

Yakima County Homeless Coalition Yakima County Homeless Coalition  
General MembershipGeneral Membership  
MEETING MINUTES  
March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021

CALL TO ORDER The March 16, 2021March 16, 2021 Yakima County Homeless Coalition General Membership Yakima County Homeless Coalition General Membership came to order at 1:30 pm.

INTRODUCTIONS Members present: Esther Magasis, Deb Sterling, Linda DiLembo, Annette Rodriguez, Alicia Bell, Lance Larsen, Raul Patton, Kellie Connaughton, LaDon Linde, David Helseth, Joan Davenport, Lee Murdock, Mike Kay, Jeanna Hernandez, Lowel Krueger, Scott Thielen, Sheri Rynd, David Brown, Manuela Spencer, Dave Hanson, Joan Souders, Mitzi Duenas.

**OLD BUSINESS**

*Approval of minutes* Approval of Minutes: January 19th, 2021 YHC Meeting  
**Lee Murdock moved to approve the minutes from the January 19, 2021January 19, 2021 General Membership MeetingGeneral Membership Meeting. David Helseth seconded. Motion passed.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

*New Exec Team Members* Esther introduced two new Executive Committee members; For Profit Business Representative, Linda DiLembo and Alycia Bell filling the position of Individual with Lived Experience of Homelessness.

*YCCC Update* Esther presented the Yakima County Care Campus update that had been presented at the Yakima City Council Study Session on March 9<sup>th</sup>.  
The Yakima County Care Campus’ concept is to serve as a “holistic low-barrier service hub for Behavioral Health, Physical Health, Community Services and Substance Use Disorder Treatment.”  
Yakima County is looking to partner with local providers to provide the services within the YCCC. Lee Murdock observed that the proposal is similar to the model at Children’s Village – but for mental health services.

Due to COVID and Commissioner turnover, the work on the YCCC slowed in 2020. The three updates from last year were:

1. Yakima county received \$275,000 from the legislature in to go towards the pre-design of the YCCC.
2. A decision was made to remove of the low barrier shelter from the overall concept of YCCC is primary attributable to two things: zoning and overall program fidelity.
3. DOC has been fully vacated from the facility (ahead of schedule)

Services will still be available to people experiencing homelessness. There is currently an effort in the Courts system to update the Sequential Intercept Mapping Model (SIM) for the criminal justice system in Yakima County. There is a conversation in the Coordinated Entry meetings about starting the process of creating a mirrored SIM for the homeless emergency response system.

*Rental Assistance Update* The Yakima County Human Services Department distributed over \$2.8 million From September 2020 to January 2021 towards the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP). ERAP has been fully expend. but the Yakima County Human Services Department has received more from the US Department of Treasury and the Washington State Department of Commerce.  
Catholic Charities, Yakima Neighborhood Health Services, Northwest Community Action

Center, Latino Community Fund, OIC of Washington, and Radio KDNA will all participate as rental assistance providers in the next round of COVID rent-relief.

Annette Rodriguez mentioned Yakima Neighborhood Health Services received good feedback from landlords, and currently has a waitlist of 500 households for when the program re-opens.

For more information on the moratorium and COVID related rental assistance visit:

<https://www.yakimacounty.us/2453/For-Tenants-and-Landlords>

*5-Year Plan Data Questions*

The 2019 version of the 5-Year Plan was based on a pre-existing plan that was set to expire in 2021. Because the 2019 5-Year Plan is now in place through 2024, the plan contains a goal to revisit and update in 2021.

There was a question about if the Five-Year Plan will anticipate the increased need for Permanent Supportive Housing that will be needed to help individuals transition to permanent housing.

Yakima County Homeless Coalition members should consider what data would need to be available in order to answer questions to shape the updates to the 5-Year Plan.

**Action item:** Members should contact Lance Larsen, the Homeless Program Analyst for the Department of Human Services, with suggestions for data to help shape the plan. Members interested in engaging further with the Five-Year Plan data efforts should join the joint YHC/Homeless Network Data Subcommittee (requests to be added to membership can also be directed to Lance). Lance can be reached at: [lance.larsen@co.yakima.wa.us](mailto:lance.larsen@co.yakima.wa.us)

Yakima County

For more information on the 5-year plan visit:

<https://www.yakimacounty.us/2391/Yakima-County-Homeless-Coalition>

*Other*

Mike Kay mentioned for next agenda items to bring outreach teams to express their concerns on what they see daily, including concerns about human trafficking.

There was a discussion about adding in an outreach team report out section to future agendas, to hear what folks on the ground are seeing.

*Next Meeting*

May 18th, 2021

Online

*Adjourn*

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:12 pm.