



## MULTNOMAH COUNTY AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST

### Board Clerk Use Only

**Meeting Date:** 11/7/23

**Agenda Item #:** B.1

**Est. Start Time:** 10:00 a.m.

**Agenda Title:** Informational briefing on Frequent User System Engagement

**Requested Date:** 11/7/2023

**Time Needed:** 1 hour

**Department/Division:**  
Joint Office of Homeless Services

**Requester Name & Email:**  
Lori Kelley, [lori.kelley@multco.us](mailto:lori.kelley@multco.us)  
Alyssa Plesser,  
[alyssa.plesser@multco.us](mailto:alyssa.plesser@multco.us)

**Please list all presenters, with their titles, organization or department, in order of speaker, or note if their role is to answer questions:**

Lori Kelley, Planning and Evaluation Manager, JOHS  
Alyssa Plesser, Continuum of Care Program Specialist Sr, JOHS  
Kristina Goodman, PSH Program Specialist Sr., JOHS  
Rae Trotta, Senior Project Manager, Corporation for Supportive Housing  
Heather Lyons, Director Pacific Northwest, Corporation for Supportive Housing  
Ian Costello, Senior Program Manager, Corporation for Supportive Housing  
Graham Bouldin, Chief Quality Officer, Healthshare of Oregon  
Joseph Carr, Service Alignment Analyst, Health Department  
Tiffany Kingery, Service Alignment Analyst, BHD  
Daniel Field, Director, JOHS  
Anna Plumb, Deputy Director, JOHS

**Will your group join virtually or in-person? (check one)**

**X Presenters will be in the Multnomah Building Boardroom**

**X Presenters will be virtual/online. List emails of all virtual presenters:**

Joseph Carr, [joseph.carr@multco.us](mailto:joseph.carr@multco.us)  
Heather Lyons, [heather.lyons@csd.org](mailto:heather.lyons@csd.org)  
Ian Costello, [ian.costello@csd.org](mailto:ian.costello@csd.org)  
Tiffany Kingery, [tiffany.kingery@multco.us](mailto:tiffany.kingery@multco.us)

**Note: Virtual presenters must log in 15 mins prior to the start of the meeting to test video & mic**

## **General Information:**

### **1. What are you requesting from the Board?**

The Joint Office of Homeless Services, upon the request of the Board about the FUSE Program. This is part of the Board requested briefings on this program at the 3, 6- and 9-months Fiscal year.

### **2. Please provide sufficient background information for the Board and the public to understand this issue. Please note which Program Offer(s) this action affects and how it impacts the results.**

FUSE is a signature initiative of the Corporation for Supportive Housing that helps break the cycle of homelessness and crisis among individuals with complex medical and behavioral health challenges. Individuals stuck in this cycle have frequent encounters with emergency departments, jails, shelters, and acute care settings that are often costly and have poor outcomes for people and communities.

In 2020 and 2021, cross-systems partners from homeless services, health care, and public safety in the City of Portland and Multnomah County came together and used data to identify a group of highly impacted people who cycle through jails, shelters, hospitals, and other crisis services who would benefit from supportive housing using the FUSE model. Partners in the FUSE Initiative 1.0 released a report in May of 2021 that included findings from a cross-system data analysis, and a set of recommendations for the work moving forward.

One of the primary recommendations of the report was to continue advancing programs that break the cycle of homelessness and interactions with emergency services including making investments in long-term solutions like Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH). This new program (FUSE 2.0) will use newly matched FUSE data, with expanded data sources, to identify adult-only households that are consistently cycling through the homeless, healthcare, and criminal justice systems without gaining stabilization. These individuals will be provided RLRA vouchers and supportive services to address their needs. Recognizing that the funding allocated for this project would not be sufficient to meet the needs of the FUSE population, the FUSE project team decreased the number of participants from 50 to 40 in order to

increase funding per participant, as the expected acuity for these participants will mean a higher cost per household.

Program Offer: 30406

**3. Explain the fiscal impact (current year and ongoing).**

The FUSE program has allocated \$1,528,650 annually to fund # RLRA vouchers and supportive services for FUSE participants. In addition, we have allocated \$156,000 for CSH technical assistance on this project.

**4. Explain any legal and/or policy issues involved.**

N/A

**5. Explain any community and/or other government participation that has or will take place.**

The FUSE project team is a county-wide and multi-sector stakeholder collaboration that includes:

- Joint Office of Homeless Services - Planning and Evaluation Team; Program Design from Team PSH; Data Support from Data Team; Equity Support from Equity Engagement Coordinator
- Behavioral Health Unit – Program Design co-lead
- Health Department - Data Team Lead
- Department of County Human Services
- Corrections Health Unit
- Department of Community Justice
- Multnomah County Sheriff's Office
- Healthshare of Oregon
- Corporation for Supportive Housing (Technical Assistance provider)

As part of the FUSE program design, the FUSE project team conducted feedback sessions with the community to identify provider and participant needs and to inform program design. Members of the community and multi-sector stakeholders were also involved in the review of program applicants. The FUSE project team along with individuals of lived experience will continue to be engaged through the entirety of FUSE implementation and evaluation.

**Required Signature:**

**Elected Official/  
Department  
Director:**

/s/

**Date:**

*Note: Please insert name of your approver following the /s/. Send accompanying electronic approvals to the Board Clerk.*