



FEBRUARY 2024 MEETING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2024

LOCATION:

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

VIRTUAL:

Topic: MWVCAA Full Board Meeting February 2024
Time: Feb 22, 2024 05:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89592979166?pwd=NyOb5cFKtCVHmAfDZH6axO9DPVuESL.1>

Meeting ID: 895 9297 9166

Passcode: fCB6Ny

COMMUNITY ACTION PROMISE

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

Helping People Changing Lives

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COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2024

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Mission

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

Vision

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

- | | | |
|-------------|---|-------------|
| I. | Welcome and Introductions | 5:30 |
| II. | Public Comment | 5:35 |
| III. | Declaration of Conflict of Interest | 5:40 |
| IV. | Approval of Agenda | 5:45 |
| V. | Consent Calendar | 5:50 |
| | 1. January 2024 Full Board Meeting Minutes | |
| | 2. February 2024 Executive Director Report | |
| | 3. February 2024 Regional Poverty Report | |
| | 4. February 2024 Chief Information Officer Report | |
| | 5. February 2024 Program Director Reports | |
| | 6. <i>Informational Report: Head Start Selection Criteria</i> | |
| VI. | Board Business | 5:55 |
| | 1. Board Member Addition: Deanna Gwyn - <i>Approval</i> | |
| | 2. Reaffirm Code of Ethics, Conflict of Interest, and Board Commitment Statements (Jones) - <i>Discussion</i> | |
| | 3. Executive Director's Report (Jones) | |
| | 4. Amicus Brief – Oregon Law Center and Georgetown University Law (Jones) - <i>Discussion</i> | |
| | 5. Nutrition First ODE CACFP Budget Revision (Romero) – <i>Approval</i> | |
| | 6. Financials (Hoyle) – <i>Approval</i> | |
| VII. | Adjournment | 7:30 |
- Next board meeting: Thursday, March 28, 2024**

Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, January 25, 2024
MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

Board of Directors:

Present:

Catherine Trotzman	Kevin Karvandi	Steve McCoid	Frank Lonergan
Erika Romine	RW Taylor	Cindy Ramirez Cisneros	
Jade Rutledge	Shelaswau Crier	Laura Reid	

Absent:

Helen Honey Jeremy Gordon

Others Present:

Program Directors/Staff/Guests:

Jimmy Jones, Executive Director
Robert Hale, Chief Information Officer
Ashley Hamilton, Chief Program Officer: Housing and Homeless Services
Eva Pignotti, Chief Program Officer: Early Learning and Child Care
Rogelio Cortes, Chief Program Officer: Weatherization and Energy Services
Nicole Schrock, Interim HR Director
Marie Jennings, Development 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
Jade Wilson, Executive Assistant
Eunice Kim, Prospective Board Member
Margie Taylor, Former MWVCAA Staff Childcare Director
Melissa, Interpreter

The meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order at 6:09pm by Board Chair Jade Rutledge. It was determined that a quorum was present.

- I. Welcome**
Board Chair Jade Rutledge welcomed everyone.

- II. Public Comment**
None were made.

- III. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**
None were made.

- IV. Approval of Agenda**
No changes were made.

MOTION: To approve agenda made by RW Taylor,
SECOND: Catherine Trottman.
APPROVED: Unanimously approved

V. Consent Calendar

- 1. November 2023 Full Board Meeting Minutes**
No discussions or concerns were raised
- 2. January 2024 Executive Director Report**
No discussions or concerns were raised
- 3. January 2024 Regional Poverty Report**
No discussions or concerns were raised
- 4. January 2024 Chief Financial Officer Report**
No discussions or concerns were raised
- 5. January 2024 Program Director Reports**
No discussions or concerns were raised
- 6. December 2023 Committee Meeting Minutes**
No discussions or concerns were raised
- 7. January 2024 Committee Meeting Minutes**
No discussions or concerns were raised
- 8. Head Start 2020-2023 Annual Public Report**
No discussions or concerns were raised
- 9. Head Start 2020-2025 Program Goals and Objectives Progress Update**
No discussions or concerns were raised

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

VI. Board Business

- 1. Board Member Addition: Eunice Kim** - Following an interview and discussion with the Membership Committee, a recommendation to add Eunice Kim, City of Salem Long Range Planning Manager, to the board of directors was made by Jade Rutledge, Board Chair and Membership Committee member.

MOTION: To approve the addition of Eunice Kim, City of Salem, to the board made by RW Taylor,
SECOND: Steve McCoid.
APPROVED: Unanimously approved

- 2. Board Member RW Taylor Election to New Term** – New three-year term for RW Taylor as Community Member.

MOTION: To approve board member RW Taylor’s election to a new term made by Steve McCoid,
SECOND: Laura Reid.
APPROVED: Unanimously approved

- 3. Board Member Catherine Trottman Election to New Term** – New three-year term for Catherine Trottman as licensed attorney for the board.

MOTION: To approve board member Catherine Trottman’s election to a new term made by Erika Romine,

SECOND: Steve McCoid.

APPROVED: Unanimously approved

- 4. Election of Board Chair** – Jade Rutledge was nominated for Board Chair by herself. No objections and no further nominations were made. Board Member, Frank Lonergan, moved that we close nominations.

MOTION: To approve election of Jade Rutledge as Board Chair made by RW Taylor,

SECOND: Catherine Trottman.

APPROVED: Unanimously approved

- 5. Election of Board Vice Chair** – Shelaswau Crier was nominated for Board Vice Chair. Shelaswau expressed gratitude and also noted that she would likely be moving out of state in the coming months. She was willing to continue to serve in this capacity until she is no longer able. No other nominations were made and Board Member, Steve McCoid, moved that we close nominations.

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

SECOND: Frank Lonergan.

APPROVED: Unanimously approved

- 6. Election of Board Secretary** – Kevin Karvandi was nominated for Board Secretary by Steve McCoid and Jade Rutledge. No other nominations were made.

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

SECOND: Catherine Trottman.

APPROVED: Unanimously approved

7. Executive Director’s Report

i. Energy Program

- 1. Overview:** Jimmy Jones, Executive Director, provided an overview of MWVCAA’s Energy Assistance Program. The program was established in 1981 as part of the US Department of Health and Human Services and its purpose is the help income eligible households pay energy bills. This program is primarily funded by the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) with some funding from OEAP (Oregon Energy Assistance, Low Income Home Water Assistance (LIHWA), and others. Jimmy expressed that often times, the need greatly out-ways the number of resources. Our program mirrors other programs and operates on the first come, first served principle. This program is closely monitored by state and federal funders and with that comes stricter eligibility requirements. Both Jimmy and Rogelio Cortes, Chief Program Officer: Weatherization and

Energy Services, provided explanations on how clients come to receive services.

2. **Service Numbers:** From January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023, our program served 19,438 persons; over two-thousand of which had disabling conditions and around three-thousand were over the age of 65.
3. **Future:** Program staff are working towards a more electronic system for applications in order to increase accessibility for clients unable to come in-person. This could also assist in speeding up the processing time for applications. This will also aid in providing measurable data related to the unmet need which could lead to more supportive services.

ii. General Updates

1. **COO Resignation:** Helana Haytas, previous COO, has tendered her resignation with the agency in order to pursue another job opportunity.
2. **Interim HR Director:** Nicole Schrock, current HR Manager, will be acting HR Director in the interim.
3. **Staffing:** The agency currently has 553 employees with another 107 positions in process.
4. **Prevention Funds:** The agency was awarded over \$2.6 million in additional homeless prevention funds.
5. **Woodburn Emergency Shelter:** Planning to begin work on a Woodburn Emergency Shelter in February with a tentative March beginning date.
6. **Shelter Updates:** ARCHES Inn is at full capacity and both the ARCHES Lodge and the Navigation Center are close to capacity.
7. **ARCHES Inn:** Renovations on the Inn have been cleared to begin soon.
8. **Governor's Homeless Package:** The next Governor's Homeless Package is expected to consist of \$45 million in additional prevention funding, \$65 million in additional sheltering funds, and \$500 million in affordable housing.
9. **HYS:** The new Youth Drop-In on Broadway has been doing well since its opening; utilization is growing steadily.
10. **Weatherization:** The Weatherization program completed sixteen projects (households) in December which served forty-two people. Increased staffing has helped in getting completions and audits done sooner.
11. **Head Start Annual Public Report:** Eva Pignotti, Chief Program Officer: Early Learning and Childcare, shared the 2022-2023 Head Start Annual Public Report as an informational item for board review. Eva also provided the correct 2024-2029 Head Start Program Goals and Objectives Progress Update as well as some comments on the programs progress.
12. **Openings/Tours**
 - a. **Head Start:** The 1205 Wallace Road Head Start location open house is scheduled for 1/26 at 1pm.
 - b. **ARCHES and HYS Tour:** A tour of ARCHES and HYS Program sites is scheduled for 1/29 from 12:30pm-4pm and

will begin at our admin office, 2475 Center St NE, Salem, OR. Transportation and a light lunch will be provided.

- c. **Sequoia Crossings Grand Opening:** The grand opening of the Sequoia Crossings transitional housing complex is scheduled for 1/30 at 1pm.
- d. **Polk Community Resource Center:** An open house of the new Polk Community Resource Center is scheduled for 1/30 from 4pm to 7pm.
- e. **Future David's House:** The new HYS youth shelter located in Monmouth (to be named David's House) will have an open house in the near future once licensing is complete.

8. **Resolution of Signing Authority** - The Resolution of Authority document allows Jimmy, Executive Director, Ashley Hamilton, Chief Program Officer: Housing and Homeless Services, and Helana Haytas, COO, to conduct business on behalf of the board and the agency. The current document was last approved in 2023. Due to Helana's resignation, an updated form removing her from signing authority, has been brought before the board for approval. Some suggestions to amend the form to include more detail consistent with the current bylaws were made.

MOTION: To amend the Resolution of Signing Authority document to include more detail consistent with the current bylaws made by RW Taylor,

SECOND: Catherine Trottman.

APPROVED: Unanimously approved

MOTION: To approve the Resolution of Signing Authority document as amended made by RW Taylor,

SECOND: Laura Reid.

APPROVED: Unanimously approved

9. **Financials** – Tabled to February Board of Directors meeting due to Kaolee Hoyle, CFO, being unable to attend the meeting.

VII. **Adjournment**

The Board of Directors meeting was adjourned at 7:38pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jade Wilson, Executive Assistant

Kevin Karvandi, Board Secretary

***Executive Director's Report
to the Board of Directors***
MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY
COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY
February 2024

February marked the opening of the short session of the [Oregon Legislative Assembly](#). You might wonder why we pay so much attention to the cycles of the legislative seasons. Community Action is not a typical nonprofit, in the way that most people understand them. Though legally chartered as a 501 C3, we are in many ways a quasi-government institution, and a government contractor executing the work of federal, state, and local government in our community, on behalf (and at the direction of) those offices. At the same time, we have our own specific mission and vision, a roadmap outlining how the work **must be done**, our own set of values that guide our work. That mission and vision is centered on one unassailable principle: **people matter**. Our clients, no matter their behaviors or the poverty of their condition, have limitless, enormous human potential. Their right to exist, and their individual dignity, their right not to live in poverty, is absolute. So the Oregon legislative session is important to us. More than 95 percent of our funding is government-generated. And much of our work design (how we do the work and what values we express in doing so) is also a product of those governments.¹

The Capitol in February is awash with lobbyists, legislators, nonprofit leadership, interest groups, advocates, and many others, all trying to shape public policy by educating each other about the human consequences of government action and inaction. A key, critical part of the Community Action mission is to advocate for our clients, our community, and to inform public policy makers about the consequences of public policy decisions. In doing so, we have to protect the resources for people in poverty. Old work needs to be maintained, with continued support. New work needs new tools and resources. New needs emerge, and often the state struggles to find answers for how those needs can be met. Short-term and emergency interests always compete with long-term investments. At Community Action, we have historically been focused on the long game, favoring slow gradual change over time. In recent years, the government has pressed us into service in emergent and emergency needs. It has been a difficult balance, to be sure. On to the updates.

Operations:

- **Nicole Shrock** has been promoted to Associate Director of Human Resources. She is handling the day-to-day HR work for the Agency, supervising the staff, managing employee complaints and discipline, directing leaves and benefits, and handling a thousand under duties. Eventually, we will look for a **Chief Human Resources Officer** to join our leadership team, and focus on more strategic personnel development issues.

¹ At the same time, we are also a private business, operating in the framework of a typical nonprofit, running operations, making payrolls, paying bills, managing risk, and looking for opportunities for growth, expansion, and improvement.

Audit/Program Monitorings: Given the number and size of the grants involved, Community Actions are likely the most monitored programs in Oregon. Right now, we have:

- **Agency Single Audit:** Our annual single audit is underway. **Grove, Mueller & Swank (GMS)** is performing our audit again this year. Final details should be available soon.
- **OHCS Fiscal Monitoring:** The OHCS fiscal visit has concluded. OHCS has not run their own fiscal monitoring in three years because of staff capacity limitations. This year, as last year, they have farmed out the monitoring to an accounting firm. **Moss Adams**, which is widely respected, is completing the fiscal audit of our OHCS programs, as they did last year. We held the exit conference last week. There were three items to address, two of which we have corrected ahead of the final report. The single finding will be on the OHCS mandate that CAA's monitor the fiscal performance of our sub-contractors. Very few CAA's across Oregon have had the capacity to monitor the subcontractors during the COVID era. The number of subcontractors is likely to decline, because of future changes in the state contracting system. But hopefully we will be in a better position in 2024-2025 to monitor our sub-contractors (should they continue to exist).
- **Child Care Resource and Referral:** Our CCR&R Monitoring from the [Department of Early Learning and Care](#) is ongoing, near completion. It has gone very well. We will have an update to the Board on the final report in March.
- **Energy:** OHCS completed its annual program monitoring of our [Energy Department](#) on January 31. We received a perfect score, with superior rankings on both the application we use, the income verification, and the payment process, along with an overall "Superior" ranking for the Agency performance with the [LIHEAP](#) and [OEAP](#) grant funds. We regularly do well on these program performance monitorings, while many agencies struggle with them.
- **Nutrition First:** I made an error in my January Board Report. I stated that the [CACFP \(Child and Adult Food Care Program\)](#) monitoring was for Nutrition First, when in fact it was the CACFP monitoring for Head Start. We last had a Nutrition First audit in 2020 (nothing more than minor concerns), and a more serious one back in early 2018. The [Department of Education](#) skipped the 2022 audit entirely and replaced it with a virtual technical assistance training. We are scheduled to have another CACFP monitoring for our Nutrition First program in 2024 (but have not yet received the notice).
- **Head Start:** The Oregon Department of Education has started a procurement review of the CACFP grant for Head Start and a second one in Nutrition First. Ten years ago there were few procurement monitorings, but in recent years procurement has been one of the most hot-button audit/monitoring concerns among all state and federal funders. Such monitorings are fundamentally good government and good funder practice. Grant ethics require that we always procure services with the funder's priorities in mind, and with good personal ethics. Thirty years ago, a lot of contracts nationally went to someone's cousin, uncle, or a pal at church. Keeping a close eye on this practice is a key element of good stewardship of public funds. We have two positions dedicated to procurement documentation.

Arrival of New Funds/New Potentials:

- [HOME Youth Services](#) received an additional \$515,000 in OHCS funding for our Rental Assistance for Youth (RAY) Rapid-Rehousing (RRH) program. [RAY-RRH](#) will allow us to expand the youth housing work by expanding our staff from one manager and two case workers (serving 20 households) to one manager and four case workers (serving 34 households). The additional two case workers were hired in January, and have started work this month.
- At the request of [Representative Kevin Mannix](#), we submitted an application for consideration to the Ways & Means Capitol Construction Committee, for a project we have identified in South Salem. The grant request was for \$6.75 million, which would allow us to acquire land in South Salem to build 16 units of affordable housing, which we could lock in perhaps for 30 percent AMI for 30 years. We also have an opportunity to acquire up to 52 units of affordable housing in downtown Salem, with a second possible Omnibus Budget allocation. Both are long-shots, as we discussed with the Executive Finance committee earlier this month, but we have a very strong track record of direct allocations from the state and the federal government for supportive housing projects, including since 2020:
 - \$1 million in CDS funding for ARCHES Inn (HUD);
 - \$1.25 million in CDS funding for the ARCHES Lodge (HUD);
 - \$1 million in CDS funding for the Santiam Lodge (HUD, future project);
 - \$2.25 million in Veterans Administration funding for the ARCHES Lodge (VA);
 - \$1.5 million in Oregon Christmas Tree funds for the ARCHES Inn;
 - \$1.875 million in Oregon Christmas Tree funds for the ARCHES Inn and the Wallace Early Learning Center.
- At the request of [Senators Merkley and Wyden](#), we met with their staff this week to consider future CDS funding. We intend to apply for operational funds for our Woodburn sheltering project, along with a \$2 million ask for a major renovation at the ARCHES downtown location (which is needed now after seven years of operations) and [Taylor's House](#).

Building Updates:

- **ARCHES Inn:** We will be starting the renovation at the ARCHES Inn soon. We have about \$3.8 million for the renovation there. We are trying to modernize the building, and add a commercial kitchen and an elevator, which will make the space more ADA accessible. We will be soliciting for a general contractor, with options for the Board to select in March.
- **ARCHES Lodge:** We plan to delay renovation there until 2025, which will give us time to conduct the substantial environmental review required to use the \$1.25 million in [Congressionally Directed Funds](#) we have from HUD at that location, which will join the \$2.25 million Veterans' Administration capital grant.
- **Energy/Weatherization:** We are close to putting in a heavily conditioned PSA on a new property for Energy and Weatherization. The site, if we can secure it, and find the last pieces

of the financing, would also be a good location to develop affordable housing in the future.

Program Updates:

- **Nutrition First:** There will be a new budget for the Board to approve in February. Our Nutrition First program works with family-based childcare providers to monitor and provide meal cost reimbursements for food that meets USDA guidelines. We are officially a “sponsor,” as opposed to a “provider,” and our role essentially is to work with the childcare providers themselves. We offer this service not only in Marion and Polk but in nine other Oregon counties. Because of mandates with the [US Department of Agriculture](#) and the [Oregon Department of Education](#) (which monitors the grant), all budget changes (even \$1) have to be board-approved. This is the second program budget update for the current FY.
 - Original program budget FY 24 was for [\\$586,176.78](#);
 - First Revision for FY 24 was for [\\$585,297.70](#);
 - Then in January the program carryover funds were \$49,122.78, a little less than what was projected (\$50,000);
 - Thus the Second Revision for FY 24, reflective of the roll and the small changes below, is now [\\$582,654.89](#).

The budget revisions here are heavily technical and are largely moving funds between cost categories, but include:

- Slight change of wage rates;
 - Change in one position hire type and expected start date;
 - Addition of extra laptops and tablets;
 - Slight change in expected mileage reimbursements;
 - Updates for third-party database vendors.
- **David’s House (Monmouth):** At long, long last, opening is soon. The delay centered on the back-and-forth with ODHS licensing over our policies and procedures and operations manual (licensing is a much bigger deal than most folks know). We will have our Executive-Finance meeting there in March, along with an Open House.
 - **Wallace Early Learning Center:** We opened the project in January. [Senator Patterson](#), who assisted with some of the renovation funds, attended the opening, met with our staff, and talked about how much she loves teachers and early learning.
 - **Sequoia Crossings**, a joint supportive housing project between [Salem Housing Authority \(SHA\)](#) and Community Action, opened on January 30th, with several of our board members in attendance. The property joins our other collaborative projects with SHA, which include [Yaquina Hall](#) and [Redwood Crossings](#).

- **Community Action Family Shelter:** We had planned on opening a family shelter in 2024 on Center Street. We just completed a roof repair, but operations funds through the [Homeless Alliance](#) were less than we anticipated. Right now I do not feel comfortable signing the contract until we identify the funds for the funding gap created by the unexpected shortfall. We are short about \$180K on this project, which essentially is three additional positions. Those three staff members would keep us in ratio to be able to safely provide services to children and families. We cannot cheap up these activities, because it creates the potential risk for harm to clients and risks the liability of the Agency. I am confident we can find the funds at the state.
- The brand new **Polk County Family Community Outreach Resource Center** in Monmouth opened in January, as well. That facility will house more than a dozen agencies, including our own, to bring regional resources to the highest-density poverty need in Polk County.

Statewide and Regional Developments:

- **Grant's Pass:** For the past several years, there has been a legal fight on homeless public camping across the western United States, including here in Oregon. In Grants Pass, a local ordinance *"bans people from sleeping on public sidewalks, streets or alleyways at any time . . . Another city ordinance bans camping on sidewalks, streets, alleys, parks or under bridges or viaducts and defines a campsite as any place where bedding or sleeping bags are used."*²

In September of 2022, the [9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals](#) in San Francisco ruled that Grants Pass's ordinances violate the [Eighth Amendment](#) to the US Constitution by "enforcing its ordinances against homeless people for sleeping outside with protection from the elements when there was no other place to go."³ Essentially, the ordinances create a status crime, like outlawing a medical condition, an addiction, or poverty, because the subjects of the law have no means (this assumption is controversial) to correct the condition. In this line of thinking, they break the law by existing.

We have been asked to sign on to an [amicus brief](#) since the [US Supreme Court](#) will hear oral arguments this summer. After a great deal of internal conversation, and a discussion with our Executive-Finance Committee, I think we ought to consider signing on to the amicus brief that the [Oregon Law Center](#) and [Georgetown University Law](#) are organizing, now that the US Supreme Court has granted *cert* in the Grant's Pass case.

Advocacy for our clients is a core part of our identity and mission to help people exit poverty. On matters that are long since decided, advocacy for our causes and clients and funding, we have an active and ongoing advocacy project across Oregon. But when there are matters that step outside those narrowly defined boundaries, I always bring them back to the board for direction. To my knowledge, the agency has never signed on to an amicus brief and I have

² <https://www.abajournal.com/news/article/does-banning-camping-by-homeless-people-violate-8th-amendment-supreme-court-agrees-to-decide>

³ Ibid.

never asked the board to do so, in my nearly six years in this job, and the eight years I have worked at the Agency. This one, however, is grave.

This Supreme Court has gutted voting rights and protections for women. There is little hope that they will affirm even these limited civil rights for the homeless. That means local governments could effectively criminalize homeless behaviors, outlawing (as they did in Grants Pass) the ability to put up a tent at night to stay dry or sleep in a sleeping bag to stay warm. If this Supreme Court overturns the 9th Circuit protections, things will get much more dire for those living outside. Some cities (like Portland) would be a heartbeat away from creating mandatory state-run camps with criminal penalties for noncompliance. These civil rights issues would fall most heavily on the disabled, and people of color, both of whom are heavily overrepresented among the homeless population. The suffering the decision could cause from Idaho to Los Angeles is enormous. The fundamental question in play in California, for example, is “are we required to allow these people to stay, or can we force them to leave?” That question is couched in a lot of different ways, usually around public safety and sanitation. But fundamentally, the question is “what must we do?”

Thankfully, we have additional state-level protections in Oregon, but those are also a heartbeat and an election away from being overturned as well. I realize this is an uncomfortable conversation because it will be controversial, and may place some of our board members in awkward positions. I do believe we owe it to the people we serve to discuss it.

- **City of Salem Homeless Study:** The City of Salem has contracted with [Moss Adams](#) to provide an audit of their homeless services and policies. The report is still in draft form, so I cannot release it yet, but there are some interesting recommendations ahead. In particular, the program audit recommends aligning the City’s homeless priorities and systems with those found in the strategic plan of the [Mid-Willamette Valley Homeless Alliance](#) (the [Continuum of Care](#) that covers the Marion-Polk community). I have some reservations about that recommendation. The first is structural; the face of homelessness is so different in Mill City and Monmouth; so aligning the City of Salem with the strategic practices that manifest in the Alliance’s strategic plan (which covers the whole region) might be misplaced. The Alliance in particular has tried to be all things to all needs, and that broader approach works better in a rural landscape, and less so in an urban environment where chronic unsheltered homelessness must take priority over all other needs. The work we do at [ARCHES](#), the work done at [Church at the Park](#) and [Northwest Human Services](#), is a kind of medical intervention model designed to keep people alive and slowly moving forward to housing resolution. In Salem, we are frequently knee-deep in the worst possible conditions: folks slamming crystal meth, open untreated wounds, frostbite and trench foot, mental health crises, staff administering CPR and NARCAN. We sit there with the homeless as they live through these traumas. And sometimes we sit there with them while they die.

My second concern relates more to the operations of the Alliance, which has become more bureaucratic over time, as nonprofit providers have taken a backseat in the planning and direction of the work. Increasingly it feels like “government telling” and “providers doing,”

which does not feel great at the moment. Those concerns have not been voiced much, to date, but behind the scenes, there is general anxiety growing among the provider community that each agency's service philosophies, missions, visions, and values are being absorbed into the larger identity of the Alliance. Make no mistake, **some of that alignment was needed**, because the dysfunction and disorganization of the pre-2019 environment was failing too. The Alliance systems, unfortunately, are designed for a very rational and predictable federal competitive environment. State systems by contrast are wild, chaotic, unpredictable, and constantly evolving. And that's just the funding. The [rhetoric/reality gap](#) between the bureaucracy of Continuums of Care, HMIS, and Coordinated Entry Systems versus the urgency, desperation, and gravity of serving a group of people who are slowly killing themselves in the worst possible way was always going to be wide. So too the homeless politics. We need a balance between the government and the provider community, and between the provider community partners themselves. There is an awful lot that is going well, and some things that simply could be better. I think both concerns are manageable long term, even if the trends are somewhat concerning. As for the city, what they really have is a revenue problem, not a vision or alignment problem. The state government is swimming in revenue, while the cities and counties have to tighten their belts more each year. It is not sustainable long-term.

- **The 2023-2025 Oregon Budget:** Last week, the Legislative Fiscal Office published a 632-page analysis of the 2023-2025 budget (called the LAB). For the sake of everyone's sanity, I have not attached it to our board packet. But if you're interested, it can be found online.⁴ I will give you two facts I found interesting. On page 314, there is a comparison of the OHCS budget from 2019-2021 to 2023-2025. In that, OHCS's total positions increased from 252 staff (219.21 FTE) to 470 staff (459.99 FTE). Their total budget has grown from \$2 billion in the 2003-2005 biennium to almost \$3.5 billion today. Second, their traditional role has grown from housing stabilization, rental assistance, multi-family rental programs, home ownership, affordable housing, bond activities, energy and weatherization, to include a full swath of emergency services, including shelter supports, winter warming, turnkey motels, navigation centers, the Governor's Emergency Order program, eviction prevention, and Disaster Recovery. Unlike ODHS, OHCS has never really been an emergency services provider. This level of direct service commitment will continue to cause them mass disruptions.
- **Future Funding Conversations:** There are big changes coming to the funding system in Oregon, which creates both opportunities and risks for our Agency and our network. The state-level planning for the long session in 2025 has already begun, and [Ashley Hamilton](#) and I have been working with the [Community Action Partnership of Oregon](#) to develop metrics and demonstrate the enormous impact of Community Action statewide. We have done a miserable job statewide of telling our story. But we are providing critical, sometimes life-saving services, to more than **half a million** Oregonians in poverty. The next three months will be essential in setting the tone for 2025.

⁴ [2023-25 LAB Detailed.pdf \(oregonlegislature.gov\)](#)

Boards, Task Forces, and Commissions:

For the sake of full transparency about potential conflicts of interest, about once a year I report out all my public work in Oregon and beyond. We have several new board members, however, so I want to do so here at the start of the year:

- ***Vice President for Legislative Affairs, Community Action Partnership of Oregon*** (elected).
- ***Member, Governor's Racial Justice Council (Housing Subcommittee)***, appointed by the Governor, which worked on a host of racial justice-related housing policies, and played a considerable role in the creation of the state's new *Interagency Council on Homelessness*.
- ***Co-Chair, Taskforce on Homelessness and Racial Disparities***, appointed by the Speaker of the House and the Senate President, to address racial disparities in homeless services.
- ***Chair, Joint Task Force on Safe Hospital Discharge***, appointed by the Governor, to create safe discharge options for low-income and homeless patients in Oregon.
- ***Member, and Legislative Vice-Chair, Oregon Alliance on Youth Homelessness***, concentrating especially on legislative work for youth homelessness (elected).
- ***Member, Department of Land Conservation and Development Commission's Citizen Involvement Advisory Committee***, appointed by the Commission.
- ***Member, Oregon Housing Needs Analysis Technical Advisory Committee (HATAC)***, a subcommittee on the rule-making process for the [Oregon Housing Needs Analysis](#), a work product of the [Department of Land Conservation and Development \(DLCD\)](#) and the [Department of Administrative Services \(DAS\)](#). The Committee helps to develop rule-making for housing planning efforts as part of the implementation of the wave of affordable housing to be built in Oregon over the next decade.
- And ***Member*** of other local boards, including: **Marion County Justice Reinvestment Committee** (appointed by Marion County Commissioners), **Marion-Polk Early Learning Hub** (elected), **Santiam Canyon Wildfire Relief Fund** (elected), and the **Mid-Willamette Valley Homeless Alliance** (elected).

Jimmy Jones
Salem, Oregon
19 February 2024

Regional Poverty and Legislative Report

MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

February 2024

Legislature: The 82nd [Oregon Legislative Assembly convened](#) for its short session on Monday, February 5th. To date, it has been rather boring. The Democrats largely steered clear of any highly controversial policy legislation (carbon, abortion, guns) and focused on housing investments, and to a lesser extent on health policy and education. The short sessions were created back in 2010, by [Measure 71](#). Prior to that, the Oregon Legislature had met biannually in odd years, going back to the 19th century. Modern legislatures, because of the size and complexity of government in the modern world, generally meet annually (only four states do not) and some have full-time legislatures. Measure 71 added a constitutionally limited even-year short session (of just 35 days) mostly for dealing with fiscal matters. The intent was to keep policy bills to the longer odd-year sessions, but that intent never fully materialized and was abandoned during the pandemic. This session feels more like the old short sessions of 2016 and 2018, and it has been marked by a lack of controversy. The Governor and Democratic leadership intended to take a very soft approach to agenda setting in the session, in sharp contrast to the Brown administration’s approach, in order to keep the Republicans in the Capitol and end a string of walkouts.

After the [Oregon State Supreme Court’s](#) unanimous ruling¹ that the Republican legislators who walked out in 2022 were not eligible to run for re-election, the session has settled into a rare kind of bipartisanship. That will not last. The Republicans are insistent that [Measure 110](#) be repealed (that will not happen), and if not repealed that drug possession be re-criminalized. The politics of the repeal have created some strange bedfellows. The wings of both parties are against any sort of compromise, with conservative Republicans insisting on a full repeal and liberal Democrats refusing to recriminalize. There are compromise efforts underway that will essentially preserve the treatment-focused elements of Measure 110, but would recriminalize drug possession in alignment with the law enforcement community’s request for “tools” to fight drug behaviors in public.² Right now the fight is

¹ <https://www.opb.org/article/2024/02/01/oregon-supreme-court-rules-republican-lawmakers-walked-out-cant-see-reelection/>

² The most likely compromise would be a special provision to create new kind of drug misdemeanor that would allow up to 180 days in jail, that could be expunged with completion of a treatment program.

about what that re-criminalization means, with most Democrats preferring a Class C misdemeanor (little to no jail time) and most Republicans wanting a Class A misdemeanor (up to 365 days in jail).

Session Updates: The pace has been quick. Last week we saw the passage of the first bill deadline, with bills needing to be posted for a work session to advance. Today (2/19), bills need to move out of their policy committee of origin to stay alive (though there are exceptions, the House and Senate Rule Committees, in particular). Most of the developments last week centered on the Governor's housing priorities and the Senate Housing and Development Committee bill on shelter and supportive funding, along with the Joint Ways and Means Committee (which held hearings on capitol construction requests).

- **Senate Bill 1530:** The [Senate Committee on Housing and Development](#) held a public hearing (and work session) on the omnibus housing funding bill (SB 1530). The final form of SB 1530-3 invests \$258 million in new funds into housing (about 1/3rd of available funds this term).³ There was some pushback from Senators around OHCS's move away from [Community Action Agencies](#), who had questions about the level of accountability for small, traditionally unfunded providers. OHCS promised the Committee that the Department would monitor contracted programs. (I am skeptical that they will be able to get staff out to Klamath Falls on a Saturday night in mid-January to do a bed count at a warming shelter). I testified on behalf of the [Community Action Partnership of Oregon](#), and at the request of the [Oregon Law Center](#), focusing on the rental assistance portions of the bill and its critical role in addressing a growing homeless crisis in Oregon. In particular, SB 1530-3 will:

- \$65 million for emergency shelter operation;
- \$40 million for homeless prevention through the [Oregon Eviction Diversion and Prevention \(ORE-DAP\)](#) and the [Eviction Prevention Rapid Response \(EPRR\)](#);
- \$7.5 million for deposit into the Healthy Homes Repair Fund; and
- \$2 million for emergency warming and cooling shelters by the Oregon Department of Human Services.

Our advocacy on SB 1530-3 was joined by: City of Bend, Square One Shelters, Housing Alliance, Transcending Hope Recovery Homes, Oregon Just Transition Alliance, Verde, Furnish Hope, City of Portland, Urban League of Portland, Community Alliance of Tenants, Bridges to Change, West Coast Sober Housing, 1,000 Friends of Oregon, and Central Oregon Land Watch. The bill passed unanimously out of the Committee and sent to Ways & Means.

³ Oregon has seen roughly \$655 million in increased General Fund revenue since the 2023 session adjourned. After 1 percent of revenue is set aside for the State Rainy Day Fund, legislators are expected to have just over \$1 billion to spend, but the Ways & Means budget shows the likely spend is about \$750 million.

- **Senate Bill 1537:** At the request of [Governor Tina Kotek](#), and on behalf of the Community Action Partnership of Oregon, I testified on SB 1537 to the Senate Committee on Housing and Development. SB 1537-9 (adopted) was a compromise bill that passed out of the work session and sent to Ways & Means. The Governor had originally wanted the [Urban Growth Boundary](#) expansion to be double the size that was eventually passed out of the Committee. [Senator Patterson](#) expressed concern about the environmental impact of the expansion. The final bill reduced the acreage that was allowed for a one-time expansion from 150 acres to 100 acres for a city with a population of 25,000 or greater, and 75 acres to 50 acres for a city with a population of less than 25,000, and from 600 acres down to just 300 acres in the metro.
- **Senate Bill 1585:** The [Senate Committee on Human Services](#) held a work session on Senate Bill 1585-2 and advanced the legislation to the Joint Committee on Ways & Means. The bill creates a task force to develop a program that allows SNAP recipients to have more food choices (hot meals).
- **Early Learning:** There are a spate of budget concerns for [Head Start](#) programs in particular, including the fate of the \$50 million dedicated in 2023 by the Legislature to fund new Head Start facilities. Those funds are not expected to be fully available until 2025, though some “shovel-ready projects” have been identified. The Governor has prioritized additional funding for [Employment Related Day Care](#), but the Ways & Means process will determine how much of that need can be met.

Poverty numbers: We saw a 16 percent increase in family homelessness in Oregon in 2023, and currently Oregon is dead last in America with the highest the percentage of unsheltered family homelessness. Housing costs are driving that dysfunction. Current [Fair Market Rent](#) (a HUD metric for affordable housing) is \$1,340 per month in Salem (up nearly \$100 over the prior year). The current poverty rate is 13.4 percent, which is slightly higher than the national average. About 16 percent of Marion County children live in poverty.⁴

Oregon’s Economy: There are some bad signs on the near horizon. A third mill has closed in Western Oregon since the start of the new year. The sawmill in Philomath, which is owned by a Canadian timber company, is shutting down, expecting to lay off about 100 workers. The Hampton Lumber Mill in Banks laid off 58 in January and a Springfield mill temporarily closed in February, laying off another 25.⁵ The largely out-of-state owner corporations have blamed state-level policy decisions on clean water, wildlife, and fishery protections, along with declining demand. Nike also recently announced the reduction of 1,600 jobs in its

⁴ https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/fmr/fmrs/FY2024_code/2024summary.odn

⁵ <https://www.statesmanjournal.com/story/news/local/oregon/2024/02/19/philomath-sawmill-to-be-closed-third-oregon-mill-shutdown/72651964007/>

workforce,⁶ and Columbia Sportswear announced undetermined layoffs among their 2,500 workers in Washington and Oregon. Both blamed high operations costs.⁷ The cuts are on top of the 7,300 nonfarm seasonally adjusted job losses of 7,300 jobs.⁸



Pacific Power, Oregon's second-largest utility company is asking for a 17 percent rate increase, arguing that it needs an increase by \$304 million in revenue for new infrastructure and renewable energy projects, along with mitigation measures for future wildfire risks. The average **Pacific Power** customer could expect an additional \$29.47 per month on their bill. This increase would be the third double-digit increase in three years. The lead public advocacy group for utility costs, the **Oregon Citizens Utility Board**, plans to push back hard with the state regulatory body (the **Oregon Public Utility Commission**).⁹ In our service area,

Pacific Power covers a swath of Marion-Polk residents from Stayton west to Monmouth-Independence. Rates here are considerably influenced by insurance and settlement costs for the Pacific Power coverage areas in southern Oregon and northern California.

Infill or Urban Growth Boundary Expansion: There is a war going on among Democrats in Oregon who want to build affordable housing, versus the environmental interests who seek to protect Oregon's distinctive rural, agricultural, and largely wild landscape. Housing costs, both new homes and rental housing, are out of hand and doomed to grow far worse in the coming decade unless supply grows dramatically to meet demand. If supply continues to stagnate, the downstream costs will either drive our grandchildren out of Oregon, or force them to pay exceptionally high rental costs that take between 40 and 60 percent of their income, driving more people into an endangered, economically vulnerable condition, and limiting their ability to spend on other critical basic needs. The only answer is to build. But where and how? Environmentalists frequently argue that there is a massive amount of empty space within Oregon's existing UGBs which is unused. Frequently those spaces are in

⁶ <https://www.cnbc.com/2024/02/16/nike-to-lay-off-2percent-of-employees-cutting-more-than-1500-jobs.html>

⁷ <https://www.kgw.com/article/money/business/columbia-sportswear-announces-layoffs-oregon-headquarters/283-4c0d247a-15cf-4e37-b707-af697846c55e>

⁸ https://www.thenewsguard.com/news/oregons-job-report-state-sees-7-300-job-losses/article_b64bf4c-9f63-11ee-99b7-af6153314430.html

⁹ [Oregon's second-largest utility seeks big rate hike, again. Here's why - oregonlive.com](https://www.oregonlive.com/oregons-second-largest-utility-seeks-big-rate-hike-again-heres-why-oregonlive.com)

people's backyards, larger acreage homes, older unused industrial space, or the sky. The reason developers are not building in those spaces, right now, is simple. It is too expensive for them to turn a profit. We are unlikely to see the market self-correct on this phenomenon. Oregon has three options to stem this housing cost tide: expand the Urban Growth Boundaries into areas where building might be cheaper, drive down the costs of building new homes/apartments in the infill areas inside the Urban Growth Boundaries, or wildly expand the government investment to incentivize building in infill areas. Those are our options. If we do not do one of these three things (or a combination of all three), you can expect to see wild increases in rent, housing costs, and homelessness.¹⁰

The Tragedy of Childcare in Oregon: Despite the many millions in early learning expansion funds in 2022 and 2023, childcare remains difficult to find, too expensive, and too inflexible for the needs of working Oregonians. In December, [Portland State's](#) Early Childhood program released a survey, submitted as well to [the Oregon Department of Early Learning and Care](#) and the state's [Early Learning Council](#), of 3,000 Oregon parents surveyed between December 2022 and January 2023. The survey found that more than 40 percent of parents said that they or their partner had to quit, turn down, or change jobs because of limited childcare options. *"Among the problems the survey found are limited spots, few options with hours that fit parents' work schedules and high prices. Finding child care was particularly difficult for parents of kids with learning disabilities, for children of color, and for families that primarily speak a language other than English at home.*

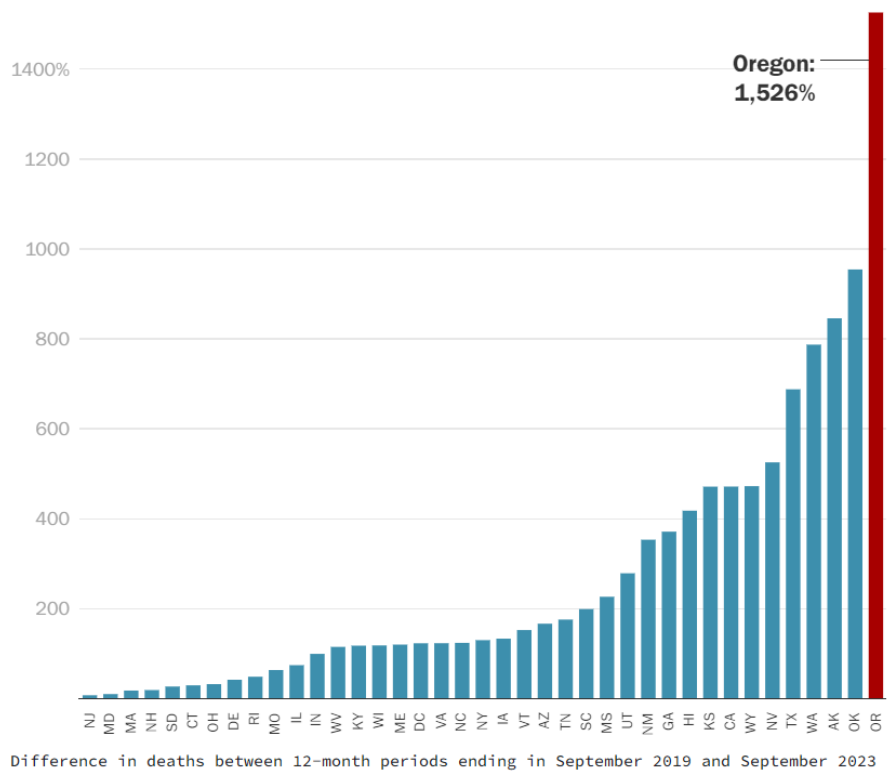
*Kids of color and those with disabilities were the most likely to have been asked to take a break from facilities or asked to leave a childcare center in 2022. That year 10% of all children were asked to take a break or leave. That rate increased to 16% for Black children, a fourfold increase compared to 2020."*¹¹

Solving this problem will not be easy. We have seen, in our agency, two slot reductions in the past year, driven by market forces on employment (too few qualified teachers, and parents who need workforce childcare over traditional early learning models in Oregon). Our sister Community Action Agency in Washington County just went through a slot reduction as well, cutting back from about 930 Head Start slots to only 550, driven there by the inability to find employees, reasonably priced space, and a growing amount of violence against teachers by children. They are moving toward providing more support to infants and toddlers, where the market forces are more in their favor.

¹⁰ <https://www.sightline.org/2024/02/07/a-housing-agenda-for-oregon-more-homes-without-higher-prices/>

¹¹ <https://oregoncapitalchronicle.com/2023/12/05/early-child-care-shortages-in-oregon-costing-parents-jobs-survey-finds/>

Fentanyl Overdoses: Expect to see some noise around this recent update in overdose deaths. Annual overdose deaths from fentanyl in Oregon increased by 1,500 percent (no that’s not a typo) between September 2019 and September 2023. This is the single largest increase in the United States. Always be careful with the way people use percentages, however. Our fentanyl deaths in Oregon now rank near the middle of the pack among American states. Back in 2019, we had one of the lowest overdose rates in the country (from fentanyl), but as the drug has made its way from the East Coast and southern California (where deaths were high) Oregon has caught up with the rest of the country.¹²



Fentanyl was developed in 1959 and since then has been used as an anesthetic and often used for post-op pain relief. If you have had surgery in the US in the last twenty years, odds are you had a dose of fentanyl afterward. About ten years ago, organized criminal elements began to produce fentanyl illegally and used it to lace a whole host of other drugs, as a booster agent to increase the effect. The practice started in Mexico but dramatically increased over the last five years, with imports from China to drug markets in the United States. In 2008, just sixteen years ago, there were very few overdose deaths from synthetic opioids (most OD’s were from prescription opioids, uncut heroin, and Benzodiazepines, classically valium). Today overdose deaths reach more than 112,000 per year, and 70 percent are likely from synthetic opioids.

Our overdose death rates from fentanyl are about 30 per 100,000, which is still less than states with tough drug laws like West Virginia (70/100K), Tennessee (43/100K), Kentucky (36/100K), and South Carolina (31/100K). There are states with 1990s-style draconian drug laws that seem to have a correlated lower number of deaths, including Texas (9/100K) and Virginia (23/100K, which designated fentanyl essentially as a “weapon of terror”).¹³ But another reading of the national numbers is essentially to correlate it with urban and

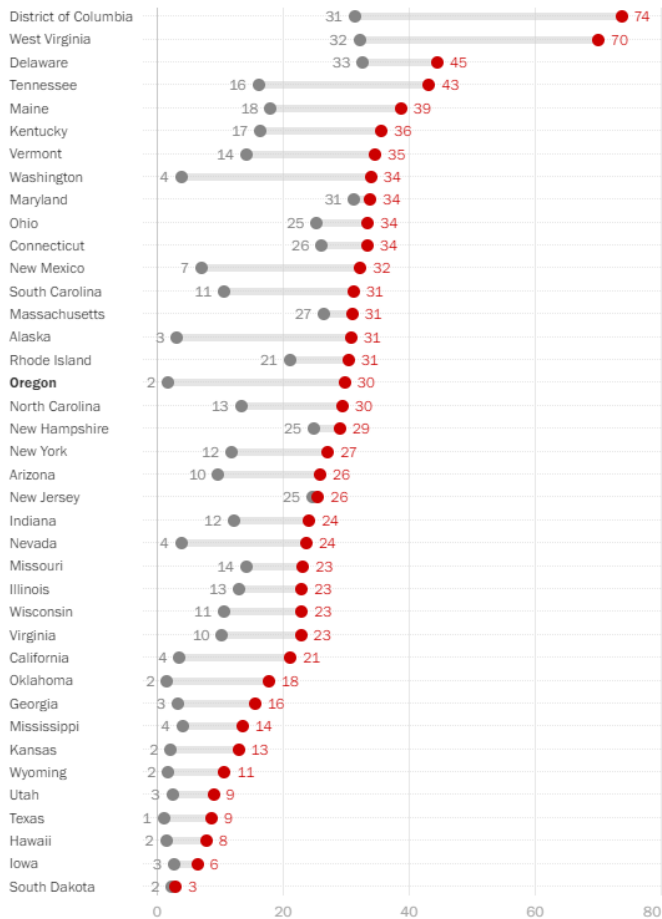
¹² [Oregon sees highest fentanyl overdose death increase in U.S. since 2019 - oregonlive.com](https://www.oregonlive.com/news/oregon-sees-highest-fentanyl-overdose-death-increase-in-u-s-since-2019/)

¹³ [States stiffen penalties for fentanyl, despite public health concerns - Stateline](https://www.stateline.com/news/states-stiffen-penalties-for-fentanyl-despite-public-health-concerns/)

rural/Appalachian poverty, and opioids in particular have devastated economically depressed former coal mining regions of Appalachia and urban centers with dense homeless populations.

Fentanyl overdose death rates, 2019-2023

Thirty out of every 100,000 Oregonians died in 2023 from a fentanyl overdose, according to federal estimates. That's similar to West Virginia's death rate in 2019.



Oregon Hous

Oregon Health Authority: There is (still) trouble afoot on the treatment front. The Oregon Legislative Assembly appropriated \$158 million in behavioral health money in the 2023 session, including \$15 million marked for the construction and expansion of residential treatment facilities. In August, the state asked for a list of shovel-ready treatment projects (which usually have multiple mixed funding streams in play). OHA received a list of 16 residential projects that were eligible. In some cases, property had already been purchased and funding from other sources had been developed. But the Health Authority has not responded to those requests in more than 6 months, often canceling meetings and putting off requests for status updates and additional information.

Difference in death rates between 12-month periods ending in September 2019 and September 2023

addiction or mental health care. OHA's struggle to spend comes on top of the exceptionally slow roll out of Measure 110 treatment grants, which in part has fueled the call to repeal Measure 110, on top of the slow spend of the \$1 billion in commitments made by the legislature in 2021. The state has enormous capacity issues right now, across multiple state departments.¹⁴

A few weeks ago, OHA published a report that the state lacks about 3,000 (also not a typo) treatment beds for adults needing

Jimmy Jones
Salem, Oregon
17 February 2024

¹⁴ [Oregon Health Authority's slowness to respond to drug crisis stymies expansion of care – Oregon Capital Chronicle](#)



OREGON HAS:

No. 1 **8,278+**

HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF
YOUTH HOMELESSNESS IN
THE NATION

YOUTH IN NEED OF
SAFE HOUSING

**YOUTH AT GREATER RISK OF
EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS**

Without a high school diploma	346%
Black Youth	83%
Hispanic Youth	32%
LGBT+ Youth	120%

\$20 MILLION TOWARD YOUTH HOMELESSNESS

- New data shows dramatic increase of youth in homeless shelters.
- In 2023, a 15% increase in unaccompanied youth who are houseless over 2022.

BUILD CAPACITY, ESPECIALLY IN RURAL AREAS

- Develop and support community-based organizations and local efforts to build local system capacity, offering services and supports in communities with no or limited services.
- Build the skill and expertise to apply and receive federal funding and to meet critical grant requirements.

EXPAND AND STRENGTHEN EXISTING PROGRAMS

- Invest in established programs with a history of success to increase service capacity through flexible funding.
- Build out essential services not currently available in communities - outreach, prevention, educational employment supports, shelter, mental health and substance use services, host homes, transitional living, and permanent supportive housing.

SUPPORT PROGRAMS BY INVESTING IN A ROBUST WORKFORCE

- Provide training and learning opportunities that increase the skills and expertise of staff.
- Offer internships, coaching and other professional development opportunities.
- Increase the number of staff who have lived experience.
- Provide technical assistance to new and existing programs to improve and expand service delivery.

**Chief Information Officer Report
To The Community Action Agency Board
Robert Hale, CIO February 2024**

IT Updates:

The Information Technology department and Facilities are both fully staffed. We have 1 manager and 12 staff in IT and 1 manager and 4 staff in Facilities. Both departments recently converted their temporary staff to full-time. Both departments are fully functional and working to help the programs as best they can.

IT's current priority items include security updates, Head Start camera systems, a phone system upgrade for the entire organization, and various Arches network installations and upgrades. Security is top of mind right now as a local school district was recently breached and they are without any IT systems currently. We work to continuously improve our security posture by replacing out-of-date hardware, staff training, and policies aimed at lowering our risk. We are very security conscious and work to make sure systems are updated with current security updates, anti-virus definitions, and software patches.

Facilities Updates:

The Admin Facilities department is new as of this last year and is getting up to speed with all the properties and programs within the CAA system. With more than 40 sites, it is a big task. Starting March 1, Head Start maintenance will move under Admin Facilities management. The Head Start team will still primarily work on Head Start properties consistent with grant requirements but will report to Joseph Gargiulo, Admin Facilities Manager. Joseph started in Nov and brought a wealth of knowledge to the organization around preventative maintenance, contractor management, and general construction processes. Some of the more pressing projects underway now are the Family Shelter plumbing renovation, Taylors House updates, and general preventative maintenance of properties.

Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, Inc.
Actual to Budget, July 2023 - Dec 2023

	Jul 2023 - Dec 2023		FY24 - Budgeted	Expected Spent %	Actual Earned/Spent %	Difference
Grant and awards	\$ 28,517,328		\$ 69,126,458	50%	41%	-9%
Other program revenue	237,058		280,000	50%	85%	35% {a}
Contributions	131,089		200,000	50%	66%	16%
Total Revenue	28,885,474		69,606,458	50%	41%	-9%
Expenses						
Community resource programs	8,353,404		25,643,081	50%	33%	-17% {b}
Reentry services	284,623		528,630	50%	54%	4%
Child care resource and referral network	786,439		3,363,837	50%	23%	-27% {c}
Energy assistance programs	3,191,403		5,732,375	50%	56%	6%
Weatherization services	1,387,937		2,977,095	50%	47%	-3%
Nutrition first USDA food program	2,197,522		4,645,521	50%	47%	-3%
Head start	9,070,292		17,349,138	50%	52%	2%
Home youth services	1,383,045		3,878,395	50%	36%	-14% {d}
Management and general	2,410,430	{e}	5,488,386	50%	44%	-6%
Total Expenditures	29,065,095		69,606,458	50%	42%	-8%
Revenue Over/(Under) Expenditures						
	\$ (179,621)	{f}	\$ -			

{a} Other program revenue includes miscellaneous rebates for the Programs, CCR&R class fees, and rent income (offset against grant funding). The budget includes \$100k for Weatherization rebates. We've received \$132k for Weatherization rebates which is \$32k more than what was budgeted which is why the actual earned is higher than what is expected.

{b}	Budget	Expected	Actual	Difference
CRP Operational	17,468,081	50%	48%	-2%
CRP Projects	8,175,000	50%	0%	-50%
	25,643,081			

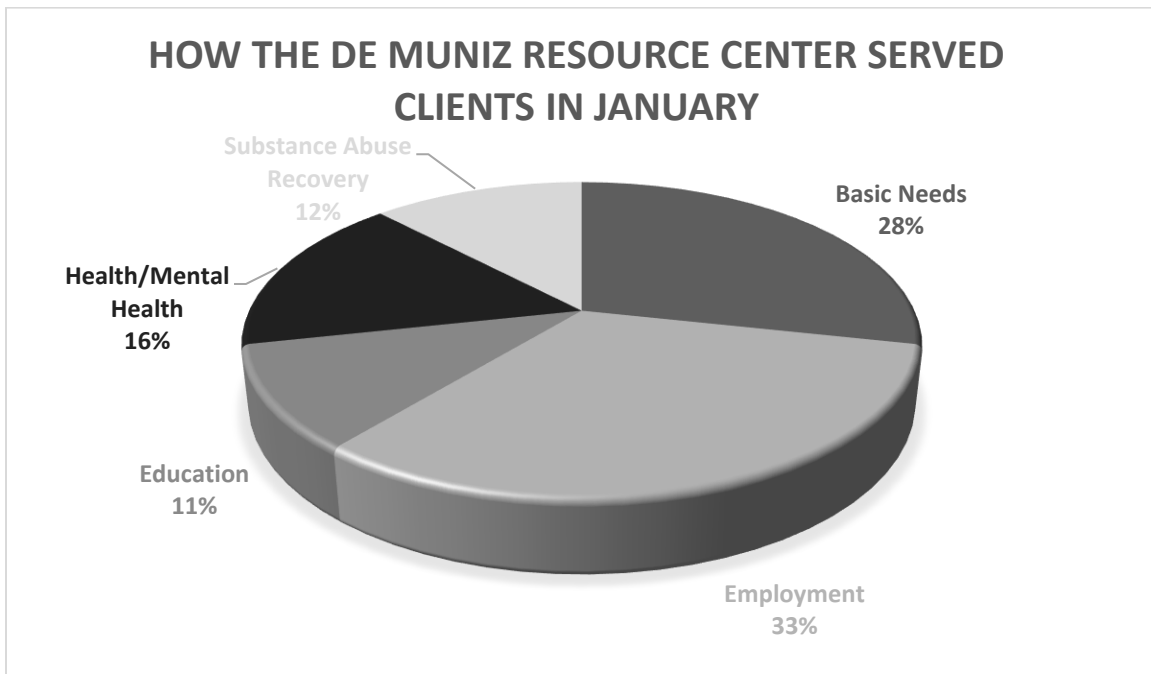
Total budget includes project grant revenue for which projects had not fully started yet, and thus no revenue recognized.

{c} We previously had budgeted a Yamhill grant that we felt confident we would be getting. However, it turned out that we didn't receive that grant. The FY24 budget will be adjusted to \$2,404,708. Even so, we are still a little underspent due to staff vacancies in previous months.

{d} Included in the budgeted amount of \$3.8 million is a portion of the \$2.7million pass through for Oregon Health Authority for supportive housing (Carson Commons), which has not been started on.

{e} MG&A percentage 8%

{f} Timing of billing.



Opportunities/Challenges

- ❖ De Muniz Resource Center served 120 unduplicated clients in January, with 276 services provided. Sixty-six percent of the services provided were to individuals in custody vs. out of custody.
- ❖ During this reporting period, 15 clients (38 occurrences) took advantage and attended our cognitive based classes. The classes covered the following topics:
 - Problem solving
 - Identifying strengths
 - Prosocial lifestyle
 - Success planning
- ❖ Our partnership with Northwest Human Services yielded 28 clients completing their enrollment for Oregon Health Plan prior to release (from incarceration).
- ❖ We assisted 12 clients with obtaining their state ID card this month.
- ❖ Forty-three clients (74 occurrences) took advantage of our volunteer's services, which include recovery support groups, financial education, GED prep, legal clinic, ARCHES housing assessments, and mock employment interviews.
- ❖ Our program helped 17 individuals with bus passes, courtesy of our partnership with United Way, during this reporting period.
- ❖ We started a new partnership with Financial Beginnings Oregon to provide financial literacy education to adults in custody. We are very excited for this new collaboration and hope to expand class offerings to individuals on supervision (not in custody).

Success Story

I first met Alex when she walked into our center seeking employment services after hearing about us from the Marion County Sheriff's Office. With a warm smile, she shared her work history and aspirations to build a career in the hospitality industry. It was evident that Alex was determined to find meaningful work despite the challenges she faced.

We quickly got started working on her resume, discussing potential employers and the positions that were available, and she began submitting applications. Alex expressed gratitude and eagerness to work on her goals. After a few interviews, Alex reached back out to share the good news that she had secured full-time employment in the hospitality industry. While she was very excited, she learned that she was required to have specific work gear prior to beginning the employment. She was also struggling to secure reliable transportation that would accommodate her work hours as well as managing her child's schedule.

We were able to purchase the required work gear for Alex prior to her start date. We were also able to provide her with a 30 day bus pass to assist with transportation until she receives her first paycheck. Alex's journey highlighted the importance of providing comprehensive support to individuals seeking employment during the job search as well as once employment was secured. We are very happy for Alex and look forward to any other opportunities to support her.

*submitted by Employment Navigator

Child Care Resource & Referral

Board Report – February 2024

CCR&R has 2 open positions. One position is designed to support inclusive services and is bilingual Spanish preferred. The second position is a bilingual Business Development Coach who will support individuals who are interested in becoming licensed through the process of licensure and then provide business tools to increase retention.

CCR&R is partnering with The Early Childhood Workforce Connector which is a national organization who is funded by the Department of Labor to provide technical assistance to programs who are interested in developing Registered Apprenticeship programs in Early Childhood Education.



Mid-Willamette Valley
COMMUNITY ACTION

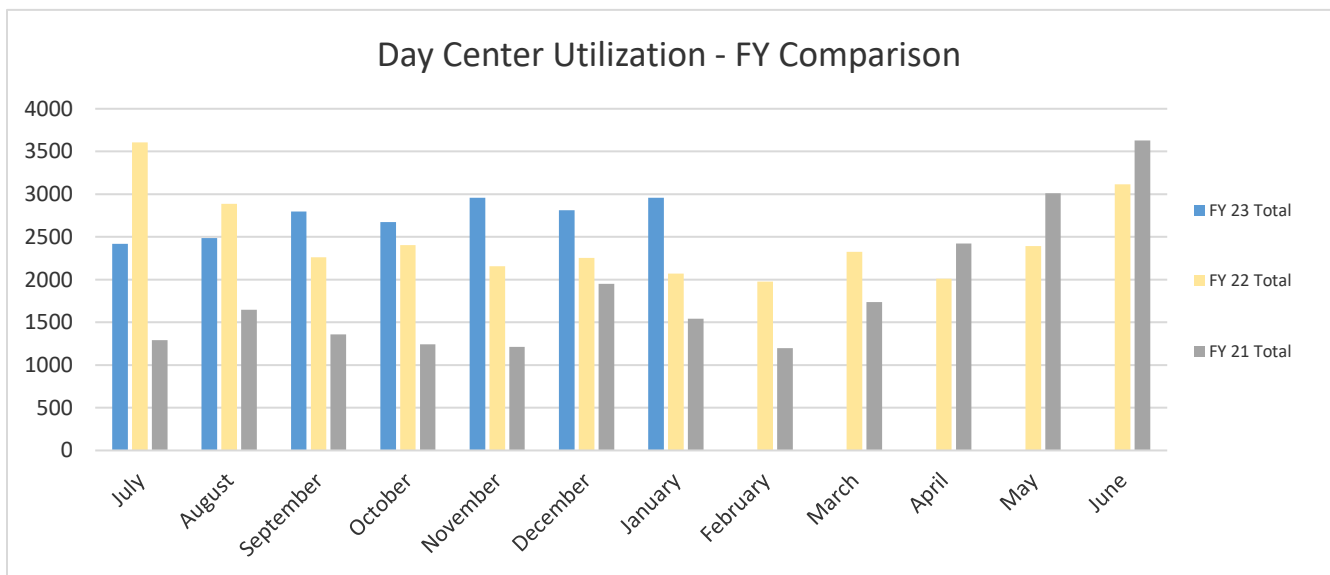
The ARCHES Project

615 Commercial Street NE
 Salem, Oregon 97301

CRP Board Report - February 2024

The ARCHES Day Center is open five days a week. During these hours all traditional services are available, including: mail, showers, laundry, meals, and client care. Day Center hours are Wednesday – Sunday from 9am – 4:15pm. *During January’s inclement weather event, Day Center hours were extended to align with emergency shelter operations, 7am – 6pm.*

Since opening day, the total number of duplicated Day Center visits is 126,076 - with an average daily attendance rate of 122. January 2024 saw a total of 2,959 visits, a 61% increase in daily utilization compared to January of the prior year.

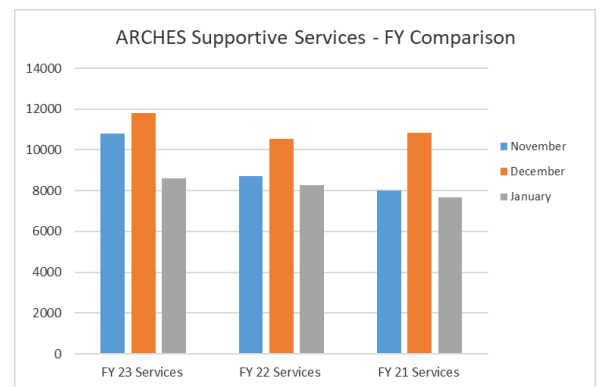


January 2024 saw the highest number of Day Center visits compared to any other January since records began in 2018.

During the first 7 months of the 2023 fiscal year (July 2023 – January 2024), the overall visits to the ARCHES Day Center have remained steady month after month. This trend is unique compared to 2021 and 2022, when the lowest utilization months were during the winter season with a sharp upward trend in the spring and summer months. This stabilization is likely attributed to a consistent service delivery model. This provides security for clientele during a time when their day-to-day life is subject to factors outside of their control.

ARCHES Basic Needs & Supportive Services:

Current utilization of Day Center Supportive Services continues to remain high, especially in comparison to FY 2022 and FY 2021. With January 2024 showing a 4% increase compared to the prior fiscal year. During January ARCHES provided **8,615 supportive service transactions**. The majority of Supportive Services provided were in the meal category, including **breakfast, lunch, and evening meals; providing 6,009 meals**.



Program Showcase: *Sequoia Crossings*



MWVCAA, in partnership with the Salem Housing Authority, hosted a grand opening for Sequoia Crossings on January 30th. This 60-unit complex located off of Broadway St. will soon be called home for previously unsheltered households in Salem. During the grand opening, remarks were heard by Mayor Chris Hoy, Andrea Bell - Executive Director for Oregon Housing and Community Services, Bryan Guiney - Oregon Field Officer for US Department of Housing and Urban Development, Nicole Utz – Salem Housing Authority, and MWVCAA’s Executive Director Jimmy Jones. The event was well attended by community

partners, local government officials, federal departments, and compassionate community members.

Sequoia officially began welcoming its first 6 residents on the 6th of February. Community Action staff were on site assisting residents while moving into one of the 54 single bedroom units, or six (6) two-bedroom units. During the first week, staff were able to assist with the installation of new microwaves for all units with incoming residents. Resource navigation and case planning have begun as the first wave of residents have settled into their new community.

Looking ahead, residents will move in at a pace of 5 or 6 a week. This gives time for new residents to adjust to their surroundings; acclimating after a long-experience of homelessness. The goal of Sequoia Crossing is to foster an individual’s success, linked to long-term housing stability and wellness. While also cultivating community around shared experiences and humanity.



For staffing at Sequoia, MWVCAA has on-boarded 2 site-assistants who are the face of Sequoia at the front desk. There are also 3 case managers, and a program coordinator, who are helping clients navigate medical resources and benefit attainment. Staff have already assisted one client with scheduling medical appointments. *This client is excited to see a dentist for the first time in several!*



ARCHES Shelter and Permanent Supportive Housing Programs:

For the 2023 Fiscal Year, ARCHES will be reporting on an additional service category. Highlighting our Shelter and Permanent Supportive Housing programs. These reports will

focus **on new households and individuals served** per month. *Table 1* showcases our individual facilities, outlining who we served by region, our total number of client service engagements, as well as those who exit into permanent housing.

During January 2024, new 49 households (totaling 50 individuals) were supported by ARCHES Sheltering or Permanent Supportive Housing programming. During this time period, clients received a total of 587 service engagements (e.g case management appointments, housing navigation, community partner referral). Of those served, 11 households exited into permanent housing.

*** Note: ARCHES Lodge household's served category shows two more households than the by regional count (totaling the last three columns). This is due to some households originating from out of area, and therefore were not accounted for in the local regional statistics. ***

January 2024 Data

ARCHES Shelter and Permanent Supportive Housing Programs											
Table 1											
ARCHES Program	Households Served	Individuals Served	Avg VI-SPDAT Score	Adults	Children	Households who gain income	Number of Engagements	Household PH Exists	Rural Marion Households	Salem Metro Households (West, Salem, Keizer)	Rural Polk Households
ARCHES Inn	5	5	5.7	5	0	0	75	5	0	5	0
Redwood Crossings	0	0	0	0	0	0	442	0	0	0	0
Sequoia Crossing	Program Pending										
Yaquina Hall	21	22	0	22	0	1	65	1	0	21	0
Navigation Center	18	18	7.94	18	0	0	0	4	0	17	1
Center Street	Program Pending										
ARCHES Lodge	5	5	0	5	0	0	5	1	1	2	0
Evergreen	Program Pending										
Family Shelter	Program Pending										
January Clients Served	49	50	6.80	50	0	1	587	11	1	45	1

In the months ahead, ARCHES will begin reporting on 4 additional projects within this service category. Including Sequoia Crossing which began housing residents in February 2024.

ARCHES Housing & Supportive Programs:

For the 2023 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 2*) outlines our rapid re-housing services, rental assistance, barrier removal, and deposit services. The second category is specialty programming (*Table 3*), which is inclusive of services that provide basic need supports, as well as self-sufficiency development.

January 2024, 18 new households (55 persons) received housing support, and 9 exited into permanent housing. As outlined in *Table 2* several housing grants reported either zero households placed into housing or had low enrollment rates. This is typical for Rapid Re-

Housing programs who work to place new households during the first part of the fiscal year. Allowing for extended periods of monthly rental assistance and case management support. As the fiscal year wind downs, less households are usually placed as programs have filled their vacancies.

In the months ahead the overall number of households who will achieve housing stability is projected to grow. With 39 households currently participating in the housing search process, working closely with navigation staff for placement. The majority of these households are enrolled with MWVCAA’s Rapid Re-Housing program funded by the Governor’s Emergency Order. This program has since been renewed for 2024.

January 2024

ARCHES Housing Programs											
Table 2											
ARCHES Program	Households Served	Individuals Served	Avg VI-SPDAT Score	Adults	Children	Households Searching	Households in Housing	Household PH Exists	Rural Marion Households	Salem Metro Households (West, Salem, Keizer)	Rural Polk Households
Home TBA	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ERA	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HUD CoC	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
City of Salem - TBRA	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
AHOP - EHA	<i>Program funds not needed during Q2 - these are supplemental funds only</i>										
Wildfire Response	<i>Program Concluded - awaiting additional OHCS Funding for next phase</i>										
KP Home	2	5	5.00	3	2	2	2	1	0	2	0
DHS Fresh Start	5	21	8.36	10	11	5	4	3	1	3	1
HSP	5	15	6.60	7	8	0	1	5	1	3	1
OHA-VRAP	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vet DRF	1	1	0.00	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Vet - EHA	2	5	13	5	0	1	1	0	0	2	0
PC - EO - RRH	3	8	10.60	4	4	13	37	0	0	0	3
MC - EO - RRH	0	0	0.00	0	0	18	24	0	0	0	0
EO - Eviction Prevention	<i>Data Available on EO - Prevention Table</i>										
FY 23 Q2 Clients Served	18	55	8.71	30	25	39	70	9	2	10	6

ARCHES Supportive Services engaged 987 households in this most recent period (January 2024). The two most common services are VSO assistance (veterans) and Outreach

ARCHES Supportive Services							
Table 3							
ARCHES Program	Households Served	Adults	Children	Veterans	Number of Service Engagements		
					Rural Marion	Salem Metro (West, Salem, Keizer)	Rural Polk
Marion County VSO	417	417	0	417			
RENT	<i>Program Concluded</i>						
Outreach	365	365	0	1	41	429	79
Mobile Showers	131	131	0	0	0	131	0
Fuerza Campesina	74	110	79	0	15	39	20
January Clients Served	987	1023	79	418	56	599	99
Coordinated Entry - Prevention	<i>Program Concluded</i>						
Coordinated Entry - Homeless	97	102	28	5	7	86	4
Coordinated Entry - Youth	10	10	6	0	0	10	2
Coordinated Entry - TOTAL	107	112	34	5	7	96	6

programs, including Fuerza Campesina and mobile showers. 5% of all service engagements occurred in rural communities of Marion and Polk County.

In addition, through Coordinated Entry, 107 housing assessments (avg. 25 per week) were conducted, servicing 146 individuals. 14% of these assessments were conducted for households in rural communities.

Beginning in January 2024, MWVCAA made two significant changes to Coordinated Entry.

1. *Concluding the homeless prevention housing assessment.* This data collection method was installed when MWVCAA began using Coordinated Entry in 2016. However, state funding sources have not required Coordinate Entry in order to access services. So MWVCAA never needed to utilize the housing assessment tool, or resulting waitlist, in order to provide services. Household were instead automatically referred to internal and community resources for assistance. By furthering the use of this tool, it only adds an unnecessary barrier to the process, slows assistance, and creates undue stress for the household
2. *Reducing MWVCAA investment into the regional Coordinated Entry System.*

2023 System Stats

From **January 2023 - December 15, 2023**, MWVCAA staff performed **3,507 housing assessments (2,765 homeless and 742 prevention)**. Totaling 305 per month or roughly 76.24 per week. In contrast, during that same time period the Continuum of Care had an additional 29 trained assessors at 6 alternate access site locations. Combined, these 6 organizations/29 assessors facilitated 142 assessments (or 3.9%) of the total volume. The largest contributing organization was Church at the Park was 2% (76) of total assessments performed with 8 trained FTE. That is a ratio of 9.6 assessments per assessor for the year, while MWVCAA performed at a rate of 270 assessments per assessor.

Current System Investment

<u>System Type</u>	<u>Overall System Cost</u>	<u>CoC Coverage</u>	<u>% CoC Coverage</u>	<u>MWVCAA Coverage</u>	<u>% MWVCAA Coverage</u>
<i>General CE</i>	\$ 430,856.33	\$ 36,309.00	8%	\$ 394,547.24	92%
<i>Youth CE</i>	\$ 325,896.07	\$ 264,128.00	81%	\$ 61,768.07	19%
CE System Total Coverage	\$ 756,752.40	\$ 300,437.00	40%	\$ 456,315.31	60%

MWVCAA’s investment in Coordinated Entry (CE) access, as well as quality of services, has resulted in **an annual CE operational cost of \$756,752.00**, of which general CE makes up \$430,856. Of this MWVCAA carries the largest burden of financing operations. Where **92% of all general CE work is self-funded by MWVCAA through state resources**. The Continuum of Care (CoC), does provided 81% of operational support for youth CE through the Youth

Homeless Demonstration Program. However, this investment only applies to 3% of the overall CE work.

The Continuum of Care has annually invested \$36,309 annually to general Coordinated Entry since 2016. However, this financial investment from HUD has remained the same since its origination despite the growing needs of our local community. Leaving MWVCAA to carrying larger percentages of the system cost burden.

Program Update: *Polk County*

MWVCAA - ARCHES has a long history of providing services in Polk County, especially through the Resource Center in Dallas. In January, Polk County Family Community Outreach relocated the Resource Center to a new facility in Monmouth. As part of that transition, ARCHES is able to expand services to clients in Polk County thanks to increased office capacity. This includes: locating the entire Polk County Emergency Order Rapid Re-Housing team, weekly access to housing assessments (Mondays), as well as expanding access to the Fuerza Campesina outreach team who provided over 1,200 Polk Co. specific field service engagements in 2022.



Shelter Utilization:

A new data feature for FY 2023 is the daily tracking of beds occupied at all ARCHES Shelter locations. Currently, that includes: ARCHES Inn, Navigation Center, ARCHES Lodge (the new home to the Veteran Tanner Project), and Center Street (the prior home to Veteran Tanner’s Project). This tracking element will help ARCHES determine over time the number of shelter beds available per night. The goal for all shelter programs is to have an average of 90% of shelter beds occupied per month.

For the January reporting period, ARCHES sheltering provided 4,764 bed nights, leaving 723 unoccupied. This is a **31% improvement over December 2023**. The primary reason for the number of unoccupied beds is due to the Navigation Center. Where by committed law enforcement and community partners beds have not received referrals. However, this facility is operating at 81% occupancy for the general use beds, of which MWVCAA is responsible for filling. The ARCHES Lodge is also experiencing additional vacancies as new rooms come online after minor repairs are completed.

January 2024 Data

ARCHES Sheltering By Month Utilization Rate					
January-24					
<i>Shelter Project</i>	<i>Number of Occupied Bed Nights</i>	<i>Number of Unoccupied Bed Nights</i>	<i>Total Possible Bed Nights</i>	<i>Utilization Rate</i>	<i>Avg. Number of Unoccupied Beds per Night</i>
ARCHES Inn	2100	8	2108	100%	0.25
Navigation Center	1639	376	2015	81%	12
ARCHES Lodge	1025	339	1364	75%	11
Center St.	0	0	0	0%	0

In January, ARCHES Inn reached max capacity of 100%shelter utilization for the first time during fiscal year 2023.

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 January 2024, 51 households were assisted thus avoiding homelessness. **100%** of these services occurred **outside the city limits** of Salem, serving our rural communities.

January 2024 Data

Resource Services - Homeless Prevention										
ARCHES Program	Households Served	Individuals Served	Adults	Children	Households Searching	Households in Housing	Household PH Exists	Rural Marion Households	Salem Metro Households (West,Salem,Keizer)	Rural Polk Households
Polk County Resource Services	33	80	47	33	0	33	33	0	0	33
Woodburn Resource Services	11	38	17	21	0	11	11	11	0	0
Mill City Resource Services (SOCC)	7	19	14	5	0	7	2	7	0	0
January Clients Served	51	137	78	59	0	51	46	18	0	33

Success Story: ARHCES Inn

"DS came to us in April of 2023 as a Shelter Plus client after an appendectomy. He had previously applied for a Marion County Housing Authority - Housing Choice Voucher (MC - HCV). During DS' time at the Inn, he was finally awarded the MC - HCV. Because of this voucher, we were able to enroll DS into our general population program. Here we begin preparing DS for an exit the ARHES Inn into a positive destination. A home of his own."

"DS struggled to find housing with his voucher due to prior evictions on his record. We referred him to an online Rent Well course, which made him more competitive during the housing search process. Together we applied for many apartments. Still he faced numerous rejections from landlords. His brother helped pay for application fees, a common barrier that many clients face."

"Eventually, after multiple extensions to his voucher, and with only a few weeks before his last extension ran out, DS was accepted for an apartment in Woodburn. Unfortunately, due to his poor credit, the landlord required a deposit of \$1,000 - double the normal amount. ARCHES Inn staff were then able to connect DS with the Salem Housing Authority as they have funds able to assist with security deposits and apartment furnishings. Thanks to the sheltering and housing navigation efforts by ARCHES Inn staff, as well as the partnership with Salem Housing Authority, DS was able to move into his own apartment for the first time in over a year."

-ARCHES Inn, Shelter Plus Case Manager

Misc:

- Sequoia Crossing is looking for community donations and partners to help create move-in baskets for residents as they acclimate to their new home.
- During the 6-night cold spell when the average overnight low was 23.5 degrees, MWVCAA warming centers provided 604 bed nights.
- ARCHES is in the final stages of submitting two applications for Congressional Direct Spending consideration. One for shelter upgrades at the Day Center and Taylors House. The other for rural investments to expand operations in Mill City and Woodburn. If awarded, funds would be made available in 2025.

Welcome to... 

SEQUOIA CROSSING

Create a Welcome Basket!

60 apartments are filling up now.

Get on the list to make them feel at home.

Great team building activity!

Calling all families, faith-groups, bikers, bunco-players, scouts, red hat ladies, civic organizations, magic the gathering players, work teams, students, book clubs, Star Wars reenactment groups, car enthusiasts, or kazoo bands!

Fill it Up:

Fill a sturdy laundry basket with the items below:

Cleaning Supplies	Shampoo
Dish/Laundry Soap	Cozy Slippers
Towels	Sugar and Flour
Scrubbers	Shower Gel
Pasta & Sauce	Peanut Butter

Customize it:

We want every basket to be customized to the family moving in. Give us a call or email us to see how you can make it special!

Call/Text: 971-398-5696
Email: development@mwvcaa.org



Energy Services January PY 2024 Program Report

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

January PY 24 unduplicated completions, Marion and Polk counties

	HH	People	>6	60+	Disability	LP HH's at or below 75% poverty		Ave HH pmt
Total	775	2267	272	286	245	352	=47% of HH's	\$449

A total of 33 applications were denied in January. Applications may be denied when incomplete, over income not in Marion or Polk counties, etc. A notice of action is sent to the applicant that states what information is needed to determine eligibility. If the household is over income monthly, quarterly and annual income is requested.

1st quarter PY 24 unduplicated completions, Marion and Polk counties

	HH	People	>6	60+	Disability	LP HH's at or below 75% poverty		Ave HH pmt
Total	2156	4764	380	1394	1206	689	=33% of HH's	\$454

Energy received 628 applications in January, a total of 2,852 were received during the first quarter (averaging 870 applications per month). Energy had 971 applications to be processed on January 2 as of the end of January there were less than 700. The holidays, illness and inclement weather impacted the number of applications completed by the team. Energy advises all clients that processing time averages 4 to 6 weeks, it is important to keep in contact with their utility and set up time payment arrangements if a notice is received.

Energy partnered with with Weatherization to replace a furnace for a homeowner over 60 caring for a family member experiencing a disability. Energy team determined eligibility and provided energy assistance. Weatherization verified the gas furnace was inoperable, requested bids and assured the furnace was installed properly. Energy paid for the new furnace with donation and nonfederal funding. Donation funds are utilized to support the installation of furnace and AC equipment.

OHCS monitored 50 PY24 files in January. The review found no errors, Energy received a superior rating. Energy has received a rating of superior or above average for over 5 consecutive years.

January PY 24 unduplicated completions, Polk county

	HH	People	>6	60+	Disability	LP HH's at or below 75% poverty		Ave HH pmt
Total	95	271	38	31	36	51	=55% of HH's	\$454

A total of 7 Polk county applications were denied in January.

1st quarter PY 24 unduplicated completions, Polk county

	HH	People	>6	60+	Disability	LP HH's at or below 75% poverty		Ave HH pmt
Total	250	542	39	159	160	86	=34% of HH's	\$435

**HEAD START PROGRAM REPORT TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS & POLICY COUNCIL
Eva Pignotti, CPO of Early Learning & Child Care – February 2024**

Attendance

Head Start Preschool

9/23	10/23	11/23	12/23	1/24	2/24
81.76%	81.50%	80.46%	75.05%	78.76%	
3/24	4/24	5/24	6/24	7/24	8/24

Early Head Start

9/23	10/23	11/23	12/23	1/24	2/24
83.59%	79.20%	72.06%	71.51%	74.67%	
3/24	4/24	5/24	6/24	7/24	8/24

Attendance Analysis - Absences for January 2024

The Head Start attendance rate for January was below the required 85%. The top absence reason during the month was child illness, which accounted for 35.08% of the absences.

The Early Head Start attendance rate for January was below the required 85%. The top absence reasons during the month were:

- Child illness, which accounted for 34.09% of the absences
- Family day/vacation, which accounted for 17.25% of the absences
- Inclement weather, which accounted for 14.62% of the absences
- Parent transportation issue, which accounted for 14.09% 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 = 578 (*summer = 51)

9/23	10/23	11/23	12/23	1/24	2/24	3/24	4/24	5/24	6/24	7/24	8/24
367	444	455	501	538							

Early Head Start – Full Enrollment = 234

9/23	10/23	11/23	12/23	1/24	2/24	3/24	4/24	5/24	6/24	7/24	8/24
152	179	181	200	216							

Waiting Lists

Head Start Preschool

9/23	10/23	11/23	12/23	1/24	2/24	3/24	4/24	5/24	6/24	7/24	8/24
24	42	54	45	50							

Early Head Start

9/23	10/23	11/23	12/23	1/24	2/24	3/24	4/24	5/24	6/24	7/24	8/24
14	24	28	32	33							

USDA Meal Reimbursements

	January 2024	
USDA Meal Reimbursements	Number of Meals Served	Amount Reimbursed
Breakfast	3,767	\$ 8,588.76
Lunch	3,791	\$16,111.75
Snack	275	\$ 321.75
Cash In Lieu		\$ 1,118.34
Total Reimbursement	7,833	\$26,150.60

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

Head Start: In November, the program implemented an emergency plan to implement a temporary schedule for Head Start because of staff shortages. The plan allows all classes to operate, but with staff covering multiple classrooms. This resulted in part day classes running two days per week instead of four; 5 hour duration classes running four days a week instead of five; and 6.5 hour duration classes running for five hours a day. Early Head Start classes were not impacted by the emergency plan.

Program management evaluates criteria each week in order to make decisions about classrooms which are running on abbreviated schedules being returned to regular schedules. These are the classes which we have been able to return to regular operating schedules:

- Middle Grove 3 Duration
- Middle Grove 4 Duration
- Outreach Duration
- Chemawa Road Duration
- Silverton Road Duration
- Woodburn Duration
- Buena Crest North AM
- Buena Crest South AM
- Wallace AM, PM and Duration (opened late with regular programming)

Currently, the program has the following vacant positions, with the direct service classroom positions highlighted:

- Head Start Teacher – 8 (2 candidates are in reference checks)
- Head Start Teacher Assistant – 6 (3 candidates are in the HR process)
- Classroom Aide – 1 (1 candidate is in the HR process)
- Family Educator – 2 (2 candidates are in reference checks)
- Family Services Supervisor – 1 (position to be re-opened)
- Instructional Assistant – 3 (1 candidate is in reference checks)
- Program Manager – 1 (position is open)

The shortage of Head Start Teachers and Teacher Assistants is keeping other classrooms operating at half time. We are looking at offering a hiring incentive for the teacher position. It is anticipated that the next two Teachers who complete the onboarding process and begin work will allow us to return Santiam Center and one of the Middle Grove classrooms to their regular schedule. When the Classroom Aide completes onboarding, we will return Woodburn PM to regular schedule.

We know the abbreviated schedule creates hardships for parents and children, and are doing everything we can to return to regular programming across all locations.

HOME Youth Services Board Report

February 2024

Rapid Re-Housing Rental Assistance for Youth (RAY)

Program Description

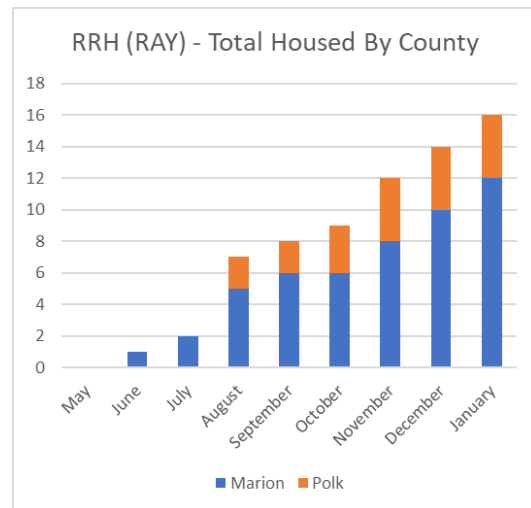
The HYS Rental Assistance for Youth (RAY) Rapid-Rehousing program, established in response to state initiatives like the Oregon Legislature's House Bill 2163, focuses on aiding youth aged 16-24 in their transition from homelessness to self-sufficiency. This program, which launched as a pilot in 2023, is a direct effort to address the critical need for housing stability among young Oregonians, offering rental assistance and a spectrum of support services aligned with the Statewide Housing Plan's emphasis on collaboration, equity, and racial justice. Participants receive tailored case management, which includes financial aid for rent and utilities, furnishing homes, professional development like job search assistance, personal goal support such as help with legal documents, and medical care coordination, including dental health. The program also facilitates a unique "Quality of Life" allowance further to empower the youth in their journey towards independence.

RRH RAY Data & Current Activities

Rapid Re-Housing (RAY) New Housing Placements									
RRH Program	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January
Marion		1	1	3	1		2	2	
Polk				2		1	1		
Total Clients Served	0	1	1	5	1	1	3	2	0

January marked a period of strategic growth and operational development for the RAY team. The preparations for relocating offices to the Arches marked a promising development, a move that promises to offer staff and clients a more dynamic and resource-rich environment.

The expansion of our team with two new hires has been a testament to the RAY program's robustness and our commitment to youth empowerment. This was made possible through generous support and expansion funding from the Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS), allowing the program to double staff to 4 Youth Navigators and increase the total service capacity to 34 households. These new team members were onboarded in January and quickly integrated into the program, infusing it with fresh energy and new perspectives.

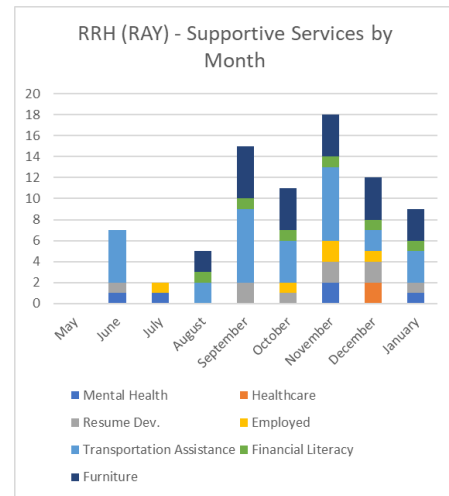


Rapid Re-Housing (RAY) Supportive Services									
	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January
Mental Health		1	1				2		1
Healthcare								2	
Resume Dev.		1			2	1	2	2	1
Employed			1			1	2	1	
Transportation Assistance		5		2	7	4	7	2	3
Financial Literacy				1	1	1	1	1	1
Furniture				2	5	4	4	4	3
Total Clients Served	0	7	2	5	15	11	18	12	9

Despite the challenges associated with expansion and relocation, the RAY program has maintained its dedication to service delivery. The program has continued to ensure that the youth in Marion and Polk counties have access to the housing and support they need. In January, the program housed two additional clients and maintained a high level of supportive service activity.

Future Plans

The RAY Rapid Re-Housing program is poised to take significant strides forward. With the foundational support of the Oregon Housing and Community Services' (OHCS) increased funding, the program is embarking on a series of enhancements to deepen its impact. These efforts include refining data reporting processes to ensure that every success and challenge is accurately captured and analyzed, paving the way for data-driven strategies and transparent communication with stakeholders.



Furthermore, the program acknowledges the vital need to reach out to rural communities, where young individuals often face heightened barriers to services. Efforts to increase the program's footprint in these areas will be a key focus in the coming months. The program is committed to maintaining its operations without interruption as these plans unfold. The office relocation and onboarding of additional staff are poised to enhance the program's capacity while continuing to deliver the essential services that form the core of its mission.

Success Story

Tanya's engagement with the Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) program began in June of 2023. Being underage at 16 and not yet emancipated, RRH was limited to providing case management, goal-setting assistance, and a prepaid phone to ensure communication with her caseworker. As Tanya struggled with transportation and stable housing, she took refuge at Taylor's House in September. There, she revealed past traumas and expressed a desire for emancipation, citing her ongoing commitment to her education and work despite her circumstances. With support from her Youth Navigator and the RRH team, Tanya successfully petitioned for emancipation in December upon turning 17. Despite initial setbacks in securing housing, Tanya persevered and was eventually accepted into an apartment. Now emancipated, she's in the process of furnishing her new home and embracing her independence.

- Grace Johnson & Sarah Valore, Youth Navigators

David's House

Program Description

David's House is a Transitional Home for unstably housed youth in Polk and Marion Counties. The project is designed to provide a safe and nurturing environment for youth ages 14-18, focusing on increasing access to services in rural Polk County and providing youth housing within their own community. Our approach is centered on community collaboration and support, ensuring that our services are impactful and sustainable. The House will open within the coming weeks with a capacity of 5 youth, expanding to serve 10. A youth's length of stay will depend upon individual needs, ranging from a matter of weeks up to 24 months. With 24/7 on-site staffing, it operates like a real home, providing meals, chores, homework assistance, transportation to health services, and other essential supports.

David's House Current Activities

In February, David's House witnessed several exciting developments, furthering its mission of supporting youth. A key highlight was establishing a partnership with Yeasty Beasty, a local pizza place. This collaboration ensures that the youth at David's House enjoy freshly made pizza every Wednesday, a gesture of generosity that significantly enhances their experience. The program also received a notable donation from Guitars for Hope: two acoustic guitars. These instruments provide a creative and expressive outlet for the youth, enhancing their experience at David's House.



David's House staff at a community tabling event.

In addition to the ongoing initiatives, February also marked a significant milestone for David's House with our active participation in the grand opening of the Polk Resource Center. This event showcased the center as a vital community hub and highlighted our involvement and partnership within the space. As one of the key community partners, our presence at the grand



Staff at Polk Resource Center grand opening.

opening represented our commitment to collaborative efforts in addressing the community's needs. This partnership with the Polk Resource Center is set to enhance our outreach and provide additional resources to the youth we serve, further strengthening our impact in the community.

David's House hosted a dinner for Backbone, the Youth Action Board. This event underscored the importance of their role and input in shaping David's House policies and procedures. The

collaboration with Backbone is instrumental in implementing changes that resonate with the needs and preferences of the youth served.

Operationally, the team has been focused on refining the intake process with youth input. The goal is to make it more trauma-informed, ensuring that it facilitates a smooth and sensitive transition for youth seeking assistance. This approach is pivotal in creating a welcoming and safe environment for new residents.

Future Plans

David's House is on the cusp of opening, with recent advancements including the completion of the fire system installation and inspection. The focus is now on completing the hiring process for the final two remaining positions, which will bring the team to full strength. Concurrently, there's an active effort to solidify relationships with key community partners like McKinney Vento and the Community Services Consortium to enhance the support network for the youth.



David's House

Looking ahead, the goal is to extend the program's reach by rotating through rural Polk County and collaborating with local service providers. Plans are in place to host and expand pop-up events, especially as the warmer months draw more young people to communal spaces like parks. This initiative aims to provide resources and support to youth and young adults in the areas they frequent, fostering accessible and community-integrated care. David's House is also establishing vital connections with Acres of Hope and Family Building Blocks. These partnerships are key to creating a robust network of care and assistance that supports the holistic well-being of the youth.

Finalizing the DHS licensing remains the last significant milestone before opening doors. This step will solidify David's House as a licensed, reliable provider of transitional housing and support services for youth in need.

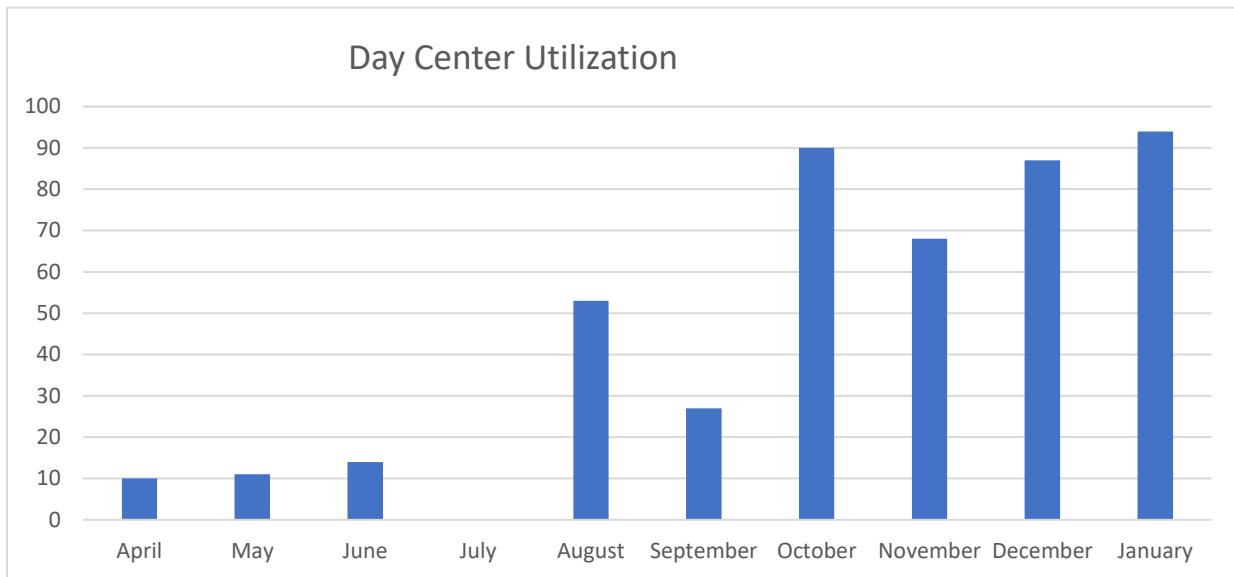
HOME Youth Services Board Report-January 2024

The Drop In Day Center

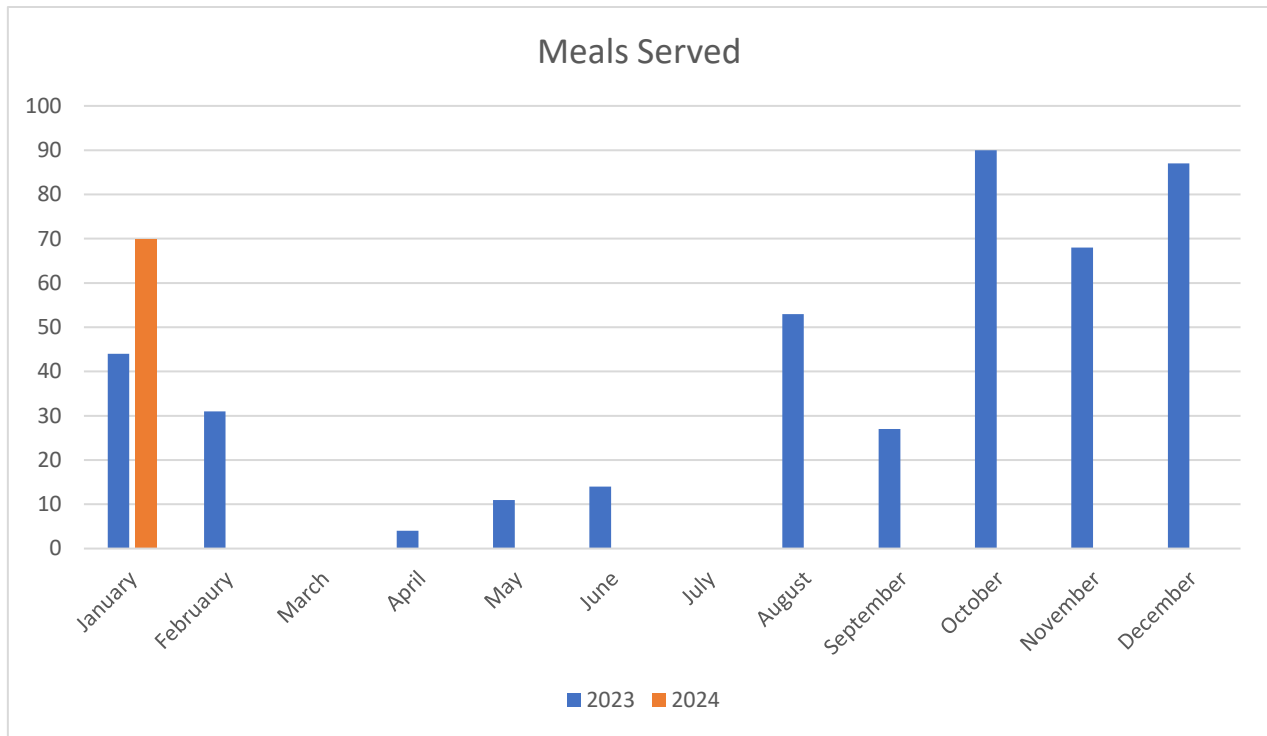
The Drop-In Day Center serves youth ages 11-18, and provides services 5 days a week, ensuring services on weekends. Drop In is open Thursday-Monday 12-7pm. Full services include 2 hot meals a day, food boxes, food pantry, clothing closet, essential care kits, mail, showers, case management and positive connection in a safe and fun environment.

The Drop In provided life saving warming activities to youth and young adults this inclement weather event. Day shelter provided basic and essential needs such as tarps tents and hand warmers to unsheltered youth. Staff supported youth with emergency planning before the event and provided food box delivery and outreach during the event.

Drop In Day Center Data & Activities



The day center was closed to visitors, providing minimal services April through July 2023. With the move to the new location at Broadway we were able to increase services, opening fully in September 2023. Since the open, daily utilization has increased and stabilized as we continue to re-ignite services and community engagement. The ability to cook and serve hot meals supported increased stability of service and provided youth the basic needs they needed.



Program Showcase

“One day early January an adult lady walked into the drop in and staff went to ask what she in need of. The lady, Sally, asked what we were, and how do we help youth. Sally said she was new to the area, unhoused and sleeping in a car with her fiancé and 3 kids, and had been told to check us out by another community resource. Staff told Sally all about the Drop in center, the ages we help, the services we provide, and that the drop in is great even as just a hangout spot. Sally was so excited and brought in her daughters that were within our age range. Staff did intakes, showed the mom and daughters around, and they were thrilled to be able to have a safe place to go.

The following day, the girls, Michelle and Violet, were here right at 12 pm when the Drop In doors were open. Michelle and Violet picked out clothes from the clothing closet and had lunch. Another youth came in and within no time all three were watching a movie together. Now, about a month later, Michelle and Violet come to the drop in multiple times a week, the family has found temporary shelter, do homework here, get lots of food to eat, create art projects and watch tv. It is great to see youth walk in the door, and see the look of immediate comfort, excitedly say hi to the staff, take off their shoes, and put on their favorite YouTube shows.”

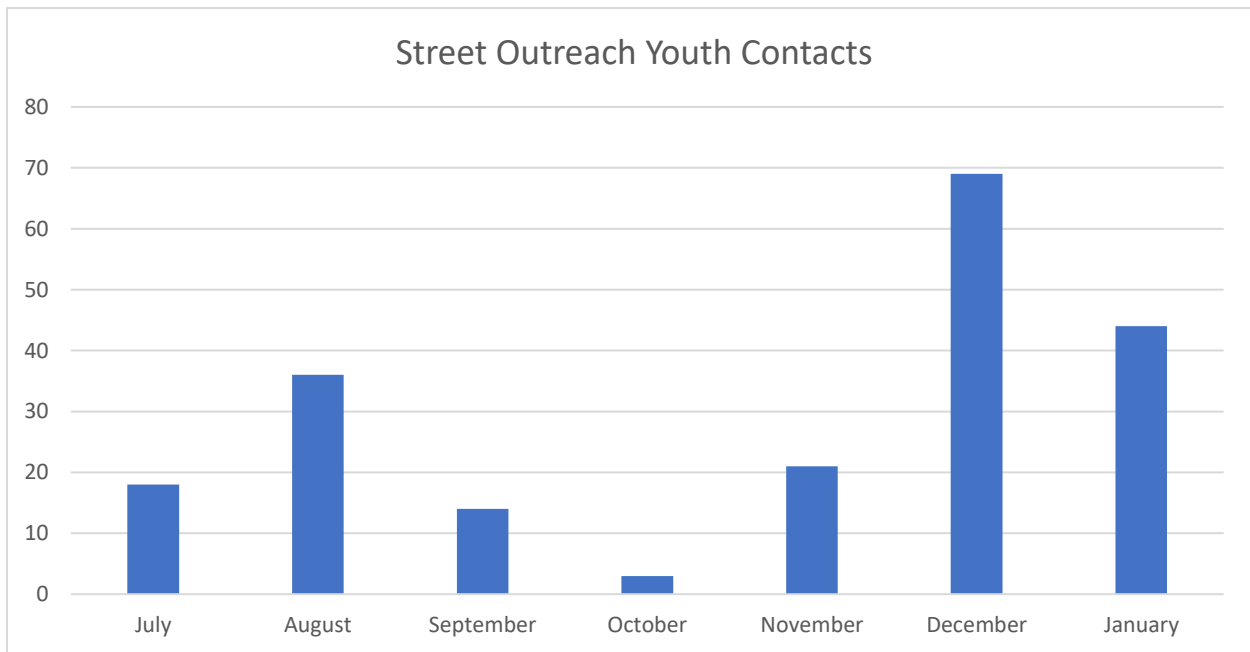
-Drop In Team Member

Looking ahead, the Drop In will continue to enhance serves to community youth by partnering with community programs, such as Salem PD Guardians, McKinney Vento program (MVP), YMCA, and C@P to facilitate identification and access to services for youth experience homelessness and housing instability. HYS will be partnering with MVP to bring direct intakes to services within community Middle and high schools to support the ongoing youth homelessness crisis. This will offer youth introduction to programs and reduce barriers to services.

HYS Street Outreach

HOME Youth Services' outreach team serves youth in both Marion and Polk counties. The outreach team provides street outreach and vital resourcing to youth. They meet them where they are at in effort to increase engagement with services at HOME Youth Services and other community providers. Outreach, as a team, travels to areas where youth are known to either stay or hang out to engage with youth. The team also attends and hosts community pop-up events to engage with youth and inform them about HOME Youth Services' programs. Pop-ups will happen within the community at spaces youth are likely to frequent, such as schools, libraries, park and recreational spaces.

Street Outreach Data & Activities



Home youth services experienced a transition in outreach staff during August to September 2023. This created a reduction in the number of hours and staff that could conduct outreach in the community. Outreach efforts were strengthened in November 2023 when new staff was on-boarded. This trend continued into January 2024 as we were able to provide necessary street outreach efforts.

The Outreach team provided necessary intake to homeless and unsheltered youth identified through the McKinney Vento Program. They have been identifying unprecedented amounts of youth experiencing homelessness, both unsheltered and as a family unit. Our staff provided intake and pop-up events at North HS and Waldo MS providing basic needs and snacks at time of intake to 31 youth. Staff offered case management to unaccompanied youth and resources to youth and families experiencing homelessness and housing instability.

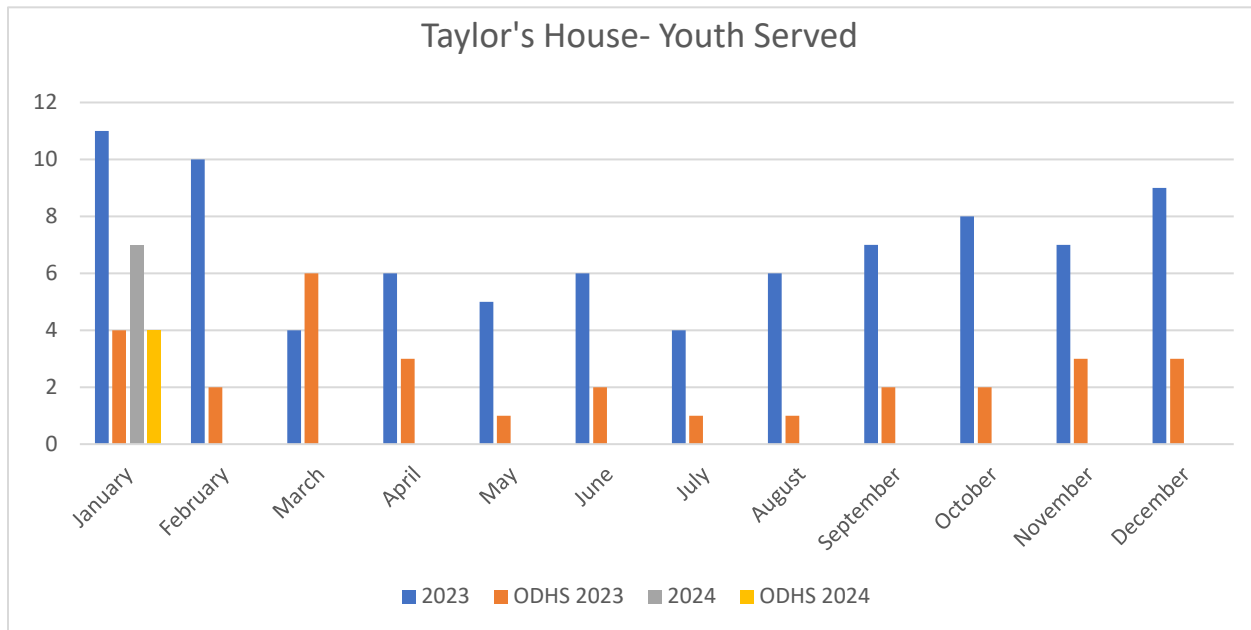
The outreach team partnered with Drop In staff to deliver food boxes and hot meals to community youth throughout Marion and Polk during the freezing event this past January. This was a vital activity as youth hunkered down in groups, couch surfing, and in tent communities. Our Polk outreach team provided street outreach and pop-up events throughout the community, Monmouth skate park and the safe showers at Community Life Church. In December, the team served 13 youth in Polk County providing food, hygiene and clothing.

Looking forward, HYS will be hiring an Outreach Youth Navigator to ensure consistent services and to support homeless youth identification and connection to services in the Marion and Polk communities. This position will support a continuum of care from street outreach to day center and increased access to emergency sheltering and long-term housing solutions.

Taylor's House- Emergency Shelter

Taylor's House is an emergency shelter for youth aged 11-18, providing a safe environment that nurtures safety, stability, and growth. With a capacity for 10 individuals, the facility offers co-ed accommodations alongside structured programs designed to integrate youth into the community. The house features dedicated spaces for meetings, recreational activities, and vital mental health services. Committed to meeting all basic needs, Taylor's House ensures access to nourishment, hygiene facilities, technology, transportation, and personalized coaching.

Taylor's House Data & Activities



Taylor's House continues to prioritize sheltering for community youth offering safe temporary lodging to increase stability and find long term solutions to housing. Taylor's house provided 157 bed nights in January, including 65 bed nights for ODHS youth. Taylor's has continued to prioritize shelter services for community youth experiencing crisis and housing instability.

Taylor's House transitioned to sheltering programming under Director Sara Webb at the start of 2024. This transition supported crucial alignment and resource development to ensure Taylor's House continues to provide evidenced- based quality sheltering to community youth.

Looking forward, we are committed to strengthening pathways to stable housing. HYS is prioritizing and focused on building stronger connections with programs that offer subsequent steps for youth transitioning out of Taylor's House into stabilized housing placements, such as referrals to Rapid Rehousing and community based transitional and independent living programs. This holistic approach ensures that the youth have immediate shelter and a supportive trajectory toward long-term stability.

In 2024, Taylor's House will be undergoing necessary renovations and updates to the facility and operations, including updated security cameras, bedroom updates, and structural repairs. These repairs will ensure a stable and secure environment for the program for years to come. We will be partnering with the community to support upgrades in a show of dedication to Marion and Polk community youth.

Program Showcase

“When thinking of youth engagement, there is one youth that stands out. We will call them Youth A. Youth A’s background is one that is of a single parent home who struggles with substance abuse. With the support and stability of Taylor’s House, this youth has been able to be up to date with all of their medical, dental, and vision needs as well as receiving a ‘services completed’ from their therapist. On top of that, Youth A was captain of her wrestling team, Youth A has now finished high school early and has gained employment through their previous high school. Youth A continues to express that because of the stability that the program provides, they can now imagine a future, one with higher education in it. A future with fewer struggles.”

-Francisco Sanchez, Shelter Manager

Nutrition First -Child Care Food Program
 Carmen Romero - Program Director
 February 2024

Nutrition First CCFP reimburses child care providers who are certified or registered with the Child Care Licensing Division or license-exempt providers listed with ODHS. The following chart is for the fiscal year 2023-2024. 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.

	June 2023	July 2023	Aug 2023	Sept. 2023	October 2023	Nov. 2023	Dec. 2023	January 2024
Start of Month	504	513	511	517	526	527	527	531
Opened	12	10	14	24	12	10	14	7
Closed	3	12	8	15	11	10	10	21
End of Month	513	511	517	526	527	527	531	518

- For January, we signed on eight providers (seven are registered with CCLD and one is a license exempt provider with ODHS) Nutrition First also close a total of 21 providers, leaving us at the end of January with 518 active homes.

The only difference between the CCLD providers and the license exempt 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.

- During January, staff conducted 8 in-home sign-ups, 138 in-home monitoring reviews and saw 1104 children in the reviews.

Program updates:

- Nutrition First is having a hard time filling the vacant position. This new staff would be working mostly in the Washington, Multnomah and Clackamas counties. As of January we have stop signing up new providers in those three counties. Current staff will continue to sign up providers in the other eight counties along with conducting the monitoring in home reviews for all 11 counties.

Selection Criteria Pre-School 2024-2025 EHS/EHS CCP/Expectant Mothers & HS

Recommendations

Meeting January 22, 2024

Changes and/or additions are in red

Category	Criteria	Old HS/EHS/Expectant Moms Points	New HS/EHS/Expectant Moms Points
Income	Categorically eligible due to receipt of TANF, SSI, SNAP, foster child or homeless family	10	10
Income	Zero	10	10
Income	81%-100% poverty	2	3
Income	61%-80% poverty	3	4
Income	41%-60% poverty	4	5
Income	21%-40% poverty	5	6
Income	1%-20% poverty	8	9
Family Type	Two parent family	15	15
Family Type	Single parent family	25	25
Family Type	Single Guardian or other family member caring for child	35	35
	Two parent Guardian or other family member caring for child	25	25
Family Type	Certified foster care	45	45
Age	6 weeks-24 months (Infant/Toddler only)	10	15
Age	25 months- 3 years (Infant/Toddler only)	5	10

Age	Four years old	5	10
Age	Three years old	10	15
Sibling	Multiple births (twins, triplets, etc.) (Infant/Toddlers only)	15	15
Sibling	Multiple births (twins, triplets, etc) (Head Start)		10
Sibling	Sibling of currently enrolled child	5	5
Sibling	Applicant is the only child in the household (HS Only)	5	5
Language	Child does not speak English (HS only)	30	30
Language	Parent(s) do not speak English	10	15
Disabilities	Child on IFSP referred by WESD	50	50
Disabilities	Child on IFSP not referred by WESD (any type of disability)	40	40
Homelessness	Living on streets (do not know from day to day where they will sleep at night)	85	85
Homelessness	Camping (cars, trailers, vans, tents, motor homes)	85	85
Homelessness	Substandard housing (garages, shops, barns, parks, public places, abandoned buildings, bus or train stations, homes that are condemned or do not have necessary services such as heat or water)	85	85
Homelessness	Living in a homeless shelter or domestic violence shelter	85	85
Homelessness	Moving around frequently staying with a variety of people but no long-term place to stay (couch surfing)	85	85
Homelessness	Staying in a motel or hotel	85	85
Homelessness	Doubled up short term – living with someone else because you lost your home or cannot afford a home, but only allowed to stay for a short time (less than 6 months)	70	75
Homelessness	Doubled up long term - living with someone else because you lost your home or cannot afford a home, and can stay until you obtain your own housing	55	55
Homelessness	Transitional Housing – placed in a home/apartment through a program in designated transitional housing with a time limit of two years or less	55	55
Family Needs	Parent has a diagnosed disability/Mental Health Condition	30	30
Family Needs	Sibling has a diagnosed disability/Mental Health Condition	30	30
Family Needs	Parent is deceased or has a terminal illness	70	70

Family Needs	High risk/complications in pregnancy/advanced maternal age (specify) (Expectant Mothers only)	30	30
Family Needs	Mother has a history of miscarriage/stillbirths (Expectant Mothers only)	30	30
Family Needs	Mother has a serious health condition (specify) (Expectant Mothers only)	45	45
Family Needs	Parent is incarcerated	45	45
Family Needs	Parent is on parole or probation	30	30
Family Needs	Parent is absent from home due to active military duty	55	55
Family Needs	Parent is absent from home due to deportation or in process	55	55
Family Needs	Family is in the process of eviction (60 days or less)	70	70
Family Needs	Parent is unable to read or write in any language	40	40
Family Needs	Member of household participates in gang activity	30	30
Family Needs	Parent currently has drug or alcohol issues	65	65
Family Needs	Parent has had drug or alcohol issues and is now in recovery	40	40
Family Needs	Parent was age 17 or younger when this child was born	30	30
Family Needs	Parent will be age 17 or younger when this child is born (Expectant Mothers only)	40	40
Family Needs	Mother has experienced domestic violence during the last 12 months (Expectant Mothers only)	40	40
Family Needs	Mother has experienced domestic violence more than one year ago (Expectant Mothers only)	30	30
Family Needs	Parent does not have high school diploma/GED (Add to Expectant Mothers)	20	20
Family Needs	Family does not have a vehicle	20	20
Family Needs	Family is seeking refuge in the US because of conditions in their country.	70	70
Family Needs	Parent or family is currently receiving individual or family counseling	20	20
Family Needs	Parent has witnessed or experienced any type of abuse (physical, emotional, sexual, verbal, etc.) within last 12 months		20

Family Needs	Mother has suspected post-partum depression, Anxiety, or Perinatal mood disorder (Infant/Toddlers only)	35	35
Family Needs	Families displaced or severely impacted due to natural disaster, (specify _____) loss of employment/housing. (Add to Expectant Mothers)	20	20
Family Needs	Mother is experiencing anxiety, and/or mental health distress during pregnancy (Expectant Mothers only)	35	35
Prior Head Start	Child was enrolled in another Head Start or Early Head Start program	25	25
Child Needs	Child has witnessed or experienced any type of abuse (physical, emotional, sexual, verbal, etc.)	80	80
Child Needs	Child has a serious health condition including premature birth (EHS/HS Only) (specify)	55	55
Child Needs	Prenatal Exposure to tobacco (Expectant Mothers only)	35	35
Child Needs	Prenatal Exposure to drugs/alcohol (Expectant Mothers only)	55	55
Child Needs	Child was exposed to drugs or alcohol during pregnancy	40	40
Child Needs	Child is exposed to second hand smoke	20	20
Child Needs	Child is currently receiving individual mental health treatment or counseling	50	50
Child Needs	Child is experiencing changes (Replaced the word "trauma" for word "changes") due to recent divorce/end of relationship between parents (last 12 months)	50	50

Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency
BOARD APPROVAL TO SUBMIT GRANT APPLICATION

GRANT NAME: USDA (FY 24 Grant Revision)

PROGRAM: Nutrition First, MWVCAA

GRANT DUE DATE: February 22, 2024

FUNDING SOURCE: USDA, Oregon Department of Education

GRANT PERIOD: 10/1/23 through 9/30/24

AMOUNT REQUESTED \$582,654.89

ADMINISTRATION AMOUNT: \$49,767

PURPOSE OF GRANT: This grant supports all Nutrition First operations including wage and fringe, rent, mileage, training for staff and providers, equipment, administrative overhead, etc. The funds also cover program activities to meet contract requirements of monitoring and nutrition education. Additional funds are requested on a monthly basis to pay for meal reimbursements.

TARGET POPULATION: CCLD-registered/certified and ODHS-listed child care providers living in Marion, Polk, Yamhill, Lincoln, Tillamook, Linn, Benton, Lane, Clackamas, Washington and Multnomah counties. We recruit providers who speak languages other than English and those in lower-income and rural areas, in addition to general recruitment. We currently serve English, Spanish and Russian-speaking providers, and Vietnamese and deaf providers with interpreters.

APPROVED BY BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

BOARD CHAIR

DATE



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Housing & Community Services
North Mall Office Building
725 Summer Street NE, Suite B
Salem, OR 97301-1266
503-986-2000
www.ohcs.oregon.gov

February 14th, 2024

Jimmy Jones
MWVCAA
2475 Center Street NW
Salem, OR 97301

Re: PY24 LIHEAP/OEAP Performance Evaluation

Dear Jimmy:

On January 30th – 31st, 2024 the LIHEAP/OEAP Performance Evaluation your agency was conducted.

No deficiencies or concerns were identified during the review.

Thank you for the courtesy and assistance extended during the review. Please contact me at 503-986-2094 or by e-mail at lisa.goben@oregon.gov if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Lisa Goben
Senior Energy Programs Compliance/Policy Officer
Energy Unit, Housing Stabilization Division

Cc: Traia Campbell- MWVCAA
Cc: Michelle Ehara- MWVCAA
Cc: Joel Parks- OHCS



PY-24 LIHEAP/OEAP Program Review Report

Agency Name: MWVCAA

Review Date: 01/30/2024 – 01/31/2024

REVIEW RATING DEFINITIONS: Please see "attachment- A"

FILES REVIEWED: Please see "attachment- B"

PART A. APPLICATION

There were no observable deficiencies and/or concerns regarding "Application".

PART B. INCOME

There were no observable deficiencies and/or concerns regarding "Income".

PART C. PAYMENTS

Deficiency:

There were no observable deficiencies and/or concerns regarding "Payments".

OVERALL RATING

Monitoring Calculation- MWVCAA				Scale:
Assessment Category:	Ranking	Formula Weight:		
A	Application	Superior	25%	Superior
B	Income	Superior	50%	Above Average
C	Payments	Superior	25%	Satisfactory
Overall Agency Ranking		Superior		Below Average
				Unsatisfactory



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor



OREGON
DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

Oregon achieves... together!

Dr. Charlene Williams

Director of the Department of Education

January 17, 2024

Jolanda Ibarra, Nutrition Services Specialist
Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency - Head Start
625 Hawthorne Ave.
Salem, OR, 97301

Dear Ms. Ibarra:

RE: Administrative Review of CACFP Agreement No. 2413005

The Oregon Department of Education Child Nutrition Programs (ODE CNP) conducted a Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Administrative Review of Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency - Head Start on November 28-29, 2023. The review assessed compliance with Federal and State regulations governing the CACFP.

Findings that required corrective action were described in the Administrative Review Report provided to you, Mr. Jimmy Jones and Ms. Kaelee Hoyle at the exit conference on December 7, 2023. ODE CNP received the written corrective action plan on January 4, 2024 and approved the corrective plan on January 16, 2024.

Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations requires ODE CNP to conduct an Administrative Review of federal CACFP sponsors. Per Federal Regulations and an approved State Agency Monitoring Waiver, all CACFP sponsors receive an Administrative Review no less than once every four years, depending on the number of facilities.

ODE CNP acknowledges your efforts to strengthen program accountability and provide nutritious meals in a healthy environment. This closes the Administrative Review process.

Thank you for the courtesy and cooperation shown to Kaitlin Skreen and Ashlie Berry during the entire review process. If you have any questions concerning this letter or the CACFP Administrative Review, please contact Child Nutrition Specialist, Kaitlin Skreen, at (503) 508-0533 or kaitlin.skreen@ode.oregon.gov.

Jolanda Ibarra
Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency - Head Start
Page 2

Sincerely,



Meghan Tschida, Community Nutrition Manager
Child Nutrition Programs
Office of Child Nutrition

"L:\Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency Head Start 24-
13005\Review\CACFP\2024\Correspondence - ODE to Sponsor\Letters\Drafts\5. c. Rev. Close
Ltr. (No FA) Revised.docx"

cc: Jimmy Jones, Executive Director
Jade Ruthledge, Board Chairperson

Tracking: Sent via Email on 1/17/2024 with Delivery Receipt and Read Receipt Requests