



HOUSING FIRST SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES

July 30, 2024- 4:00PM

<https://youtu.be/aTNjx1MmRmU?si=nZlapsDriQSqNnBZ>

Housing First Subcommittee of the Commission on Equitable Housing and Development meeting

Call to Order/Roll Call, and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by Chair Tisha Tallman. Roll call was taken, and a quorum was established.

No Action Taken

Members present: Tisha Tallman, Mindy Bernstein, Mark Clark, Wendy Ascher

Members of public present: Dillion Belmont

Others Present: Ernesto Portillo, Elaine MacPherson

1. **Call to the Audience**
2. **Approval of the June Minutes – approved as submitted**
3. **Housing First Update** – Elaine, Supervisor of the Homeless System Improvement with the City spoke about the Housing Central Command Initiative that is coming out of some HUD funding through TPCH to help house folks from encampments into housing. Also spoke about the gaps analysis which was discussed at the board meetings a while back with both members of the Continuum of Care board as well as Entitlement funders regarding programming for people experiencing homelessness in Pima County. Elaine also mentioned about the great work being done around Housing First like cooling centers, mobile showers and soon HUD will be releasing an Annual notice of funding opportunities for the Continuum of Care program and finally recently was a release of notice of funding opportunity for the construction of permanent supportive housing so upon the Continuum of Care boards this also through the Continuum of Care programs, once the Continuum of Care board approves the RFP it will up a go. Ernesto put into the chat a story from the AZ Daily Star about four Housing First employees who previously experienced unsheltered life and now are working with their unsheltered peers.

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4. **Rachel Milne, with the Office of Homeless Solutions, City of Phoenix** – Rachel shared a slideshow PowerPoint presentation on the Office of Homeless Solutions (OHS) and discussed the type of support they offer which was created 2 years ago by the City Mayor, Director and City Council, prior to this the City funded most of the homeless service providers which were mostly shelters, some rapid rehousing, some prevention but wasn't really active in homeless solutions. So, in creating the OHS it created a direct service delivery, they created their own outreach teams, buildings, safe outdoor space, shelters and purchased a hotel to convert into affordable housing and have a hands-on approach at the City when it comes to solutions. Most of the focus is on shelters since that is most needed.

*Slide shows the Homelessness Overview of Maricopa County growth rate graph from 2023-2024. Total PIT (Point in Time) count from 2018-2024. Rachel went over the data.

*Slide on Overview – Maricopa COC Quarterly date Jan-Mar 2024

<u>Single/Couple</u>	<u>Family</u>
Households-8450	Households-969
People-8854	People-3618

These are the number of people served

*Slide on Overview – Maricopa COC data

- 31,071 People Experiencing homelessness in the past year from Apr 2023-Mar 2024
- Clients served in the past month (March 2024)

<u>Program Type</u>	<u>Total</u>
Emergency Shelter	3901
Transitional Housing	1031
Rapid Re-Housing	1712
Permanent Supportive Housing	4939
Other Permanent Housing	213

*Slide on how many shelter beds have been added in 2022 which is 592, and is as follows:

<u>Shelter</u>	<u>New Beds</u>
CASS-Single adult shelter	175
Key Campus-Respiro	100
Washington Relief Shelter	200
CBI-Rio Fresco Hotel Conversion	117

*Slide on Temporary Housing Units added in 2023 which is 482, and as follows:

<u>Shelter</u>	<u>New Beds</u>	<u>End Date</u>
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Temp Haven Shelter-CASS	60	4-2024
Temp Lodging-Community Bridges	140	5-2024
Temp Lodging-St. Vincent de Paul	50	6-2024
Temp Lodging-A New Leaf	102	9-2024
Temp Lodging-Mercy House	50	11-2024
Lutheran Social Services	20	TBD
Washington Shelter	60	TBD

An 800 person encampment was dispersed and those people were placed in the above locations.

*Slide on New Shelter beds to be added in 2024-2025 = 790

<u>Shelter</u>	<u>New Beds</u>	<u>Expected Opening</u>
City owned Shelter & Navigation Center	280	Phase 1 – July
St. Vincent de Paul, De Paul Manor	100	August
CBI North Mountain Healing Center	100	Phase 1 – August
CASS Haven senior center	170	September
Salvation Army-Family Shelter	60	December
UMOM-Family Shelter	80	December

*Slide-Location of the Phoenix Navigation Center which is a City owned shelter. The slide shows a rendering map of the facility with the following features:

- Intensive Support services
- Closed campus
- 300 people max
- Workforce/Employment focus
- Pet friendly
- Property
- Partners
- RV parking

Rachel went over all the amenities the facility will be providing.

*Slides on photos of the following facilities:

De Paul Manor, North Mountain Healing Center, CASS Haven, Salvation Army Family Shelter and UMOM-New Day Center

*Slide showing the Regional Projects not funded by Phoenix

<u>Shelter</u>	<u>New Beds</u>
St. Vincent de Paul, workforce transitional housing	70
Surprise Bridge Housing	15 beds (7 units)

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Avondale Bridge Housing	36 beds (6 units)
East Valley Bridge Housing	30
Mesa Grand Hotel	70
Homebase Surprise	40
Tempe Community Action Agency Shelter	70
Glendale Veteran's Village	50
	Total 381

*Slide showing the Safe Outdoor Space Photo

*Next slide covered sanctioned camping a property purchased from the State of AZ in 2023 and opened November 1, 2023. The outdoor space includes a covered open space with a warehouse for people to come inside to use as a cooling center and serves meals, provides case management and intensive services, workforce programs, has restrooms, showers and laundry facilities.

* Slide shows a phot of the housing units provide that uses old shipping containers that the Steel & Spark Company refurbishes, each container is 40 feet.

*Slide is the Phoenix Specialty Courts

- Veterans Court
- Behavioral Health Court
- Maricopa Co Regional Homeless Court

These courts were added for people experiencing homelessness.

*Slide-The courts were launched in January 2024

*Slide-Data shows what the Courts handle

*Slide-Community Court outcomes from Jan-June 2024

157 participants with 319 cases

*Slide-Data showing the breakdown of types of cases

Q&A-Rachel answered questions

5. Elizabeth DaCosta, Director of Housing with AHCCCS – Elizabeth presented a slideshow on Housing & Health Opportunities (H2O) and the Housing Accelerator.

*Slide showed data on their goals:

- Rental assistance
- Waiver H2O HRSN services data
- Offer home accessibility modifications
- Permanent supportive housing services
- Outreach and Education services
- Transitional housing for 6 months
- One time transition and moving costs
- Home accessibility modification and remediation
- Housing pre-tenancy services
- Housing tenancy services

*H2O Eligibility Criteria, what is required for members:

- Must be experiencing homelessness and Z code and Identify through HMIS

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- Must have SMI Designation and be diagnosed with a chronic health condition or currently in a correctional facility with a release date scheduled within 90 days or released from the correctional facility within last 90 days.

*Slide shows a graph of AHCCCS service coordination

*Slide on waiver implementation-H2O data

*Slide-Housing and Services Accelerator Partnerships goals

H2O is access initiative and Housing services accelerator partnership (a Federal Initiative) are two separate entities.

*Slide shows H2O Service Coordination

- Medicaid stabilization of the member
- CMS guardrails

*Slide-graph showing H2O Eligible Count by City (top cities) more than 30 members.

*Slide-Thoughts on PHA/Medicaid Partnership

Elizabeth opened the floor with any Q&A

6. Additional Research – Mindy has some personal research on the homeless, she asked them if they would be willing to live in a tiny/micro village or sanctioned campground and the feedback was that there was a difference between what they would tell her and how they really feel about it. Couples don't want to go to the shelters since they end up separated, the rest were willing to be in a secure campground but prefer a tiny village.

7. Next Steps – Agenda items for the August 27th meeting are as follows:

1. Call to audience
2. HCD updates
3. Discussion on recommendations to the full commission board regarding tiny villages.

Adjournment – 5:14 pm