



## **FEBRUARY 2023 MEETING BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2023**

### **IN-PERSON:**

**COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY  
2475 CENTER ST NE  
SALEM, OR 97301**

### **VIRTUAL:**

**MWVCAA Full Board Meeting February 2023**

Feb 23, 2023, 5:30 – 7:30 PM (America/Los\_Angeles)

**Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.**

<https://meet.goto.com/659879197>

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Access Code: 659-879-197

United States: [+1 \(872\) 240-3311](tel:+18722403311)

### **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  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2023**

**In-Person**

2475 Center St NE; Salem OR 97301

**Virtual**

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Thu, Feb 23, 2023 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM (PST)

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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.**

- |             |   |             |
|-------------|---|-------------|
| <b>I.</b>   | <b>Welcome and Introductions</b>  | <b>5:30</b> |
| <b>II.</b>  | <b>Public Comment</b>   | <b>5:35</b> |
| <b>III.</b> | <b>Declaration of Conflict of Interest</b>  | <b>5:40</b> |
| <b>IV.</b>  | <b>Approval of Agenda</b>   | <b>5:45</b> |
| <b>V.</b>   | <b>Consent Calendar</b>   | <b>5:50</b> |
|             | 1. January 2023 Full Board Meeting Minutes  |             |
|             | 2. February 2023 Executive Director Report  |             |
|             | 3. February 2023 Chief Financial Officer Report   |             |
|             | 4. February 2023 Chief Operations Officer Report  |             |
|             | 5. February 2023 Director of Development Report   |             |
|             | 6. February 2023 Program Director Reports   |             |
|             | 7. February 2023 Committee Meeting Minutes  |             |
| <b>VI.</b>  | <b>Board Business</b>   | <b>5:55</b> |
|             | 1. <i>Fuerza Campesina</i> Program Overview – <i>Presentation/Discussion</i>                                    |             |
|             | 2. New Key Roles - <i>Discussion</i>  |             |
|             | i. Namene James Rodgers – Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Specialist   |             |
|             | ii. Ramon Hernandez – Community Engagement Officer  |             |
|             | 3. Executive Director’s Report (Jones) - <i>Presentation</i>  |             |
|             | 4. Annual Board Fundamentals Training (Jones) - <i>Presentation</i>   |             |
|             | 5. Reaffirm Code of Ethics, Conflict of Interest and Board<br>Commitment Statements (Jones) – <i>Discussion</i> |             |
|             | 6. Head Start COVID-19 Mitigation Policy & Procedure (Pignotti) - <i>Approval</i>                               |             |
|             | 7. Resolution of Authority Form Renewal (Jones) – <i>Approval</i>   |             |
|             | 8. Financials (Hoyle) – <i>Approval</i>   |             |
| <b>VII.</b> | <b>Adjournment</b>  | <b>7:30</b> |

**Next board meeting: Thursday, March 23, 2023**

**Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, Inc.**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 2023**  
**MINUTES**

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Board of Directors:**

**Present:**

Catherine Trottman	Jade Rutledge	RW Taylor
Chris Lopez	Jeremy Gordon	Shelaswau Crier
Erika Romine	Kevin Karvandi	Steve McCoid

**Absent:**

Helen Honey	Michael Vasquez	Vanessa Nordyke
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**Others Present:**

**Program Directors/Staff/Guests:**

Jimmy Jones, Executive Director  
Helana Haytas, Chief Operations Officer  
Kaolee Hoyle, Chief Financial Officer  
Ashley Hamilton, Chief Program Officer: Housing and Homeless Services  
Eva Pignotti, Chief Program Officer: Early Learning and Child Care  
Rogelio Cortes, Chief Program Officer: Weatherization and Energy Services  
Shannon Vandehey, CCR&R Program Director  
Hector Guzman, Weatherization Program Director  
Jenna Sanders, CCR&R Associate Program Director  
Liz Salinas, Head Start Associate Program Director  
Stacey Eli, Head Start Associate Program Director  
Jade Wilson, Executive Assistant

**The meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order at 6:00 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**  
No changes were made.

**MOTION:** To approve the agenda made by Jeremy Gordon,  
**SECOND:** Steve McCoid.  
**APPROVED:** Unanimously approved

V. **Consent Calendar**

1. **November 2022 Full Board Meeting Minutes**  
No discussions or concerns were raised
2. **January 2023 Executive Director Report**  
No discussions or concerns were raised
3. **January 2023 Regional Anti-Poverty Report**  
No discussions or concerns were raised
4. **January 2023 Chief Financial Officer Report**  
No discussions or concerns were raised
5. **January 2023 Chief Operations Officer Report**  
No discussions or concerns were raised
6. **January 2023 Director of Development Report**  
No discussions or concerns were raised
7. **January 2023 Program Director Reports**  
No discussions or concerns were raised
8. **2022 Head Start Program Annual Report**  
No discussions or concerns were raised
9. **December and January 2023 Committee Meeting Minutes**  
No discussions or concerns were raised
10. **Board Member Jasmine White Resignation**  
No discussions or concerns were raised

**MOTION:** To approve consent calendar made by Kevin Karvandi,

**SECOND:** Chris Lopez.

**APPROVED:** Unanimously approved

VI. **Board Business**

1. **Executive Director's Report** – Jimmy did not have any program updates to share but instead asked board members to review his board report. Ashley Hamilton, Chief Program Officer: Housing and Homeless Services, shared information regarding the purchase of the hotel on 1875 Fisher Rd in Salem which would serve as our Turnkey 2.0 location. Ashley shared the operational plan for the property as well as some planned maintenance if the board is willing to move forward with approving the purchase at a later meeting.
2. **Head Start Corrective Action Plan** – Eva Pignotti, Chief Program Officer: Early Learning and Child Care, shared about the Corrective Action Plan for an area of deficiency the program received in April 2022. Eva shared that the plan has gone through its first round of approvals as of January 13<sup>th</sup> and no changes were made by the Office of Head Start. The program has received positive feedback thus far on the plan.
3. **Strategic Plan** – There were several Strategic Plan documents provided to Board Members in the January board packet. These documents consist of a general outline of the Strategic Plan as it stands, as well as specific goals within each focus area. Jimmy asked board members if there were any specific needs that the board thought the agency should focus on over the next three to five years. Further discussion on the Strategic Plan followed.

- 4. Board Member Erika Romine Election to a New Term** – New three-year term for Erika as the Early Childhood Education Rep for the board.

**MOTION:** To approve board member Erika Romine election to a new term made by Chris Lopez,

**SECOND:** Jeremy Gordon.

**APPROVED:** Unanimously approved.

- 5. Election of Board Chair** - Jade Rutledge was nominated for Board Chair by Jeremy Gordon. No other nominations were made.

**MOTION:** To approve election of Jade Rutledge as Board Chair made by Erika Romine,

**SECOND:** Jeremy Gordon.

**APPROVED:** Unanimously approved

- 6. Election of Board Vice Chair** – Shelaswau Crier was nominated for Board Vice Chair. No other nominations were made.

**MOTION:** To approve election of Shelaswau Crier as Board Vice Chair made by Erika Romine,

**SECOND:** Steve McCoid.

**APPROVED:** Unanimously approved

- 7. Election of Secretary** – Kevin Karvandi was nominated for Board Secretary. No other nominations were made.

**MOTION:** To approve election of Kevin Karvandi as Board Secretary made by Steve McCoid,

**SECOND:** Catherine Trottman.

**APPROVED:** Unanimously approved

- 8. Financials** – Kaolee Hoyle, CFO, presented the October 2022 Budget to Actual. Kaolee reported that donations are expected to increase after the Gala and year-end contributions. CRP is slightly overspent on operations costs but significantly underspent on projects. Several CRP capital projects have not yet started which attributes to the underspend in that area. HYS is significantly underspent as well due to having several open positions that they actively hiring for. Both areas are expected to correct by the spring. Also, the management and general (admin) cost remains at 7% of our total annual budget. Lastly, Kaolee reported that the annual audit performed by Grove and Mueller is underway.

**MOTION:** To approve financials made by Steve McCoid,

**SECOND:** Jeremy Gordon.

**APPROVED:** Unanimously approved.

**VII. Adjournment**

**The Board of Directors meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.**

Respectfully Submitted:

*Jade Wilson*

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Jade Wilson, Executive Assistant

*Kevin Karvandi*

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Kevin Karvandi, Board Secretary

***Executive Director's Report***  
**to the Board of Directors**  
**MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY**  
**COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY**  
February 2023

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Internally, things are going well. On the early learning side, we are pushing toward normalization of services. As pandemic restrictions abate, we are approaching 2019 service delivery expectations. The housing side is buzzing, of course, with the [Governor's Emergency Order](#), and general statewide chaos in delivery systems, funding, and philosophies. Energy policy conversations are picking up too, and we are especially hopeful for the survival of the statewide water program. The legislature is in session, and for anti-poverty and non-profit work generally there is a great deal of hope in the air. We also have a few verdicts, finally, on long-term funding systems, which will also bring new funding opportunities. We have some new clarity on property issues. And the future of the Agency the next five years is coming into focus. Much remains unknown, as the COVID pandemic fundamentally broke the social services network, systems, funding, and delivery models. It's my hope that what follows will get Oregon to a better, healthier, and more prosperous place, where there are fewer homeless and fewer children and families trapped into generational poverty, by forces beyond their control, and often by systems of racism and injustice.

It's fitting that, in the midst of all this change, February is [Black History Month](#), a time not only of remembrance, but a call to build a better, safer, and more equitable world. Much remains undone even today, and so much justice is still delayed and denied. Even in our lifetimes, African Americans have been legally deprived of access to land and homeownership by redlining practices that continued legally until 1968, and endured for decades more in practice. Black families to this day are still systematically denied access to wealth generating capital and mortgages, and are often pushed into neighborhoods demarcated by disinvestment and gentrification.

[Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.](#), whose life and work inspired so much of Community Action's early history, often talked of the "[Beloved Community](#)," a place where everyone is loved, valued, and cared for; where there is no hunger, no hate, and critically no poverty. Our challenge today remains the same as it was more than 50 years ago, to continue to fight for a world where no one is denied opportunity, hope, and freedom.

This call to action remains one of the most pressing issues of our time. This week I was reading some of the updates sent out across the state by members of the Oregon Legislature. Senator Lew Frederick of District 22 (NE Portland) sent out a message that really resonated with me. Senator Frederick was born in Washington State but grew up in Louisiana and Georgia, where his father taught at Howard University. He has been very good to our Agency, and sent a staff member to our



Gala back in October. Senator Frederick has served in the Oregon Legislature since 2009, and this week he wrote a message to his constituents on the meaning of Black History Month.

“It is true that we cannot undo or reconcile these historic inequities for those past (Black leaders) who lived their lives under such bigotry — but we each have opportunity, and a responsibility, to remember this traumatic legacy, identify where it continues today, and boldly champion something better for our current and future generations. While we have not reached the road to justice’s ultimate destination of universal fairness and equity, we continue making strides, together. I hope that we each find this Black History Month uplifting, enlightening, and reaffirming in this mission as individuals and a joint community.”

I thought that message was especially powerful, and consistent with the work that we do in the community every day. Poverty is an injustice, and an assault on the dignity of free people, and the right of everyone to a safe and productive life. We’re not just here to run programs. We can’t be. That’s a means to an end, not the end, in the same way a hammer is the means to building a house. We’re also here to build a more just world.

**Agency Budget through November:** We are a bit underspent, but we have staffing increases in the second quarter that will not be fully actualized until the third quarter. Home Youth is my primary area of concern, as it remains heavily underspent. We have a great number of acquisition and renovation projects that will start coming quickly in February and March. In particular, we expect \$7.5 million of the \$11,825,000 ARCHES project budget to come through in February/March. We are generally in a good place. The audit is going well. The final revenue pieces are complete, and GMS should move quickly now toward a final report. We will have an update for the Board on Thursday.

**February Board Meeting Preview:** The meeting will be given over to presentations and trainings. Our *Fuerza Campesina* program will be at the Board meeting to talk about their work in the farmworker community. We will also introduce our new DEI Coordinator, [Namene James Rodgers](#), and our new Community Engagement Officer, [Ramon Hernandez](#). I will make a brief report, and then conduct an annual (*and audit and CSBG required*) Board training. We will also reaffirm our code of ethics, conflict of interest statements and Board commitment paperwork. We have one brief policy from Head Start to approve. And it’s also time to renew the Resolution of Authority declaration.

**New Staff:** [Ramon Hernandez](#), our new [Community Engagement Officer](#), started work in January. Ramon comes to us from Central Washington, speaks six languages and worked as a community engagement specialist in King County and also in Morocco. He’s been meeting with people in the community, providing public testimony at the Legislature, meeting with our staff, and learning about the Agency and our programs. Last week, [Namene James Rodgers](#) joined our staff as the agency’s first [Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Coordinator](#). Namene is from Dominica in the Caribbean. She has a degree from Florida International University, and has previously worked in the hospitality industry in South Florida. We are *very* excited about the experiences and perspectives both Ramon and Namene bring to our Agency, and look forward to the contributions they will make externally and internally.

**Federal Omnibus Budget Bill:** I neglected in January to mention that there were two important pieces for our Agency in the federal Omnibus Budget, which President Biden signed on December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

First, our [Santiam Lodge](#) project, which was written to assist wildfire survivors, was funded in the final budget bill. That's a 2025 project, but we will likely use it to acquire yet more transitional shelter here in Salem. The award was \$1 million. Secondly, Chief Program Officer [Ashley Hamilton](#) worked very closely with federal staff to have a prior award, for our veterans shelter work, changed from *acquisition only* to *acquisition or renovation*, making that fund much more flexible than it might have been. That award is for \$1.2 million. It is difficult to know what the long-term future of the [Congressionally Directed Spending](#) projects will be, now that the House of Representatives has changed hands. Local development projects, however, are popular with both parties and likely to continue during the current 118<sup>th</sup> U.S. Congress. The current competition posted this week, and we plan to ask for additional sums to finish our [Wallace Early Learning Center Project](#) (Head Start) and possibly funds for an additional project.

**Federal Congressionally Directed Spending Update:** We currently have three grants direct from Congress. These are in various stages of implementation. The [ARCHES Inn](#) grant (B-22-CP-OR-0751) in the amount of \$1 million has been fully executed by HUD. The City of Salem is completing a noise assessment environmental review, and once that is done we can proceed with "choice limiting activities," e.g. hiring a contractor, drawing funds, scheduling the renovations. We are close.

**ARCHES Lodge (1875 Fisher Road):** At our Special Board meeting on February 8<sup>th</sup>, the Board approved the following actions:

- Acceptance of the [Project Turnkey](#) Grant from [Oregon Community Foundation](#) for \$3.5 million
- Acceptance of \$2 million for 1875 Fisher Road acquisition from [Oregon Department of Human Services](#)
- Acceptance of \$2 million for 1875 Fisher Road acquisition from [OHCS](#)
- Acceptance of \$2.2 million in [Shelter Care Plus](#) funds from [Oregon Department of Human Services](#)
- Purchase Authority for 1875 Fisher Road (conditional on full funding)

I spent much of last week securing the funds for the motel purchase at 1875 Fisher Road. It was one of the most difficult and complicated set of conversations I've had in my nearly five years on this job. On Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, both [Oregon Community Foundation \(OCF\)](#) (\$3.5 million) and [Oregon Housing and Community Services \(OHCS\)](#) (\$2 million) moved those funds into escrow. OCF was easy, because they are not a government funding source. OHCS was a bit more difficult, because it required an out-of-cycle wire payment that went through a series of authorizations over Thursday and Friday of last week. That left only the \$2 million from the [Oregon Department of Human Services \(OHDS\)](#). The final contractual pieces and the funding wire were delayed by conversations between OHDS, OCF, Oregon DOJ, the Governor's Office, and us. After a bit of back-and-forth, the contract was completed, signed, and executed on Friday. The wire went out before noon and was received at AmeriTitle early Friday afternoon. We now have all \$7.5 million in escrow.

At the last minute, the Governor's Office *required* OHDS to remove any reference to the refugee mission from the contract with us, but to go ahead and help us acquire the shelter as an "all purpose, all-weather emergency shelter." The Governor wants the legislature, and not a state department or an executive function, to authorize any expanded refugee mission in Oregon, and she wants to focus

our efforts on the homeless issue more directly. In short, while we may participate in some way on the refugee mission, we are not contractually obligated to do anything beyond [Shelter Care Plus](#) and emergency homeless sheltering. The property thus is much more flexible than it might have been under the older plan.

At this point, we are working with the seller to agree on a closing date. I would prefer next Friday. The seller prefers March 15<sup>th</sup>, because that will give him more time to identify a new property for a 1031 IRS exchange (essentially if you sell an investment property you have 45 days to identify a new property to invest the proceeds in, without having the sale funds become subject to capital gains taxes). His expectations here are not unreasonable, after he waited on us for eight months. Our desire to close sooner is also not unreasonable, given the massive amount of public funds involved in the transaction. I should have a date settled by the Board Meeting on Thursday.

**719 Jackson Street East:** We have the property that we plan to use for our Polk County Youth Expansion Shelter under contract. And this week we acquired the funding from the \$3 million grant application to [Oregon Health Authority](#), under their supportive housing fund. The funds will go partially to purchase the home, and the remainder funds will go to build four affordable apartment units. We will use those units as exits for the youth in shelter, where appropriate. Ashley Hamilton, Alisa Tobin, some youth, and many others met the public in Monmouth at the Central High Library this week, for a presentation on what we plan for Jackson Street.

**Future Service Projects:** [Home First Development](#), a Portland-based affordable housing provider, has a contract to acquire most of the bare land around our main offices at 2475 Center Street. They plan to apply for the [LIFT](#) and [LIHTC](#) grants at the State of Oregon, to support their affordable housing construction. The plan is to build 240 units of deeply affordable housing (about \$650 in rent for a two-bedroom) in two phases. In order to apply for the grant, Home First needs partnerships with local non-profits to help provide services for folks that live in the units. This does not require us to do anything beyond what we normally do, other than to just make sure that the people in the units know about our services. We would receive free office space there, so we would possibly move our family services offices (housing) at the [Seymour Center](#) to the new location.

In return, the state requires that the affordable housing projects also support the non-profits that are working with them. That support for us would be an annual \$25,000 donation for 20 years, and priority preference for up to 25 of our Head Start families in the units. The other non-profit partner in the effort is [Seed of Faith Ministries](#), a close housing partner of the Agency just up the road on Medical Center Drive. In return for their participation, they would also receive priority preference of 25 units for the clients that they serve, as well as a donation from the developer to help them secure some additional land around their parking lot. It's a good project, if awarded, because it helps us help our clients, draws us closer with another vital culturally specific partner, and helps the community address the enormous affordability crisis in Salem, which has suffered from disinvestment on affordable housing for more than two decades.

Also, the City of Salem's [Navigation Center](#) (which we have designed and will operate) will open at the end of March. We'll have our March Board Meeting there, so we can show you the property. And [DevNW](#) this week is breaking ground on their [Evergreen](#) property, which is 17 permanent supportive housing units for veterans. We are the service partner there, as part of our veteran programming. These are very exciting times for our community. Five years ago there was so little, and now we are starting to make some real progress.

**Head Start:** Region X has asked us to work with their [DTL](#) media team to film learning environments, and interview program leaders and education staff. These video sessions will then be used in national training materials for Head Start and Early Head Start. It's an honor to be invited, and a reflection not only on the quality of our program but of the respect the Region X office has for our program leadership and staff. We are really proud of our Chief Program Officer, [Eva Pignotti](#), and her team.

**Energy: Water Bill Payment Assistance (HB 3125):** Working in concert with the [Special District Association of Oregon](#), the [League of Oregon Cities](#), and [Clean Water Services](#), we have been pushing for the enactment of this bill in the House Committee on Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Water. The bill would preserve the water bill payment assistance program (a critical anti-poverty need) which was originally established with federal funding. Ramon Hernandez, our Community Engagement Officer, testified very well to this critical need last week. Both Oregon Housing and Community Services and the [Oregon Law Center](#) wrote me to thank us for his testimony.

**Youth Homelessness (HB 2454 and HB 2456):** The House Committee on Housing held a public hearing on these companion pieces of legislation, in early February, focusing on further financial supports for Runaway and Homeless Youth programs here in Oregon. The bills would allow greater funding for Oregon youth programs, run through the [Oregon Department of Human Services](#) and [Oregon Housing and Community Services](#). The bill attracted a great deal of high profile public support, including former House members [Alissa Keny-Guyer](#) and [Cheri Helt](#), and former Republican leader and candidate for Governor, [Christine Drazan](#). The legislative effort is being led by the [Oregon Alliance](#) (the lobby and trade association for the youth programs in Oregon; where we are a member) and [Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon](#) (a long-time champion of youth programs). They highlighted the 18,358 homeless/housing unstable youth in Oregon (these folks fall under category three of the federal homeless standards; most are inside but may not have reliable night-to-night shelter). We testified in support of HB 2454 and HB 2456. Both bills have been folded into the larger House Bill 2001-01, which in its attached fiscal will fund up to \$12 million in new services for homeless youth.

**2023-2025 Early Learning Budget:** The [Department of Early Learning and Care](#) (DELIC, the former Early Learning Division in the Oregon Department of Education) has proposed a \$233.8 million budget from the state general fund, and an additional \$193.5 million from the [Student Success Act](#). Both budgets would be dedicated to the [Oregon Pre-Kindergarten Program \(OPK\)](#). There is an additional policy option package of \$66.8 million (called POP 101, or Policy Option Package 101), for program stabilization in Oregon. That would set aside \$36.4 million in additional funding for OPK to address program inflation costs. It's critical to know that DELIC is one of the very few Oregon departments that understands the gravity of the inflationary costs on program management. Once again, however,

there is no funding for facilities, which has been a critical failure of ODE-DELC for a decade. The non-facility posture is trapping programs into higher and higher rents, no equity options for agencies, competition for scarce resources, and forcing progressively poor lease decisions.<sup>1</sup>

**Strategic Plan:** The Executive-Finance Committee gave us some final feedback from the conversation at the January Board Meeting. We're incorporating that direction and will have a plan document to present and ratify at the March meeting.<sup>2</sup>

**House Bill 2100 Task Force on Homelessness and Racial Disparities:** Finally, on February 15<sup>th</sup>, the House Bill 2100 Task Force met to consider its final recommendations to the state legislature concerning a new funding system. I had worked for months to protect Agency resources and find a better, more just funding system in Oregon. What emerged was a compromise that protected CAPO resources, hopefully for the next generation, and opened up many new funding streams for us potentially. The final report created four buckets (Tribes, Culturally Responsive, Community Actions, and Continuums of Care) for state homeless funds, and connected our CAA budget to \$50 million in CSL for anti-poverty work connected to housing and homelessness. Essentially this is a "in name only" replacement for the current EHA and SHAP system. The final vote was 11-0, and I moved passage of the entire package. The recommendations will find their way into a Senate Housing bill this term. It's not guaranteed to pass, but even if it does we are in a better place than we were, as our resources on the state side would now be protected by state law, where they were not before.

It's not perfect, for two reasons. First, Community Action has enjoyed a special place in anti-poverty work in Oregon for 30 years. After this change, it will be just one of many anti-poverty networks. While that may not mean any financial loss, it does mean a loss of stature, prestige, and influence. Conversely, it will force us to do our work even better, in an effort to retain our role. Secondly, this conversation cannot be separated from the current fight highlighted by the Governor's Emergency Order, which creates yet another delivery system in the Continuums of Care. Those systems may function more independently, or conversely may come to rely on us even more, as local government for the first time would be required to do field work on the homeless issue, and have a more direct role in emergency sheltering, day centers, outreach, basic needs provision and more. The future continues to be uncertain, but this is no longer an extinction level event for Community Action.

Jimmy Jones  
19 February 2023  
Keizer, Oregon

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<sup>1</sup> OHCS is proposing \$20 million in funding for co-located childhood facilities in affordable housing developments. The [Oregon Head Start Association](#), which has a very effective lobby, will continue to look for new property development funds.

<sup>2</sup> Wipfli's national reputation remains quite good, but their performance in this strategic planning activity has not been great.

# ***Regional Poverty and Legislative Report***

## **MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY**

February 2023

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**Governor's Executive Order 23-02:** The policy details of the Governor's [Executive Order](#) back in January have been slow to develop, but picked up the pace last week.<sup>1</sup> There is a great deal of behind the scenes jockeying. The most pressing issue, statewide, is the frustration over the exclusion of 26 of the 36 Oregon Counties, which have roughly 25 percent of the state's total homeless population. House Bill 2001-01, which is the policy mechanism for the Governor's Emergency Homeless Plan, will extend the emergency declaration to the full state, and likely provide an additional \$37 million to house 1,000 homeless folks in rural Oregon (that is, in the 26 counties excluded from the Emergency Order).<sup>2</sup> Marion and Polk are among those counties included in the Emergency Order, but only because we split from the [Rural Oregon Continuum of Care](#) (which serves the 26 other counties) back in 2019, and only because we have had good PIT counts for the past few years. The term of the Emergency Order (which may or may not be extended) is for only 12 months. Of course that's just on paper. In reality the regions will have 9 months or less to spend the funds. Everyone is banking on an extension of the Emergency Order, which is likely, but planning for "hopes" always makes me nervous.

Our local homeless leadership, inclusive of the [Mid-Willamette Valley Homeless Alliance](#) (and other partners and county/city representatives), met with OHCS last week to discuss the parameters of the Governor's plan. The funds for Marion-Polk were ranged between \$13.4 and \$14.1 million (inclusive of a 15 percent admin rate which is about \$2M of the total). The plan requires 1,113 to 1,162 households to be prevented from homelessness. It also calls for the creation of 79-82 new shelter beds, and a plan to house 150-157 literally homeless clients.<sup>3</sup> The Governor's framework for the plan

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<sup>1</sup> The Order declared a homeless emergency in Oregon, and provided \$130 million in direct local funding to house an additional 1,200 homeless citizens and fund 600 more shelter beds. It was accompanied by two other housing related Executive Orders. Executive Order [23-04](#) establishes a statewide goal of building 36,000 homes per year and creating a Housing Production Advisory Council. Executive Orders [23-02](#) and [23-03](#) focus on unsheltered homelessness and outlines concrete goals.

<sup>2</sup> The funding mechanism will be House Bill 2001 (mostly a policy bill) and House Bill 5019 (a fiscal bill sitting in Ways and Means). \$130 million (in what turned out to be new 2023-2025 funds, despite the noise that it would be redirected 2021-2023 funds) will be sent to 10 of Oregon's 36 counties. Of that, \$33.5 million will be sent to Community Action Agencies and the Oregon Law Center to run eviction prevention programs. \$5 million will be dedicated to tribes; \$5 million for culturally specific agencies; \$2 million for general sanitation, and \$1.8M to OHCS/OEM. In the 10 counties, there will be \$23.8M to create 600 new shelter beds and \$54.4M to house 1,200 households. All of this work must be new work, not supplanted work. Marion-Polk's share of the sheltering and housing fund will be between 17.3% and 18% of the statewide allocation.

<sup>3</sup> The prevention funds will be a separate allocation within the \$130 million statewide, and will be run through Community Action Agencies. The housing pieces will be extraordinarily complex. Creating a cohort of people who can be successful with these housing expectations will not be easy, and will likely exclude the most vulnerable street population

has been more rigid, and OHCS has hoped to make it more flexible through programming choices.<sup>4</sup> As a result, the OHCS presentation was thin on details, somewhat conflicting on some points, and I believe not fully in alignment with the directives from the Governor's Office. The Governor's original plan was that \$130 million not support critical housing elements like case management, navigation services, and not be used on sheltered clients. The goal was to spend all of it on rent. The design was much less rigid in the OHCS presentation. Until we see the contracts, I cannot really be confident which vision will win out, and what will be allowed and what will be prohibited.

The process will be, however, that a MAC Group (Multi Agency Coordination Group, which is a structure more familiar to people who have worked with emergency management) will submit "the plan." There are some questions as to who has legal authority over the MAC Group once it is created. Some believe it to be independent of any local government structure, others (including me) believe that it should be subordinate to the Continuum of Care. There is also regional tension over who should be making these decisions, what the priorities will be, and what agencies will receive the funds directly. The locals will have one vision, but the Governor has also asked OHCS for their recommendations over who the funded parties would be by regions, which is likely going to differ from the MAC recommendations. This is going to be messy, certainly.

Beyond that outlay, the state is about to release another \$20 million in ORE-DAP, the eviction prevention fund. That money will be run through [Community Action Agencies](#), and our local share of it will be a little less than \$2 million. Programmatically we would sub-contract about 25 percent of that to Polk County's FCO, and run the rest of it here ourselves in Salem.

**Drama Surrounding SB 799, HB 2001, and HB 5019:** Much remains tied to the special omnibus budget bill that will be released shortly. That bill is a compromise between Republicans and Democrats on key elements of the Governor's housing package. The Governor's plan is to use, primarily, about \$765 million from the [Rainy Day Fund](#), which requires a super-majority (and thus Republican support.)<sup>5</sup> The policy and budget bills (HB 2001-01, and the companion HB 5019, which

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because the parameters of the program (12 months of rental support, and hopefully 12 months of case management) will not be enough to stabilize the population. Self-sufficiency would likely require years, if not permanent subsidies. We will need to work with a more moderate needs homeless population to have any chance of success.

<sup>4</sup> These are the kinds of decisions the Governor really dislikes, because the state agencies essentially become legislatures and executives to themselves.

<sup>5</sup> Technically, the money isn't in the rainy day fund yet. It's scheduled to be moved to the rainy day fund. The Governor's proposal is just to skip a normally scheduled payment into the state's reserve funds in order to pay for \$765 million in priorities. It's a low risk maneuver that doesn't tap into current reserves (sorta) and doesn't increase taxes through strategies to raise additional revenues. Spending your planned savings sometimes has downstream consequences, but much depends on the gravity of the crisis that causes you to spend your savings. Oregon has two reserve funds, the "Rainy Day Fund" and the Education Stability Fund. They were designed as insurance against a very unstable revenue stream which depends on income taxes (but is also undermined by the existence of the "Kicker Law"). The "Kicker Law" is unique to Oregon and requires the return of income tax surpluses to taxpayers in biennia where actual collections exceed forecasted revenues by 2 percent or more (making the revenue forecast incredibly political). As of the last biennium, about \$5.1 billion in personal income tax and about \$500 million in corporate income tax has been returned to taxpayers. The return the money to the people philosophy appears very democratic and fair on its surface, but it undermines adequate social safety nets in Oregon, compared to what we see in Washington State. Spending from

remains un-amended and loitering at Ways and Means), are legislative funding mechanisms that double down on the Governor's Emergency Order, and provide few new resources for the regions outside the Emergency Order districts (26 counties again are excluded). House Bill 2001-01 is also generally silent on supports to fund **ongoing** work within rural Oregon. The EO and the budget plans have caused enormous concern statewide. The lobbies of the [League of Oregon Cities](#), [Association of Oregon Counties](#), and the [Community Action Partnership of Oregon](#) met last week to craft a joint letter to legislative leadership that would essentially argue five points:

- 1.) **Fund the Whole State:** The EO excludes 26 counties and 157 cities with a total of 25 percent of the state's homeless population and it feels unjust. The 26 counties were challenged technically in demonstrating that their need falls within the parameters of the EO criteria. The budget does not have additional resources to even continue pandemic-era emergency sheltering programs and that, in particular, feels urgent.
- 2.) **Supporting Community Action Agencies:** With \$60-70 million in EHA and SHAP to help continue to provide current services.
- 3.) Continue funding (and perhaps expand) the **HB 4123 Pilot Collaboratives:** These are unique and highly successful local planning and organization efforts to fight homelessness in rural communities. Currently there is no additional funding slated for these projects in 2023-2025, nor any plan to expand them to additional counties. Six of the eight pilots are situated within the [Rural Oregon Continuum of Care](#) (these 26 counties) and the form, function, and approach of the pilots could be easily duplicated across the entire footprint of rural Oregon, with adequate funding.
- 4.) **Fund gaps in the pipeline projects:** Inflation, supply chain issues, labor shortages and many other unseen, uncontrolled economic forces have forced considerable cost increases for development projects. Rural shelters, rural [navigation centers](#), and rural [Project Turnkey](#) motels all will require state funding to close growing operational gaps and keep these shelter beds open in 2023-2025.
- 5.) **Direct funding of rural cities.**

The rural angst at the entitlement counties, the major metros, and the EO system has given us an opportunity to align with the League of Oregon Cities and the Association of Oregon Counties in common cause. A decade ago, our network was more closely aligned with those entities. The metro assault on Community Action since 2020 broadly eroded support in those two bodies for our network. We had warned them that it was just a matter of time before the same metro interests showed up demanding their funding as well. And sure enough it materializes in the drama centered on the Emergency Order. As we predicted last year, the delivery system in Oregon continues to fracture. It's likely that further schisms and fissures emerge, as some new systems fail and need to be replaced

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the fund requires a 3/5<sup>th</sup>'s majority of both chambers of the legislature and it is not subject to any emergency order by the Governor. The Governor's Recommended Budget can be found [here](#).



by others, and some older systems are reluctantly embraced once again. We have one foot firmly in both futures, so I am generally confident about our funding and service delivery position.<sup>6</sup>

**What about the Eviction Crisis?** Most (but not all) of the policy dreams in SB 799 found their way into HB 2001-01. It:

- Provides essential and reasonable negotiated improvements to Oregon's eviction statutes to promote stability and payment rather than displacement and eviction.
- Expands investments in youth homelessness prevention, prioritizing services for school-aged children who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, and their families.
- Gives authority to allow the Governor's recent Executive Orders relating to homelessness to apply to the whole state, removing the current barrier to this application.

Sections 14-26 of HB 2001-01, these Sections of the bill:

- Expand the time after a notice of nonpayment before being taken to court from 72 hours to 10 days.
- Amend first appearance and trial timelines to allow endangered tenants more time to find help.
- Provide that an eviction case will be dismissed if payment is made before final judgment.
- Streamline the eviction sealing process, removing a procedural barrier to future housing stability.

These protections are critical for Black Oregonians in particular, as landlords filed evictions against Black women renters at double the rate of or higher than their white renters in Oregon and in 16 other states, according to the ACLU's Women's Rights Project and Data Analytics team. While there are no national or local statistics of how many evicted people experience homelessness, surveys in several communities say that between 12-37% of people who have been evicted became homeless at some point, or say eviction was a cause of homelessness. From my personal work with hundreds of high-needs chronically homeless Oregonians, periods of youth homelessness and evictions are endemic to the homeless condition. Communities already facing historical and systemic barriers to jobs, housing, health care, opportunity and wealth are paying an unfair price for Oregon's rushed eviction laws.

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<sup>6</sup> We will support the 2001-01 bill, broadly. But we will also watch the addition of youth services to EHA; which we want to make sure is additive and not derivative of current CSL. Most of the tenant protections that were in SB 799 were moved into HB 2001-01; with the exception of the 60-day safe harbor protections. We were able to salvage the [right of redemption](#) (which means landlords have to accept payment up until the eviction to cure). All other provisions of SB 799 were retained in the agreement, with a few minor amendments (mostly technical, except for the extensions of the First appearance (21 day) and Trial (20-30 day) timelines in the court proceeding, which are slightly reduced in the final draft to 15 for First Appearance and 15-30 for Trial.

This bill **does fall short** of “all we can do” to prevent evictions in Oregon, and it needs to do more to prioritize sustaining current work and well-functioning systems. The additional resources that will follow in the fiscal and, especially, “[the right of redemption](#)” here in HB 2001-01, will help stem a gathering eviction tide. Setting “Safe Harbor” aside, however, creates an unnecessary and additional window of vulnerability for low-income Oregonians, who might have had more time to gather rental assistance, had that provision survived this compromise process. The rent control objectives in SB 799 are also likely dead.

**Marion County Housing and Salem Housing Authority:** The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in January announced over \$109 million to 682 [Public Housing Agencies](#) (PHAs) for the 2022 Renewal [Family Self Sufficiency](#) (FSS) program and an additional \$6 million to 32 PHAs and 38 [Project Based Rental Assistance](#) (PBRA) owners for the 2022 New FSS program for a total of nearly \$116 million. These funds will be used to assist families increase their assets and improve their financial stability.

Below is a list of Oregon PHAs receiving FSS renewal awards:

Marion County Housing Authority	\$84,350
Mid-Columbia Housing Authority	\$67,003
Home Forward	\$797,904
Housing Authority of Washington County	\$160,000
Northeast Oregon Housing Authority	\$166,997
Housing Authority and Urban Renewal Agency of Polk County	\$84,350
Homes for Good Housing Agency	\$228,117
Linn-Benton Housing Authority	\$221,259
Housing Authority of Clackamas County	\$176,209
Housing Authority of Yamhill County	\$352,419
Housing Authority of Jackson County	\$175,529
Central Oregon Regional Housing Authority	\$172,141
Housing Authority of the City of Salem	\$371,140

The FSS program is a voluntary program offered to families in HUD-assisted housing who are provided coaching, service referrals, and the ability to establish a family escrow savings account. FSS Program Coordinators provide the coaching and develop local strategies to connect participating families to public and private resources to increase their earned income and financial empowerment, reduce or eliminate the need for welfare assistance, and make progress toward economic independence and self-sufficiency. The FSS program is one of the best anti-poverty programs in the country.

Greatly expanded upon in 2022, the FSS program is the nation’s largest asset-building program for low-income families, funding over 1,300 coordinators who serve over 60,000 residents in public, voucher, and multifamily housing. FSS was appropriated \$125 million in the FY23 budget.

**FOR RELEASE**

Monday, January 30, 2023

**HUD NORTHWEST REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR JOINS SALEM COUNT  
OF AREA HOMELESS**

*Required count of those experiencing homelessness each January coincides with announcement of Biden-Harris administration plans on tenant protections, advancing fair housing regulations, reducing homelessness 25% by 2025*

PORTLAND – Last week, HUD’s Northwest Regional Administrator Margaret Salazar joined Salem Mayor Chris Hoy and the Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency to conduct their annual [Point-in-Time \(PIT\)](#) count in Salem, OR. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires all [Continuum of Care \(CoC\)](#) organizations across the country to count the number of people experiencing homelessness in the geographic area that they serve. The count is one set of data used to assist the federal, as well as local and state government partners, estimate the size of the homeless population in our country in order to better allocate resources that can help. Last year’s PIT count for the state of Oregon showed that there were 14,655 people experiencing homelessness – an increase of 22.5% since 2020.

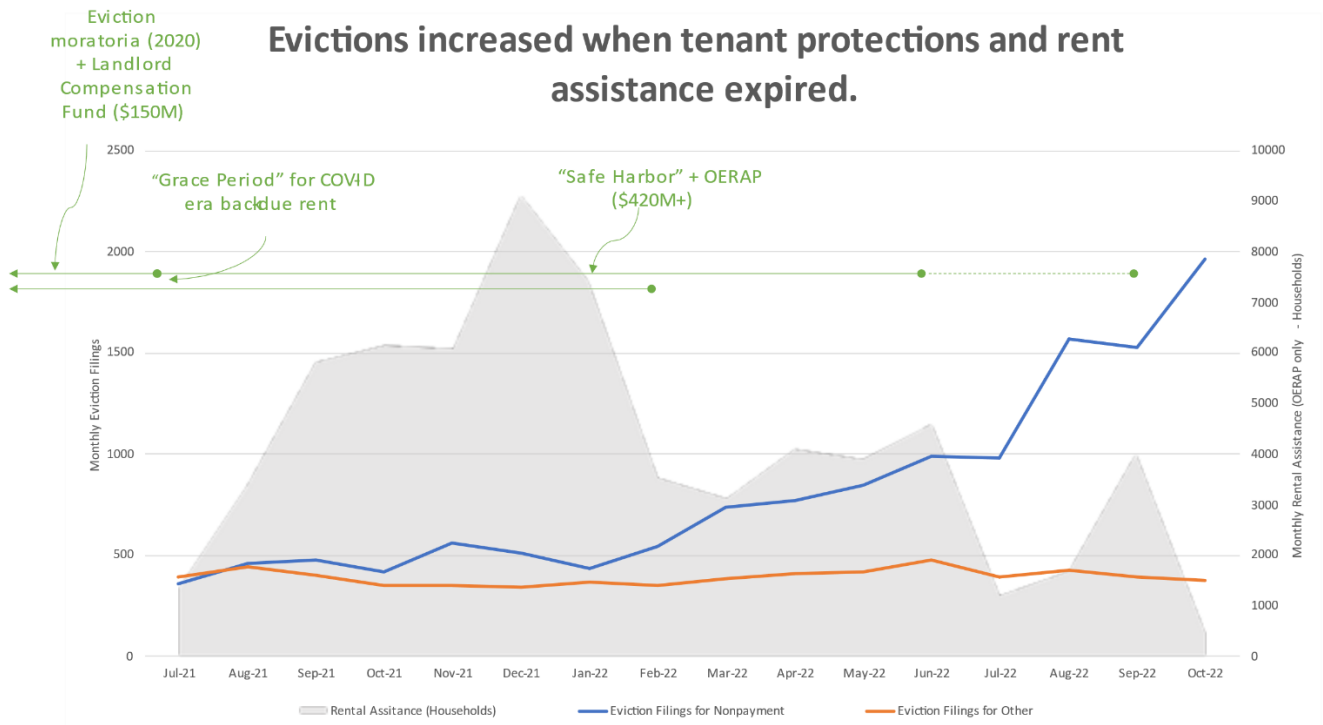
“In my home state of Oregon and across the Northwest I am committed to doing everything within my power to end homelessness,” said **HUD Northwest Regional Administrator Margaret Salazar**. “By volunteering for the Point in Time count, I am helping bring federal resources to combat the crisis that we are facing, and get every single person into a safe place to call home.”

“It’s vital that we continue to gather information about the root causes of homelessness,” said **Salem Mayor Chris Hoy**. “There’s no better way to do that than to have face-to-face interviews with those individuals. This census also gives us the opportunity to provide services and to put a human face on this terrible endemic. It’s impossible to volunteer for this and not walk away affected.”

“Unsheltered homelessness is a gathering crisis across Oregon,” said **Jimmy Jones, Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency Executive Director**. “While there has been little growth in the national homeless population the past few years, Oregon has seen an 22.5 percent increase in our homeless population since 2020. Nearly 62 percent of our homeless are unsheltered. This explosive growth has hit our rural communities particularly hard. As a state and a community we are committed to ending the tragedy of homelessness as quickly and permanently as possible. All of us are laboring with common purpose toward a day when everyone in Oregon has a safe, stable, and affordable place to call home.”

**Eviction Data:** The shaded area below represents rental assistance statewide (total households). The blue line reflects total filings for non-payment. Prior to the pandemic, standard filings were about

1,500 per month. There were 2,244 filings in January. Rental increases, posted out in letters in early January, will go into effect in April-May. Statewide the max increase is 14.6 percent.



Looking closely at the January filings (2,244) compared to November (2,083) and December (2,036), there’s evidence here that the natural market equilibrium—already at its five-year ceiling—may deteriorate badly in 2023. Nonpayment filings in January were 88 percent of the total filings, up slightly from 86 percent in previous months. It could breach 90 percent by summer. Since the expiration of all protections in October, there have been an average of 2,178 eviction filings per month, which is a 45 percent increase over pre-pandemic levels. June and July could present a rough eviction landscape, especially if there is any job contraction anywhere in the system.

Why is the eviction issue critical to our anti-poverty efforts generally, and homeless fight in particular? Every time someone loses a home, much more is lost than just housing. Frequently children have to change schools. They lose close access to their friends, and frequently important relationship connections with grandparents, cousins, aunts and uncles. Given the high costs of rent and the barriers to rehousing, families sometimes come apart, forcing families to farm their children out to relatives. And there is a direct, causative correlation between eviction, housing cost, and street homelessness over time. Too many of us have fallen for the false narrative that it is largely drugs, addiction, and crime that drive people into homelessness. It’s not. The origin of the homeless condition is entirely economic, and the evictions are a harbinger of much worse things to come.

Jimmy Jones  
 19 February 2023  
 Keizer, Oregon

**Chief Financial Officer Report  
To The Community Action Agency Board  
Kaolee Hoyle, Chief Financial Officer  
February 2023**

Annual Financial Statement Audit

The annual financial statement audit is currently in process. The major programs selected on the Single Audit side are the CCR&R grant, Child and Adult Care Food Program, and the Head Start American Rescue Plan.

Monitoring - OHCS

OHCS (contracted with Moss Adams) is currently doing their FY22 monitoring. No results or conclusions have been made yet.

Payroll Filings

All payroll deposits have been made timely.

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

	July - November 2022		FY23 - Budgeted	Expected Spent %	Actual Earned/Spent %	Difference
Grant and awards	\$ 21,001,216		\$ 66,224,925	42%	32%	-10%
Other program revenue	67,963		280,000	42%	24%	-17%
Contributions	59,068		200,000	42%	30%	-12% {a}
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>21,128,247</b>		<b>66,704,925</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>-10%</b>
<b>Expenses</b>						
Community resource programs	6,944,334		30,983,767	42%	22%	-19% {b}
Reentry services	142,965		400,000	42%	36%	-6%
Child care resource and referral network	649,537		1,541,591	42%	42%	0%
Energy assistance programs	2,612,201		5,686,419	42%	46%	4%
Weatherization services	1,064,770		2,370,357	42%	45%	3%
Nutrition first USDA food program	1,974,728		4,000,000	42%	49%	8%
Head start	5,967,977		14,827,350	42%	40%	-1%
Home youth services	634,893		3,566,038	42%	18%	-24% {c}
Management and general	1,399,689	{d}	3,329,403	42%	42%	0%
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>21,391,093</b>		<b>66,704,925</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>-10%</b>
Revenue Over/(Under) Expenditures	\$ (262,847)	{e}	\$ -			

{a} Donations a little lower than expected. We should see this increase a little more with gala/year-end contributions.

	Budget	Expected	Actual	Difference
CRP Operational	19,158,767	42%	35%	-6%
CRP Projects	11,825,000	42%	1%	-40%
	<u>30,983,767</u>			

A significant of CRP Projects not yet started.

{c} \$1.5million of total budget that will start December 2022.

{d} MG&A percentage 7%

**Chief Operations Officer Report  
To The Community Action Agency Board  
Helana Haytas, COO      February 2023**

**Team Expansion**

The Agency welcomes **Namene James Rodgers, Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Specialist**. This is a new role developed to educate and assist at all levels of the Agency in the movement toward a more diverse and welcoming workplace. Namene worked in the DEI field conducting research and developing policies, publishing, projects and events at Florida International University. She brings a Master's Degree and a strong portfolio of DEI mentors and DEI experience working with students, faculty and staff at FIU.

Also new to the Agency is **Diana Lewis** as the **Safety and Facilities Manager**. Diana oversees non-Head Start Agency buildings and fleet, and all Agency staff and client safety programs. Diana comes to the Agency with a Master's Degree, and she is a U.S. Army Veteran, having served in Iraq. More recently, Diana worked with ODOT in Facilities Management. This is a new role for the organization with two new Maintenance Specialists assisting Diana in the facilities and maintenance work.

**Safety and Health**

The Agency posted all OSHA 300A reports at all sites this month, and is focused on the improvement of safety and facility improvements at HOME Youth Drop-In.

**COVID-19 Infections**

Looking back to October, the Agency averaged 10 reported monthly positive infections and more recently has seen an increase. January positive infections reached 18 and February so far has 15 reported positive infections, with a total employee count of 478. The reported infections are roughly 3% across the organization.

With vaccination widely available, federal and Agency Head Start recently updated its policies to reflect changes in practices due to updated regulations and lower overall community infection rates. Children in classrooms are encouraged to wear masks, however it is no longer mandated under Head Start policies. Head Start staff continue to mask while indoors and serving children.

Other programs, such as Sheltering and Housing staff at ARCHES and HOME Youth, continue masking requirements for staff serving clients.

**Information Technology Services**

The Agency has undertaken a search for a Chief Information Officer (CIO) to lead Technology Services. This new role will assess current operations, develop necessary infrastructure, security and staff to support the Agency, and further develop strategic direction for IT, reflected in the Agency Strategic Plan. Currently the IT Department serves the Agency with three Help Desk Technicians, and a Help Desk Supervisor. There are two vacancies in Systems Administration.

**Hiring Update**

This month, HR Recruiting Specialists partnered with Agency hiring managers to hold a job fair at the new YMCA in downtown Salem. This job fair was targeted at the hiring of 25 staff for the new Navigation Center opening April 1<sup>st</sup> for ARCHES Sheltering. Other programs also participated to highlight their open positions and programmatic operations.

The Agency held a Bilingual Spanish Jobs Fair at the main office featuring positions that require bilingual Spanish skills. This is the first Agency job fair focused on bilingual jobs in the community.



Mid-Willamette Valley  
**COMMUNITY ACTION**

## **February Board Report: Development Department**

Laurel Glenn, Director of Development

### **Fundraising Update**

#### **Donation numbers:**

- January donations: \$6,457
- Average donation size: \$154
- Total # of donors: 42

### **Grants Update**

- The Development Department hired a part-time grant writer, Aleah, to expand our capacity to apply for grants!

#### **Grants applied:**

- VA Grant and Per Diem Program – We wrote an \$850,000 federal grant to provide transitional housing and shelter services for Veterans through Tanner Project.
- SSVF Grant – We consulted on an \$850,000 federal grant also designed to support unhoused Veterans.
- Stayton High School Grant – We wrote a \$2,500 grant to create focus groups surrounding teen substance use at Taylor’s House.



## **Social Media and Marketing Update:**

Our success metrics for social media include:

- Number of new followers
- Page reach (the number of people who saw page content)
- Content engagement (how many likes, reactions and comments)

### **January Facebook Numbers**

- Page Reach: 2,681 (The number of people who saw any content from our Page)
  - 74.5% decrease over December's numbers
  - 25 new Facebook followers
- Post analytics:
  - 201 likes and reactions
  - 16 comments
  - 13 shares
  - 22 link clicks

### **January Instagram Numbers**

- Page Reach: 194
  - 1% decrease over December's numbers
  - 7 new Instagram followers
  - 38 engagements

### **Dustin's Update:**

During the month of January, we drastically scaled back our ad spending, resulting in less reach and engagements. Because we spent a good amount of funds advertising December's "Community Means Everyone" campaign, research shows that scaling back advertisements after a fundraiser-focused period helps give audiences breathing room before launching a new campaign. We instead focused on showcasing the community impact of our programs through client stories and statistics.

Community Resource Program



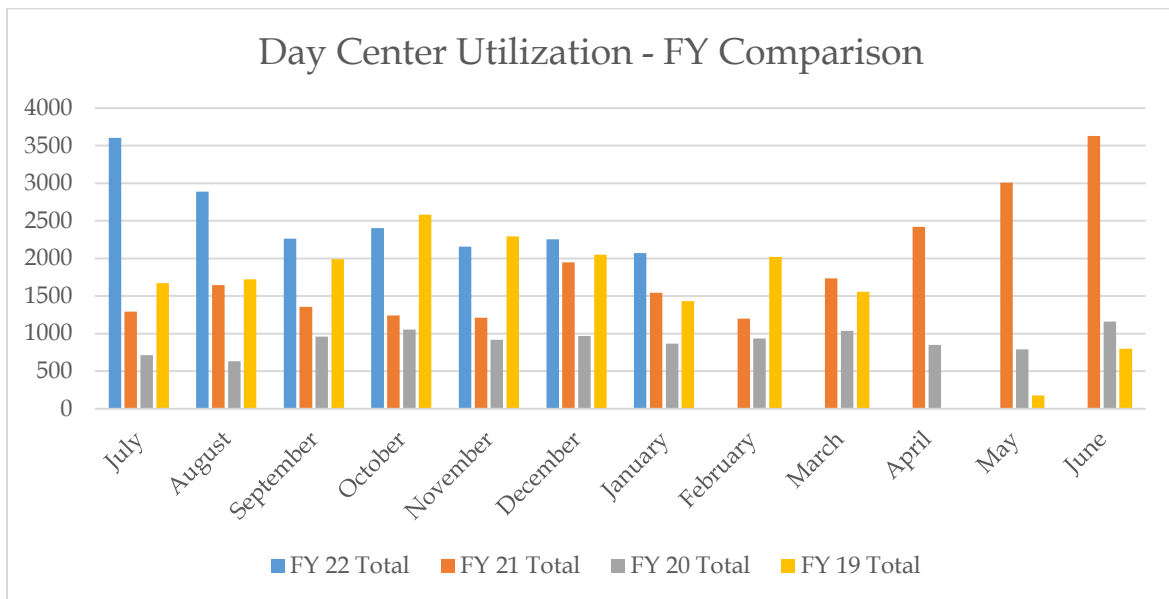
Mid-Willamette Valley  
**COMMUNITY ACTION**  
**The ARCHES Project**

615 Commercial Street NE  
Salem, Oregon 97301

**CRP Board Report - February 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. In the event of inclement weather, the Day Center extends its service hours to align with emergency shelter operations.

Since opening day, the total number of duplicated Day Center visits is 95,145 - with an average daily attendance rate of 98. January 2023 showed a 10% increase in Day Center utilization over January 2022. Also during this same period, the Day Center saw five of its highest utilization days so far this winter season. With the days between January 19 - January 24 totaling 522 visits. This is largely attributed to the below average overnight and daytime lows for the season.

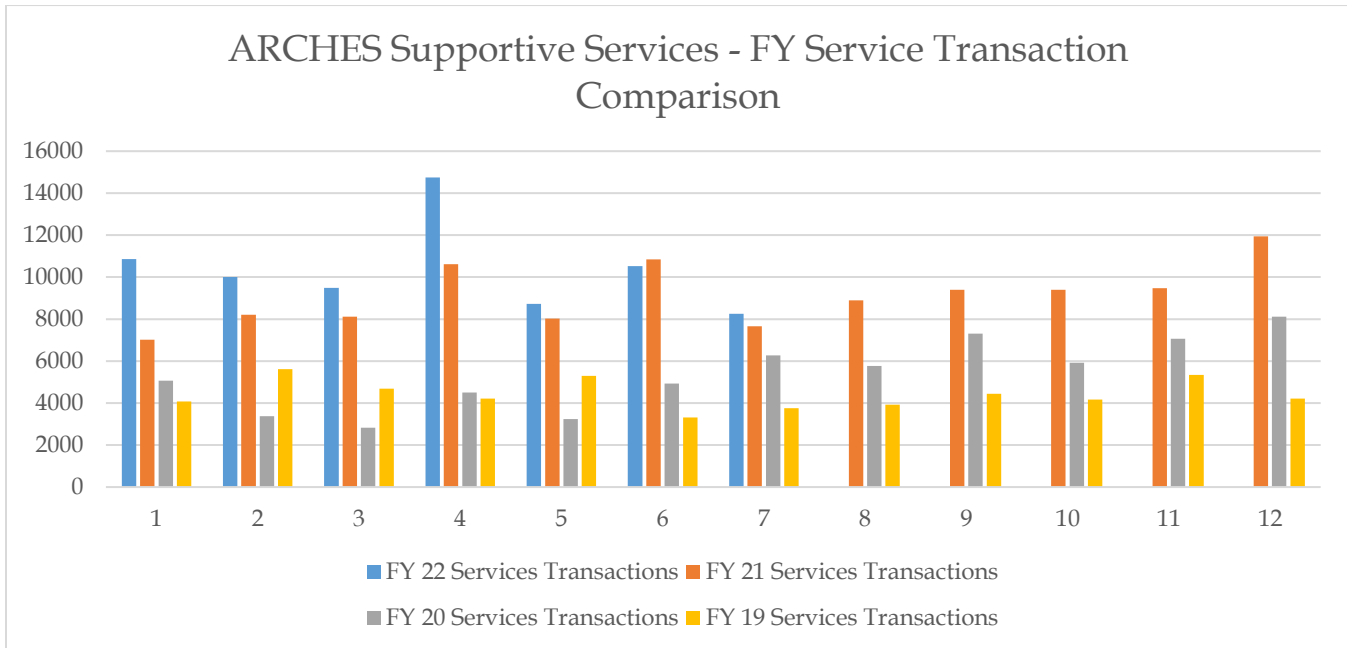


## Community Resource Program

### 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	138	1108	11572	619	342	127	423	207	204
November Total	86	641	7025	179	262	82	207	115	130
December Total	136	705	8504	336	343	79	238	123	63
January Total	163	463	6705	347	231	60	182	68	41
February Total									
March Total									
April total									
May Total									
June Total									
FY 2022 Total	1010	6127	56027	3416	1698	775	1732	943	873
FY 2021 Total	699	13035	81015	4445	1554	2577	2454	1504	2302
FY 2020 Total	496	11871	37078	9066	559	642	2293	863	1534
FY 2019 Total	735	11685	22326	16505	793	371	605	105	305
FY 2018 Total	750	9908	23145	17505	1863	403	N/A	N/A	N/A

Current utilization of Day Center Supportive Services continues to grow, especially in comparison to FY 2021 and FY 2020. During January, ARCHES provided **8,260 supportive service transactions**. The vast majority of Supportive Services tracked during this time period were in the meal category, including **breakfast, lunch, and evening meals; providing 6,705 meals**. There was also a decline in shower utilization, likely attributed to the below seasonally cold weather and an understandable reluctance getting wet.



## Community Resource Program

### **Program Showcase:** *Veteran Service Office (VSO)*

Opening in July 2018, MWVCAA has been home to Marion County’s Veteran Service Office. A program which helps veterans, as well as family members of veterans, access, obtain, and/or maintain Veteran Administration benefits. This team is located at 780 Commercial Street, open Monday – Friday. This 4 FTE team works to increase a household’s financial stability by filing and assisting with claims related to injuries afflicted during active service.

*During Quarter 2 (October – December 2022) 938 office visits were conducted in order to file 140 claims. Resulting in \$480,498 in back claim benefits and \$119,428 in on-going monthly payments to Veterans.*

### **Program Update:** *Emergency Services*

On November 1, 2022 MWVCAA formally entered 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 Oregon Housing and Community Services. ARCHES warming shelters are low barrier. Accepting anyone regardless of disability status, household size, sobriety level, or pets.

As part of the Emergency Services network, MWVCAA subgrants funds to local organizations to operate inclement weather shelters in rural communities. These subgrants were awarded to: Recovery Outreach Community Center (ROCC) in Mill City, Polk County, and Neighbors Serving Neighbors in Woodburn. As a result of these funds, the total seasonal network impact includes:

- 3,018 bed nights provided during 185 activations
- Over 2,473 in operating hours

Organization	Total Activations	Operating Hours	Bed Nights	# of Pets	# of Volunteers	# of Staff
MWVCAA - Salem	24	288	1536	112	50	291
ROCC - Mill City	57	937	278	55	30	122
Polk County Warming Network	46	552	385	14	15	140
NSN -Woodburn	58	696	819	61	32	234
<b>TOTALS</b>	185	2473	3018	242	127	787

### **Program Update:** *Expansion of services at Redwood Crossing*

As a pilot program, ARCHES is offering trainings to Case Managers, Housing Navigators, and direct client services staff related to the Social Determinates of Health. A framework used by the U.S department of Health and Human services (Healthy People 2030) to improve conditions in someone’s environment that affect their health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes. All of which directly impacts someone ability to obtain and maintain housing. Skills learned during these trainings not only enhance current service delivery but also overlap with some of ARCHES’ traditional methodologies. Making it the perfect training opportunity for staff seeking additional professional development.

## Community Resource Program

As a part of this directive ARCHES has enrolled 7 FTE into either Community Health Worker or Peer Support Services training programs. All of which have been offered as zero cost to the agency. These FTE are primarily stationed at Redwood Crossings as this location has a high degree of medically fragile individuals while also offers the chance for regular interventions. To-date, one FTE has completed the training and certification phase with Orgeon Health Authority, while the remaining are working towards graduation.

*“Redwood Crossing Supportive Services is excited to expand our scope of work with the addition of a Community Health Worker, Jada Rojas. While working as a Case Manager, Jada successfully completed 90 hours of training with the Oregon Community Health Workers Association. Jada hit the ground running and took some serious initiative. Using this training as an opportunity to learn and to connect with many vital community partners. As a result, an additional array of resources, referrals and services are now available to all clients. Jada has shown unmatched dedication to the supportive services program at Redwoods. She is a trusted member of our team who plays a vital role in connecting with clients. I'm extremely proud of Jada and excited to support her continued success.”*

- Lucy Briseno, ARCHES Program Manager

### Program Showcase: Evergreen – Veteran Housing

MWVCAA and Dev NW have partnered to create additional Veteran specific housing in Salem, OR. To be located at 905 Cottage St NE, Dev NW will remodel the former Evergreen Church location into 17 units of Veteran affordable housing, 9 of which will be Permanent Supportive Housing. Evergreen will provide the next step to Veterans graduating from Tanner Project. This coordination ensures that Veterans who begin services at Tanner Project can continue uninterrupted at Evergreen; adding an essential step to the permanent housing continuum. MWVCAA has also been contracted to be the onsite service provider.

**The ground breaking event to kick-off remodel is scheduled for Tuesday, February 21, 2023 at 5pm-7pm.**



### Evergreen Groundbreaking

Please join DevNW in celebrating the construction of 17 affordable housing units in Salem. These units will be available to veterans and provide full wraparound support services. Food and drinks will be provided.



Tuesday  
**February 21, 2023**  
**5pm-7pm**

905 Cottage Street NE,  
Salem, OR 97301



Please RSVP to [anna.hindley@devnw.org](mailto:anna.hindley@devnw.org)

Please note that the building is not ADA accessible

### Success Story: ARCHES Housing Opportunity Program (AHOP)

## Community Resource Program

*“J.S came to us at the end of November 2022. He was needing assistance with finding a place to live. At that time he was staying at Union Gospel Mission, and had been homeless since moving to Salem in 2020. Over the next two weeks, J.S completed our RENT Tenant Education Program. During his time in the six session workshop he learned his rights and responsibilities as a tenant, gained knowledge of landlord/tenant law, how to plan a budget, and how to effectively communicate with landlords and neighbors. “*



*“Shortly after graduation, J.S received a housing voucher for West Valley Housing in November 2022. An opportunity which would cover all of his portion of the rent once he moved into a unit. However, this voucher is only valid if redeemed within 120 days. ARCHES wrote a letter on his behalf asking for an extension, which he received in December. J.S had been doing the footwork to find a place and been unsuccessful. He applied for a unit on 1/12/23, and was told he had a balance owed to a previous landlord, that was required to be paid before they could proceed with his application. ARCHES staff were able to work with the former Landlord take care of that balance. Resulting in J.S being approved for his new home!”*

*“This was not the end of the story for J.S. Like many new tenants, the last hurdle was the requirement from the property management that the utility start-up deposit be paid in full. ARCHES was able to assist with that amount as well prior to move-in. J.S moved into a new 1-bedroom unit on his own, on January 27<sup>th</sup> 2023. All totaled, ARCHES assisted with approximately \$1,200 in move-in expenses, as well as vital housing navigation services, to help J.S on his way to self-sufficiency. “*

- Breezy Aguirre, ARCHES Program Director

J.S’ story was covered in the Statesman Journal article “Finding a place to live”.

<https://www.statesmanjournal.com/story/news/local/2023/01/29/finding-a-home-even-with-a-housing-voucher-is-a-complex-process/69820489007/>

### **Program Update:** Navigation Center

As the Navigation Center, in partnership with the City of Salem, nears remodel completion. MWVCAA is working diligently to prepare for program operations. Activities include: Program Policy and Procedure development, staff hiring and training, furniture purchasing, and partner agreements. Tentative dates for a virtual walk-through, media tour, and Grand Opening are scheduled for March 2023. Formal invites to follow.

Photos below showcase the following from left to right: Supportive Services hallway, sleeping room, day space, and Behavioral Services front lobby.

**MWVCAA**  
**The ARCHES Project**

**Looking to help others and make a valuable and significant difference in your community?**

**NAVIGATION CENTER JOB FAIR!**

<b>when?</b> February 16th 8:30 am - 5 pm	<b>APPLY NOW!</b>	<b>where?</b> YMCA 685 Court St NE, Salem Oregon 97302
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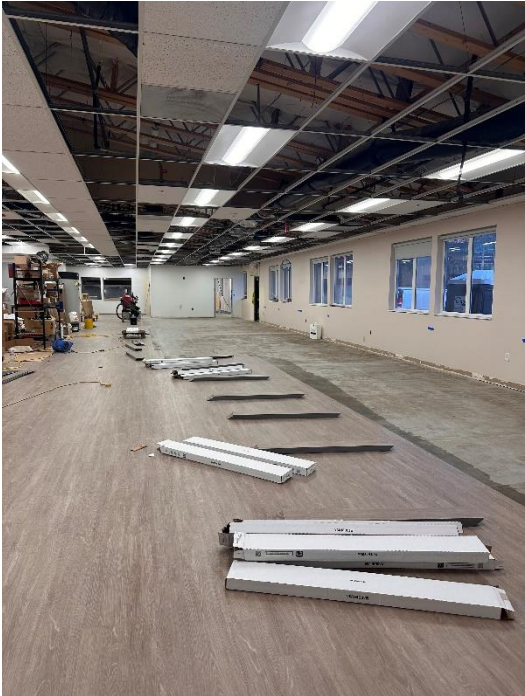


[mwvcaa.org/careers/](http://mwvcaa.org/careers/)

#### **Currently Hiring**

- Case Managers
- Housing Navigators
- Kitchen Coordinators
- Program Coordinators
- Site Assistants
- Supportive Services Coordinators

Community Resource Program

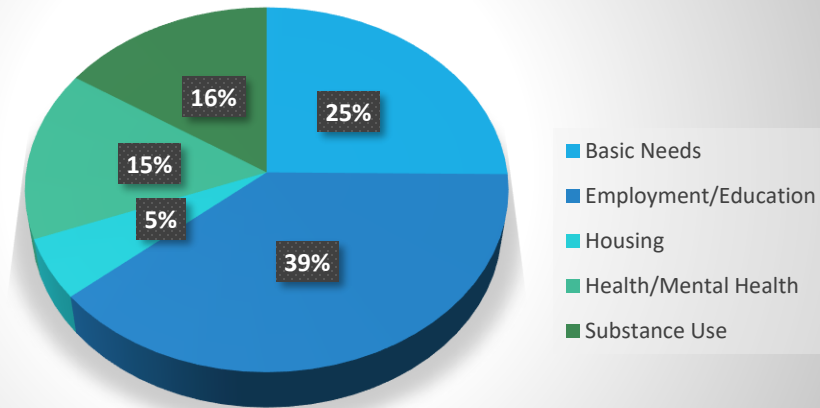


# De Muniz Resource Center

April Cox, Director

February 2023

## How the De Muniz Resource Center Served Clients in January



## Opportunities/Challenges

- ❖ De Muniz Resource Center served 143 clients in October, with 368 services provided.
- ❖ This month 68% served were adults in custody vs. 32% out of custody.
- ❖ During this reporting period, 16 clients (41 occurrences) took advantage and attended our cognitive based classes. The classes covered the following topics:
  - Prosocial lifestyle
  - Identifying strengths
  - Healthy mind frames
  - Problem solving
  - Emotional regulation
  - Success planning
- ❖ Our partnership with Northwest Human Services yielded 40 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-one clients (62 occurrences) took advantage of our volunteer's services, which include recovery support groups, GED prep, gambling awareness, and mock employment interviews.
- ❖ We assisted 22 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 and being understaffed.



# De Muniz Resource Center

April Cox, Director

February 2023

## Success Story

I met with Lucas at the De Muniz Resource Center. He was most interested in getting help with building a resume and looking for second-chance job opportunities. Lucas seemed motivated, but also hesitant to really begin his job search as he was encountering multiple barriers.

I provided Lucas with a resume builder packet, which he promptly returned. I used this information to create a functional resume for Lucky so he could really hit the ground running looking for work. I also explained to Lucas the supportive services available to him, including funds to help him with transportation. Within just a few days Lucas shared that he had been offered employment at a local hotel.

We were able to provide Lucas with a monthly bus pass to get to and from work. From the start, Lucas was open to the help being offered to him, which is not always easy. Thanks to his receptiveness and self-motivation, Lucas was successful in obtaining employment as well as the supportive services needed to retain employment.

\*name changed to protect identity

Submitted by Employment Navigator

## **Opportunities:**

- Seeding Justice Child Care Capacity Building Grant. The Child Care Capacity Building Fund supports community-based organizations working with child care providers to start or grow their business. ECEC Latino Steering committee in applying for this. We have been a part of this consortium of Community-based partners for about a year now. This fund is part of the Early Learning Committee omnibus bill. \$22 million was allocated to Seeding Justice to invest in building the supply of available child care in partnership with a community-based steering committee. Through this submission, CCR&R would gain FTE for a child care Business Navigator. We are still looking at whether we will also submit for some dollars that would support early educators directly.
- MWVCAA/CCRR sponsored Clackamas Community College online 1 year cohort for Spanish early educators. Planning for the Spring Term Orientation for the current participants. We have about 19 participants who have completed Summer Term, Fall Term and are just about to finish Winter Term. Looking forward to the last term for this group who will have earned their 1-year certificate. We are planning a celebration. This group has been working so very hard and we really want to celebrate their achievement and continue to empower and encourage them to towards their Associates.
- MWVCAA/CCRR is collaborating with Chemeketa Community College, as well as, Clackamas Community College on the recent Higher Ed grant opportunities through the Early Learning Division. Both colleges submitted grants. We just learned that both received awards. CCR&R will receive some minor funds through these for recruitment, ORO supports etc... Very excited to work with both, to continue to build Higher Ed opportunities for Spanish speaking and bilingual early educators in our region.
- We have finally filled all our positions. We have been working since Fall to get this work done. It is very hard to believe that we are at 21 staff. We pretty much doubled in size within the last 2 years. Right now, the work is about onboarding new staff, training, and the development of relationships with our early educators, system partners, co-workers and agency staff.
- Bridges to the Future Early Educator Conference-March 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. CCR&R Quality Improvement Specialist, Caitlin Calip has been planning and collaborating with Polk County Family & Community Outreach in Dallas, for this event. Request for Proposals went out and they were able to find enough presenters to provide about 30 sessions of SET ONE and TWO trainings in English and Spanish. Registration is now open!

## **Challenges:**

- We are going to spend some time looking at positions (non-Preschool Promise) and drive down to what we need from here on out to support early educators, and compare it to the positions we currently have. Asking questions like: Does what we have work? What do we need? Do we need to create more focused positions? It is interesting, even though we have doubled in size, we still could use more staff if funding allowed, especially for a three County region. Direction and job requirements have completely changed for CCRR, as it relates to what the funders are asking us to provide compared to what we have done in the past. We really need to continue to evaluate and build the profession even among our own staff.

Energy Services January PY 2023, Program Report

Traia Campbell, Energy Director

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

Energy Services households served in January 2023

January 2023, Marion & Polk completions by funding source								
Funding	HH	People	>6	60+	Disabled	@ or below 75% of poverty		Ave HH pmt
LIHEAP	599	1725	210	241	246	297	50% of HH's served	\$454
LIHWA-CAA	126	426	43	60	43	56	44% of HH's served	\$283
OEA PGE	128	282	26	69	58	51	40% of HH's served	\$365
OEA PAC	17	54	5	5	11	6	35% of HH's served	\$982
CEAP PGE	269	830	95	101	102	106	39% of HH's served	\$467
CEAP PAC	27	87	8	13	17	6	22% of HH's served	\$950
OLGA	124	354	28	62	59	48	39% of HH's served	\$459
GAP	64	189	12	19	28	24	38% of HH's served	\$141
<b>Total</b>	<b>1354</b>	<b>3947</b>	<b>427</b>	<b>570</b>	<b>564</b>	<b>594</b>	<b>44% of HH's served</b>	<b>\$566</b>

January 2022, Marion & Polk completions by funding source								
Funding	HH	People	>6	60+	Disabled	@ or below 75% of poverty		Ave HH pmt
LIHEAP	593	1659	188	256	247	242	41% of HH's served	\$404
LIHEAP ARPA	591	1655	187	256	248	242	41% of HH's served	\$405
OEA PGE	145	441	38	56	56	47	33% of HH's served	\$682
OEA PAC	26	79	9	4	7	13	50% of HH's served	\$1,103
OLGA	104	258	23	60	46	36	35% of HH's served	\$408
<b>Total</b>	<b>1459</b>	<b>4092</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>632</b>	<b>604</b>	<b>580</b>	<b>40% of HH's served</b>	<b>\$600</b>

Energy team continues to struggle with the larger than normal number of people seeking assistance. On average we receive 65 to 80 applications per day and multiple people call / come into the office. We have been working to increase our team, recently we hired a bilingual Office Specialist and opened our Eligibility Specialist position. Energy began utilizing our application in 2020 at the beginning of the pandemic, until recently we have great success. Energy team were able to manage the number of applications received and processed them quickly. We are all brainstorming to find solutions to help our current issues and the future. The primary goal is to provide assistance to eligible applicants in Marion and Polk counties in a timely manner. In previous years Energy scheduled appointments up to 3 months in advance. Scheduling appointments controlled the number of applications provided but was not always a good option for people in our community. A large percentage of scheduled applicants did not show, several applications were placed in pending and/or denied for missing information, people found it difficult to come to the office, etc. It was also difficult when Energy staff called out, the appointments had to be covered by other team members. Currently we are slowing the flow of incoming applications by not handing out applications to the general public at determined times, we continue to provide applications to medical certificate holders, disconnected accounts, and Polk Co.

After calculating LIHEAP allocated payments and pending applications, I estimate Energy has spent over 75% of available DCV funds. Once we process all applications I will be able to determine the amount of remaining LP DCV. I do not recall Energy ever spending LP funds this quickly. OHCS released Emergency LP funds in January, Energy will utilize these funds when our LP DCV is spent out. In an effort to assist additional households, these funds will be available to new household that have not received LP23 funds.

January 2023, Polk county completions per funding source								
Funding	HH	People	>6	60+	Disabled	@ or below 75% of poverty		Ave HH pmt
LIHEAP	63	187	28	20	28	36	57% of HH's served	\$476
LIHWA	17	60	10	8	7	7	41% of HH's served	\$332
OEA PGE	1	2	0	2	0	0	0% of HH's served	\$250
OEA PAC	7	23	1	3	5	3	43% of HH's served	\$938
CEAP PGE	1	1	0	1	1	0	0% of HH's served	\$250
CEAP PAC	15	52	6	6	7	6	40% of HH's served	\$1,228
OLGA	15	44	4	11	6	6	40% of HH's served	\$480
GAP	7	15	0	4	4	3	43% of HH's served	\$147
<b>Total</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>384</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>48% of HH's served</b>	<b>\$659</b>

January 2022, Polk county completions per funding source								
Funding	HH	People	>6	60+	Disabled	@ or below 75% of poverty		Ave HH pmt
LIHEAP	97	288	32	24	28	46	48% of HH's served	\$426
LIHEAP ARPA	97	288	32	24	28	46	48% of HH's served	\$425
OEA PAC	22	65	7	4	7	11	50% of HH's served	\$1,212
OLGA	14	40	1	3	5	7	50% of HH's served	\$446
<b>Total</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>681</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>48% of HH's served</b>	<b>\$627</b>

**HEAD START PROGRAM REPORT TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS & POLICY COUNCIL  
Eva Pignotti, CPO of Early Learning & Child Care – February, 2023**

**Attendance**

**Head Start Preschool**

9/22	10/22	11/22	12/22	1/23	2/23
76.16%	71.10%	64.76%	60.68%	69.82%	
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%	69.52%	58.37%	58.99%	67.60%	
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%	77.27%	68.00%	71.58%	67.31%	
3/23	4/23	5/23	6/23	7/23	8/23

**Community Action Head Start Attendance Analysis  
Absences for January 2023**

The Head Start program attendance rate for January was 69.28%, below the required 85%. The top absence reasons during the month were children’s illnesses – respiratory, accounting for 14.75% and other illnesses accounting for 38.2% of the absences.

The Early Head Start program attendance rate for January was 67.60%, below the required 85%. The top absence reasons during the month were children’s illnesses – respiratory, accounting for 22.45% and other illnesses accounting for 27.55% of the absences.

The Early Head Start Child Care Partnerships program attendance rate for January was 67.31%, below the required 85%. The top absence reasons during the month were family day/vacation, which accounted for 31.89% of the absences, and children’s illnesses – respiratory accounting for 16.49% and other illness for 10% of the absences.

**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	363	387	396	432							

**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	80	82	83	99							

**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	66	68	68	71							

**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	36	56	72	76							

**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	16	19	33	45							

**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	8	7	14	12							

**USDA Meal Reimbursements**

	January 2023	
USDA Meal Reimbursements	Number of Meals Served	Amount Reimbursed
Breakfast	4,321	\$ 9,549.41
Lunch	4,310	\$17,369.30
Snack	342	\$ 403.56
Cash In Lieu		\$ 1,293.00
<b>Total Reimbursement</b>	<b>8,973</b>	<b>\$28,615.27</b>

## **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 46 vacant staff positions in the program, down from 48 last month.

**Eligible Children:** No new classes were opened in the last month. Currently we have delayed start dates planned for three EHS classes and 11 HS classes. Hawthorne EHS hit some bumps in the road with renovation and city permits, but we are getting those resolved. The remaining 11 classes are on a delayed start because of being short-staffed and/or under-enrolled.

**Child Care Providers:** We are still short CCP providers to take on four slots. We have continued to recruit new providers, working in partnership with CCR&R. We have not had much luck so far, and may be recommending that we return those four slots to HHS if we do not find a solution soon.

**School Security and Safety:** Our security consultant, One Security, Inc., will be conducting four hour training sessions for all HS staff scheduled over in-service days in March, April and May. This training addresses the human aspect of safety, and aims to teach staff how to 'control your controllables', and to be dynamic decision-makers in the face of ever-changing circumstances.

**Corrective Action Plan:** The federal corrective action plan has been approved by Office of Head Start, and the disciplinary action from our serious deficiency closed. We continue to roll out training and other aspects of our plan. On February 24<sup>th</sup>, all staff will have time for Q&A about the plan and changes made to various procedures. At that time we will reiterate our new program goal about a culture of safety, and provide staff with framed prints of the goal to post at every site. Supervisors will attend training on reflective supervision on March 9 and 10.

**Reduction in Slots:** Overall, enrollment has been low, with Preschool being the lowest, at slightly above 60%. The Office of Head Start is allowing programs to apply for a slot reduction. This would be done based on a study of community needs, current enrollment, and projected numbers of children based on birth rates. The program would be allowed to keep the funds and utilize them for improvements to the program, particularly in the area of staff pay increases. This would be a big help in recruiting people to work for the program.

Currently, we are conducting a needs survey of parents in the program and the community at large. Analysis of this data and a recommended slot reduction plan will be completed before the March BOD and PC meetings, and a plan presented for approval at that meeting.

# HOME Youth Services Board Report

January 2023

Alisa Tobin, Program Director

## The Drop-In Day Center

The Drop-In Day Center serves youth ages 11-18, and is currently open two days a week for full services, with hours available other days throughout the week for case management, access to resources, and access to basic needs items like hygiene products, clothing, food, and school supplies.

The Drop-In has traditionally been open 7 days a week. During COVID, due to staffing and wellness challenges, hours were reduced to 5 days a week. In October, the decision was made to reduce hours to 2 days a week to increase the focus on outreach services, edit policy and procedures, and make necessary changes to the physical space of The Drop In.

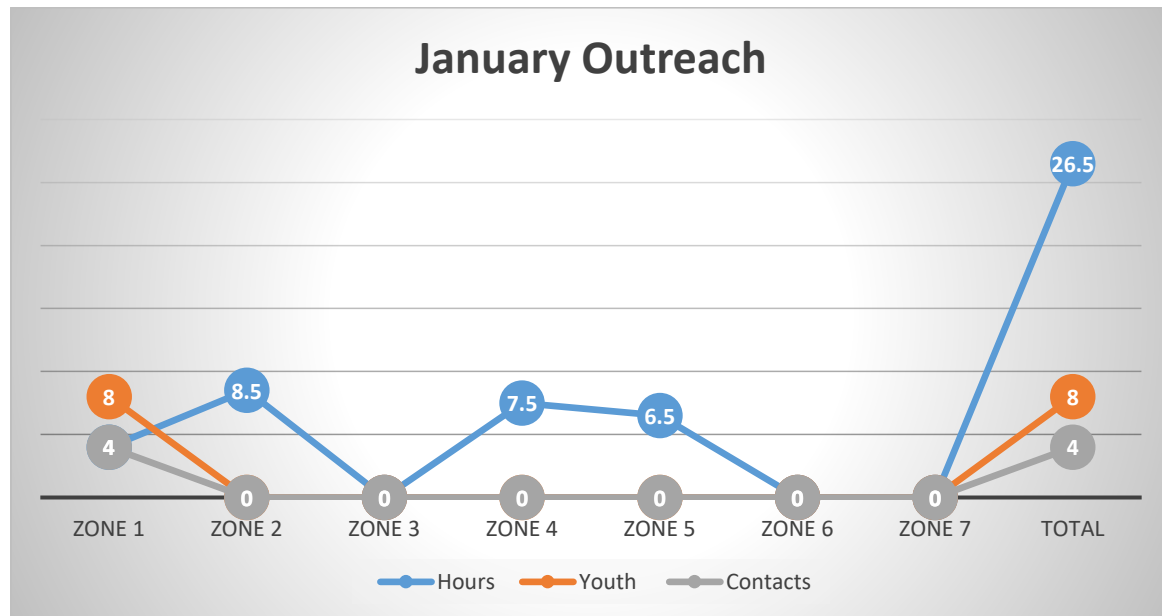
In January, The Drop In served youth a total of 158 times. The Drop In's average attendance on open days was approximately 14.4 youth. The Drop In provided ten food boxes, serving a total of 56 individuals (19 adults, 37 youth or children). In January, the Drop In also hosted an event for the Point in Time count. With guidance and input from the youth, HOME Youth Services staff served chili, macaroni and cheese, and baked hot chocolate outside of the Drop In.



## Outreach

HOME Youth Services' outreach team serves youth in both Marion and Polk counties. The outreach team meets youth serves to provide vital resources to youth where they are at, and begin engagement with services at HOME Youth Services. Outreach, as a team, travels to areas where youth

are known to either stay or hang out to engage with youth. The team also attends and hosts community tabling events to engage with youth and inform them about HOME Youth Services' services.

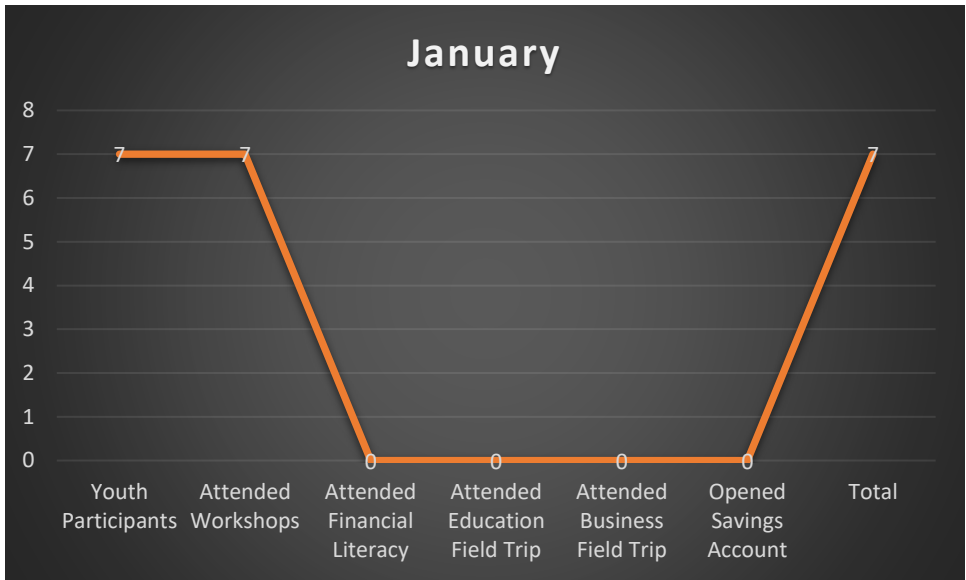


### *Youth Empowerment Program (YEP)*

The Youth Empowerment Program (YEP) is HOME Youth Services' job development program. Youth engaged in YEP are able to work as a paid intern in either an internal (at HOME Youth Services) or external (with community partners) internship. Youth engaged in the YEP program also develop transferrable life and job skills during weekly workshops, focusing on 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills like interviewing, communication, civic literacy, financial literacy, critical thinking, and creativity. A partnership with Maps Credit Union also provides youth the opportunity to sign up for a savings account and begin saving with the money they are making while engaged in the YEP program.

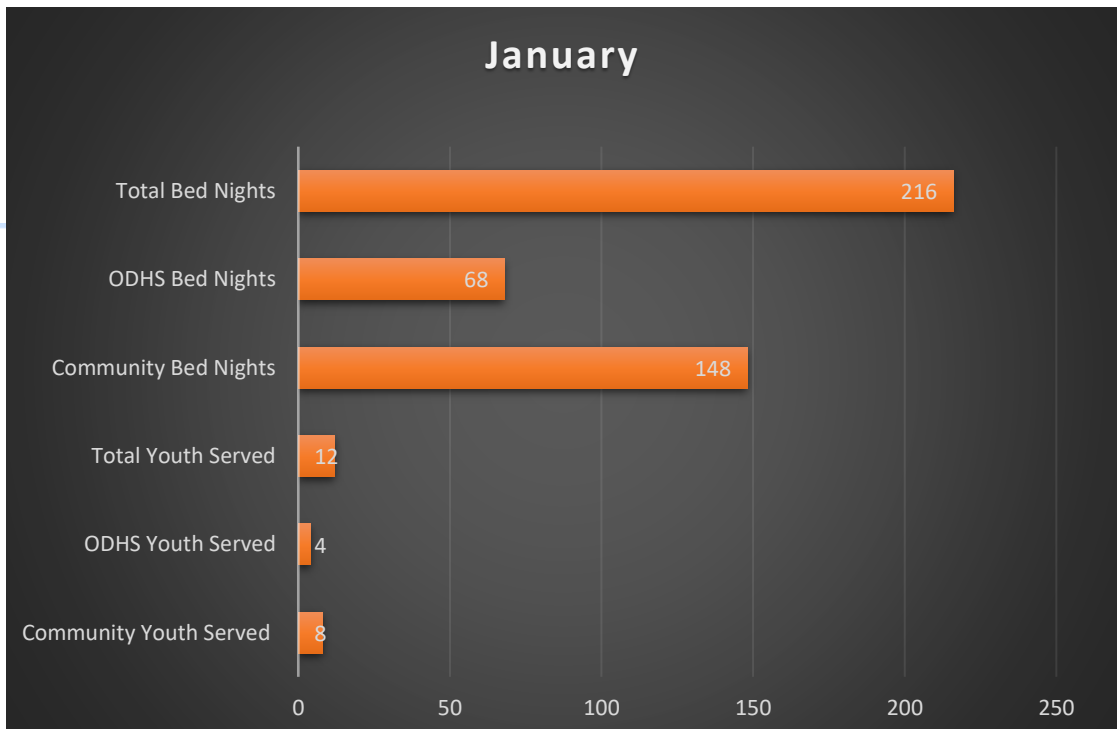
This cycle, YEP started out later than normal due to the Holidays/ Drop In offices moving to the Commercial St. office building. During the moving process, YEP staff conducted interviews in early January select candidates and worked to prepare for the cycle to start. For this cycle, there are seven youth interns. All seven youth have been putting in great work, asking for more hours and have proven to be very self-motivated. All youth have showed great interest in developing their job skills as well. This cycle, for the first time since COVID-19, the program brought back the culinary aspect of YEP, a partnership with First Christian Church. Youth are able to learn cooking skills in a full kitchen, and have so far thoroughly enjoyed it. Youth are also currently working on getting things situated for launching a podcast, starting the process of planning the Drop In Prom in May, and planning for an Outdoor School trip in June.



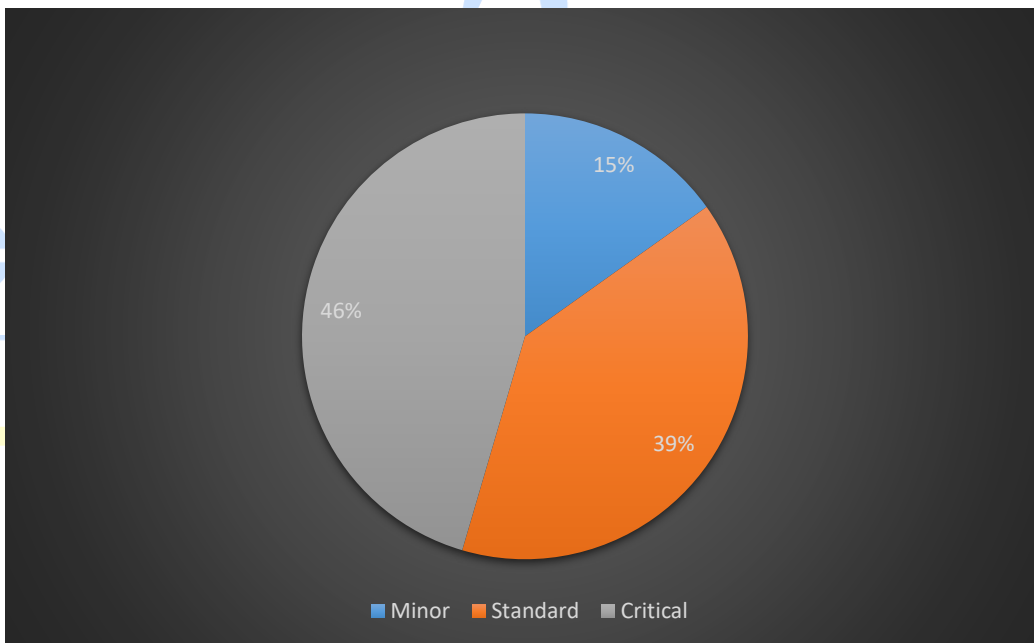
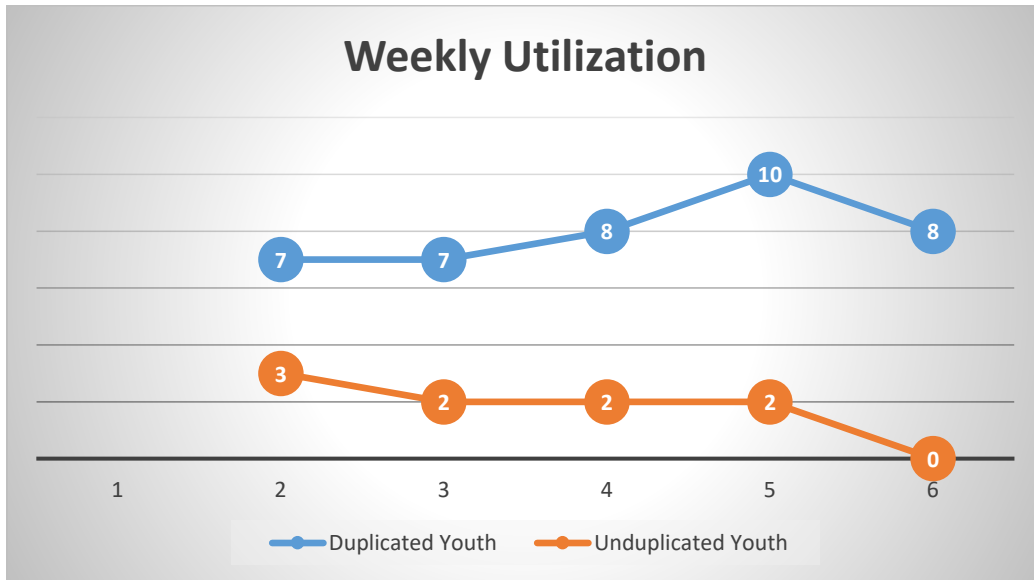


### *Taylor's House Emergency Housing*

Taylor's House is an emergency shelter for youth ages 11-18. Taylor's House has ten beds for youth, four of which are set aside for youth in ODHS custody. The additional six beds are set aside for youth in the community who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of experiencing homelessness. Taylor's House opened in 2018, and has been a vital resource for at risk youth in the community. While at Taylor's House, youth engage in pro-social activities like house meetings, groups, and outings. Once in shelter, youth also engage in case management with staff at Taylor's House to work on goals like housing, health, mental health, and education. Youth work with Taylor's House staff to identify safe, long term supports for after they transition from emergency shelter.



In January, Taylor’s House served twelve youth for a total of 216 bed nights. Of those youth, four of them were in ODHS custody, and eight were youth from the community. In January, staff at Taylor’s House worked through a total of 33 incident reports. Of those incident reports, five were minor, thirteen were standard, and fifteen were critical.



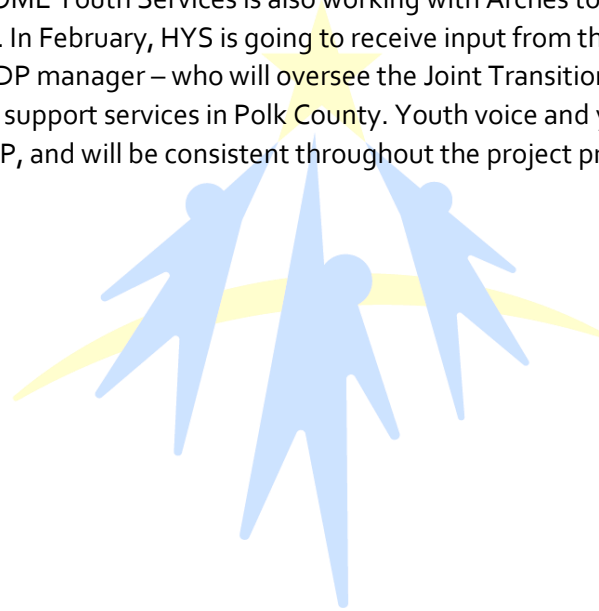
*Rapid Re-Housing Program*

HOME Youth Services’ Rapid Re-Housing Program began as a pilot project from the state of Oregon to provide housing assistance to youth in Marion and Polk counties. In January, 2023, the new Rapid Re-Housing Manager was hired and began working on the policies and procedures for the

program, while simultaneously working on the enrollment packets and hiring additional staff. The program will be fully staffed by the beginning of March and will be able to start engaging youth in housing opportunities shortly after that.

### *Current Projects*

Efforts are continuing as HOME Youth Services brings the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) projects to life. At the end of January, HOME Youth Services hosted two individuals from CSH, a technical assistance group working with YHDP projects. During that visit, Program and Agency staff discussed implementation of YHDP, Youth Coordinated Entry, and continued community connections. Internally, HOME Youth Services is also working with Arches to launch the Youth Coordinated Entry system. In February, HYS is going to receive input from the Youth Action Board about what to title the YHDP manager – who will oversee the Joint Transitional Housing-Rapid Rehousing project and the support services in Polk County. Youth voice and youth choice are two essential functions of YHDP, and will be consistent throughout the project process.



Mid-Willamette Valley

**COMMUNITY ACTION**

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**HOME Youth Services**

Nutrition First -Child Care Food Program  
 Carmen Romero - Program Director  
 February 10, 2023

Nutrition First CCFP reimburses child care providers who are certified or registered with the Office of Child Care or license-exempt providers listed with ODHS. The following chart is for the fiscal year 2022-2023. It shows the total number of clients, including those who opened and those who closed each month.

The fiscal year for the CACFP program is from October to September.

	Oct. 2022	Nov. 2022	Dec. 2022	January 2023
Start of Month	500	495	492	490
Opened	8	8	7	11
Closed	13	11	9	3
End of Month	495	492	490	498

- For January, we signed on 11 providers (10 are OCC registered/certified and one is listed with ODHS) and we closed three providers, leaving us with 498 active homes. The only difference 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 Nutrition First will reimburse.
- October-January is the start of the fiscal year and Nutrition First monitors use these first four months to train all active providers on annual records requirements. During January, we conducted 126 in-home visits and saw 1008 children.

**Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, Inc.**  
**Board of Directors Special Meeting**  
**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2023**  
**MINUTES**

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Board of Directors:**

**Present:**

Christopher Lopez	Jade Rutledge	RW Taylor	Steve McCoid
Erika Romine	Jeremy Gordon	Shelaswau Crier	
Helen Honey	Kevin Karvandi	Silveria Campa	

**Absent:**

Catherine Trottman   Michael Vasquez   Vanessa Nordyke

**Others Present:**

**Program Directors/Staff/Guests:**

Jimmy Jones, Executive Director  
Helana Haytas, Chief Operations Officer  
Ashley Hamilton, Chief Program Officer: Housing and Homeless Services  
Rogelio Cortes, Chief Program Officer: Weatherization and Energy Services  
Jade Wilson, Executive Assistant

**The meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order at 5:35 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 amendment was made to adjust the amount listed in board business item one. Originally the amount from OCF would be \$3.5 million, but OCF awarded MWVCAA an extra \$60,000, which brought the total amount to \$3.56 million.

**MOTION:** To approve the amended agenda made by Chris Lopez,

**SECOND:** RW Taylor.

**APPROVED:** Unanimously approved

**V.     Board Business**

1. Acceptance of the Project Turnkey Grant from Oregon Community Foundation for \$3.56 million.
2. Acceptance of \$2 million for 1875 Fisher Road Acquisition from Oregon Department of Human Services.

3. Acceptance of \$2 million for 1875 Fisher Road acquisition from Oregon Housing and Community Services.
4. Acceptance of \$2.2 million in Shelter Care Plus funds from Oregon Department of Human Services.
5. Purchase Authority for 1875 Fisher Road.

**MOTION:** To combine all Board Business items (1-5) into one approval item made by Shelaswau Crier,

**SECOND:** RW Taylor.

**APPROVED:** Unanimously approved

**MOTION:** To approve the funding sources and purchase authority for 1875 Fisher Road made by RW Taylor

**SECOND:** Chris Lopez.

**APPROVED:** Unanimously approved

**VI. Adjournment**

**The Board of Directors meeting was adjourned at 5:50 pm.**

Respectfully Submitted:

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Jade Wilson, Executive Assistant

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Kevin Karvandi, Board Secretary

**Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, Inc.**  
**Board of Directors Executive & Finance Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2023**

**ATTENDANCE**

**Committee Members Present:** Jade Rutledge, Board Chair; Shelaswau Crier, Board Vice-Chair; Kevin Karvandi, Secretary; Helen Honey, Board Member; Chris Lopez, Board Member; and Steve McCoid, Board Member

**Absent:** None

**Staff:** Jimmy Jones, Executive Director; Kaolee Hoyle, Chief Financial Officer; Helana Haytas, Chief Operations Officer; Rogelio Cortes, Chief Program Officer: Weatherization and Energy; and Jade Wilson, Executive 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. **Executive Order 23-02 State of Emergency** – New Oregon State Governor Tina Kotek has declared a State of Emergency to combat the growing homelessness issue in Oregon. This State of Emergency declaration gives Governor Kotek the ability to reallocate funds for homeless outreach and prevention. \$130 million one-time funds will be routed through 7 out of 8 Continuums of Care network excluding the rural CoC's. We are expecting \$12.5 million locally and MWVCAA is likely to be designated as the fiscal entity for these funds by Governor Kotek. \$1.9 million will be allocated for homeless prevention work. Jimmy will be meeting with OHCS (Oregon Housing and Community Services) for Polk and Marion counties on February 15.
- b. **Home First Affordable Housing** – Home First Development Partners, a low-income housing developer, reached out to MWVCAA about collaborating on their latest project of building 240 units on some land behind the MWVCAA main office. In order for Home First to receive LIFT and LITECH grant funds, they need have local partners that can facilitate programming. MWVCAA will not be investing money into the project but rather providing coordinated services for up to 25 units for Head Start families.
- c. **Upcoming Dates** – Jimmy shared a list of important dates coming up for several agency projects.
  - i. We are hoping to close by February 28<sup>th</sup> on the 1875 Fisher Rd property in Salem which is the location for the Turnkey Hotel 2.0.
  - ii. March 15<sup>th</sup> we are set to close on the Polk County youth shelter we are purchasing with the YHDP funds.
  - iii. An open house at the new Navigation center is set for March 21<sup>st</sup> with the hope to host the March 23<sup>rd</sup> board meeting there.
  - iv. March 31<sup>st</sup> the Navigation Center opens.
  - v. And lastly, we are hoping to open the ARCHES Lodge (1875 Fisher) by April 15<sup>th</sup> and the Polk County Youth Shelter by May 1<sup>st</sup>.

- 2. Financials** – Kaolee Hoyle, CFO, presented the November 2022 Budget to Actual. Kaolee noted that CRP is underspent by 6% on their expected operational budget and about 40% underspent on

their project budget. Several CRP projects have yet to begin which is why the project budget is underspent at this time. Kaolee also stated that the auditor is actively working on the annual audit and has not reported any issues thus far. They have just been asking questions and requesting documentation at this point.

- 3. February 2023 Full Board Meeting Draft** – Several changes were made to the Full Board Meeting draft agenda including moving presentations before Jimmy’s Executive Director report and moving the Strategic Plan update and the Community Action Plan Review to March.
- 4. Credit Card Expenditure Review** – None to review this month.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:00pm.**

Respectfully Submitted:

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Jade Wilson, Executive Assistant

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Kevin Karvandi, Board Secretary





Mid-Willamette Valley

# **COMMUNITY ACTION Agency Newsletter**

## **Office Locations Change**

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## **Agency Anniversaries**

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# **Welcome to the New Year!**

Hello and welcome to 2023! We hope you had a great, much-needed and relaxing holiday break. Now that we're back to serving the community, we thought now would be the perfect time to share the new agency newsletter with you all. We want to share agency news, success stories and more with everyone at MWVCAA. If you want to contribute to the newsletter, please reach out to [dustin.steinhoff@mwvcaa.org](mailto:dustin.steinhoff@mwvcaa.org). Thank you and happy New Year!

## **New Spaces for Head Start & CCR&R**

Multiple programs at MWVCAA have new locations to better accommodate their program's needs!

Throughout December, CCR&R and Head Start have been working to move their offices into their new locations and now each program is operating from their new locations.

Head Start has moved out of the main admin building, having

outgrown the space, and relocated to its new building at 625 Hawthorne Ave SE, Salem, OR 97301.

CCR&R has moved out of its previous location and into the main admin office at 2475 Center St NE, Salem, OR 97301.

These moves took a lot of hard work and coordination from many agency staff members, so be sure to thank them when you can!



Head Start's new office at 625 Hawthorne Ave SE, Salem.



CCR&R moved into the admin office at 2475 Center St NE, Salem.

# Program Updates

## The First Annual Community Gala Results Are In

The results from our first ever agency fundraising gala are in!

We had more than 40 silent auction items donated by local businesses, which raised \$3,747 in total from the

silent auction.

Altogether, we made approximately \$16,375 from the event in ticket sales, auction items, and donations!

Additionally, the event tickets sold out, and we ended up adding

an additional 35 seats due to demand for tickets, bringing us to a total of 155 attendees for the night.

We'll soon be starting an event committee for next year's Community Action Gala for those who would like to assist and give input for next year! Email or text Laurel if you're interested: laurel.glenn@mwvcaa.org, or 971-304-6848.



## Warming Season Underway

Winter is here and the warming season at The ARCHES Project is underway.

When temperatures drop below freezing, ARCHES opens up overnight emergency shelter to ensure the safety of those experiencing homelessness.

At warming shelters, the unhoused community is given a warm place to sleep with mats, cots, blankets and donated amenities to help our unhoused community members survive the winter season.

Emergency shelter is a community effort and a number of local organizations generously help us in our sheltering mission such as South Salem Friends Church and Salem First Presbyterian Church, which provide their facilities for shelter, and Cherriots, which helps shuttle people to the shelters.

ARCHES announces when sheltering is activated on their [Facebook page](#) and by sending out text alerts. To sign up for text alerts, anyone can fill out the form [here](#) to be notified.

## Local Point in Time Count Underway

This year's Point in Time Count is almost over, so if anyone is interested in taking part or spreading the word about it, now is the time!

Each year, the PIT Count takes place in communities across the country with the goal of obtaining more information about the unhoused community that MWVCAA (and a number of other local organizations) serve.

The unhoused population is surveyed by volunteers and ARCHES Project staff to determine what their needs are and determine a best estimate of how many people are unhoused in our community.

This info is integral in efforts to lobby for more funding to be allocated towards providing care and housing services to those experiencing homelessness.

If you would like to take part or help spread awareness about the last PIT Count day (Jan. 28th), here's the link to volunteer: <https://mwvhomelessalliance.org/point-in-time-pit-count/>

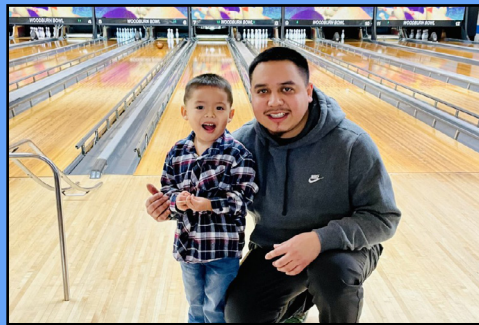
# Program Updates

## Head Start Families and Staff Bond Over Bowling

On Jan. 9th, 11th and 12th, Head Start hosted Head Start & Early Head Start Family Bowling Night where our Head Start families and staff could have a fun night out knocking down some pins while

getting to know one another better! Head Start coordinated the event to have lanes available across the areas they serve, renting spaces at The Rec in Keizer, Starlite Lanes in Dallas and Woodburn Bowl.

84 adults and 98 children showed up to the Keizer event, 29 adults and 45 children showed up at Dallas and 19 adults and 25 children showed up at Woodburn, making the event a fun-filled success!



# Client Success

So many of our clients are determined to achieve a better life, especially when our amazing staff offers a helping hand. Let's celebrate some wins!

## Meet Steven: Project HOME's First Client

Have you heard about the agency's Project HOME? Project HOME was created to help chronically homeless individuals become housed through collaboration between ARCHES and Kaiser Permanente. Steven is the first client to be housed through Project HOME and he can tell you all about it!

Click the image to the right to hear about Steven's experience with Project HOME on the MWVCAA YouTube channel.



## John's Transition Back into Society

John\* spent just under a year in the Marion County Transition Center. In that time, De Muniz Resource Center was able to help John with adult continuing education (ACE) classes to build skills like problem solving, emotion regulation, thinking errors, success planning, prosocial lifestyle skills and identifying strengths.

John showed a curiosity and open mind about learning skills that would help him be successful.

He finished his classes and received his certificate of completion for his accomplishment!

John has been com-

ing to DMRC a few times per week since his release. He said, "I have really appreciated you guys being here to support me as I move on from my life in the Transition Center and from my life before that. Knowing you are here for me has made a big difference."

**With help from DMRC staff, John got his Oregon ID, he expects to start his employment soon and is working toward his long-term goal to regain regular contact with his child.**

\*John is a placeholder name to protect the privacy and safety of our clients.

## Jake's Journey to Success

Jake\* participated in multiple Youth Empowerment Program cycles over the past year. Unfortunately, he was arrested for a past non-violent offense and ended up going into to juvenile detention as a result.

**Jake has done a great job of owning up to his mistake and taking full accountability for his action.**

HOME Youth Services staff has been able to advocate for Jake as he entered the GAP program. Staff advocated for him in court and with his assigned parole officer. Jake is now exceeding expectations at GAP and doing really well. YEP staff have been able to maintain weekly case management with him, assist in driving him to appointments, and regularly have phone calls with him to provide support.

Jake does not have a positive relationship with any family, which demonstrates his need for additional support through this process. Jake is now making long-term goals and short-term goals. He is excited about his future and looking at this situation as a blessing in disguise. He has a lot to be proud of!

\*Jake is a placeholder name to protect the privacy and safety of our youth.

# Agency Anniversaries

## **Admin**

Nancy Cain - 2/04/2013

Laurel Glenn - 2/10/2021

Kaolee Hoyle - 2/18/2019

## **The ARCHES Project**

Ashleigh Duda - 2/01/2016

Esperanza Maciel - 2/01/2017

Larrisa Groom - 2/01/2022

Stephen Potter - 2/02/2021

Lucy Briseno - 2/05/2020

Scott Russell - 2/06/2019

Orlando Alvarez Flores - 2/08/2022

Lara Ashenfelter - 2/11/2022

Rebecca Beyard - 2/13/2019

Sean Sachs - 2/15/2017

Christopher Dyer - 2/26/2018

## **CCR&R**

Caitlin Calip - 2/07/2022

Gisela Morales - 2/15/2008

## **De Muniz Resource Center**

Madisyn Coniglio - 2/11/2019

## **Head Start**

Nancy Mendez - 2/02/2015

Raul Orozco Fuentes - 2/02/2015

Karen Clark - 2/08/1999

Kaleb Christensen - 2/08/2022

James Pilcher - 2/08/2022

Hailey Thompson - 2/09/2022

Patricia Magana Meraz - 2/11/2019

Luz Ceja - 2/14/2011

Maisee Her - 2/16/2012

Maria Munoz-Quiroz - 2/16/2016

Yvonn Cordero Mota - 2/18/2020

Kathryn Judson - 2/19/2003

Wendy Barrows - 2/24/2000

Sindy Abzun - 2/24/2000

Casey Pugmire - 2/24/2021

Joylene Guerrero - 2/25/2014

Renee Hamlin - 2/25/2022

Julie Siefert - 2/27/2006

Alma Zacarias-Sierra - 2/28/2018

Adrial Aiken - 2/29/2000

# Highlight Your Program!

Let everyone in the agency know what your program is up to on any given month! Highlight one of your clients, congratulate a member of your staff, give an update on an exciting new project, anything inbetween! Contact [dustin.steinhoff@mwvcaa](mailto:dustin.steinhoff@mwvcaa) to discuss how to get your story featured.