

# AGENDA

## Homelessness Services and Housing Opportunities Advisory Committee Meeting #6

Thursday June 11, 2020

4:00pm – 6:00pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82100569871>

HSHO Committee Members (attendees - virtual - in bold):

Dean Hoag (**Mike Bello**)

Mike Sinnett

**Josh Geppelt (Seth Forwood)**

**Julie Brewen (Michele Christensen)**

Laura Walker

**Alma Vigo-Morales**

Fernando Leyva

**Cheryl Zimlich**

**David Rout**

Desiree Anthony

**Holly LeMasurier**

**Jeff Swoboda**

**Johnny Square**

Kristen Psaki

Lily Adams

**Luke McFetridge**

**Matt Robenalt**

**Nick Verni-Lau**

**Yvonne Myers**

Ben Mozer

**Brian Ferrans**

Staff Members:

Honoré Depew, Jackie Kozak-Thiel, Beth Sowder, Lindsey Ex

Meeting Facilitators:

Chris Hutchinson and Katie Huey, Trebuchet Group

Community Members (those who signed in):

Joshua Segura

Tim Anderson

Kevin Jones

Cynthia Johnson

Maria Hernandez

Annette Zacharias

Pat Ferrier

Sam Royer

Wendy Grogan

Two people did not name themselves

## Notes for HSHO Advisory Committee Meeting #6

### Pre-Meeting - Technology Check

Three codes used for people in the meeting

Mbr = indicates member of committee

Stf = City or Trebuchet Group Staff

O/Observer = Community observer

### Welcome / Meeting Start

- **Agenda and group norms review**

### Welcome from Jackie Kozak Thiel

- Current situation revealing much and impacting lives and livelihoods - especially those in our community experiencing homelessness
- Gratitude for service on the committee thus far, for saying yes to come back and continue the work
- Shared change of roles as Executive Sponsor to Jackie Kozak Thiel as Jeff Mihelich has taken a new position to Bozeman, Montana; Jackie is now reporting directly to Darin.
- Darin says, "Welcome back, thank you, and how important your work is moving forward." Wants to remind committee and observers that this is an authentic process with no pre-determined outcomes.
- The charge of the committee - not expected to address all elements of homelessness - focus is on new and expanded shelter needs responding to the community as it currently stands. Lots to consider, especially in the learnings from the recent emergency response.

### Committee Outcomes

- November - February - building understanding of current conditions and gaps identified in Fort Collins currently
- Looking ahead - next phase approximately June - Sept./October
  - o Validate gaps with data/experience
  - o Explore new/expanded shelter opportunities
  - o Define site criteria and review general locations for potential facilities
  - o Consider strategies to mitigate challenges
  - o Find opportunities for collaboration
  - o Put recommendations into final report
- We seek to humanize and futurize our response system

### Small Group Discussions

- **What challenges are we facing?**
  - o Perhaps more love and understanding of vulnerable and marginalized people who need supportive services
  - o Limited resources and more needs
  - o The pandemic has shined a light on the connection of the wellbeing of the PEH (People Experiencing Homelessness) population to the larger community

## Notes for HSHO Advisory Committee Meeting #6

- COVID has exacerbated/highlighted many of the challenges that we had been discussing as a committee - also underscores the urgency of the problem
  - More people motivated to be a part of big change
  - System transformation
  - New partnerships between providers, healthcare, community, etc. are encouraging
  - Resources and need. We know resources and economic impact will be significant, and the need for those resources will increase due to the economic impact
  - New dollars from federal and state government give us opportunity and at the same time are a challenge to use in the most effective way
  - Recapturing our momentum as a committee we had going back in February
  - Fort Collins was NOCO community that stepped up with this type of response, other cities did not exhibit commensurate response
  - Acceptance by many in the community. The will to do the work
- **What gives you hope?**
- Hopeful about new resources and partnerships, opportunities for permanent housing for people experiencing chronic homelessness
  - We have a shared experience which can unite our community
  - Lots of people taking on educating themselves about privilege and power dynamics
  - Deeper awareness, interest, commitment
  - Structural change will happen - maybe there is enough momentum now
  - The last months affected all of us. Homelessness affects all of us too
  - Difficult to have big discussions virtually. My hope was stated above
  - COVID-19 has highlighted for more people that housing is health
  - Heightened awareness on social issues
  - Hands-on-learning, perhaps, provides more informed insight than observer-learning
  - Years of data, advocacy, and PowerPoints now make sense to more people
  - (Very good to us. Three meals a day, a safe community of both men and women) -*observer comment*

Responses on the following page were generated and voted on by the committee.

**Reflections/Lessons Learned from COVID Response with Votes**

<b>What went well?</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Vote</b>
	Collaborative effort of all agencies within their particular strengths adding to the whole	8
	Familiarity of relationships helped people come together quickly; homelessness and health services	7
	Practice of what it might look like with everyone (providers) pitching into one building	6
	Quick collaboration of businesses coming together to figure out how to navigate COVID - went from desperation to glimmers of hope	4
	Rapid community response that made day and overnight shelter much safer	4
	Problem solvers who color outside the lines were able to help community respond	3
	Health organizations all came together to respond collectively to COVID	3
	Positive health outcomes for people experiencing homelessness; made feel safe and secure	3
	Living document of how Aztlan Center was running	2
	Highlighted the need for one-on-one contact with familiar faces that listen, respond, and act on unique needs	0
<b>What did not go as well as we would like?</b>	Not enough capacity in current shelter facilities to accommodate need	7
	Seniors and people medically vulnerable needed case management and one-on-one support	6
	Aware of what building we need and that we don't have one yet	6
	Not enough PPE - have masks but need gowns - need to be more self-reliant	5
	Disproportionate impact on already marginalized populations	4
	Guidance from federal and state on reopening - clunky and inconsistent - desire to have guidelines, punish offenders who don't adhere	3
	Couldn't pivot quick enough to help	1
	Unprepared for pandemic	1

Notes for HSHO Advisory Committee Meeting #6

<b>What are ongoing concerns?</b>	Funding - especially sales tax to city. With spigot being cut off and slow to turn back on, where is the funding going to come from for recommendations?	8
	Likely increase in homelessness based on economic situation - how to address and provide services and help people navigate	7
	Creating longer term vision for sustainable community	7
	A service center could respond better and be more cost-efficient / resource efficient	6
	Will hit cliff effect when stimulus funds run out, people no longer able to stay with others will flood with demand	6
	Providing services at a scale we can afford to do based on our resources	5
	People see housing and emergency shelter as dichotomy, but actually work together to exit into better health	5
	Directing public funding and services to people who need ongoing support and long term solutions	3
	Crisis level gap with closure of Aztlan Center - right away on people experiencing homelessness, ripple effects ongoing around planning	1

# Notes for HSHO Advisory Committee Meeting #6

## Reflections/Lessons Learned from COVID Response

What went well? :	What did not go as we would like? :	What are ongoing concerns? : Tr
Collaborative effort of all agencies with their particular strengths adding to the whole <span style="float: right;">8</span>	Not enough capacity in current shelter facilities to accommodate need <span style="float: right;">7</span>	Funding - especially sales tax to city. With spigot being cut off and slow to turn back on, where is the funding going to come from for recommendations? <span style="float: right;">8</span>
Familiarity of relationships helped people come together quickly; homelessness and health services <span style="float: right;">7</span>	Seniors and people medically vulnerable needed case management and one-on-one support <span style="float: right;">6</span>	Likely increase in homelessness based on economic situation - how to address and provide services and help people navigate <span style="float: right;">7</span>
Practice of what it might look like with everyone (providers) pitching into one building <span style="float: right;">6</span>	Aware of what building we need and that we don't have one yet <span style="float: right;">6</span>	Creating longer term vision for sustainable community <span style="float: right;">7</span>
Quick collaboration of businesses coming together to figure out how to navigate COVID - went from desperation to glimmers of hope <span style="float: right;">4</span>	Not enough PPE - have masks but need gowns - need to be more self-reliant <span style="float: right;">5</span>	A service center could respond better and be more cost-efficient / resource-efficient <span style="float: right;">6</span>
Rapid community response that made day and overnight shelter much safer <span style="float: right;">4</span>	Disproportionate impact on already marginalized populations <span style="float: right;">4</span>	Will hit cliff effect when stimulus funds run out, people not longer able to stay with others will flood with demand <span style="float: right;">6</span>
Problem solvers who color outside the lines were able to help community respond <span style="float: right;">3</span>	Guidance from federal and state on reopening - clunky and inconsistent - desire to have guidelines, punish offenders who don't adhere <span style="float: right;">3</span>	Providing services at a scale we can afford to do based on our resources <span style="float: right;">5</span>
Health organizations all came together to respond collectively to COVID <span style="float: right;">3</span>	Couldn't pivot quick enough to help <span style="float: right;">1</span>	People see housing and emergency shelter as dichotomy, but actually work together to exit into better health <span style="float: right;">5</span>
Positive health outcomes for people experiencing homelessness; made feel safe and secure <span style="float: right;">3</span>	Unprepared for pandemic <span style="float: right;">1</span>	Directing public funding and services to people who need ongoing support and long term solutions <span style="float: right;">3</span>
Living document of how Aztlan Center was running <span style="float: right;">2</span>		Crisis level gap with closure of Aztlan Center - right away on people experiencing homelessness, ripple effects ongoing around planning <span style="float: right;">1</span>
Highlighted the need for one-on-one contact with familiar faces that listen, respond, and act on unique needs <span style="float: right;">1</span>		

## Individual Reflections/Lessons Learned from Self-Selected Committee Members

### David Rout

- Rapid community response that made congregate shelter - day and overnight much safer than surrounding communities led to positive health outcomes
- 308 Tests at Aztlan Center and had one asymptomatic positive
- Grossly un-prepared as a country and has ripple effects on who this affects and how - people are dying and suffering and if we broaden conversation - had disproportionate impact on already marginalized populations - not prepared as a county to respond

### Seth Forwood

- Crisis level gaps with closure of Aztlan Center - lack of day and overnight shelter space impacted planning we do
- Will hit a cliff effect at some point when federal subsidies stop - going to see a surge of people into the system of homeless provision not robust enough to meet coming demand
- Collaborative effort with agency strengths
- Very aware of what kind of building is needed and how we don't have one
- Emergency shelter, housing and health really do best when playing in the same sandbox - dealing with the same people in the same space
- Ability and willingness of partners to come together quickly - familiarity of relationships of people built over years has helped

### Holly LeMasurier

- Did keep vulnerable population safe and secure in a time of complete insecurity
- Need for one-on-one contact with people and unique case management
- Urgency of issue
- Direct public funding continues to be a challenge for people who need on-going support
- Political will needed to address this as a fundamental root cause, presents challenges in any community - create a longer term sustainable vision for community as a whole

### Yvonne Myers

- Everyone coming together. UCHealth lab and testing, Larimer County Health Department, Public Health & Environment, CDC. Learning all together and collectively was a significant difference
- Don't have enough PPE. Period. Have masks but not gowns. Surgery centers aren't opening because don't have gowns. Need to be more self-reliant. Manufacturing to create own PPE
- Ambulatory care center - was approached to run alternative location for people who are sick but not needing hospitalization - a lot of money to build beds and create a place for a pandemic. If we had a services center, wouldn't have to have a backup plan at the Ranch - do it differently and save money. Couldn't pivot enough to help

## Notes for HSHO Advisory Committee Meeting #6

### **Luke McFetridge**

- Quick collaboration of businesses coming together
- Guidance from State and Federal in terms of opening was lacking clarity - businesses operate with requirements they have to adhere to - desire to know what the re-opening guidelines are
- Funding - much of sales tax funneling to services may be going away

### **Matt Robenalt**

- Downtown business community reaction went from desperation to little glimmers of hope
- Collaborations needed amongst business community that we've never seen before. Great for problem solvers comfortable coloring outside the lines. An honor to meet those people in places they've not seen before
- Inconsistent information coming down from state, county, to local have been clunky
- Not all communities stepped up the same way - Fort Collins leaned in more than others - be cognizant of ability to provide services at a scale that we can afford to do based on our resources



### **Nick Verni-Lau**

- Communication has been excellent regarding what services are available.
- If we don't have shelter capacity, where will the folks go? Right now, we don't have an answer
- Likely increased need after economic impact hits



# Notes for HSHO Advisory Committee Meeting #6

## Start - Stop - Continue

Start :	Stop :	Continue :	Tr	
<p>talking about how to prioritize existing funding for homelessness response given limited funding. Even before 'limited sales tax' not enough was prioritized for housing people <span style="float: right;">7</span></p>	<p>Could the committee meet in person with social distancing and observers join on Zoom? <span style="float: right;">1</span></p> 	<p>Exploring co-located services <span style="float: right;">4</span></p>		
<p>Identifying and prioritizing potential locations and scope of services <span style="float: right;">7</span></p>		<p>Funding conversations <span style="float: right;">3</span></p>	<p>continue meeting regularly working towards facility solutions <span style="float: right;">3</span></p>	
<p>Consider what shelter management approaches that some members observed in other communities that might have been beneficial to addressing things that didn't go well in Aztlan experience <span style="float: right;">5</span></p>		<p>Education from service providers given the fluidity of our current environment <span style="float: right;">2</span></p>	<p>Breakout was effective, good to generate some intimacy with virtual format. <span style="float: right;">1</span></p>	
<p>explore funding for expansion of existing facilities and/or development of new, larger facility <span style="float: right;">5</span></p>		<p>breakouts worked well. Hadn't used that feature before! <span style="float: right;">1</span></p>	<p>Continue these meetings <span style="float: right;"><input type="radio"/></span></p>	
<p>Discuss what are actionable take away's from the pilot of the Aztlan Center <span style="float: right;">4</span></p>		<p>breakout rooms are good :) <span style="float: right;"><input type="radio"/></span></p>		
<p>exploring funding opportunities for new/additional facilities <span style="float: right;">3</span></p>				
<p>get back to talking about recommendations <span style="float: right;">3</span></p>				
<p>Share lessons learned at Azatlan Center. <span style="float: right;">2</span></p>				
<p>Great managing of Zoom platform! <span style="float: right;"><input type="radio"/></span></p>				
<p>Action items <span style="float: right;"><input type="radio"/></span></p>				

Notes for HSHO Advisory Committee Meeting #6

**Group Map with Votes**

<b>Start</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Votes</b>
	Talking about how to prioritize existing funding for homelessness response given limited funding. Even before 'limited sales tax' not enough was prioritized for housing people	7
	Identifying and prioritizing potential locations and scope of services	7
	Consider what shelter management approaches that some members observed in other communities might have been beneficial to addressing things that didn't go well in Aztlan experience	5
	Explore funding for expansion of existing facilities and/or development of new larger facility	5
	Discuss what are actionable take-aways from the pilot of the Aztlan Center	4
	Exploring funding opportunities for new/additional facilities	3
	Get back to talking about recommendations	3
	Share lessons learned at Aztlan Center	2
	Great managing of Zoom platform!	0
	Action Items	0
<b>Stop</b>	Could the committee meet in person with social distancing and observers join Zoom?	1
<b>Continue</b>	Exploring co-located services	4
	Funding conversations	3
	Continue meeting regularly working towards facility solutions	3
	Education from service providers given the fluidity of our current environment	2
	Breakouts worked well. Hadn't used that feature before	1
	Breakout was effective, good to generate some intimacy with virtual format	1
	Continue these meetings	0
	Breakout rooms are good	0

- 
- 3:30 – 4:00**                      **[Pre-meeting Technology Check]**
- Join early to test video/audio and enter your user name

- 
- 4:00 – 4:15**                      **Welcome / Meeting Start**
- Agenda and group norms review

- 
- 4:15 – 4:30**                      **Committee Outcomes**
- Review committee process and timeline

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- 4:30 – 5:00**                      **Small Group Discussions**
- What challenges are we facing?
  - What gives you hope?

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**5:00 – 5:05**                      **BREAK**

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- 5:05 – 5:40**                      **Reflections / Lessons Learned from COVID Response**
- What went well?
  - What did not go as well as we would like?
  - What ongoing concerns?

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**5:40 – 5:50**                      **Group Map Exercise**

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- 5:50 – 6:00**                      **Wrap Up**
- Take-aways & next steps

- Next Meeting**
- July 2<sup>nd</sup> 4:00pm – 6:00pm

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Note

Charter for Advisory Committee Meetings prescribes the following themes/focus areas for the 12 meetings:

- Understanding current conditions
- Considering response models
- Opportunities and tradeoffs of a co-located services model
- Strategies to address and mitigate challenges
- Determining criteria for site feasibility
- Considering potential locations