



## **METRO REGIONAL COALITION AGENDA**

### ***Special meeting on supporting asylum seekers in Portland and the region***

**August 13, 2019**

**1 p.m. to 3 p.m.**

**GPCOG, 970 Baxter Boulevard, Portland**

#### **1. Welcome and introductions**

#### **2. Current situation & what's left to do this week**

We'll discuss the current situation with asylum seekers and housing, and review what has been done by cities and towns in the region, as well as faith and immigrant community leaders, over the last eight weeks to support newly arrived asylum seekers. We'll also discuss what remains to be done to meet the August 15<sup>th</sup> deadline for emptying the Expo.

#### **3. Group discussion on the challenges of this work**

Staff will outline some of the barriers and challenges encountered during the process, including the tight housing market, transportation needs, and support for families as they move into the community. The group will be asked for ideas and community connections to help address some of these challenges.

#### **4. Discussion of continued partnerships after August 15<sup>th</sup>**

Members will discuss how to best maintain and strengthen existing partnerships between the City of Portland, surrounding communities, the faith community and immigrant leaders leading in this work, and what role the MRC and GPCOG should continue to play.

#### **5. Next steps on expanding housing choices**

Members will discuss the next steps in the Metro Regional Coalition's work to expand housing choices for all.