



# Human Services Commission

## 2022 ANNUAL REPORT

### Enabling Legislation and/or Bylaws

The Human Services Commission (HSC) ORS 190 Intergovernmental Agreement form of governance was established in 1972 to regionally coordinate the administration of human services jointly funded by the Cities of Eugene and Springfield and Lane County through the County Department of Health and Human Services. This entity is responsible for regional health and human services. In 1981, the federal Community Action Anti-Poverty Program, which had been administered separately by the County's Social Services Division, was folded into the fund. In 1984, with the beginning of the Community Development Block Grant program, the cities integrated the allocation of public service funds for social services.

**The HSC Board** is administered by seven members consisting of public officials under an ORS 190 Intergovernmental Agreement between the cities of Eugene and Springfield and Lane County. Membership is based on the proportion of general fund contributions. Representatives include at least one elected representative from each jurisdiction. The City of Eugene has three seats and Lane County and the City of Springfield each have two public officials seated on the Board. (LM 3.568)

### Scope and Function

The function of the Human Services Commission is to provide recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners in the following areas:

The HSC provides advice to the Board of County Commissioners and the Eugene and Springfield City Councils on community needs and priorities for human services. Its tasks include: assisting in the development of an intergovernmental human services plan and budget, assisting in planning, review and evaluation of services in the intergovernmental human services plan; assisting in evaluation of proposals to provide services, providing for citizen participation in the planning process for community human services, and making recommendations to units of local government regarding their specific human services proposals.

### Membership

Human Services Commission meetings are open to any county or city employee and members of the public. The HSC membership in calendar year 2022 was officially comprised of the following members:

Commissioner Pat Farr, Lane County  
Commissioner Laurie Trieger, Lane County  
Councilor Randy Groves, City of Eugene  
Councilor Matt Keating, City of Eugene  
Ryan Moore, City of Eugene Budget Committee member  
Councilor Kori Rodley, City of Springfield  
Councilor Marilee Woodrow, City of Springfield

### Staff Contacts

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|--|----------------|--|
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## **Meeting Frequency**

The Human Services Commission met on the following dates in 2022:

- January 24, 2022
- February 28, 2022
- March 21, 2022
- April 18, 2022
- May 16, 2022
- June 27, 2022
- July 18, 2022

There was no meeting in August to observe the traditional summer hiatus. The September through December 2022 meetings were cancelled by the Human Services Commission. The Human Services Commission chairs, community members and Lane County staff began a charter review in August to share insights and perspective from members in order to shape the collective future of the Human Services Commission. This work engaged a third-party consultant and continues to think more globally about the role of the Commission.

## **Committee Topics of Note/Accomplishments**

The Human Services Commission heard and discussed the following topics:

- Reporting and Analytics
- Youth Homeless Demonstration Grant
- City/County Human Service ARPA Allocations
- Leadership Elections
- 211info
- Budget and Services Decision Making
- Legislative Recap
- Human Services Commission Charter Review
- Substance Use Disorder Services Overview
- Humans Services Division FY22 Budget
- Poverty and Homelessness Board Update
- Alcohol and Drug Prevention Education
- Behavioral Health Stabilization Center Update

## **Focus Areas**

The HSC will focus on the following objectives in the upcoming year:

- Continue engagement on Charter Review to align mission, goals, role and form across membership
- Support increased multi-jurisdictional knowledge and understanding of the role and impact of human services and anti-poverty programs
- Review options for funding to support ongoing and future human services and anti-poverty programs throughout Lane County
- Track relevant legislation at the local, state, and federal levels

## **Challenges and Strategies**

The following are the greatest challenges before the HSC and the strategies planned to overcome them:

- Funding to cover the full cost to administer grant-funded and locally-funded human service programs continues to be a challenge for contracted nonprofits.
- The COVID-19 pandemic has affected the human services workforce, social service volunteer labor pool, while exacerbating the already existing need for immediate service provision in the community.