



Homeless Services Department  
 Community Budget Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes  
 December 1, 2025  
 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

[These minutes are subject to adjustment and approval by the CBAC]

Attendance:

Committee Members: Nicki Dardinger, Wendy Lear, William Hodsoll, Elizabeth Gilling, Katrina Malachowski, Lisa Drennan, Anisa Ali, Cameron Foster, Amanda Garren, Darius Yaw  
HSD & County Staff: Bill Boyd, Malka Geffen, Antoinette Payne

Agenda Item	Discussion Points	
Welcome	Brief welcomes and introductions	
Approve the 11/24/2025 CBAC Meeting Minutes	<p>Committee approved the 11/24/25 meeting minutes using Fist to 5 consensus decision making tool</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nicki Dardinger - 5, William Hodsoll - 5, Elizabeth Gilling - 5, Katrina Malachowski - 5, Wendy Lear - 5, Anisa Ali - abstained, Lisa Drennan - 5, Cameron Foster - 5</li> </ul>	
FY2027 HSD Budget - Context Setting	<p>HSD Finance Manager Senior provided the CBAC answers to the following questions about the budget context set at last week's meeting.</p> <p>Q: Any new developments to share since last week, including HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)? A: Tomorrow we'll get the Metro Supportive Housing Services (SHS) forecast and we'll share it with you next time; we're awaiting the Chair's guidance, but there's 5% constraint on General Fund; re: HUD funding, HSD is looking at strategies (including swapping) to keep as many people housed as possible and to receive as much as possible, while maintaining our values.</p> <p>Q: Where is our local prioritization stemming from? A: CoC providers, the CoC Board's Collaborative Application Committee, jurisdictional partners (City, County and Metro)</p>	

Q: What's the timeline on Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) folks being impacted? A: Some CoC grants end in spring, others would end late spring into June/July; HSD continues to work with providers.

Finance Manager Sr explained that \$63M of SHS funds won't be available in FY 27 and HSD backfilled \$20M this year, so the department will be cutting about a third of its budget.

Priorities for FY 27: 1. Keep people housed 2. Prioritizing housing placements 3. Sustain shelter units 4. Add shelter units

Q: We're cutting millions from placement out of shelter currently, so how is it a priority? A: When rebalancing the FY 26 budget, we couldn't cut shelter while approaching severe weather; for FY 27 we want to prioritize placement

Q: Are there other aspects of HSD work being prioritized less? A: Adding more PSH units

Q: Are some support services less of a priority? A: Eviction prevention, which is not our department's work (part of other County department budgets), is not something being prioritized.

Q: Is there an ongoing relationship with the City Team shelter from HSD and if there is a funding relationship with their shelters, how does the announcement of their closing the shelter affect the priorities and budget? A: It impacts our overall shelter system; City Team does not get County money. CBAC Chair clarified that the City Team isn't closing its shelter; it's moving to Old Town.

Q: With the \$80M being cut, what is at risk of being cut? A: We're looking at how to have a balanced system.

Q: What is being considered for collaborative service delivery? A: HSD is thinking about this with our partners.

Q: How will harm reduction programs be supported? A: Harm reduction lives with the Health Department; also HUD won't fund projects or communities engaged in harm reduction (which they describe as needle exchanges, safe injection, etc)

Q: Is there potential priority to continue funding shelters that are placing people out of shelter better and how will evaluation of services influence funding decisions for next year? A: The shelter evaluation will be looking at which shelters are achieving

	<p>outcomes and the cost of providing those beds. The report will be shared in January.</p> <p>Q: How does HSD track provider spending? A: Funding goes to providers in 3-5 year contracts, the amount is contingent on budget approval; we solicit for new projects and monitor through our contract monitoring dashboard, where provider spend is reviewed on a monthly basis. Providers know how much they're getting, and they get reimbursed for their spending.</p> <p>Q: Is each contract tagged with a priority? A: Output and outcome is linked to overall budget re: how many people served and exited out of homelessness as a way for the contract manager to help providers course correct if not achieving the goals.</p> <p>CBAC member suggested HSD should tie contract goals to the budget priorities.</p> <p>Q: How do you define what a shelter is? Many are just a mat on a floor; would like to see shelter evaluations of where funding is going and residents being kicked out early in the morning, for example. A: We'll look at the report; County shelters are 24-7 programs, and City-funded are overnight shelters.</p> <p>Q: How does outreach fit with the 4 budget policy priorities? A: Meeting immediate needs, Multnomah Services and Screening Tool (MSST) assessments, and should be included in the housing placement priority.</p> <p>Should priorities be further defined/more specific?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Yes, they're very broad; A lot of HSD activities can roll up into them.</li> <li>● Priorities currently read more like a mission</li> <li>● Shelter and housing being prioritized simultaneously is difficult</li> <li>● Why keep prioritizing shelter? I would take shelter units away, and focus on moving people out of shelter into housing more quickly</li> </ul> <p>HSD: What would CBAC members hold harmless/like to see receive continued funding in a constraint budget?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CCC's Community Engagement Program (CEP) program - a program that leads to PSH with intensive case management</li> </ul>	
--	--	--

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● With shelters only reaching about 50% occupancy, prioritize getting and keeping people housed; if you add more services in shelters, that would be different <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Define shelter as places with dignity &amp; respect and support services</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Permanent housing and making sure people can stay housed. From my experience speaking with individuals who are homeless, most of them want stable, long-term housing — not shelters. Shelters may provide temporary safety, but they are not a real solution. People deserve a place they can call home.</li> <li>● Priority needs to be Housing First, or we'll maintain crisis</li> <li>● Keep inclement-weather shelters open, because they are frequently used and provide essential safety for the unhoused community during severe conditions. People deserve both immediate protection and real, lasting housing solutions.</li> <li>● PSH should be highest priority</li> <li>● Do away with overnight-only shelter</li> <li>● Housing has to be tied into addiction and mental health services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ There was some disagreement with this point</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Getting people stabilized enough, with training programs and clear pathways to housing, to hold a job <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It might take people several years, but housing first works</li> </ul> </li> <li>● More case management, any way possible</li> <li>● Peer support</li> <li>● Sustain the PSH we have</li> <li>● Rental assistance with case management</li> </ul>	
<p>CBAC Roles: Chair and CCBAC</p>	<p>Additional discussion of CBAC Chair and CCBAC rep roles, opportunity for members to self-nominate for either role. CBAC will select people for the roles at the Dec. 15 meeting.</p> <p>Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Katrina &amp; Amanda as co-chairs, with support from Nicki</li> <li>● Cameron</li> </ul> <p>CCBAC</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● William</li> <li>● Cameron</li> <li>● Lisa</li> <li>● Darius</li> </ul>	
Next Steps	<p>Next meeting: 12/15/2025</p> <p>January meeting TBD (3rd Monday falls on the MLK Day holiday)</p> <p>Q: What is the HSD one-time-only funding this year? A: From the state, using two-year funding in FY 26 to cover reductions</p> <p>Q: Is this why there's a reduction for FY 27? A: Somewhat, but mostly lower county general fund, less SHS tax funding, and less HUD money</p> <p>Q: With such a huge reduction for FY 27, how is HSD thinking about communicating about this? A: Don't know details; seems very recently we were communicating about underspending. Staff will ask about our plans.</p> <p>Other recommendation from CBAC member:  HUD really should revise "affordable housing" standards to take Net and not Gross pay. 10-15,000 \$ most won't even see</p>	