

Homeless Services Advisory Board
February 26, 2024
3:00-5:00pm
Record Mtg via Zoom

1. **Call to Order** – KayVin Called Meeting to order at 3:04pm.

2. **Roll Call** –

In Attendance			
Joshua Chaney	x	Ti'eri Lino	X
Candice Garman	x	Nova Paden	x
KayVin Hill	x	Anna Schlecht	
Tammie Smith	x	Anthony Ducote	
Stephanie Reinauer	X	Keylee Marineau (staff)	x
Leslie VanLeishout	X	Jessica Olson (staff)	x
Arielle Benson (staff)	X	Tom Webster (staff)	X
Leah Landon (guest)	X	Commissioner Mejia (guest)	X
Todd Parker (guest)	X		

3. **Approval of January Minutes** – Tammie moved, Leslie seconded. Minutes approved unanimously.

4. **Bias Awareness** – Tammie presented a bias awareness exercise to the advisory board.

5. Presentation of Thurston County – Court Alternative Program (TC-CAP) Commissioner Mejia and Leah Landon attended to present on the new TC-CAP and to request an allocation of Home funds for its implementation. Commissioner Mejia described the intent of the program was to divert people experiencing homelessness from court involvement through an innovative program modeled on San Diego's "Homeless Court". Leah and Commissioner Mejia traveled to San Diego in July of 2023 to meet with the San Diego team. Since that time, Leah has developed a program proposal for a Pilot of the TC-CAP and has requested \$20,000 in Local Home Fund.

Description:

The TC-CAP provides access for misdemeanor/gross misdemeanor cases that are either pending or old warrants to be resolved. San Diego model didn't just serve homeless individuals it also served other indigent folks. Thurston County wants to adopt this program. Housed at the resource hub.

Anyone who is indigent and has a qualifying misdemeanor or gross misdemeanor is eligible. The only disqualifying offense is a sex offense. There will be discretion for domestic violence cases.

When someone comes in for their initial hearing or arraignment, the public defender and prosecuting attorney will review their case and determine if it is a good fit for the program. Program is voluntary. If they choose to participate, they will be referred to the resource hub by their public defender. The resource hub will connect them to a community-based service provider who can best address their needs.

GOALS:

1. Removing barriers
2. Getting people access to services that can best address the root causes of criminal activity
3. Reducing people's time in the justice system

Information on the San Diego program, Leah's TC-CAP proposal were requested by the HSAB. The HSAB also requested that Leah and Commissioner Mejia send in a formal Homeless Services Emergency Fund request to be reviewed by the HSAB at the March 18th meeting. It was determined that the HSAB should have a decision about the funding allocation by June of 2024. Attached is a record of the Q&A that occurred during the meeting between Leah, Commissioner Mejia and the HSAB members.

6. Update on Recruitment Process & Introduction Keylee and Jessica introduced Casper Crambette, a new HSAB candidate and announced Teri Cochran-Frederick as a second HSAB candidate to the HSAB. Keylee described that there were two people that were not considered for an interview due to both applicants working at Family Support Center, and so were not eligible based on the understanding that the charter stated only one person from an agency could be on one of the advisory boards at one time. However, in introducing Casper to the HSAB, Keylee noticed that both Casper and Nova work at LIHI Maple Court. A discussion ensued about whether Nova was on the HSAB as a representative of the Lived Experience Steering Committee, and when she first started on the HSAB, she was working at a different agency. Although the HSAB general was comfortable with Casper moving forward despite the duplication of agency representation, it was determined that the Charter needed to be revisited to ensure the restriction of only one agency representative at a time could be a HSAB member.

Keylee described the next steps in the process for approval of new members, with final approval of the Board of County Commissioners on March 19, 2024.

There is only membership slot open for membership at this time, and that position would be held by someone who works or lives in Tumwater. A concern was expressed regarding any diminishing of the size of the advisory board when it comes to making funding recommendations. Having more than one member of the HSAB from a single agency could diminish the number of voting members when making those funding decisions due to members recusing themselves due to any conflict of interest. The HSAB could at any point decide to open recruitment for new members. The HSAB may consider a rolling enrollment in late summer.

A discussion ensued regarding the revisiting of the charter, and whether the language should change. It was suggested that perhaps instead of agency representation, scope of work per member regardless of agency affiliation could be considered. The charter does not address what happens when a current HSAB member may change positions and could create duplicative agency affiliation.

Keylee pulled up the charter to determine the specific language regarding agency affiliation.

"An individual may only sit on one RHC Advisory Board. An organization may have a representative on more than one Advisory Board. "

Is the only language that addresses agency affiliation in the Charter.

Leslie moved to approve the two suggested new members, Casper and Teri. Candice Seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Joshua suggested a motion that the two Family Support Center applicants that were not considered for membership be interviewed due to the misunderstanding of the charter language conditioned on the confirmation of the language in the charter. After a brief discussion about how to move forward with the motion conditionally. Stephanie noted that since this is not a representative body regarding Agency, but rather affiliation, a change in charter language should be considered.

KayVin conditionally moved that two applicants from Family Support Center be interviewed after confirming the language in the charter to recommend one of the applicants for membership. Joshua seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

7. Work Plan

a. RFP Review Process Discussion – KayVin suggested tabling this topic until next month.

b. Retreat Discussion Jessica shared a table that they had created based on the Doodle Poll results. Not all members responded to the May options in the poll. It was determined that the poll would go back out for others to respond to May options in the poll.

c. Work Plan Discussion May-December – Tabled until a future meeting.

8. Good of the Order Jessica announced leaving their Homeless Services Specialist position for another position at the county. This will be their last HSAB meeting.

A request was made that the future agendas would be spelled out more thoroughly to provide more context on topics to be discussed.

Meeting adjourned – 5:00pm