



APPROVED BY COC BOARD ON NOVEMBER 19, 2025

## CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD MINUTES

October 22nd, 2025

3:00PM - 5:00PM

Meeting opened at 3:03 pm; Roll Call of Board Members

Quorum reached with 18 members present

Approval of October Agenda and September Minutes

Move to approve agenda by Reese, second by Matt, approved unanimously

Move to approve September minutes by Reese, second by Joe, approved unanimously

Public Comment

No public comment

CA Updates: Point in Time and Housing Inventory Count, Federal Funding Update, Regional Collaboration

Jon - PIT Update: Count coincides with the first day of the Homeless Connect event on Wednesday January 28<sup>th</sup>. CoC Subcommittees and planning group discussing questions, software used will be the same as last year. CoC board will see recommendations regarding questions during November 19<sup>th</sup> meeting. Community volunteer recruitment and awareness will begin during the first 2 weeks of November.

Jon - Regional Collaboration between Spokane City and County for monitoring of subrecipients/projects to include financials, policies and procedures, operations, and invoices. Collaboration began at the end of the previous monitoring cycle. Now holistically partnering to reduce the burden for shared projects/agencies. Criteria is largely the same. Kurt from the County is meeting with the City team every other week. Monitoring starts in December. We have shared the first notice with subrecipients.

Arielle, Jon, Dawn - Federal Funding Update: Currently moving through the internal City process of CoC contract signing. Anticipate end of next week to be complete. Subcontracts coming soon to alleviate financial burden on subrecipients.

City signed on to lawsuit against HUD regarding recent executive orders. Provides injunctive relief and is on its way to the 9<sup>th</sup> circuit. Anticipate being heard in February or March. Status quo for now. CoC and Entitlement funds both included; CDBG, HOME, ESG funds. Meeting regularly with legal team and will



consider how we will comply especially regarding legal citizenship status and which projects that applies to.

Question: SAVE program necessary? Currently not for City projects. County is proceeding cautiously in case lawsuit fails and backdates to July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025. County Commissioners were notified yesterday. County is planning workshop for agencies regarding lawsuits and Executive Orders to allow agencies to make informed decision.

City still has much to consider re: becoming compliant. Meeting consistently with legal team out of Seattle. Injunctive relief may protect us from having to go backward to July 1 with requirements.

County did not join lawsuit for a variety of reasons.

#### Board Action Recommended – Sexual Orientation Gender Identity (SOGI) Data Collection

Jon – Conversations concluded with subcommittees primarily leaning toward retaining collection standards, especially youth, although Balance of State (BoS) recently decided to stop collecting SOGI in HMIS to prevent weaponization against communities or individuals. City recommends following suit with BoS. SOGI could continue to be collected by individual agencies through their own records.

Arielle - Also should consider financial components wherein HUD may withhold money from communities that collect SOGI data. NOFA scoring could result in lower scores for those communities.

Big data element change for 2026 standards is “sex” as brand new element.

Discussion:

Blake - Organizations are also facing question and repercussions of collecting SOGI data.

Joe – Concern is on client side in event of law enforcement action or subpoena of data.

Matt – Agree not to report federally.

Reese – Support of City recommendation, both doing no harm and preventing possible harm.

Motion to approve City recommendation to stop collecting SOGI in HMIS by Reese, second by Maggie, approved unanimously

#### Board Action Recommended - HMIS Policies and Procedures

Amanda – Required for all CoCs procedures, rolling up privacy and security into one document. Redline version shared last month, subcommittees have reviewed.

Appreciation expressed for the excellent work that went into the updated HMIS P&Ps.

Motion to approve updated HMIS Policies and Procedures by Joe, second by Blake, approved unanimously



#### County, City of Spokane, City of Spokane Valley Updates

County – George – Planning meeting next week with Spokane City and Spokane Valley regarding regional collaboration. Waiting for federal stuff to get processed.

Spokane Valley – Eric – no updates

Spokane City – Maggie via email

- Daytime navigation center opened at the beginning of October, operated by JHH.
  - They provide food, showers, laundry and transportation. Behavioral health and wound care is on site throughout the week in partnership with Providence's community clinic.
  - In the first week of the new model, the center logged nearly 700 visits
- Geographic outreach launched in October, in partnership with Catholic Charities
  - Outreach 7 days a week, roughly 8-6pm
  - In the first 10 days of the new model, outreach teams closed 100 camps.
  - 99 individuals were navigated to services, only 7 individuals declined.
  - New app through the City's 311 department that facilitates near real time responses
- City's RFP for culturally specific opioid treatment is soon to open.

SHA update – Kelly - Closely monitoring rent payments on vouchers during shutdown. All October rents paid, November rent obligated. If funding becomes unavailable, special purpose vouchers, i.e. youth, child welfare involved families, Veterans, persons with disabilities, and Project Based Voucher contracts will be prioritized since higher barriers persist for those groups if housing is lost.

If SHA were to be unable to pay rent, voucher holder is still responsible to pay rent. Landlords are unable to evict during shutdown if rent is unpaid. SHA contract prevents late fees when payment is missed due to no fault of SHA.

#### Updates from Sub Committees and Workgroups (if any)

No updates

#### Any additional questions or points of discussion

Joe – question from singles subcommittee meeting notes re: Revive reporting short waitlist numbers. Reasoning? People being referred in? Tara M will investigate and follow up next month.

Arielle - CE Symposium December 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> will be fairly big event. Invitation will go out in 2 weeks to providers of City and County contracts and satellite sub populations, as well as to CoC Board.



#### General Community Updates

Reese – Currently receiving a lot of emails regarding need for backup should WIC be suspended due to possible ongoing government shutdown, especially for infant formula.

Suggestions: Partners in the Inland Northwest, Valley Partners, Our Place, Other Mothers, Vanessa Behan, Swet Pea

Wendy – VOA has diapers and clothing they are trying to give away from surplus at Alexandria's House.

#### **Congratulations to the first GED graduate at the new Crosswalk Building!!!**

Motion to adjourn by Reese, second by Aerius, approved unanimously

Meeting closed at 3:48 pm

Minutes submitted by S. L. Wells