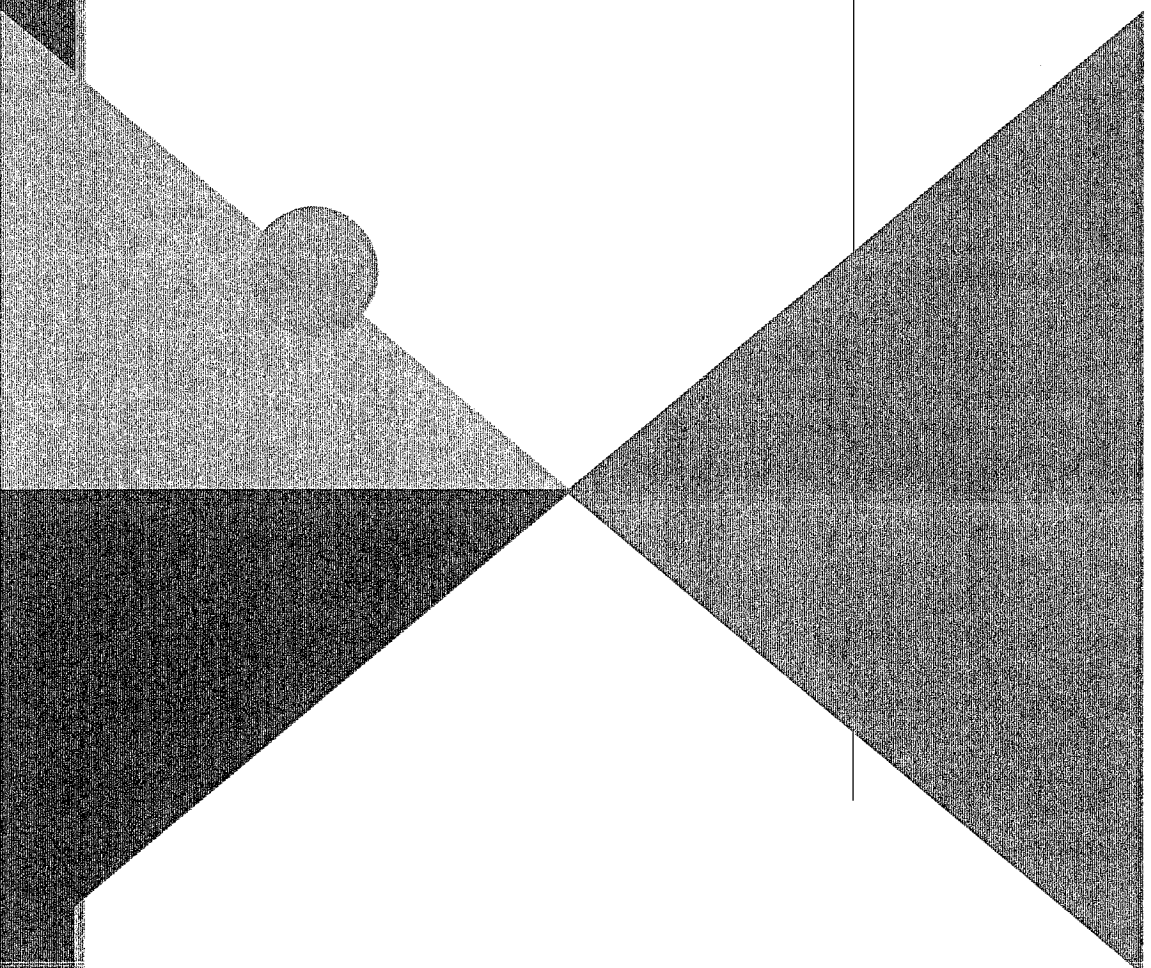
AGENDA

2022-23 Data

Stakeholder feedback

2023-24 Shelter Discussion

Housing Task Force

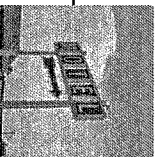


Reminder: Shelter services 2022-23



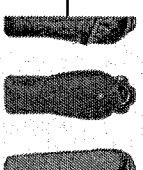
COLD WEATHER SHELTER: CHAPLAINS ON THE HARBOR WESTPORT

- Numbers of unduplicated clients for 2022-23: **136**
 - 2021-22: 82 unduplicated clients.
- From the 136 unduplicated clients:
 - **43** were entered into Coordinated Entry system
 - **6** were moved into housing



HOTEL/MOTEL VOUCHER: CCAP

- Overall - 86 Households
- Monthly average - 25 Households
- Currently we are serving approximately 5-7 households monthly outside of cold weather season



SURVIVAL ITEMS: CCAP

- A total of \$30,000 was utilized to distribute Survival Items to literally homeless, unsheltered individuals during seasonal cold weather period. Items include tarps, tents, sleeping bags, and other necessary items to support low-income, literally homeless and unsheltered community members

2022-23 Shelter Data

- **Information provided by the Police Department of Westport:**

During last CWS season the agency did not have an increase in crime stats with regards to any activity at the shelter. The agency saw an increase of persons within the city who were in need of services that City of Westport does not have. With the limited number of persons that can get into the shelter the overflow of persons that showed up in the city caused some alarm for citizens, however as an agency they did not see a “spike” in crime by no means.

- **How many clients utilized the shelter services in Westport during the cold weather shelter season that were not from the City of Westport but from other areas?**

According to reports extracted from last shelter season, a total of 136 unduplicated participants utilized services, 22 self-identified as being Westport residents, 114 self-identified as from out of the Westport area

- **Aberdeen and surrounds:**

We also would like to recognize The Moore Wright Group leadership and staff for their efforts trying to stand up a family shelter project, especially when dealing with the primary barriers faced, such as time taken to coordinate code and fire approval procedures, as well as HMIS training and updated policies and procedures efforts. We also would like to extend our thanks to Chaplains on the Harbor for their efforts to find a suitable location and willingness to provide services in Aberdeen/Central Grays Harbor.

The process of getting ready and implementing shelter programs can be time consuming and it involves the coordination of many elements and agencies

Stakeholder Feedback

CITY OF
ABERDEEN

RUTH CLEMENS
City Administrator

CHAPLAINS
ON THE
HARBOR

BARBRA WEZA / CHRIS OLIVE
Executive Director and
Ass. Director

CITY OF
ABERDEEN

DALE GREEN
Chief of Police Dept.

CITY OF
WESTPORT

KEVIN GOODRICH
City Administrator

CITY OF
ABERDEEN

DAVE GOLDING
Chief of Fire Dept.

CITY OF
WESTPORT

NATE SAUNDERS
Chief of Police Dept.

CITY OF
ABERDEEN

SIMON & SANDRA ROWE
Former homeless, current
caregiver and peer counselor

CITY OF
WESTPORT

MELISSA HUERTA
City Council Member

Stakeholder Feedback Themes

What went well

- Interaction with clients was very fruitful and facilitated exits to programs and resources available
- Shelter staff willingness to be flexible, especially when shelter hours needed to be modified, was incredibly appreciated by shelter leadership
- One of the clients shared that she was extremely grateful for the shelter as she had only taken *a few showers* in the past year
- Phones and tablets were provided to clients, which facilitates their connection to services and resources
- COH was able to provide special meals, sleeping bags, towels, and clothing supplies to clients in need
- 2 people overdosed but trained staff had medication available to save these two lives
- Chaplains on the Harbor Westport Shelter ended their services for this season by hosting a Resource Fair in partnership with several local agencies, including CCAP

How to best involve partners

- Collect input from stakeholders to build consensus utilizing tools such as individual and group interviews and The Think Tank Committee
- Agencies involved in this program have agreed to put together an educational session to the community before shelter opening
- Incorporating code enforcement and fire marshal communication and collaboration prior to service start

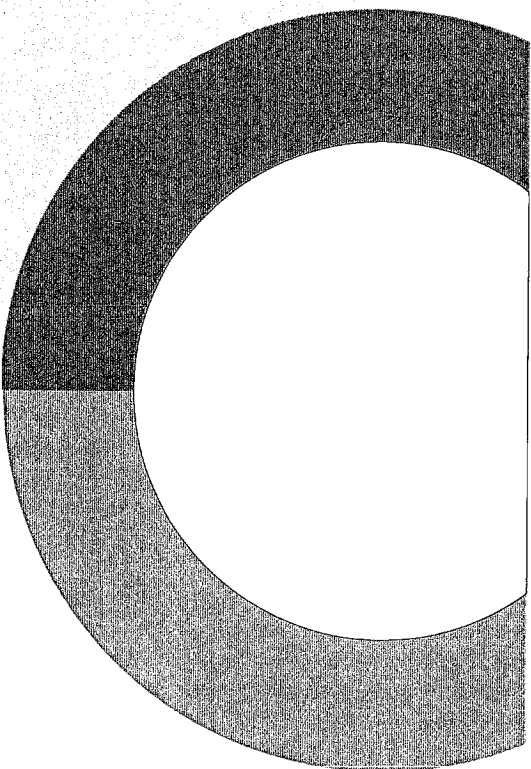
Stakeholder Feedback Themes

Considerations

- A consensus among all interviewees, agencies and leaders is the benefits of a PERMANENT shelter
- Considering having a hotline for a ride and access service for clients(Police Dept. involvement)
- Several shelter sites in different cities to spread and fulfill the need
 - Scattered site vs. centralized models

What could be improved

- Work with Grays Harbor Transit and/or partners to create a transportation pathway for clients
- Provide educational sessions, what could also help with some community members proactive education and engagement
- Create a long-standing project team with deliverables as well feasible and effective targets/goals
- Increase security and sanitation facilities
- Interest in more intentional and comprehensive on-site services at shelter programs



Looking forward

2023-24 SHELTER SEASON



WHERE

- A key and priority element of future shelter programming is location
 - Several conditions need to be met before approving a shelter site(s) that involve cross-jurisdictional and departmental communication and collaboration
 - The proposed site needs to be identified, approved by fire marshal, by code enforcement, and determining a review/approval process with relevant municipalities
- Options for siting:
 1. County purchases or leases the particular site(s) for shelter services
 2. County identifies set of objective and established criteria for site(s) for shelter services – could include zoning, fire marshal, municipal recommendations, vicinity to transportation, vicinity to schools, neighborhood buy-in etc.
 - a. Request list of sites that meet criteria for review prior to RFP release or include in RFP for provider consideration
 3. County releases Request for Proposals seeking service providers to propose site(s) with various options for reactive review/approval of selected site(s)

Available Funding

Funding availability		
	Not In contract	In Contract
Unallocated document recording fee annual revenue	\$370,000*	
Emergency Housing Fund (EHF) for shelter previously supported by COVID funds	\$160,000	
Day Shelter/Street Outreach for Increase on Mental Health – Chaplains on the Harbor (ESG)		\$266,000
Hotel Motel Voucher Program – CCAP(CHG/EHF)		\$285,000

- Other considerations/potential investments with document recording fees:
 - Therapeutic Court housing
 - Youth Shelter budget shortfalls
 - Other housing programs

**Projected for 2023: 2023 is on track for 27% decrease in revenue from 2022 and even larger % decrease from 2021 prior*

- Housing Trust Fund application is currently open for **capital funding** that could include acquisition, rehabilitation, and/or construction for homeless shelters – up to \$5 Million per project. Application is due September 18. *Eligible projects must be under site control of applicant at time of application.*

Options for Moving Forward



NO SHELTER

- - Community issues
- - Health conditions
- - Sleep deprivation
- - Mental illness
- - Impact on emergency services
- - Limitations on City ordinances/law enforcement



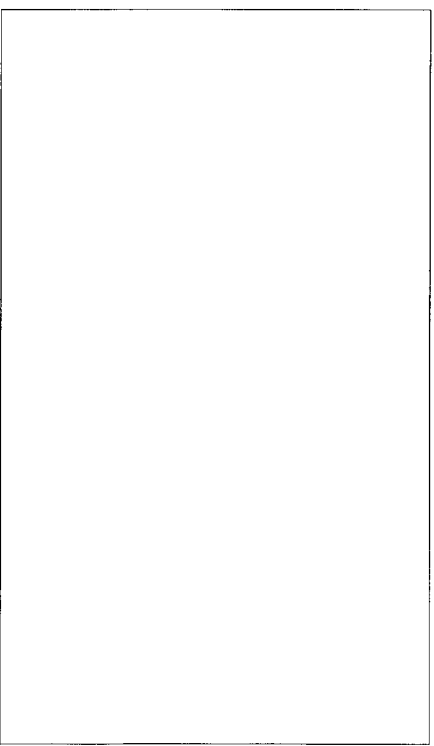
SEASONAL COLD WEATHER SHELTER

- It provides security, a safe and warm place as well protection from the weather
- Prevents health problems and reduces impact on emergency services

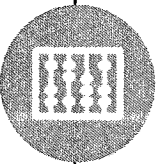


PERMANENT SHELTER

- Provide a transitional place for folks to sleep/stay
- Reduces impact on emergency services
- Provides platform to connect with needed services

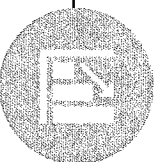


HOW WE GET THERE



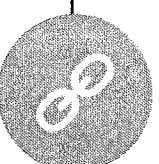
SITE(S)

- Centralized vs. scattered site
- Continuum of options for siting from County control/designation to criteria to open-ended for service providers



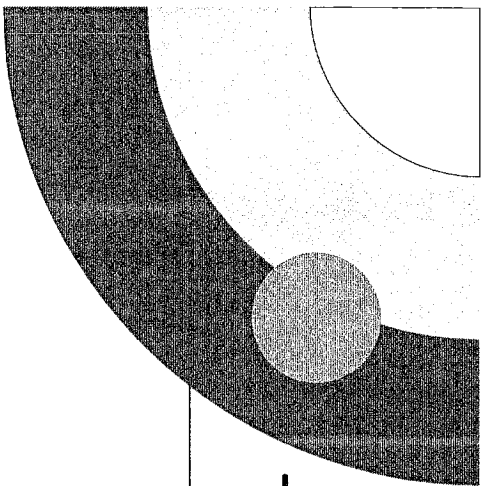
FUNDING

- Document Recording Fees
- State funds for specific programs like hotel/motel vouchers
- Supportive services including insurance billing, block grants etc.



PROVIDER(S)

- CCAP will continue to provide/operate hotel/motel vouchers
- Shelter provider (if applicable) to be determined via RFP process



TIMELINE

AUG 2023

OCT 2023

NOV 2023

- Collect input from stakeholders to build consensus
- BOCC Workshop presentation
- Siting discussions and decision-making (if applicable) RFP drafting and approval
- RFP process and proposals due
- Site identification and approval
- Recommendations to BOCC
- Agency/agencies contract process
- Services start

Housing Task Force

RCW Requirement:

Per RCW 43.185C.160

Each county shall create a homeless housing task force to develop a five-year homeless housing plan addressing short-term and long-term housing for homeless persons.

Per RCW 36.22.178

"County affordable housing task force" means a county committee, as described in section 6 of this act, created to prepare and recommend to its county legislative authority a county affordable housing for all plan, and also to recommend expenditures of the funds from the affordable housing for all program surcharge in RCW 36.22.178 (as recodified by this act) and all other sources directed to the county's affordable housing for all program.

Proposed structure

Set up similar to recent expanded Board of Health where Public Health/BOCC identify required/recommended sector representation and open nomination/application process. Public Health review applications and bring to BOCC for appointment. Public Health staffs task force meetings to create agendas, minutes, and bring updates to the BOCC/BOH as needed.

Proposed membership

BOCC/BOH, Tribal, Housing Authority, Housing and shelter providers, City(ies), Faith Community, Person with lived experience, Law enforcement, behavioral health, hospitals, geographic areas etc.

SUMMARY

- Shelter provides critical service and meets needs in Grays Harbor
- Cold Weather/Seasonal shelter requires significant staff time/capacity and results in diminishing returns from the learning curve
- Year-round/permanent shelter is more efficient/effective model and use of resources
- Siting has been most significant barrier in shelter planning and implementation
- Funding will likely be a challenge due to end of COVID-related grants and diminishing local funds due to housing market decline
- Supportive services/integration with system of care provides greatest impact on clients and community
- Cross-sector input and involvement is KEY for planning and successful implementation for shelter and other related programs

THANK YOU

CASSIE LENTZ

NATALI BURGESS
