



Supportive Housing Services Oversight Committee Meeting Summary

Meeting: Supportive Housing Services (SHS) Oversight Committee Meeting
Date: April 28, 2025
Time: 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Place: Virtual meeting (Zoom)
Purpose: Receive Metro tax collection and disbursement updates, receive update and vote on TCPB healthcare systems alignment update, discuss WA County FY25 workplan amendment, receive a FY26 workplan presentation from county partners.

Member attendees

Co-chair Dr. Mandrill Taylor (he/him), Dr. James (Jim) Bane (he/him), Peter Rosenblatt (he/him), Kai Laing (he/him), Dan Fowler (he/him), Jeremiah Rigsby (he/him), Cara Hash (she/her), Co-chair Mike Savara (he/him), Felicita Monteblanco (she/her)

Absent members

Jenny Lee (she/her)

Elected delegates

Washington County Chair Kathryn Harrington (she/her), Metro Councilor Christine Lewis (she/her)

Absent elected delegates

Clackamas County Commissioner Ben West (he/him), Multnomah County Chair Jessica Vega Pederson (she/her)

Metro staff

Patricia Rojas (she/her), Yesenia Delgado (she/her), Breanna Hudson (she/her), Yvette Perez-Chavez (she/her)

Kearns & West facilitation team

Josh Mahar (he/him), Ariella Dahlin (she/her)

Note: The meeting was recorded via Zoom; therefore, this meeting summary will remain at a high-level overview. Please review the recording and archived meeting packet for details and presentation slides.

Summary of Meeting Decisions

- The Committee approved the March 24 meeting summary.
- The Committee approved the TCPB healthcare systems alignment implementation strategy.

Welcome and Introductions

Co-chair Dr. Mandrill Taylor provided welcoming remarks.

Co-chair Mike Savara announced he will be going on paternal leave in June. He will be helping the team find an interim co-chair to take his place during his leave, likely until October.



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Patricia Rojas, Metro, announced she will be stepping down as Regional Housing Director, and her last day will be May 2nd, 2025. She thanked the Committee for their service.

Josh Mahar, Kearns & West, facilitated introductions between attendees.

Several Committee members reflected on Patricia's contribution to the housing sector and thanked her for her work.

Yesenia Delgado, Metro, stated that the next meeting has been moved to May 19 due to the Memorial Day holiday, and that Metro has started the process for recruiting new Committee members for the five vacancies.

Melissa Arnold, Metro, provided an update on Metro Council President's workgroup on the future of SHS funding. She shared that four key themes for a vision have formed: an aligned system, people-centered work, robust infrastructure, and improved outcomes, including system audits and evaluations. She noted that the group will meet three more times and that Metro Council will receive the breadth of the workgroup's feedback.

Val Galstad, Metro, reviewed Metro Council's action timeline. Metro Council reviewed the draft SHS funding draft ordinances in January and will revisit them in June. In April, Metro Council approved an ordinance that allowed SHS spending for one-time investments. Metro Council is also considering a resolution for administration funding distribution, which, if adopted, will distribute \$15 million to Multnomah County to give City of Portland Mayor Wilson.

Committee members had the following questions:

- **Question, Peter Rosenblatt:** Is the distribution of administration funding done equitably, or does Portland receive all of it? Are some funds reserved for Clackamas and Washington County? I support the workgroup's work to create a vision, but I do not see a connection between the vision and the ordinances.
 - **Metro response, Val:** We are not planning on distributing the full amount to one jurisdiction; these are for specific one-time uses. We do anticipate similar requests from other counties. The workgroup will discuss the ordinances, but it is not there yet. The group thought it would be best to have the vision conversation first before discussing the ordinances.

Decision: Co-chair Dr. Taylor, Dr. James (Jim) Bane, Peter, Kai Laing, Dan Fowler, Jeremiah Rigsby, Cara Hash, Co-chair Savara, and Felicita Monteblanco **approved the March 24 meeting summary.**

Conflict of Interest Declaration

Peter declared that he works at Northwest Housing Alternatives, which receives SHS funding.

Dan declared he is Chair of the Homeless Solutions Coalition of Clackamas County, which receives SHS funding.

Public Comment

No public comment was received.

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Metro Tax Collection and Disbursement Updates

RJ Stangland, Metro, reviewed the [interactive FY25 tax revenue and disbursement charts](#).

Committee members had the following questions:

- **Question, Peter:** I see these charts have the forecast at \$63 million, in other meetings at the county level, I hear the forecast will be lower by \$10 million.
 - **Metro response, RJ:** There is volatility in the tax. The actuals could be lower or higher than \$63 million. Metro's policy is to maintain the current forecast until after a bulk of the tax is collected. May's meeting will have more information.

Tri-County Planning Body (TCPB) Healthcare Systems Alignment

Yesenia reminded the Committee that TCPB has been developing implementation plans for its regional goals.

Co-chair Savara shared that he attended the TCPB meeting when it was approved and reflected that the TCPB was supportive of this plan when they were discussing it ahead of the vote.

Ruth Adkins, Metro, shared that the Healthcare System Alignment Implementation Plan is a result of the work Metro, Health Share, county partners, and Homebase have been doing, and reviewed the TCPB's goal and recommendation language. She highlighted county work underway related to this goal area, including case conferencing and health-related social needs (HRSN) benefit implementation.

Adam Peterson, Health Share, shared that Health Share covers about 25% of individuals in the Portland metro region. He reviewed Health Share's approach to bridging system gaps, which is focused on the HRSN benefit, High Acuity Behavioral Health Initiative, and Regional Integration Continuum (RIC). Adam reflected that healthcare and housing systems are serving the same people, and system alignment is needed to serve them effectively. Adam reviewed the key functions and components of RIC success, including legal and relational infrastructure, data centralization, and case conferencing.

Ruth shared that the three implementation strategies emerged from a landscape analysis and county-level work. Ruth detailed each key strategy's vision, activities, timeline, and deliverables. The three strategies are:

1. Develop a Regional Plan for Medically Enhanced Housing and Shelter Models
2. Establish Regional Support for Cross-System Care Coordination
3. Build Regional Cross-System Data Sharing Infrastructure

The overall timeline for phase one would start in March and end in December 2025, with an interim progress report in September and a report with recommendations for refining the strategies in December. Funding from the Regional Investment Fund (RIF) would support county health/housing integration staff and consultants and Washington County's medical respite program for FY25- 26 for a total of \$1.8 million.

Ruth stated that the TCPB unanimously approved the plan and shared questions on how to protect immigrant, refugee, and vulnerable populations, how this work will engage the hardest to reach communities, and how this work will increase resources and capacity.

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Committee members had the following questions and comments:

- **Question, Peter:** I agree with the hope that more resources can help support capacity. I am confused about the budget. Why does Multnomah County need two full-time employees (FTEs), while Clackamas County and Washington County need three?
 - **Multnomah County response, Lori Kelley:** We have a separate funding source supporting additional employees. The FTE's in the budget are only what will be supported by the RIF.
- **Question, Co-chair Dr. Taylor:** I like this plan. It is important to understand where we are at now and where we are planning to have discussions in the future. How are we planning to assess performance beyond these service delivery methods and health and stability for participants?
 - **Health Share response, Adam:** Part of the challenge of our system is not being able to share data. Once we have data sharing agreements, we can track health and housing outcomes. We will start there and then expand the ability to assess performance in additional ways.
- **Question, Dr. Bane:** Strategy 1 discusses sustainable shared funding models. Do you have an idea of what those might be and how reliable you expect them to be?
 - **Metro response, Ruth:** We have uncertainty at the federal level. We are building towards a relationship with the hospital system, especially for medical respite and cooperative care. Ultimately, it would be a combination of Medicaid, county general fund, and some others. These conversations are the work ahead of us. We cannot expect SHS to carry these health and housing integration programs.
- **Comment, Dan:** We need a coordinated approach to inform the public of this work and that Metro is cooperating with the counties.

Decision: Co-chair Dr. Taylor, Dr. Bane, Peter, Kai, Dan, Jeremiah, Cara, Co-chair Savara, and Felicitia approved the TCPB healthcare systems alignment implementation strategy. There were no dissensions or abstentions.

Washington County Fiscal Year (FY) 25 Work Plan Amendment

Nicole Stingh, Washington County, shared that the current FY work plan is not achievable with the resources they expect to receive. She reviewed the goal reductions for each program area, noting that there are no changes to the PSH goal. She reflected that the reductions are also reflected in the next FY work plan.

Committee members had the following questions and comments:

- **Question, Peter:** What are the workforce impacts of these reductions?
 - **Washington County response, Nicole:** We are not anticipating layoffs for this fiscal year (ending June 2025). Washington County has been communicating with providers since October and expects to see layoffs in the next fiscal year (starting July 2025). Washington County is providing off-ramp funding for FTE reductions and hopes that FTEs can be absorbed by other funding streams.
- **Comment, Co-chair Savara:** Thank you for the care that you are demonstrating in making these decisions. With these reductions, fewer folks have a place to call home, and I was surprised to learn the Committee does not vote on work plan changes. This is worrying if the SHS tax rate changes. I am excited for the conversations on shared accountability and governance, and hope we can make these hard decisions together.

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- **Response, Washington County Chair Kathryn Harrington:** The work plan is reviewed and approved by the Washington County Board of Commissioners. We did take action to require staff to share the work plan and signal that we are accountable to goals, and when circumstances change, we adjust.
- **Metro response, Yesenia:** Co-chair Savara did bring this question to Metro staff, and our response is that this falls under the local authority of each county. He does raise a good point on shared accountability and making these hard decisions together as a region.
- **Comment, Dr. Bane:** This decision seems to be very financially responsible and thoughtful.
 - **Washington County response, Nicole:** Yes, we have maintained our reserves for economic downturns, and the TCPB approved RIF reserve funding to support the offramp funding.
- **Comment, Peter:** I would like to have context and know the shelter need, this would help me absorb this information. For example, with the reduction in shelters from 400 to 385, what is the overall need in the county for shelters? As we move into the next presentation, it would be helpful to have the presenters speak to this.

FY26 Workplan Presentation

Nicole reflected that while progress is being made, the needs are outpacing the work. She reviewed the shift in the forecast for the next five years and shared that regional themes include managing resource constraints within the updated forecast and that counties are navigating changes with federal funding.

Breanna Flores, Multnomah County, reviewed the county's draft work plan's quantitative and qualitative goals. She shared that the county's key themes include sustaining progress and maximizing resources with less funding, and prioritizing stability and support for culturally specific providers.

Lauren Decker, Clackamas County, reviewed the county's draft work plan's quantitative and qualitative goals. She shared that the county's key themes include advancing racial equity, expanding capacity building, and focusing on local implementation plan goals such as geographic equity and health system alignment.

Nicole reviewed Washington County's goals related to program capacity and advancement, advancing racial equity, and system effectiveness. She shared that next steps for all three counties include feedback discussions with their respective advisory bodies and this Committee before the final work plan is submitted for approval by their respective Board of Commissioners.

Committee members had the following questions:

- **Question, Co-chair Dr. Taylor:** Will Multnomah County set specific workforce goals or indicators related to its focus on capacity building for providers?
 - **Multnomah County response, Breanna:** We are not there yet. We are trying to understand what the impacts are for contract negotiations.
- **Question, Peter:** Thank you, counties, for the work. I would appreciate it if the Committee could redo the information template in the future. I enjoyed hearing about other funding sources to support the work in the broader system. Can Clackamas County speak more about the crisis stabilization center?

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- **Clackamas County response, Lauren:** The stabilization center will serve adults and is connected to a shelter. It is scheduled to open later this year; it is currently under construction.
- **Metro response, Yesenia:** The templates that Metro provides to the counties are iterative, and we are happy to work through any feedback you would like to share. We are working with the counties on developing an annual report template and including information on different funding sources to understand the greater context.
- **Comment, Dan:** Including information about different funding sources helps give us and the public the ability to understand the whole picture.
- **Question, Co-chair Dr. Taylor:** Clackamas County is doing excellent work aligning behavioral health and housing. As we move towards assessing the success of the program, have there been any discussions about how we will measure alignment success?
 - **Multnomah County response, Breanna:** We have been reflecting, and while it does not quite get at a full system review, Multnomah County just released an in-depth in-and out-flow dashboard. This is an opportunity for us to get a better look on the ground and make better decisions. We can share the link to the dashboard.
 - **Response, Peter:** Clackamas County will also be releasing a dashboard soon. It is important to think about how we present all this information, and that when we talk about the system, we do not put on funding blinders, but look at how it all comes together to help end homelessness.
 - **Clackamas County response, Lauren:** Our RLRA vouchers housed those with the highest acuity. Integrating with the behavioral health system is huge and helps link behavioral health care case managers with housing.
- **Comment, Co-chair Savara:** From a state perspective, it is important to understand what is being invested in a community, which is difficult information to obtain. Each funding structure may not have visibility into another. County leaders should be able to see that information and map it out.

Next Steps

Yesenia thanked everyone for meeting and noted that the calendar invitations for upcoming meetings will be sent soon.

Josh reviewed the next steps and adjourned the meeting.

Next steps include:

- Metro to share Committee vacancy recruitment resources.
- Multnomah County to share their in-and out-flow dashboard.
- Next meeting: May 19, 2025, 9:30 am – 12 pm.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm.