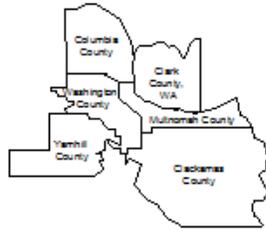




# Portland Area HIV Services Planning Council

*Advocacy and planning for people affected by HIV in the Portland metro area*

*Ryan White Program, Part A*



## Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: June 2, 2020

Approved by Planning Council: July 10, 2020

Grantee: Multnomah County Health Department



**Portland Area HIV Services Planning Council**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, June 2, 2020, 4:00 – 7:00 pm  
 Virtual WebEx Meeting

**AGENDA**

Item**	Discussion, Motions, and Actions
Call to Order	Emily Borke called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.
Welcome & Logistics	<p>Lorne James welcomed everyone to the Planning Council meeting. Aubrey Daquiz reviewed meeting logistics.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please use audio and video, when speaking</li> <li>• Say your name each time you speak</li> <li>• Type questions in the chat box or unmute yourself</li> <li>• If you're calling in (and not able to view Webex), please mute yourself to minimize background noise.</li> <li>• We will mute and unmute folks as needed (Roll-call intros, Vote, Questions/comments, Noise)</li> </ul>
Candle Lighting Ceremony	Michael Thurman-Noche led the lighting of the ceremonial candle in honor of the 25 <sup>th</sup> year of the passing of his first partner, Ti Truong. This candle is in memory of his life and all who have been lost in this battle.
Mindful Minute & Honoring Larry Kramer	<p>Presenter: Lorne James          Summary of Discussion:</p> <p>Honoring Larry Kramer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Longtime HIV activist</li> <li>• Passed away 6 days ago</li> <li>• One of the first activists against AIDS back in the 1980s, when the disease didn't even have a name</li> <li>• Powerful message against marginalization and inequality</li> </ul> <p>Mindful Minute</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Importance of remembering powerful people who came before us</li> <li>• PC comes together in a very powerful way to promote healing in our community and to make important decisions about how we can empower the lives of people living with HIV</li> </ul>
Introductions	Emily Borke conducted a roll call of Planning Council members and staff. Attendees introduced themselves, stated their pronouns, gave their role or affiliation, declared any conflicts of interest, and provided a one word check in.
Announcements & Review Graphic Cycle / Year	<p>Announcements:          See slides.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reminder - meetings are recorded to ensure accurate minutes.</li> </ul>

Item**	Discussion, Motions, and Actions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For members who get incentives (gift cards), Aubrey will be contacting you to make arrangements for drop off or pick up</li> <li>• Co-Chair &amp; Operations Committee elections will be conducted via online poll before the next meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Positions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Co-Chair must be a person living with HIV</li> <li>▪ Four open Operations Committee positions</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Nominations are still open</li> <li>○ Short videos or text statements by nominees will be sent out <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Request to add this to our in-person elections in future years</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• Quest Center is reopening on a limited basis on June 11; Scott Moore will provide more information to Jesse Herbach for distribution in his daily email</li> </ul> <p>The Council reviewed the graphic of the Planning Council year. Next meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PSRA Training June 25 at 3:30 PM - optional for new members or members wanting refresher</li> <li>• Splitting our day-long retreat into 3 separate virtual meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ July 10, 9:00-12:00pm</li> <li>○ July 28, 3:00-6:00pm</li> <li>○ Aug 18, 3:30-5:00pm</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>Agenda Review and Minutes Approval</p>	<p>The agenda was reviewed by the Council, and no changes were made.</p> <p>The meeting minutes from the May 2020 meeting were approved by unanimous consent.</p>
<p>Public Testimony</p>	<p>Lorne James:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presently in the world we have a lot of anger &amp; fear circling</li> <li>• I speak as an Indigenous Two-Spirit person [a member of the Navajo Nation] living in Portland</li> <li>• I have experienced a lot of healing and resilience from the HIV community, here in Portland <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Healing doesn't mean the damage never existed, it means it doesn't control our lives</li> <li>○ Learned this from the Portland HIV community</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Healing continues through advocacy and providing hope to others</li> <li>• Try not to be angry, but find resilience within yourselves to help others heal</li> <li>• Look to another person of color for strength and knowledge</li> <li>• Our community will need strength and your resilience moving forward</li> </ul>
<p>PLWH &amp; COVID-19 Updates</p>	<p><i>Presenter: Dr. Tim Menza &amp; Amanda Hurley</i></p> <p><i>Summary of Discussion:</i></p> <p>See slideshow.</p> <p>Dr. Tim Menza, Oregon Health Authority</p> <p>Comments / Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Q: What do you attribute the lower proportion of PLWH testing positive? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Not much lower than in population</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Possible that antiretrovirals may provide prophylactic effect</li> <li>○ Would have anticipated higher hospitalization rate due to comorbidities, but we haven't seen that</li> <li>○ We know that PLWH are not more likely to get the flu; this is similar</li> <li>○ People with lower CD4 counts (below 200) are more likely to be severely ill, but not more likely to get the disease</li> <li>○ As more information comes in, Tim will keep us posted</li> <li>● Q: Do you think COVID antibody testing will become routine for people with HIV? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ None of the tests are perfect - false negatives</li> <li>○ None of the tests indicate whether or not someone has immunity</li> <li>○ So antibody test doesn't mean anything at this point, other than prior exposure</li> <li>○ More work is being done on these tests to improve them</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Q: Are there plans to incorporate COVID testing into our labs? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Maybe not standard labs, but for people with symptoms</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Q: I've heard much of the most serious cases have been due to cytokine storm, i.e. overactive immune response. It seems people with lower immune function might then be at an advantage? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ There are different pathways for immune response. People who do better (no CS) take one pathway, people who do worse (have CS) take the other. What makes the immune response go one way or the other is still unknown. There are individuals who are on immune suppression drugs (cancer treatment etc.) whose immune systems still take CS path.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Q: How do you feel about our preparedness for second wave? What are your predictions about the next spike? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ There are a lot of unknowns. We are better prepared than we were. We didn't have the PPE &amp; testing capacity that we have now. We didn't have people hired for contact notification and case investigation. All hospitals now have contingency plans, PPE stockpiles. Plans for distribution of medication. People know what to do when/if another spike happens. I don't think the spike will be as high, as people will change their behavior - working from home, taking precautions. Flu season and wintertime, when people come indoors, will be a risky time.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Q: How can we help protesters who may want to get tested? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ County clinics are probably best bet. Have people go to testing clinics at East County and Mid County.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Q: How accurate are tests really and levels of sensitivity? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Tim will send a slide on this to Aubrey to be shared with PC.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Amanda Hurley - TGA COVID-19 updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● See slide</li> <li>● Multnomah County Reopening Scorecard link : <a href="https://multco.us/novel-coronavirus-covid-19/reopening-multnomah-county-amid-covid-19">https://multco.us/novel-coronavirus-covid-19/reopening-multnomah-county-amid-covid-19</a></li> <li>● Multnomah County plans to submit application for Phase 1 on June 5, with goal to reopen for Phase 1 on June 12</li> </ul>

Item**	Discussion, Motions, and Actions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Responding to question from last meeting regarding PPE for community providers: according to Multnomah County scorecard, we have met that need. That doesn't mean that providers don't have needs, but it is much easier to fill those needs. Still some challenges for specific items such as N95 masks.</li> </ul>
HIV-specific Housing	<p><i>Panel: Danielle Deer (Quest Center), Emily Burchell (Health Services Center), Jace Richard &amp; Meghan Von Tersch (Cascade AIDS Project), Michelle Foley (Central City Concern – Rosewood)</i></p> <p><i>Summary of Discussion:</i></p> <p>Danielle Deer, Quest Center</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two beds funded through Part A</li> <li>Ryan White clients are engaged in addiction services</li> <li>House for LGBTI2S or gender non-conforming folks has 9 beds, 2 Ryan White specific have consistently been filled since open April 2019</li> <li>Over past few months, most success with partnerships - Bridges to Change, Care Oregon, MORE</li> <li>Continue to get access to food donations, so all house clients and others continue to receive food boxes every week</li> <li>Needs: continued cleaning supplies, PPE; better access to COVID testing</li> <li>Post COVID resurge plan: stock of PPE, stock of cleaning supplies, ability to pivot very quickly to telehealth and virtual programming. We plan to continue that at some level so if we need to pivot back, we can do that very quickly.</li> </ul> <p>Em Burchelle, Housing Navigator at HSC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Housing funded through Part A, position funded through Part B</li> <li>Work closely with other organizations (Bud Clark Commons, CAP, CCC, Alder House, other waitlists)</li> <li>In 2019, HSC served 1,436 clients. (At end of year, 17% were in temporary or unstable housing.)</li> <li>In 2019, I worked with 122 clients that year (44% were people of color). By year's end, 39% of clients were housed, 96% had an annual lab, 63% were virally suppressed.</li> <li>Successes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Working with CAP to get most vulnerable people into motels</li> <li>Working with TPI to get people into shelters after initial pause: Now referring people to Clark Center and River District Center</li> <li>A lot of medication deliveries to folks in motels and housed</li> <li>Worked with Day Center and Daily Bread Express to get frozen meals and food boxes delivered, and working with CAP/Esther's</li> <li>Complete assessments w/ verbal authorization vs. meeting</li> <li>Put up plexiglass at front desk</li> <li>Getting people phones - hope to increase</li> </ul> </li> <li>Challenges <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and Social Security (SS) office not being open - advocating for others to accept copies, expired ID, finding innovative ways to verify social security number</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Item **	Discussion, Motions, and Actions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Award letter has been tough workaround, but Social Security office has stepped up phone and online services</li> <li>• Needs: more phones (especially to reach folks on housing waitlist in time), tents &amp; sleeping bags, PPE (masks, gloves, hand sanitizer)</li> </ul> <p>Jace Richard, Manager of Housing Services at CAP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CAP has 13 Housing programs, Ryan White is part of Short-Term Rent Subsidies (Part A funds support rent, sometimes housing case manager)</li> <li>• See RW Client Demographics, Housing Status in “Housing Contract for RW PC 060220” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Notable Trends- Higher rate of stably housed among POC, folks with over 300% FPL had a higher rate of housing, ages 25-54 had a higher rate of temporary or unstable housing, higher rate of stable housing for folks who identify as a long-term survivor</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Meghan Von Tersch, CAP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Successful <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A lot of additional funding to help in many ways</li> <li>○ Medical motels - usually 9-10/wk, now have 40-50/wk from many hospital systems that don't usually reach out for this</li> <li>○ Funding to give cell phones to housed &amp; unhoused clients and offer tents and sleeping bags to help with physical distancing</li> <li>○ Able to do wait list outreach to everyone on wait list</li> <li>○ Food boxes - Currently delivering to housed folks every other week, those in medical motels every week, 45-60 boxes/wk with masks and hand sanitizer</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Key Needs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Increase in temp housing requests from community partners due to loss of jobs and/or housing</li> <li>○ Increase in ERA requests, including from Latinx community</li> <li>○ Pet and Transportation requests</li> <li>○ Employment services (Bridges to Work); could see more need</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Projecting modified reopening on June 15 – if they need to close again, forms are fillable so ERA, intakes, and food boxes can happen from home</li> <li>• Last year, they saw 775 clients; since March, they have seen 900 clients.</li> </ul> <p>Michelle Foley, Central City Concern, Rosewood Resident Services Coordinator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Also present is supervisor Shannah Knaup</li> <li>• Serve Low income individuals LWH and who are homeless</li> <li>• Currently have 35 residents, with one pending vacant unit</li> <li>• 24 studios, 12 1-bdrm</li> <li>• 21 are Section 8 through Home Forward; other 15 are HOPWA units</li> <li>• 22% POC</li> <li>• All residents are in recovery for substance use</li> <li>• Successful <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Provided rental assistance, individual action plans, referrals to outside services and area primary care and mental health services</li> <li>○ On-site community garden- a couple residents grew veggies to share</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Needs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Supply all residents and staff with face masks / coverings</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Item**	Discussion, Motions, and Actions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Food - bringing in food boxes, started on-site food pantry</li> <li>○ Ramped up community messaging / communication</li> <li>○ Access to medical care - issued the building a COVID triage phone to call their doctor or a CCC health services triage line; implemented emergency response program if a resident tests positive, and can support folks to quarantine for a 2-week period as needed</li> <li>● Potential COVID resurge <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ CCC going to keep emergency response program in place for foreseeable future; continue to follow state and local guidance</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Q: For people working with homeless population, what has been overall morale in community? Do you expect need for more mental health services for longevity support? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Em: There has been a strain on mental health, especially if they already experience anxiety, their anxiety levels have increased. For people in motels, they are extremely grateful to be there, but anxious that it might abruptly end. Also, housing has slowed down as agencies make adjustments. Intakes at CCC have taken longer. Increasing access to MH services is a huge need now, and it's also more challenging.</li> <li>○ Meghan: Echoing that – in calling folks in medical motels every week, people feel safe indoors and have somewhere to shelter-in-place now, but about 90% of folks ask each week - what happens when this is over?</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Q: What are they asking about regarding how we are meeting their needs? What can we do moving forward to meet them where they're at? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Meghan: As everyone is closed right now, people are feeling abandoned. A lot of need for connection for folks who can't go to library for internet and don't have a phone.</li> <li>○ Em: Showers and laundry. Other options (Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, Laundry Love) not available, plus increase in theft of people's belongings.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Q: Are people reluctant to go get tested for COVID? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Danielle: No, they have wanted to get tested.</li> <li>○ Em: They have wanted to get tested but not able due to shortage.</li> <li>○ Meghan: Have seen people wanting to get test, but not being able to get test or not able to get transportation to get test.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Q: What does long term Emergency Rent Assistance (ERA) support look like after Eviction Moratorium ends on July 1? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Danielle: At Quest House, they don't pay, is funded through county. Concern is ability to find housing later, or work.</li> <li>○ Meghan: We're not seeing typical ERA requests of move in and first month, but more need for a month's rent (or more) due to job loss. Don't know how long we can continue to provide this. Taking it month by month.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Q: What does transitional housing look like through CAP? Have funds for that program been shifted to motel funds?</li> </ul>

Item**	Discussion, Motions, and Actions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Jace: Have had pause due to transitional housing location not accepting new people. Funds haven't been shifted over to motels, keeping them separate at the moment.</li> <li>○ Meghan: Also, with increased funding, we now have Ryan White Connects. With folks in medical motels and able to be reached by phone, we have been able to pull more people from waitlists that we have historically by connecting them with housing vouchers.</li> <li>○ Em: Some clean &amp; sober housing programs requiring negative test prior to move in, but people not being able to get the test because they had no symptoms</li> <li>○ Danielle: Our House is also requiring negative test for move ins</li> <li>○ Amanda can bring this to EOC if it is a concern</li> <li>● Q: Do clients need to reapply for ERA every month if they continue not to have work because of COVID? Or does just a phone call to ERA for the next month if they still don't have income to pay their rent? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Meghan: Won't automatically pay next month, but call or email should suffice</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Q: Has knowledge of moratorium gone out? Do you see conflicts between landlords and tenants? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Jace: Moratorium is only temporary fix, money will still need to be paid eventually. Being proactive with ERA. Seeing some weird notices - can't send nonpayment notices, but getting notices that didn't pay your rent, so we're going to do a surprise inspection. Utilities not sending shutoff notices, and ERA requires shutoff notices to pay, so anticipating large need for ERA when notices can be sent.</li> <li>○ Amanda: With mask and hand sanitizer distribution, we included information about rent moratorium to try to get the word out more. Distributed about 300 of them.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>Discuss FY21-22 Priorities &amp; Service Categories</p>	<p><i>Presenter: Aubrey Daquiz, Emily Borke, Lorne James</i></p> <p><i>Summary of Discussion:</i></p> <p>See slideshow.</p> <p>Are there any clarifications people need on these?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Re: Psychosocial community calendar- AMHSAAC working on updating NAMI's resources and moving from print only to online</li> <li>● Amanda – this Community Calendar would be updated regularly, online platform</li> </ul> <p>Brainstorm (will do virtual poll between this meeting and next meeting)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● I think housing is going to be an important theme and mental health support</li> <li>● Transitioning back into society (economically)</li> <li>● Rent!</li> <li>● Possible second wave, and repercussions of quarantining again</li> <li>● Legal services - wills, estate planning, health care directives</li> <li>● Access to phones is huge</li> <li>● Transportation, including for food delivery</li> </ul>

Item **	Discussion, Motions, and Actions	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food delivery</li> <li>• Laundry &amp; showers</li> <li>• Could we create a package? Not just single service categories (e.g., food, laundry, hygiene) but something inclusive of anything to prevent further impact of COVID-19? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Also consider whether we need to add guidance to contractors.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Peer support - challenge of this pandemic is people not feeling aware of or comfortable accessing services, and peer support can help</li> <li>• In addition to phones, include ideas around data or access to WiFi resources</li> <li>• Lockers</li> <li>• Request: additional guidance on what we can and can't fund right now</li> <li>• Community calendar</li> </ul>	
Time of Adjournment	6:55 PM	
Community Garden Items	QUESTION/COMMENT - None	RESPONSE – NA

## ATTENDANCE

Members	Present	Absent*	Members	Present	Absent*
Emily Borke (Council Co-Chair)	X		Julia Lager-Mesulam	X	
Erin Butler		E	Heather Leffler		E
Tom Cherry	X		Jeremiah Megowan	X	
Jamie Christianson	X		Matthew Moore	X	
Carlos Dory	X		Scott Moore	X	
Michelle Foley	X		Laura Paz-Whitmore		L
Greg Fowler	X		Sandra Poon	X	
Alison Frye	X		Diane Quiring	X	
Dennis Grace-Montero	X		Jace Richard	X	
Shaun Irelan	X		Michael Thurman-Noche	X	
Lorne James (Council Co-Chair)	X		Robert Thurman-Noche	X	
Chris Keating		E	Erin Waid	X	
Toni Kempner	X		Abrianna Williams	X	
<b>PC Support Staff</b>			<b>Guests</b>		
Lisa Alfano			Shannah Knaup	X	
Aubrey Daquiz	X		Wanda Vazquez (Community Liaison, Janssen)	X	
Jenny Hampton (Recorder)	X		Tim Menza, OHA	X	
Jesse Herbach	X				
Amanda Hurley	X				
Jenna Kivanç					
Marisa McLaughlin					
Kim Toevs					

\* A = Unexcused Absence; E = Excused Absence; L = On Leave