OCTOBER 2022 MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2022

IN-PERSON LOCATION:

COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY
2475 CENTER ST NE
SALEM, OR 97301

VIRTUAL:

MWVCAA Full Board Meeting October 2022
Oct 27, 2022, 5:30 – 7:30 PM (PDT)
Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.
https://meet.goto.com/860284629
You can also dial in using your phone.
Access Code: 860-284-629
United States: +1 (224) 501-3412

COMMUNITY ACTION PROMISE

Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.

Helping People Changing Lives

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COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA
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Mission
Empowering people to change their lives and exit poverty by providing vital services and community leadership.

Vision
All people are respected for their infinite worth and are supported to envision and reach a positive future.

I. Welcome and Introductions **5:30**

II. Public Comment **5:35**

III. Declaration of Conflict of Interest **5:40**

IV. Approval of Agenda **5:45**

V. Consent Calendar **5:50**
1. September 2022 Full Board Meeting Minutes
2. October 2022 Executive Director Report
3. October 2022 Anti-Poverty Report
4. October 2022 Program Director Reports
5. October 2022 Committee Meeting Minutes

VI. Board Business **5:55**
1. Executive Director's Report
2. Mental Health Supportive Services in Homeless Division (Hamilton) – *Presentation*
3. Head Start Corrective Action Plan (Pignotti) – *Presentation*
4. Gala Report (Glenn) – *Presentation*
5. Wildfire Resiliency and Recovery Account Report (Hamilton) – *Presentation*
6. Head Start Self-Assessment and Program Improvement Plan (Pignotti) – *Approval*
7. Oregon Head Start Association Charitable Check Off Grant Application – *Approval*
8. 401K Audit and Governance Letter – *Presentation*
9. Financials – *Approval*

VII. Adjournment **7:30**

Next board meeting: Thursday, November 17th, 2022

Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2022
MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

Board of Directors:
Present:

Catherine Trottman	Jade Rutledge	Michael Vasquez	Steve McCoid
Erika Romine	Jeremy Gordon	RW Taylor	Vanessa Nordyke
Helen Honey	Kevin Karvandi	Shelaswau Crier	

Absent:

Melissa Baurer	Nikol Ramirez	Jasmine White	Christopher Lopez

Others Present:
Program Directors/Staff/Guests:
Jimmy Jones, Executive Director
Helana Haytas, Chief Operations Officer
Kaolee Hoyle, Chief Financial Officer
Eva Pignotti, Chief Program Officer: Early Learning and Child Care
Traia Campbell, Energy Services Program Director
Stacey Eli, Head Start Associate Program Director
Tanisha Rosas, Government Relations Manager for Marion County
Jade Wilson, Executive Assistant

The meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order at 5:33 pm by Board Chair Jade Rutledge. It was determined that a quorum was present.

I. Welcome
Board Chair Jade Rutledge welcomed everyone.

II. Public Comment
None were made.

III. Declaration of Conflict of Interest
None were made.

IV. Approval of Agenda
An addition was made to the agenda for a presentation by RW Taylor, Board Member.

MOTION: To approve change to the agenda and to approve the agenda made by Steve McCoid,
SECOND: Helen Honey.
APPROVED: Unanimously approved

V. <u>Consent Calendar</u>

1. **August 2022 Full Board Meeting Minutes**
   No discussions or concerns were raised
2. **September 2022 Executive Director Report**
   No discussions or concerns were raised
3. **September 2022 Regional and National Anti-Poverty Report**
   No discussions or concerns were raised
4. **September 2022 Chief Financial Officer Report**
   No discussions or concerns were raised
5. **September 2022 Chief Operations Officer Report**
   No discussions or concerns were raised
6. **September 2022 Director of Development Report**
   No discussions or concerns were raised
7. **September 2022 Program Director Reports**
   No discussions or concerns were raised
8. **September 2022 Committee Meeting Minutes**
   No discussions or concerns were raised

MOTION: To approve consent calendar made by Kevin Karvandi,
SECOND: RW Taylor.
APPROVED: Unanimously approved

VI. <u>Board Business</u>

1. **Executive Director's Report**
   i. **Strategic Plan:** WIPFLI, our third party consultant, has given us a status update on the Strategic Plan. The current draft of the plan will be uploaded to their digital platform called OnStrategy soon. OnStrategy will act as a dashboard for tracking progress with the three to five year plan. Training on the software begins next week. This will not be the final version of the Strategic Plan, as the board will have the opportunity to review and make any changes to the plan that they see fit.
   ii. **Turnkey 2.0 Grant:** We are currently waitlisted on this grant. We are continuing with our due diligence on purchasing a second motel as well as pursuing several contingency plans if we are unsuccessful in obtaining that specific grant.
   iii. **Board Membership:** The board currently sits at 15 member,s which is the most we have had in awhile. Nikol Ramirez, current Policy Council rep, will be rotating out in October.
   iv. **Fundraising Gala:** The MWVCAA Annual Fundraising Gala is scheduled for October 15, 2022. Jimmy asked that board members share the link to purchase tickets with anyone that they would like to invite or that they think would love to attend the event.
   v. **Finance Update:** We are getting very close to closing out all of the 2021-2022 grants and completing the fiscal year. The 401K audit is largely finished at this point and the single audit is on track for beginning in November.
   vi. **Head Start:** The first day of school was on Wednesday, September 21 and Jimmy was happy to report there were no issues and things went

smoothly. Enrollment is looking better than previous years. Head Start staff are diligently working through processing applications.

vii. **Early Learning Division:** Earlier this year, our Head Start program had decided to not pursue the Preschool Promise grant. This has turned out to be a good decision for us as the Early Learning Division has struggled getting this contracts executed.

viii. **Building Renovations:** The bid process for hiring a general contractor for the ARCHES Inn renovation has been completed. The Wallace Road renovations are still in planning phase.

ix. **Housing Crisis:** Jimmy presented an update on the current housing crisis we are facing. The shortage on housing is a long-term issue that cannot be fixed quickly. A minimum of five years would be needed to create enough capacity for the amount of people needing affordable housing. Things are trending in the way that after five years, we would need to continue building over 30,000 housing starts every year to keep up with the demand. Along with the need for physical buildings, there is a need for more construction and public sector works to keep up with demand. Oregon has experienced a 40 year period with zero growth in construction workers, which contributes to the lack of housing specifically in Oregon.

2. **RW Taylor Presentation –** RW Taylor, Board Member, provided a presentation on the current teen suicide rates and the impact this is having on the local community. He asked what it is the agency is currently doing in combating this crisis and if the board should release a statement on their stance on the issue. There was further discussion amongst the board and staff on our agency's current work on the matter and what we are doing to help. In the end, the matter was referred to the Program Committee of the Board for action.

3. **Head Start Eligibility Training Presentation –** Per the ERSEA Performance Standard 1302.12, Head Start is required to provide an Eligibility Training for the governing body on an annual basis. This training covers the eligibility requirements for Head Start applications as well as the procedure for processing a family's application. Eva Pignotti, Chief Program Officer: Early Learning and Child Care, provided the training at the meeting.

4. **Head Start ERSEA Policies and Procedures Presentation –** Eva Pignotti provided several written policies and procedures as they pertained to ERSEA Performance Standards 1302.12 – 1302.15 for the board members to review. These policies and procedures pertained to full day program eligibility, recruitment, enrollment practices and selection criteria for children joining the Head Start program.

5. **Early Learning Division Grant Awards –** Head Start asked for retroactive approval for the OPK and P3 grant awards from the Early Learning Division for the FY 2022-2023. The OPK Continuation application is the ongoing funding from the state for the Head Start program. The P3 Application for Early Head Start is the first award for a new program serving 30 infant/toddlers, and for one-time startup costs for the program. Both of these grants were awarded back on July 1, 2022.

MOTION: To approve the OPK Continuation Application for Head Start FY 2022 - 2023 and the P3 Application for Early Head Start made by Helen Honey,
SECOND: Steve McCoid.
APPROVED: Unanimously approved

6. **Middle Grove 1303 Exception (Head Start Performance Standards) -** The agency is still pursuing a refinance of the mortgage for the Head Start Middle Grove site because the current mortgage has a required balloon payment, which is not allowable by Office of Head Start. This approval is for the submission of the form 1303 Facilities Pre-Approval Check List document, which was presented at the meeting by Kaolee Hoyle, CFO.

MOTION: To approve the Middle Grove Refinance Form 1303 Facilities Pre-Approval Check List and the refinance of the Middle Grove property made by RW Taylor,
SECOND: Steve McCoid.
APPROVED: Unanimously approved

7. **Financials –** Kaolee Hoyle, CFO, presented the June 2022 Budget to Actual. Currently, our total revenue sits at a little more than we had previously budgeted, due to some new grants and funding increases. Kaolee also stated that the Audit is scheduled for the week before Thanksgiving this year. She is hoping to have it completed by Christmas. We are expecting to have a new Audit Manager looking over our audit this year, which can present some difficulties. But Kaolee was optimistic it would provide a fresh perspective.

MOTION: To approve the financials made by Helen Honey,
SECOND: RW Taylor.
APPROVED: Unanimously approved

VII. <u>Adjournment</u>
The Board of Directors meeting was adjourned at 6:58pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jade Wilson, Executive Assistant	Kevin Karvandi, Board Secretary

Executive Director's Report

MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY
October 2022

October has turned into a summer month in Oregon, with highs that feel more akin to fall temperatures in Mississippi (which ironically just had a deep cold snap). The first day of school for Head Start was September 21st, which went off without a hitch. The first few weeks have gone very well. On the homeless services front, we are gearing up for the warming season which, despite these unseasonably warm weeks, is only a moment away. Planning wise we are working on the ARCHES Inn renovation, the Wallace Road renovation, working to find more funding for the Fisher Road project, expanding our youth sheltering into Polk County, and developing deeper ties with our primary health partners. Energy, too, is gearing up for its busy fall season. There is a great deal going on, but it has that warm, comfortable, busy feel of the pre-pandemic world. Many of us are coming back now from time off, and remember why we chose this line of work all over again. October in social work is one of the best months, when the slower summer pace lies behind us, and the quickening days light the serious winter work ahead. There is anxiety too. Inflation, the cost of living for people in poverty, gas prices, the election, unknown funding challenges ahead, unmet mental health needs in the community, new work to stand up, and the suffering that transpires each day all around us. But the world is a much better, much brighter, place because we are here. Many would be left without hope without us.

October Updates:

- **Preview of this Month's Meeting:** This month's agenda will include a report of current mental health work underway in the Homeless Services division, a report out on our Corrective Action Plan for the child incident earlier this year at Middle Grove, a report by Laurel Glenn on the Agency Gala, and a summary of our wildfire work, as that work begins to wind down. It also includes a review of the Head Start Self-Assessment and Program Improvement Plan and a presentation by CFO Kaolee Hoyle on the 401K Audit.

- **Weatherization Day (October 30th):** Each year, we mark one day in October as National Weatherization Day. It's an opportunity to recognize the extraordinary achievements of the Weatherization Assistance Program, and remember the lives that it changes in our community. This program, which is 46 years old, has weatherized more than 7.4 million homes in the United States since 1976. These weatherized homes save, on average, about $283 per household annually, which has created a combined impact of more than $2 billion over the last half century. Those recaptured costs go back into low-income households for other critical basic needs. Our Weatherization Program will hold an open house on Friday October 28th, at their primary shop here in Salem **(2551 Pringle Rd SE Salem),** from 1-6 p.m. I hope that most of our senior staff, and our Board Members, are able to visit our Weatherization office and learn more about the vital work they do for the community. It's always an eye-opening experience.

- **Leadership Retreat:** Our senior leadership held a retreat on October 19th and 20th, at the new Head Start location on Hawthorne. We spent a couple of days working through some of the elements that will appear in the *Strategic Plan*, notably elements dedicated to improving some areas of our work culture. Most of the retreat was given over to essentially technical matters, focused on an Agency-wide performance evaluation process, building team culture and Agency identity, and training senior staff on a common social work practice of *reflective supervision*, which is a social work style of supervisor-staff supervision that includes not only our common daily struggles in the work, but professional development and supportive training and other skill-building exercises. The retreat was well received, and we're planning another for November. On October 21st, we held another in our series of Agency Brown Bag Lunches via Zoom, where we share news with staff, and allow them to ask questions they have of senior leadership. Long term, that identity construction of *Agency* instead of *Program* I believe is vital, and it will help us to build better wrap-around services and tear down some of the historic silos within our work.

- **Meetings:** One of the fascinating parts of the work is our mandate to organize the community around poverty issues. This month we met with a diverse group of stakeholders, including Senator Fred Girod, leadership at Seed of Faith Ministries, the federal FYSB office at Health and Human Services, the state's Racial Justice Task Force's Coordinating Team, the "Abandoned RV" work group, the City of Salem, CAPO, the Future Ready Oregon Technical Advisory Committee, the Willamette Valley Wine Foundation, the Long-Term Recovery Group (wildfire), OHCS, the Housing Stability Council (where we testified in support of the Salem Housing Authority's Sequoia Crossings project), Pacific Source, the Marion-Polk Early Learning Hub, Senator Courtney's office, Multi-Family Northwest, the City of Bend, and others.

  The "Abandoned RV" group in particular is interesting. Given the rise of unsheltered homelessness in Oregon, one of the primary "gateways" to tent camping is (first) living in your car or RV. As personal situations deteriorate, often these vehicles are abandoned when they're burned out or no longer running. Many local governments (and various tow truck and impound yard owners) are hopeful for an easier pathway to tow and impound abandoned vehicles, and dispose of them quickly so that costly storage fees are avoided. There are civil liberties concerns, however, in the confiscation of property without the consent of the owners. And sometimes RV's that appear abandoned simply have owners that are in jail, in the hospital, or are seeing to business in town. So the group is trying to balance the need of local governments to get dangerous burned out property moved quickly, the need of towing companies to minimize costs of storage and scrapping, and the *rights* of people to be secure in their shelter and property. It's a difficult balance to be sure.

  In September, the Ninth US Circuit Court (which governs the western United States) expanded their *Grants Pass* ruling on anti-camping ordinances. The ruling expanded the *Martin v. Boise* protections to not only permit sleeping outside when there is no shelter space available, but also affirmed the right to sleep with "rudimentary forms of protection from the elements." Grants Pass had forced the issue, when they changed their local ordinance to allow people to sleep in parks, but banned them from using blankets or sleeping bags. The Court ruled that they could make efforts to keep themselves warm, but limited that right to temporary shelter and bedding (and did not include fires, stoves or building structures).[1] It also dismissed the procedural attempt by cities to step around the federal law by making any violations of local ordinances civil offenses instead of criminal matters. In Oregon, this issue grows more grave every day. The League of Oregon Cities published a note discussing the implications of the ruling, especially noting that the Court had failed to identify what "constitutes 'necessary minimal measures' to keep warm and dry."[2] And just this week Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler announced a plan to open large camping sites in Portland, and he would compel residents of unsanctioned tent encampments to leave their current camps and move to the sanctioned city camps, under criminal penalty. There is also a very clear expectation that residents will engage in services and treatment at these sanctioned sites. The plan has broad support in Portland, and among metro elected officials, but little

[1] https://www.latimes.com/world-nation/story/2022-09-28/in-case-out-of-little-grants-pass-ore-federal-court-further-protects-rights-of-homeless; 20-35752.pdf (uscourts.gov)

[2] https://www.orcities.org/resources/communications/bulletin/ninth-court-affirms-opinion-public-camping

support in the service community, because it will fail miserably. Many people like to talk about homelessness, but no one wants to police it. Jails will not hold the homeless, and housing and treatment solutions take time and patience that the general public simply does not have in today's world.[3] The plan will fail because it is wildly unrealistic, impractical, and the city lacks the will to punish the poor for their poverty, when push comes to shove. They are not going to arrest a bunch of 60-year-old disabled and very sick folks who are living in squalor. It will also be wildly expensive, as most social engineering solutions by large metros tend to be. Rural Oregon has their own ideas, like the one offered by a Curry County Commissioner last month. Their plan is to give the Curry homeless $50 and a bus ticket to Salem.[4] And folks wonder why we need more shelter here.

- **Gala:** The Agency's first Annual Gala happened on Saturday, October 15th. The event was sold out weeks ahead. Everyone had a good time and we learned a lot about organizing and running one of these events. I was particularly proud of our Board Chair, Jade Rutledge, and Board Member Melissa Baurer, who spoke to the crowd about our work. We will have a full financial impact report at the Board Meeting. We wanted to play this year conservatively and aim for about 125 folks at first. But the demand was so high we ended up adding another three tables, for 164 people. The event was fully paid for by sponsorships, led by our two primary health care partners (Kaiser Permanente and Santiam Hospital). Next year, we plan to move upstairs and shoot for 350 people, including more of our own staff.

- **FYSB Youth Grant:** The federal office of Health and Human Services annually holds grant competitions for two exceptionally competitive and highly prized federal awards: The Basic Center Grant and the Street Outreach Grant. Late last year, we received the federal outreach grant. On September 24th, we were notified that we also received the Basic Center grant by HHS, which supports our Day Center activities at the Drop-In. The grant is good for three years, at about $200,000 per year. Again, these are highly competitive grants, and only around 30 or so are awarded each year. Alisa Tobin (HYS Program Director) and Laurel Glenn (Development Director), who wrote both grants, really knocked this one out of the park.

- **1875 Fisher Road and Tanner Project:** After lengthy conversation with the Executive-Finance Committee over several months, we signed a PSA (purchase and sale agreement) to sell the current Tanner Project property to our partner Westcare, pending Board approval and our acquisition of an acceptable new project property. If we stay at the current Tanner Project building, we will need to upgrade and modernize that building. So even if we do not acquire Fisher Road, given the age of the Tanner Project property, my advice to the Board will be to proceed with the sale. If we are unable to put the final resources together for Fisher Road, we would move the Tanner Project residents to the third floor of the ARCHES Inn. As for Fisher Road, nothing has changed since we last met. We exercised our option to extend the closing deadline. As of this date, Oregon Community Foundation has not moved on to their waitlisted projects. But pressure will grow on them through the fall (they have to spend the money by June). As insurance against that funding path, we are working three other potential financing options, both with state and local funding sources. If nothing materializes, we would prefer to wait as long as we can before killing the deal. My gut is that this may yet play out in our favor.

- **July Budget Numbers:** July was a fairly typical July. We're spending a little shallow on some program work, which is typical for July. We spent about $3.7M, which was 3 percent less than the annualized budget (but still nearly $1 million a week). Donations are typically down in July. Both ARCHES and HYS are a bit shallow for July in spending, which is where I prefer them to be given the tightness of that budget annually. We're a little above the expected admin expense (about 1 percent), but that's also not uncommon. July is typically a time when we make salary adjustments for staff, renew subscriptions, etc. I expect it to come down over the year, especially when we drop the IT contractor we have employed as a safety net for the past year (at the end of this month).

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[3] https://www.oregonlive.com/portland/2022/10/portland-city-council-expresses-near-unanimous-support-for-aggressive-efforts-to-reduce-homelessness-drug-use-and-mental-health-crises.html

[4] https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KfU-Kzqbucg&t=5506s

We should end up about 8 percent or just a bit under, depending on the final revenue sources for the year.

- **Wildfire Concerns:** The chart below is a report out on our spending for the Wildfire Recovery and Resilience Account (WRRA), referenced in my *poverty report* later in the Board packet. There are three service types in the chart below*: Unmet Needs, Housing Services, and Hotel.* The *Hotel* category are wildfire survivors we have been sheltering. The *Housing Services* are wildfire households where we have been paying rent and providing case management services. And the third category, *"Unmet Needs,"* those are referrals from a Santiam Canyon task force called the Long Term Recovery Group (LTRG). The LTRG includes state, county, and local officials and non-profit partners. They make the referrals to us, and if eligible under program guidance, we pay for those services. The vast lion's share of the funds have come from referrals by the Unmet Needs group (the LTRG). The remainder are wildfire survivors (many of whom were homeless in the Canyon before the fire).

WRRA - Unmet Needs				
Category of Need	***Amount Expensed***	***Number of Transactions***	***Avg. Per Transaction***	***# of Households***
Home Build or Repairs	$ 1,638,546.51	76	$ 21,559.82	75
Income Barrier Removal	$ 29,094.82	12	$ 2,424.57	
Items for Daily Living	$ 62,778.23	12	$ 5,231.52	
Mortgage Assistance	$ 7,108.65	2	$ 3,554.33	
RV	$ 163,564.93	6	$ 27,260.82	
Well/Septic	$ 97,882.28	7	$ 13,983.18	
TOTAL	**$ 1,998,975.42**	**115**	**$ 17,382.39**	

WRRA - Housing Services			
Category of Service	***Amount Expensed***	***Number of Transactions***	***# of Households***
Application Fee	$ 1,750.90	50	52
Housing Barrier Removal	$ 10,822.51	6	
Rental Assistance	$ 122,187.33	95	
Security Deposit	$ 8,775.00	7	
Utility Assistance	$ 11,015.64	36	
TOTAL	**$ 154,551.38**	**194**	

WRRA - Hotel		
Status	***# of Households***	***Amount Expensed***
Closed Hotel	37	$ 255,340.00
Currently in Scattered Hotel	1	$ 24,900.00
Individuals Currently at ARCHES Inn	12	NA
TOTAL	**50**	**$ 280,240.00**

WRRA Service Type	***Amount Expensed***	***Households Served***
Unmet Needs	$ 1,998,975.42	75
Housing Services	$ 154,551.38	52
Hotel	$ 280,240.00	50
TOTAL	**$ 2,433,766.80**	**177**

- **Taylor's House 2.0:** We're getting closer to a place where we can seek a property in Polk County, for a Taylor's House expansion. We have spent several weeks in conversations with various stakeholders, and I believe we have a path forward on siting a shelter in Polk County.

- **Cardinal Village:** We worked very closely with the City of Salem, Mano a Mano, Fair Housing Council of Oregon, and other partners to help provide services for the residents of Cardinal Village, a condemned apartment complex here in Salem. There were some exceptional circumstances there that made that work difficult, but I am proud we were able to help folks who were suffering in that situation.

- **Organizational Changes:** Given where my attention is needed the next few months, we have moved the IT Department under our Chief Operations Officer, Helana Haytas. Shaun Phillips continues as our IT Director.

- **Voting Rights:** The national Community Action movement is pushing voting rights and easy access to voting. Many local agencies stay out of that issue because they depend heavily on the strong support of both major political parties. Access issues have been minor in Oregon for the past few decades. Oregon established a vote-by-mail system as part of Ballot Measure 60 in 1998. Since then it has enjoyed broad bipartisan support, and especially made voting easier in the expanses of eastern Oregon. A primary goal of the early Community Action movement was to promote civic engagement and citizenship, which supported the "maximum feasible participation" of groups receiving these services. The original argument was that poverty and political exclusion are linked. In order for the poor to exit generational poverty, they needed an active voice not only in the systems designed to serve them, but full inclusion in the civic life of the community.

- **HOME Youth:** The age of the current Drop-In facility for Home Youth is becoming a concern. The building is 102 years old this year. And while we're looking for new Youth facilities in Polk County, now seems to be a good time to look for a replacement for the Drop-In. This fall, given some of the unique demands, we plan on transitioning the current Drop-In to a more outreach-centric model, as we look for a new property. Our youth resources have never been greater, but we also need to reimagine the youth project for success the next twenty years, especially given the changing face of youth needs in the region. HOME Youth has been very resource intensive for the past four years. Given that growth, we are reaching a pivot point I think on the efficacy of the program.

  The delta between our investment and our outcomes is shrinking. The resources promise to increase on the homeless youth front, to a scale that would have been unimaginable just ten years ago. Nevertheless, new resources are not necessarily an invitation to do more in the way you have always been doing it. Our resource investment needs to produce geometric outcomes, not dollar-to-dollar outcomes. The time is ripe for a good look at the fundamentals in the program design. There are four central considerations:

  - **Resources:** We have seen significant increases in available dollars in recent years. They come from a variety of places: A.) increased state investments in general homeless services, B.) increased state investments out of the Oregon Department of Human Services for RHY (runaway and homeless youth services), C.) Increased Continuum of Care funds through the HUD CoC system (we won more than $3 million in Youth Homeless Demonstration Project (YHDP) funds this year), D.) increased Health and Human Services funds at the federal level (in the last 18 months we have won two highly prized grants on that front, one for street outreach and one for "basic center" work).

- **Facilities:** The two facilities we have are old and a constant drain on resources. Taylor's House is in a bit better shape than the Drop-In, which again was built when Woodrow Wilson was President of the United States. Given the complexity of using any federal money to renovate a project built in that era, it is basically a net liability. It would cost more to modernize than it's worth. My desire is to find us a better place to do our work in Salem.

- **Labor Supply:** This has been a tough market for any employer, and youth services are an especially difficult sector to find talented folks, develop them, and keep them employed. Shelter workers, because of the trauma and anxiety of dealing daily with the needs we see, have the highest turnover rate in the Agency. We have drawn better people by paying more, but we do not have the ability to fully buy our way into a prime employee pool—though recent grants are allowing us to seek better-qualified candidates.

- **Community Need:** The local need remains high, and has absolutely grown in the years since the pandemic began. Youth homelessness is a function of family health, and low-income families have struggled to stay together and remain cohesive through the past few years. The drug problem continues to grow more acute. We lost two youth under the age of 18 this past month. The downstream costs of youth homelessness promise to make the adult homeless problem in Salem much worse in the decade to come, and it will spread to areas that are more rural as well. If we are going to be in this work, we need to be fully in it, with a mind toward maximum impact.

- Alisa Tobin (Program Director, Home Youth Services) and Ashley Hamilton (Chief Program Officer for Housing and Homeless Services) have been working to address some of the inefficiencies caused by the intersection of these four realities. We are going to double down on our youth sheltering work, prioritizing Taylor's House and the second Taylor's House in Polk. In the next few months, we will use the Drop-In on an as-needed basis. We will use the staff there to reinforce Taylor's House, and turn the rest to street outreach while we look potentially to move the Drop-In services to a more modern location on Broadway, near the bus terminal. All the above should lean up the program some, and the new resources will allow us to be more intentional in staff selection. But our fundamental goal in this work remains unresolved. The Drop-In model is essentially a Day Center, but one that was used by some homeless youth and a LOT of non-homeless youth. With such a tight budget on the homeless services side, should we be subsidizing work that is not *directly* addressing the youth homeless crisis? Youth in Taylor's House are the most vulnerable in the community, and often they have no other option but victimization outside, without a safe place to sleep. These are very difficult choices.

- Just as a reminder, the approaching holidays will force a few changes in our regular meeting calendar. The Executive-Finance Committee of the Board will meet on November 10th, as regularly scheduled. Given the Thanksgiving holidays, we will need to move the regular November Board meeting up one week, to November 17th. Executive Finance will meet as regularly scheduled on December 8th, but we do not normally have a December full Board meeting. The Executive-Finance meeting for January will meet on its normal schedule, on January 12th, 2023. The next full Board meeting after the November 17th meeting will not occur until January 26th, 2023, which also doubles as the Agency's Annual Meeting. In most non-pandemic years we have usually held that meeting at a restaurant. We'll update the Board on those plans as they approach.

- At this point, a recession is almost certain. We'll have more thoughts after the new year on what that means long-term for non-profit, anti-poverty work.

Jimmy Jones
20 October 2022
Keizer, Oregon

Mid- Willamette Valley Community Action Agency
Actual to Budget, July 2022

	July 2022		FY23 - Budgeted	Expected Spent %	Actual Earned/Spent %	Difference
Grant and awards	$ 3,695,768		$ 66,224,925	8%	6%	-3%
Other program revenue	21,443		280,000	8%	8%	-1%
Contributions	6,203		200,000	8%	3%	-5%
Total Revenue	**3,723,414**		**66,704,925**	**8%**	**6%**	**-3%**
Expenses						
Community resource programs	1,043,083		30,983,767	8%	3%	-5%
Reentry services	33,575		400,000	8%	8%	0%
Child care resource and referral network	118,034		1,541,591	8%	8%	-1%
Energy assistance programs	777,160		5,686,419	8%	14%	5%
Weatherization services	133,886		2,370,357	8%	6%	-3%
Nutrition first USDA food program	382,761		4,000,000	8%	10%	1%
Head start	882,864		14,827,350	8%	6%	-2%
Home youth and resource center	96,870		3,566,038	8%	3%	-6%
Management and general	324,317		3,329,403	8%	10%	1%
Total Expenditures	**3,792,549**		**66,704,925**	**8%**	**6%**	**-3%**
Revenue Over/(Under) Expenditures	**$ (69,135)**	{a}	**$ -**			

{a} Timing of billing.

Regional and National Poverty Report

MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY
COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY
October 2022

Medicaid Waiver: The federal government approved Oregon's (very ambitious) Medicaid plan; which will include an additional $1.1 billion in new funding.

https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/ORDHS/bulletins/32f681f

Oregon had proposed what's known as an 1115 Demonstration Waiver in its next five-year plan, to use Medicaid in more expansive ways than the federal government has normally allowed in the past. Specifically, it could allow us to bill Medicaid for our sheltering case management services, for any mental health service we provide in Head Start, and for case management services associated with our Re-Entry and Home Youth programs.

The goals of the Oregon Health Authority for the 1115 waiver include:

- Maximizing the state's Oregon Health Plan coverage. Currently the uninsured rate in Oregon is 6 percent, and the plan target would reduce that uninsured rate to just 2 percent. The implementation will especially reduce racially unjust disparities for people of color. Currently 12 percent of Oregon's Latinx population are uninsured, compared to just 5 percent of white (non-Hispanics).

- Provide for continuous enrollment for children under the age of 6; two-years of continuous enrollment for those over six; and an expedited coverage path for those who sign up for SNAP benefits (food stamps). This is a "first in the nation" innovation.

- Oregon will now be able to cover early periodic screenings, diagnosis and treatment services for all children and youth up to age 21, beginning January 1, 2023.

- Stabilizing transitions (this is important for us, because the plan looks to support people through changes such as institutionalization or natural disasters, a concept inherently rooted in the Social Determinates of Health, which focuses on employment and housing). This is another "first in the nation" innovation, which will support food assistance, housing supports and other medically appropriate interventions, including for those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

State housing funds, in the future, are unstable, and subject to changes in administrations. Medicaid billing could supplement (or even supplant) any unstable future funding, and give us a pathway to continue to grow services for people in poverty for the next decade. Housing and homeless advocates have been fighting for these changes for ten years. It's exciting to see them finally mature into a reality.

Doing it well, however, is going to be difficult. As we analyze this work, we may need to hire specialists in this field on the administrative side. We will want to make sure we have the capacity to support the documentation challenges around a Medicaid billing process. But it is a very large potential revenue stream that will allow us to build sustainable services for people in poverty into the 2030s.

Wildfire Recovery, Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG – DR), Oregon Legislature:
The rebuild from the crushing 2020 Labor Day fires continues across Oregon. Not surprising in an election season, the funding politics around the state and federal investments in that rebuild have grown more tense, in part because the state has been very slow (and in some cases non-responsive) to the requests of local communities for quicker action. In the 2021 legislative session, the State of Oregon fashioned a wildfire reinvestment fund of more than $600 million. Of that $600 million, about $150 million was set aside as a wildfire recovery fund for housing supply and land acquisition (and other services). Oregon House and Community Services (OHCS) has worked directly with local governments, but the allocation of those funds have been very slow. Of that $150 million fund, OHCS allocated about $21.5 million in emergency funds for direct services to people who had been displaced by the fires. This program was called the Wildfire Recovery and Resilience Account (WRRA). The funds were mostly distributed to Community Action Agencies, which contracted to run the state program. The fund has been distributed in two waves, WRRA 1.0 and WRRA 2.0. Our local share has been about $4.6 million. Most of that fund went to the areas of the greatest need, especially Jackson County, which lost more than 2,300 homes (most of those were manufactured homes in 18 mobile home parks that were destroyed all or in part by the Almeda fire).[1] The goal of the WRRA program is to move survivors into permanent housing and to shelter, feed, and clothe them while the permanent housing was obtained. OHCS designed the program, which follows the standard "housing first" philosophy, an equity-centered practice that makes shelter and housing available without requirements based in income, sobriety, employment or housing readiness.[2] CAA's were obligated under program rules to adhere to four principles:

1.) Housing First.
2.) Housing Choice.
3.) Transparency and data-driven decisions.
4.) Equity.

Local Community Action's were encouraged to work with the local Long Term Recovery Group (LTRG), as we have. LTRG's were established by the Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS), and membership in the groups included non-profits, local government, and other community partners. Locally, we have dispersed these resources in three ways:

1.) Clients receiving housing supports through a Rapid-Rehousing Program (in plain English, these are households where we are paying their rent and providing case management services with the end goal of stabilization).

2.) Sheltering wildfire survivors who have yet to attain permanent housing at the ARCHES Inn or in other scattered site motels.

3.) Direct financial support of requests coming from the Long-Term Recovery Group.

In short, these are all investments in the stabilization of *people*, and they are not capital investments in a rebuild. Local governments, however, have struggled to access the funds provided by the Legislature to OHCS for the physical, capital projects they prefer to fund. And they have grown increasingly frustrated with the state's inaction.[3] Both the frustration and the prioritization of client needs over capital investments probably should have been expected. They reflect two dynamics that no one is really comfortable discussing publically.

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[1] https://oregoncapitalchronicle.com/briefs/how-should-oregon-spend-millions-on-wildfire-recovery-state-officials-want-your-input/

[2] https://www.oregon.gov/ohcs/for-providers/Documents/manuals/WRRA-Program-Guidance.pdf

[3] https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/mediaplayer/?clientID=4879615486&eventID=2022091033

1.) The remaining unhoused wildfire survivors, at this point, were largely either homeless or functionally homeless, living in RVs and vans, squatting in abandoned homes, camping on their family properties, or living in their cars up forest roads. That kind of "near homeless" lifestyle had existed for many years in the Canyon and other very rural frontier areas of Oregon counties. This was a population that was already marked by trauma. Many had little to no income, were fleeing family violence, had criminal histories or substance abuse issues, and various other traumas. Even without the fires, they would have been difficult to house. The traumas of the fires, and the forced relocation out of their homes into Salem, compounded an already difficult situation. Policy makers who expected these folks to look after themselves or rehouse on their own, to "get a job and go to work," were wildly (or deliberately) naïve about any kind of quick resolution for these folks.

2.) Oregon Housing and Community Services is not designed as a disaster recovery agency. Its historic role is the development of affordable housing (the services bit was a late and, until recently, very neglected tag along). Affordable housing construction, especially in Oregon, is a multi-year process. It moves forward only with exceptionally imperceptive speed – like thick molasses in 10 degree weather. We are now two years past the wildfires, and the development side of this conversation has been frustrated by repeated delays, slow policy making, and bureaucracy.

And then, it gets worse.

In October of 2021, the United States Congress—as part of a $5 billion package for disaster relief—allocated Oregon $422 million in Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds.[4] The funds are meant to be spent in six counties: Clackamas, Douglas, Jackson, Lane, Lincoln, and Marion (as well as the 97358 zip code in Linn County). Deployment of those federal funds was always going to be very slow. The US Department of Housing and Urban Development required an "Unmet Needs Assessment," Mitigation Needs Assessment, an Action Plan with a public comment period, and then the normal certification process, delaying access to the funds by up to six months. That process is nearly complete, and OHCS has created a new division (the OHCS Disaster Recovery & Resilience section) to manage the wildfire work. Their plan is to combine what remains of the $150 million state investment with the $422 million in federal CDBG-DR. The funds will be managed by the new OHCS division. On September 30th, OHCS issued an RFP for a single (probably out-of-state contractor) to administer a very ambitious program called "ReOregon," which will essentially run program services that include: program management staff, call centers, intake, eligibility review, inspections, environmental review, award determination, construction management, case management, and general communications."

In short, the intention is to award program management of these funds to a non-state actor, which will then subcontract projects designed to OHCS priorities locally. The counties, especially Marion, Lane, and Lincoln, have not been impressed with OHCS's performance to date, and would prefer that the money be handed to them with as little restrictions as possible. That's not going to happen without a change in the Governor's office. The current course of action, however, is certain to delay any serious investment of these funds for more than a year. And, to be as direct as possible, $600 million on a statewide basis is a breadcrumb investment. That sum is less than half the annual budget for the Salem-Keizer school district. Oregon lost more than 4,000 homes, displacing thousands, and critical infrastructure in rural areas was destroyed. This process promises to be long, and contentious. And the end results are likely to be underwhelming. In the

[4] https://www.oregon.gov/ohcs/about-us/Documents/press/02-03-2022-PR-WF-Recovery.pdf

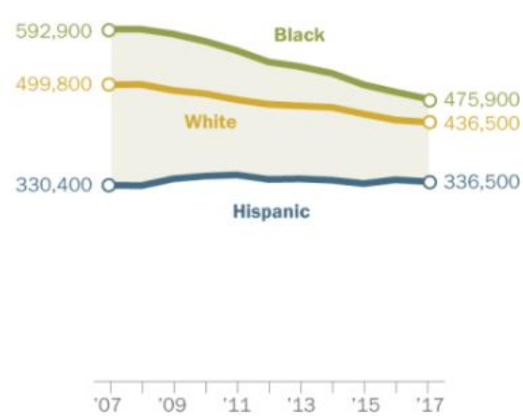
meantime, the new process seems destined to interrupt and supplant current work. Down in Jackson County, the Community Action there is spending more than $1 million a week providing wildfire services. At some point those people are likely to be unfunded in favor of the new model.

Salem Housing Authority (SHA) Selected as a "Move to Work" Agency: SHA has been one of our closest partners. We have worked together for years on many initiatives, including the City's Homeless Rental Assistance Program (HRAP), the Veterans Rental Assistance Program (VRAP), Redwood Crossings, Sequoia Crossings, and many other programs. On September 28th, their application to join HUD's highly innovative (and very flexible) *"Move to Work"* program was accepted. SHA was just one of 18 public housing authorities (PHA's) in the United States awarded this distinction. The *"Move to Work"* program was authorized in 1996. The authorizing act created demonstration public housing projects that were given the flexibility to meet community needs. The system is part of a larger economic justice program within HUD (*"Bridging the Wealth Gap")* that focuses on *"asset building through increased savings, access to mainstream banking, and credit score improvement,"* along with employment and other self-sufficiency initiatives. The greatest community benefit, however, is the budget flexibility. HUD PHA awards are heavily proscribed, and often give little local control over matters like moving dollars between the voucher program and the housing development funds. *"Move to Work"* expands flexibility, so that local PHA's can meet local need. With this addition of 18 new agencies, there are still only 87 *"Move to Work"* agencies in the Unites States. So this was a high honor for Salem.

The Housing Market: Shelter, whether it's a personal home, a rented apartment, or an emergency warming center, is part of a larger, dynamic mosaic of systems in the United States. If one part of the system changes, there are downstream costs in other housing sectors. We have a large rental population in Oregon, which is a function of our land use laws, housing costs, and the market forces behind home ownership. If the higher system housing types (home ownership) suffers through contraction, there is a downstream effect, as the delta narrows for those who cannot exit the rental market. In early October, mortgage rates hit 7 percent for 30 year fixed rate loans; and even Freddie Mac saw 6.7 percent rates on 30 year fixed loans. The fed has increased interest rates (these generally only directly apply to the shortest lending terms) by 75 base points. The most recent increase is driven by very high inflation, curiously resilient economic data, and to some extent a course correction over rates that were a bit too friendly for the conditions. When the fed increases rates, the housing market is not really a primary consideration, certainly not a primary concern. Why? The runaway inflation (about 40% over the last two years) of housing cost is seen as unhealthy, and there is some desire to cool off the housing market to help check general inflation. The pain points for buyers, however, are extreme, and rental scarcity (and thus prices) grow.

Racial and ethnic gaps shrink in U.S. prison population

Sentenced federal and state prisoners by race and Hispanic origin, 2007-2017



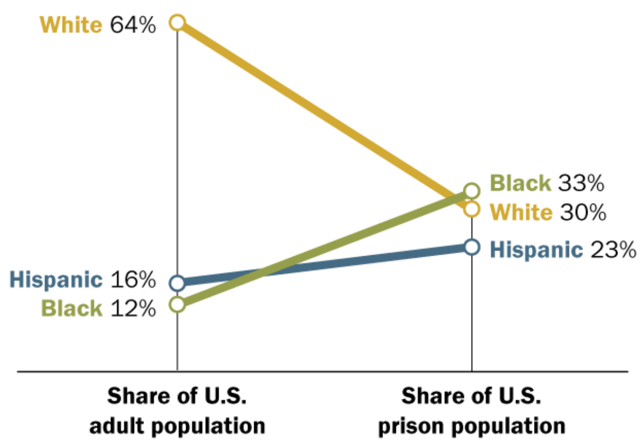
Note: Whites and blacks include those who report being only one race and are non-Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race. Prison population is defined as inmates sentenced to more than a year in federal or state prison.
Source: Bureau of Justice Statistics.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

The War on Drugs: There remains a great deal of controversy about the values, success, and wisdom of the "War on Drugs," which began 50 years ago. For supporters, they see it as a desperate last act to save America from crime and millions of Americans from life-altering addictions, demanding that there be accountability for criminal, anti-social behavior. For detractors, the *"War on Drugs"* has been an expensive and spectacular failure, which has done little to check the tide of addiction and drug trafficking, while breaking families apart and making America the second most incarcerated country in the world.[5] And, of course, racial disparities have been pronounced in arrests, incarceration and convictions, though narrowing in recent years.[6] The US spends about $51 billion a year on the *"War on Drugs,"* and since 1971 when President Richard Nixon formally declared the war, the United States has spent more than $1 trillion fighting a war that has left us with what we have today.

Blacks, Hispanics make up larger shares of prisoners than of U.S. population

U.S. adult population and U.S. prison population by race and Hispanic origin, 2017



Note: Whites and blacks include those who report being only one race and are non-Hispanic. Hispanics are of any race. Prison population is defined as inmates sentenced to more than a year in federal or state prison.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Bureau of Justice Statistics.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Last week, President Joe Biden pardoned federal offenses for marijuana possession, and vacated the sentences for a fairly small number (about 6,500 people). Many characterized this effort as a first step, and one not far enough, especially given the racial implications concerning the historic over-charging practices for simple marijuana possession. Nationally, the view of marijuana continues to change quickly. President Bill Clinton's "I never inhaled" seems like a lifetime ago. Today, about six in ten American voters believe weed should be legal, and that number grows to 7 of 10 in voters under the age of 45, and among Democrats and Black voters generally. Those most likely to oppose legalization today are Republicans (53 percent) and voters over the age of 65 (55 percent). In March of 1972, however, when the *"War on Drugs"* began, 85 percent of American voters believed marijuana should be illegal.[7]

In Oregon, the state decriminalized marijuana possession (in small amounts) in 1973, and approved medical marijuana use in 1998. In 2014, Oregon fully legalized recreational, retail marijuana. [8] This proved to be a "gateway" to legalizing other drugs, and in November of 2020 Oregon voters passed Measure 110, in some part connected to the larger George Floyd, racial justice moment. The voters decriminalized possession level amounts of other controlled substances, including opioids. Detractors believe that it's led to increased overdose deaths. And indeed, the numbers dying have increased from 280 unintentional overdose deaths in 2019, to 745 in 2021. Most of those were pills laced with fentanyl, which is used as an effect booster by drug

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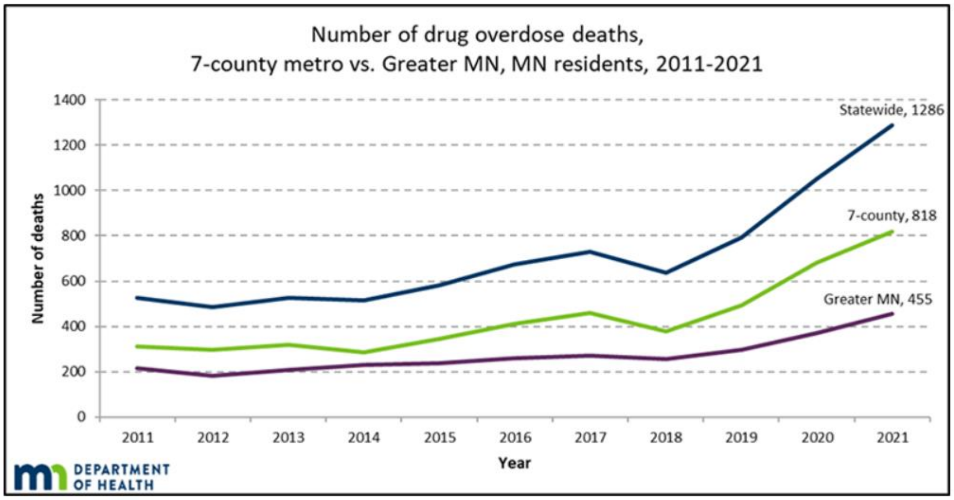
[5] The American prison population is just north of 2,000,000, which creates a rate of 639 per 100,000 in prison, the highest in all the world. Some view this as the successful by-product of the rule of law, while others see it as a means of social control, especially of minorities and the poor. The numbers on parole and probation are another 4.5 million.
https://www.theguardian.com/books/2022/sep/30/whats-prison-for-review-bill-keller-marshall-project

[6] https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2019/04/30/shrinking-gap-between-number-of-blacks-and-whites-in-prison/

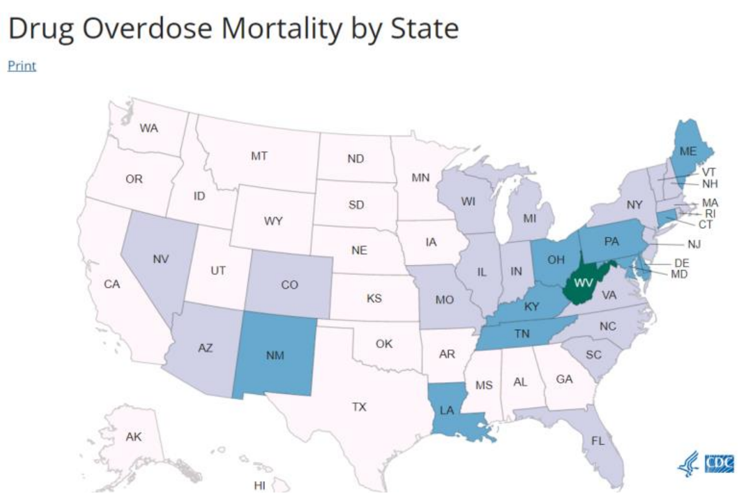
[7] https://www.pewresearch.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/FT_19.04.29_PrisonRaceGapsUpdate_2_updated.png

[8] Legal marijuana in Oregon: A look at the state's pot history - oregonlive.com

dealers to create dependence/demand for their supply.[9] It's natural to draw correlation between Measure 110 and opioid deaths, but the story is much more complicated:



The chart above is the opioid death rate in Minnesota, a place where hard drugs are not decriminalized. The rate of increase in deaths between 2019 and 2021 are similar to what we have seen in Oregon. Statewide in Minnesota the number of deaths have grown from about 800 to 1,286 between 2019 and 2021. And nationally, Oregon lags behind the opioid death rates per 100,000. The rates in the east are far, far greater than what we have in Oregon. The chart below is from the CDC.[10]



The common theme in the chart above is neither drug decriminalization patterns nor the severity of drug laws. It's regional poverty. Appalachian economic changes (economic sectors moving away from coal mining and manufacturing, and deindustrialization generally) have created entire regions of hopelessness and economic stagnation. We have pockets of similar poverty in Oregon, in some cities, and in former timber lands like the Santiam Canyon. But generally it is difficult to draw a logical connection between decriminalization and increased opioid deaths when you consider it in context with the rest of the country.

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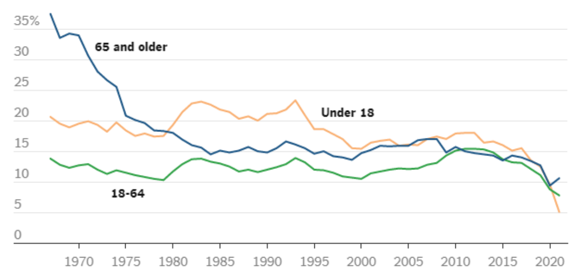
[9] EDITORIAL: Opioid overdose deaths and Measure 110 (yahoo.com)

[10] https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/pressroom/sosmap/drug_poisoning_mortality/drug_poisoning.htm

The issue has become a major, and very divisive, one this fall in Oregon. For our clients, there are several issues here. First, drug addiction is a terrible thing. It destroys lives, families, and crushes people's ability to make sound judgments, to care for their families and insure their basic needs. There is an enormous connection between the current drug condition in the United States and the unsheltered homeless crisis, so much so that I have at times questioned whether we really even have a homeless problem. Maybe what we really have is a drug problem. From the realist lens, however, drug use, abuse, and addiction is a reality. We cannot hope to engage in magical thinking and wish it out of existence. There are no unicorns here. It simply is. Our adult homeless services programs follow a harm reduction model. Harm reduction starts with the assumption that people are doing harm to themselves. We want them to do less harm. So if they're using drugs, we want them to use fewer drugs, and then eventually no drugs. We do not create preconditions for housing or shelter services, but in shelters we do expect that people, even if they are using, follow our behavioral rules. And we exit people for drugs and contraband on property. It is a very, very fine line. This is one of the fundamental principles of housing first. We start with what we have, hope to reduce harm, encourage better health practices and behaviors, and work long-term with people to be better. That approach is grounded in research. We could alternatively build systems that expected clients to comply with sobriety expectations in particular, but to do so would drive hundreds away from services, and only ensure that high needs people are left outside to die. Bootstrap philosophies only work when people have boots, and hands to hold the straps.



Source: Census Bureau and Columbia Center on Poverty and Social Policy · By The New York Times

The Elderly: I want to close this report with a quick update on seniors in the United States. Nearly five million live at or below the poverty line. Many of our programs focus on the very young, children and families, and youth. But seniors in this country are in their most vulnerable position in fifty years. More than one-third of the elderly lived in poverty in the mid-1960s, but federal programs like Medicare changed the arc of poverty among older Americans. In 2020, the rate was roughly 9.5 percent, but the poverty rate among the elderly increased to 10.7 percent in 2021, at a time when it was falling for everyone else. We have enjoyed more than two generations of declining poverty among seniors. But diminished 401K's, rapidly growing inflation, fewer better paying jobs for older workers, and many leaving the work force have changed the financial reality for older workers. They were heavily impacted by the pandemic, with its elevated death rates that cost the lives of spouses, high inflation, and the heavy debt owed by seniors. *"The poverty rate is also not a bright line when it comes to financial hardship. It doesn't take into account debt, which more seniors have accumulated since the Great Recession. Moreover, nearly one in four people 65 or older make less than 150 percent of the federal poverty line, or $19,494 on average for those living alone."* [11]

We have a lot of work to do.

Jimmy Jones
Salem, Oregon
19 October 2022

[11] https://www.nytimes.com/2022/10/17/business/economy/elder-poverty-seniors.html More than one million seniors have fallen newly fallen into poverty in the past year alone.

CCR&R PROGRAM REPORT

INFORME DEL PROGRAMA CCR&R
Shannon Vandehey-Program Director
October/Octubre 2022

Did you know? There are 16 CCR&R's in the State of Oregon, serving all 36 Counties. 3 out of the 16 CCR&R's are housed under Community Action Lead Agencies.
These 3 serve:
MWVCAA - Marion, Polk & Yamhill.
CAWASH - Washington County,
NEIGHBOR IMPACT - Deschutes, Crook & Jefferson.
If you are interested in seeing the MAP of Oregon CCR&R's and their regions click on the link! https://oregonccrr.org/regional-ccrr-information/

Opportunities/ Oportunidades:

City of Salem Child Care Grant/ Subvención para el cuidado de niños de la ciudad de Salem:

Official start to our second Child Care Business Cohort begins this month. 4 participants qualified for City of Salem funding. 20 have registered that will be scholarshipped using other funding options. This number may change as we often have people drop due to some issue. Participants are made up of newly Licensed and Non-Licensed Early Educators. This will be occurring on Saturdays once a month. College credit will be available through Chemeketa Community College. Cohort will run until June 2023. **Partners:** Chemeketa Small Business Development Center (SBDC), Marion and Polk Early Learning Hub, MWVCAA/CCR&R. Cohort is in English and Spanish. **Purpose:** Expand and/or increase quality care options for families in Salem and our region and assist with business resiliency, resources and best business practices.

El inicio oficial de nuestra segunda cohorte de negocios de cuidado infantil comienza este mes. 4 participantes calificaron para el financiamiento de la Ciudad de Salem. 20 se han registrado que serán becados utilizando otras opciones de financiación. este número puede cambiar ya que a menudo tenemos personas que abandonan debido a algún problema. Esto ocurrirá los sábados una vez al mes. Los créditos universitarios estarán disponibles a través del Chemeketa Community College. La cohorte se extenderá hasta junio de 2023. **Socios:** Chemeketa Small Business Development Center (SBDC), Marion y Polk Early Learning Hub, MWVCAA/CCR&R. La cohorte está en inglés y en español. **Propósito:** Ampliar y/o aumentar las opciones de atención de calidad para las familias de Salem y nuestra región y ayudar a la resistencia de las empresas, los recursos y las mejores prácticas empresariales.

Oregon Association for the Education of Young Children (OAEYC) Building A Business (BAB) Cohort (Spanish):

MWVCAA/CCRR has contracted with **OAEYC** to provide a BAB cohort in Spanish. We had one earlier in the year for English Early Educators. SET 2 (60 hours) or College Credit (6 College Credit hours) are available through Clackamas Community College. 15 Spanish Early Educators are registered and attending. BAB includes Program Management and Personal, Professional, Leadership Development. **Purpose:** Increase quality care options for families in our region and assist with business resiliency, resources and best business practices.

MWVCAA/CCRR ha contratado a OAEYC para proporcionar una cohorte BAB en español. Tuvimos uno a principios de año para los educadores tempranos de inglés. SET 2 (60 horas) o (6 Crédito Universitarios) están disponibles a través de Clackamas Community College. 15 Educadores Tempranos de Español Educadores Españoles están registrados y asistiendo. BAB incluye Gestión de Programas y Desarrollo personal, profesional y de liderazgo. Propósito: Aumentar las opciones de cuidado de calidad para familias en nuestra región y ayudar con la resistencia del negocio, los recursos y las mejores prácticas de negocio.

One year Early Childhood Education (ECE) Certificate:

MWVCAA/CCRR is contracting with Clackamas Community College to provide a One year ECE cohort to Spanish Early Educators in Marion, Polk & Yamhill. We just finished Summer Term and are beginning the Fall Term. 17 Early Educators are participating. Many are also participating in our CCR&R Networks. Gisela, Ingrid Perez have been supporting.

MWVCAA/CCRR está contratando con Clackamas Community College para proporcionar un cohorte de ECE de un año a los educadores tempranos españoles en Marion, Polk y Yamhill. Acabamos de terminar el curso de verano y estamos empezando el curso de otoño. 17 Educadores Tempranos están participando. Muchos también están participando en nuestras redes CCR&R. Gisela, Ingrid Pérez han estado apoyando.

CCR&R Advisories:

We have officially began our CCR&R Advisory Committees, as per contract ELD deliverables state us to provide. Since we have two Early Learning Hubs in our region, we thought it best to create 2 committees to align with our collaborative Hub regions. We asked both of our Hubs if we could fold our CCR&R Advisory meetings into both our Early Learning Hub already occurring meetings. For Marion and Polk, MPELH has allowed us time on the Regional Implementation Team on a quarterly basis. For Yamhill CCO, they are allowing us to hold an Advisory every 6 months. We feel this is a great place to hold these, as they are already happening in the community (not an additional meeting) and the right leaders are at the table for the discussion. Such as, WESD, School Districts, Behavioral Health, Preschool and Child Care programs, Public Health, Child Welfare, Relief Nursery and the CCO.

Hemos iniciado oficialmente nuestros comités consultivos de CCR&R, de acuerdo con el contrato que el ELD nos exige. Como tenemos dos centros de aprendizaje temprano en nuestra región, pensamos que lo mejor era crear dos comités para alinearlos con nuestras regiones de colaboración. Preguntamos a nuestros dos Hubs si podíamos integrar nuestras reuniones de asesoramiento de CCR&R en las reuniones que ya se estaban celebrando de nuestros Early Learning Hubs. Para Marion y Polk, MPELH nos ha permitido tener tiempo en el Equipo de Implementación Regional sobre una base trimestral. En el caso de Yamhill CCO, nos permiten celebrar una reunión de asesoramiento cada 6 meses. Creemos que este es un gran lugar para celebrar estos, ya que ya están sucediendo en la comunidad (no una reunión adicional) y los líderes adecuados están en la mesa para la discusión. Tales como, WESD, Distritos Escolares, Salud del Comportamiento, Programas de Preescolar y Cuidado de Niños, Salud Pública, Bienestar Infantil, Guardería de Socorro y el CCO.

Community Outreach and Training:

- Presenting a training at ORAEYC Conference on Diving Deep Into Stress and It's Influences on Teaching Practices.
- Presented at Oregon Association of Family and Consumer Science (ORAFCS) State Conference-about Child Care Resource & Referral Services.
- Provided CPR/First Aid training to Salem/Keizer Preschool Staff
- Provided CPR/First Aid training to Grand Ronde Head Start Staff
- Attended the North Marion Business Services Providers Meeting facilitated by the Rural Development Initiative and Worksource Oregon.

- Presentar una formación en la Conferencia de ORAEYC sobre la Profundización del Estrés y su Influencia en las Prácticas de Enseñanza.
- Presentó en la Conferencia Estatal de la Asociación de Ciencias de la Familia y el Consumidor de Oregón (ORAFCS) sobre los Servicios de Recursos y Referencias para el Cuidado de Niños.
- Proporcionó entrenamiento de RCP/Primeros Auxilios al personal del preescolar de Salem/Keizer
- Proporcionó entrenamiento de RCP/Primeros Auxilios al personal de Grand Ronde Head Start
- Asistió a la Reunión de Proveedores de Servicios Empresariales de North Marion facilitada por la Iniciativa de Desarrollo Rural y Worksource Oregon.

Challenges/*Desafíos:*

Short staffed:
We still have several positions open that we are trying to fill. We are looking for a Preschool Promise Manager, Coaches and a general Infant/Toddler Quality Improvement Specialist.

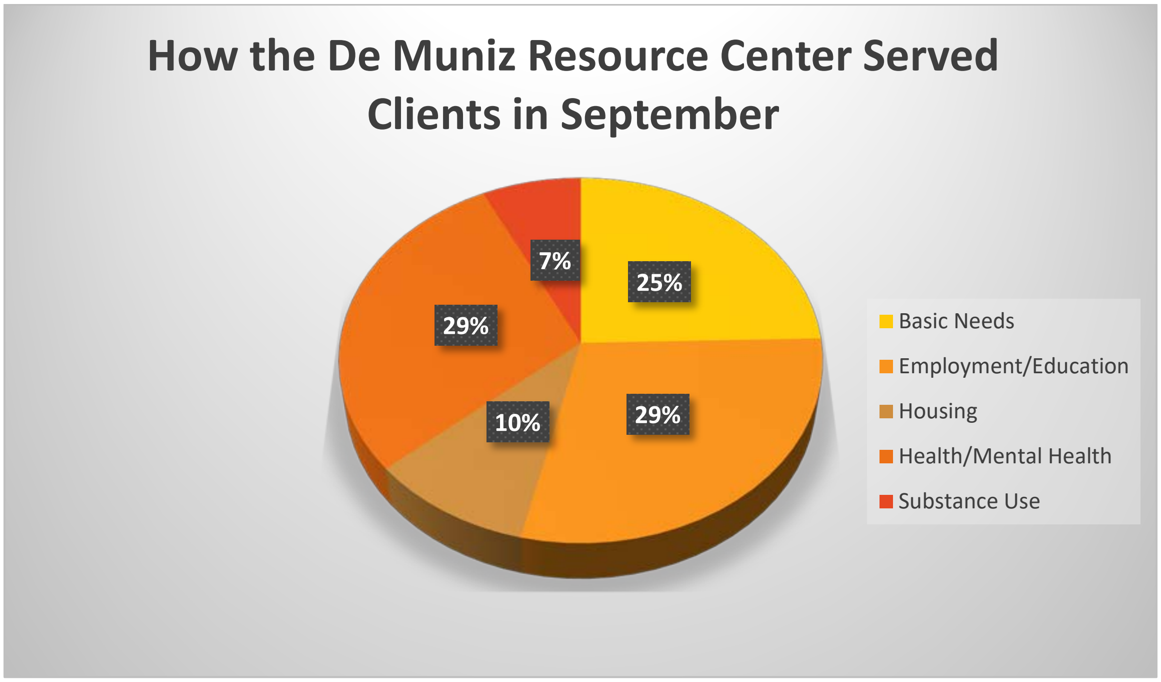
Falta de personal:
Todavía tenemos varios puestos vacantes que estamos tratando de cubrir. Estamos buscando un gestor de la promesa preescolar, entrenadores y un especialista en la mejora de la calidad de los bebés y niños pequeños en general.

Office Space:
We are already outgrowing our current office space. Looking into other options.

Espacio de oficina:
Ya se nos ha quedado pequeño nuestro actual espacio de oficinas. Buscando otra opción

De Muniz Resource Center

April Cox, Director
October 2022



Opportunities/Challenges

- De Muniz Resource Center served 142 clients in September, with 294 services provided.
- This month 73% served were adults in custody vs. 24% out of custody.
- During this reporting period, 28 clients (45 occurrences) took advantage and attended our cognitive based classes. The classes covered the following topics:
  - Prosocial leisure
  - Identifying strengths
  - Journaling
  - Problem solving
  - Emotional regulation
  - Success planning
- Our partnership with Northwest Human Services yielded 64 clients completing their enrollment for Oregon Health Plan prior to release (from incarceration).
- We assisted 14 clients with bus passes that were donated by United Way this month.
- Forty-five clients (59 occurrences) took advantage of our volunteer’s services, which include recovery support groups, GED prep, gambling awareness, and mock employment interviews.
- We assisted 12 clients with assistance to obtain their state ID cards this month.
- The main challenges we have are physical space limitations (lack of private space) within our center, limited funding, and continued challenges caused by COVID-19.

De Muniz Resource Center
April Cox, Director
October 2022

Success Story

Staying in touch with our clients after they have achieved some milestones proves to be very rewarding and helpful for all of us. We all get excited when our clients achieve success and we get to walk alongside with them and see their accomplishments. We have gotten to see several individuals secure employment, graduate from employment training, reunite with their families, maintain sobriety, move into their own apartment, and many other achievements. We also are happy to hear from clients we haven't worked with in a while especially when they need a little more help because we know that it can be hard out there when you are still overcoming barriers.

*Jasmine is a client we had the pleasure to meet and assist back in spring. When we met Jasmine, she had already accomplished so many things on her own. She had secured full-time employment, picked up a part-time job in hopes of saving enough money to move into her own apartment, and maintained her sobriety for several months. After qualifying for one of our housing programs, we were able to advocate for her and she was approved for a lease. Our housing program helped with her security deposit and first month of rent.

Jasmine recently reached out to update us on her maintained success. While catching up, she shared that she needed some help with paying for a utility deposit. This unexpected expense came up and was causing some stress. We were able to help her out with covering the utility deposit, which allowed her to make her normal monthly payment and kept her from falling behind on the bill. We were delighted to hear from Jasmine and wish her the best for her bright future!

*name changed to protect identity

Submitted by Housing Navigator

HEAD START PROGRAM REPORT TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS & POLICY COUNCIL
Eva Pignotti, CPO of Early Learning & Child Care - October, 2022

Attendance

Head Start Preschool

9/22	10/22	11/22	12/22	1/23	2/23
76.16%					
3/23	**4/23**	**5/23**	**6/23**	**7/23**	**8/23**

Early Head Start

9/22	10/22	11/22	12/22	1/23	2/23
70.72%					
3/23	**4/23**	**5/23**	**6/23**	**7/23**	**8/23**

Early Head Start Child Care Partnerships

9/22	10/22	11/22	12/22	1/23	2/23
81.23%					
3/23	**4/23**	**5/23**	**6/23**	**7/23**	**8/23**

Community Action Head Start Attendance Analysis
Absences for September 2022

The program now tracks children's absences due to illness in a new manner, in order to comply with current Health Department guidance for COVID safety. We report on respiratory illness separately from other forms of illness, and must track and report cases of respiratory illness whenever there are five or more such cases in one location.

The Head Start Preschool program attendance rate was 76.16%, below the required 85%. The top absence reasons during the month of September were children's illnesses. 17.85% of recorded absences were due to respiratory illness, while 38.32% were other types of illness.

The Early Head Start program attendance rate was 70.72%, below the required 85%. The top absence reasons during the month of September were children's illnesses. 33.96% of recorded absences were due to respiratory illness, while 30.19% were other types of illness.

The Early Head Start Child Care Partnerships program attendance rate was 81.23%, below the required 85%. The top absence reasons during the month of September were sick child, which accounted for 28.95% of the absences, vacation/family day, which accounted for 24.34% of the absences, and approved extended leaves, which accounted for 10.53% of the absences. (CCP providers did not track respiratory illnesses separately from other illnesses due to an oversight in communication, but will begin doing so now.)

Enrollment Reporting: Programs must be full within 30 days of the start of the school year and continue to fill vacant slots within 30 days of the vacancy until 30 days before the end of the year. Numbers reported include slots vacant for less than 30 days.

Head Start Preschool – Full Enrollment = 697 (*summer = 136)

9/22	10/22	11/22	12/22	1/23	2/23	3/23	4/23	5/23	6/23	7/23	8/23
333											

Early Head Start – Full Enrollment = 114

9/22	10/22	11/22	12/22	1/23	2/23	3/23	4/23	5/23	6/23	7/23	8/23
74											

Early Head Start Child Care Partnerships – Full Enrollment = 86

9/22	10/22	11/22	12/22	1/23	2/23	3/23	4/23	5/23	6/23	7/23	8/23
80											

Waiting Lists

Head Start Preschool

9/22	10/22	11/22	12/22	1/23	2/23	3/23	4/23	5/23	6/23	7/23	8/23
49											

Early Head Start

9/22	10/22	11/22	12/22	1/23	2/23	3/23	4/23	5/23	6/23	7/23	8/23
17											

Early Head Start Child Care Partnerships

9/22	10/22	11/22	12/22	1/23	2/23	3/23	4/23	5/23	6/23	7/23	8/23
7											

USDA Meal Reimbursements

	September 2022	
USDA Meal Reimbursements	**Number of Meals Served**	**Amount Reimbursed**
Breakfast	1,259	$2,782.39
Lunch	1,275	$5,138.25
Snack	81	$ 95.58
Cash In Lieu		$ 382.50
Total Reimbursement	**2,615**	**$8,398.72**

Report from Chief Program Officer of Early Learning & Child Care:

The Head Start program continues to seek staff and children in order to be fully enrolled and operating. There are currently 49 vacant staff positions in the program.

Eligible Children: Applications are still coming in at lower numbers than pre-COVID, but they are coming in more steadily, and staff are processing these as quickly as possible. Currently we have delayed start dates planned for three EHS classes and 10 HS classes. Hawthorne EHS IT1 and IT2 and Chemawa Road HS Duration are delayed because of site renovations and licensing, as these are new classrooms. The remaining 10 classes are on a delayed start because of being short-staffed and/or under-enrolled.

Child Care Providers: The EHS Child Care Partnerships program is still short providers, after losing three during the summer. The addition of six P3 infant toddler slots from the Early Learning Division, along with the loss of three providers this summer has left us still being short slots for six children. One new family child care provider has been added to the program, and a second is in the process of being reviewed for a potential contract.

Mental Health Services: The new mental health services department is under development, with a planning team working with a consultant. The first staff position for an early childhood mental health therapist is about to open. We are in early stages of the process with the CCO to become eligible to bill for Oregon Health Plan payments for services. When that process is complete, we will be able to add additional therapists to the team.

School Security and Safety: A team of Head Start leaders and staff are working with a consultant on the issue that is heavy on everyone's mind – school safety: shooters, intruders, disgruntled clients, and all the other things that keep us awake at night. Our contractor, One Security, Inc. has been doing assessments at each site, interviewing staff, and providing training in stages starting with an introductory session during pre-service. On October 28th, they will provide training to staff on Bystander Intervention.

Corrective Action Plan: As previously reported, the Head Start program is required to submit a correction action plan around child safety based on the incident in April regarding maltreatment of a child. The Office of Head Start has provided us with a deployment of training and technical assistance specialists, and we are working closely and frequently to ensure the plan is robust and thorough. Staff received an initial training during pre-service in September to refresh their understanding of child safety practices and the rule about staff never being left alone with children, as well as their role in preventing incidents.

November 9 and 10 the leadership team will have a work session with the T/TA specialists to dig into policies and procedures, identifying those which are fully implemented and successful versus some that may be written but not fully implemented or that need to be revised. The role of the supervisor in preventing child maltreatment and ensuring a culture of safety and well-being for children will be a focal point during this session.

I will bring forward a draft of the completed corrective action plan, listing all actions taken, for Board and Policy Council members to review, discuss, and provide input to. The final plan is due to Office of Head Start on January 6, 2023.

Outreach:

- In September, The Drop In served a total of 88 unique youth a total of 285 times. We continued to operate 5 days a week due to current staffing levels, with an average of approximately 13 youth served per day.
- The Drop In served a total of 163 meals in the month of September. We provided 11 food boxes for families, serving a total of 52 individuals (25 adults and 27 youth).
- HOME Youth Service's street outreach team continues to navigate low staffing, and provided approximately 20 hours of street outreach in September. In those 20 hours, staff were able to connect with 145 youth.
- Staff participated in two large weekend events in September, which allowed for connection with additional community partners and youth.
- In September, we completed the onboarding process for our bilingual Youth Support Specialist for Outreach.

Emergency Shelter:

- In September, Taylor's House served 10 individual youth for a total of 174 bed nights, including 14 nights with ODHS youth involvement.
- Taylor's House continues to face staffing challenges. Drop In staff and managers have helped to ensure that ratio remains appropriate and compliant with Licensing.
- School started for Taylor's House residents in September. One resident already has their diploma, so they did not engage in a school program, but the remaining residents are actively engaging in school.
- Taylor's House was recently able to restart the partnership with Acres of Hope, allowing the youth an opportunity to connect weekly with horses.

Youth Empowerment Program:

- 6 youth were engaged in the program and participated at some level.
- All 6 youth engaged in the program attended job skills in September.
- In September, all 6 youth attended financial literacy workshops.
- No field trips were offered in September, but the youth did complete the cycle and were able to participate in a paint room as a YEP graduation celebration.
- Mark was one of our younger interns, aged fourteen. During this quarter, he started his second YEP internship with us. Even though he is on the younger end, we thought he would be a good fit for the Gilbert House program this summer. Mark comes from a large family, single parent household, in which his mother only speaks Spanish. He is the oldest of all of his siblings and often takes care of his younger siblings at home. Mark utilizes some of his earned money from YEP by giving it to his mother to help pay for bills and basic household items. Mark did an incredible job during his Gilbert House

internship. The Gilbert House staff was thrilled with him as an intern and spoke glowingly about Mark's work ethic, professionalism, and inter-personal skills. The Gilbert House team told us that, if he were old enough, they would have hired him immediately following the completion of his internship. Mark communicated effectively with his team and management at Gilbert House, was regularly on time, found extra work to do upon completion of tasks, and never left work early. Mark continues to show great character as he overcomes barriers like helping to provide for his family, take care of siblings, attend school, and try out for soccer. We look forward to supporting his continued growth.

Community Connections & Supports:

- In September, we held one hiring event at the main office, as staffing continues to be a challenge throughout our entire program. We also scheduled a few hiring events for October, and will continue to host them until we are fully staffed.
- We had one new intern from Willamette University start. They will be spending one day at The Drop In, and one day at Taylor's House throughout their internship period.
- In September, we officially brought on Kim Pittsley, a contracted mental health provider, to begin providing on site mental health support for youth, as well as provide training and support for all HOME Youth Services staff.
- In late September, HOME Youth Services was awarded the Basic Center Program Grant through the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB) grant for $200,000 per year. This grant will support a bilingual qualified mental health provider at Taylor's House, a case manager at Taylor's House focused on mental health, and the funding to redecorate the intake room and group room at Taylor's House to create a more trauma-informed space for the youth.

Nutrition First -Child Care Food Program
Carmen Romero - Program Director
October 21, 2022

Nutrition First CCFP reimburses child care providers who are certified or registered with Office of Child Care or license exempt providers listed with ODHS. The following chart is for fiscal year 2021-2022. It shows the total number of clients, including those who opened and those who closed each month.

Fiscal year for the CACFP program is from October to September.

	October 21	November 21	December 21	January 22	February 22	March 22
Start of Month	521	521	507	501	497	494
Opened	10	8	5	7	5	4
Closed	10	22	11	11	8	8
End of Month	521	507	501	497	494	490

	April 22	May 22	June 22	July 22	*August 22*	*September 22*
Start of Month	490	481	482	488	497	501
Opened	4	6	13	16	14	10
Closed	13	5	7	7	10	11
End of Month	481	482	488	497	501	500

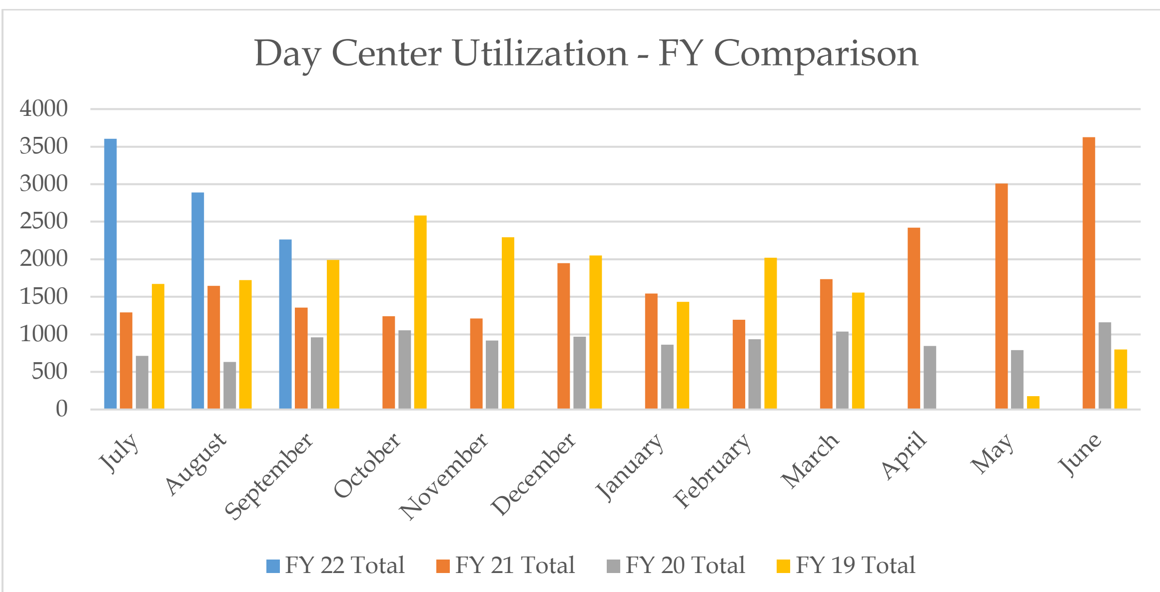
- For the month of September, we signed on 10 providers (nine were OCC registered/certified and one was listed with ODHS) and we closed 11 providers, leaving us with 500 active homes. The only differences between the OCC providers and the listed providers is how many children the state has allowed them to care for and that is the number of children for which Nutrition First will reimburse.
- September 30 ended our FY22. Nutrition First is a program that is approved annually with a budget to carry itself. This means that it leaves no profit; it solely gives back to the 11 counties in Oregon in which we work. I feel we ended in a great place; we have 500 active providers with 7573 children enrolled in those homes and receiving most of their meals from the Nutrition First Child Nutrition Program.

615 Commercial Street NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

CRP Board Report – October 2022

The ARCHES Day Center is open six days a week. During these hours all traditional services are available, including: mail, showers, laundry, meals, and client care services. The Day Center hours are Monday – Saturday 9am – 4:30pm.

Since opening day, the total number of duplicated Day Center visits is 86,258 - with an average daily attendance rate of 111. September showed a 46% increase in Day Center utilization over September 2021. In addition, Quarter One 2022 saw a 104% increase from Q1 2021, as well as a 293% increase from Q1 2020. This is likely attributed to the decline in service numbers during the pandemic as well as the expansion of Day Center hours in 2022.

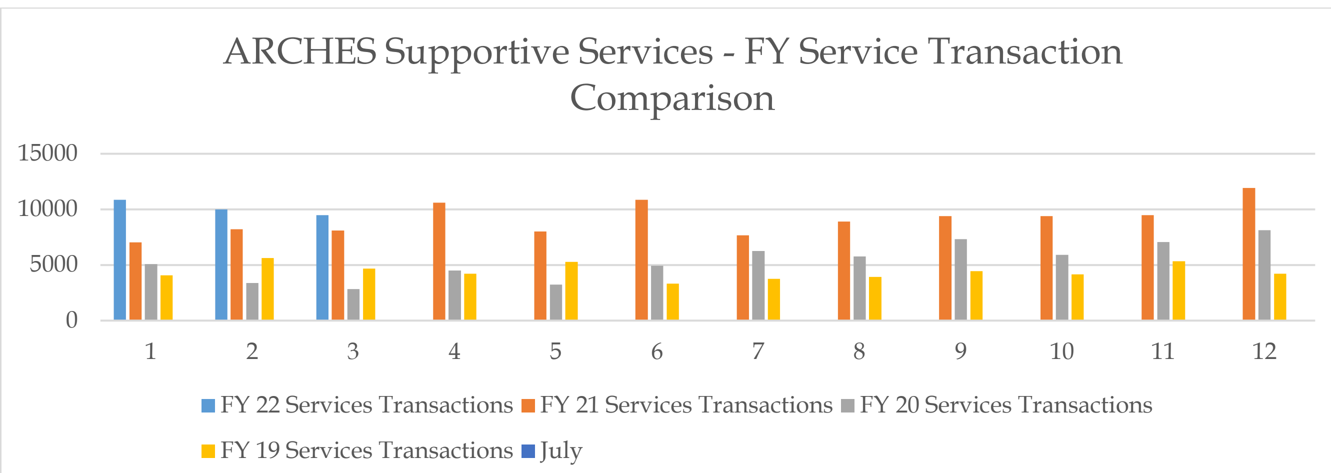


Community Resource Program

ARCHES Basic Needs & Supportive Services:

Basic Needs & Supportive Services									
Month	New client Mail Boxes	Checking Mail	Meals	Calls	Pet Food	Hygiene Packs	Showers	Laundry	Client Care
July Total	125	947	8354	567	178	149	272	162	105
August Total	118	971	7505	593	122	168	181	122	222
September Total	244	1292	6362	775	220	110	229	146	108
October Total									
November Total									
December Total									
January Total									
February Total									
March Total									
April total									
May Total									
June Total									
FY 2022 Total	487	3210	22221	1935	520	427	682	430	435

Current utilization of Day Center Supportive Services continues to grow, especially in comparison to FY 2021 and FY 2020. During September 2022 ARCHES saw **9,486 supportive service transactions**. This is double pre-pandemic service levels from FY 2019, as well as FY 2020 and is a 17% growth from September 2021. The majority of Supportive Services provided in September were in the meal category, including **breakfast, lunch, and evening meals; providing 6,362 meals**. The Day Center also saw a 106% increase compared to August 2022 in new mail boxes created as well as a notable increase in those checking mail, calling in for resource navigation, as well as pet food distribution.



Program Update: *Day Center Leadership Change*

Jon Mortensen is the new Program Manager of the Day Center. He began his MWVCAA journey as an ARCHES Day Center Attendant, then working his way to the program's Coordinator II. Jon is responsible for supervising staff, monitoring system effectiveness, and developing program system that increase population accessibility.

Nicole Miles is the Day Center's Coordinator III. She joined the program from Warming and Emergency Services. She is passionate about her work with the unsheltered community, and works diligently to improve conditions in the Day Center.

Olivia de la Rosa is the Coordinator II of the Day Center. She started as a Day Center Attendant, and has worked for MWVCAA for over a year. She has a great rapport with staff and clientele, as well as strong work ethic, making her an incredible addition to the leadership team.

Success Story: *KP – Project Home*

"Newton was living near Cascade Gateway in his vehicle when ARCHES contacted him at the end of July. He had been referred by the Kaiser Permanente medical team as a potential candidate for Project Home. A housing initiative aimed at placing medically fragile unsheltered individuals into housing, while providing rental assistance and housing."

"Immediately, ARCHES connected Newton with medical and behavioral health providers. Understanding his history with severe mental illness and chronic health conditions including diabetes and heart problems, ARCHES assisted Newton in applying for Social Security. Our housing navigator found a unit he might qualify for. After advocating for the client with the landlord, he was approved for the unit, about one month after he enrolled in the program."

"The unit needed a few repairs and Newton's health was failing. His car broke down and he was worried about using his oxygen machine. Due to the flexibility within the KP Home program, the Project Home team was able to assist him with a hotel room for a couple weeks so that Newton could continue caring for his health and attend behavioral health and medical appointments. At the end of September, Newton finally got his keys."

"After living on the street, Newton had no belongings other than what fit into his car. Because of outstanding partnerships with United Way and Helping Hands, we were able to use items to furnish most of his apartment. Newton is set up for success and continues to actively engage with ARCHES staff. He looks forward to increasing his income and finding long term housing solutions."

- *Lindsay Dent, ARCHES Program Manager*

Program Update: *Wildfire Recovery and Resiliency Account (WRRA)*

In 2021 the Oregon Legislature approved $21,500,000 in emergency funds to assist Oregonians that were affected, and made homeless, by the 2020 Labor Day wildfires. These funds were made available for: shelter, home repair, and barrier removal to re-housing back into the affected community. In late fall 2021, MWVCAA was awarded $3.12 million of the statewide allocation, with an additional $1.5 million awarded in the spring of 2022. Totaling $4,622,123 in WRRA assistance.

Community Resource Program

WRRA offers participants a flexible, individualized approach for housing assistance by identifying the right solution for a households needs. This includes: rapid rehousing for households that lost their homes or were displaced because of wildfires, hotel stays for shelter, barrier removal to re-housing or independence, or help navigating the housing system to locate, obtain, and sustain housing

<u>Program Expenses Summary:</u>

- To-date, WRRA has served 177 households spending $2,433,766.80.
- 68% of those served with WRRA funding either owned or rented their home prior to the wildfires. 20% were residing on a property, either in an ADU, RV, etc. that was owner by a family member friend, or employer. While not being charged rent. Only 12% of those served were homeless prior, all of which were placed at the Inn.
- MWVCAA has 60 households on the WRRA Unmet needs waitlist, totaling $3,485,000 in requests.

WRRA - Unmet Needs				
Category of Need	**Amount Expensed**	**Number of Transactions**	**Avg. Per Transaction**	**# of Households**
Home Build or Repairs	$ 1,638,546.51	76	$ 21,559.82	75
Income Barrier Removal	$ 29,094.82	12	$ 2,424.57	
Items for Daily Living	$ 62,778.23	12	$ 5,231.52	
Mortgage Assistance	$ 7,108.65	2	$ 3,554.33	
RV	$ 163,564.93	6	$ 27,260.82	
Well/Septic	$ 97,882.28	7	$ 13,983.18	
TOTAL	**$ 1,998,975.42**	**115**	**$ 17,382.39**	

WRRA - Housing Services			
Category of Service	**Amount Expensed**	**Number of Transactions**	**# of Households**
Application Fee	$ 1,750.90	50	52
Housing Barrier Removal	$ 10,822.51	6	
Rental Assistance	$ 122,187.33	95	
Security Deposit	$ 8,775.00	7	
Utility Assistance	$ 11,015.64	36	
TOTAL	**$ 154,551.38**	**194**	

WRRA - Hotel		
Status	**# of Households**	**Amount Expensed**
Closed Hotel	37	$ 255,340.00
Currently in Scattered Hotel	1	$ 24,900.00
Individuals Currently at ARCHES Inn	12	NA
TOTAL	**50**	**$ 280,240.00**

WRRA - Summary						
WRRA Service Type	**Amount Expensed**	**Households Served**	**Owned Property**	**Rented**	**Stayed on Property**	**Unhoused**
Unmet Needs	$ 1,998,975.42	75	84%	12%	4%	0%
Housing Services	$ 154,551.38	52	6%	61%	33%	0%
Hotel	$ 280,240.00	50	0%	40%	23%	37%
TOTAL	**$ 2,433,766.80**	**177**	30%	38%	20%	12%

<u>Success Story:</u> *Redwood Crossing (RWC)*

"AB has been a resident at Redwood Crossings (MWVCAA's Permanent Supportive Housing initiative) since January 2021. AB spent years unhoused traveling between Oregon and Colorado. AB felt the support from others in the community and made the decision to stay in Oregon. While at RWC, AB shared some of her significant life struggles including being unable to obtain a job as she had no ID, difficulty navigating a legal name change, two emotional support dogs in need of life-saving surgeries, all while battling her own mental health struggles."

"Over the last several months AB worked closely with MWVCAA's RWC Case Managers and Salem Housing Authority in order to secure a Section-8 voucher. She worked tirelessly searching, and applying, for potential units. After working side by side with her Case Manger through many housing barriers, AB signed a lease to her new home on September 30, 2022. She will be living independently in her own One-bedroom apartment in West Salem with her two dogs; Leo and Orion. The support staff at RWC are proud her success and feel confident in AB's ability to continue her path towards self-sufficiency."

- *Lucy Briseno, ARCHES Program Manager*

<u>Program Update:</u> *Redwood Crossing (RWC) – Fall Festival*

"Redwood Crossing staff, residents (plus a guest) welcomed Fall with fun and food! This event included community partners from the ROCC, Marion County Behavior Health and WVP EPIC program. We enjoyed homemade chili and cornbread while socializing amongst one another. Desert included DIY caramel apples and warm apple crisp. This event included a raffle with prizes ranging from a Month Bus pass to a brand new bike (donated by Marion Polk Food Share.) Residents were extremely thankful for this social gathering. We had a significant amount of engagement and many connections created between community partners and residents. This was a perfect way to bring the neighborhood together!"

- *Lucy Briseno, ARCHES Program Manager*

<u>ARCHES Housing & Specialty Programs:</u>

For the 2022 Fiscal Year, ARCHES will report monthly **<u>on new households and individuals</u>** served by our housing stabilization programing. This data is represented in two categories. The first category, focusing on ARCHES housing programming (*Table 1*), outlines our residential facilities, rapid re-housing services, rental assistance, barrier removal, and deposits. The second category is specialty programing (*Table 2*), which is inclusive of services that provide basic need supports, as well as self-sufficiency development.

Community Resource Program

During the month of August, 44 new households (85 persons) received housing support. Resulting in 439 households served during Quarter One of 2022. During September, 17 households exited into self-sufficiency, meaning they are able to live independently of ARCHES assistance moving forward. There were also 12 households on active housing search, working closely with navigation staff for placement. Since tracking began in July 2019, 709 households have exited ARCHES programing into permanent housing solutions.

September Data:

ARCHES Housing Programs
Table 1

Core Programs	Households Served	Individuals Served	Avg VI-SPDAT Score	Adults	Children	Households Searching	Households in Housing	Household PH Exists	Marion Households	Polk Households
Home TBA	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
ERA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HUD CoC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
City of Salem - TBRA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
EHA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
KP Home	4	4	9	4	0	4	0	0	4	0
DHS Fresh Start RRH	5	7	11	5	2	5	0	0	5	0
DHS Navigators	2	6	0	4	2	2	0	0	2	0
HSP	1	2	6	1	1	0	1	0	1	0
Navigation Center	Program Pending									
Redwood Crossing	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
ARCHES Inn - Wildfire	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ARCHES Inn - Homeless	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0
ARCHES Inn - Shelter +	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0
OHA-VRAP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tanner's Project - GPD	2	2	7	2	0	0	0	0	2	0
Tanner's Project - State Bed	1	1	11	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
VET DRF	1	3		3	0	0	1	1	1	0
EHA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WRRA	6	11	N/A	7	4	0	1	0	6	0
OERA - ADAP	22	49	N/A	29	20	0	20	13	21	1
September Clients Served	**44**	**85**	**8.80**	**56**	**29**	**12**	**26**	**17**	**46**	**1**

ARCHES Specialty Services engaged 769 households in this most recent period (September 2022). The two most common services are VSO assistance (veterans) and Outreach programs. To date, 26,492 households (duplicated) have connected with ARCHES Specialty Services since July 2019.

ARCHES Specialty Programs
Table 2

Speciliaty Services	Households Served	Adults	Children	Veterans	Fleeing DV	BIPOC/LatinX Individuals	Total Unqie Served
Marion County VSO	414	414	0	414	0		414
RENT	10	14	6	0	0	0	20
Birth Certificates	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Coordinated Outreach	308	308	5				313
Mobile Showers	0	0	0				0
Fuerza Campesina	37	70	118	0	0	313	70
July Clients Served	**769**	**806**	**129**	**414**	**0**	**313**	**817**
Coordianted Entry - HP	35	59	37	1	0		96
Coordinated Entry - Homeless	76	199	28	8	29		227
Coordinated Entry - TOTAL	**111**	**258**	**65**	**9**	**29**	**0**	**323**

Emergency Services	# Emergency Declarations	Duplicated Clients	Volunteer Shifts	Volunteer Hrs	ARCHES Staff Shifts	BIPOC/LatinX Individuals	Pets	Emergency Type
Emergency Response-Shelter	1	30	0	0	8	0	2	Power outage/Cooling

Community Resource Program

Program Update: *Emergency Services – Warming*

On November 1, 2022 MWVCAA will formaily enter the designated warming shelter season. Between then and March 31, 2023 if overnight temperatures reach 32 degrees or below emergency shelter sites will activate. This is made possible by funding provided by the City of Salem and Oregion Housing and Commuity Services. ARCHES warming shelters are low barrier. Accpeting anyone regrdless of disbaility status, household size, sobriety level, or pets.

Sites

Salem First Presbyterian Church (770 Chemeketa St. NE Salem, OR 97301) is interested in resuming partnership opportunities with MWVCAA beginning December 1, 2022 and running through the remainder of the season. South Salem Friends Church (1140 Baxter Rd. SE Salem, OR 97306) has signed on as a primary and second location with the ability to activate in November.

Transportation

MWVCAA will continue to provide transportation to shelter through several different avenues. The first will be through a partnership with Cherriots, having agreed to provide free transportation to and from sheltering locations when temperatures are below 32degrees or in other inclement weather events in which MWVCAA has declared an emergency response. ARCHES will also provide transportation from pre-designated sites and via outreach to facilitate access to emergency shelters.

State Partnerships

ODHS-Resilience and Emergency Management is responsible for mass care and emergency sheltering in the state of Oregon. MWVCAA currently coordinates with ODHS REM for Shelter Plus and have partnered on emergency operations in Warm Springs and Mill City. They are interested in meeting with the Emergency Service and Response team to discuss piloting a rapid deployment emergency shelter taskforce and a possible increase in funding for respite sheltering work.

Program Updates:

- The ARCHES Inn remodel has selected a contractor through an open competition. Value engineering to formalize projected pricing is the next step before contracting. In addition, the Inn is undergoing a Part 58 – Federal Environmental Review tied to a Congressional Direct Spending grant for remodel. GeoEngineers has been hired to complete this process in partnership with the City of Salem. This report is expected be submitted to HUD by the end of 2022.

Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, Inc.
Board of Directors Program Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday October 5, 2022

ATTENDANCE

Committee Members Present: Erika Romine, Board Member and Program Committee Chair; Catherine Trottman, Board Member; Steve McCoid, Board Member; and Jade Rutledge, Board Chair

Absent: Chris Lopez, Board Member; and Melissa Baurer, Board Member

Staff: Jimmy Jones, Executive Director; Ashley Hamilton, Chief Program Officer: Housing and Homeless Services; Carman Romero, Director of Nutrition First; and Sarah Cummings, Executive Assistant

The meeting of the Executive & Finance Committee started at 12:48pm. It was determined that a quorum was present.

1. **Executive Director's Program Updates**
   a. **Head Start Policy** – Policy rep to be appointed; Nicole is leaving the board next month
   b. **Policy Council –** Meets the 4th Tuesday of every month for 1-2 hours. It is difficult to add that to all board members schedules; would like to find a way to have representation of the board, possibly electing someone to go to all. Erika suggests board members rotate quarterly for these meetings. Steve agrees that would work. Jade and Erika are able to attend the orientation meeting on October 25th. Jade and Jimmy will make a schedule going forward.

2. **Nutrition First Program Overview** – Carmen Romero presented about the Nutrition First Program; she explained the requirements for at-home child care providers to receive the reimbursement for healthy meals served to children. The program is aimed to teach children about nutrition and making healthy food choices. Providers need to document and can be audited for their served meals. The board appreciated a better understanding of this program and how it serves our clients.

3. **MWVCAA and Suicide Prevention** – Jimmy started the conversation of how MWVCAA can better participate in community prevention of suicide. Erika sent a document out; things we are doing, should be doing, or support across the agencies. Jimmy suggested a focus group and/or Gatekeeper training for leaders. Ashley spoke on the things in place with Arches and the training that staff receives (QPR). The agency is bringing in qualified mental health workers, associates, and navigators to meet the needs of clients experiencing mental health crisis. The board discussed the statistics, budgeting, how to dedicate staff accordingly, and the school's role in suicide prevention. Pacific Source will be an avenue for billing and there is upcoming revenue to help with these projects.

Meeting adjourned at 1:35pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Sarah Cummings

Sarah Cummings, Executive Assistant

Kevin Karvandi

Kevin Karvandi, Board Secretary

OCTOBER 2022 MEETING

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2022

Addendum A

Contents:

I.) Executive-Finance Committee Minutes (October 2022)
II.) Energy Program Report
III.) Weatherization (WX) Flyer for WX Day 2022
IV.) Chief Financial Officer Report
V.) Development Director Report
VI.) Head Start Governing Body Approval Form OHSA Charitable Checkoff Grant

Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, Inc.
Board of Directors Executive & Finance Committee Meeting
October 13, 2022

ATTENDANCE

Committee Members Present: Jade Rutledge, Board Chair; Shelaswau Crier, Vice-Chair; Steve McCoid, Board Member; and Kevin Karvandi, Board Secretary.

Absent: Helen Honey, Board Member.

Staff: Jimmy Jones, Executive Director; Kaolee Hoyle, CFO; Helana Haytas, Chief Operations Officer; Alondra Garcia, Human Resources Assistant

The meeting of the Executive & Finance Committee started at 5:30pm. It was determined that a quorum was present.

1. **Executive Director's Program Updates**
   - **a.** The Agency is currently going through our annual insurance renewal. The Executive Director explained the current coverage available to the agency.
   - **b.** The Agency is hosting its first fundraising gala for the public. The development team has organized this event for the community and is scheduled for October 15th, 2022. There will be an update on the event during the next board meeting.
   - **c.** Jimmy discussed the organizational changes occurring within the Agency's IT department. The Agency will be ending the contract with AlwaysOnIT in October and shift to the agency's internal IT team.

2. **Financials –** Kaolee Hoyle presented the financial statements ending July 31, 2022.

3. **October 2022 Full Board Meeting Draft Agenda –** The meeting will be held in person on Wednesday, November 7th, 2022.

4. **Credit Card Expenditure Review –** Not available. Will conduct at a later date.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

______________________________	______________________________
Alondra Garcia, Human Resources Assistant	Kevin Karvandi, Board Secretary

Energy Services September PY 2022, Program Report

Traia Campbell, Energy Director

Executive Summary of Activities (Numbers served/service units/outcomes)

Energy Services households served in September and full 2022 PY

September 2022, Marion & Polk completions by funding source								
Funding	**HH**	**People**	**>6**	**60+**	**Disabled**	**At or below 75% prov.**		**Ave HH pmt**
LIHEAP	334	976	132	84	86	139	42% of HH	$511
LIHEAP AC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0% of HH	$0
LIHEAP ARPA	183	532	65	43	49	68	38% of HH	$402
ARPA AC	199	589	67	67	71	93	47 of HH	$412
OEA PGE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0% of HH	$0
OEA PAC	37	88	8	17	18	9	25% of HH	$784
CEAP PGE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0% of HH	$0
CEAP PAC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0% of HH	$0
OLGA	86	272	34	27	20	38	45% of HH	$430
GAP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0% of HH	$0
Total	**839**	**2457**	**306**	**238**	**244**	**347**	**42% of HH**	**$508**

PY 2022, Marion & Polk completions by funding source								
Funding	**HH**	**People**	**>6**	**60+**	**Disabled**	**At or below 75% prov.**		**Ave HH pmt**
LIHEAP	6955	18479	2093	2789	2650	3044	44% of HH	$414
LIHEAP AC	234	703	65	84	90	103	44% of HH	$427
LIHEAP ARPA	6790	17997	2000	2745	2610	2965	44% of HH	$400
ARPA AC	243	698	81	87	97	119	49% of HH	$411
OEA PGE	2139	5993	598	755	784	802	38% of HH	$696
OEA PAC	343	920	76	148	148	106	31% of HH	$716
CEAP PGE	903	2594	271	307	322	371	41% of HH	$802
CEAP PAC	142	387	36	63	52	48	34% of HH	$824
OLGA	1328	3992	408	569	418	533	41% of HH	$432
GAP	188	618	70	69	63	69	37% of HH	$126
Total	**19265**	**52381**	**5698**	**7616**	**7234**	**8160**	**43% of HH**	**$584**

Energy's program year 2022 ended September 30, 2022. Additional funding from LP ARPA and CEAP enabled Energy to served over 7,000 unduplicated households this year. LP AC and ARPA AC funds were utilized to assist residents of Marion and Polk counties with increased electric costs during the rising temperatures this summer. I foresee the transfer of LP funds to AC will become an annual event. Energy is also looking into purchasing equipment (portable AC units) to eligible households that do not have AC available. We will be entering PY 2023 without LP ARPA which was provided with LP in PY 2022. Energy is expecting to serve a similar number of LIHEAP households this coming year but the benefit paid will be less with the absence of ARPA. CEAP funds will be available to PGE and PAC customers impacted by Covid.

Investor owned utilities (IOU's: PGE, PAC, NWN) in Marion and Polk counties are implementing discount programs for low income customers. PGE's tiered discount program started in April and has enrolled over 30,000 low income customers. PAC also began offering a tiered discount program in September and NWN will be opening their program in November. Energy looks forward to the partnerships provided by the IOU's to support Oregon's most vulnerable populations.

September 2022, Polk completions by funding source

Funding	HH	People	>6	60+	Disabled	At or below 75% prov.		Ave HH pmt
LIHEAP	50	150	69	15	15	18	36% of hh	$496
LIHEAP AC	19	49	1	10	5	10	53% of hh	$407
LIHEAP ARPA	31	86	11	10	10	11	36% of hh	$414
ARPA AC	14	50	8	3	6	7	50% of hh	$461
OEA PGE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0% of hh	$0
OEA PAC	37	88	8	17	18	9	25% of hh	$754
CEAP PGE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0% of hh	$0
CEAP PAC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0% of hh	$0
OLGA	9	32	8	4	2	5	56% of hh	$466
GAP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0% of hh	$0
Total	**160**	**455**	**105**	**59**	**56**	**60**	**38% of hh**	**$499**

PY 2022, Polk completions by funding source

Funding	HH	People	>6	60+	Disabled	At or below 75% prov.		Ave HH pmt
LIHEAP	895	2354	249	339	345	389	44% of hh	$405
LIHEAP AC	19	49	1	10	5	10	53% of hh	$407
LIHEAP ARPA	873	237	237	333	339	381	44% of hh	$407
ARPA AC	15	52	8	4	7	7	33% of hh	$446
OEA PGE	37	110	11	14	19	12	47% of hh	$1,007
OEA PAC	343	920	76	148	148	106	31% of hh	$716
CEAP PGE	22	67	8	10	15	7	32% of hh	$1,588

CEAP PAC	66	196	20	24	25	21	32% of hh	$814
OLGA	130	384	31	64	36	49	38% of hh	$423
GAP	16	59	5	4	3	10	63% of hh	$125
Total	**2416**	**4428**	**646**	**950**	**942**	**992**	**41% of hh**	**$634**

Mid-Willamette Valley
COMMUNITY ACTION
Weatherization

Celebrate WEATHERIZATION DAY

FRIDAY OCTOBER 28, 2022
1:00PM - 6:00PM

2551 Pringle Rd SE Salem OR 97302

- PROGRAM INFORMATION & SIGN UPS
- DOOR PRIZES & GIVE AWAYS
- DIY WEATHERIZATION TIPS

THE WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM REDUCES ENERGY COSTS FOR LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS BY INCREASING THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF THE HOMES WHILE ENSURING THE RESIDENT'S HEALTH AND SAFETY.

ENERGY EDUCATION

Learn how to reduce your utility bills and increase home safety

20 MINUTE SESSIONS BEGINNING AT THE TOP OF EVERY HOUR

LIGHT BULB EXCHANGE

Bring your incandescent or CFL light bulbs in exchange for energy efficient LED's

- UP TO 6 LIGHT BULBS PER HOUSEHOLD
- MUST BRING UTILITY BILL OR ACCOUNT INFORMATION

More Information
(503) 315-7055
weatherization@mwvcaa.org

Chief Financial Officer Report
To The Community Action Agency Board
Kaolee Hoyle, Chief Financial Officer
October 2022

401k Audit – Completed
The 401k audit has been completed, and the Form 5500 was filed with the Department of Labor. There was one passed adjustment in which two different Mutual of America reports showed different administrative expenses. The Fund report showed $9,387 less. Mutual of America is currently investigating this. Our auditors, Grove Mueller, passed on this adjustment as more research is required, and this amount fell below their adjustment threshold.

Audit
The FY22 audit has been scheduled for fieldwork the week of November 14th. We currently do not anticipate a delay.

OHCS Monitoring
OHCS is currently performing their annual monitoring in October and November.

Payroll Specialist - NEW
We have successfully hired for a Payroll Specialist. This position has been vacant since December, and Nancy Cain and Rowena Henion has been the two primary personnel working on this.

Staff Accountant - NEW
We have successfully hired for a Staff Accountant who will be focused on general accounting, as well as reconciling accounts and closing the monthly books.

Accounting Policies & Procedures - Updates
The Accounting Policies & Procedures Manual were last updated in March 2019. We had anticipated on bringing this to the Board in September. However, due to the restructuring of the Agency, as well as internal team restructuring, we are taking a deeper look at the Policies & Procedures in order to make sure that it is as accurate as possible.

Payroll Filings
All payroll deposits have been made timely.

October Board Report: Development Department

Laurel Glenn, Director of Development

Grants

Awarded:

- **Basic Center Program –** We received a 3-year $600,000 federal grant to support HOME Youth Services and hire an on-site QMHP.

Fundraising

Gala Update

- We raised **$15,500** total in sponsorship funds.
- Final numbers will be included in the verbal report.
- Despite a few first-year logistical setbacks—for instance, the convention center was having issues lowering the lights, so it was more of a dinner-by-fluorescents than a dinner-by-candlelight—reactions to the event have been positive on social media and via people reaching out to say they had a good time.
- Additionally, the event sold out, and we ended up adding an additional 35 seats due to demand for tickets. So the event will likely be bigger next year, also expanding its potential for donations.

- We'll be starting an event committee for next year in November for those who would like to assist and give input for next year! Email or text Laurel if interested: laurel.glenn@mwvcaa.org, or 971-304-6848.
- **Thank you so much to all the board members who attended, volunteered, and spoke at the event! We truly appreciate it. Special shout-out to Melissa for helping facilitate a Santiam Hospital sponsorship.**

Link to event page: https://mwvcaa.networkforgood.com/events/47076-community-action-gala-a-night-under-the-stars

Pictures:


Welcome to
A Night Under the Stars
The Community
Action Gala

MWVCAA Community Action Head Start of Marion & Polk Counties
Governing Body Approval Form
OHSA Charitable Checkoff Grant

The Oregon Head Start Association Charitable Checkoff Grant provides funding that can be utilized toward playground development and equipment for playgrounds. We are seeking grant funds in the amount of $9,366.63 to be used to enhance the outdoor space at Buena Crest. The funds will be used to purchase a two bay swing set that will include two additional swing seats and an ADA swing. The two regular swings will give children additional opportunities to develop large motor skills. The addition of an ADA swing will make the playground inclusive of all children and abilities.

Funding Category	Projected Funding
Swing set, including shipping and hardware kit	$9,366.63

Community Action Head Start Programs
2021-2022 Self-Assessment Report and Program Improvement Plan

The Self-Assessment was conducted through analysis of data collected throughout the school year and analyzed during monitoring meetings. Program management assessed each service area of the program for this report; education, family services, inclusion & support, transportation, nutrition, ERSEA (eligibility, recruitment, selection, enrollment and attendance), and health, as well as program design and management.

The report identifies strengths found in the program as well as areas needing improvement, which include health and safety concerns; systemic concerns indicated by multiple incidents in more than one location; or site based concerns resulting from multiple issues in one location. Program leadership will monitor progress on the program improvement plans throughout the year, and provide quarterly updates to report progress to the Board of Directors and the Policy Council.

Strengths

Parent Satisfaction: The program conducted a parent satisfaction survey in the spring of 2022, which was completed by 28% of families with enrolled children.

- 99% said they felt supported or well supported by their Family Educator or Early Head Start Teacher/Home Visitors.
- 100% indicated they were happy with the program addressing their concerns and making individualized plans to support their child at school.
- 90% stated they felt our staff promote the belief that parents are the first and most important teacher of their children.
- 97% indicated the program had a positive impact on parents relationship with their child.
- 89% said Head Start has helped them to be more prepared to support their child's education at home.
- 99% were satisfied or very satisfied with their overall experience.
- 98% stated they had a good or excellent relationship with our staff.
- 71% stated they believe Head Start helped them strengthen their family, find employment, continue education and/or find secure housing.

Parent survey comments: "The staff have been amazing with helping our family and providing resources", "I love that Community Action has so many resources and cares so much for the families in the community", "They have been a huge help in caring for my daughter and paying close attention to her medical needs", "Always making me feel that I am doing a good job as a mother to my child and advocating for her and what she needs", "Helping us transition out of the pandemic", "Providing helpful resources for rental assistance", and "Support through a difficult transition and time in our family".

Classroom Health & Safety: All classroom sites are assessed with the completion of a Health and Safety Checklist three times a year by a supervisor from a different location. Sites are also inspected annually by the agency's Safety Coordinator and by the Licensing Specialist from Oregon Child Care Division. All sites were found to be in compliance with health and safety requirements during each inspection during the 2021-2022 school year.

Family Services Support for Housing: Resource and referrals from family services helped 54 families receive assistance for housing, including 9 families who were homeless at the time of their child's enrollment.

Parenting Education: The program offers parenting education through partnerships with the early learning community, with a number of curricula providing an array of choices. Within our own program, Smart Connections is the chosen parenting education curriculum, which is associated with our Trauma Smart approach. During the pandemic, we have experienced a significant increase in parent participation in Smart Connections. This year, 78 families participated in Smart Connections, which was provided as a video series, with follow up debriefs with staff.

Child Recruitment: The program implemented creative child recruitment practices by using signage on city buses, billboards, and yard signs, participation in radio station and CCTV promotions, and live Facebook promotions.

School Meals: The nutrition team has done an excellent job adapting to food shortages and lack of availability of certain products from vendors. The team has been very flexible with food deliveries coming late and making substitutions to the menus when needed if products are unavailable. Nutrition and classroom staff did a great job of pivoting to comply with the change in Covid-19 regulations around food service, transitioning from restaurant-style meal service, with individual plates prepared and wrapped in the kitchen, to teachers serving food group-style, measuring to ensure proper quantities of each food component were served to each child.

Areas of Concern and Program Improvement Plans

Understaffed: Staff vacancies continued to be an issue for the 2021-2022 school year. At the end of the school year, there were 23 positions still vacant. Low numbers of applications from qualified candidates is a factor, but another level includes candidates interviewed and selected, but ultimately not onboarding due to factors in the hiring process, such as the length of time to complete background checks and references.

Program Improvement Plan: Head Start hiring managers will work with Human Resources recruitment staff to track and analyze ongoing data about retention and attrition, as well as the hiring process, the number of postings, applications received, percentage of qualified applicants, interviews scheduled, completed, cancelled or no-showed. A survey will be developed to ask applicants why they did not finish the hiring process.

Under-Enrolled: The Head Start pre-school program has struggled to fill for several years. COVID is clearly a major factor for the past two years, but even prior to COVID, Head Start was challenging to fill. This is evidence that the early learning opportunities in our service area have shifted with the introduction of Preschool Promise and other publically funded options, we find ourselves in a more competitive field. During the 2021-2022 school year, the highest level of enrollment for Head Start was 429 children, but the program is funded for 697. The infant toddler program options, also impacted by COVID, fared much better.

Program Improvement Plan: A careful analysis of applications received, processing time, and the shared information from other early learning programs will assist us in making some decisions. Options available include transitioning slots from Head Start to Early Head Start, or requesting a reduction in slots from the Office of Head Start. In January 2023, program management will evaluate the data collection and come forward with recommendations to the Board of Directors and the Policy Council.

CACFP Regulations Out of Compliance: 31% of nutrition services site monitoring visits identified staff did not have documentation of the required CACFP training. Most of these staff either missed the training due to being off work during pre-service, or had not been recorded as having attended the training due to not signing in at the pre-service CACFP training. This was identified as a concern only for returning staff during pre-service, but all new staff hired during the year received the required training during new staff orientation.

Program Improvement Plan: The Nutrition Specialist will implement a monthly review of staff training documentation to ensure that all staff working in classrooms or kitchens have completed this training and documentation is on file.

Training Records Missing: All staff are required to complete Child Abuse and Neglect training and Health and Safety training before beginning work. The completion of these trainings for new staff are done during on-boarding, and certificates downloaded for inclusion in their personnel file. A file review showed that 36% of staff files did not contain these certificates.

Due to a change in the format of the training, staff who have worked for the program longer than 5 years had completed these trainings in another format, but still had certificates issued. Further analysis revealed that the missing certificates were present in the program's staff files for child care licensing, and were uploaded in staff Oregon Registry Online (ORO) accounts, in compliance with licensing regulations, but the HR staff files did not contain these certificates.

Program Improvement Plan: The Program Manager will collaborate with Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R) to assist in the pulling certificates from ORO for staff whose files are missing them, and submit them to Human Resources.

Aging Bus Fleet: Aging school buses increase program maintenance costs, with the six oldest costing over $3,500 this year for maintenance. Five buses are 17 years or older, and will be out of compliance with upcoming (2029) changes in regulations concerning emissions.

Program Improvement Plan: The Transportation Supervisor will provide an analysis and recommendation about how many buses are needed, with target dates, to program management. There are sometimes opportunities to receive buses at no cost from the Office of Head Start, and we have submitted a letter of interest to a recent opportunity. Budget planning will include the purchase of new school buses. State funding does not allow the purchase of vehicles, but federal funds do, so when the opportunity arises through annual continuation application and federal one-time funding requests are invited, the program will prioritize the purchase of new buses.

Early Head Start Home Base Program Participation: The 20 Home Base slots in our EHS program offer expectant mothers and parents with infants under 12 months of age with services in a unique model. A Home Visitor comes to the home weekly for 90 minutes to help educate the parent/guardian about their child's development, and to provide support and resources that best meet their needs, along with engaging the child in an age appropriate learning activity, observing them and recording their milestones. In addition, families are required to participate in two group socialization activities each month, with the Home Visitors and other families in the program. The EHS program is struggling to get families to attend socializations. The average monthly attendance at socializations was 8% this year. This despite offering both virtual and in-person experiences, and surveying parents to determine the best times to schedule.

Program improvement Plan: The lack of participation in socializations, which amounts to 50% of the attendance required for full participation, may indicate that families do not value this program option. The Home Visitors will focus on improving the socialization experience and interest by engaging parents in planning them, offering four choices per month at different times of day, and improving on the quality of the activities offered. After analysis of the attendance rate moving forward, program management will determine if the program option is simply not a fit for our community anymore, and possibly shift the slots to a more traditional classroom option.

Head Start Child Outcomes – Math: Teachers complete seasonal assessments of children's progress in learning, and the data is collected, analyzed and aggregated, then provided to program leadership, as well as the Policy Council and the Board of Directors as child outcomes. All areas of development contribute to determining school readiness, however, Mathematics, Language, and Literacy are researched indicators of a child's potential for success in learning, narrowing the achievement gap at the third grade level, and increasing the chance for high school and college graduation. Children fall into three categories for each learning domain, emerging, meeting and exceeding, with the goal of seeing each child progress through the stages at their individual pace.

While it is exciting to note the progress children make, it is equally important to evaluate the number of children who at the end of the year remain in the emerging categories. The area of most concern is mathematics with 38% of children at the emerging level. 21% of children were emerging in language and 24% emerging in literacy. We would be remiss to overlook the fact that we still have some work to do in supporting children in these crucial areas in order to send them off to kindergarten prepared as much as possible for success in their education.

Program Improvement Plan: Head Start Teachers will receive training at pre-service focused on early identification of specific children in emerging categories and creating individualized plans for supporting their progress. Coaching and training provided throughout the year will include an emphasis on math activities. The Education Manager will be closely following outcome reports and teacher's outcome plans to better identify the specific reasons why a child may be falling below expectation (attendance, IFSP, etc.) and work with teachers to ensure plans are in place for those children to meet their needs.

MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY
COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY, INC.
401(K) PLAN
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND
SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE
Year Ended December 31, 2021

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GROVE, MUELLER & SWANK, P.C.
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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Trustees
Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, Inc. 401(k) Plan
Salem, Oregon

Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit for the 2021 Financial Statements

We have performed an audit of the financial statements of the Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, Inc. 401(k) Plan (the "Plan"), an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) (ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit). The financial statements comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2021, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements (2021 Financial Statements).

Management, having determined it is permissible in the circumstances, has elected to have the audit of the 2021 financial statements performed in accordance with ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. As permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C), our audit need not extend to any statements or information related to assets held for investment of the plan (investment information) by a bank or similar institution or insurance carrier that is regulated, supervised, and subject to periodic examination by a state or federal agency, provided that the statements or information regarding assets so held are prepared and certified to by the bank or similar institution or insurance carrier in accordance with 29 CFR 2520.103-5 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA (qualified institution).

Management has obtained a certification from a qualified institution as of and for the year ended December 31, 2021, stating that the certified investment information, as described in the notes to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.

Opinion on the 2021 Financial Statements

In our opinion, based on our audit and on the procedures performed as described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the 2021 Financial Statements section:

- the amounts and disclosures in the accompanying 2021 financial statements, other than those agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
- the information in the accompanying financial statements related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

Basis for Opinion on the 2021 Financial Statements

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the 2021 Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Plan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit opinion.

Responsibilities of Management for the 2021 Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. Management's election of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit does not affect management's responsibility for the financial statements.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date that the financial statements are issued.

Management is also responsible for maintaining a current plan instrument, including all plan amendments, administering the plan, and determining that the plan's transactions that are presented and disclosed in the financial statements are in conformity with the plan's provisions, including maintaining sufficient records with respect to each of the participants, to determine the benefits due or which may become due to such participants.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the 2021 Financial Statements

Except as described in the Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit of the 2021 Financial Statements section of our report, our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if, there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Plan's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Our audit did not extend to the certified investment information, except for obtaining and reading the certification, comparing the certified investment information with the related information presented and disclosed in the 2021 financial statements, and reading the disclosures relating to the certified investment information to assess whether they are in accordance with the presentation and disclosure requirements of accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Accordingly, the objective of an ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit is not to express an opinion about whether the financial statements as a whole are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Other Matters

2021 Supplemental Schedules Required by ERISA

The supplemental schedule, Schedule H, Line 4i – Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year) as of December 31, 2021, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information included in the supplemental schedules, other than that agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, has been subjected to auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS. For information included in the supplemental schedules that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, we compared such information to the related certified investment information.

In forming our opinion on the supplemental schedules, we evaluated whether the supplemental schedules, other than the information agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, including their form and content, are presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

In our opinion:

- the form and content of the supplemental schedules, other than the information in the supplemental schedules that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, are presented, in all material respects, in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.
- the information in the supplemental schedules related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

Auditor's Report on the 2020 Financial Statements

We were engaged to audit the 2020 financial statements of Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, Inc. 401(k) Plan. As permitted by 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA, the plan administrator instructed us not to perform and we did not perform any auditing procedures with respect to the information certified by a qualified institution. In our report dated October 16, 2021, we indicated that (*a*) because of the significance of the information that we did not audit, we were not able to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to provide a basis for an audit opinion and accordingly, we did not express an opinion on the 2020 financial statements, and (*b*) the form and content of the information included in the 2020 financial statements other than that derived from the certified information were presented in compliance with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

Grove, Mueller & Swank, P.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
October 16, 2022

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY, INC. 401(K) PLAN

STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS

DECEMBER 31, 2021 AND 2020

	2021	2020
ASSETS		
Investments		
Investments at fair value	$ 6,971,312	$ 5,361,282
Insurance company general account	122,401	112,140
Total investments	7,093,713	5,473,422
Receivables		
Employer contribution	21,242	-
Participant contributions	20,113	-
Notes receivable from participants	33,887	49,912
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	$ 7,168,955	$ 5,523,334

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY, INC. 401(K) PLAN
STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2021

ADDITIONS TO NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTED TO:	
Investment income	
Net appreciation in fair value of investments	$ 910,388
Interest and dividends	1,171
Interest on notes receivable from participants	2,169
Total investment income	913,728
Contributions	
Employer contributions	472,337
Participant contributions	430,424
Rollover contributions	101,118
Total Contributions	1,003,879
Total Additions	1,917,607
DEDUCTIONS FROM NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTED TO:	
Benefits paid to participants	251,787
Administrative expenses	20,199
Total Deductions	271,986
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS	1,645,621
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS, Beginning of year	5,523,334
NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS, End of year	$ 7,168,955

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAN

The following description of the Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, Inc. 401(k) Plan ("the Plan") provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Plan agreement for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

General

The Plan was first established effective January 1, 2012. The Plan is a defined contribution plan which is qualified as a cash or deferred arrangement under Section 401(a) and 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code (the "Code"). The Plan covers all permanent employees of Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, Inc. who have completed at least 700 hours of service during their first six months of employment and are age eighteen or older. If eligibility requirements are not met within the first six months, the computation period shifts to the Plan year. The Plan is subject to the provisions of ERISA.

Contributions

Plan participants are permitted to make elective deferrals of their total compensation up to the maximum amount which will not cause the Plan to violate the provisions of the Plan or cause the Plan to exceed the maximum amount allowable as a deduction to the employer under Code Section 404. The plan utilizes automatic enrollment for those employees who do not elect otherwise.

Agency contributions are made solely at the discretion of the Board of Directors. It is the policy of the Agency to fund contributions to the Plan on a regular basis as soon as participant deferrals are made and employer contributions are elected.

Participant Accounts

Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contribution and allocations of (a) the Agency's contribution, and (b) plan earnings, and charged with an allocation of administrative expenses. Allocations are based on participant earnings or account balances, as defined. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant's vested account.

All investments of the Plan are participant directed.

Vesting

Participants are vested immediately in their contributions plus actual earnings thereon. Vesting in the employer's contribution portion of their accounts is based on years of continuous service. A participant is 50 percent vested after one year of service and 100 percent vested after two years of service. Additionally, a participant will be fully vested upon reaching age 65 prior to termination of employment, or upon death or disability prior to that date.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAN *(Continued)*

Notes Receivable from Participants

Participants may borrow from their fund accounts a minimum of $1,000 up to a maximum equal to the lesser of $50,000 or 50 percent of their vested account balance, whichever is less. The loans are secured by the balance in the participant's account. The loan interest rate, determined at the time the loan is taken out, is set at 2 percent above the prime rate, as defined. Principal and interest is paid ratably through monthly payroll deductions.

Payment of Benefits

On termination of service due to death, disability, or retirement, a participant may elect to receive either a lump sum amount equal to the value of the participant's vested interest in his or her account, or partial distribution thereof, or paid out in installments over a certain period. For termination of service for other reasons, a participant may receive the value of the vested interest in his or her account as a lump-sum distribution.

The Plan also provides a participant who demonstrates "financial need" with the option of withdrawing an amount against the participant's vested account balance.

Forfeited Accounts

Under the terms of the Plan, forfeitures of non-vested accounts of terminated employees are to be applied to plan expenses or toward employer contributions. During 2021 and 2020 forfeitures resulting from the distribution of non-vested accounts totaled $3,068 and $2,051, respectively.

Administrative and Asset Management

Mutual of America Life Insurance Company provides administrative services and holds invested funds. The Board of Trustees and plan administrator control and manage the operation and administration of the Plan.

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the Plan are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and changes therein, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Investment Valuation and Income Recognition

Investments are reported at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The Plan's Pension Committee determines the Plan's valuation policies utilizing information provided by the investment advisers and trustee. See note regarding discussion of fair value measurements.

Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Net appreciation includes the Plan's gains and losses on investments bought and sold as well as held during the year.

Notes Receivable from Participants

Notes receivable from participants are measured at their unpaid principal balance plus any accrued but unpaid interest. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Related fees are recorded as administrative expenses and are expensed when they are incurred. No allowance for credit losses has been recorded as of December 31, 2021.

Payment of Benefits

Benefits are recorded when paid.

Expenses

Certain expenses of maintaining the Plan are paid directly by the Agency and are excluded from these financial statements. Fees related to the administration of distributions and notes receivable from participants, record keeping and other costs are charged directly to the participant's account and are included in the administrative expenses. Investment related expenses are included in net appreciation/depreciation of fair value of investments.

FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS

The framework for measuring fair value provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (level 3). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy under FASB ASC 820 are described as follows:

Level 1	Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that the plan has the ability to access.
Level 2	Inputs to the valuation methodology include • quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets; • quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in inactive markets; • inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability; • inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means. If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.
Level 3	Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

The asset or liability's fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Valuation techniques maximize the use of relevant observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value at December 31, 2021.

Mutual Funds: Valued at the daily closing price as reported by the fund. Mutual funds held by the Plan are open-end mutual funds that are registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These funds are required to publish their daily net asset value (NAV) and to transact at that price. Mutual funds held by the Plan are deemed to be actively traded.

FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (Continued)

The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the plan's assets at fair value as of December 31, 2021 and 2020:

	Assets at Fair Value as of December 31, 2021			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Mutual funds	$ 6,971,312	$ -	$ -	$ 6,971,312

	Assets at Fair Value as of December 31, 2020			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Mutual funds	$ 5,361,282	$ -	$ -	$ 5,361,282

INFORMATION CERTIFIED BY THE CUSTODIAN (UNAUDITED)

The custodian holds all investments and executes all investment transactions on behalf of the Plan. Information regarding the value of all cash, investments, investment interest and dividend income and net appreciation/depreciation in the fair value of investments has been certified by the custodian as complete and accurate in accordance with Section 2520.103-8 of the DOL’s Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

RELATED PARTY AND PARTY-IN-INTEREST TRANSACTIONS

Certain Plan investments are shares of mutual funds managed by Mutual of America Life Insurance Company. Mutual of America Life Insurance Company is the custodian as defined by the Plan and, therefore, these transactions qualify as party-in-interest transactions. Fees incurred by the plan for the investment management services are included in net depreciation in fair value of the investment, as they are paid through revenue sharing, rather than a direct payment. The Plan made direct payments to the custodian of $1,473. The Plan Sponsor pays directly any other fees related to Plan operations. Other parties in interest include the Plan’s board of trustees, participants, and anyone performing services for the Plan.

INVESTMENT OPTIONS

Participants are allowed to invest in a variety of investment choices as more fully described in the Plan’s literature.

TRUSTEES OF THE PLAN

The Plan provides for trustees to be appointed by the Plan sponsor. These individuals are officers or employees of the Plan sponsor.

PLAN TERMINATION

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the Agency has the right under the Plan to discontinue its contributions at any time and to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of ERISA. In the event of plan termination, participants will become 100 percent vested in their accounts.

TAX STATUS

The Agency has adopted a volume submitter plan document and is relying on the volume submitter sponsor's opinion letter from the Internal Revenue Service dated March 31, 2014. The letter states that the form of the Plan is designed in accordance with applicable sections of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC). Although the Plan has been amended since receiving the opinion letter, the volume submitter sponsor and the plan administrator believe that the Plan is designed and is currently being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the IRC.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability (or asset) if the Plan has taken an uncertain tax position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the Internal Revenue Service. The Plan Administrator has analyzed the tax positions taken by the Plan, and has concluded that as of December 31, 2021, there are no uncertain positions taken or expected to be taken that would require recognition of a liability (or asset) or disclosure in the financial statements. The Plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress. The Plan Administrator believes it is no longer subject to income tax examinations for years prior to 2018.

RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The Plan invests in various investment securities. Investment securities are exposed to various risks such as interest rate, market and credit risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect participants' account balances and the amounts reported in the statement of net assets available for benefits.

SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The Plan has evaluated subsequent events through October 16, 2022, the date the financial statements were available to be issued. Management is not aware of any other subsequent events that require recognition or disclosure in the financial statements.

SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE

MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY, INC. 401(K) PLAN

PLAN SPONSOR'S EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (EIN) 23-7056987, PLAN NUMBER (PN) 001
Schedule H, Line 4i – Schedule of Assets (Held at End of Year)
DECEMBER 31, 2021

(a)	(b) Identity of issue, borrower, lessor, or similar party	(c) Description of investment, including maturity date, rate of interest, collateral, par, or maturity value	(d) Cost	(e) Current value
	American Century VP Capital Appreciation	Mutual fund	**	$ 9,140
	DWS Capital Growth VIP	Mutual fund	**	20,791
	Fidelity VIP Asset Manager Portfolio	Mutual fund	**	2,657
	Fidelity VIP Contrafund Portfolio	Mutual fund	**	21,275
	Fidelity VIP Equity-Income Portfolio	Mutual fund	**	9,021
	Fidelity VIP Mid Cap Portfolio	Mutual fund	**	1,110
	Goldman Sachs VIT US Equity Insights	Mutual fund	**	1,392
*	Mutual of America 2015 Retirement Fund	Mutual fund	**	22,745
*	Mutual of America 2020 Retirement Fund	Mutual fund	**	616,670
*	Mutual of America 2025 Retirement Fund	Mutual fund	**	467,033
*	Mutual of America 2030 Retirement Fund	Mutual fund	**	790,349
*	Mutual of America 2035 Retirement Fund	Mutual fund	**	904,558
*	Mutual of America 2040 Retirement Fund	Mutual fund	**	1,041,405
*	Mutual of America 2045 Retirement Fund	Mutual fund	**	679,668
*	Mutual of America 2050 Retirement Fund	Mutual fund	**	1,237,533
*	Mutual of America 2055 Retirement Fund	Mutual fund	**	249,829
*	Mutual of America 2060 Retirement Fund	Mutual fund	**	174,461
	Mutual of America 2065 Retirement Fund	Mutual fund	**	5,314
*	Mutual of America Agressive Allocation	Mutual fund	**	62,040
*	Mutual of America All America Fund	Mutual fund	**	9,998
*	Mutual of America Bond Fund	Mutual fund	**	1,382
*	Mutual of America Composite Fund	Mutual fund	**	25,400
*	Mutual of America Conservative Allocation	Mutual fund	**	9,788
*	Mutual of America Equity Index Fund	Mutual fund	**	110,522
*	Mutual of America International Fund	Mutual fund	**	1,996
*	Mutual of America Mid Cap Value Fund	Mutual fund	**	10,210
*	Mutual of America Mid-Cap Equity Index	Mutual fund	**	39,784
*	Mutual of America Mid-Term Bond Fund	Mutual fund	**	13,965
*	Mutual of America Moderate Allocation	Mutual fund	**	59,030
*	Mutual of America Money Market Fund	Mutual fund	**	9,034
*	Mutual of America Retirement Income Fund	Mutual fund	**	44,209
*	Mutual of America Small Cap Growth Fund	Mutual fund	**	799
*	Mutual of America Small Cap Value Fund	Mutual fund	**	373
	Invesco Oppenheimer Main Street V I Mainstreet	Mutual fund	**	3,862
	PIMCO VIT Real Return Portfolio	Mutual fund	**	2,268
	TRowe Price Blue Chip Growth Portfolio	Mutual fund	**	21,989
	Vanguard VIF Diversified Value Portfolio	Mutual fund	**	29,137
	Vanguard VIF International Portfolio	Mutual fund	**	217,901
	Vanguard VIF Real Estate Index Portfolio	Mutual fund	**	40,783
	Vanguard Total Bond Market I Prt	Mutual fund	**	1,891
*	Mutual of America Interest Accumulation	Insurance company general account	**	122,401
*	Notes Receivable from Participants	Interest rates of 4.25% - 6.50%	-	33,887
				$ 7,127,600

* Denotes party in interest.
** Cost information may be omitted with respect to participant directed investments under an individual account plan.

GROVE, MUELLER & SWANK, P.C.
Certified Public Accountants and Consultants
475 Cottage Street NE, Suite 200, Salem, OR 97301
(503) 581-7788 • FAX (503) 581-0152 • www.gms.cpa

October 16, 2022

Borad of Trustees
Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, Inc. 401(k) Plan
2475 Center Street N.E.
Salem, Oregon 97301

We have conducted an ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit of the financial statements of Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, Inc. 401(k) Plan (the "Plan") as of and for the year ended December 31, 2021 and have issued our report thereon dated October 16, 2022. Professional standards require that we advise you of the following matters relating to our audit.

Our Responsibility in Relation to the Financial Statement Audit

As communicated in our engagement letter dated June 10, 2022, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to conduct our audit in accordance with ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Therefore, as permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C), the audit need not extend to any statements of information related to assets held for investment of the Plan (investment information) by a bank or similar institution or insurance carrier that is regulated, supervised, and subject to periodic examination by a state or federal agency, provided that the statements or information regarding assets so held are prepared and certified to by the bank or similar institution or insurance carrier in accordance with29 CFR 2520.103-5 of the DOL's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA (qualified institution). For an ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit, the audit will not extend to the certified investment information, except for obtaining and reading the certification, comparing the certified investment information with the related information presented and disclosed in the financial statements, and reading the disclosures relating to the certified investment information to assess whether they are in accordance with the presentation and disclosure requirement of accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Accordingly, the objective of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit is not to express an opinion about whether the financial statements as a whole are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with GAAP.

We are also responsible for communicating significant matters related to the audit that are, in our professional judgment, relevant to your responsibilities in overseeing the financial reporting process. However, we are not required to design procedures for the purpose of identifying other matters to communicate to you.

Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit

We conducted our audit consistent with the planned scope and timing we previously communicated to you.

Compliance with All Ethics Requirements Regarding Independence

The engagement team, others in our firm, as appropriate, and our firm have complied with all relevant ethical requirements regarding independence.

Significant Risks Identified

We have identified the following significant risks:

> The possibility that management could override the system of controls. This risk is always identified and addressed by our planned audit procedures. This is not indicative of any unusual circumstances observed within your organization.

Qualitative Aspects of the Plan's Significant Accounting Practices

Significant Accounting Policies

Management has the responsibility to select and use appropriate accounting policies. A summary of the significant accounting policies adopted by the Plan is included in the notes to the financial statements. There have been no initial selection of accounting policies and no changes in significant accounting policies or their application during 2021. No matters have come to our attention that would require us, under professional standards, to inform you about (1) the methods used to account for significant unusual transactions and (2) the effect of significant accounting policies in controversial or emerging areas for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.

Significant Accounting Estimates

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's current judgments. Those judgments are normally based on knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ markedly from management's current judgments.

The most sensitive accounting estimates affecting the financial statements are management's estimate of the fair market value of investments which is based on the certified statements provided by the custodian. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the fair market value of investments in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

Financial Statement Disclosures

Certain financial statement disclosures involve significant judgment and are particularly sensitive because of their significance to financial statement users. The most sensitive disclosures affecting the Plan's financial statements relate to the fair value and contract value investment information.

Significant Difficulties Encountered during the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management relating to the performance of the audit.

Uncorrected and Corrected Misstatements

For purposes of this communication, professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that we believe are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Further, professional standards require us to also communicate the effect of uncorrected misstatements related to prior periods on the relevant classes of transactions, account balances or disclosures, and the financial statements as a whole. A list of the uncorrected misstatements has been attached.

In addition, professional standards require us to communicate to you all material, corrected misstatements that were brought to the attention of management as a result of our audit procedures. There were no such misstatements identified.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, which could be significant to the Plan's financial statements or the auditor's report. No such disagreements arose during the course of the audit.

Representations Requested from Management

We have requested certain written representations from management, which are included in the attached letter dated October 16, 2022.

Management's Consultations with Other Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters. Management informed us that, and to our knowledge, there were no consultations with other accountants regarding auditing and accounting matters.

Other Significant Matters, Findings, or Issues

In the normal course of our professional association with the Plan, we generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, significant events or transactions that occurred during the year, business conditions affecting the plan, and business plans and strategies that may affect the risks of material misstatement. None of the matters discussed resulted in a condition to our retention as the Plan's auditors.

Other Information Included in Annual Reports

Pursuant to professional standards, our responsibility as auditors for other information in documents containing the Plan's audited financial statements does not extend beyond the financial information identified in the audit report, and we are not required to perform any procedures to corroborate such other information. However, in accordance with such standards, we have read the Form 5500 and considered whether such information, or the manner of its presentation, was materially inconsistent with its presentation in the financial statements.

Other Matters

The ERISA-required supplemental schedules a were subjected to the audit procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with GAAS.

Our responsibility also includes communicating to you any information which we believe is a material misstatement of fact. Nothing came to our attention that caused us to believe that such information, or its manner of presentation, is materially inconsistent with the information, or manner of its presentation, appearing in the financial statements.

Restriction on Use

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Pension Committee and management of the Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, Inc. 401(k) Plan and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,

Grove, Mueller & Swank, P.C.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Client: ***54442 - Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, Inc. 401(k) Plan***
Engagement: ***Audit 2021 - Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, Inc. 401(k) Plan***
Trial Balance: ***3001 - TB***
Workpaper:

Account	Description	W/P Ref	Debit	Credit
Passed Journal Entries JE # 2		**7301/4152**		
To correct the Admin Expense balance to agree to the Fund report				
4102	Net Appreciation/Depreciation in FMV of Investments		9,387.00	
5201	Other Expenses			9,387.00
Total			**9,387.00**	**9,387.00**

October 16, 2022

Grove Mueller & Swank, PC
475 Cottage Street NE, Suite 200
Salem, OR 97301

This representation letter is provided in connection with your audits of the financial statements of Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, Inc. 401(k) Plan (the "Plan"), an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), which comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits as of December 31, 2021 and 2020, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended December 31, 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements.

We have elected to have the audit of the plan's financial statements performed in accordance with ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's (DOL) Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. We acknowledge that the audit did not extend to any statements or information related to assets held for investment of the plan (investment information) by a bank or similar institution or insurance carrier, that is regulated, supervised and subject to periodic examination by a state or federal agency, a qualified institution, that prepared and certified the investment information in accordance with 29 CFR 2520.103-5 of the DOL's Ruled and Regulations for Reporting under ERISA. We have determined that an ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit is permissible under the circumstances. We have also determined that the investment information is prepared and certified by a qualified institution as described by 29 CFR 2520.103-8, that the certification meets the requirements in 29 CFR 2520.103-5 and, that the certified investment information is appropriately measured, presented, and disclosed in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP).

Certain representations in this letter are described as being limited to matters that are material. Items are considered material, regardless of size, if they involve misstatements, including omissions, if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

We confirm that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, having made such inquiries as we considered necessary for the purpose of appropriately informing ourselves as of October 16, 2022, the following representations made to you during your audit:

Financial Statements

1. We have fulfilled our responsibilities, as set out in the terms of the audit engagement letter dated June 6, 2022, for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements (and disclosures) in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
2. We acknowledge our responsibility for administering the plan and determining the plan's transactions that are presented and disclosed in the ERISA plan financial statements are in conformity with the plan provisions, including maintaining sufficient records with respect to each of the participants to determine the benefits due or which may become due to such participants.
3. We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements, notes, and supplemental schedule that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

4. We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control to prevent and detect fraud.
5. Significant assumptions used by us in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable. The methods and significant assumptions used result in a measure of fair value appropriate for financial measurement and disclosure purposes.
6. We are responsible for the estimation methods and assumptions used in measuring assets and liabilities reported or disclosed at fair value, including information obtained from brokers, pricing services, or other third parties. Our valuation methodologies have been consistently applied from period to period. The fair value measurements reported or disclosed represent our best estimate of fair value as of the measurement date in accordance with the requirements of Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) 820, *Fair Value Measurement*. In addition, our disclosures related to fair value measurements are consistent with the objectives outlined in FASB ASC 820.
7. All related party relationships and transactions have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the requirements of U.S. GAAP.
8. Transactions with parties in interest, as defined in Section 3(14) of ERISA and regulations thereunder, including sales, purchases, loans, transfers, leasing arrangements, and guarantees, and amounts receivable from, or payable to, related parties have been appropriately disclosed.
9. All events subsequent to the date of the financial statements and for which U.S. GAAP requires adjustment or disclosure have been adjusted or disclosed.
10. The effects of uncorrected misstatements are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial statements as a whole. A list of the uncorrected misstatements is attached to the representation letter.
11. The effects of all known actual or possible litigation and claims have been accounted for and disclosed in accordance with U.S. GAAP.
12. We have no intentions to terminate the plan.
13. Guarantees, whether written or oral, under which the plan is contingently liable to a bank or another lending institution have been properly recorded or disclosed in the financial statements.
14. We have properly reported and disclosed amendments to the plan instrument, if any.
15. With respect to the drafting of the financial statements performed by you, we have performed the following;
    a. Made all management decisions and performed all management functions;
    b. Assigned a competent individual to oversee the services;
    c. Evaluated the adequacy of the services performed;
    d. Evaluated and accepted responsibility for the result of the service performed; and
    e. Established and maintained internal controls, including monitoring ongoing activities.
16. We acknowledge our responsibility for the presentation of the ERISA-required supplemental schedules in accordance with the DOL’s Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.
17. We believe the supplemental schedules, including their form and content, are presented in conformity with the DOL’s Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

Information Provided

1. We have provided you with:
    a. Access to all information, of which we are aware that is relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, such as financial records and related data, plan instruments, trust agreements, insurance contracts, as applicable, or investments contracts, as applicable, and amendments to such documents entered into during the year;
    b. The most current plan instrument for the audit period. Including all amendments;

   c. A draft of the Form 5500 that is substantially complete;
   d. Additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit;
   e. Unrestricted access to persons within the Plan from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence;
   f. All minutes of the meetings or summaries of actions of recent meetings for which minutes have not yet been prepared.
2. The financial statements and any other information included in the annual report are consistent with one another, and the other information does not contain any material misstatements.
3. All transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial statements.
4. Financial instruments with off-balance-sheet risk and financial instruments with concentrations of credit risk have been properly recorded or disclosed in the financial statements.
5. The Plan has satisfactory title to all owned assets that are recorded at fair value, and all liens, encumbrances, or security interest requiring disclosure in the financial statements have been properly disclosed.
6. We have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the financial statements may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.
7. We have no knowledge of any fraud or suspected fraud that affects the Plan and involves:
   a. Management;
   b. Employees who have significant roles in internal control; or
   c. Others when the fraud could have a material effect on the financial statements.
8. We have no knowledge of any allegations of fraud, or suspected fraud, affecting the Plan's financial statements communicated by employees, former employees, participants, regulators, beneficiaries, service providers, third-party administrators, or others.
9. We have disclosed to you all known instances of noncompliance or suspected noncompliance with laws and regulations whose effects should be considered when preparing financial statements.
10. We are not aware of any pending or threatened litigation, claims, and assessments whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements and we have not consulted legal counsel concerning litigation, claims, or assessments.
11. There are no other matters (e.g., breach of fiduciary responsibilities, nonexempt transactions, loans or loans in default, events reportable to the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, or events that may jeopardize the tax status) that legal counsel has advised us must be disclosed.
12. We have disclosed to you the identity of all the Plan's related parties and parties in interest and the nature of all the related party and party in interest relationships and transactions of which we are aware.
13. We have apprised you of all communications, whether written or oral, with regulatory agencies concerning the operation of the plan.
14. The Plan has complied with all aspects of debt and other contractual agreements that would have a material effect on the financial statements in the event of noncompliance, including the release of unallocated shares held in employee stick ownership plans.
15. All required filings with the appropriate agencies have been made.
16. The Plan and the trust established under the plan is qualified under the appropriate section of the Internal Revenue Code and intends to continue as a qualified plan and trust. The plan sponsor has operated the Plan and trust or insurance contract in a manner that did not jeopardize this tax status.
17. The Plan has complied with the DOL's regulations concerning the timely remittance of participants' contributions to trusts containing assets for the plan.
18. The Plan has complied with the fidelity bonding requirements of ERISA.
19. There are no:
   a. Nonexempt party in interest transactions (as defined in ERISA Section 3[l] and regulations under that section) that were not disclosed in the supplemental schedules or financial statements.

b. Investments in default or considered to be uncollectible that were not disclosed in the supplemental schedules.
c. Reportable transactions (as defined in ERISA Section 103[b][3][H] and regulations under that section) that were not disclosed in the supplemental schedules.

Kaolee Hoyle

Kaolee Hoyle, CFO
Plan Administrator