

Community Advisory Committee Minute Meetings

On August 12th, 2019

Members In Attendance:

*John Brown, Cierra Driscoll, Sarah Burdette from LIHI,
Brad Morrill from Faith Alliance Initiative for Tiny Houses
Colin DeForest from the City of Olympia
Nathan Allan from Eastside Neighborhood Association,
Talitha Thalya from Eastside and Oly Farmers' Market
Warren Carlson from Olympia Rotary and SideWalk
Pablo Matute from St. Michael Parish Men's Shelter*

Village Update from Special Project Manager John Brown:

The first week of August the Village had several members from the Faith Alliance prepare, deliver, and serve a healthy dinner for the residents. The residents had the opportunity to talk with the individuals that served the food while they ate their dinner. The experience was a mutually positive contribution for the residents and the volunteers. The Special Projects Manager shared in the meeting that CAC members can spread the word about Plum Street Village to their communities if any other groups would like to contribute through donations and volunteering as well as coming to take a tour. Since the last CAC meeting, there has been another exit of a resident into housing, making for a total of **seven resident move-outs since the opening of the village.**

John also shared that the code of conduct is held with a need for accountability with residents. When the code of conduct is broken, depending on the severity of the action, appropriate disciplinary actions are taken including, verbal and written warnings, and if necessary, exit from the program.

Case Management Report:

Cierra Driscoll, a case managers at the village shared the following demographics on the residents:

- 33 total residents
- 22 (67%) have a monthly income.
 - *Income from work: 13 (38%)
- SSI/SSDI: 7 (21%)
- Retirement 1 (3%)
- Age Demographics
- 6 (18%) are age 55 or over
- 1 (3%) are age 62 or over
- 5 (15%) are 25 or younger.

Sarah Burdette, another case manager at the village shared the following updates in the village:

- There is a new partnership with Pacific Mountain Workforce Development. Pacific Mountain helps individuals who are looking for employment with job training, employment preparation, and connecting individuals with jobs. They often find that many of their clients face homelessness as a barrier to their long-term employment goals. At the village, case management has found that employment is often a barrier for our residents finding housing. Case management is now partnering with them and referring clients to each other to both support the long-term goals of stable employment and stable housing.
- There has been an ask from the residents for accessible internet in the village for individuals to be able to do their searches for employment and housing, receive e-mails and calls from potential employers, and be better connected. The village is still currently exploring potential opportunities in this area.
- If there are any volunteers that would like to offer any Community Workshops, case management is happy to discuss the opportunity. Many of our residents work during the day, but for those that are in the village during the day, we would like to be able to offer education and recreational workshops to help build community engagement.
- Plum Street Village now has an active waitlist for potential new residents. The village is at full capacity, but is distributing the entrance criteria to partners and has received many excellent potential residents that are now on the waitlist as we transition others out.

Update from the City of Olympia shared by Colin:

The city is working with the Community Action Counsel who is taking over Sidewalk's coordinated entry role. Coordinated entry is not required for admittance into Plum Street, but moving forward there is desire for future residents to also be enrolled into coordinated entry prior to entrance into the village.

Open Discussion and Questions:

- The idea was offered to begin a "Supply List" at the village for non-essential items residents may need when they transition into new housing. Things such as vacuums, furniture, kitchen appliances, etc. are sometimes outside of the scope of items that LIHI is able to offer, but still requested by residents exiting. The request was for case management to make a running list of what residents need, and maybe share in an electronic document that people have access to.

- Several members shared about an option called the *Buy Nothing Movement and Next Door* as an option to get housing resources for the residents from community members at no cost.
- Another member was familiar with two other organizations that can offer such services as furniture donation. They said they will provide specific contact information to case management.
- Meeting members discussed the possibility of offering rides for residents to employment opportunities and transport larger moving items to and from residents.
- There was an offering to potentially request clean underwear and socks that may be available through the St. Michael's Parish.