



2020 Strategic Priorities

of the

Pierce County Council Human Services Committee

On Friday, January 31, 2020 the Human Services Committee held a special meeting for a retreat. The purpose of the retreat was to review and revise the strategic priorities of the Committee for 2020, informed by the work program and progress of 2019 and the present issues facing Pierce County and the region.

The following six (6) strategic priorities with focus areas were finalized by the Committee at their February 4, 2020 meeting, and informs the 2020 work program to advance these priorities.

1. Behavioral Health

- a. Substance use disorders (SUD), inclusive of the Opioid Crisis.
- b. Focus populations of youth, veterans, and behavioral health related homelessness.
- c. Suicide, especially the crisis with youth.
- d. Gaps and distribution of need to treatment, including geospatial and demographic relationship of need to access and service available.
- e. Service delivery systems effectiveness and engagement of innovative partnerships.

2. Housing Affordability

- a. Review and analyze best practices to create effective programming of development partnerships and incentives, and to engage in new partnerships to reach identified housing objectives, based upon median average income and economic stratus of populations.
- b. Understand housing types and trends and develop policy to support affordability.
- c. Leverage housing programs and funding (i.e. HOME, Section 42, Section 8, etc.) through partnerships.
- d. Support SSHAP (formerly *Mayor's Roundtable*) development including tools, inventory, and program development.
- e. Understand capacity (land/zoning) for development of innovative programming of housing options.

3. Accessible Housing

- a. Program and partnerships for 1406 funding.
- b. Rapid re-housing and move on housing programs.
- c. Special population housing options and wrap-around services.
- d. Options for Housing Authority need for state legislation.
- e. Best practices to address housing issues and options, including special populations.

4. Homelessness

- a. Understand the needs and respond with innovation using gap analysis and engagement with existing and new partnerships about effective delivery systems and programs.
- b. Proactive development of integrated services and use of Coordination Committee to break down silos of services.
- c. System-wide improvements with equity (geospatial and demographical) with coordinated entry.
- d. Program use of 1406 funds to address housing products and services.
- e. End veteran homelessness.
- f. Strategic planning and support of:
 - i. 5-Year Plan (to Department of Commerce with five objectives and COC Plan)
 - ii. Preventive programming of in-flow, with measurable outcomes.
 - iii. Unit needs for supportive housing (i.e. Rapid Rehousing/Move-on programs) and location development.

5. Youth & Young Adults

- a. Housing and homelessness of youth.
- b. Issues of foster youth and dependency.
- c. Behavioral health of youth, with substance abuse and suicide.
- d. Early childhood development needs, with action plans for B-25 and Help Me Grow program reports.
- e. Early health exposures, including vaping.

6. Budget & Operation

- a. Assure allocated funds result in effective programs, through cost/benefit models and other data-driven performance measures/models.
- b. Review and apply best practices to county departments and associated services for effective human services.
- c. Assure funding allocation and service delivery reflect equity and need.
- d. Expand system availability and access to 24/7, including 211 system.
- e. Study and review funding and support of, and operational effectiveness and structure for, domestic violence services and prevention.

Encompassed within each strategic priority is the reliance on data and best practices. Budget allocations and programming will be evaluated in the work program of the Committee. Additionally, the Committee seeks focused sessions dedicated to 1406 fund programming and partnership, and the 1/10th of 1 % start up and planning if moved forward by the Council.