



**JANUARY 2023 MEETING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 2023

LOCATION:

**BROADWAY COMMONS
1300 BROADWAY ST NE
SALEM, OR 97301
GRANT ROOM – 2ND FLOOR**

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, JANUARY 26, 2023**

In-Person

Broadway Commons
1300 Broadway St NE
Salem, OR 97301
Grant Room – 2nd Floor

Mission

Empowering people to change their lives and exit poverty by providing vital services and community leadership.

Vision

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

- | | | |
|-------------|--|-------------|
| I. | Welcome and Introductions | 5:30 |
| II. | Public Comment | 5:35 |
| III. | Declaration of Conflict of Interest | 5:40 |
| IV. | Approval of Agenda | 5:45 |
| V. | Consent Calendar | 5:50 |
| | 1. November 2022 Full Board Meeting Minutes | |
| | 2. January 2023 Executive Director Report | |
| | 3. January 2023 Regional Anti-Poverty Report | |
| | 4. January 2023 Chief Financial Officer Report | |
| | 5. January 2023 Chief Operations Officer Report | |
| | 6. January 2023 Director of Development Report | |
| | 7. January 2023 Program Director Reports | |
| | 8. 2022 Head Start Program Annual Report | |
| | 9. December and January 2023 Committee Meeting Minutes | |
| | 10. Board Member Jasmine White Resignation | |
| VI. | Board Business | 5:55 |
| | 1. Executive Director’s Report | |
| | 2. Head Start Corrective Action Plan (Eva Pignotti) – <i>Update and Discussion</i> | |
| | 3. Strategic Plan – <i>Discussion</i> | |
| | 4. Board Member Erika Romine (Early Childhood Education Rep)
Election to a New Term – <i>Approval</i> | |
| | 5. Election of Board President – <i>Approval</i> | |
| | 6. Election of Board Vice President – <i>Approval</i> | |
| | 7. Election of Board Secretary – <i>Approval</i> | |
| | 8. Financials – <i>Approval</i> | |
| VII. | Adjournment | 7:30 |
- Next board meeting: Thursday, February 23, 2023**

Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2022
MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

Board of Directors:

Present:

Jade Rutledge	Kevin Karvandi	Silveria Campa	Shelaswau Crier
Christopher Lopez	Jasmine White	Vanessa Nordyke	Steve McCoid
Erika Romine	RW Taylor	Helen Honey	

Absent:

Catherine Trottman
Jeremy Gordon
Michael Vasquez

Others Present:

Program Directors/Staff/Guests:

Jimmy Jones, Executive Director
Helana Haytas, Chief Operations Officer
Kaolee Hoyle, Chief Financial Officer
Laurel Glenn, Development Director
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
Alisa Tobin, HOME Youth Services Program Director
Hector Guzman, Weatherization Program Director
Carmen Romero, Nutrition First Program Director
Liz Salinas, Head Start Associate Program Director
Stacey Eli, Head Start Associate Program Director
Sarah Cummings, Executive Assistant
Doug Riggs, Oregon Alliance
Royce Bowlin, Oregon Alliance

The meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order at 5:37 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** – Board Chair Jade Rutledge noted an amendment was needed for the executive section to be removed from the Agenda.

MOTION: To approve amendment made by Kevin Karvandi

SECOND: Helen Honey

APPROVED: Unanimously approved

MOTION: To approve Agenda with amendment made by Steve McCoid

SECOND: Christopher Lopez

APPROVED: Unanimously approved

V. **Consent Calendar**

1. **October 2022 Full Board Meeting Minutes**

No discussions or concerns were raised

2. **November 2022 Executive Director Report**

No discussions or concerns were raised

3. **November 2022 Anti-Poverty Report**

No discussions or concerns were raised

4. **Final analysis of the 2016-2021 Strategic Plan**

No discussions or concerns were raised

5. **November 2022 Director of Development Report**

No discussions or concerns were raised

6. **November 2022 Chief Financial Officer Report**

No discussions or concerns were raised

7. **November 2022 Program Directors Reports**

No discussions or concerns were raised

8. **November 2022 Committee Meeting Minutes**

No discussions or concerns were raised

MOTION: To approve consent calendar made by Steve McCoid

SECOND: Helen Honey

APPROVED: Unanimously approved

VI. **Board Business**

1. **Home Youth Services Service Delivery Update – *Presentation by Alisa Tobin, Program Director***

- i. Wednesday Thanksgiving dinner for youth; other monthly events planned and increase in social media to increase engagement
- ii. Modified hours of Drop-in; open 2 days/week for access to resources. Increasing outreach efforts (5 days/week) and continued focus on providing basic needs; new partnership with Free Fridge Salem.
- iii. Program has outgrown the current building; will be getting inspections and looking into best use of space.
- iv. Youth safety: partnership with HIV alliance for Narcan distribution; increased supplies for winter and warming locations for youth; add on-site mental health support and ongoing trauma-informed care training for staff; update housing referral assessments, increase community partners, and purchase of YHDP house in Polk County.

- v. 3-4 months of changes in services; need a better building to get back to full on-site services.

2. Oregon Alliance (Runaway and Homeless Youth) – *Presentation by Doug Riggs and Royce Bowlin*

- i. 600,000 youth experiencing homelessness (YEH) per year; 4.8 million in funding (up from 1 million) in 2004, now at 10 million.
- ii. 2023 bill draft (measures 4012 and 4013) requesting for continued 10 million, plus 25 million for existing programs and to add more throughout the state. 18 counties have no youth services. 154 million needed to reduce YEH by 25%.
- iii. Working on the allocation of the 25 million and will send out the House Bill information to the Board.
- iv. Trauma-informed system; a single system for continuity to help develop resilience for youth.

3. Financials – *Approval*

MOTION: To approve Financials made by Helen Honey

SECOND: Steve McCoid

APPROVED: Unanimously approved

4. Board Member Melissa Baurer Resignation – *Approval*

MOTION: To approve board member resignation made by Steve McCoid

SECOND: Kevin Karvandi

APPROVED: Unanimously approved

5. HHS Continuation Grant, Budget and Updated Program Goals/Objectives – *Approval*

MOTION: To approve resignation made by Helen Honey

SECOND: Steve McCoid

APPROVED: Unanimously approved

6. Executive Director’s Report

i. Looking Ahead:

- 1. Executive-Finance Committee Meeting: December 8th
- 2. Oregon Legislative E-Board Meets: December 9th
- 3. No Regular December Board Meeting
- 4. Special Late December Electronic Meeting: December 27-29 for possible action on:
 - a. Head Start Corrective Action Plan
 - b. Acquisition of 1875 Fisher Road
 - c. 719 Jackson Street in Monmouth
 - d. Oregon Health Authority Grant, relating to 719 Jackson
- 5. Executive-Finance Meeting: January 12th
- 6. Next Full Board Meeting (Annual Meeting): January 26th

ii. **Jackson St property for Taylor’s House 2.0:**

1. Working on a PSA now, Board will have the final approval.
2. Applying to Oregon Health Authority for \$3 million, Board will have approval over the grant.
3. Will fund remodel of current building, and on back part of the property potentially build a four-unit affordable housing complex with Polk CDC, who would manage the complex. Rent paid for by OHCS Rapid-Rehousing funds dedicated toward youth exiting shelter.
4. The total OHA pot is \$101 million statewide.
5. Grant closes tomorrow, with award notification in late Dec/early Jan.

iii. **Fisher Rd property:**

1. All applications in Marion, Lane, Linn, Benton waitlisted. We delayed Decision point until 30 December. Cost is \$7.5M for 76 rooms
2. Mosman Decision on Aid-and-Assist Patients requires OSH to admit aid-and-assist within 7 days, reduced length of restoration services
3. Who are these folks? Mostly homeless, about 72% of A/A in Marion County are homeless. About 3-5% or less are charged with serious violent felonies, the rest are more typical felonies and a large number of misdemeanors
4. Consequence of the ruling is that most will simply be turned out in the street, and it will heavily impact Salem, Marion, Polk
5. Possible E-Board ask shaping up

iv. **What is to come in 2023:**

1. Recession of some sort. Labor market should tighten. Inflation should cool off, but what is the “new normal”?
2. Homeless Numbers Grow, multiple systems fighting for funds to meet their needs.
3. Portland intends to “intern” their entire homeless population.
4. Evictions spiking likely to reach 3K filings a month next year and child care will remain unstable until economy evens out.
5. Energy costs will rise dramatically in 2023. NW Natural having a 25% increase in rates.
6. Navigation Center should open in March, April.
7. Jimmy asked the board to check out summary of last strategic plan.

VII. Adjournment

The Board of Directors meeting was adjourned at 6:59 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Sarah Cummings

Sarah Cummings, Executive Assistant

Kevin Karvandi

Kevin Karvandi, Board Secretary

Executive Director's Report

MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

January 2023

January is normally a busy month at our Agency, with the audit, warming season, and standing up new work. This month is busier than most because of several property issues, service expansion, and the start of the new legislative session. Highlights below:

Board Membership: [Jasmine White](#), who has been a member of our Board since 2020, sent in a letter of resignation on December 19th. Jasmine, who has been the Executive Director of [CC:Media](#) here in Salem, is moving home to Maryland. She's returning to take the role of CEO at Montgomery Community Media. We will schedule her resignation vote for January. That will drop us down to 13 Board Members, and we will need to intentionally seek replacements to push us back up to 15 in the New Year. [Tanisha Rosas](#), who has been Marion County's liaison to our Board, let me know after the November Board Meeting that she would no longer be attending. She has left employment at Marion County, and has accepted a position in the public affairs division at [Oregon Housing and Community Services](#). I ran into her in Senate testimony back in December, and we are looking forward to working with her in this new role as the spring legislative session unfolds.

Budget: The Agency is in a very good place through October. We are a bit shallow on spending, but most of that is due to capital projects on the homeless services side of the Agency. Those funds will not be spent down until later this year. We watch the [ARCHES](#) operational budget closely, because that's been one of our tightest run operations. Right now we're in good shape. I am concerned by the underspend at [Home Youth Services](#). We are looking this month at the design of that program and what we can do on the administrative end to support their field work more directly, and get their funds moving. Otherwise most program areas are on track. Revenue wise, we have captured what we have spent through October and only have \$100,195 awaiting draw down, which is a timing function. Management and Administration is on budget, and should decline some after the October financials as the vendor contract for IT ended in October.

Audit: The audit is underway. All materials were provided to [Grove, Mueller and Swank](#) before Christmas (other than some client files they will request). The audit began in early January, and 80 percent of it will be conducted electronically. The audit should be completed by the end of January. I expect to have something written for the Board to review in February. We continue as a low-risk federal auditee, which means 20 percent of our federal funds will be audited this month. Those funds include the [CACFP](#) grant ([US Department of Agriculture](#) via [Oregon Department of Education](#) and our [Nutrition First](#) Program), federal Head Start, and federal COVID relief funds.¹

Board Meetings in January and February: We will have our annual Board meeting in January, which will be offsite at Broadway Commons. We historically held those meetings at a local restaurant, but that setting is not formal enough for the January Board business, which includes the annual officer elections. The January meeting is always a bit lighter than normal, however. So other than our regular business and the Board elections, we will hold the annual Board commitment documents, conflict of interest statements, other forms, and the annual Board training pieces until the February meeting. We have one member who is due for reelection in January, [Erika Romine](#). Erika has been a Board member since 2013. She is our CSBG and Head Start mandated expert in early childhood education. Erika has been an enormous resource for our early learning programs (she is a faculty member in early learning at Chemeketa) and a very engaged Board member. We also plan to have a general discussion on the strategic plan, to capture final feedback ahead of any changes and potential final approval at the February Board meeting.

¹ CACFP is Child and Adult Care Food Program.

Community Engagement Officer: Many larger CAA’s have a Community Engagement Officer, which is a position that helps in our obligation to organize the community’s anti-poverty work, explain our program work at community meetings, and build stronger connections specifically with local Culturally Specific Organizations. The number of community forums, meetings, and events have expanded so dramatically in recent years our programs have not had the capacity to use program staff to keep up with it all. This position will help us meet our advocacy obligations in the community and build greater public support for our work. Earlier this year we posted and interviewed for the position. [Ramon Hernandez](#) has accepted the position and pending pre-employment checks will begin work in the spring. He’s fluent in English and Spanish, and speaks three other languages. He has a bachelors from Washington State and a pending graduate degree in Italy. He’s worked in Community Mental Health up in King County (Seattle), and as a Community Development Specialist in Morocco. We are very happy to have him.

DEI Coordinator: The Agency has been interviewing prospective candidates for DEI Coordinator. We have several good candidates, and plan to make an offer in the next two weeks.

Client Deaths: If you have the chance to review it, please take a look at the attached *Regional Anti-Poverty Report*, which highlights the number of folks passing away homeless in Oregon. In the past 12 months, two people have passed away on or near our property. The first was a resident of [ARCHES Inn](#), who was on hospice care. He passed at the Inn in the presence of his hospice provider. Thankfully he could do so peacefully, instead of dying outside. Saturday morning, January 21st, we had a long-term homeless female who passed

away outside of ARCHES. She was only 34. She was a higher needs client, and while she had been referred to an external [Permanent Supportive Housing \(PSH\)](#) program back in 2021, they were not able to house her. We simply do not have enough PSH beds in the community to meet that need, and she likely needed a level of care that may have been beyond even a PSH housing program. The client had been at the warming center two nights before. She was suffering from medical complications (there may have been other factors too). She had been at a medical facility that day, but was released at 9 p.m. on Friday night and dropped off at the ARCHES lot without our knowledge, on a night the warming centers were open. She was dead less than 12 hours later. Had we been told of the medical condition, we could have placed her in the ARCHES Inn. She may have passed away there anyway. But this is a repeated and frustrating occurrence the past decade, and significant state-level changes in the law need to happen to prevent the kind of patient dumping we are seeing across Oregon. I am withholding her name here, because this is a public document, and people deserve some dignity even in death.

Polk County Youth Expansion Plans/719 Jackson Street (Taylor’s House 2.0): After weeks and weeks of conversation, we have a signed PSA on 719 Jackson Street in Monmouth. The attorney has vetted the PSA and green lit moving forward, and we were able to sign the PSA back in December. At this point, [Ashley Hamilton](#) will begin our due diligence pieces (appraisal, building inspection, environmental). She has also submitted a \$2 million grant request to the [Oregon Health Authority](#), which would cover the full purchase price of the property plus the funds necessary to build (in

partnership with the [Polk Community Development Corporation](#)) four apartments on the back side of the property. If you recall, Ashley presented on this property back in October. I believe Ashley plans to arrange a tour for any interested Board members sometime in February, and we hope to have a presentation to the Board in February or March for more action.

As you know, last year we received a [Youth Homeless Demonstration Project \(YHDP\)](#) grant from the [Mid-Willamette Valley Homeless Alliance \(MWWHA\)](#), our local [Continuum of Care \(COC\)](#), from the federal [Housing and Urban Development \(HUD\)](#) department. As we do with most things, we are leveraging that grant opportunity for the highest possible impact in the community by matching up the following funding streams:

- YHDP.
- Oregon Housing and Community Services funds for a youth Rapid Re-Housing Program.
- A grant application to the Oregon Health Authority for \$2 million to support the construction.

If we win the OHA grant, we would be able to:

- Acquire the house we discussed last month at 719 Jackson Street in Monmouth, fully paid.
- In partnership with [Polk Community Development Corporation](#), we would build four apartment units on the back piece of the property.
- Operate a youth shelter (ages 16-18) at 719 Jackson Street.
- Set up a youth-specific coordinated entry system.
- Set up a housing program with support for up to two years for youth exiting the shelter (and other community youth).
- Set up an office for outreach, service navigation and community coordination for Polk youth.

In short, if all this comes together it would be the single most significant expansion of homeless youth services in our greater community in a generation.

Taylor's House 2022 Statistics: During 2022, we served a total of 45 youth and provided 1,566 bed nights of service (out of a maximum of 3,650 bed nights).² That's a bed fill rate of 43 percent. Remember, that the purpose of any shelter, and especially a youth shelter, is to keep it nearly empty. With youth, we want to move them on to the next safe option as quickly as possible. We deliberately kept the shelter numbers lower in 2022, as we worked to make sure that the kinds of problems we had in 2020/2021 were not repeated. We did that by narrowing up our selection criteria and keeping the cohorts smaller, so we could keep the temperature of the house lower and everyone safer. That said, our bed fill rate in 2023 should look closer to 60 percent, now that we have a year of solid work under our belt and the COVID issues are declining. Those 1,566 bed nights for 2022 can be measured in a variety of ways, both quantitative and qualitative. We need to continue to improve in 2023 on the former, but the latter likely saved youth from an extraordinary amount of victimization. In terms of safety, it was generally a good year. We had a total of 178 incident reports, but only 60 of those rose to the level of "critical."³ The House is not a popular place for some youth to stay, given that we do not allow them to have cell phones while they are there, and make other tight restrictions on behavior and language. We are considering backing off some of those stringent requirements where we can, but our greatest obligation is to keep everyone safe while protecting the Agency from risk. So any loosening of restrictive policies will only be with safety first in mind.

² Theoretical maximum is 10 beds times 365 days, or 3,650 bed nights.

³ Critical is a DHS designation. It includes run reports (youth who run away from the shelter), emergency medical or dental trips, emergency mental health interventions, and any acts of self-harm, physical threats or violence. In 2022, incidents included run reports, youth reported allegations of violence against them and others out in the community, self-harm, suicidal ideation, etc. Only four of the 60 triggered a follow-up investigation by OTIS of the circumstances and all four incidents were closed. There were more unique IR's filed than youth sheltered because contracted policy requires us to file IR's for unsheltered youth issues where we find them on the street.

Taylor's House 2022 Statistics (HOME Youth Services)					
Total IR's		179	Total IR's by month		Quarter
	Critical	60	January	12	39
	Standard	82	February	12	
	Minor	37	March	15	
Unduplicated Youth with IR's			April	10	47
Frequency	1-5 IR	37	May	32	
	6-10 IR	9	June	5	47
	11+ IR	3	July	11	
			August	13	
			September	23	
Total youth served in shelter		45	October	19	46
Total nights service		1566	November	10	
Maximum Bed Days		3650	December	17	
Occupation Percentage		42.90%	Totals	179	

Emergency Warming 21-24 December: Marion-Polk experienced freezing weather as a by-product of the Arctic cyclone that became a major winter storm in North America, knocking out power to hundreds of thousands of homes and delaying the holiday travel of thousands. For those living outside, these are life threatening conditions. From southern Oregon to Seattle a winter storm deposited a layer of ice that shut down the runaways at PDX and SEATAC, and caused hundreds, perhaps thousands of accidents. In Salem the thick ice made driving nearly impossible and walking dangerous. Our winter operations last week likely saved lives in Salem.

I especially want to thank [Sara Webb](#), the Program Director for [Community Action Sheltering Services](#), and [Robert Marshall](#), the Program Manager for [ARCHES Emergency Services](#), who pulled triple duty to keep people alive those few days at the emergency warming center here in Salem. The people who use the warming shelters in extreme weather tend to be elderly, very sick, and often disabled. They tend to camp in the inner core of the City, while the younger and healthier among the homeless population stay deeper in the woods. The younger group tends to have better equipment and supplies, and can weather short-term cold spells. But in events like this one, the people in the downtown, those who often sleep literally on the street, they have no shelter from the elements. It isn't uncommon to have people die from exposure or complications from chronic ailments in these conditions.

Those three days in the warming centers alone, we served:

- 73 unique guests on December 21.
- 130 unique guests on December 22.
- 123 unique guests on December 23.

Over that three day-period of 12/21-12/23, we served:

- 157 unique guests with a count of 326 bed nights.

The warming centers have been active this week (January 20th) as well.

ARCHES East (1875 Fisher Road): We are still working to acquire the property, including conversations with [Oregon Department of Human Services](#) and [Oregon Community Foundation](#). The property remains under contract and we will update the Board as soon as more funding details emerge. The need in our community, on a number of fronts, remains acute.

House Bill 2100 Task Force on Homelessness & Racial Disparities: Though the task force is charted through 2025, we are working on a compromise now that is, in the end, in the best interest of everyone in Oregon. We have hammered out the framework of a deal. Essentially, OHCS would sponsor a bill that created a new delivery system starting in July of 2025. In order to protect the CAA interests, the legislature would create a new fund, the “Oregon Community Services Block Grant” (OCSBG) match. This would be a dollar-for-dollar replacement for the operational budgets that come from EHA (Emergency Housing Account) and SHAP (State Homeless Assistance Program). And it would be placed into statute and set at \$50 million continuing service level (CSL) in the state’s budget (both critical to us). There would be an argument for why CAA’s receive this funding and no one else, essentially because we are federally mandated to receive federal CSBG (and no one else can), regardless of what the state does elsewhere.

The new state system would create **four buckets** for state homeless dollars.

- **Bucket One:** *A \$50 million Continuing Service Level Fund (CSL) that is designed as a plus match for the federal Community Services Block Grant Program (CSBG), replacing EHA and SHAP. For us, this would be a plus up above current CSL on EHA/SHAP and this fund would be written into statute (also an improvement over our current position).*
- **Bucket Two:** *All other state homeless funds would be routed through another system, which will be designed over the next two years. That system could be the Continuums of Care (CoC) in Oregon, with heavy sideboards around the CoCs in terms of best practices, target populations served, capacity building funds, etc), looking perhaps more like the recent competitive ESG fund. There could also be some role for the 4123 pilots in this bucket. Some specific funds in this bucket might be reserved for CAP Agencies, like the ORE-DAP program, given how poorly local governments fared in particular in the OEARP distribution. We will also focus on holding on to primarily prevention funds, while allowing the state to contract with CoC’s, 4123’s and local government on homeless services funds. This fund essentially separates out the growing homeless work at the local level (best represented by the Oregon Mayor’s Association ask) from the traditional prevention work of Community Action across Oregon.⁴*
- **Bucket Three:** *An innovation and capacity building fund for culturally responsive organizations. We might qualify for some funds in this bucket.*
- **Bucket Four:** *Direct tribal allocations.*

No changes would happen until July 2025. We would spend the next two years building out the parameters of this delivery framework. I call this system a **CAP Plus Model (CAP+)**. The “Plus” part is still a bit unknown. But it is essentially the status quo. OHCS has been running a CAP Plus Model since 2020, under emergency authorization. These changes would make that permanent. Many of the metro organizations would prefer that the “Plus” not be the Continuum of Care systems in Oregon, because they can often be heavy handed, given that they are generally dominated by local government interests. Many agencies, especially culturally specific agencies in the metro, do not trust the CoC system, finding it unresponsive in particular to the needs of social and racial justice. It’s possible too that the new 4123 pilot systems could be that “plus,” but that too in the metro also removes culturally specific organization’s abilities to contract directly with Oregon Housing and Community Services, which they prefer.

This compromise is important to us, however. It essentially continues the status quo we have found ourselves in since 2020, creates a new \$50 million flexible fund for operations of our homeless services, allows OHCS to contract with other partners, and gives the state maximum flexibility to fight homelessness over the next decade. It removes the extinction level threat we have faced for years, increases our local flexibility, protects our resources and provides a pathway for future growth. I have fought the state and at times other agencies for this model for three years now. It will

⁴ See the *Regional Anti-Poverty Report* on the Oregon Mayor’s Association ask.

protect CAA's for the next generation and put us in a position to compete for an ever-growing pool of funds beyond a guaranteed base.

As a matter of course, every January I report out on my external roles in the community and the state. Those include:

- *Vice President for Legislative Affairs for the Community Action Partnership of Oregon*, where I organize the legislative policy efforts of 18 Community Action Agencies and their hundreds of sub-contractors across Oregon. Elected.
- *Vice Chair, House Bill 2100 Task Force on Homelessness & Racial Disparities*, which is designing future funding structures and systems in alignment with the State of Oregon's equity and racial justice goals. Appointed by the Senate President and Speaker of the House.
- *Member, Housing Committee of the Governor's Racial Justice Council*, which advocates for equity, inclusion and racial justice in state systems across Oregon. Appointed by the Governor.
- *Member, Racial Justice Council State Report Coordinating Team*, which produced the RJC's first annual report to the Legislature.
- *Member, Marion-Polk Early Learning Hub Board of Directors*, which coordinates early learning work in the community. Elected.
- *Member, Mid-Willamette Valley Homeless Alliance*, which is the Continuum of Care that organizes federal homeless work in the Marion-Polk Community. Elected.
- *Member, Marion County Justice Reinvestment Council*, which coordinates Justice Reinvestment funds in Marion County. Appointed by Marion County Commissioners.
- *Member, Citizen Involvement Advisory Committee of the Land Conservation and Development Commission*, which advises the state agency on citizen engagement on land use and conservation policies in Oregon. Appointed by the Commission.

Child Care Resource and Referral: Our [Child Care Resource and Referral \(CCR&R\)](#) program was selected in December as one of three regions in Oregon for the [Oregon Child Care Alliance](#) expansion. We have been working expressly with the [Chemeketa Small Business Development Center](#) and the [Marion-Polk Early Learning Hub](#) to develop training that has continued to elevate our program and make us more competitive statewide. The Child Care Alliance membership will qualify us for additional funding from the [Early Learning Division](#), which will support 1 FTE for a Child Care Business Navigator position. Funding for the position will not begin until July 1, after the conclusion of the current legislative session.

Legislature, Homeless Politics: As I have long feared, the temperature level on this issue was turned up so high during the most recent election season that it is having direct consequences across the country. In Tennessee, a new law last summer has criminalized camping on public grounds (Tennessee is not in the [Ninth US Circuit](#), and thus not subject to the *Boise v. Idaho* ruling), making such public camping a [felony](#) punishable by imprisonment. The Supreme Court has declined to review *Boise*, leaving two legal standards in the United States). In Texas, Florida, and California, camping in any public place is illegal. In Missouri, the state has withdrawn public supportive housing funds, and banned camping in public places. Some of the new laws are being driven by the [Cicero Institute](#), a far right-wing think tank that offers state legislators across the nation model bills to punish and harass vulnerable homeless people, using failed and tired "worthy poor" standards to decide who is worthy of help, and who is not. Per the [National Low-Income Housing Council](#), the Cicero draft bill criminalizes homelessness, levies fines that poor people cannot pay, and sets jail time for impoverished

people living outside. It also encourages time limits for services, creates work requirements, expects sobriety and imposes forced treatment.⁵ In Oregon there have been several bills filed this session that reflect that model. Most will never see the light of day because of the legislative process in Oregon. But expect more trouble on the horizon, as the homeless (and anyone trying to help them) are increasingly targeted.



Passing of Raul Ramirez: Former [Marion County Sheriff](#), and beloved Board Chair at MWVCAA for several years, [Raul Ramirez](#) passed away on December 23rd. Sheriff Ramirez served ten years as Marion County Sheriff (1997-2007), the first Latino resident of our community to hold that office. His law enforcement career spanned 34 years. He loved our work, and often said “Children may not remember what you teach them but will always remember how you treat them.” To honor his service to the Agency, the community, Marion County, and the State of Oregon we sent flowers to his memorial, and ordered a brick for Raul in our sidewalk of remembrance outside our main offices on Center Street.

Looking ahead in 2023: On Friday (20 January), we held a monthly online Agency brown bag lunch. I have been holding these events for nearly a year, and they help promote better internal communication. I want to spend 2023 essentially working on quality improvement, refining our systems and improving our processes and working to make everything we do better. We’re certainly not going to pass up opportunities as they come along, but it is time to catch our breath a bit and make sure we are maximizing every resource that we have. Now that we are exiting the long shadow of the pandemic, the wildfires, and the emergency environment it created, we can think more about quality over the urgency of emergency operations. That means working on internal work culture, pay systems, equity, external communications, better client process systems, and especially better data across the board. I also want to build a stronger cross-program sense of Agency culture. In addition to the Gala, which we will have again in October, we plan on a richer opening kick-off event and an end-of-year event for our staff. At the moment, we are hoping to have an Agency barbeque in September, perhaps with a bit of a carnival feel. I promised to find a dunk booth, and pledged to be the first one in tank. This work is so very hard, and the damage we do to ourselves in it is often extraordinary. Part of that quest for greater quality in 2023 is an attempt to recapture some joy, even amid so much desperation and suffering. The French theologian John Calvin once wrote that “you must submit to supreme suffering in order to discover the completion of joy.” These past few years have been hard enough on us all. It’s time to show the world the joy and love that led us through that fight, and on to the other side.

Jimmy Jones
20 January 2023
Salem, Oregon

⁵ https://nlihc.org/sites/default/files/Housing-First_Cicero.pdf

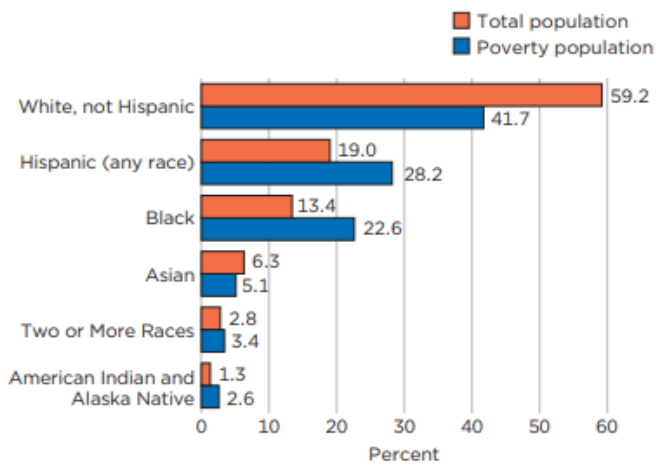
Regional Anti-Poverty Report

MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

January 2023

January is [National Poverty Awareness Month](#) in America. The official poverty rate in 2021 was 11.6 percent, with 37.9 million Americans in poverty. That number was largely unchanged from 2020. The information for 2022 will be available later this year.

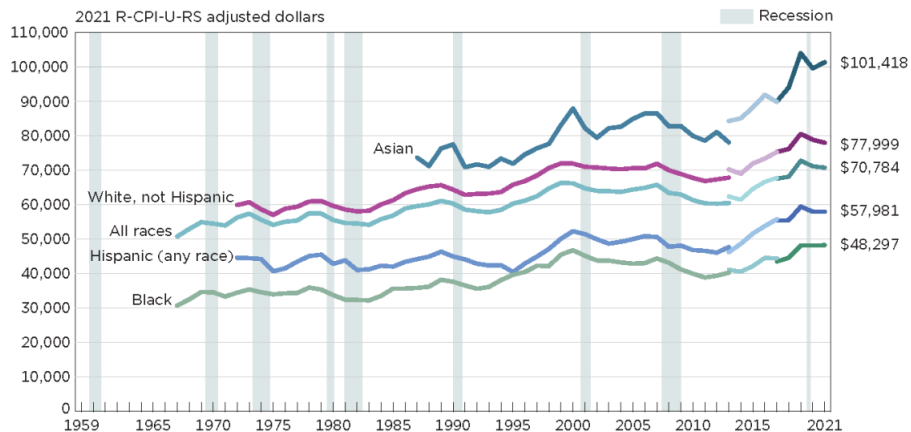
Figure 3.
Distribution of Total Population and Poverty by Race Using the Official Poverty Measure: 2021



National poverty rates demonstrate the enduring legacy of white supremacy, inequality, and structural racism. In America, non-Hispanic whites make up 59.2 percent of the population, but only 41.7 percent of those in poverty. Hispanics are 19 percent of the population, but include 28.2 percent of the poverty population. And Black Americans represent 13.4 percent of the total population, but 22.6 percent of the poverty population.

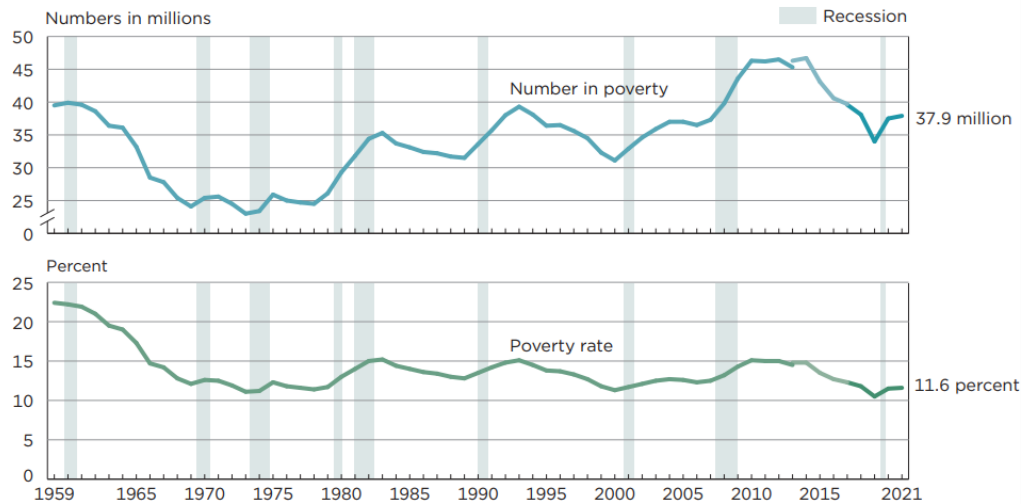
Income levels (Real Median Household Income) remains poorly distributed across racial divides, with the average white (non-Hispanic) household earning \$77,999 per year, compared to the \$48,297 per for black households per year.

Figure 2.
Real Median Household Income by Race and Hispanic Origin: 1967 to 2021
(Households as of March of the following year)

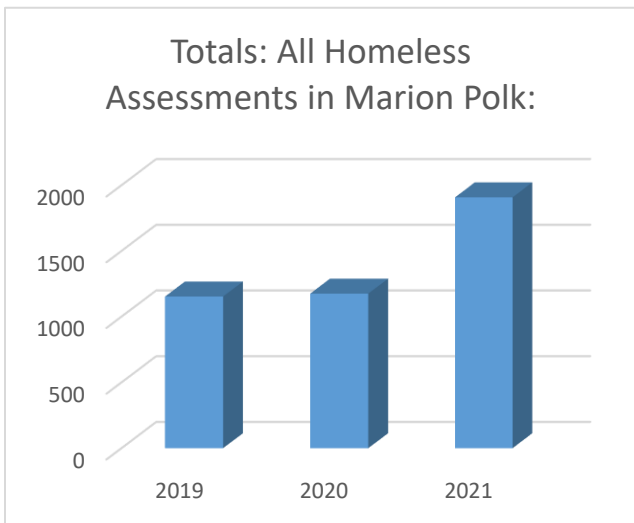


Note: The data for 2017 and beyond reflect the implementation of an updated processing system. The data for 2013 and beyond reflect the implementation of the redesigned income questions. Refer to Table A-2 for historical race footnotes. The data points are placed at the midpoints of the respective years. Median household income data are not available prior to 1967. More information on the R-CPI-U-RS dollar adjustment and recessions is available in Appendix A. Information on confidentiality protection, sampling error, nonsampling error, and definitions is available at <<https://www2.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps/techdocs/cpsmar22.pdf>>.
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 1968 to 2022 Annual Social and Economic Supplements (CPS ASEC).

Figure 1.
Number in Poverty and Poverty Rate Using the Official Poverty Measure: 1959 to 2021



The United States Census Bureau released the [SAIPE State and County Estimates for 2021](#) back in December of last year. SAIPE ([Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates](#)) produces single year estimates of income and poverty for all US states and counties, and estimates school-age children in poverty for the more than 13,000 school districts nationally. Oregon has 507,504 people in poverty, roughly 12.2 percent of our total population, giving us a state poverty rate slightly higher than the national average. Marion County had 44,959 people in poverty, or about 13.3 percent of residents. For Polk County the estimates were 9,611 (about 11 percent of its total population). Child poverty was particularly acute, with the Oregon rate of Birth to Age 17 poverty at 13.8 percent, while Marion County tolled 16 percent and Polk registered at 12.6 percent. Oregon median household income continued its inflationary rise to \$71,441, while incomes in Marion were \$64,412 per household and \$71,606 per household in Polk County.¹



The Coming Homeless Crisis: I hope I am wrong. But 2023 is shaping up to be the worst year for homelessness in Oregon history. We had some evidence of that in initial homeless numbers released in December from January of 2022.²

I do not have the 2022 numbers yet, but consider what COVID and the economy did to the homeless population surge in 2021 in the chart to the left. We're certainly doing our part, but the forces driving the gathering wave are not anything we (nor government) can control. These are not the products of behavioral problems. This generation is not somehow less responsible or hard working than prior generations. It's simply the function of economic

variables that leave people with few if any choices. As for the future, we are trapped into playing defense against a steadily expanding socio-economic problem that cannot successfully be prevented.

¹ [SAIPE State and County Estimates for 2021 \(census.gov\)](#)

² The federal AHAR (Part 1) for 2022 was published in December by the [Office of Policy Development and Research](#) at the federal [Department of Housing and Urban Development](#). What it showed was troubling. The national homeless numbers have remained largely unchanged since 2016. There were 582,462 folks counted in the PIT Count in January of 2022, just a .3 percent increase since 2020. But in Oregon the story was quite different. The PIT data here shows that there are now 17,959 homeless in Oregon, an increase of 22.5 percent since 2020. <https://tinyurl.com/yhzyjxhx>; <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/ahar/2022-ahar-part-1-pit-estimates-of-homelessness-in-the-us.html>

And locally? Our total homeless assessments nearly doubled in 2021, increasing from 1,175 in 2020 to 1,978 in 2021. That increase was limited by the many eviction protection pieces in place, most of which are now expired or spent-down. Driving around town in December 2022, you have a real feeling that something larger is coming. You have to remember that we (the non-profit community) are sheltering hundreds more than we have ever sheltered in Salem history. Without those shelters the scale of the problem will be twice what we currently have.

The shelters keep much of the current homeless population invisible. And even with so many inside, it feels like the numbers have visibly increased. When we have such noticeable increases, I grow worried that communities of color in Salem struggle from access issues, because no matter what anyone *says* there is often unconscious or implicit bias that enters into the housing and homeless entry process.

Race Category Self Reported During CE Assessment	By Year CE Racial Self Reports		
	2019	2020	2021
White	995	1002	1630
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	26	27	44
African American	66	73	111
Asian	6	5	9
American Indian	60	68	114
Totals:	1153	1175	1908

We fight very hard against it, but we don't fully control all the assessments now given in the community these days. So I asked [Ashley Hamilton](#) to run the racial and ethnic demographics among the homeless assessments for the past three years. The results were curious.

First, you can see considerable increases across the board. Virtually every single demographic grew during the 2021 year. But pay close attention to the Native American

population. All communities of color are more vulnerable in unsheltered conditions, but the Native population in particular frequently struggles with access issues because of implicit bias in entry systems, and the perceptions by some agencies that there are adequate tribal resources to fully serve them, when nothing could be further from the truth.

Percentage of Total Assessments			Race Category Self-Reported During Coordinated Entry Assessment
2019%	2020%	2021%	
2.25%	2.30%	2.31%	Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
5.72%	6.21%	5.82%	African American
0.52%	0.43%	0.47%	Asian
5.20%	5.79%	5.97%	American Indian

If you look for percentages of total assessments, you'll see the growth is proportionally static to the total homeless population. But if you adjust for demographics and for poverty, you'll see that every one of these groups are over-represented among the homeless population, primarily due to housing discrimination taking place in the private market, where landlords have been quicker to evict people of color than they have whites. My fear is that the 2022 information will show that even more clearly. And that in 2023 these trends will become much worse.

We have some evidence it is already happening in the 2022 eviction data provided to us by the [Oregon Law Center](#), which shows black women in particular have been targeted for eviction at rates much higher than any other population. They're more than TWICE as likely as white renters to face eviction filings, and if they are evicted they are at much greater risk of becoming homeless. We have to watch this closely, because few others will. Not only are the evictions and the homeless wave a clear human tragedy, but most importantly the enforcement mechanisms that are being designed by some cities to target unsheltered homeless residents will be *gravely and disproportionately be felt by people of color*. This is especially true in Portland. But it likely will also be true in Salem if there are inroads on a politically popular (but research impoverished) Portland-style system. Portland plans to intern their entire homeless population. There will be decidedly racial and ethnic undertones to that effort, which makes it even more insidious than it already is. The homeless issue could very well end up as one of the gravest civil rights challenges in America in the decade ahead.

Homeless Deaths in Oregon:

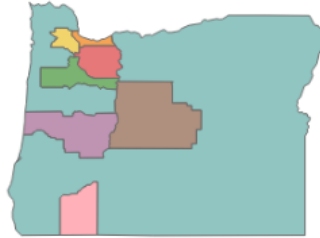
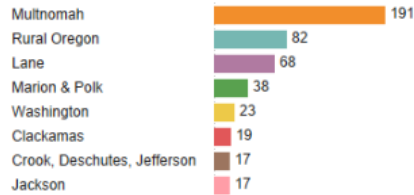
Domicile unknown

Oregon occurrences, preliminary data



Center for Health Statistics

Continuums of Care



455
total
unhoused decedents
2022 year-to-date
(Jan-Nov)

Choose a year:

2022

Choose a geography:

HSPR regions

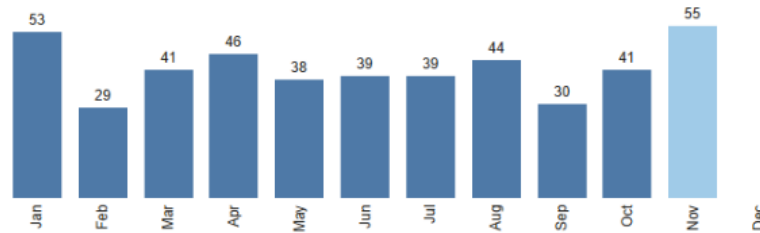
Continuums of Care

Notes and definitions

- Preliminary data
- Records being processed

* Asterisks denote data that may be unreliable. See "Notes and definitions"

Month of death



Death rates for Native Americans are three times as high as whites, and the death rate for African Americans is 2.5 times as high.

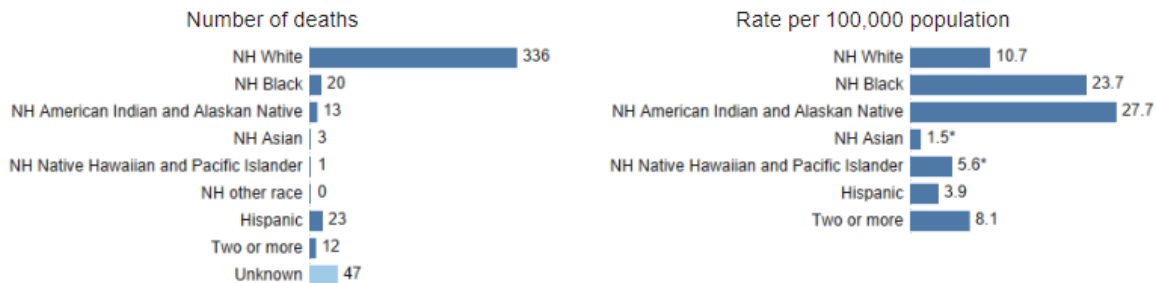
Multiple-mention race and ethnicity

(One decedent may appear in multiple categories)

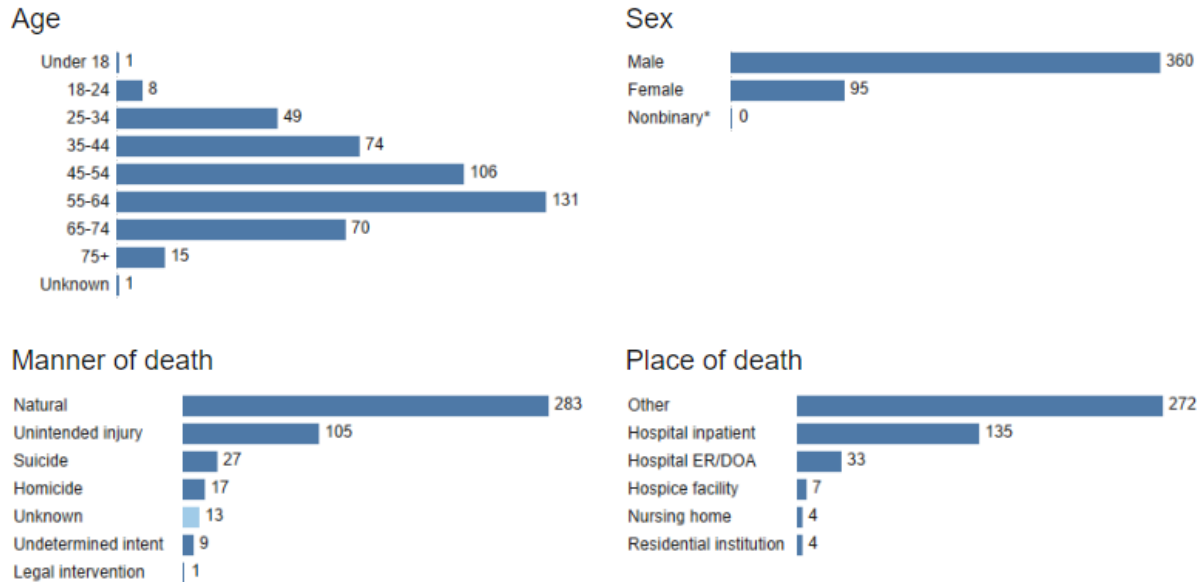


Single-mention race and ethnicity

(Mutually exclusive categories)



Note the number of women dying outside, and the ages of the folks who are passing away, many of whom are under the age of 55.



Updated January 4, 2023

On the housing justice front, what we are doing is keeping people alive. These are the latest numbers from the [Oregon Health Authority](#) on homeless deaths, in the charts above. Note that the winter spike in October has started. But also compare the numbers who have died here versus Lane County, two areas with very similar homeless populations but which have vastly different homeless response systems. Both regions, however, depend on the non-profits to shelter. In our area it is largely [Union Gospel Mission](#), [Simonka Place](#), [Church and the Park](#), [Safe Sleep](#), and us. The demand for our low-barrier style of services is much greater than traditional dry, medium-barrier shelter. UGM, in particular, has frequently had 100 beds open per night, and across the state roughly one in five shelter beds is open, every night. Meanwhile, our low-barrier shelter strategies, and connection to health outcomes, is working. Why? The three primary reasons people do not shelter are pets, partners, and sobriety. Conditions around any of those non-negotiables discourages shelter use. That said, there is a role for every system piece and a place for every program and design. This issue will not be solved with one answer, because the homeless condition is not given to reductive logic.

The [Oregon Mayor's Association](#) has made a request for continuous funding of \$125 million per year for the next decade. Governor Kotek is skeptical of that ask. Policy makers inside the administration see it as too expensive, and OHCS worries that the ask has no programming sideboards around it. My guess is that, in the end, the Governor will find a way to get there. The cities will want that funding to go through the [Department of Administrative Services \(DAS\)](#), and by-pass OHCS entirely. OHCS, in turn, is afraid of a massive amount of homeless funding in the system that they have no control over. Quietly, they are ready to "go to the mat" to sideline the DAS plan. They want those funds programmed, through their process, and not turned into easy handouts with few strings attached, as they will be if money goes through DAS. Creating system wide symmetry, unity, efficiency, and measurable results on such a bifurcated and diffuse strategy is a kind of big government "fund every idea" strategy, however, that is unlikely to be successful.

The current dominate view is that government is more efficient, capable, laden with expertise, and has the capacity to get the social services job done correctly. Yet, most city governments have no experience with this issue, and its systems are not designed for direct service to a population that demands engagement on their terms. Counties are historically better positioned because of their role in public health, but they generally do not do field work, and are inflexible to service models. The very idea of something as simple as the expectation of setting an "appointment" is not

going to work with the unsheltered in Oregon. Government too is also conflicted in the sense that leadership is elected to serve *all* the population, and not prioritize the needs of a homeless minority over the fair and just needs of the general population. That will create both credibility gaps with the homeless population and enormous tension to redeploy the funds for law enforcement, sanitation, and other uses that we know, from 30 years of history, will fail yet again.

Governor Tina Kotek Takes Office: Governor Kotek was sworn in as Oregon's 39 Governor on January 9th. On January 10th, she delivered on a campaign promise and declared a homeless state of emergency by signing three housing related executive orders. Two merit special mention:

- **Executive Order 23-02:** Declares a homeless state of emergency in Oregon until January 10, 2024 in areas that have seen a 50 percent or greater increase in homelessness since 2017, when the current unsheltered surge began. This order applied only, thus, to 10 of the 36 Oregon Counties. The 26 counties that make up the **Rural Oregon Continuum of Care** were NOT included, because they had not seen the 50 percent increase. But, looking a bit deeper, this was a poor measurement to define a state of emergency. Homeless numbers statewide are determined by the annual **Point in Time Count (PIT)**. The idea is that, on the worst day of the year, we send out teams into the community to find all the homeless and enroll them in a census. The PIT Counts have existed since 2003, and are rooted in the prior 20 years of fighting in the 1980s and 1990s over what and who counts as homeless, and how large the problem actually was in America. The PIT, however, is inherently flawed. It was designed for small urban geographies in the eastern United States, not for large rural areas in the west. Since it relies on local conditions and manpower, it has never been uniform region to region nor year to year. This marks the 21st year of the PIT, and few people pause these days to consider the trauma and other damage it is doing to our homeless neighbors.³

But if it worked well, perhaps, it might be worth the trouble and the pain. Yet, the PIT Counts even in good years never capture more than 80 percent of what's really there. Rarely has the ROCC had good counting years, even though it has one of the largest homeless populations in America for a **"Balance of State"** Continuum of Care. Why? It's exceptionally rural and difficult to count. It depends on a very poor **Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)**, one wildly underfunded by Oregon Housing and Community Services. Nor is there a perfect count conversion between the counting software and the hand tallied sheets and the numbers OHCS scrubs and then reports on to HUD for the AHAR. And, of course, the ROCC has not attempted full geography unsheltered counts through COVID. If that was not enough, part of the reason why the ROCC has decreased in homelessness between 2017 and now is that the **Marion-Polk Continuum of Care** separated from the ROCC in 2019, which pulled about 1,200 folks out of the ROCC's count. As you can imagine, the order was not well received in those 26 counties, which include the cities of Albany and Corvallis, and the coastal counties with a sizeable number of homeless, like Lincoln County. In short, this was rushed without talking to the folks that needed to be in the conversation.⁴

The Emergency Order redirects \$130 million in current year funds, including \$40 million in current year funds in the budget at OHCS. The goal is to move another 1,200 people off the street within the year (at a cost of about \$108,333 per person, using simple math on the system investment in consideration of the desired outcome). The lesson there is sheltering is expensive (about \$45,000 per person per year) while housing (though invisible, hard, and less appealing to policy makers) costs only about \$17,500 per person, per year.⁵

³ <https://tinyurl.com/3yza6v67>

⁴ It also ignored the fact that the Speaker of the Oregon House of Representatives is from Albany, and the chair of the state's **Housing Stability Council** is a County Commissioner from Lincoln County. Executive Order 23-03 did direct state agencies to prioritize reducing both sheltered and unsheltered homelessness in all areas of the state, not just those where an emergency had been declared. <https://tinyurl.com/23tymz4b>

⁵ It's also dependent on available housing stock, which is in short supply in Oregon.

- **Executive Order 23-04:** Declares a strategic shortage of housing in Oregon, given that we are about 140,000 homes short of adequate stock (the lion’s share of that is the affordable housing need, units for folks making 80 percent or less of *Area Median Income*). The order directs state agencies to lead the construction of 36,000 new homes **PER YEAR** over the next ten years to close the gap on the current deficit and keep pace with growing demand. Currently, Oregon is adding only about 17,000 new homes per year, and we lack the construction labor force and the system supports (building inspectors, permitting, etc) to meet that kind of need in 2023.

Emergency orders are old bureaucratic tools, which have been used repeatedly in the past. Gov. Kotek’s grasp of the Oregon legislative process, generally, is better than any Governor in living memory, given she served as the **Speaker of the Oregon House** for more than a decade, which is the longest tenure as Speaker in Oregon history. That experience and sense of certainty means she will move quickly. Her advisory staff, however, are younger. While talented and experienced, they’re more political generally than administrative, which means mistakes are likely to be made in the early days.

That said, she has some exceptionally talented people. This staff though is **very metro centric**. I expect the full plan that follows will be a “Portland First” plan, with substantial downstream investments in the Valley in particular. One positive from this approach, to me, is that the new Governor seems very willing to part with the geographic equity concept that largely drives state funding politics, focusing instead on measureable impacts in the homeless hotspots. Time will tell if that approach holds.

Part of the plan that is shaping up at OHCS, to use the Continuums of Care more directly, is both a stroke of political genius and a way to limit the administration’s primary regional weaknesses. By giving the locals more funds, it makes them personally responsible for the issue, including the inevitable failures to follow. They cannot complain that the state is shutting them out or not doing enough if they have direct funding. Thus they are clamoring for the very thing that will force them to redirect other local resources and raise additional revenues once the gross inadequacy of those state funds are understood. The local shift redirects the blame for the inevitable failures away from the administration and toward local authorities. And it also bridges a credibility gap for the administration, and forces even the most hesitant and best-practice impaired local officials to start taking the homeless issue serious as a service project, and not just an enforcement problem.

Evictions: November was a better month, after a very poor October. But remember that November is really only a three-week month given the holiday. Non-payment remains the primary reason for the evictions we are seeing across the state. I do not have the Marion-Polk December data yet, but statewide there were 2,017 FED filings in December, and 83 percent of those were for non-payment. November saw 2,083 statewide filings and October had 2,347. January is expected to return to October levels, and rental increases of up to 14.6 percent are expected to create more filings in February and March. Pre-Pandemic there were about 18,000 evictions a year in Oregon (1,500 per month).

Marion-Polk Eviction Filings, June-November 2022							
2022 FED filings	June	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Totals
Total (Marion)	99	132	174	141	202	148	896
Nonpayment (Marion)	70	98	148	119	185	120	740
Total (Polk)	26	18	41	40	51	50	226
Nonpayment (Polk)	17	14	31	35	44	44	185

Figure 1: Oregon Law Center Eviction Tracking

Behind the Scenes Plans: We have been privy to much of the planning going back and forth, as we are frequently called to provide technical advice on service budgets. There are only two approaches to the homeless issue: housing and sheltering. There's strong internal tension over the direction for the next few months. OHCS prefers housing. The Governor's staff are leaning on sheltering (immediate visible impact for the political pressure surrounding the issue). I talked with OHCS about the sideboards they would need to keep providers from cherry-picking people who are one-week homeless and ending up with no visible impact.

One positive in any new administration is the reset it causes at the state level. There's been a strong disagreement over the proper approach to homelessness between ODHS (transitional projects) and OHCS (anti-transitional). That seems to be better already. There is also nearly universal hope for the Medicaid 1115 Waiver. There's some skepticism about that fund, too, because of the historic difficulty in working with Medicaid reimbursement. However, this is an entirely new Medicaid frontier, and OHA is spending a year with new rule-making for it, which will be directed by a Governor who understands housing work and housing barriers. So the resource should be easier than it might have otherwise been. They are banking on a big impact from this fund.

Governor's Recommended Budget: Among the already standing \$773 million OHCS ask in the pending session, leadership and advocacy groups plan to push for \$100 million in ORE-DAP ([Oregon Diversion Assistance Prevention](#), funded through OHCS, which is \$60 million more than OHCS currently planned). We have that grant currently. It's the latest version of the state's eviction prevention fund. In the ARCHES Housing program, [Sean Sachs](#) (Program Manager) runs that program and he has watched over more than \$30 million in rental supports to more than 5,000 households. If the 2023-2025 ORE-DAP is funded at \$100M, our agency share should be about \$9 million across Marion-Polk.

Housing Policy in the 2023 Session: There is a LOT out there right now.

- The Oregon Cities want \$125 million [A YEAR](#) for the next decade to fight homelessness.
- OHCS wants \$773 million in their proposed budget, plus whatever Governor Kotek prioritizes in 2023.
- Metro advocates want the proposed \$60 million budgeted for eviction prevention to increase to \$100 million.
- The Youth Alliance has a major ask and is looking for new funding streams to fund it.
- The Food Banks of Oregon are in a tough place. The food bank system is the one of the most poorly designed safety nets in Oregon, reliant on volunteer labor, few service dollars, and very little in the way of infrastructure and resources, at a time when food demands have increased 350 percent. They have asked for \$22 million to help fund the infrastructure for the 20 regional food banks that serve 1,400 free food markets, pantries and meal sites, distributing 44.4 million meals a year in Oregon. They also are asking for an additional \$10 million in one-time food purchasing assistance and another \$4.6 million for the [Oregon Hunger Response Fund](#) (this is a wildly underfunded grant and is one of the best funds in Oregon, if it were fully capitalized).

In Portland, the [Stable Homes Coalition](#) is leading the housing policy conversation for the session. They have extraordinary influence. We are not partner members, but collaborate with them frequently on common interests. Members of Stables Homes include: SEIU, AFL-CIO, AFSCME, Oregon Law Center, Coalition of Communities of Color, Community Alliance of Tenants, Basic Rights Oregon, JOIN, the Oregon Food Bank, Multnomah County, Oregon Education Association, Eugene Tenants Association, Unite Oregon, etc. The common theme here is this effort is backed heavily by the union funding and advocacy network in the metro.

What are they proposing?

- More funds for rental assistance and eviction prevention (this will manifest in the \$100M ORE-DAP). *Statewide CAPO will be in favor.*

- A bill that will institutionalize the tenant protection pieces that existed during the pandemic, by essentially creating more process and extended timelines for eviction filings (the goal is to slow everything down so that tenants will have time to access resources). *Statewide CAPO will be in favor.*
- A bill to create a landlord registration system. The argument is Oregon needs this system for the data it would generate. I think there's some truth to that. But I suspect it's also a gateway for more regulatory actions and taxation down the road. In part it is strategic and political, as the landlord lobby frequently claims that landlords do not raise rent just because they can, but set prices dependent on the market. That narrative is increasingly unsubstantiated, and the use of rent setting software and the turn of housing into an investment commodity, even trailer parks, has changed this conversation. The positives here are obvious, though. Many landlords in Oregon do not understand basic landlord-tenant law, and are frequently engaged in illegal landlord activities out of general ignorance. Training will help. *Statewide CAPO will be in favor.*
- Most significantly, and certainly the part of the agenda that will generate the most controversy, is a bill that will create a new state-wide rent control system. The new proposal would limit rental increases to just 3 percent annually, plus the CPI, with a combined cap of an 8 percent annual maximum. So far the rent control law was limited to properties older than 15 years old. New properties were not subject to these limitations. But this bill would revise the 15 year new property exclusion down to just 3 years.

They're unlikely to get both of these pieces, but I do expect them to get 5 percent plus CPI with a cap of 10 percent (more like the California law). The new property exclusion will likely fall somewhere between 5-10 years. When government tampers with the market without clear empirical evidence, there will be unintended consequences. It could depress housing development in Oregon, and will almost certainly drive some smaller landlords to sell to larger private market property management corporations. Or the costs could all just be passed on to the consumer (probable). My fear is that we may have less rental market options if this plan becomes law.

I'm skeptical that it will work the way they hope in any case. We have seen an exodus of small landlords and rental properties being sold to investors and larger property companies (some of which are serial evictors). There's little evidence that government interference in the private market has kept rental costs down, and quite a bit of evidence that it has dramatically increased prices in the rental market, endangering thousands.

Statewide CAPO will be neutral, some local agencies may oppose.

The network's current bill tracker is attached, as a report. Of note, HB 2454 and HB 2456 would fund youth homeless work at much greater scale than before, HB 2468 and SB 599 would require landlords to allow family child care homes in their dwellings, HB 2726 funds a pilot project for low-income pregnant women and families with children under five years of age, HB 2733 increases landlord payments to tenants for landlord-cause end of tenancy, HB 2734 and HB 2738 would create a statewide guaranteed income pilot project, SB 603 would create 12 monthly payments of \$1,000 to those experiencing homelessness or rent burden (another kind of guaranteed income program), SB 610 would declare a public assistance emergency and extend SNAP benefits to undocumented residents, and SB 684 would limit rental screening fees to just \$10,

Oregon Housing and Community Services Agency Overview: Oregon Housing & Community Services presented this week before the [House Committee on Housing and Homelessness](#) and the [Senate Committee on Housing and Development](#). In their presentations, they shared a general overview of the agency and introduced concepts for their 2023 Legislative Agenda. There was significant turnover in the membership of the housing committees, and there were a lot of general housing related questions, illustrating the need for additional education on housing and homeless needs. Of specific interest to our network, is a Policy Option Package to extend one-time investments to build a more robust housing retention system that ensures Oregonians remain stably housed. This package proposes \$60.3 million in funding for local rental assistance, legal services, mediation services, and support for

culturally responsive organizations. MWVCAA is running a current water program, and has a rate-reduction program with [City of Salem](#) customers as well through our [Energy Services](#) program.

Water Bill Payment Assistance: The [House Committee on Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Water](#) held a work session to adopt LC 3288 as a committee bill. This legislation, at the request of CAPO and coalition partners, establishes the [Public Drinking Water and Sewer Ratepayer Assistance Fund](#), allocating \$15 million to provide grants to qualified organizations (including CAA's) to distribute water and sewer bill payment assistance to low-income residential households.

Portland (remains) a Mess: We have previously discussed the Portland camping ban and designated camping zone plan offered by Mayor Ted Wheeler. Since 2016, the City of Portland and Multnomah County have had a combined [Joint Office of Homeless Services](#), which allocates resources and works to end homelessness in the City and County. The Joint Office was developed, primarily, to keep a succession of Portland Mayors from tampering with the long-term planning that's necessary to achieve results in this work. But Mayor Wheeler has not honored the political cease fire that created the Joint Office, and his new plan comes with the implicit threat of withdrawing City of Portland resources from the (County-based) Joint Office, unless they support his camping ban, which Multnomah County and the Joint Office have not supported so far. But there are signs that Multnomah County is caving. Specifically, my colleague Shannon Singleton, who was the former Executive Director of [JOIN](#) in Portland, the former Housing Policy Advisor and then Racial Justice Advisor for Governor Kate Brown, and who has been the Interim Director of the Joint Office since Marc Jolin left earlier in 2022, *resigned* as Director of the Joint Office in mid-November. She'll move on to the Director position at a black-owned public affairs firm (Espousal Strategies). The City and County have been at war for years over service philosophy, a war exacerbated by the ever growing number of homeless folks in Portland.⁶ The new Governor, though she was a tepid supporter of the Portland strategy during the election, seems to be siding with the Joint Office and Multnomah County.

The County generally follows HUD evidence-based best practices (and focuses on [Permanent Supportive Housing](#)), while the City has been critical of that approach in favor of more shelter. This is a classic tale of "long game strategy vs. urgent immediacy." Jolin was criticized for his tight relationships with some City non-profits that were heavily funded by the Joint Office, including JOIN and Human Solutions.⁷ Singleton, as a former Executive of JOIN and close partner of current Executive Director Katrina Holland, may well have faced the same kinds of pressures that Jolin did, especially as JOIN has been a heavy public critic (as have I) of Mayor Wheeler's encampment plan. The Joint Office has a \$262 million annual budget, almost all of which is discretionary (one of the largest such funds in Oregon). Any change in the Joint Office's funding strategies would very likely redistribute resources in the metro toward interests more friendly with the philosophy of *People For Portland* (a metro group that favors more police, more trash services, and designated camping zones), or shelters ran on the model of *Helping Hands* (a housing ready shelter model that is recovery focused "dry" sheltering).

Emergency SNAP Benefits: Since 2020, Oregon has been able to provide an extra emergency SNAP benefit to low-income households across the state. The federal government let Oregon know last week that the emergency benefits must end, and that the extra benefit will come to a close on March 2nd. I received the chart below from DHS. They too have internal issues with data tracking, but they provided the following for reference. You can see the Emergency food stamp assistance made up about 1/3rd of the total household benefit. The base budgets have not increased much (from \$100M in August of 2021 to \$110M in November of 2022) the past two years. So the immediate loss of 1/3rd of the SNAP benefit when emergency benefits end will be keenly felt.

⁶ <https://www.wweek.com/news/city/2022/11/10/interim-director-shannon-singleton-departs-joint-office-of-homeless-services/>

⁷ <https://www.wweek.com/news/2021/10/06/critics-question-the-close-relationships-between-nonprofits-and-the-county-office-that-battles-homelessness/>

One other thing to note on the chart. There are 725,237 folks (about 17% of the Oregon total population) receiving SNAP benefits in Oregon in December of 2022, with an average household payment of around \$260 dollars. That’s about two weeks worth of groceries (maybe) for a family of four. Food stamps are one the single most effective poverty fighting strategies in America, because they divert discretionary income that had to be spent on food toward rent, gas, utilities, and other basic needs. The reduction of these benefits by one-third will put additional, perhaps serious system strains on low-income families in particular that could impact multiple domains, from traffic citations for suspended drivers licenses because people cannot pay their insurance, to increased evictions because rent money is diverted for food. SNAP benefits were never designed to be a whole family, full month support. And need gaps that were common prior to the pandemic will likely reemerge in the coming months.

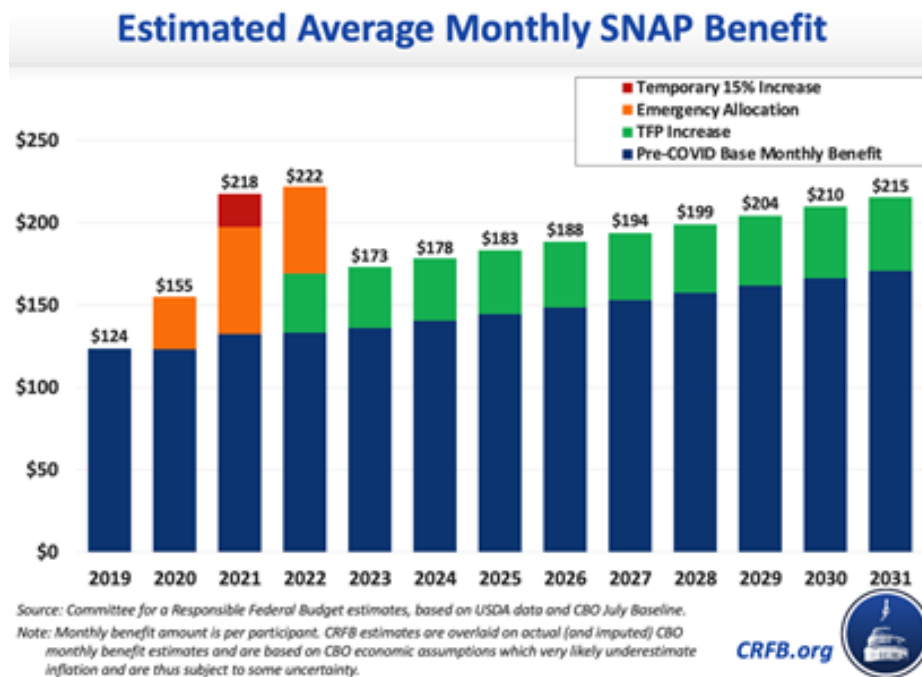


Figure 2: Federal Budget Estimates of USDA Benefits

Date	Type	Funds	Households	People	Average/household	Percent EA
August 2021	SNAP	\$100,979,964	405,562	678,774	\$249	38.6%
	EA	\$63,481,393	402,193	672,498	\$158	
October 2021	SNAP	\$101,360,190	382,587	657,966	\$265	37.6%
	EA	\$60,966,577	381,516	637,641	\$160	
November 2021	SNAP	\$104,834,544	377,975	644,999	\$277	36.3%
	EA	\$59,748,347	377,036	629,593	\$158	
December 2021	SNAP	\$106,369,751	380,708	652,384	\$279	36.5%
	EA	\$61,117,957	381,482	645,931	\$160	
November 2022	SNAP	\$110,640,487	412,199	722,168	\$268	39.9%
	EA	\$73,601,675	410,372	695,345	\$179	
December 2022	SNAP	TBD	414,184	725,237		
	EA	\$72,088,788	407,390	687,410	\$177	

Food: There’s a special one-time \$40 million ask at the legislature to support the work and infrastructure of the food bank system in Oregon, including extra funds for purchasing food and a subsidy expansion for the Oregon Hunger Relief Fund. The food bank system is failing, frankly. There are no real operational dollars linked to it of any consequence in the state, and operations are often farmed out to churches and other private groups. What we do have is the Oregon Hunger Relief Fund, which is the primary operational fund. It did not see any significant increases in 2022. But food demand skyrocketed during the pandemic, given inflation has remained very high. To give you an idea of the severity of this need, the food bank system has seen a 350 percent increase in demand for food over pre-pandemic levels. These

food banks were designed as a “stretching supplement” for SNAP (food stamp) benefits, to cover a few days (or a week) when families had run out of food stamps for the month. The SNAP system itself was never designed to meet a household’s food needs for a full month. If you have ever lived on food stamps, you know that it is at best a partial supplement. Given inflation and lost income, the benefits expire earlier and earlier for families, and a few days of uncovered need have turned into nearly two weeks of uncovered need for some. The work has historically fallen to private philanthropy and faith based institutions, but they can no longer meet the need without expanded government subsidies. This anti-poverty work is not all that different from the rent burden and even the homeless issue. Food, like housing, is a basic human need, and there is no more important anti-poverty investment.

The system in place now was not designed to serve 25 percent of the population in Oregon, but that’s exactly where the demand is at the moment. In Bend, they fundraised for a one-year operational reserve for their food operations. Cost overruns have been so great (because of lack of state support), and need so high, that they have burned through 80 percent of that one-year reserve since the pandemic began.

Jimmy Jones
23 January 2023
Keizer, Oregon

Bill Number	Bill Sponsor	Last Action
HB 2027		01/11/23 - Referred to Economic Development and Small Business with subsequent referral to Housing and Homelessness.
<p>Relating to housing. Requires Housing and Community Services Department to study housing.</p>		
HB 2169	Rep Smith DB; Rep Wright	01/11/23 - Referred to Housing and Homelessness.
<p>Relating to residential rent increase limits. Exempts residential tenancies within 25 miles of coastline from maximum limits on rent increases.</p>		
HB 2171	Rep Smith DB; Rep Wright	01/11/23 - Referred to Housing and Homelessness.
<p>Relating to rent increase limits. Repeals limits on increases to residential rent.</p>		
HB 2214	Rep Morgan; Rep Smith DB	01/11/23 - Referred to Housing and Homelessness.
<p>Relating to housing program eligibility for felons. Requires Housing and Community Services Department to study housing program eligibility for felons.</p>		
HB 2217	Rep Mannix	01/11/23 - Referred to Housing and Homelessness.
<p>Relating to residential tenancies. Allows landlords to terminate month-to-month residential tenancies without cause.</p>		
HB 2404	Rep Diehl	01/11/23 - Referred to Housing and Homelessness with subsequent referral to Judiciary.
<p>Relating to laws regulating camping by persons experiencing homelessness; declaring an emergency. Repeals statute authorizing civil suits challenging reasonableness of local laws regulating camping by persons experiencing homelessness.</p>		
HB 2454	Rep Reynolds	01/23/23 - Work Session scheduled.
<p>Relating to appropriations for programs for youth experiencing homelessness; declaring an emergency. Appropriates moneys from General Fund to Housing and Community Services Department to provide services and assistance to school-aged children experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness.</p>		
HB 2456	Rep Reynolds	01/16/23 - Referred to Housing and Homelessness.
<p>Relating to youth experiencing homelessness; declaring an emergency. Modifies emergency housing assistance program and state homeless assistance program to provide services and assistance to school-aged children experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness.</p>		
HB 2468	Rep Bynum	01/11/23 - Referred to Early Childhood and Human Services.
<p>Relating to child care. Requires landlord to allow dwelling to be used as family child care home.</p>		
HB 2506	Rep Nosse	01/16/23 - Referred to Housing and Homelessness.
<p>Relating to supportive housing. Expands definition of "residential homes" and "residential facilities" that local governments must approve under same standards as other residential uses.</p>		

Bill Number	Bill Sponsor	Last Action
HB 2634	Rep Hieb; Rep Levy B; Rep Scharf; Sen Hansell; Sen Weber	01/13/23 - Referred to Housing and Homelessness.
<p>Relating to rental agreements for recreational vehicle spaces. Defines "recreational vehicle park" for the purposes of residential tenancy law.</p>		
HB 2654	Rep Bynum	01/13/23 - Referred to Housing and Homelessness with subsequent referral to Ways and Means.
<p>Relating to housing; prescribing an effective date. Establishes Housing Programs Advisory Council.</p>		
HB 2712	Rep Diehl; Rep Hieb; Rep Levy B; Rep Morgan; Rep Scharf	01/13/23 - Referred to Housing and Homelessness.
<p>Relating to shelters for individuals experiencing homelessness. Prohibits transitional housing accommodations near schools.</p>		
HB 2726	Rep Marsh; Rep Reynolds; Sen Campos; Sen Patterson	01/13/23 - Referred to Early Childhood and Human Services with subsequent referral to Ways and Means.
<p>Relating to coordination of resources for low-income individuals; declaring an emergency. Appropriates moneys from General Fund to Early Learning Division of Department of Education to distribute to specified Early Learning Hub to administer pilot program to coordinate services and other resources provided to low-income pregnant individuals and families with children under five years of age by local and state agencies, human services providers, early learning services providers, health care providers and other community organizations in Jackson and Josephine Counties.</p>		
HB 2728	Rep Javadi; Rep Marsh; Sen Gelser Blouin; Sen Weber	01/16/23 - Referred to Early Childhood and Human Services with subsequent referral to Ways and Means.
<p>Relating to program providing financial assistance to recipients who receive supplemental nutrition assistance; declaring an emergency. Requires Department of Human Services to contract with nonprofit organization to implement and administer program to assist recipients of supplemental nutrition assistance in purchasing locally grown fruits and vegetables from farmers' markets, farm share sites and retail outlets that participate in program.</p>		
HB 2733	Rep Valderrama; Sen Campos	01/13/23 - Referred to Housing and Homelessness.
<p>Relating to residential tenancies; declaring an emergency. Increases amount residential landlord owes tenant for landlord-cause termination of tenancy.</p>		
HB 2734	Rep Valderrama	01/16/23 - Referred to Early Childhood and Human Services with subsequent referral to Ways and Means.
<p>Relating to antipoverty programs. Requires Department of Human Services to operate statewide guaranteed income pilot project, study results of project and report findings with possible legislation to interim committees of Legislative Assembly related to human services.</p>		
HB 2738	Rep Valderrama	01/16/23 - Referred to Early Childhood and Human Services.
<p>Relating to antipoverty programs. Requires Department of Human Services to study the feasibility of establishing guaranteed income program in this state.</p>		

Bill Number	Bill Sponsor	Last Action
HB 2821	Rep Evans	01/16/23 - Referred to Rules.
<p>Relating to nonprofit corporations that receive public funds; declaring an emergency.</p> <p>Requires nonprofit corporations that meet certain requirements, including receipt of public funds, to comply with open meetings law and public records law, to post copy of corporation's proposed annual budget to corporation's public website and to submit to and cooperate with audit.</p>		
HB 2889	Rep Dexter; Rep Fahey; Rep Grayber; Rep Hartman; Rep Hudson; Rep Marsh; Rep Nelson; Rep Nosse; Rep Valderrama; Sen Anderson; Sen Dembrow; Sen Frederick; Sen Gorsek; Sen Jama	01/16/23 - Referred to Housing and Homelessness with subsequent referral to Ways and Means.
<p>Relating to housing development.</p> <p>Establishes Oregon Housing Needs Analysis within Housing and Community Services Department.</p>		
HB 2892	Rep Dexter	01/16/23 - Referred to Emergency Management, General Government, and Veterans.
<p>Relating to prequalification for nonprofit organizations to receive block grant moneys; prescribing an effective date.</p> <p>Authorizes granting agency to prequalify nonprofit organization to receive block grants for purpose of providing goods and services in areas of critical need.</p>		
HB 2939	Rep Cate; Rep Levy B; Rep Morgan; Rep Wright; Sen Hansell; Sen Weber	01/16/23 - Referred to Housing and Homelessness.
<p>Relating to homeless camping sites; declaring an emergency.</p> <p>Reduces notice period before removal of homeless individuals from established camping site to 24 hours.</p>		
HB 2956	Rep Ruiz	01/16/23 - Referred to Housing and Homelessness.
<p>Relating to statewide rental housing inspections.</p> <p>Requires Housing and Community Services Department to study statewide rental housing inspections.</p>		
HB 2963	Rep Ruiz	01/16/23 - Referred to Early Childhood and Human Services.
<p>Relating to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.</p> <p>Requires Department of Human Services to study options for allowing purchase of menstrual products with Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits.</p>		
HB 2972	Rep Kropf	01/16/23 - Referred to Housing and Homelessness.
<p>Relating to financing for affordable housing production.</p> <p>Requires Housing and Community Services Department to study financing for affordable housing production.</p>		
HB 2974	Rep Kropf	01/16/23 - Referred to Housing and Homelessness.
<p>Relating to housing.</p> <p>Requires Housing and Community Services Department to study housing.</p>		
HB 2980	Rep Fahey; Rep Marsh; Sen Anderson; Sen Golden	01/16/23 - Referred to Housing and Homelessness with subsequent referral to Ways and Means.
<p>Relating to tax increment financing outside urban renewal areas; prescribing an effective date.</p> <p>Directs ___ Department to develop affordable housing revolving loan program under which participating cities and counties may award grants to housing developers for certain eligible costs and repay loans from tax increment financing revenues derived from increase in value of housing project property.</p>		

Bill Number	Bill Sponsor	Last Action
HB 2981	Rep Fahey; Rep Marsh; Sen Anderson; Sen Golden	01/16/23 - Referred to Housing and Homelessness with subsequent referral to Ways and Means.
<p>Relating to housing; prescribing an effective date. Requires Oregon Business Development Department to provide grants and loans for housing.</p>		
HB 2983	Rep Fahey; Rep Marsh; Sen Golden	01/16/23 - Referred to Housing and Homelessness with subsequent referral to Ways and Means.
<p>Relating to manufactured dwellings. Appropriates moneys from General Fund to Department of Land Conservation and Development and Housing and Community Services Department to support manufactured dwellings and manufactured dwelling parks.</p>		
HB 2984	Rep Fahey; Rep Marsh; Sen Dembrow; Sen Golden	01/16/23 - Referred to Housing and Homelessness.
<p>Relating to housing. Allows conversion of building from commercial use to workforce housing within urban growth boundary.</p>		
HB 2987	Rep Marsh	01/16/23 - Referred to Housing and Homelessness.
<p>Relating to the Healthy Homes Program. Requires Oregon Health Authority to study grants under Healthy Homes Program.</p>		
HB 3002	Rep Helm	01/16/23 - Referred to Agriculture, Land Use, Natural Resources, and Water.
<p>Relating to water service rates. Requires Legislative Policy and Research Office to study water service rates and rate schedules.</p>		
HB 3018	Rep Dexter; Rep Evans; Rep Fahey; Rep Grayber; Rep Hartman; Rep Hieb; Rep Hudson; Rep Kropf; Rep Levy B; Rep Lewis; Rep Lively; Rep Neron; Rep Nosse; Rep Osborne; Rep Pham K; Sen Campos; Sen Dembrow; Sen Gelser Blouin; Sen Golden; Sen Hansell; Sen Manning Jr; Sen Sollman; Sen Weber	01/16/23 - Referred to Judiciary with subsequent referral to Ways and Means.
<p>Relating to housing assistance for victims; declaring an emergency. Authorizes Department of Justice to assist victims of domestic violence and sexual assault with housing needs.</p>		
HB 3042	Rep Fahey; Rep Gamba; Rep Neron; Rep Pham K; Rep Ruiz; Sen Campos; Sen Jama	01/16/23 - Referred to Housing and Homelessness.
<p>Relating to preservation of publicly supported housing; declaring an emergency. Limits terminations and rent increases for three years after tenants' housing is withdrawn from publicly supported housing.</p>		
SB 46	Sen Findley	01/14/23 - Referred to Health Care, then Ways and Means.
<p>Relating to affordable housing for seniors; declaring an emergency. Requires Housing and Community Services Department to provide sample plans and grants for senior cottages.</p>		
SB 112		01/12/23 - Referred to Human Services.
<p>Relating to housing for people with disabilities. Requires Housing and Community Services Department to study housing for people with disabilities.</p>		
SB 114		01/12/23 - Referred to Human Services.
<p>Relating to inclusive housing. Requires Housing and Community Services Department to study inclusive housing.</p>		

Bill Number	Bill Sponsor	Last Action
SB 186		01/13/23 - Referred to Human Services.
<p>Relating to child support passed through to families receiving public assistance.</p> <p>Increases amount of monthly child support passed through to families participating in temporary assistance for needy families program.</p>		
SB 215		01/19/23 - Public Hearing held.
<p>Relating to education; declaring an emergency.</p> <p>Allows Department of Education to adjust amounts charged related to distribution of agricultural products received from United States Department of Agriculture for school food programs.</p>		
SB 241	Sen Thatcher	01/12/23 - Referred to Human Services.
<p>Relating to informing residents of this state about available federal programs of assistance.</p> <p>Requires state agency or local government, before providing assistance or benefits to residents of this state who do not have regular access to, or face barriers in attaining, shelter or housing, employment, health care, child care, food, clothing or other basic necessities to fully inform resident of assistance or benefits available from funded federal programs and require resident to apply for or enroll in federal program of assistance or benefits.</p>		
SB 434	Rep Morgan; Sen Thatcher	01/15/23 - Referred to Housing and Development, then Ways and Means.
<p>Relating to evictions; prescribing an effective date.</p> <p>Creates Eviction Mediation Program within Housing and Community Services Department.</p>		
SB 435	Sen Hayden; Sen Smith DB; Sen Weber	01/15/23 - Referred to Housing and Development, then Tax Expenditures.
<p>Relating to an income tax subtraction for rental payments; prescribing an effective date.</p> <p>Establishes subtraction from personal taxable income for eligible rental payments made by eligible renters.</p>		
SB 496	Rep Gomberg; Rep Lively; Rep Neron; Rep Nosse; Sen Anderson; Sen Campos; Sen Gelser Blouin; Sen Patterson; Sen President Wagner	01/25/23 - Public Hearing Scheduled.
<p>Relating to assisting vulnerable populations with pets; declaring an emergency.</p> <p>Amends allowable purposes of Emergency Housing Account to include account moneys to be used for grants to assist pets of individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness.</p>		
SB 555	Rep Marsh; Sen Gelser Blouin; Sen Knopp	01/11/23 - Referred to Human Services, then Ways and Means.
<p>Relating to program providing financial assistance to recipients who receive supplemental nutrition assistance; declaring an emergency.</p> <p>Requires Department of Human Services to contract with nonprofit organization to implement and administer program to assist recipients of supplemental nutrition assistance in purchasing locally grown fruits and vegetables from farmers' markets, farm share sites and retail outlets that participate in program.</p>		
SB 599	Rep Neron; Sen Anderson; Sen Jama; Sen Steiner	01/11/23 - Referred to Housing and Development.
<p>Relating to use of rental unit as family child care home.</p> <p>Requires landlord to allow dwelling to be used as family child care home, subject to conditions.</p>		
SB 601	Sen Campos	01/15/23 - Referred to Housing and Development.
<p>Relating to sale of residential rental properties.</p> <p>Requires owners of multifamily rental housing to offer right of first refusal to tenants who form tenant committee and membership entity.</p>		

Bill Number	Bill Sponsor	Last Action
SB 603	Rep Pham K; Sen Campos	01/15/23 - Referred to Housing and Development, then Ways and Means.
<p>Relating to income supports for low-income individuals; declaring an emergency.</p> <p>Establishes People's Housing Assistance Fund Demonstration Program, administered by Department of Human Services, to provide 12 monthly payments of \$1,000 to individuals who are experiencing homelessness, are at risk of homelessness, are severely rent burdened or earn at or below 60 percent of area median income.</p>		
SB 610	Rep Bowman; Rep Dexter; Rep Gamba; Rep Grayber; Rep Hudson; Rep Nelson; Rep Neron; Rep Pham K; Rep Ruiz; Sen Campos; Sen Dembrow; Sen Frederick; Sen Gorsek; Sen Jama; Sen Manning Jr; Sen Patterson; Sen Woods	01/11/23 - Referred to Human Services, then Ways and Means.
<p>Relating to public assistance; declaring an emergency.</p> <p>Establishes Food for All Oregonians Program within Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program to provide nutrition assistance to residents of this state who would qualify for federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program but for immigration status.</p>		
SB 611	Rep Chaichi; Rep Gamba; Rep Hudson; Rep McLain; Rep Neron; Rep Pham K; Rep Valderrama; Sen Campos; Sen Dembrow; Sen Gelser Blouin	01/15/23 - Referred to Housing and Development.
<p>Relating to residential tenancies; declaring an emergency.</p> <p>Increases amount residential landlord owes tenant for landlord-cause termination of tenancy.</p>		
SB 656	Sen Hansell; Sen Knopp; Sen Smith DB; Sen Weber	01/15/23 - Referred to Natural Resources.
<p>Relating to expansion of urban areas to add needed housing.</p> <p>Allows certain local governments to amend urban growth boundaries to include lands to be used for needed housing.</p>		
SB 658	Sen Anderson; Sen Hansell; Sen Knopp; Sen Weber	01/11/23 - Referred to Education, then Ways and Means.
<p>Relating to homeless youth; declaring an emergency.</p> <p>Establishes pilot program to provide funding to school districts for purposes of increasing access to schools by homeless students and improving academic achievement of homeless students.</p>		
SB 684	Rep Pham K; Sen Manning Jr	01/15/23 - Referred to Housing and Development.
<p>Relating to applicant screening for residential tenants; prescribing an effective date.</p> <p>Limits applicant screening charge to \$10.</p>		
SB 720	Sen Girod	01/15/23 - Referred to Housing and Development.
<p>Relating to compensation for unpaid rent during COVID-19 emergency period; declaring an emergency.</p> <p>Allows Housing and Community Services Department to modify grant to allow use of remaining moneys to compensate certain landlords not otherwise reimbursed for unpaid rent during COVID-19 emergency period.</p>		

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

	July - October 2022		FY23 - Budgeted	Expected Spent %	Actual Earned/Spent %	Difference
Grant and awards	\$ 16,510,572		\$ 66,224,925	33%	25%	-8%
Other program revenue	52,026		280,000	33%	19%	-15%
Contributions	29,373		200,000	33%	15%	-19% {a}
Total Revenue	16,591,970		66,704,925	33%	25%	-8%
Expenses						
Community resource programs	5,336,174		30,983,767	33%	17%	-16% {b}
Reentry services	120,544		400,000	33%	30%	-3%
Child care resource and referral network	522,757		1,541,591	33%	34%	1%
Energy assistance programs	2,034,651		5,686,419	33%	36%	2%
Weatherization services	890,574		2,370,357	33%	38%	4%
Nutrition first USDA food program	1,244,956		4,000,000	33%	31%	-2%
Head start	4,685,971		14,827,350	33%	32%	-2%
Home youth services	502,020		3,566,038	33%	14%	-19% {c}
Management and general	1,154,127	{d}	3,329,403	33%	35%	1%
Total Expenditures	16,491,775		66,704,925	33%	25%	-9%
Revenue Over/(Under) Expenditures	\$ 100,195	{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	33%	27%	-6%
CRP Projects	11,825,000	33%	1%	-32%
	<u>30,983,767</u>			

A significant of CRP Projects not yet started.

{c} Open positions that we are hiring for.

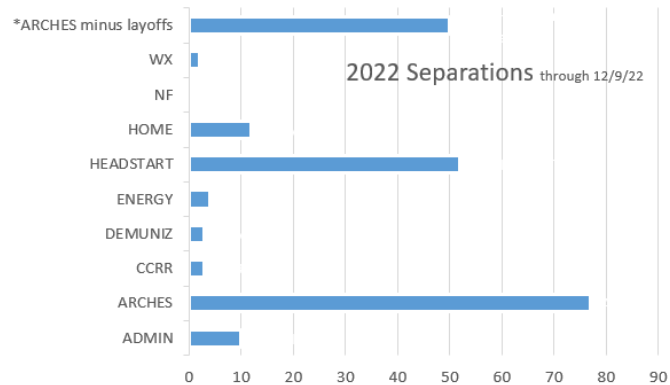
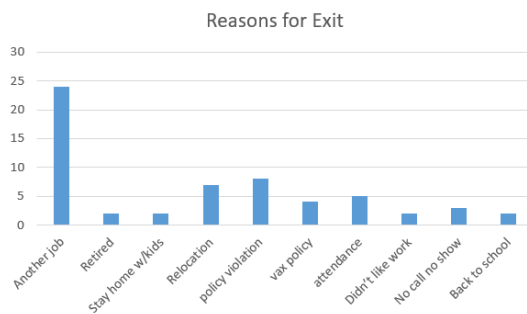
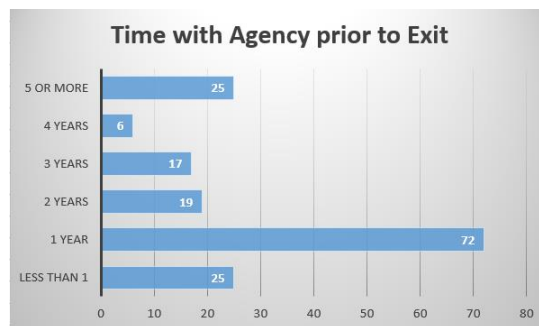
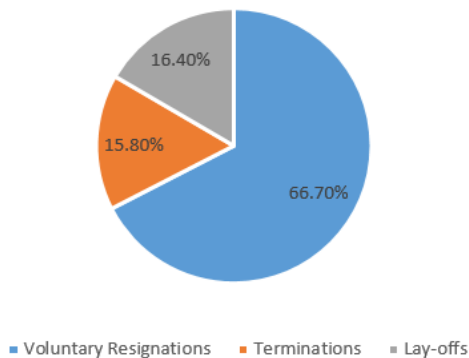
{d} MG&A percentage 7%

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

HR Team

This month HR hired a new Safety and Facilities Manager, Diana Lewis, to oversee employee safety, advise the Safety Committee, and also develop a centralized facilities and fleet within administration. Diana comes to the agency with a background from Oregon DOT, and she is a Veteran of the U.S. Army, where she served in Iraq. We are very proud she has chosen Community Action Agency.

Exit Data: With an average headcount of 465 in 2022, the Agency had 165 separations through mid-December when this data was generated. 110 (66.7%) Voluntary, 26 (15.8%) Involuntary, and 27 (16.4%) lay-offs.



Supporting Employee Leaves and Disability Accommodations

Employees are supported by HR with a variety of options for Family and Medical Leaves and Disability Accommodations. In 2022, the agency had over 50 staff using FMLA/OFLA or Pregnancy Disability (non-FMLA/OFLA); additionally, two staff qualified for OFLA under the Governor's recent Emergency Declaration. Leaves are generally intermittent or "block" leaves for up to 12 weeks or more depending on eligibility and the reason for the leave. This is an area that is supported by Rocio McPherson, Leave of Absence Administrator. Rocio also provides support to agency employees requesting accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act. In 2022, the agency issued 16 accommodation plan approvals for staff, not including workers compensation light duty cases. Rocio also coordinates meetings with supervisors and employees requesting disability accommodations and/or changes to their plans.



Mid-Willamette Valley
COMMUNITY ACTION

January Board Report: Development Department

Laurel Glenn, Director of Development

December Fundraising Update

Donation numbers:

- 2018 yearly total: \$14,400
- 2019 yearly total: \$15,655
- 2020 yearly total: \$37,286
- 2021 yearly total: \$47,358
- 2022 yearly total: **\$105,509**

2022 donation numbers represent a **123%** increase over 2021

Number of Donors:

- 2021 number of donors: 155
- 2022 number of donors: 317

2022 number of donors represents a **105%** increase over 2021

Donor Retention Rates:

Donor retention rates represent donors who gave one year and then also gave the next year. The fundraising industry standard is 40% retention.

- 2021 retention rate: 27%
- 2022 retention rate: **48%**

December Fundraising Assessment:

What was different this year?

- We created a unified, client story-based fundraising campaign with a single message: that “community means everyone”
- We ran a more multi-channel campaign, using Facebook ads, text messages, email newsletters, and direct mail to ask for donations
- We used a new, modernized donor management system, Network for Good, which allowed us to thank our donors and show appreciation quickly and in more personalized ways

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)

December Facebook Numbers

- Page Reach: 10,533 (The number of people who saw any content from our Page)
 - 147.3% increase over November numbers
- 33 new Facebook followers
- Post analytics:
 - 621 likes and reactions
 - 55 comments
 - 50 shares
 - 257 link clicks

December Instagram Numbers

- Page Reach: 196
 - 136.1% increase over November numbers
- 7 new Instagram followers
- Post analytics:
 - 196 accounts reached
 - 37 engagements

Facebook Ad Data

- Total spent on Facebook/Instagram ads: \$53.00
- 8,946 people reached through Facebook/Instagram ads
 - 244.5% increase over November numbers
- 13,203 Facebook/Instagram ad views (includes duplicate users)
 - 223.4% increase over November numbers

Dustin's Update:

During the month of December, we ran our “Community Means Everyone” social media campaign to solicit donations, which is often known as the “Giving Season” due to the large amounts of charity often given to organizations throughout the month. These posts included client success stories that showcase how our clients are able to reach their various goals utilizing the assistance of our staff and YouTube videos making use of recorded interviews with clients who talk about our programs and their personal journeys. Utilizing Facebook’s ad features, we promoted these posts to direct more users to our donation website.

Grants:

- VA Grant and Per Diem Program – We’re currently writing an \$850,000 federal grant to provide transitional housing and shelter services for Veterans through Tanner Project.

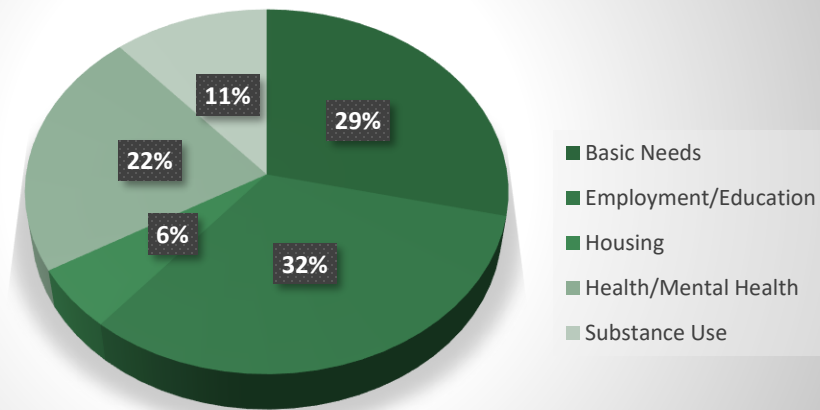
Opportunities:

- Our region CCR&R was one of three awardee's in the Oregon Child Care Alliance (OCCA) Expansion. The other regions were, Community Action of Washington County and NW Regional CCRR based out of WESD (coastal area). The goal of OCCA is to support child care providers to develop stronger and more sustainable business practices through coaching, business training, and financial management software. The goal is to help child care providers increase their revenue, solve challenging business problems, and manage what we call the "Iron Triangle: 1. Full fee collection, full enrollment and 3. Setting rates that cover the true cost of programming. Agreement for this project has been signed by Jimmy and will begin July of 2023. Funding comes from OCCA, Early Learning Division, OCF and Ford Family Foundation. This project will require a full time 1FTE Child Care Business Navigator. We are very excited for this opportunity and should be able to hit the ground running when funding is released.
- Seeding Justice Child Care Capacity Building Grant. CCR&R is looking to work with the ECEC Latino Steering committee in applying for this. 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. Grants may go to culturally specific community based organizations, tribal governments, educational institutions/service districts, CCR&R's, Early Learning Hubs, and joint labor management trusts.
- CCR&R had the opportunity to move back to the Main CAA office in December. It was a quick turnaround. Head Start moved out of the Main office into their new space on Hawthorne, which opened up the West wing of the Main office. CCR&R was already cramped in the Commercial site, due to increase in Preschool Promise funding to increase FTE for Coaching. The opportunity was perfect timing and we are very grateful to be back.
- CCRR Program has done some restructuring as it relates to management. We have finally finished the hiring process and have a Quality Improvement Specialist Manager and a Preschool Promise Manager to assist in the reflective supervision supports to staff. The agency has committed to building reflective supervision Leadership as a part of its strategic planning. In the short time we have implemented have found that it has done wonders for our team in the short time we have been working this structure.

Challenges:

- Moving back to CAA has been top priority. Making sure all our systems are running properly. We have been having problem with phones and Comcast, but our I.T. Department has been working super hard to make sure clients have a clear path to my staff.
- In process of hiring at least 3-4 new positions for Preschool Promise. It has been a lot of work, and we so appreciate HR for helping us walk through all the pieces. Challenge is Criminal Background checks are taking an inordinate amount of time due to backlog. This unfortunately delays getting new staff in the door and on boarded.

How the De Muniz Resource Center Served Clients in December



Opportunities/Challenges

- ❖ De Muniz Resource Center served 128 clients in October, with 310 services provided.
- ❖ This month 70% served were adults in custody vs. 30% out of custody.
- ❖ During this reporting period, 13 clients (32 occurrences) took advantage and attended our cognitive based classes. The classes covered the following topics:
 - Prosocial lifestyle
 - Maximizing strengths
 - Healthy mind frames
 - Problem solving
 - Emotional regulation
 - Success planning
- ❖ Our partnership with Northwest Human Services yielded 48 clients completing their enrollment for Oregon Health Plan prior to release (from incarceration).
- ❖ We assisted seven clients with bus passes that were donated by United Way this month.
- ❖ Thirty-five clients (65 occurrences) took advantage of our volunteer's services, which include recovery support groups, GED prep, gambling awareness, and mock employment interviews.
- ❖ We assisted 11 clients with assistance to obtain their state ID cards this month.
- ❖ The main challenges we have are physical space limitations (lack of private space) within our center, limited funding, and being understaffed.

Success Story

Juan came into the resource center seeking assistance with obtaining certifications. He was working with a local union, but was not able to be sent out to certain jobs because he needed to have more certifications under his belt. Juan was interested in obtaining both his flagging and forklift certifications.

He contacted a flagging instructor from Chemeketa's approved provider list and was able to start training immediately. Juan and I also researched forklift certification and found that he would need to ultimately be trained by an employer, but he could take the online portion through a certified OSHA website. This would allow Juan to have a leg up when he eventually completed his forklift training with a future employer.

Juan was self-directed and highly motivated. He balanced attending various important appointments related to his recovery with working and completing these trainings. He was able to use our center computer to complete the online forklift training and passed the test with no problems. Juan also completed his flagging certification class. De Muniz Resource Center was able to cover the cost of both the flagging certification and online forklift course. Juan will now have the ability to perform more types of jobs with the union, which will make him a more desirable candidate for higher paying positions. He is also on track to move toward self-sufficiency and a stable career.

*name changed to protect identity

Submitted by Employment Navigator



Mid-Willamette Valley
COMMUNITY ACTION

The ARCHES Project

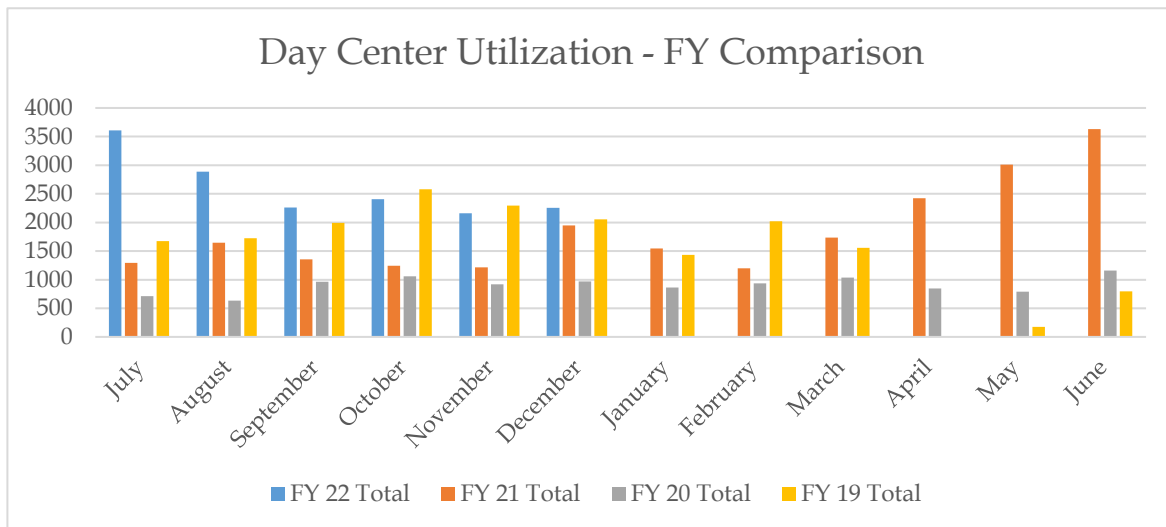
615 Commercial Street NE
 Salem, Oregon 97301

CRP Board Report - January 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 93,072--with an average daily attendance rate of 99. November showed a 51% increase in Day Center utilization over November 2021. However, during the month of December average daily utilization fell by 2% compared to the year prior. This trend could be attributed the substantial ice and cold front experienced, leading to many individuals either hunkering down in place not willing to risk the elements to seek shelter, or by staying at alternate day/night shelters throughout town.

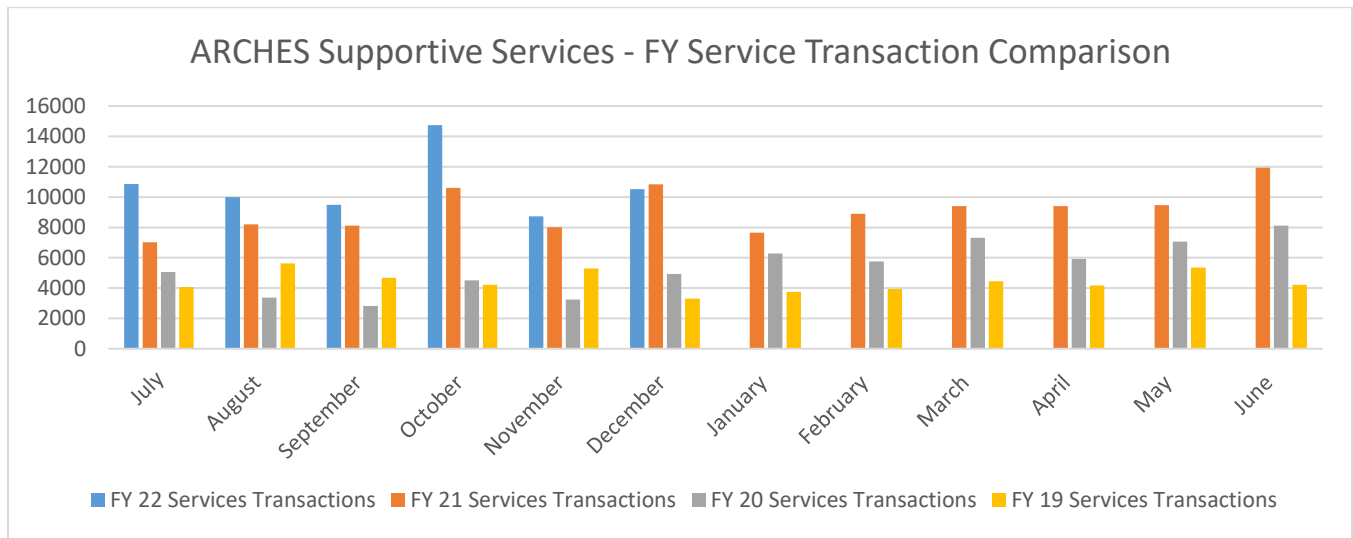
Overall, during **Quarter 2** of this year Day Center utilization remains 55% higher than 2021, and 131% higher when compared to 2020.



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									
February Total									
March Total									
April Total									
May Total									
June Total									
FY 2022 Total	847	5664	49322	3069	1467	715	1550	875	832

Current utilization of Day Center Supportive Services continues to grow, especially in comparison to FY 2021 and FY 2020. During November and December 2022 ARCHES saw **19,254 supportive service transactions**. Making Quarter 2 of Fiscal year 2022 highest service transaction period to date since tracking began in July 2019. The majority of Supportive Services provided in November and December were in the meal category, including **breakfast, lunch, and evening meals; providing 18,597 meals**, as well as 445 showers. The Day Center also saw a 30% increase compared to December 2021 in pet food distribution.



Basic Needs & Supportive Services									
Month	New client Mail Boxes	Checking Mail	Meals	Calls	Pet Food	Hygiene Packs	Showers	Laundry	Client Care
Q 1 Total	487	3210	22221	1935	520	427	682	430	435
Q 2 Total	360	2454	27101	1134	947	288	868	445	397
Q3 Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Q4 Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FY 2022 Total	847	5664	49322	3069	1467	715	1550	875	832
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

ARCHES Housing & Specialty Programs:

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

During the months of November and December, 186 new households (360 persons) received housing support. In addition, 58 households exited into self-sufficiency, meaning they are able to live independently of ARCHES assistance moving forward. There were also 76 households actively participating in the housing search process, working closely with navigation staff for placement. Since tracking began in July 2019, 792 households have exited ARCHES programming into permanent housing solutions.

November and December Data (New Households Only):

ARCHES Housing Programs											
Table 1											
Core Programs	Households Served	Individuals Served	Pets	Avg VI-SPDAT Score	Adults	Children	Households Searching	Households in Housing	Household PH Exists	Marion Households	Polk Households
Home TBA	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0
ERA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HUD CoC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
City of Salem - TBRA	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0
EHA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
KP Home	22	27	0	7.5	23	4	22	22	0	22	0
DHS Fresh Start RRH	5	7	0	10.3	4	3	13	6	2	5	0
DHS Navigators	13	28	0	10.3	16	8	0	0	0	13	0
HSP	2	5	0	13	3	2	0	2	0	2	0
Navigation Center	Program Pending										
Redwood Crossing	2	2	3	N/A	2	0	6	64	0	2	0
ARCHES Inn - Wildfire	1	1	1	10	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
ARCHES Inn - Homeless	4	5	2	6	5	0	4	0	0	4	0
ARCHES Inn - Shelter +	4	4	2	12.33	4	0	2	0	3	4	0
OHA-VRAP	32	32	15	9.08	40	4	2	29	1	30	2
Tanner's Project - GPD	9	9	2	6.15	9	0	0	7	8	8	1
Tanner's Project - State Bed	4	4	0	6	4	0	1	0	0	4	0
VET DRF	14	19	8	9	15	6	6	5	5	12	2
EHA	5	5	0	1.5	5	3	2	2	1	3	2
WRRRA	12	24	0	N/A	19	5	15	13	0	12	0
OERA - ADAP	54	155	0	N/A	71	84	2	53	38	50	4
November/December Clients Served	186	327	33	7.75	221	119	76	207	58	175	11

Specialty Services engaged 1,403 households in this most recent period (November and December 2022). The two most common services are VSO assistance (veterans) and Outreach programs. To date, 28,720 households (duplicated) have connected with ARCHES Specialty Services since July 2019. Including on average 71 Coordinated Entry Housing Assessments per week.

ARCHES Specialty Programs							
Table 2							
Specialty Services	Households Served	Adults	Children	Veterans	Fleeing DV	BIPOC/LatinX Individuals	Total Unique Served
Marion County VSO	591	591	0	591	0	0	591
RENT	18	23	12	0	7	8	35
Birth Certificates	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Coordinated Outreach	604	604	0	1	0	3	604
Mobile Showers	70	70	0	0	0	0	70
Fuerza Campesina	120	205	82	0	0	287	287
November/December Clients Served	1403	1493	94	592	7	298	1587
Coordinated Entry - HP	106	147	115	5	17	0	262
Coordinated Entry - Homeless	177	214	93	19	40	0	307
Coordinated Entry - TOTAL	283	361	208	24	57	0	569

Rural Resource Services: *Marion and Polk Counties*

Resource Services provide prevention funds for households experiencing an unexpected and unavoidable emergency in Marion and Polk Counties. These services, include: rent arrearages, utility shutoffs, as well as emergent utility and security deposits. Navigation and referral services are also a key feature of this program; creating linkages to external service providers in order to improve self-sufficiency for households moving forward. During the months of November and December, 107 households were assisted thus avoiding homelessness. 90% of these services occurred **outside the city limits** of Salem, serving our rural communities.

	Resource Services - Homeless Prevention								
	Households Served	Individuals Served	Adults	Children	Households Searching	Households in Housing	Household PH Exists	Marion Households	Polk Households
Seymour Center	11	29	12	17	0	11	11	11	0
Polk County	61	143	60	83	11	50	61	0	61
Woodburn	23	65	31	34	0	23	23	23	0
SOCC - Mill City	12	37	15	22	0	12	12	12	0
November/December Clients Served	107	274	118	156	11	96	107	46	61

Program Update: *Emergency Services – Warming*

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.



Sites

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

For notification of shelter sites, activation information will be posted at [MWVCAA.org](https://www.mwvcaa.org). Emergency shelter alerts can also be texted and emailed for those who sign-up at <https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/39e2fa6336a443459975221222c5d4e2>. A map of regional day and warming shelter sites can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/yue3v6mm>.

Transportation

MWVCAA will continue to provide transportation to shelter through several different avenues. The first will be through a partnership with Cherriots, providing free transportation to and from sheltering locations. ARCHES also provides transportation from pre-designated sites and via outreach to facilitate access to emergency shelters.

Hotline Access

In the event of someone seeking shelter or outreach assistance dispatch systems have been established.

- **Shelter Hotline:** 971.304.9211 (This can go out to the general public – to be used by anyone seeking shelter activation or transportation assistance)
- **Outreach Hotline:** 971.304.9802 (This number is for any local official, officer, or organization in need of outreach support when engaging with an unsheltered individual.

Expanded Services

During shelter activations Day Center operations are extended to align with evening shelter hours. Ensuring that clients are provided consistent shelter opportunities throughout a 24-hour period. In addition, Outreach teams operate until 9pm to provide cold weather supplies for those who elect to remain at encampments, as well as provide shelter navigation assistance.

Utilizing this expanded service methodology, which includes the Day Center, Outreach Services, and Warming shelters. ARCHES remained continuously open from Tuesday December 20 until the close of the Day Center shift on December 24th during the recent extreme ice and cold front.

Community Highlights: *Point in Time Count (PIT)*

MWVCAA is gearing up for the 2023 Point in Time (PIT) count as a supportive partner. Working closely with the regional Continuum of Care (Mid-Willamette Valley Homeless Alliance - MWVHA) and Polk County to provide vital staff. The PIT count will formally occur on January 24 - 31 2023.



Urgent Announcement

Calling All Volunteers Out There
We need your help with our emergency warming shelters

WHAT YOU'LL DO	WHEN YOU'LL DO IT
Warming shelter volunteers will work alongside shelter staff to provide a safe and welcoming environment for shelter guests. You'll assist with checking guests in, serving snacks, and conducting routine cleaning throughout the night.	Warming shelters are open on nights when temperatures are at or below 32degrees. Shifts are from 6:00pm-10:00pm, 9:30pm-1:30am, 1:00am-5:00am and 4:30am-7:30am

HOW YOU'LL SIGN UP
Visit [mwvcaa.galaxydigital.com](https://www.mwvcaa.galaxydigital.com) to view available volunteer opportunities and sign up. If you have any questions please email us at emergencyservices@mwvcaa.org

- For Marion PIT info, resources, and sign-ups - <https://mwvhomelessalliance.org/point-in-time-pit-count/>
- For information on the Polk County Connect:

POLK COUNTY

COMMUNITY CONNECT



JAN
24TH



10AM-
6PM

A FREE COMMUNITY EVENT
& RESOURCE FAIR

30+ COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS OFFERING RESOURCE CONNECTION AND FREE SERVICES INCLUDING:

- HAIRCUTS
- FAMILY FUN ACTIVITIES
- FOOD
- HEALTH SCREENINGS
- DENTAL CARE
- OHP ASSISTANCE
- EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATION
- BIKE REPAIR



POLK COUNTY FAMILY & COMMUNITY OUTREACH
All People Are Empowered & Healthy

THE POLK COUNTY COMMUNITY CONNECT IS AN OPEN HOUSE STYLE, ONE-STOP, FREE EVENT THAT WILL SHOWCASE THE MANY AGENCIES THAT ASSIST INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES IN POLK COUNTY

DALLAS EVANGELICAL BIBLE CHURCH

1175 SE HOWE ST. DALLAS, OR

FREE TRANSPORTATION
TO THE EVENT!



OR CALL
503-623-9664 EXT. 2592

FOR QUESTIONS OR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 503-623-9664 EXT. 2592 OR EMAIL KRAMER.AMBER@CO.POLK.OR.US

Energy Services December 2022 & 1st quarter PY 2023, Program Report

Traia Campbell, Energy Director

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

Energy Services households served in December 2022 & 1st quarter PY 2023

December 22 PY 23, Marion & Polk completions by funding source (duplicated)								
Funding	HH	People	>6	60+	Disabled	@ or below 75% of poverty		Ave HH pmt
LIHEAP	603	1647	175	204	230	227	38% of HH's served	\$440
LIHWA_CAA	142	454	53	45	38	52	37% of HH's served	\$286
OEA PGE	55	142	14	23	23	11	20% of HH's served	\$489
OEA PAC	14	42	4	4	5	3	21% of HH's served	\$795
CEAP PGE	195	542	45	61	73	67	34% of HH's served	\$476
CEAP PAC	23	62	4	4	4	8	35% of HH's served	\$854
OLGA	103	327	37	38	32	30	29% of HH's served	\$459
GAP	52	177	19	11	14	16	31% of HH's served	\$137
Total	1187	3393	351	390	419	414	40% of HH's served	\$494

October - December 22, 1st qtr PY 23, Marion & Polk completions by funding source								
Funding	HH	People	>6	60+	Disabled	@ or below 75% of poverty		Ave HH pmt
LIHEAP	1994	4650	403	1162	1098	660	=33% of hh served	\$422
LIHWA_CAA	416	1190	115	243	175	128	=31% of hh served	\$244
OEA PGE	174	438	39	90	93	56	=32% of hh served	\$492
OEA PP	32	73	5	18	20	7	=22% of hh served	\$652
CEAP PGE	412	1201	121	153	175	137	= 33% of hh served	\$504
CEAP PAC	45	123	7	16	19	8	= 18% of hh served	\$755
OLGA	246	677	65	125	103	61	= 25% of hh served	\$441
GAP	81	273	25	23	21	28	=35% of hh served	\$130
Total	2862	7028	627	1638	1489	912	= 36% of hh served	\$450

October - December 21 1st qtr PY 22, Marion & Polk completions by funding source								
Funding	HH	People	>6	60+	Disabled	@ or below 75% of poverty		Ave HH pmt
LIHEAP	2026	4720	443	1129	999	740	=37% of hh served	\$382
LP ARPA	2013	4693	441	1119	990	739	=37% of hh served	\$383
OEA PGE	458	1270	139	159	166	151	=33% of hh served	\$731
OEA PP	74	189	15	46	38	16	=22% of hh served	\$719
OLGA	129	332	23	90	61	38	= 29% of hh served	\$398
Total	4700	11204	1061	2543	2254	1684	= 36% of hh served	\$523

The first quarter of PY 2023, Energy team entered the perfect storm. We were short staffed, team members were pulled to provide support, LIHEAP funding was delayed and did not arrive until December 20. The 2022 rollover (approx. 8%) was received November 30, enabling the payment of October completions. November and December completions were paid the end of December. During this span, energy assistance applicants and vendors were regularly kept aware of our funding situation. LIHEAP funding is historically available October or November of the new program year, roll over funds (up to 10%) from the previous year are usually available cover expenses during that time.

During the first quarter, there has been an increase in the number of households seeking assistance. On average we are receiving 60 applications per day. Energy team's goal is to process applications within 7 days, having reduced staff we are not meeting our goal. To ensure received applications are processed in a timely manner, Energy halted handing out applications to the general public December 1-9, applications were available to medical certificate holders, disconnected accounts and participants of Polk Co. This pause allowed Energy team to catch up. Applications resumed Monday December 12, over 100 applications were received daily that week. In January, we had over 900 applications to process that were over 21 days old. The decision was made to halt applications for a longer duration. When applications are halted vendors, 211, Energy's webpage and other partners are updated in advance. Discussions on the application process continue. Once the pending applications are processed I estimate Energy will be over 60% spent.

LIHEAP ARPA funds ended in PY 2022. LIHEAP and LP ARPA were provided to applicants at the same time, reflecting the completions during the first quarter. Payment amounts are determined with the matrix provided by OHCS, eligible payment amounts increased this year. OHCS released Emergency LIHEAP funding in December. I foresee the Emergency LIHEAP funds being utilized to assist new applicants, estimate 1560 households.

POLK Co completions on page 2.

December 22 PY 23, Polk completions by funding source (duplicated)								
Funding	HH	People	>6	60+	Disabled	@ or below 75% of poverty	Ave HH pmt	
LIHEAP	62	148	21	23	28	22	35% of HH's served	\$425
LIHWA_CAA	16	44	8	5	2	8	50% of HH's served	\$286
OEA PGE	2	2	0	1	0	1	50% of HH's served	\$250
OEA PAC	8	22	3	1	3	3	38% of HH's served	\$682
CEAP PGE	1	1	0	0	0	1	100% of HH's served	\$2,500
CEAP PAC	8	21	3	1	0	4	50% of HH's served	\$634
OLGA	12	31	4	6	7	3	25% of HH's served	\$434
GAP	5	13	3	2	3	2	40% of HH's served	\$146
Total	114	282	42	39	43	44	39% of HH's served	\$745
October - December 22, 1st qtr PY 23, Polk completions by funding source								
Funding	HH	People	>6	60+	Disabled	@ or below 75% of poverty	Ave HH pmt	
LIHEAP	228	484	37	134	142	72	32% of HH's served	\$407
LIHWA_CAA	55	141	11	35	27	15	27% of HH's served	\$245
OEA PGE	6	16	2	2	1	3	50% of HH's served	\$1,075
OEA PAC	18	37	3	9	12	5	28% of HH's served	\$591
CEAP PGE	4	10	2	0	0	4	100% of HH's served	\$1,938
CEAP PAC	16	46	5	4	6	4	25% of HH's served	\$550
OLGA	34	80	6	23	19	4	12% of HH's served	\$387
GAP	8	19	3	4	4	3	38% of HH's served	\$140
Total	369	833	69	211	211	110	30% of HH's served	\$742
October - December 21 1st qtr PY 22, Polk completions by funding source								
Funding	HH	People	>6	60+	Disabled	@ or below 75% of poverty	Ave HH pmt	
LIHEAP	260	570	53	135	137	99	38% of HH's served	\$381
LIHEAP ARPA	258	565	53	134	134	99	38% of HH's served	\$390
OEA PGE	7	19	4	2	2	2	29% of HH's served	\$1,368
OEA PAC	36	96	8	20	14	8	23% of HH's served	\$717
OLGA	24	48	2	14	10	8	34% of HH's served	\$398
Total	585	1298	120	305	297	216	37% of HH's served	\$651

**HEAD START PROGRAM REPORT TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS & POLICY COUNCIL
Eva Pignotti, CPO of Early Learning & Child Care – January, 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%		
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%		
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%		
3/23	4/23	5/23	6/23	7/23	8/23

**Community Action Head Start Attendance Analysis
Absences for November and December 2022**

The Head Start program attendance rate was 64.76%, below the required 85%. The top absence reasons during the month of November were children’s respiratory illnesses, which accounted for 39.99% of the absences, and children’s illness (non-respiratory), which accounted for 25.74% of the absences.

For December, the Head Start program attendance rate was 60.68%, below the required 85%. The top absence reasons during the month of December were children’s respiratory illnesses, which accounted for 30.79% of the absences, and children’s illness (non-respiratory), which accounted for 22.25% of the absences.

The Early Head Start program attendance rate was 58.37%, below the required 85%. The top absence reasons during the month of November were children’s respiratory illnesses, which accounted for 49.16% of the absences, and children’s illness (non-respiratory), which accounted for 24.02% of the absences.

For December, the Early Head Start program attendance rate was 58.99%, below the required 85%. The top absence reasons during the month of December were children’s respiratory illnesses, which accounted for 41.54% of the absences, and children’s illness (non-respiratory), which accounted for 17.69% of the absences.

The Early Head Start Child Care Partnerships program attendance rate for November was 68%, below the required 85%. The top absence reasons during the month of November were children’s respiratory illness, which accounted for 31.21% of the absences, family day/vacation, which accounted for 27.17% of the absences, and children’s illnesses (non-respiratory), which accounted for 14.16% of the absences.

For December, the Early Head Start Child Care Partnerships program attendance rate was 71.58%, below the required 85%. The top absence reasons during the month of December were family day/vacation, which accounted for 47.23% of the absences, which is to be expected around the holidays, children’s respiratory illness, which accounted for 13.82% of the absences, and children’s illnesses (non-respiratory), which accounted for 11.49% 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								

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								

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								

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								

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								

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								

USDA Meal Reimbursements

Reporting on three months as October data was not available in November, and there was no meeting in December.

	October 2022	
USDA Meal Reimbursements	Number of Meals Served	Amount Reimbursed
Breakfast	3,992	\$ 8,822.32
Lunch	3,937	\$15,866.11
Snack	302	\$ 356.36
Cash In Lieu		\$ 1,181.10
Total Reimbursement	8,231	\$26,225.89

	November 2022	
USDA Meal Reimbursements	Number of Meals Served	Amount Reimbursed
Breakfast	3,018	\$ 6,669.78
Lunch	3,020	\$12,170.60
Snack	202	\$ 238.36
Cash In Lieu		\$ 906.00
Total Reimbursement	6,240	\$19,984.74

	December 2022	
USDA Meal Reimbursements	Number of Meals Served	Amount Reimbursed
Breakfast	1,756	\$ 3,880.76
Lunch	1,689	\$ 6,806.67
Snack	93	\$ 109.74
Cash In Lieu		\$ 506.70
Total Reimbursement	3,538	\$11,303.87

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 48 vacant staff positions in the program.

Eligible Children: Applications continue to come in more steadily, and staff are processing these as quickly as possible. Currently we have delayed start dates planned for three EHS classes and 11 HS classes. We are close to opening Hawthorne EHS IT1 and IT2, waiting for the City to sign off on permits for the renovation, and then the completion of OCC licensing. The remaining 11 classes are on a delayed start because of being short-staffed and/or under-enrolled.

Child Care Providers: One new family child care provider has been secured for the EHS Child Care Partnerships program, taking on four federal EHS slots and six state P3 slots. That leaves us short four federal slots. We have continued to recruit new providers, working in partnership with CCR&R. There is one recent inquiry from a potential provider, and one of our current providers serving Independence is considering opening a second center and would possibly be able to take the last four slots.

School Security and Safety: Our security consultant, One Security, Inc., has completed all site assessments, and completed a list of recommended facility changes, and enhancements to school security. The HS Management Team will dig into those recommendations and determine what can be completed, and what might require additional funding to complete. There is opportunity to apply for one-time funding from Office of Head Start for large scale improvements, such as enhanced video cameras and universal panic alarms.

Corrective Action Plan: The federal corrective action plan was submitted prior to the January 6th deadline. A review meeting on January 13th was conducted by OHS national and regional staff. Jimmy, Eva, and the entire HS management team attended the presentation, which also included Lindsay Pearson, the ELD Program Specialist. First level review of the plan has been completed by OHS staff and it has moved to the next level with the national office. The full corrective action plan is included in this report.

Child Outcomes – Fall 2022: Head Start provides information about child outcomes each season to the Board and Policy Council. The fall outcomes will be included in the Board packet for independent reading, and presented at the Policy Council meeting.

Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, Inc.
Head Start Corrective Action Plan
Grantee 10CH011428
December 16, 2022

Area of Deficiency:

Part 1302 – Program Performance Standards for Operation of Head Start Programs by Grantees and Delegate Agencies

1302.90 Personnel Policies. (c) Standards of Conduct. (1) A program must ensure all staff, consultants, contractors, and volunteers abide by the program's standards of conduct that: (ii) Ensure staff, consultants, and volunteers do not maltreat or endanger the health or safety of children, including, at a minimum, that staff must not: Use corporal punishment, (G) Physically abuse a child

Comments and Corrective Action Plan:

On April 20, 2022, a teacher at the Middle Grove Center pulled a 5-year old child down a hallway by the ankles. On April 23, 2022, the Head Start Director reported the incident to the Regional Office. After investigation, including the viewing of camera footage from the center, the teacher was terminated for violating the Head Start Standards of Conduct. The determination by the Office of Head Start was that the program did not ensure all staff did not maltreat or endanger the health and safety of children, including, at a minimum, that staff did not physically abuse a child; therefore was not in compliance with the regulation, and issued a notice of deficiency.

The video footage revealed that other staff came and went from the scene of the incident, offering help and walking away after being rebuffed by the teacher. Ultimately, a teacher assistant from another classroom stepped in to help the child choose to get up from the floor. Staff did not report the situation or stay with the child and teacher as is expected. This teacher was a 28-year veteran of the program, with a strong voice and other staff did not have the necessary confidence to challenge her during the incident.

MWVCAA Management and the Program Director requested a deployment of T/TA from the Regional Office, and an extension of the 30-day deadline to respond to the notice of deficiency, which was extended to January 6, 2023. Work with the program's management team and Carolyn Ferguson, T/TA Grantee Specialist and Jenn Morejohn, T/TA Program Specialist commenced, with seven virtual meetings and four days of in person work. Chryssa Best, the Region X Program Specialist, coordinated these sessions and worked closely with the program throughout the process.

MWVCAA also obtained consultation and training services on this issue from One Security, Inc. This company entered into a contract with the program in the spring of 2022, initially to assess all facilities and make recommendations for upgrades to sites and for staff training concerning intruder safety. The company turned out to have the capacity to assist the program in this matter as well, and conducted staff training about increasing situational awareness and responsiveness, and on bystander intervention.

Planning:

Assessment of the program needs and planning a course of action was done by program management, T/TA Specialists and our Region X Program Specialist, Chrissy Best, in phases.

- Phase 1 – During five virtual meetings between July and October 2022, the team assessed what the program is currently doing and what it needs to do to assure the positive treatment and safety of all children receiving services. The assessment went beyond traditional active supervision content to include how the program promotes and assures the positive, respectful treatment of children.

November 9 and 10, 2022, the T/TA specialists met with the program's leadership team, to lead discussion about the program's practices and procedures that support direct service staff in assuring the consistent and ongoing positive treatment of children. This session helped to hone in on the two primary areas that require attention. The group received an overview of Situational Leadership, which opened many eyes to the need for supervisor training.

The first priority is establishing a culture of child safety throughout the program and communicating this culture to staff and parents. The second priority is the development of supervisors to ensure full understanding of their responsibilities concerning staff performance, proactively addressing concerns, responsiveness, and the establishment of reflective practice to ensure staff feel able to report concerns.

Phase 2 – Two more virtual meetings were held between program management and the T/TA team to plan next steps. Actions identified included:

- The need to establish a new program goal and related objectives in support of setting the culture of child safety; review of all relevant policies and procedures to make necessary modifications for clarity about child safety, intervention during potentially unsafe situations, and appropriate reporting.
- The need to determine the best platforms, trainings, and supports for the development of supervisors. Current systems have not been sustainable, with supervisors receiving training in a more 'one and done' manner, but the

program was not effectively providing the same training for new supervisors hired or promoted into their positions.

On December 8 – 9, 2022 – The T/TA team met in person with program managers, specialists and supervisor representatives of the entire leadership team. The new goal was created, and three objectives. These goals and objectives have been added to the current five-year program goals and objectives, and will be presented to the Board of Directors and the Policy Council on December 20, 2022 for discussion and approval.

Goal: PROGRAM CULTURE OF SAFETY – Community Action Head Start will establish and embrace a program culture of safety that promotes dignity and respect by practicing kindness and acceptance to reflect our belief in the infinite worth of every person.

Objectives:

Program staff and leadership will infuse the culture of safety into every aspect of the program. This will be accomplished by providing training, guidance, and messaging about the culture of safety, and communication to staff, parents, and partners about the culture and how it is practiced throughout the program.

Program leadership will implement practices to reduce risk of harm to children and be responsive to situations where risk or concern is identified, in order to proactively ensure the safety of all children in our care. This will include procedures, training, monitoring and accountability for both staff and supervisors.

Program leadership will ensure all supervisory staff receive sufficient and sustainable training, guidance and support in understanding their responsibilities and job duties. This includes monitoring practices and oversight, and reflective practice to create an environment of trust and transparency, where staff are able to question, report, and intervene when necessary to prevent harm to children.

The group considered overviews of several training concepts for supervisors, including Situational Leadership, Reflective Supervision and the Gallup training 'Creating a Culture That Attracts and Retains Top Talent'. The program chose Situational Leadership and Reflective Supervision as the trainings that best support the program needs in this area, and which would allow for the creation of a sustainable system for training new supervisors or providing refresher trainings. Next steps include a two-day Reflective Supervision training to be provided by T/TA Specialists on March 9 – 10, 2023, and identification of managers or supervisors to attend Situational Leadership II training and become certified as trainers, attending virtually this winter.

Our work with this T/TA team of specialists will continue over the year as we have requested an extended deployment, and the Regional Office approved the request.

Training:

A number of trainings have been provided since the receipt of the notice of deficiency. Documentation of the content and staff attendance will be submitted as addendum to this corrective action plan.

September 6, 2022

Federal and state monitoring, levels of potential findings, and consequences
Presenter: Eva Pignotti, Chief Program Officer of Early Learning & Child Care
Attended: All Staff

September 6, 2022

TraumaSmart Review & Active Supervision
Presenters: Emily Ross, Inclusion & Support Specialist, Julie Suefert, Education Manager, Stacey Eli, Associate Director of Child & Family Services
Attended: All Staff

September 6, 2022

Safety & Security – Introduction to One Security, Inc.
Presenter: Shawn Carter, Chief Operating Officer, One Security, Inc.
Attended: All Staff

September 7, 8 and 12, 2022 (three tracks)

Psychological Safety of Children
Presenters: Emily Ross, Inclusion & Support Specialist, Julie Suefert, Education Manager
Attended: All Teachers, Teacher Assistants, Classroom Aides, Education Coaches, Inclusion & Support Coaches, Child Development Specialists, Regional Team Resource Specialists

October 28, 2022

Bystander Intervention
Presenter: Shawn Carter, Chief Operating Officer, One Security, Inc.
Attended: All Staff

November 4, 2022

Facilitated Attuned Interactions – Supervisor Mini-FAN
Presenter: Diane Lostrangio, Cooper House
Attended: All Directors, Managers, Specialists & Supervisors

Policies & Procedures:

Content area managers conducted an in depth review of program policies and procedures, with an eye to fine-tuning them to provide more direction and clarity that supports child safety. Updated policies are submitted as addendum to this corrective action plan.

Policy & Procedure Updated	Content Changed
Responding to Children’s Emotional Distress and Classroom Safety	Addition of how to plan as a classroom team about how and when to tap out during stressful situations. Emphasis and more detail on only using physical guidance when there is a safety concern.
Understanding Children’s Behavior and Supporting Social-Emotional Development	Adding language from the culture of safety program goal. Adding language about tapping out in the yellow and red zone sections. Emphasis on the support team meeting where staff can seek support from the Inclusion & Support team when things are escalating.
Inclusion Planning for Children With Special Needs	Emphasis on using ESD provided strategies and supports, and how to consistently make necessary accommodations.
Staffing	Strengthen wording and add bullet points to include all staff being responsible for immediately alerting supervisors to situations and behaviors arising that could potentially be harmful to either staff or children instead of waiting for scheduled staffing times. Include a statement to remind staff during staffings of their responsibility to intervene in situations where they see the potential of harm to a child.
Orientation	Add statement to share our newly developed goal about culture of safety with parents.
Outdoor Play	Add more information about transitioning in and out, supervision of areas, and maintaining ratios.
Environments	Add section emphasizing the teacher as a crucial element in the environment. Include statements about expectations of teachers in the classroom. Include a statement about classrooms being a soft place for children to fall.
Child Supervision	Bold statements about staff never being alone with children and add statements about responsibility of all staff to ensure a person is never alone with children. Bold statement about not taking breaks during times of transition.
Parent Concern Resolution	State the agency mission statement and the program goal about the culture of safety.

Volunteer Orientation & Placement	Language to describe a positive environment, culture of safety, and how to interrupt if necessary for child safety.
Child Care for Parent Involvement Activities	Children always with two or more adults, positive environment, culture of safety and tapping out if experiencing frustration.
Site and Classroom Newsletters	Add mission statement and culture of safety language.

Summary:

As the leader in our program, I deeply regret the incident that took place in April 2022. I knew and cared for that teacher, but when she crossed that line, it was not a difficult decision to end her employment. More troubling was the impact her actions had on the child, his mother, and her teammates.

To that end, I'm pleased to say that the staff at Middle Grove have continued to work closely with this parent, and it seems that her trust in us remained undiminished. This summer, her child entered a kindergarten boot camp program, operated by the school district. We put the child on a two week leave from his Head Start classroom in order to attend the boot camp. There were issues for the family at the public school program, due to the child having a diagnosed disability and exhibiting some challenging behaviors. The parent was told he was being dropped from the boot camp. She came back to us, to her child's classroom team, and we reached out to our school district and ESD partners to problem solve, and helped the parent to advocate for the child, and he was back at boot camp the next day!

Middle Grove staff were understandably shocked and traumatized by the incident, and the behavior of a once admired co-worker. Our program secured a counselor through our Employee Assistance Program contract, who provided in person services on site for several days. Staff have thanked us for this many times, and said it really helped them to process their feelings.

MWVCAA has taken the topic of child safety very seriously and will continue to do so. We believe that children are people, and that all people deserve to be treated with respect, to have their dignity preserved and to be treated with kindness. Maltreatment in the form of physical, verbal or emotional actions can have a lifelong impact. We understand the trust it takes for a parent to put their vulnerable young child in our hands, and our commitment is to ensure that child is kept safe from harm while in our care.

Children, families and staff are showing the effects of the last few years in many ways. Mental health issues are more prevalent than ever, and that applies to adults as well as

children. Our program's critical error in this situation was not adjusting to the current climate. Supervisors are our eyes and ears in the classroom sites, and we need to equip them with every possible tool to identify the potential for a concern before it happens. Staff need to be supported to intervene and speak up when they see an unsafe situation or feel that a concern is developing.

The lesson in this for everyone in our program is that we are all responsible for the safety and well-being of the children in our care. Everyone from the classroom staff to the maintenance technicians to the nutrition personnel have received this message and will continue to do so.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eva Pignotti
Chief Operations Officer of Early Learning & Child Care
Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, Inc.

2022-23 Head Start Child Outcomes

Fall 2022-23 Pre K

Area	Emerging	Meets	Exceeds
Social/ Emotional	155	188	4
Physical	94	243	11
Language	152	189	2
Cognitive	155	181	5
Literacy	196	133	2
Mathematics	214	98	6

Fall 2022-23 Child Care Partnership

Area	Emerging	Meets	Exceeds
Social/ Emotional	6	37	4
Physical	5	35	13
Language	10	35	7
Cognitive	4	40	8
Literacy	7	40	10
Mathematics	11	37	8

Fall 2022-23 Early Head Start

Area	Emerging	Meets	Exceeds
Social/ Emotional	18	44	1
Physical	10	50	6
Language	22	40	3
Cognitive	7	49	7
Literacy	17	42	4
Mathematics	16	47	1

The over-arching educational goal for Head Start children is that they demonstrate progress throughout the school year toward becoming ready for Kindergarten.

Teachers, through observation, collect data on children and are assessed 4 times per year. The details of the observations are measured against established indicators of “widely held expectations” for typically developing children at their particular age/developmental level. Based on the indicators, children are assessed as either emerging, meeting, or exceeding expectations. This first assessment period, the fall checkpoint, is the shortest period from which teachers obtain preliminary information that will serve as a baseline for future progress.

The data above is shown for our Head Start (pre-) kindergarten, Early Head Start (infants and toddlers), and our Child Care Partnership program (serving infants and toddlers in child-care provider homes).

Board Report December 2022



Mid-Willamette Valley
COMMUNITY ACTION
HOME Youth Services

Drop In:

- HOME Youth Services' Drop In is currently open Monday and Thursday from 12pm-7pm. During open hours, youth ages 11-17 have access to resources like hygiene items, clothing items, school supplies, and food boxes. Youth can also shower, do laundry, and eat a hot meal. On days that the Drop In is not open, youth can access many of the same services through appointments with case managers.
- HOME Youth Services' management team has been meeting regularly to complete an updated version of policies and procedures. This project is currently on track to have a completed version by early 2023.
- The Drop In had an inspection in late November, 2022. In reviewing the items identified during the inspection, a matrix was created to track the status of updates and repairs.
- As policies and procedures are finished, and high priority updates and repairs are made, a plan will be developed to open the Drop In to its original capacity of 7-days per week. This plan will be gradual, to ensure consistency and trust for the youth served.
- In December, The Drop In provided 8 food boxes, serving a total of 40 individuals and families (21 individuals under the age of 18, and 19 individuals over the age of 18).
- The Drop In has historically held a large holiday party for youth. The purpose of the party is to provide a holiday meal, and provide youth access to gifts for both themselves and their families. In 2020, The Drop In shifted services



from a large on-site party to a hybrid pick-up and delivery model for gifts. This year, Azul's taco house graciously donated dinner. Drop In staff also made tamales for youth to take home and share with their families.

- The Drop In also opened an additional day during the freezing weather to ensure youth had a safe and warm place to stay during the day. Since then, management has put together a plan for additional warming services for youth during freezing months.



Outreach:

- In December 2022, Outreach staff engaged with **25 new youth** during outreach efforts. The Outreach team has been working with community partners to better identify places youth are hanging out and ensure the best engagement with youth during outreach efforts.



Board Report December 2022

- The Outreach team also began monthly youth focused outreach meetings. The goal of these meetings is to engage with other providers in the region who are serving youth and young adults during outreach efforts. So far, the team has connected with Northwest Human Services' HOST and Church at the Park to coordinate outreach efforts.
- In December, outreach staff connected with Penny, a youth experiencing housing instability living in a home with many people in it. Penny expressed to staff how hard it is with so many people around, and that there is rarely food in the house. Staff worked with Penny to schedule a time for an appointment at the food stamp office, so she would be able to have consistent access to her own food, reducing ongoing food insecurity.

Emergency Shelter:

- Taylor's House is an emergency shelter serving youth ages 11-18 in Marion and Polk counties. Taylor's House is located near downtown Salem, and serves youth in Oregon Department of Human Services custody, as well as youth in the community experiencing housing instability.
- In December, Taylor's House served a total of 9 unduplicated youth. Of those, 4 youth are engaged in ODHS care, and 5 youth engaged in services through community referrals.
- Holidays at Taylor's House are always difficult for youth residents. All residents at Taylor's House have come into shelter due to trauma, which increases during the holiday season. Thanks to Salem's Bridal Gallery, the youth residents enjoyed a Christmas meal. Bridal Gallery, along with Home Depot donated gifts and stockings for the youth residents to open on Christmas morning.
- Youth residents each made a wish list of gifts they would like for Christmas. Between donations from community partners and community members, the youth's wish lists were fulfilled.

Youth Empowerment Program:

- HOME Youth Services' Youth Empowerment Program (YEP) provides youth with an opportunity to improve skills necessary for employment, develop a resume, and engage in a short term paid internship. Through this program, youth learn essential transferrable skills necessary for obtaining and sustaining employment throughout their lives.
- During the change in Drop In services and hours, along with staffing challenges, YEP took a pause to focus on growing an effective program, with ongoing connections with developing community partners.
- Although there was not a cycle during December, youth engaged in aftercare case management. Chris has participated in two YEP cycles and was an exceptional intern.



Board Report December 2022

He continues to engage with HOME Youth Services and YEP aftercare. Recently he was arrested on a non-violent charge and went into Juvenile Detention. He reached out to the program for help and his Youth Navigator was able to assist in getting him into the GAP Program. Chris excelled in GAP; he moved up the ranks very fast, and earned the respect of the workers and his peers there. Chris engaged in case management with his Youth Navigator twice a week during his three months in GAP, which including assistance with setting up appointments and transportation to the appointments. He was just released from GAP right before Christmas. He exited two weeks early for his exceptional work ethic and behavior. During this time, working with GAP, and engaging in YEP aftercare, Chris was able to complete his GED, get his birth certificate, get his social security card, get his prescription glasses, and secured a job. He is now working on getting emancipated, with his eyes set on college. Chris just turned sixteen years old and has already completed High School. He has a safe place to live, a good job, and the stability he has craved for years. He had multiple conversations with his Youth Navigator during the past three months and believes that getting arrested has allowed him the space to change his life in a positive way. Chris is feeling hopeful about his future, after completing school and gaining employment.

Program Growth:

- Some members of the HOME Youth Services team will be moving offices from the Drop In to the previous CCR&R building on Commercial St. This building will serve as an office space for Youth Navigators and managers, an outreach hub for the outreach team, and office space for the new Rapid Rehousing pilot program kicking off in early 2023.
- Interviews for the Rapid Rehousing program manager begun in late December, and from those interviews, an internal candidate was hired to begin developing the program for youth to have increased access to housing opportunities.

HOME Youth Services Overview – 2022:

- The Drop In served a total of 287 individual youth a total of 7,597 times.
- Outreach engaged with a total of 129 youth for a total of 246 hours and 444 separate engagements.
- The Youth Empowerment Program served a total of 20 youth a total of 101 times. 32 youth engaged in YEP set up bank accounts with Maps Credit Union.
- Taylor’s House sheltered 45 unique youth in 2022 for a cumulative total of 1,566 shelter nights.

Nutrition First -Child Care Food Program
 Carmen Romero - Program Director
 January 18, 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
Start of Month	500	295	492
Opened	8	8	7
Closed	13	11	9
End of Month	495	492	490

- For December, we signed on seven providers (five are OCC registered/certified and two are listed with ODHS) and we closed nine providers, leaving us with 490 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 for.
- 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 December, we conducted 114 in-home visits and saw 912 children.

Annual Public Report for 2021-2022 School Year Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency Community Action Head Start

- Head Start
- Early Head Start
- Early Head Start Child Care Partnerships

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Enrollment & Eligibility

The program is funded for 697 pre-school children in the Head Start program, 108 children in the Early Head Start program, and 80 children in the Early Head Start Child Care Partnerships Program. Data for each program's enrollment status and eligibility status of enrolled children is detailed in the charts below.

Head Start Pre-K	
Funded Slots	697
Total Cumulative Enrollment	487
Eligible with income below 100% of the Federal Poverty Line	217
Eligible with receipt of Public Assistance (TANF, SSI)	74
Eligible as Foster Child	12
Eligible as Homeless	70
Over income (above 130% of the Federal Poverty Line)	44
Over income (101% - 130% of the Federal Poverty Line)	70

Early Head Start	
Funded Slots	108
Total Cumulative Enrollment	147
Eligible With Income Below 100% of Federal Poverty Line	66
Eligible With Receipt of Public Assistance (TANF, SSI)	23
Eligible as Foster Child	7
Eligible as Homeless	29
Over Income (above 130% of Federal Poverty Line)	3
Over Income (101 – 130% of Federal Poverty Line)	19

Early Head Start Child Care Partnerships	
Funded Slots	80
Total Cumulative Enrollment	119
Eligible With Income Below 100% of Federal Poverty Line	73
Eligible With Receipt of Public Assistance (TANF, SSI)	2
Eligible as Foster Child	6
Eligible as Homeless	22
Over Income (above 130% of Federal Poverty Line)	6
Over Income (101 – 130% of Federal Poverty Line)	10

During the 2021-2022 school year, the program operated under a number of flexibilities offered by federal and state funders, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Head Start program did not fill all funded slots because of a lack of applications from eligible families.

Children's Health

Families are supported in making connections to establish a regular doctor and dentist to provide care for their enrolled children. The program tracks children's well child exams and oral health assessments to support the family in ensuring their children are up to date on a schedule of age appropriate care.

Head Start Pre-K	
Funded Slots	697
Total Cumulative Enrollment	487
Number of Children Up-To-Date on a Schedule of Preventative and Primary Health Care	368
Number of Children Up-To-Date on a Schedule of Preventative and Primary Oral Health Care	394

Early Head Start & Early Head Start Child Care Partnerships	
Funded Slots	188
Total Cumulative Enrollment	266
Number of Children Up-To-Date on a Schedule of Preventative and Primary Health Care	192
Number of Children Up-To-Date on a Schedule of Preventative and Primary Oral Health Care	166

Parent Involvement

Community Action Head Start encourages the involvement of parents in the program throughout all service areas. Parents receive support in setting family and personal goals, resources and referrals to help support their goals, and encouragement to become strong advocates for their children. Parent meetings were conducted according to program schedules with parents encouraged to be involved in planning and coordinating the meetings. These serve as an opportunity for parents to connect with one another, learn and share about their experience with Head Start and have time to enjoy activities with their children. Elected parent representatives from classrooms serve on the Policy Council, one of the two governing bodies with program oversight. The Policy Council met according to program schedule to approve grants, policies, and written reports of various kinds.

Many of our Parent Engagement opportunities were virtual in nature. We shared opportunities for parent education in the community including our own presentation of Smart Connections classes for our families and members of the communities we serve through Trauma Smart. Our virtual offering of Smart Connections enabled a higher number of parents to attend and for an increase in direct parenting conversations between families and staff. Dev NW collaborated with us to present financial literacy education opportunities for our families, of which 12 families directly signed up for asset building services.

As the pandemic forced closures and limited resources, staff offered support for families by connecting with them regularly and checking on what need's families had during these closures. Staff were able to connect 59 families with housing supports. Ten families who were homeless at the beginning of enrollment were supported to find stable housing. 87% of families who stated a need for resources were supported in receiving those resources. 269 families made progress on or completed their family goals in the area of family well-being, including safe housing, healthy family lifestyles, and securing better employment.

Kindergarten Readiness & Child Outcomes

Preparing children to be ready for kindergarten includes detailed observation and accurate assessment of children's progress in developmental areas including: social emotional, physical, language, cognitive, literacy, and math. Each child will progress at their own rate. The goal for all children is to demonstrate progress toward meeting or exceeding goals throughout the year.

In a typical school year, teachers begin working with parents to identify individualized goals for children. Teachers regularly observe children's progress and use those observations to assess children's growth. While we use the fall checkpoint to set a baseline, it also helps us to identify specific areas of needed support so teachers can continue to build their lesson planning around the emerging needs of children as exhibited by their progress. We assess children's progress in fall, winter and spring.

The 2021-2022 school year continued to present challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic. While our children were able to return to receiving instruction in the classroom, higher absenteeism (for both children and staff) due to the pandemic, along with increased needs to meet the social and emotional needs of children remained our primary goal. We continued to follow the mandates of our community ensuring we were maintaining stable groups, supporting mask mandates, and ensuring classrooms and materials were sanitized daily.

Once again, in these unique circumstances, the flexibility and resiliency of our teaching teams ensured that children received consistent learning opportunities that contributed to progress toward mastering the developmental and academic skills necessary for school readiness. While we acknowledge that growth in some of the academic areas may not have been as strong as we would prefer, the area most needed by children during this school year was in social emotional development. Teachers worked diligently to ensure that children felt safe and nurtured within their classroom environments regardless of the uncertainty that was happening in their world. We see the result of those efforts in our social emotional outcomes knowing that if children are beginning kindergarten with strong social emotional skills, they are starting with the foundation they need to help them succeed.

Child Outcomes Data 2021-2022

Fall 2021

Area	Emerging	Meets	Exceeds
Social/Emotional	175	241	18
Physical	133	283	19
Language	200	227	8
Cognitive	172	239	19
Literacy	206	192	18
Mathematics	243	156	9

Winter 2021

Area	Emerging	Meets	Exceeds
Social/Emotional	114	352	33
Physical	60	401	39
Language	143	340	18
Cognitive	103	358	35
Literacy	162	295	17
Mathematics	198	225	14

Spring 2022

Area	Emerging	Meets	Exceeds
Social/Emotional	90	362	93
Physical	67	388	88
Language	112	377	53
Cognitive	77	399	67
Literacy	119	386	28
Mathematics	166	304	43

Financial Reports

Financial Audit Year Ended June 30, 2021

The Single Audit for the year ending June 30, 2021 was filed on March 14, 2022. The independent auditors report issued by Grove, Mueller and Swank contained an unqualified opinion. This means that in their opinion the financial statements are presented fairly in all material respects.

There were no findings noted during the audit.

The Single Audit for the year ending June 30, 2022 is in progress.

For time period from 9/2021 – 8/2022:

Financial Information – September 2021 through August 2022 Funding - Actual

US Health & Human Services Office of Head Start	\$ 9,465,380
Oregon Department of Education Early Learning Division	5,766,623
Department of Human Services (ERDC)	118,534
USDA (Schools Meals Reimbursement)	325,563
Other Revenue	86,457
Total Income	\$ 15,762,557

Financial Information – September 2021 through August 2022 Expenditures and Budget

Expenditures	Actual Expenditures	Annual Budget
Personnel	11,293,459	11,672,314
Operating	2,533,432	2,253,462
Contract Services	973,066	835,588
Training	212,457	248,612
Administrative Allocation	750,143	678,927
Total Expense	\$ 15,762,557	15,688,903
Net Income	\$ 0	0

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, there were funds that were not yet expended which carried forward to the next fiscal year.

Federal Monitoring Reviews

The Office of Head Start provides monitoring oversight to Head Start programs over a five-year grant cycle. The last monitoring visit for our program was in June 2022, when the Office of Head Start completed a Focus Area 2 Review. Focus Area 2 reviews examine the program's performance and compliance with Head Start Program Performance Standards through virtual and in person meetings, observations, focus groups and document examination in the following areas:

- Program Design, Management and Quality Improvement
- Education and Child Development Program Services
- Health Program Services
- Family and Community Engagement Program Services
- Eligibility, Recruitment, Selection, Enrollment, and Attendance Strategies (ERSEA)
- Fiscal Infrastructure

In each of these areas, no deficiencies were identified. One area of concern was noted, about two Early Head Start Teachers who had not completed their Infant Toddler Certificates prior to being hired. This situation was caused by a shortage in qualified job applicants. Upon the advice of the Regional Office of Head Start, these Teachers were hired with the requirement that a professional development plan be created to show the plan for completion of the certification. This area of concern is a common issue across the country, and it is a low-level concern that does not require any corrective action.

Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, Inc.
Board of Directors Program Committee
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 7, 2022

ATTENDANCE

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

Absent: None

Staff: Jimmy Jones, Executive Director; Ashley Hamilton, Chief Program Officer: Housing and Homeless Services; and Jade Wilson, Executive Assistant

The meeting of the Executive & Finance Committee started at 12:35pm. It was determined that a quorum was present.

- 1. Executive Director's Program Updates –**
 - a. Welcome** - Jimmy introduced Ashley Hamilton, Chief Program Officer: Housing and Homeless Services and welcomed her to the meeting. He had asked her to attend in order to shed light on some future homeless projects.
 - b. Strategic Plan** - With the Strategic Plan Review on the table for discussion, Jimmy posed a question to this committee. He asked the committee members, "What does the Board want the agency to focus on for the future?" There was further discussion to follow.
 - c. Medicaid 1115 Demonstration Waiver** – Jimmy and Ashley spoke on the Medicaid 1115 Demonstration Waiver. This waiver will allow us to use Medicaid funding for work that historically Medicaid has not supported. With this funding, we will be able to hire more positions in both Head Start and ARCHES to assist with several programmatic needs (i.e. mental health and case management positions). This waiver will become another funding mechanism to cover the cost of services we are already providing and it is a way to ensure the revenue continues in case State funding declines or shifts to other needs.
- 2. Review of 2022 Strategic Plan** – Due to a lack of time, a full review and discussion were tabled for the January Program Committee meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 1:47pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jade Wilson, Executive Assistant

Kevin Karvandi, Board Secretary

Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, Inc.
Board of Directors Executive & Finance Committee
Meeting Minutes
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2022

ATTENDANCE

Committee Members Present: Jade Rutledge, Board Chair; Shelaswau Crier, Board Vice-Chair; Helen Honey, Board Member; and Steve McCoid, Board Member

Absent: Kevin Karvandi, Secretary

Staff: Helana Haytas, Chief Operations Officer; Kaolee Hoyle, Chief Financial Officer; Ashley Hamilton, Chief Program Officer: Housing and Homeless Services; and Jade Wilson, Executive Assistant

The meeting of the Executive & Finance Committee started at 5:31pm. It was determined that a quorum was present.

1. **Executive Director's Program Updates** – Ashley Hamilton, Chief Program Officer: Housing and Homeless Services, stood in for Jimmy in his absence. Ashley welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided some ARCHES Program updates.
 - a. **Emergency Services – Warming Shelters:** The ARCHES Emergency Services warming shelter season began on November 1st, 2022 and runs through to March 30th, 2023. The South Salem shelter location has been open eleven nights thus far this season and has provided beds for 461 individuals and 43 pets. The Day Center and Outreach hours have been expanded as well to provide services. The second warming center location is opened as well as of 12/8/22. Coordinated efforts will continue throughout the season with other warming shelter providers.
 - b. **Emergency Services – Outreach:** The ARCHES Outreach schedule has been updated to five days a week from 10:30am to 9pm for Marion and Polk County. Woodburn and North Marion County specific outreach programs are open 16 hours a week plus any service requests. Seven hundred and four services have been provided year to date with 223 duplicate clients served.
 - c. **Partners Aligned towards Housing Solutions (P.A.T.H) Polk Homeless Prevention** – P.A.T.H is a coordinated regional response to homelessness that originated from House Bill 4123. With a budget of \$8 million dollars, eight rural counties in Oregon (Benton, Coos, Deschutes, Columbia District, Lincoln, Polk, Tillamook/N. Coast, and Umatilla) have been asked to develop and adopt a five-year strategic plan that identifies and sets goals for addressing homelessness. ARCHES has been identified as the representative to carry out P.A.T.H for Polk County and they are currently in the asset mapping phase of the process.
 - d. **Polk Youth Expansion** – Earlier in 2022, HYS received the Youth Homeless Demonstration Project (YHDP) grant which is being used to fund three multi-year projects. Project one is a youth Coordinated Entry system that will identify, assess and create referrals specific to youth. Project two is to create supportive services such as safe spaces for youth, basic needs provision, housing assessments, resource navigation and case management, and peer groups. The hope is that these supportive services serve

approximately 110 youth annually in Polk County. The third and final project is to create both Transitional Housing and Rapid Re-Housing specifically for youth. The Transitional Housing will be a two-year housing opportunity for youth ages 14 to 18 where they would live on site and have support 24/7. The hope for this transitional housing is to serve eight youth at a time annually. The Rapid Re-Housing program would provide long-term rentals for youth 18 to 24 and would be in partnership with the Polk County CDC. Other supplemental funding resources for these projects are from OHCS (Oregon Housing and Community Services) Youth Rapid Re-Housing Funding (\$600,000) and OHA (Oregon Housing Authority) Youth SPMI funding (\$3 million pending).

- e. **Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) Emerging Humanitarian Crisis** – There is a potential funding opportunity through Turnkey 2.0 Project to help with this emerging crisis. Two-hundred and fifty households from Haiti and Central America are seeking safety and protection in Oregon currently. These refugees are not considered undocumented but they don't qualify for federal benefits (U.S. Refugee Admissions Programs – USRAP). They have one year from arrival to apply for asylum but they are not eligible to work for anywhere from six months to a year. This can pose a serious problem for these households and can further fuel the already growing homeless crisis in Oregon. The hope is with this funding and the potential purchase of the Fisher Rd hotel then we could provide a welcome center, intake process, referrals and immediate sheltering for these individuals before sending them to more permanent housing closer to their future hearing location.
 - f. **Building Projects Update**
 - i. **ARCHES Inn** – The remodel is pending an Environmental Review by HUD. The Environmental Review is currently pending a Noise Survey due to the Inn's proximity to I-5. These are due diligence items for HUD in order to secure the Congressional Direct Spending Funds (\$1 million).
 - ii. **Fisher Rd** – HUD and CDS funding for acquisition is pending (\$1.2 million). There is a possible ODHS Shelter + and Turnkey 2.0 funding avenue or a COS Housing Opportunity fund with VA Capitol.
 - iii. **Polk Youth Expansion Jackson Street** – We have an offer pending on a location in Monmouth on Jackson Street for a second Taylor's House Youth Shelter. This purchase is conditional on funding resources, inspections of the property and board approval.
 - g. **Medicaid Billing Update** – Ashley spoke about utilizing the 1115 Medicaid Demonstration Waiver to create a Community Programmatic Payment Contract with Pacific Source. This contract will pay for services provided by Peer Support Specialists and Certified Health Workers to clients (i.e. MWVCAA Case Managers and Housing Navigators with ARCHES). This will serve as an alternate funding source for these services we are providing in case they become really expensive to operate or become unfunded by other resources. We are currently in the pilot phase. Four FTE are going through the trainings and certifications and three FTE are going through OHA's (Oregon Housing Authority) legacy process. Additional staff can be added later if necessary. The contract and budget development for this are scheduled for 2023 pending board approval.
2. **Strategic Plan Review** – There were several documents covering the general overview of the Strategic Plan as it stands currently. Jimmy asked that Ashley propose several questions to the committee regarding the Strategic Plan. He encouraged they discuss if the plan is acceptable as is or if there are changes to be made. There was further discussion to follow.
3. **Financials** – Kaolee Hoyle, Chief Financial Officer, presented the September 2022 Budget to Actual. Kaolee noted that donations are lower than expected but there is an expected increase following the Gala Fundraising Event and year-end contributions. Kaolee noted that CRP has several projects that have not begun which explains why the program is underspent. HOME

Youth services is also underspent due to having several open positions that they are actively hiring for. Lastly, Kaolee noted that our General Management and Admin costs are now at 7% of our total budget.

4. **Full Board Meeting Draft** – None to review this month as there is not a Board Meeting in December.
5. **Credit Card Expenditure Review** – None to review this month.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jade Wilson, Executive Assistant

Kevin Karvandi, Board Secretary

Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, Inc.
Board of Directors Program Committee
Meeting Minutes
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2023

ATTENDANCE

Committee Members Present: Catherine Trottman, Board Member; Chris Lopez, Board Member; and Steve McCoid, Board Member

Absent: Erika Romine, Board Member and Program Committee Chair

Staff: Jimmy Jones, Executive Director; Ashley Hamilton, Chief Program Officer: Housing and Homeless Services; and Jade Wilson, Executive Assistant.

The meeting of the Program Committee started at 12:35pm. It was determined that a quorum was present.

1. Executive Director's Program Updates

- a. Audit** – The annual agency audit is underway. We hope to have this completed by the end of January.
- b. Refugee Program** - There is a potential funding opportunity through Turnkey 2.0 Project to help with this emerging crisis. Two-hundred and fifty households from Haiti and Central America are seeking safety and protection in Oregon currently. These refugees are not considered undocumented but they don't qualify for federal benefits (U.S. Refugee Admissions Programs – USRAP). They have one year from arrival to apply for asylum but they are not eligible to work for anywhere from six months to a year. This can pose a serious problem for these households and can further fuel the already growing homeless crisis in Oregon. The hope is with this funding and the potential purchase of the Fisher Rd hotel then we could provide a welcome center, intake process, referrals and immediate sheltering for these individuals before sending them to more permanent housing closer to their future hearing location.
- c. Taylor's House 2.0** – We are currently under contract on a location in Monmouth. second Taylor's House Youth Shelter. This purchase is conditional on funding resources, inspections of the property and board approval.
- d. OHCS Budget** – The new Oregon State Governor has approved an Emergency Declaration for the Homelessness issue in Oregon. This declaration will allow new allocations for funding to be used for solving some of the homelessness issue. The hope with this new funding is to have 500 more beds statewide, 1000 more individuals in supportive housing, and possibly 20 new motels as transitional housing.
- e. New Statewide Rental Control Policy** – The new rental control policy proposed this year states that landlords can increase their rent 3% plus the current CPI rate; total to not exceed 8%. This policy used to only apply to properties older than 15 years but that has been changed to 3 years. Lower income households have traditionally rented older properties because of their affordability. This policy will have the biggest impact on the lower income households and could potentially further our homelessness issue.

- 2. Final Review of Strategic Plan** - There were several documents covering the general overview of the Strategic Plan as it stands currently. The committee reviewed and discussed several points on these documents. Jimmy then asked the committee what they would like to see the agency focus on in 2023 and the future.

Meeting adjourned at 1:35pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jade Wilson, Executive Assistant

Kevin Karvandi, Board Secretary

Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, Inc.
Board of Directors Executive & Finance Committee
Meeting Minutes
THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2023

ATTENDANCE

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

Absent: Helen Honey, Board Member

Staff: Jimmy Jones, Executive Director; Kaolee Hoyle, Chief Financial Officer; Helana Haytas, Chief Operations Officer; and Jade Wilson, Executive Assistant

The meeting of the Executive & Finance Committee started at 5:31pm. It was determined that a quorum was present.

1. Executive Director's Program Updates

- a. New Governor** – Tina Kotek, the new Governor of Oregon, was sworn in on Monday this week. Kotek, at her inauguration, declared a State of Emergency on the Homelessness issue which will allow access to funds not originally allocated for resolving these issues.
- b. Emergency SNAP Benefits** – The emergency SNAP benefits that were rolled out at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic are set to end on March 2, 2023. This could cause a lot of issues amongst low-income households that relied on those extra funds.
- c. LIHEAP Funds** – Oregon received an unexpected \$11.8 million in LIHEAP Funds for Energy and Weatherization Programs (\$9.7 million for Energy and \$1.7 million for Weatherization). MWVCAA can expect about 10% of that total amount.
- d. Oregon Community Foundation** - We are currently waiting to hear back on the potential \$7.1 million from the Oregon Community Foundation needed to fund the purchase of the new hotel. This funding was originally going to come from the Turnkey 2.0 funding but that project was put on hold.
- e. IT Director** – Earlier this week, our IT Director, Shaun Phillips, submitted his resignation and will be heading to a new position with Marion County. Jimmy spoke to all the hard work he has put in over the years in establishing a strong IT Department.
- f. January Board Meeting** – The January Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 26, and will be taking place at Broadway Commons, 1300 Broadway St NE, Salem, OR 97301. Dinner will be provided and we will be hosting the annual elections at this meeting as well. Attendance in person is strongly encouraged.
- g. 1875 Fisher Rd** – The close date of 1875 Fisher Rd has been extended to January 31st while we work with DHS and the Governor Elect's Office to acquire the funding. If the Board approves and the Governor greenlights DHS/DOJ plan for funding then we can expect around \$10 million in total (\$7.5 million for full acquisition for the property).
- h. Taylor's House 2.0** – We are under contract on the Taylor's House 2.0 property in Monmouth and will be moving on to the due diligence stage.
- i. Session Pre-Work** – Jimmy has been doing a lot of legislative session pre-work for the past few weeks specifically with the HB 2100 Task Force and the Racial Justice Council.
- j. Homeless Emergency Declaration** – New Governor, Tina Kotek, will declare a homeless emergency once in office. This State of Emergency will allow the Governor to allocate funds originally meant for other means to be used to help solve the homelessness

issue. This will begin with \$123 million and the Governor Elect's staff are considering options on a balance of funds between housing and sheltering.

- k. **Governor's Recommended Budget** – Governor Kotek is expected to release her recommended budget by February 1. We can expect \$100 million in Eviction Funds plus \$773 million in OHCS budget.
 - l. **Legislative Session Overview**– Several Housing Advocacy Communities are requesting, during this legislative session, \$125 million per year via the Oregon Mayor's Association to be put towards housing. Some other things to expect during this session are:
 - i. HB 4123 (Path out of Homelessness) projects likely to expand.
 - ii. Youth Alliance funding to potentially expand,
 - iii. Food Banks are in poor shape which could increase focus on improving them
 - iv. Possibly making some COVID eviction protections permanent,
 - v. The possibility of a Landlord registration system
 - vi. A change to the State Rental Control System
2. **Financials** – Kaolee Hoyle, CFO, presented the October 2022 Budget to Actual. Kaolee noted that donations are lower than expected but there is an expected increase following the Gala Fundraising Event and year-end contributions. Kaolee noted that CRP has several projects that have not begun which explains why the program is underspent. HOME Youth services is also underspent due to having several open positions that they are actively hiring for. Kaolee also noted that our General Management and Admin costs are now at 7% of our total budget. Kaolee explained that the Annual Single Audit is underway with the hopes of completing by end of January. Lastly, a job offer has been made for a new Accounting Manager for the Finance Department.
 3. **January 2023 Full Board Meeting Agenda Draft** – The committee suggested a few changes be made to the agenda regarding the consent calendar.
 4. **Credit Card Expenditure Review** – None to review this month.

Meeting adjourned at 7:02pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jade Wilson, Executive Assistant

Kevin Karvandi, Board Secretary