

Yakima County Homeless Coalition
General Membership
MEETING MINUTES
November 17th, 2020

- CALL TO ORDER** The November 17th, 2020 Yakima County Homeless Coalition General Membership came to order at 1:30 pm.
- INTRODUCTIONS** Members present: Rhonda Hauff, Ava Sanchez, Mike Johnson, Annette Rodriguez, Holly Timmerman, David Helseth, Emily Burgess, Kellie Connaughton, Esther Magasis, Brian Ahern, Dave Hanson, Jo Ann, Joan Souders, Isabel Garcia, Mike Kay, Sheri Rynd, Soneya Lund, Jenece Howe, Beth Dannhardt, Scott Thielen, Mitzi Duenas.
Guest: Emily Burgess (Washington State Department of Commerce)
- OLD BUSINESS**
Approval of minutes Approval of Minutes: September 15, 2020 YHC Meeting
Action: Mike Johnson moved to approve the minutes from the September 15, 2020 YHC Meeting. Rhonda Hauff seconded. The motion carried.
- NEW BUSINESS**
YHC Update New Governor's Office COVID-19 Guidance
Esther gave notice of the new Governor's COVID-19 guidance which will be in effect from Monday, November 16th through Monday, December 14th
Esther - The "Nonprofit establishments" fall under "Miscellaneous Venues" – requirements are that all retail activities and business meetings are prohibited. Only professional training and testing that cannot be performed remotely are allowed. Occupancy in each meeting room is limited to 25% indoor occupancy limits or 100 people, whichever is fewer.
Mike Johnson mentioned it would be helpful to mention the mission's petition to the Governor's office. YUMG has permission to continue operate retail activities as non-profit because it is essential to their services.
- RFP* Grace City Outreach was the only applicant for the Limited RFP Award for 24-Hour Low-Barrier Night-by-Night Shelter for Single Adults and Families in Upper Valley. Therefore, it has been awarded the RFP funding, and has been under contract since October. Contract is updated on the Yakima County Website.
<https://www.yakimacounty.us/2436/Programs-We-Fund>
- Commerce Data Presentation* Emily Burgess from Department of Commerce did an overview on Homeless System Performance.
Emily mentioned people who are hard to serve in HMIS for example, people with zero income, mental health issues, substance use issues, don't always correlate with housing outcomes in the research that has previously been done before. Emily mentioned Commerce can do research again to look up at Yakima County.
Action Item: Emily will get information pulled out about performance on people who are hard to serve (e.g. for example, people with zero income, mental health issues, substance use issues) for Yakima County.
Joan Davenport observed that Yakima County does not have enough permanent housing based on the graph presented by Commerce.
Jenece Howe observed that Native Americans were likely undercounted in HMIS.

Action Item: Esther can connect with Jenece offline about joining HMIS and partnering with local providers to create targeted referral and education for Tribal Members.

Commerce presentation will be posted on the Yakima County website.

<https://www.yakimacounty.us/2392/Yakima-County-Homelessness-Data>

Other

Esther mentioned that the Homeless Persons Memorial Service will be held virtually this year on December 21st, 2020 at 5:00 pm. Hosted as always by YNHS.

The next YHC General membership meeting will have elections for Chair, Vice-Chair, and one YHC Representative Exec Team Member. There is also still a vacancy for the Board-appointed position of an individual with lived experience of homelessness.

Next Meeting

January 19th, 2020

Online

Adjourn

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:15 pm.