



SHS Advisory Committee Meeting

June 11, 2026 | 3:00-4:30 pm

Attendance: Cheryl, Crystal, Daniel, Ed, Patrick, Ria, Ty, Sandra, Jamar

STAFF: Mack Vohs, Breanna Flores, Anna Johnson, Kanoe Egleston, Emily Nelson

Agenda Item	Discussion Points	Decision/Action
Welcome & Introductions Land and Labor Acknowledgement Community Agreements		
Budget Update / General Updates Q&A Followup from May Meeting	The committee did not express a significant interest in engaging with Multnomah County SHS quarterly reports going forward, but the SHS team will include a brief update slide whenever a new report comes out.	
Leadership Response: Access Recommendations (Part 2)	<p><i>Please see slide presentation for full content</i></p> <p>During this session HSD leadership responded to recommendation 4 from the committee's recent access recommendations.</p> <p>Leadership will follow up with the committee about recommendation 5 (outreach) in writing. In addition, HSD's safety on the streets team (folks who work directly with outreach providers) can come talk about their work if the committee is interested.</p> <p>Recommendation: Establish policy requirements for providers to standardize participant eligibility and termination processes.</p> <p>Our standardized expectations are reflected in our contracts but we also allow for a lot of flexibility in the implementation at the provider or program level.</p>	<p>Action: Leadership will follow up with the committee about recommendation 5 (outreach) in writing</p> <p>Action: Program leadership will share your recommendations with our provider partners so they can keep</p>

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Homeless Services Department

	<p>Accountability measures are also standardized across all contracts in our systems of care.</p> <p>Recommendation: Adopt housing first & low-barrier practices for contracted providers This is baked into our contracts and our process of qualifying new providers to offer services through the County (called the RFPQ process). Providers can qualify to deliver services in a variety of service categories.</p> <p>Question: Is safe parking a service category that providers can qualify for during an RFPQ?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe park programs fall under the shelter category. Providers who qualify to provide shelter can submit an application to provide safe parking shelter. <p>Recommendation: Adopt eligibility practices that keep families together One example of how HSD keeps families together: we have moved toward measuring shelter units rather than beds so that families can stay in one unit. We also use a family lens by reporting both individuals and households served in our programs.</p> <p>Recommendation: Adopt fast and fair standards for eligibility determinations One example: Housing Youth Continuum assessments are done using "no wrong door" approach</p> <p>Recommendation: Give participants more flexibility when it comes to identification One example: When participants in SHS programming do an intake they have to fill out a form to determine whether they are Population A (chronically homeless, with a disability, and extremely low income) or Population B (someone experiencing or at risk of homelessness). There is flexibility built into</p>	<p>them in mind when they are implementing their contract requirements.</p> <p>Action: Program leadership will share actual language from HSD contracts with the committee that reflect your recommendations.</p>
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	<p>this process because participants can provide a self-attestation of disability—no documentation required.</p> <p>Recommendation: Prohibit termination for vague reasons and prevent terminations when possible. We require providers to have a termination policy. When a termination happens, providers must share a clear reason and outline the process for the participant to submit a grievance about the decision. Providers are expected to avoid terminations whenever possible. We also expect them to have adequate training for staff to carry out these tasks.</p> <p>Recommendation: Improve engagement and communication with volunteers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We use the “Assertive Engagement” approach that recognizes people as the experts in their own lives. SHS helps pay for providers to be trained in this approach. • Engagement in our equity work as well—all providers are required to do an equity assessment and work plan to identify disparities in access and outcomes and make a plan/give us an annual update on their progress. <p>Recommendation: Establish requirements for contracted providers, including the provision of liveable wages. Pay equity work has moved to the regional level. Metro has convened County staff and providers from all three counties to work on this together through an Employee Recruitment and Retention (ERR) workgroup. We can share more about this if the committee is interested.</p> <p>If any additional questions come up please follow up with the SHS team!</p>	
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Homeless Services Department

	<p>Committee feedback:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hearing this, there are a lot of moving pieces. It's great to hear that our recommendations are being heard and acted upon. • Meeting people where they are at is my #1 priority. The people are the experts and it's up to us to take those stories and put them into action. 	
<p>Recommendations Priorities Brainstorm</p>	<p>SHS Annual Report Discussion Questions What are the messages or stories about SHS programs and investments that you would want the public to know? What do you want the public to know about the advisory committee?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infographic about the communities the committee represents. • Some of our recommendations and actions being taken. • SHS advisory committee brings together providers and peoples with lived experience to advocate for community needs in the SHS services system. • I also like the work the committee does to level the playing field to make information accessible to all committee members. • That we are always figuring out how this process works because people think that this is an overnight process [to address homelessness] • The people on this advisory committee are those closest to the real issues and everything we suggest and push is because we truly understand what's needed. • I want the public to know that this committee is doing our best to ensure that SHS continues this work. <p>Priorities Brainstorming Discussion Questions</p>	

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Homeless Services Department

	<p>Given the current environment (financially, politically, etc.), what truths do you want HSD to keep front of mind? What are the core themes or priority areas you want HSD to focus on in the next year?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those that are living it know what they need. Therefore we need to keep elevating their voices. • The cultural climate is emboldening people to mistreat people experiencing homelessness. Not getting too caught up in the politics and remaining true to our values regardless of things that are shifting. • Core themes—disability justice and accessibility are areas that really need to be centered. That opens up other avenues for people to access services. There are different sets of laws for people who are disabled—remembering that could be an asset. • 5,000 people new to the system according to PIT this year. +1 to experiences of people experiencing homelessness who are being mistreated • Need better coordination between city and county. Lack of consistency and aligning resources. HSD should be thinking about how siloing affects people navigating services and the parameters they need to meet to be eligible. • For people to sustain housing they need to be able to work. But due to budget cuts we almost lost all our employment services. Hygiene resources and supplies are really important and funding for that has been disappearing. These are important resources for getting into and staying in housing. • SNAP and healthcare are now being tied to work requirements at federal level so employment services are even more important. 	
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Homeless Services Department

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Washco and Clackco seem to be housing people more quickly—can we adapt their best practices? ● What are people most concerned about? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ People are worried that services are going away and how that impacts their ability to get their basic needs met. (More stringent regulations around harm reduction, etc.) People are concerned about where things are headed. What it's going to look like a year from now. ○ Harm reduction is under attack right now so that could be a good focus area. ● Orgs that hire people coming out of homelessness and incarceration need more accountability. Reports of abuses are being brushed under the rug. There need to be people with lived experience actively involved in these organizations to hold people accountable. ● What are orgs doing to protect employees and patrons? There are no reports of harassment, violence, even death.....organizations don't share this information with funders. ● Orgs should be required to have an incident reporting system and share that information with funders. ● Want more collaboration with law enforcement. We have to keep these stories at the forefront of what is going on today. ● Can we require a mandatory reporting system to the police so there is an ongoing record. Could that be our foot in the door to collaborate with law enforcement? 	
<p>Closing and Next Steps</p>		

Zoom Chat:

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2026-06-11 14:58:54 From Anna J, she/her SHS team to Hosts and panelists:

Welcome back and welcome in! Please make yourself comfortable. We will get started in a few minutes.

2026-06-11 15:03:36 From Mack Vohs (they/them) to Hosts and panelists:

Hi everyone! We'll start in just a moment!

2026-06-11 15:05:38 From Ed to Hosts and panelists:

Ed
Community volunteer

2026-06-11 15:06:10 From Crystal to Hosts and panelists:

Crystal, she/her, lived experiences

2026-06-11 15:07:51 From Breanna Flores (she/they) HSD to Hosts and panelists:

that game was wild!

2026-06-11 15:08:01 From Breanna Flores (she/they) HSD to Hosts and panelists:

Knicks in 5

2026-06-11 15:10:48 From Cheryl's iPad to Hosts and panelists:

What aa "Comeback " Knicks I'm aa fan also 🗣️🏀

2026-06-11 15:15:57 From Breanna Flores (she/they) HSD to Hosts and panelists:

<https://multco.us/news/news-release-multnomah-county-board-commissioners-closes-significant-spending-gap-adopts>

2026-06-11 15:17:40 From Ria Tsinas (She/They) to Hosts and panelists:

I'm so sorry Mack! Thank you so much for your leadership over the past few years! Wherever and who ever you land will be fortunate to have you. I will miss you!
Mack Vohs (they/them): ❤️


2026-06-11 15:18:42 From Mack Vohs (they/them) to Hosts and panelists:

<3 thanks everyone!


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2026-06-11 15:19:51 From Anna J, she/her SHS team to Hosts and panelists:
Yes that's right Mack, Jan-March

2026-06-11 15:30:28 From Mack Vohs (they/them) to Hosts and panelists:
"rhymes with joy" is my favorite thing.
Emily Nelson (she/her)_HSD: 

2026-06-11 15:32:02 From Emily Nelson (she/her)_HSD to Hosts and panelists:
so true to her personality :)

2026-06-11 15:41:03 From Cheryl's iPad to Hosts and panelists:
Good stuff and thanks for sharing that part 

2026-06-11 15:43:56 From Cheryl's iPad to Hosts and panelists:
Those 3 areas are what I've been waiting to hear so we all can moved forward thank you


2026-06-11 15:45:07 From Ty Schwoeffermann to Hosts and panelists:
Is safe parking an option for RFI qualifying organizations to specifically focus on vehicle/RV home parking?

2026-06-11 15:45:50 From Emily Nelson (she/her)_HSD to Hosts and panelists:
@Ty Schwoeffermann do you mean safe parking as a service category?

2026-06-11 15:46:27 From Emily Nelson (she/her)_HSD to Hosts and panelists:
we do have safe park shelters, and they are qualified under shelter services

2026-06-11 15:46:28 From Ty Schwoeffermann to Hosts and panelists:
Yea, is that a category or type of provider.

2026-06-11 15:47:11 From Emily Nelson (she/her)_HSD to Hosts and panelists:
it is a shelter model under our shelter services category- the provider would be qualified to provide shelter, does that answer your question?

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2026-06-11 15:56:18 From Cheryl's iPad to Hosts and panelists:
The review & oversight sounds good

2026-06-11 16:03:03 From Cheryl's iPad to Hosts and panelists:
YW

2026-06-11 16:06:39 From Kanoe Egleston to Hosts and panelists:
thank you cheryl

2026-06-11 16:08:10 From Emily Nelson (she/her)_HSD to Hosts and panelists:
thank you all for the thoughtful recommendations!

2026-06-11 16:08:22 From Crystal to Hosts and panelists:
Thankyou. it was alot of good information

2026-06-11 16:09:57 From Cheryl's iPad to Hosts and panelists:
YW

2026-06-11 16:12:21 From Breanna Flores (she/they) HSD to Hosts and panelists:
Adding the questions on the slide to the chat as well:

2026-06-11 16:12:26 From Breanna Flores (she/they) HSD to Hosts and panelists:
What are the messages or stories about SHS programs and investments that you would want the public to know?
What do you want the public to know about the advisory committee?

2026-06-11 16:13:44 From Ty Schwoeffermann to Hosts and panelists:
SHS advisory committee brings together providers and peoples with lived experience to advocate community needs in the SHS services system.

2026-06-11 16:14:20 From Ty Schwoeffermann to Hosts and panelists:
I alos like the work the committee does to level the playing field to make information accessible to all committee members.

2026-06-11 16:15:04 From Cheryl's iPad to Hosts and panelists:

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That we are always figuring out the what's and how's this process works because people think that this process is an overnight process

2026-06-11 16:15:34 From Crystal to Hosts and panelists:

The people on this advisory committee are those closest to the real issues and everything we suggest and push is because we truly understand what's needed.

2026-06-11 16:16:31 From Cheryl's iPad to Hosts and panelists:

I want the public to know that this committee is doing our best to ensure that this SHS continues this work

2026-06-11 16:18:44 From Crystal to Hosts and panelists:

Those that are living it know what they need. Therefore we need to keep elevating there voices.

2026-06-11 16:21:43 From Cheryl's iPad to Hosts and panelists:

Front mind is to keep the people and funds flowing to make sure that this work matters and keep all of us safe and secure where they are and where they are heading because when people hear that we still care then I think they will also

2026-06-11 16:21:48 From Anna J, she/her SHS team to Hosts and panelists:

It absolutely did and I captured it in the notes, thank you Ria!

2026-06-11 16:30:40 From Sandra Comstock to Hosts and panelists:

Harm reduction is a big deal and its under attack from the federal level to the extent that the feds are now restricting funding to organizations offering anything considered harm reduction associated

2026-06-11 16:32:06 From Sandra Comstock to Hosts and panelists:

Get the funds for eviction prevention out as fast as possible

2026-06-11 16:32:59 From Sandra Comstock to Hosts and panelists:

Re crystal m's comments - Policies related to sexual harassment and violence etc

2026-06-11 16:35:02 From Sandra Comstock to Hosts and panelists:

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Required reporting of incidents of harassment, violence, abuse and death and injury - and how it was handled - maybe technical training and accountability implementation confirmation through independent survey/ and complaint system

2026-06-11 16:35:24 From Anna J, she/her SHS team to Hosts and panelists:

Thank you Crystal.

2026-06-11 16:38:49 From Daniel Carrillo to Hosts and panelists:

I have to go, thank you all.

2026-06-11 16:41:38 From Crystal to Hosts and panelists:

thankyou

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