

**Multnomah County**  
**Behavioral Health Division**  
**Behavioral Health Advisory Council Meeting**  
**September 3, 2025 10AM - 11:45am**



Community Lived Experience/Family/ Advocate Representatives	Public Service Representatives	Staff	Guests
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barb. Rainish <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Courtney Shannon <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eric Bray <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Etta Assuman <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joni Scheib <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> June Howard Johnson <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Katrina Malachowski <input type="checkbox"/> Kevin Fitts <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laura Bueford <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lisa Yu <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mamie Gathard <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mary Avalon <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patty Hamit Arvizu <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Robert Fentress <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ruthie Benjamin <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ryan Hamit <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>CareOregon</b> Cassi Sturtz <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Cascadia Behavioral Healthcare</b> Dave Kohler <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Central City Concern</b> Juliana Wallace / Albert Parramon (arrived at 11am) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Lifeworks NW</b> Mary Fakhoury <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Multnomah County Sheriff's            Office</b> Nora Mains (NWIAS) <input type="checkbox"/> <b>NAMI Multnomah</b> Kerri Melda <input type="checkbox"/> <b>NARA NW</b> Albie Lemos <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>New Narrative</b> Haven Taylor <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Quest Center</b> Allison Haws/Victoria Haberkorn <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant <input type="checkbox"/> Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anthony Jordan <input type="checkbox"/> Deandre Kenyanjui <input type="checkbox"/> Jay Auslander <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jenny Tsai <input type="checkbox"/> Jessica Jacobsen <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> JJ Jessee <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mario Cardenas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Olivia Kilgore <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roger Garth <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Natalie Amar, Deflection Program Supervisor <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sharmila Bose, Deflection Project Manager <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Diego Basabe <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marc Harris, Strategic Initiatives Director <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leah Drebin, Deflection Center	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>PPB BHU:</b> Jennifer Butcher <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Portland Mental            Health &amp;            Wellness:</b> Melinda Del Rio <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> JoAnne Lang

Topic	Notes:
<b>Welcome and Introductions</b> <b>Group Agreements</b> <b>Announcements</b>	<b>Announcements</b>  Roger led everyone through a round of introductions.  Katrina read the BHAC meeting reminders and group agreements.  Today's meeting will adjourn 15 minutes early so OCE staff can participate in the Board's September Proclamation event. If you'd like to watch the proclamation event from 12-1pm today, join here: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/c/MultCoBoard">https://www.youtube.com/c/MultCoBoard</a>  The November election is around the corner. If you want to be eligible for a seat on the council, you must attend three General Council meetings (including November). If you wish to receive an application, please email <a href="mailto:bhd.directorsoffice@multco.us">bhd.directorsoffice@multco.us</a> .  JJ added that for the November election, there is only one open seat for a lived experience member and three seats for provider representatives. No members are up for re-election.

Topic	Notes:
<b>Recognition Month or Awareness Events (if Applicable)</b>	<p><b>Recognition Month Events (if Applicable)</b></p> <p><b>Recognition Days:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recovery Month</li> <li>• Suicide Prevention Awareness Month</li> <li>• Hispanic Heritage Month 9/15-10/15</li> </ul> <p>Join proclamation ceremony live today at noon: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/c/MultCoBoard">https://www.youtube.com/c/MultCoBoard</a></p>
<b>August Minute Approval</b>	<p>August minutes have been approved with a majority vote.</p>
<b>Presentation Notes</b>  <b>Background for the Naming of the Permanent Facility for Deflection &amp; Sobering</b>	<p>The address for the temporary deflection and sobering center called Coordinated Care Pathway Center in SE Portland is 980 SE Pine St.</p> <p>A new permanent facility that offers 24/7 sobering &amp; crisis stabilization services will be opening in Fall 2027. The address of the permanent facility is 1901 SE Grand Ave.</p> <p>Q: Barb and Ryan asked similar questions in the chat: Why can't the permanent facility retain the temporary facility name?</p> <p>A: There is a need to rename the permanent facility because different services will be offered. If BHAC decides the permanent facility should retain the name, that is also an option!</p> <p>Ryan added that if the permanent center keeps its name, it may be less confusing.</p> <p>Q: Barb asked in the chat what is crisis stabilization? Is it different for SUDS and mental health?</p> <p>A: They are currently set up for the SUDS part. If someone came in with mild mental health</p>

Topic	Notes:
	<p>symptoms, they could help with that, but the facility is designed for SUDS specifically.</p> <p>Q: Etta asked who will likely be served at the permanent facility?</p> <p>A: Services will be offered to everyone over 18 years old. The targeted population for the facility is people needing stabilization services and going through withdrawals from drugs/alcohol. There will be care coordination and referrals to other services once the person is stabilized.</p> <p>Q: Etta asked if the permanent facility will have peers – especially of different genders and ages?</p> <p>A: At the temporary site, there are peers on site that represent different age and gender demographics. This is going to be really important for the County to consider when looking at the staffing model for the permanent facility.</p> <p>Q: Barb asked which drugs are people sobering from?</p> <p>A: At the temporary sobering center, they administer a drug test when someone arrives. If someone comes in with benzos in their system, they cannot take them at the temp site because they don't have the medication to manage the symptoms. At the permanent facility, they will be able to have meds to manage more acute withdrawals.</p> <p>Q: Eric asked about the referral process and how to ensure people don't land at a dead end/waitlist and get immediate support?</p> <p>A: The county has been taking steps to help remedy this issue. OHSU has been helping create a tool to track available beds in the behavioral health center providers. BHD and OHSU are working with SUDS related community partners to loop them into the tracking tool. This will be an easier way to track what is available at any given time.</p>

Topic	Notes:
	<p>Q: Katrina and Joni asked in the chat how many beds and sobering sites are there?</p> <p>A: There are 13 sobering stations located in the Coordinated Care Pathway Center (the temporary facility) on the corner of Pine Street and Sandy Blvd. There will be 18 sobering stations at the new facility.</p> <p>Q: Katrina encounters many community members that ask what to do if someone comes across someone on the street that's loaded and unresponsive?. Can community members call the sobering center in that case?</p> <p>A: If someone called 911 and the Portland Street Response was dispatched, they would be able to help determine if the person has a medical issue or if their behavior is SUD related. If it's SUD related, they would be able to help. There is some coordination with Portland Street Response. So in some cases, yes- community members could help get the person they're observing to a sobering center, and in other cases no. There are criteria that must be met in order to enter the sobering and crisis stabilization center. Community partners will be made aware of the criteria.</p> <p>Q: Joni asked if sobering centers will have translators and other culturally specific services if someone needs it?</p> <p>A: Yes, those services will be available.</p> <p>Q: Etta asked for the website.</p> <p>A: <a href="https://multco.us/info/deflection-program">https://multco.us/info/deflection-program</a> The website for the permanent facility is <a href="https://multco.us/info/future-sobering-and-crisis-stabilization-center">https://multco.us/info/future-sobering-and-crisis-stabilization-center</a></p>

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Notes:</b>
	<p>Q: Roger asked if we do come up with a new name, will the artwork need to change as well?</p> <p>A: Not necessarily, it could be convenient to keep some of the branding if the group feels it's important. There is a certain amount of the budget that must be spent on art, and BHAC will be consulted down the road on what this could look like.</p> <p>Deandre and OCE staff will start planning a session to get ideas from BHAC for the name of the permanent facility. We're hoping to have some names to present to Anthony Jordan and the deflection team by the next general council meeting in October! Be on the look out for more communication from OCE soon.</p>
<b>OCE &amp; Director's Office Updates</b>	<p><b>OCE:</b> Hiring process is underway for vacant full time OCE position</p> <p><b>Directors' Office:</b> None</p>
<b>Next Meeting</b>	Next BHAC General Council Meeting is October 1, 2025

A scenic photograph of a sunset or sunrise over a forest. The sun is a bright, glowing orb in the upper center, partially obscured by wispy clouds, creating a lens flare effect. The sky transitions from a pale yellow near the horizon to a soft blue at the top. In the foreground and middle ground, there are various trees and bushes. Some trees are silhouetted against the bright sky, while others are lit up by the low sun. On the left side, a portion of a house with a gabled roof is visible through the trees. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and natural.

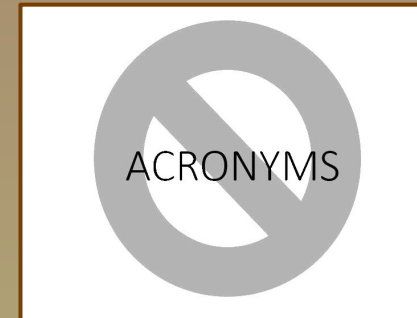
**BHAC General Council Meeting**  
**09/03/2025**

**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
ADVISORY COUNCIL**

# BHAC Meeting Reminders and Group Agreements

## Making space for all voices

- Hold space, make space
- Remember WAIT (Why Am I Talking?) & principles before personalities
- Stay engaged to the best of your ability
- Share your experience & hear the experience of others - Use “I statements”
- Acknowledge intent and center impact (pure intention does not eliminate harmful impact)
- Name and account for power dynamics in the the work
- We are here to work collaboratively, and share responsibility for the success of our work together
- Limit comments to two minutes
- Limit acronyms and jargon
- Interrupt conversations that cause harm



# BHAC Meeting Reminders and Group Agreements



## Self-care

We support one another by taking care of ourselves

Pause before speaking when feeling stressed -  
respond rather than react

Expect and accept non-closure

Experience discomfort - (creating a safer space for challenging  
conversations can be uncomfortable at times)

Take the conversation off-line with staff

## Virtual meeting reminders

Try not to talk over each other - raise hand; use chat; accommodate  
people on the phone and tech issues

Silence microphones when not speaking

Go off camera when necessary

# BHAC Meeting Reminders and Group Agreements

Disruptive behavior during the meeting will result in:

1. Facilitator calls attention to harmful behavior
2. If behavior continues, participant will be reminded of impact and warned of potential meeting separation via private chat or via verbal warning if on phone
3. Separation from meeting with continued disruption



# Monthly Awareness and Recognition

- National Recovery Month
- National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month
- National Hispanic Heritage Month (9/15/25-10/15/25)

Join Proclamation Ceremony live at Noon:

<https://www.youtube.com/MultCoBoard>





# This meeting is recorded

OCE will review the recording for note taking and group accountability purposes

BHAC General Council and Community Workgroup meetings are open to the public

# Announcements

- We will adjourn 15 minutes early today so OCE staff can participate in the Board of County Commissioners September Proclamation Ceremony starting at Noon. You can join virtually to watch the Proclamations live at: <https://www.youtube.com/MultCoBoard>.
- November election is around the corner. If you want to be eligible for a seat on the council, you must attend three General Council meetings (including November). If you wish to receive an application, please email [bhd.directorsoffice@multco.us](mailto:bhd.directorsoffice@multco.us).



# Community Updates

# Behavioral Health Division Updates

## Office of Consumer Engagement

Hiring process is underway for the vacant full time OCE position.



# **Background for the Naming of the Permanent Facility for Deflection & Sobering**

Anthony Jordan  
Natalie Amar  
Marc Harris  
Health Department

**September 3, 2025**

# Purpose

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## **Purpose of this meeting:**

- To provide overview of Pathway Center and plans for the new Permanent Facility
- End goal is to get recommendations for the name of the Permanent Facility in October 2025 BHAC meeting



# Agenda

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- Pathway Center Deflection and Sobering Program Update
- Permanent Facility Overview
- Summary of Services offered at Pathway Center vs at the Permanent Facility
- Next Steps and asks for the naming process





# **Coordinated Care Pathway Center (Existing Temporary Facility)**



# Background Information for Pathway Center

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- Provides deflection programming and sobering services
- Coordinated Care Pathway Center, also known as Pathway Center, was opened on October 14th, 2024, to provide deflection services
- Deflection originated from HB 4002
- Tuerk House is the operator
- Deflection services moved to 24/7 on April 14, 2025
- Deflection referrals currently from Law Enforcement, adding MHAAO and Portland Street Response (PSR) pilots in October 2025
- Sobering services opened on April 28th, 2025



# Deflection Program Structure

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- Eligibility criteria
- How people are referred to deflection
- Program requirements
- Successful completion criteria and verification



# Multnomah County Deflection Program

## PHASE 2 COORDINATED CARE PATHWAY CENTER WITH SOBERING

### Journey Map

This visual illustrates the journey and pathways to the Coordinated Care Pathway Center and connections to treatment and recovery support.

### Who is eligible?

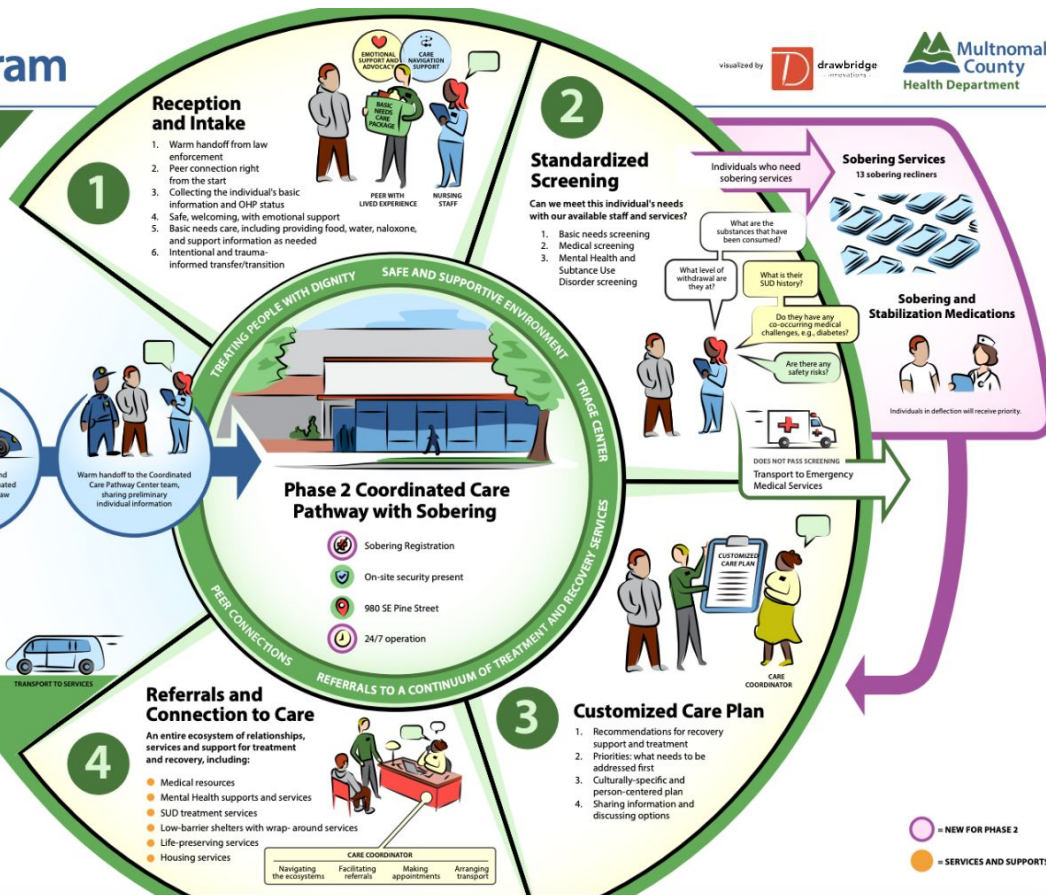
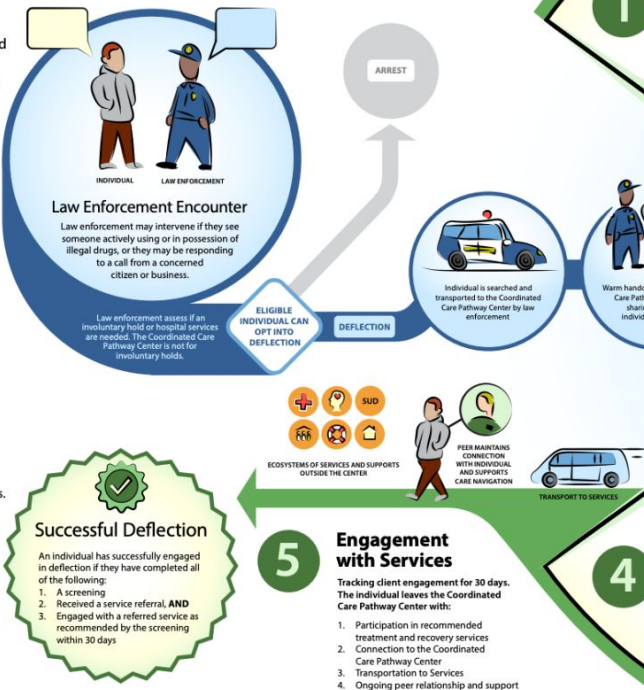
Eligible individuals are those who:



- ✓ Come into contact with law enforcement **AND**
- ✓ Are found to be in possession of small amounts of illegal drugs for their personal use **AND**
- ✓ Are not committing any other crimes **AND**
- ✓ Have not had an unsuccessful deflection within the last 30 days.



- ✓ Individuals may have a substance use disorder, another behavioral health disorder or co-occurring disorders



### Deflection program principles



Collaborative effort between law enforcement and behavioral health



Person-centered



Data-Driven and Evidence-based



Trauma-informed



Culturally and linguistically responsive



Continuous learning and improvement



Community Engagement

# Pathway Center Sobering Program

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## Sobering Program

open 24/7  
as of April 28, 2025



## PHASE 2 COORDINATED CARE PATHWAY CENTER WITH SOBERING

### Journey Map

This visual illustrates the journey and pathways of an individual identified by law enforcement or first responders as eligible for transport to the Coordinated Care Pathway Center, offering a safe and supportive path to sobering and further assistance.

### Who is Eligible for Sobering

#### Deflection Pathway

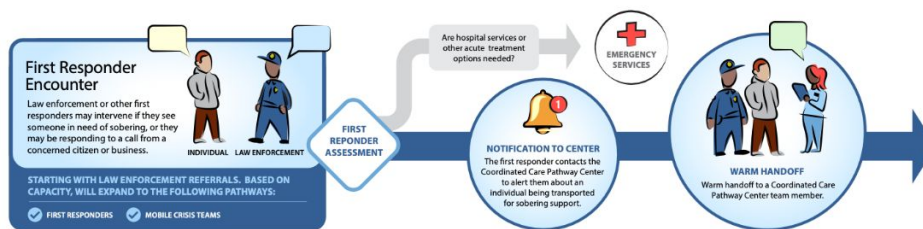


- ✓ Individuals participating in deflection

#### Expanded Pathway



- ✓ Individuals who law enforcement determine are appropriate to transport to the Pathway Center for sobering. Based on capacity, will expand referrals to other first responders and mobile crisis teams.
- ✓ Individuals should be reasonably able to consent to sobering services



### Phase 2 Coordinated Care Pathway Center with Sobering



### Program Principles



Collaborative effort between law enforcement and behavioral health



Person-centered



Data-driven and Evidence-based



Trauma-informed



Culturally and linguistically responsive



Continuous learning and improvement



Community engagement

# Sobering Referral Expansion

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On June 23, 2025, opened referrals to 5 teams that have touchpoints with law enforcement:

- Portland Street Response
- Project Respond
- Community Health Assess and Treat (CHAT)
- 4D Recovery
- Mental Health and Addiction Association of Oregon (MHAAO)

\* Added Volunteers of America (VOA) in late August



# Permanent Facility (New)



# Overview of Permanent Facility

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- 24/7 Sobering & Crisis Stabilization Center, opening Fall 2027
- Address: 1901 SE Grand Ave
- Destination for law enforcement, first responders, and other partner organizations to provide safe alternative to jail or Emergency Department for intoxicated individuals
- Deflection, sobering, withdrawal management, and medication assisted treatment (MAT) services:
  - Care coordination
  - Referrals
  - Basic Needs
  - Transportation



# Permanent Facility Updates

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- Completed the Programming, Conceptual Design and Schematic Design (SD) phases
- Design Development phase to continue through Fall 2025
- Construction begins Winter/Spring 2026
- Completed Stage 1 of Neighborhood Engagement
- Drafted Neighborhood Engagement Plan
- Request for Proposal (RFP) for operator on track to close in early September



# Next Steps for the Permanent Facility Project

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- Complete design development phase and receive Board approval for construction
- Proceed with Stages 2 and 3 of Good Neighbor work
- Review Request for Proposals and decide on the operator
- Complete permanent facility naming process



# Pathway Center Vs Permanent Facility

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- Pathway Center:
  - Offers deflection services
  - Offers sobering services
- Permanent Facility:
  - Adding withdrawal management services (29 stations)
  - Increasing sobering services from 13 stations to 18 stations
  - Adding MAT services
  - Continuing deflection services



# Next Steps and Our Request

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- Will return to BHAC on October 1st to discuss the naming of the Permanent Facility.
- At the October 1st BHAC meeting, planning to obtain recommendations from BHAC on a name for the Permanent Facility.
- Recommendations will be taken to the Chair, Sobering & Crisis Stabilization Leadership Team, and neighborhood partners





**Thank You**