

Kitsap Housing and Homeless Coalition – October 19, 2022, 2-4pm
Zoom link: <https://krl.zoom.us/j/82262235936>, Meeting ID: 822 6223 5936

Link to recorded meeting (courtesy of The Conduit): <https://youtu.be/C6OL1KGpldg>

STATEMENT OF KHHV VISION, MISSION, VALUES: Read by Lisa Lechuga

SEPTEMBER MINUTES: Approved

AGENCY PRESENTATION: Bremerton Housing Authority Housing Waitlist Opening – Katie Sharp, Communications Manager, BHA; KSharp@bremertonhousing.org, 360-616-7227

BHA is opening the public housing program waitlist on **Oct. 25, 7am-3pm PST**, using the RENTCafe platform. Users must register for an account with a unique email and password. RENTCafe is available anytime to register (not just on waitlist day): <https://bremertonhousing.org/index.php/about-rentcafe>

This waitlist is for public housing (not Section 8 vouchers), for 1- and 2-bedrooms through Bremerton Public Housing (50% AMI or below). These are limited availability, only located at specific BHA-owned properties. No housing choice vouchers will be provided.

The waitlist is first-come, first-served; positions are determined by time of application submission (not a lottery). Don't wait until the day it opens to make your RENTCafe account! It's okay to guess if you don't have all information needed; program eligibility will be verified when your household is selected.

BHA's lobby will be open for assistance, also offering phone support. The Summit at Bay Vista's computer lab is also available. For assistance on Oct. 25: call 360-616-7132

Keep an eye out for:

- User's Social Security Number is already in the system? – BHA already has your info on file; use your registration code to sign in.
- While registering, user's email address brings up a message: "account already exists"? – Your email was used for a different housing company but can't connect to BHA's RENTCafe; use a different email address or call 360-616-7227 (Katie's direct number).

Questions:

- How many family members need a social security number to be eligible? What legal/citizenship status is required to get into public housing if their name comes up on the waitlist? – Eligibility questions will be addressed after submitting. Only requirement now is they must be 18 or older.
- Do you need to live in Bremerton to apply? – No, but the offerings are in Bremerton.

AGENCY PRESENTATION: Skookum Services – Elizabeth Yeager, Employment Specialist, Community Employment Services Department; Elizabeth.yeager@skookum.org, 360-227-9691

The Community Employment Services (CES) department helps individuals with disabilities find employment. CES contracts with WA Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) to connect clients with services, employment, job support and retention. CES also works with Social Security recipients (SSI or SSDI) who want to transition off benefits (Ticket to Work program). CES serves Kitsap, Mason, Jefferson

and Klallam. (We can go out into community to meet folks, but not to private homes or transitional housing.) CES is administered by Amerigroup.

Foundational Community Supports program by the WA Health Care Authority helps folks on Apple Health with mental illness or substance use disorder or enrolled in programs like Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) or Aged Blind Disabled (ABD).

Applications can be done by phone or in person. If denied, we can appeal; they usually just need some additional medical documentation. Once signed up, they're good for 6 months (and can be extended another 6). After a year of stable employment, we start talking about transitioning off.

Needed to apply: contact info, SSN, ProviderOne number, demographic info, eligibility requirements (HEN/ABD, mental illness, substance use disorder, Cares assessment), employment details (status, income), housing type, barriers to employment, potential strengths as a client

Services offered:

- Pre-employment: resume writing, cover letters, interview prep and clothes, submitting job apps, computer classes, budgeting; connecting with potential employers
- While employed: job coaching, requesting disability accommodations
- Career exploration: aptitude tests, informational interviews (virtual job shadow)
- Education: GED signup and prep, community college/apprenticeship/trade school application
- General: driver's license exams, connecting with legal services
- Weekly job reading class at Kitsap recovery and other treatment centers

Questions:

- Do you work with those who want to keep their benefits but secure the income they are able to outside of it? – We don't do benefits planning but can refer folks to planners. DVR has benefits planners in-house.
- Do FCS housing folks automatically qualify for employment support? – Not sure; likely if they qualify for one, they'll qualify for the other. The application is 5 mins over phone or in the office.

Skookum meeting space is open to nonprofits. We are also able to arrange presentations for your staff.

AGENCY PRESENTATION: Fleet and Family Support Program – Madeline Multer, Victim Advocate, LMSW, US Navy FFS; call 866-854-0638 line to set up an appointment

FFS serves active-duty sailors and families (mainly on base) and assists in prevention and reaction work:

- Prevention (work and family life): deployment readiness and mobilization, family employment readiness program, mock job interviews
- Reaction (clinical): counseling, family advocacy program (focus on domestic violence and child abuse), problematic sexual behavior in children and youth, deployed resiliency counselors, counselors within/on the ship

At this time, we're only serving active-duty members and families (not DOD or retired military).

Military One Source: provides counseling information and other resource connections within the community. Can also serve veterans and tie in VA resources. This resource does have interpreters.

KITSAP COUNTY/STATE UPDATES: Kirsten Jewell, Kitsap County Housing and Homelessness Division, www.kcowa.us/housing

Pacific Building Project (Mile Hill): Informal open house for community on Oct. 26, 5:30-7:30pm: community members can explore the facility and connect with service providers and stakeholders (before construction). Visit: www.kcowa.us/skhousing

Project Connect: Resource fairs planned for the week of January 23 (24-26), with the PIT Count on Jan. 26. Open invitation for others to join the planning work; seeking chair or co-chair for this committee. Next meeting is in about 2 weeks. Email Kirsten to get involved: kjewell@co.kitsap.wa.us

Severe weather shelters: Holding trainings in the next 2 weeks for volunteers. This is a low commitment opportunity to support unsheltered folks in our community (Poulsbo, Kingston, Port Orchard, and Silverdale). Visit: <https://www.kitsapgov.com/hs/Pages/HH-Severe-Weather-Shelters.aspx>

HEART program: Completed another encampment cleanup today on Clear Creek Trail. For more updates, visit: <https://www.kitsapgov.com/hs/Pages/HH-Homeless-Encampment-Response.aspx>

Monitoring: Going on now; good opportunities for record keeping and technical assistance for grants. The County is being audited on the KEPA program and want to keep paperwork in good order.

Renewals: Emails will go out soon for renewing AAGP and AHGP contracts in first year of funding. This will be a quick turnaround. Asking for spending to-date and how you anticipate that to change next year.

ADMINISTRATIVE REMINDERS AND FOLLOW-UP: Lisa Lechuga, Executive Team; admin@kitsaphhc.org

New meeting invite process: Thank you for using the registration link. When Lisa emails out the agenda, please follow the link to register for that meeting. When you register, you have the option of adding it to your calendar.

Meeting in person: December 21, 2-4pm at the Norm Dicks building. Aiming to offer this hybrid.

Nominations: Annual awards will be given at the December meeting. Please submit additional nominations by Oct. 31 here: <https://airtable.com/shrCQk12F0LmTBGuo> . Executive committee nominations can be emailed to admin@kitsaphhc.org

Free Meals schedule: The spring edition is still up to date and on the KHHC website. Leif will try to upload a PDF so you can download a copy directly.

AGENCY UPDATES:

Jeff Coughlin, Bremerton City Council – Visit <http://bremerton2044.com/> and start giving feedback now through next year on the city's 20-year development plan, which includes support services.

Matt Garrett, KCR Housing Solutions Center – We still have openings for case managers and are expanding capacity for rapid rehousing through HSC. New: Community Based Rental Assistance program is now taking referrals for folks under 50% AMI, documented behavioral health issues, qualified for some type of long-term care and demonstrated need for rental assistance. This is funded through the Health Care Authority so priority is for those exiting inpatient care. Referrals go through Coordinated

Entry to pass through HSC. FYI: permanent supportive housing programs do not move quickly (maybe 12-15 spots available per year).

Janae Jenkins, Benedict House – Lost our recent case manager, seeking new one.

Joanne Sprague, Kitsap Legal Services – Now fully staffed with attorneys and admin staff and hopefully processing cases quicker. We provide full legal representation to folks facing eviction (when they get the initial eviction notice). We have several different programs with different eligibility, and offer staff attorneys for pre-court and court processes. Contact: 360-479-6125 or EvictionDefense@KitsapLegalServices.org

Dionne Deschenne: Kitsap County Council for Human Rights is focusing on housing and homelessness for this year's human rights conference: "This is Home: Our Bodies, Our Homes, Our Planet" – Saturday, Dec. 10, 9am-4pm, virtual via Zoom. RFP will be released next week and we're hoping to have several presentations on housing needs in Kitsap. Presentations will be 1 hour each in the afternoon.

Marwan Cameron, Gather Together Grow Together – G2 will be hosting a discussion about MLK on Wednesday, Oct. 26 from 10am-2pm.

Danielle Gorman, Peninsula Community Health Services – PCHS has a community health worker screening social determinants of health. Anyone who needs legal assistance gets referred to their legal team (prescreening for Kitsap Legal Services).

COVID bivalent boosters are available every Friday in October, 9am-3pm. Also offering new boosters for ages 6-11 and primary series for ages 6mos-5years. In November and December they'll be offering these just twice a month, and no flu outreach at the moment.

Jason Doty, Kitsap Aging and Long-Term Care – Whole Health Day, Oct. 21, 9am-3:30pm at VA in Silverdale. ALTC is still offering free memory screenings for seniors; call main office at 360-337-5700 for referrals. Still hiring for Medicaid case management unit through Kitsap County's website. ALTC is currently providing presentations for Senior Information and Assistance program; contact Jdoty@kitsap.gov if interested.

Meeting ended at 3:40pm. Next meeting Nov. 16, 2-4pm.

In attendance:

Alec Bellis
Andrea Harris, PCAP Advocate
Annika Turner, Kitsap Immigrant Assistance Center
Brenda DeJesus, US Navy Fleet and Family Services
Brenda Johnson, Kitsap Community Resources
Bridget Glasspoole, Kitsap Mental Health Services
Charlene Marshall-Hitch, Northwest Justice Project
Chris, DSHS
Chris Grosskopf
Collin Kind, Fishline Food Bank and Comprehensive Services
Courtney N. Love, WA State Lived Experience Coalition - courtney@wearelec.org
Danielle Gorman, Peninsula Community Health Services

Dionne Deschenne, Kitsap County Council for Human Rights
Ed Reyman, CLEAN Project
Elizabeth McNeil
Elizabeth Yeager, Skookum
Frankie Coleman, Coordinated Care – Community Relations
Janae Jenkins, Benedict House
Jasmine Castorena, Kitsap Community Resources Housing Solutions Center
Jason Doty, Kitsap Aging & Long-Term Care
Jeff Campbell
Jeff Coughlin, Bremerton City Council
Joanne Sprague, Kitsap Legal Services
Kathleen Cottey
Katie Sharp, Bremerton Housing Authority
Kirsten Jewell, Kitsap County Housing and Homelessness Division
Leah Noldan, Kitsap County Housing and Homelessness Division
Leif Wagner, Kitsap Mental Health Services
Linda, WorkSource Kitsap
Lisa Lechuga, Kitsap Regional Library (Downtown Bremerton)
Madeline Multer, US Navy Fleet and Family Services
Madison Roszak, Kitsap Homes of Compassion
Marwan Cameron, Gather Together Grow Together and the Conduit
Matt Garrett, Kitsap Community Resources Housing Solutions Center
Maureen Olson, US Navy Fleet and Family Services
Michael Achey, Housing Resources Bainbridge
Michelle Jayroe, Kitsap Transit
Mindy Tonti
Nicole Oberg, Salish BHASO
Priya Charry, Kitsap Regional Library (Downtown Bremerton)
Rachel Carver, Scarlet Road
Robert Wilson, Eagles Wings Coordinated Care
Rochelle Karlsen, League of Women Voters Housing Committee
Roland Arper, Project Share/Lion's Club
Scott Willard, Kitsap Homes of Compassion
Theresa Ballew, Housing Kitsap
Tiphany Turnley, Agape Unlimited
Vernalisa Colon, Agape Unlimited
Virginia McCaslin, Kitsap County Housing and Homelessness Division

Notes: Priya Charry