

Welcome

Please make yourself comfortable.
We will get started in a few minutes.



Homeless Services
Department

SHS Advisory Committee Meeting

August 13, 2026

3:00 PM - 4:30 PM



**Homeless Services
Department**

Introductions

- Name
- Pronouns (if comfortable sharing)
- Organization/community you represent

Agenda

Time	Agenda Item	Facilitator	Action
3:00	-Welcome & Introductions -Land and Labor Acknowledgement -Community Agreements	Breanna Flores	Inform
3:15	Rapid Rehousing Evaluation <i>Upcoming opportunity for the committee to provide input on an HSD project.</i>	Breanna Flores	Inform, Discuss
3:45	Vote on Priorities <i>Revisit safety and other topics of interest the committee has identified this year. Take a vote & begin initial brainstorming (if time).</i>	Breanna Flores	Vote, Discuss
4:30	Close	—	

Land & Labor Acknowledgement

Multnomah County rests on the stolen lands of the Multnomah, Kathlamet, and Clackamas Bands of Chinook Indian Nation; Tualatin Kalapuya; Molalla; and many others along the Columbia River. This country is built on stolen Indigenous land and built by stolen African people. This land was not stolen and people were not enslaved by ambiguous entities and actors. The land was stolen by, and African peoples were enslaved by White settlers who had government support.

This historical foundation of stolen land and forced labor led to decades of intentionally prejudicial policies and practices that have created racial disparities in every area of society. These practices include, but are not limited to, forced cultural assimilation, Black Exclusion Laws, redlining of BIPOC neighborhoods, "urban renewal" projects that displaced BIPOC homes and businesses, policing and justice system practices that unfairly target communities of color, and chronic underinvestment in essential resources. Furthermore, interpersonal racism and bias compound these systemic challenges for people of color as they navigate social services. These factors create barriers to housing that disproportionately affect communities of color and make it more difficult for people of color to exit homelessness.

We honor the people from these communities who came before us who dedicated their lives to advancing racial equity and resisting oppression despite intentional and ongoing attempts to destroy them. The SHS Advisory Committee is committed to confronting the systemic racial disparities that disproportionately impact communities of color. We commit to centering racial equity in every decision, using an anti-racism lens to recommend investments that reduce racial disparities in chronic and short-term homelessness and make a place to call home accessible to all.

Community Agreements

Self-Awareness and Presence

- Take care of yourself
- Be aware of your own space and positionality
- Be authentic and speak your truth
- Stay focused/stay present
- Be aware of time

Respectful Communication & Engagement

- Make the best effort to be engaged and ready to support one another
- Share the air and give everyone a chance to speak
- Respect and listen to each other, honor each other's perspectives and story
- Respect confidentiality and don't share other's stories without their permission
- Differentiate between opinion and informed knowledge

Community Agreements

Inclusivity, Equity, and Cultural Humility

- Practice cultural humility.
Respect the validity of other's perspectives, experiences and cultures
- Interrupt oppression
- Correct with care—assume good intentions
- Respect names and pronouns (help others when they may make mistakes)

Learning, Feedback, and Embracing Growth

- Give feedback and be open to feedback
- Differentiate between safety and comfort
- Be curious and ask questions. Be patient.
- Expect and accept discomfort and ambiguity
- Be open to trying something different
- Be open to hearing something different
- Share gratitude for feedback
- Understand we are all collectively learning and growing

Rapid Rehousing Evaluation



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Framing the Conversation: RRH Eval

What are we talking about?

HSD is working with a consultant to evaluate our rapid rehousing (RRH) programs and learn what practices contribute most to participants' long-term housing stability. We are gauging the committee's interest in providing guidance on participant engagement for this project.

Why is it important?

A theme for this committee has been concern for participant experience in SHS / HSD programming. This would be an opportunity for the committee to advise on a current HSD project related to that topic.

Current HSD Projects

Some current HSD projects that the committee could learn more about or engage with (especially where committee interests overlap).

Admin Rules:

Give input on how to implement the admin rules (standardized guidelines for PSH, RRH, HWS, HO, HP, Shelter, TH)

SHS Local Implementation Plan (LIP):

Review the current LIP & give input on potential updates in next 1-2 years

Rapid Rehousing Evaluation:

Give input on what questions we ask RRH participants

Outreach:

Give input on how to implement the Outreach Services Manual with providers

New HMIS:

Give input on how to roll out new HMIS and what TA is needed for providers

Other:

- Cross-Sector Case Conferencing
- Landlord Recruitment and Retention

Project Details

The evaluation will include:

- An overview of current HSD rapid rehousing programs;
- **Qualitative study of provider and participant experiences in rapid rehousing programs;**
- HMIS data analysis of key performance metrics, focusing on housing retention; and
- Recommendations for strengthening program design, service delivery models, and program metrics.

What Is the Ask for the Committee?

As part of the evaluation, focus groups are being held to collect feedback about participant experience in rapid rehousing programs.

Depending on project timelines, the committee could either weigh in on the questions that will be asked in the focus groups or review the preliminary results from those sessions.

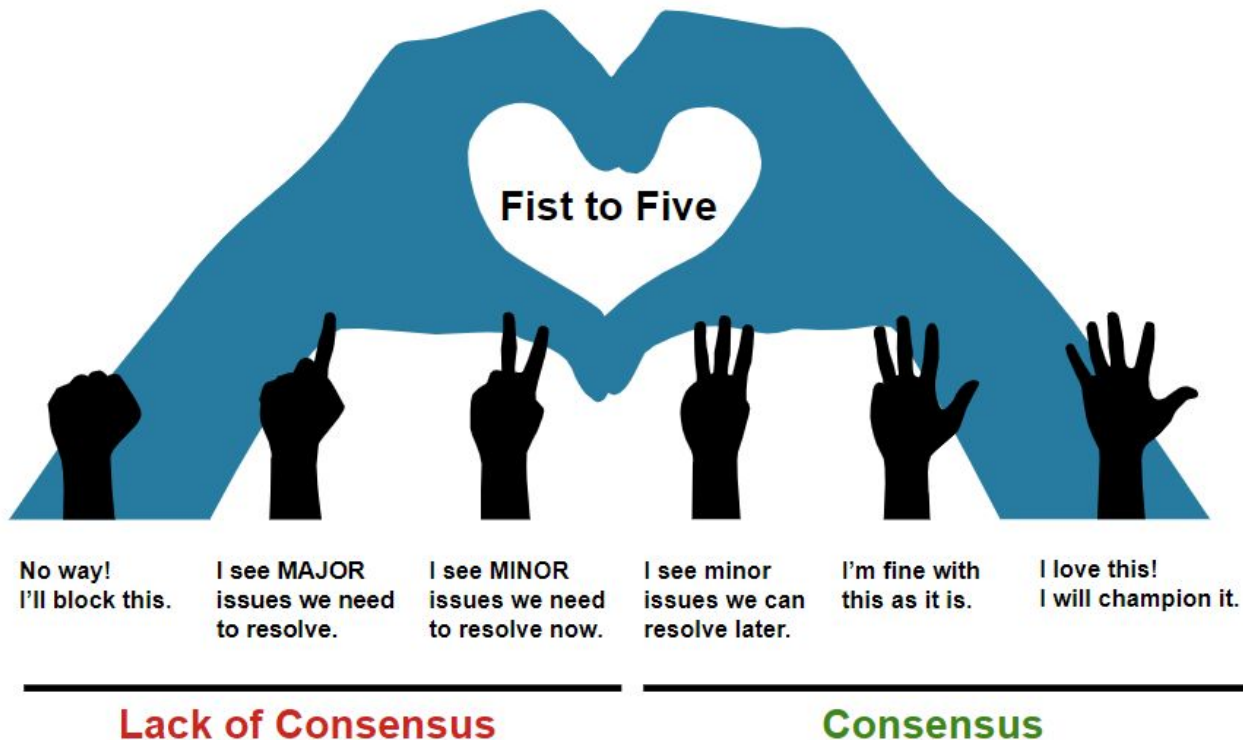
For Discussion

- Would you be interested in having HSD evaluation staff attend the September meeting to get your advice on participant engagement for the rapid rehousing evaluation project?
- What questions do you have for us that would help you decide?

Consensus Practice: RRH Eval

Vote of 3 or above approves bringing evaluation staff to the September meeting to discuss participant engagement aspects of the RRH evaluation.

Vote of 2 or below means we would not move forward with that agenda item.



Committee Priorities



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2026 Recap

Ending one recommendations cycle:

Responses to access recommendations from leadership

Starting a new recommendations cycle:

Identifying topics of interest for future recommendations

Exploring current HSD work that connects to committee interests

Committee Scope

Provide guidance and recommendations about SHS programming and investments to Homeless Services Department leadership.

- Advisory vs decision making
- HSD leadership vs outside our dept
- SHS-specific vs all funding sources

Participant/Staff Safety: Followup

Committee questions about the DSV system from the July meeting:

- What resources exist for sex workers in the DSV continuum?
- What is the % of DSV participants moving from shelter to housing?
- What is the housing retention rate for folks in the DSV system?
- What trauma-informed DSV shelter options are in HSD's portfolio?
- What is the % of people turned away from DSV programs or services?
- What are the demographics of who is being served in the DSV system?
- What are the access points for DSV services in Multnomah County?
- What is the difference in calling the Gateway Center vs the 24-hr line?
- Do you have more staffing for the crisis line during busier seasons?
- What budget cuts did the DSV system experience going into FY27?

2026 Topics of Interest

Some topics of interest that have come up so far this year:

Participant / Staff Safety

Training / Technical Assistance

City / County Coordination

Disability Justice & Accessibility

Employment Services

Coordinated Access

Zoom Poll

Please use the zoom poll on your screen to share your top #1 and #2 priorities from the list of topics the committee has uplifted this year.

If there is a high priority that is missing, please select "other" and we will discuss.

The committee will spend the next several months creating recommendations for HSD leadership on the topic you collectively agree upon.

Discuss Results

- Is there a clear winner?
- If not, what steps do we need to take to arrive at consensus?
- Are there suggestions in the "other" category we need to discuss?

Resource List



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Committee Resources

Land and Labor resources:

- [The Racist History of Portland, the Whitest City in America](#)- Article from The Atlantic about Portland's history of racist housing policy
- [Native Governance Center Guide to Land Acknowledgements](#)- A guide to creating a more in-depth land acknowledgement.
- [Native Land Digital Map](#)- An app to help map Indigenous territories, treaties, and languages.
- [Ecotrust Alternatives to Land Acknowledgements](#)- Actions to take in allyship with Native communities as an alternative to land acknowledgements.

SHS Measure resources:

- [Multnomah County SHS Local Implementation Plan](#)
- [SHS Quarterly and Annual Reports](#) (scroll to the bottom of the page)

SHS Advisory Committee resources:

- [SHS Advisory Committee page](#) on the HSD website (all the committee's recommendations are linked here)

Close

