Agenda

8:30 a.m. | Introductions and Approval of Minutes
8:35 a.m. | Deciding on the Number of Homeless Families – Steve Hanson
9:05 a.m. | Overview of County Funds Available for Homeless Families – Dean Weitenhagen
9:25 a.m. | Feedback on the Landscape Assessment – Open Discussion
9:45 a.m. | Pillar Work Group Reports – Committee Chairs
10:00 a.m. | Recommendation to Form Coordinating Committee – Steve Hanson
10:10 a.m. | Recommendation for Extended October Meeting – Steve Hanson
10:20 a.m. | Other Business
    • Next Meeting is scheduled for Friday, September 25\(^{th}\) at 8:30 a.m.

Attendees:

Steering Committee Members:
Bud Alkire
Sue Ambler
Bob Davis
Bill Humphreys
Dana Libby
Jerrilee Mosier
Brian Parry
Ed Petersen
Ken Stark

Invitees:
Brian Eisenkraft
AJ Forkner
Steve Hanson Elbert Esparza, Jr.
Maggie Milcarek
Kollin Min
Emily Nolan
Mark Putnam
June Robinson
Casey Trupin
Dean Weitenhagen

Notes:

Welcome and Introductions – Steve Hanson welcomed the Steering Committee and asked everyone to introduce themselves for those who have not attended before.

Approval of Minutes – Steve asked everyone to review the minutes. Minutes were approved.
Deciding on the Number of Homeless Families – The handout titled “Estimate of Homeless Families in Snohomish County” shows that there are 1,064 homeless families in Snohomish County. The estimate is based on the number of families seeking or receiving housing in July 2009. Brian Eisenkraft explained the breakdown of the handout titled “Estimate of Homeless Families in Snohomish County.” Brian described the process by which the list is kept updated and accurate. Duplicate entries have been purged from the list. Ken Stark appreciates the accuracy but noted that the figures are on the conservative side and do not account for undocumented members of the homeless community. Ed Peterson brought up the Motel Voucher program and the need for clarification over its place in the data. It was determined that a monthly estimate for the number of motel vouchers should be added to the count. Ken suggested that a formula be adopted to help move forward on these issues, including a standardized way of estimating the undercount that could be used by all three counties. Ken followed with a motion that we adopt the proposed method for estimating the number of homeless families in Snohomish County. The motion was seconded by Sue Ambler and unanimously approved.

Overview of County Funds Available for Homeless Families – Dean Weitenhagen explained information from the packet titled “Snohomish County Investing in Families Strategic Plan.” He focused on pages 48-52. He explained the different types of funding and specifically noted the amount that varies year by year. Dean also noted the stimulus dollars that the county has received and the projects that they are going to be applied towards. He noted that a major challenge is that the figures are based off projections rather than actual amounts. Bob Davis noted that project-based vouchers also need to be included in the reports.

Feedback on Landscape Assessment – Steve distributed the current draft and commented that many of the recommended changes have been made, including examples of promising practices. Steve asked everyone to review the draft with the following questions in mind:

1. What do these findings suggest about the changes that need to occur in the current system?
2. Do the findings indicate priorities for the changes that need to occur?
3. What do we need to know that isn’t in the current draft in order to set priorities for recommended changes in the system?

The pillar chairs were asked to review the information in the landscape assessment though the lens of each work group. What’s here that will help the work group? What’s missing that needs to be added to the landscape assessment?

Pillar Work Group Reports – Coordinated entry is working on identifying continuum of care and the journey one takes once identified as homeless and placed in the most appropriate housing. They are looking to provide more coordinated services with less run around, hopefully by establishing a drop in center. Dana Libby’s group is working to establish concrete goals for the following meeting, as well as establishing early warning points to prevent homelessness. Tailored Program Services is identifying major needs. Rapid Re-Housing has created a detailed chart showing the 8,000 units broken down by geographic location. Economic Opportunity has had productive meetings and has identified four major goals.

Recommendation to Form Coordinating Committee – Steve recommended that the pillar chairs serve as a coordinating committee for the remainder of the strategic planning process. The recommendation was approved. Kollin Min will be a member as well.

Recommendation for Extended October Meeting – It was agreed that there would be an extended meeting Friday, October 30th from 8:30 to noon to review the recommendations of the pillar work groups. The goal will be to
develop a comprehensive summary of the strategic goals for the implementation phase. The longer meeting will provide time to identify areas of overlap and issues that might be falling through the cracks. Representatives from the pillar work groups will be invited to participate in the meeting.

Other Business – The next meeting will be held September 25th from 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.