

## CCO CAC Minutes

### September, 2020

#### Via Zoom

- I. Caitlynn Hateras welcomed all and started introductions.
- II. The meeting was primarily taken up by a discussion related to CHP priorities. The group split into two break-out rooms to allow time for all to participate. Rhonda Busek and Leah Edelman facilitated the groups. Each group addressed the questions below. The responses have been combined.

**Question 1: What threats or barriers exist in Lane County that need to be addressed to support economic development that ensures sufficient income and affordability of basic living costs (i.e., housing childcare, food, transportation, etc.) for all people in Lane County?**

#### Major Themes:

- **Housing**
  - Housing costs are too high.
  - Housing that is affordable isn't safe.
  - Permanent housing for domestic violence survivors is extremely hard to find, especially in rural areas.
  - Housing is designed for students in many parts of Eugene, which puts families and low-income residents at a disadvantage.
  - Pollution is often worse in areas with affordable housing.
  - In areas where housing is affordable, education is often poor.
  - Housing suitable for people with disabilities and senior citizens is extremely rare.
  - Housing expenses have increased astronomically and affordable housing, in general, is not available.
  - People cannot afford to live in the Eugene-Springfield area. Often end up living in rural communities which can create additional barriers to accessing basic living needs (e.g., access to needed school supports, transportation, etc.).
- There aren't **living wage jobs** available. This is especially relevant to rural areas. Access to jobs that do not require a degree are rare. This prevents many competent people from accessing living wage jobs.
- There are extreme competing costs for all basic living needs.
- **Transportation** is lacking in rural areas. People can't get transportation to urban areas where there are more job opportunities.
- People have **no strong pathway out of public/government assistance**. Eligibility requirements and rigid processes limit opportunities to progress economically. Funds are often pre-designated, leaving no margin to address other basic needs (e.g., all benefits must be used for rent).
- There is a lack of **behavioral and mental health resources**.
- **Childcare**
  - Childcare isn't affordable.

- o Childcare deserts exist across Lane County, especially in rural areas.
- o There are large childcare waitlists, and children often age out before they get the chance to receive it.
- o Liability insurance and the thought that students might return to school for a hybrid model prevent schools from using empty classrooms for childcare.

**Question 2: Which, if any, local organization would benefit from using a collective impact model?**

**Major Themes:**

- It was emphasized that all major themes from the last question (**housing, living-wage jobs, childcare, and behavioral/mental health resources**) would benefit from a collective impact model.
- There are many childcare groups that would benefit from collective impact model
  - o There is a Mom's Group in Cottage Grove that uses the model really well by meeting monthly to discuss childcare resources and challenges in Cottage Grove
  - o Schools, Childcare Centers, WIC, faith-based groups, and chamber of commerce could all use this model to improve childcare access/affordability