



AUGUST 2024 MEETING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THURSDAY AUGUST 22, 2024

LOCATION:

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

VIRTUAL:

Topic: MWVCAA Full Board Meeting 2024

Time: Aug 22, 2024 05:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

[Join the meeting here](#)

Meeting ID: 254 477 902 631 Passcode: wcPp7o

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 AUGUST 22, 2024**

In-Person:

2475 Center St NE
Salem OR 97301

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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. July 2024 2024 Full Board Meeting Minutes	
	2. August 2024 Executive Director Report	
	3. August 2024 Regional Poverty and Legislative Report	
	4. August 2024 Chief Financial Officer Report	
	5. August 2024 Chief Human Resources Officer Report	
	6. August 2024 Program Director Reports	
	7. August 2024 Committee Meeting Minutes	
VI.	Board Business	5:55
	1. Strategic Planning Update (Hamilton) – <i>Informational/Discussion</i>	
	2. Financials (Hoyle) – <i>Approval</i>	
	3. Executive Director’s Report (Jones)	
	4. Measure 113 Opposition Letter (Jones) – <i>Approval</i>	
VII.	Executive Session	7:15
VIII.	Adjournment	7:30

Next board meeting: Thursday, September 26, 2024

Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting
July 24, 2024
MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

Board of Directors:

Present:

Jade Rutledge	Kevin Karvandi	Erika Romine	Helen Honey
Steve McCoid	Catherine Trottmann	Eunice Kim	Lori Martz
Deanna Gwyn	Frank Lonergan	Laura Reid	Frank Lonergan

Absent:

Jeremy Gordon

Others Present:

Program Directors/Staff/Guests:

Jimmy Jones, Executive Director
Helana Haytas, Chief Human Resource Officer
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
Marie Jennings, Development Director
Jenna Sanders, CCR&R Program Director
Carmen Romero, Nutrition First Program Director
Stacey Eli, Head Start Associate Program Director
Carolina Maciel, Interim Executive Assistant
Selene Bustamante, Interim Executive Assistant

The meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order at 5:30 pm by Board Chair Jade Rutledge. It was determined that a quorum was present.

- I. **Welcome**
Board Chair Jade Rutledge welcomed everyone.
- II. **Public Comment**
None were made.
- III. **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**
None were made.
- IV. **Approval of Agenda**
No changes were made.

MOTION: To approve agenda made by Lori Martz,

SECOND: Steve McCoid.

APPROVED: Unanimously approved

V. **Consent Calendar**

1. **June 2024 Full Board Meeting Minutes**

No discussions or concerns were raised

2. **July 2024 Executive Director Report**

No discussions or concerns were raised

3. **July 2024 Regional Poverty Report**

No discussions or concerns were raised

4. **July 2024 Chief Financial Officer Report**

Tabled for next board meeting.

5. **July 2024 Chief Human Resources Officer Report**

No discussions or concerns were raised

6. **July 2024 Program Director Reports**

No discussions or concerns were raised

7. **July 2024 Committee Meeting Minutes**

No discussions or concerns were raised

8. **Informational Item:** Head Start Child Outcomes 2023-2024

MOTION: To approve the consent calendar made by Frank Lonergan,

SECOND: Steve McCoid.

APPROVED: Unanimously approved

VI. **Board Business**

1. **Uncommon Bridges:** Uncommon Bridges team members Ishmael Nunez, Brian Scott, and Jacqueline Robinette were introduced. The focus of the strategic planning discussion was on developing goals, objectives, and actions to improve the organizational performance of MWVCAA. The presentation highlighted key components such as Uncommon Bridge's vision, mission, values, and equity commitment, and outlined strategic priorities including assessment, planning, and implementation. Insights emphasized the importance of leadership involvement and the need to adapt to challenges associated with organizational growth.

2. **280 NE Santiam Blvd, Mill City, OR 97360 (Lot ID 100843 &100844) Mill City Resource Center Acquisition:** Ashley Hamilton presented the Mill City Resource Center acquisition for approval. The property, located at 280 NE Santiam Blvd, Mill City, is 18,730 sq ft with a purchase price of \$440K. It has some maintenance issues but benefits from ADA compliance, good access, and proximity to public transit. Funding includes a \$4K deposit and a \$337.5K loan with a 7% interest rate. Staff recommends authorizing Jimmy Jones and Ashley Hamilton to finalize the purchase, slated for July 31, 2024.

MOTION: To approve Mill City Resource Center Acquisition moved by Helen Honey,

SECOND: Steve McCoid.

APPROVED: Unanimously approved

3. **Financials:** Kaolee Hoyle was out sick, the Financials review will be tabled for next meeting.

4. **Finance Policies and Procedures:** Kaolee Hoyle was out sick, the Finance Policies and Procedures review will be tabled for next meeting.
5. **Employee Handbook:** Helena Haytas presented the updated Employee Handbook for board approval. Helana also noted that the handbook included a proposed addition of a new paid holiday, Indigenous People’s Day.

MOTION: To approve Employee Handbook made by Steve McCoid,

SECOND: Catherine Trottman.

APPROVED: Unanimously approved

MOTION: To approve adding Indigenous Day as a Paid Holiday in Employee Handbook made by Lori Martz,

SECOND: Steve McCoid.

APPROVED: Unanimously approved

6. **Nutrition First CACFP FY 2024 Budget Revision #4:** Carmen Romero presented a budget adjustment for the Nutrition First CACFP FY 2024 to the board. This adjustment is to include training for CCR&R and translation services.

MOTION: To approve budget revision #4 made by Helen Honey,

SECOND: Steve McCoid.

APPROVED: Unanimously approved

7. Executive Director’s Report

- i. **General Updates:** HUD Secretary Adrienne Todman and Rep. Andrea Salinas will visit the agency in August and will tour the Navigation Center.
- ii. **Navigation Center:**
 1. **Overview:** The Navigation Center has been in operation for one year. It employs a shelter philosophy that includes both low barrier and behavioral based approaches and flexibility regarding sobriety.
 2. **Shelter Types:** The Center uses a hybrid model that incorporates various national shelter types, including emergency, inclement weather, specific sub-population, micro shelters, and transitional shelters.
 3. **Shelters Operated:** The agency runs several shelters, including the Inclement Weather Shelter, David’s Taylor’s, Family Shelter, Arches Inn/Arches Lodge, and the Navigation Center.
 4. **Key Concepts:**
 - i. **Homelessness:** Includes conditions and categories such as literal, imminent, under other federal laws, and domestic violence.
 - ii. **Housing Needs:** Covers prevention, diversion, rapid rehousing, and permanent supportive housing.
 - iii. **Approaches:** Emphasizes harm reduction, Housing First, client choice, and trauma-informed care.
 5. **Navigation Center Report:**
 - i. Served 157 guests, with 56% chronically homeless and an average homelessness duration of 4 years. Of the 103 who

exited, 52% were permanently housed. The Center provided 75 low-barrier beds and 15,716 bed nights, with an average stay of 4 months.

- iii. **Personnel Update:** Starting August 1st, Ashley Hamilton will be appointed Deputy Director.

VII. Adjournment

The Board of Directors meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Selene Bustamante

Selene Bustamante, Interim Executive Assistant

Kevin Karvandi

Kevin Karvandi, Board Secretary

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

August 2024

The clock never slows down on community needs, and poverty concerns are just as pressing now as they were during the pandemic. The current level of the need in the community is likely greater now than ever, at a time when resources have been diminished considerably.

Agency Insurance: On August 5th, our commercial and general liability from **Philadelphia** coverage renewal came back with a proposed 12.2 percent increase and a conditional set of renewals. The increased rates have been 12 to 25 percent for typical nonprofits across Oregon. We received the lowest increase in that range, based on performance. Last year, we spent about \$250,000 on commercial and general liability, which gives us a \$3 million general liability coverage and an additional \$4 million umbrella policy, which is about as good as you are going to get as a nonprofit with an A+ company like Philadelphia. Philadelphia, however, does not want to extend the blanket coverage over the two motels because neither is currently sprinkled. Both motels will revert to “scheduled coverage,” which is \$8,027,270 on the **ARCHES Inn** (as of 2024) and \$9,137,100 on the **ARCHES Lodge**. Both are being sprinkled during the 2024 renovations, so we hope to argue that blanket coverage back. The blanket coverage is \$40 million per incident (the actual rebuild cost with modern materials). I am generally happy with the renewal framework. We had no claims last year, so seeing any increase is disconcerting. These numbers, however, reflect an abysmal insurance market (for nonprofits) nationally.

Health Insurance: Renewals are sky-high for nonprofits across Oregon this summer. **Church at the Park** had to switch from its preferred model to **Kaiser Permanente**. The **United Way** increased employee costs by \$170 a month. We are currently looking at a 19 percent increase for health insurance cost. We have explored other financing and delivery system models and various coverage options. We currently spend about \$2.5 million per year on employee health insurance. It will go up this year, but we are still working to limit the increases. Finding cost-effective health insurance solutions is a critical part of our commitment to prudent financial management, stewardship of our funds, and care of our workforce.

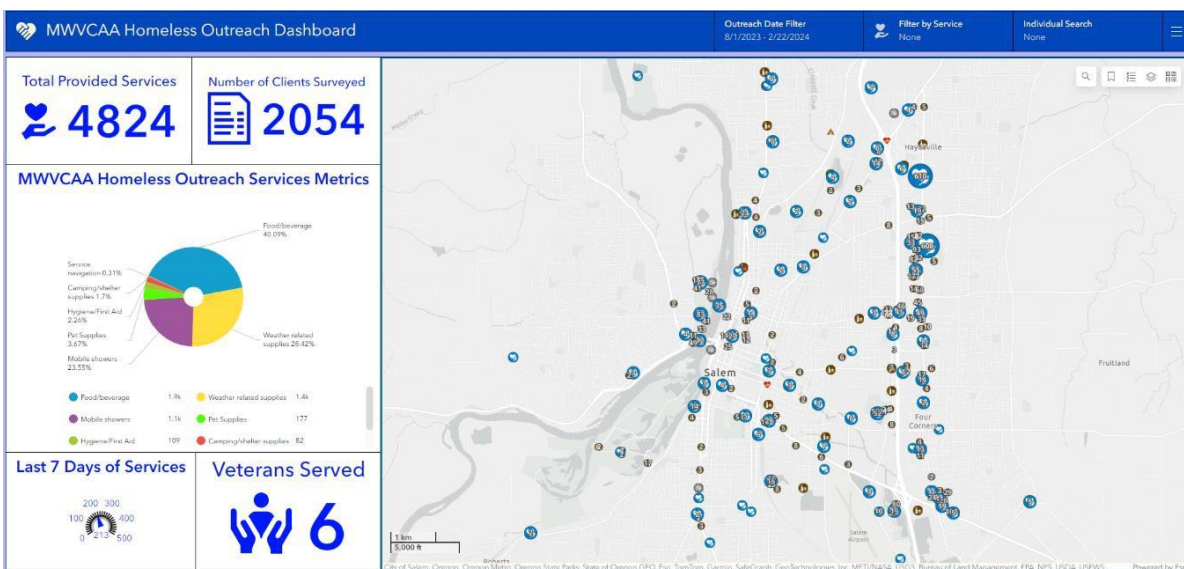
Pence Loop: The current owner will not be able to secure an easement with the neighboring property. We have terminated the agreement and are actively looking for a new property.

Mill City Resource Center: We closed on the property on July 31st. We appreciate the Board’s support in securing this resource for the Santiam Canyon. It’s been a vital part of the Canyon’s identity since the wildfires, and making sure help is available there means a lot to the folks in the local community. That community has been neglected historically by state and regional systems, and the wildfire rebuild has been traumatic for the low-income community. A permanent agency presence in the community will provide a venue for our work and build local support for low-income efforts in the Canyon.

ARCHES Inn: The bidding process for procuring a General Contractor is closed. The scoring is complete, and we will present the results later this month.

Middle Grove Payoff: The federal **Office of Head Start** notified us that they no longer require the subordination agreement with our bank to pay off the loan (after telling us otherwise for nearly seven years). We are uploading the paperwork necessary now. OHS has notified us that they have the funds, and we are ready to move forward. I expect to have the property paid off by the end of August, which will be a massive win for the program and the agency.

East Salem Day Center: A funder has asked us to look for a property we can purchase and renovate in East Salem, likely on Lancaster, to open a new Day Center location. We would probably want to move quickly this fall if this opportunity materializes. The density of the homeless population has shifted radically in recent years away from the downtown Salem core to the east side of town, especially along Lancaster. I want to ensure that future operational funding is included as part of the **Governor’s Shelter Work Group**. Increasingly, our outreach efforts have targeted the eastern reaches of Salem, as the population downtown has been housed and sheltered (and undoubtedly, some clients have moved to the east). The data



above traces outreach work from 1 August 2023 – 22 February 2024. You get a much better sense of the density concerns when you can see it visually.

Family Shelter on Center Street: Renovations are currently underway. We still plan to deploy the shelter this fall/winter.

Deputy Executive Director: Ashley Hamilton has been promoted to Deputy Executive Director after an extensive search. Ashley has been the driving force behind our homeless and housing work for the past six years, and she has been instrumental in serving vulnerable members of our community. Her dedication and hard work have significantly contributed to the success of our organization. Under her leadership, the Agency has added 300 shelter beds, a Navigation Center, two Project Turnkey motels, a second Runaway and Homeless Youth Shelter (David's House), and prevented thousands of evictions in our community.

Staff Child Care: We are closing the program because we could not get the price point low enough to attract enrollment at a level to fund program costs. Our original plan had been to carry the program into the fall and give it a bit longer to establish proof of concept, but the trends were poor, and I did not see enough evidence of progress to justify further costs. Initially, this was an employment-supportive benefit in response to the overwhelming demand for child care. Still, costs were prohibitive, and most parents are looking for workforce childcare (10-12 hours a day, even though that is not a trauma-informed practice).

New Grant Awards in July/August (Total: \$2,076,369):

- The City of Salem funded us for \$90,000 to construct an iron fence around the central ARCHES location. I am sure the fence will cause some concern in certain circles, but we must protect the Agency's property. With winter not far away and the growth of the homeless population in the downtown during cold weather, I want to avoid having folks sleeping on the property overnight and starting fires to stay warm. We also want to prevent medically fragile clients from being dumped on our property after hours. Medical providers continue to use our parking lot after hours as a discharge location. Without 24/7/365 security coverage, the location is a target for drug traffickers (almost all of whom are housed and prey upon the unsheltered community).
- Pacific Source awarded us \$585,809 from their Community Capacity Building Fund (over 18 months) to help us stand up Medicaid billing as we prepare to bill Medicaid with the onset of the Medicaid 1115 Waiver, contractual relationships with the CCOs, and potential Medicaid expansion to support sheltering with Shelter Care Plus models (per the Joint Task Force on Hospital Discharge). That fund will allow us to hire a grants specialist for Medicaid in finance, an HRSN Administrator and Coordinator, and perhaps a Case Processor.

- We were awarded additional housing funds from the **Governor's Emergency Order** funding system through OHCS as part of the **Oregon Rehousing Initiative**). We received \$660,575 for Marion County and \$739,985 for Polk County.

CARS: We completed the program move from the now-shuttered **Marion County Transition Center** to 2085 Commercial Street and issued a press release announcing a rebranding and new direction for the program. Responses have been very positive about the new direction and scope of work. We are exploring new work in Polk and Yamhill Counties and the coming intersection between the **Medicaid 1115 Waiver**, homelessness, and reentry.

State of Oregon Shelter Work Group: We first met on July 23rd. The Work Group is led by the Governor's Office and **House Housing Chair Rep. Pam Marsh**. I helped them put this together over many months, and the work will likely be finalized before the session. Essentially, this working group will establish a new funding system for Oregon shelter dollars to preserve existing shelter stock. Deputy Director Ashley Hamilton and I are members of that group, and the Governor has asked me to chair the Budget Committee. I am confident that we will develop adequate ongoing support (both here and across Oregon).

YCAP: We have exited the merger agreement with **Yamhill Community Action Partnership**. We could not get past a personnel issue that was a deal breaker for YCAP. I do not believe the effort is permanently lost. We remain far apart on critical pre-conditions for further conversations.



Figure 1: Name this Band: Andrew Marshall (ARCHES Sheltering Associate Director), Breezy Poynor (ARCHES Housing Program Director), Ashley Hamilton (Deputy Director).

Woodburn: ARCHES won an appreciation award at the annual Woodburn BBQ for their sheltering work in the city.

Our expansion of services in Woodburn was critical to the local community in answering the unsheltered homeless concerns in that city.

Earlier this year, at the request of the **City of Woodburn**, we expanded services there to include what is essentially a

managed camp paired up with an on-site day center model.¹

Punitive Carceral Models Returning: As we long predicted, in the aftermath of the **United States Supreme Court** ruling on *Grants Pass v. Johnson*, which overturned **Ninth Circuit** protections against cruel and unusual punishments, local jurisdictions are returning to a set of policies that have failed for more than 30 years. In deep blue Portland, **Mayor Ted Wheeler** began enforcing the city's new camping ban (enacted in June), which requires homeless residents to accept shelter when offered or be fined (up to \$100) and face seven days in jail (or both). The effort has had little teeth to date because the **Multnomah County Sheriff** has refused to jail those arrested. Given the high cost of jailing someone over minor infractions, nothing is surprising in her refusal. The results were predictable: more citations that people cannot pay and more campsites dispersed to other parts of the city and county.²



Marion County's version of this same effort was unveiled yesterday. On its surface, this is a new deflection program, authorized by **HB 4002** (which recriminalized drug possession), to push those charged with drug crimes into treatment. However, the new possession crime created by HB 4002 will make it difficult to hold anyone for long. Hence, the County likely plans to charge these folks with more serious crimes (like burglary and distribution) to push people into services. The local effort is called the **RESTORE Court** and will debut on September 1. The state's deflection funds (about \$1.3M) will fund the court and the **LEAD** program (which has always struggled to stay financed). It is never outright stated (though

heavily implied) that the target population will be the homeless residents of Marion County, those in the most profound poverty in our community. The inference is that people

¹ <https://www.statesmanjournal.com/story/news/local/2024/03/05/mwvcaa-taking-over-expanding-woodburn-oregon-homeless-shelter/72754441007/>

² <https://www.kgw.com/article/news/local/homeless/portland-homeless-camp-ordinance-ban-enforce-july-1-mayor-ted-wheeler/283-75fd6f69-9e52-4c0b-abfa-6028d85261b8>; <https://www.kgw.com/article/news/local/homeless/portland-camping-ban-city-removes-southeast-portland-homeless-encampment/283-923f9cef-16d9-4d9c-b3d8-36517bc6c1ae>

experiencing homelessness are those with drug problems; and since they have drug problems, they are homeless. People are seeing in this tragedy what they want to see.

About 120 years ago, there was a horse in Germany named “**Clever Hans**.” Hans was famous for being able to count with his hoof. When his owner would ask “what’s five plus four?” Hans would then stamp his foot nine times and everyone thought the horse knew the answer to five plus four, and then could communicate it by stomping his hoof nine times. What was really going on, in fact, was something different. As Hans neared the correct answer, his owner’s body language would signal to Hans that it was time to stop counting. The owner and the observers did not realize what was happening, and swore up and down the horse could do math. But he could not do math. He couldn’t even count! People assume they know what is causing homelessness and how it can be solved, but what they see is moral weakness, criminality, and deviancy. They see “bad choices.” They see the need for force, a need for someone to hold them “accountable.” Like Hans’ trainer, they are staring so hard at what they expect to find they miss the larger story.



These assumptions about homelessness are tragically wrong. First, very few people ever become homeless. The 2023 **Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR)**, released last December, showed 653,104 homeless persons in the United States in January 2023. The total American population then was about 334,914,895. The homeless population is only about 0.19 percent of all Americans.³ These are just the folks who are homeless (shelters or outside), so you can also project a total housing unstable population (which would include other types of homelessness that are not recorded in the AHAR) at about 1 percent. Essentially, almost no one in America ever becomes homeless. That’s **Point 1**. **Point 2** relates to the drug numbers. In 2022, the **United States National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH)** demonstrated that roughly 46.8 *million* Americans struggled with a substance use disorder within the past 12 months. That’s 16.7% of the total population. Even if every single homeless person in America had a substance addiction (they do not), they would represent only 1.4% of the substance-addicted population. So, **Point 2** is simply that almost every addict in America is housed, and if drug addiction were causing homelessness, why are 98.6% of substance-addicted persons indoors?⁴ The world is terrible at math (that’s nothing new), but what’s happening in Oregon right now has nothing to do with math. It is simple discrimination. At the moment it is discrimination on housing status, but given the heavy

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³ <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/ahar/2023-ahar-part-1-pit-estimates-of-homelessness-in-the-us.html>

⁴ <https://americanaddictioncenters.org/addiction-statistics>

density of people of color and LGBTQ+ folks among the homeless, it will not remain a housing status discrimination alone. It is a wealthy population looking at people in deep poverty, confusing their “reaction to the poor” with what’s “good for the poor,” and creating policies and programs that harm people and solve nothing.

The Marion County program will only have space for 40 people, which begs a fundamental question. Let’s presume that the program has a 100 percent success rate (it will not). There are roughly 2,000 homeless persons in Marion and Polk. What good is a 100 percent answer to 2 percent of the problem?⁵

We have been down this road before. Over and over again. At this point, the last line of defense is the protections created by **HB 3115** in 2021. That law regulates “**time, place, and manner**” about trespassing homeless camps. Once it is gone, and it likely will be within two years, cities will find themselves in a terrible spot. Public pressure will force them to drive the homeless population outside their borders. But those very pressures will also be felt, more or less equally, everywhere else. The most likely outcome is the heavy homeless concentrations in the tri-counties will be pushed into rural Oregon, where the density of law enforcement is less, and desperate people find it easier to hide. Of course, we could wake up and realize this massive institutional investment in criminalizing poverty will not work in the 2020s, as it failed in the 1980s, 1990s, and repeatedly for the past 25 years. We could mature and realize that the only honest answer is low-barrier shelter capacity, massive housing assistance, and meaningful changes in tax policies and social welfare investment. We walked away from that kind of generational commonweal commitment in 1973, which also happened to be the high point of working-class prosperity in the United States. Yet here we are today, 51 years later, arguing about how to criminalize poverty, coerce addiction treatment, and “fix” what’s “wrong” with people experiencing poverty.

Nonprofits and Public Trust: Despite a consistent increase in the political attacks on the nonprofit community, public trust in the sector remains very high. Human services nonprofits (us) retain the highest level of trust among nonprofits, with 66 percent expressing “high trust” in the human services sector and only nine percent reporting low trust. Nonprofits secured a “high trust” rating from 57 percent of the public, up 5 percent from the year before. By contrast, the federal government secured the “high trust” ranking from only 18 percent of the public. The media (19 percent high, 56 percent low), state government (23 percent high, 50 percent low), and local government (24 percent high, 46 percent low) scored poorly.⁶

⁵ <https://www.salemreporter.com/2024/08/14/new-marion-county-program-aims-to-keep-drug-users-out-of-jail-as-possession-is-criminalized-again/>

⁶ Data courtesy of the *Independent Sector* (June 24, 2024). <https://independentsector.org/resource/trust-in-civil-society/>

Quick Hits:

- Meetings this month included:** The Urban League, Joint Hospital Task Force on Hospital Discharge, Oregon Housing Needs Analysis HATAC, Marion County Housing Authority, Governor’s Racial Justice Council, Oregon Housing and Community Services, Housing Stability Council, West Valley Housing Authority, Oregon Criminal Justice Commission, City of Salem Councilor Elect Shane Matthews, Yamhill Coordinated Care Organization, Community Action Partnership of Oregon, Keizer Mayor Cathy Clark, Polk County Commissioner Jeremy Gordon, Church at the Park, Transition Projects (Portland), Trillium Family Services (Portland), HUD, Governor’s Office, Hunger-Free Oregon, OHNA (joint NAPTAC-HATAC), CIAC of DLCD, and the Local Government Advisory Committee.



Trust Across Nonprofit Subsectors

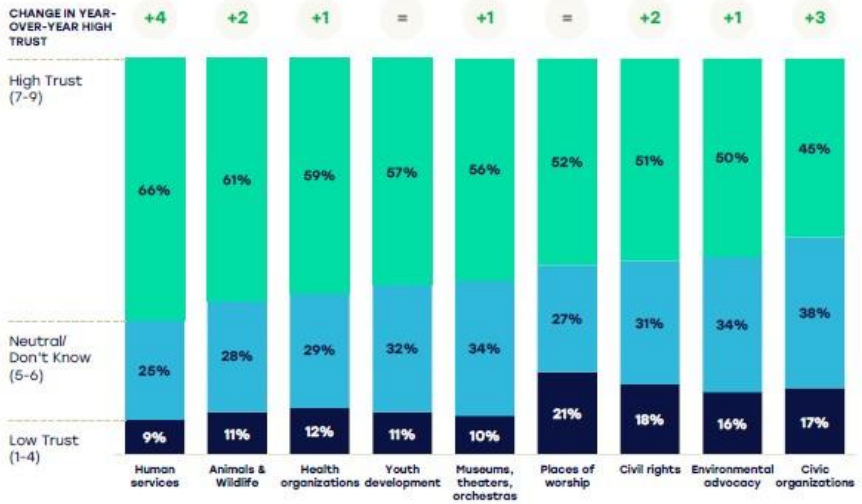
Based on overall trust on a 9-point scale:

"How much do you trust X to do what is right?"

7-9 High Trust
5-6 Neutral
1-4 Low Trust

Q18: How much do you trust the following types of nonprofit organizations to do what is right? Total Base Size n=3,000

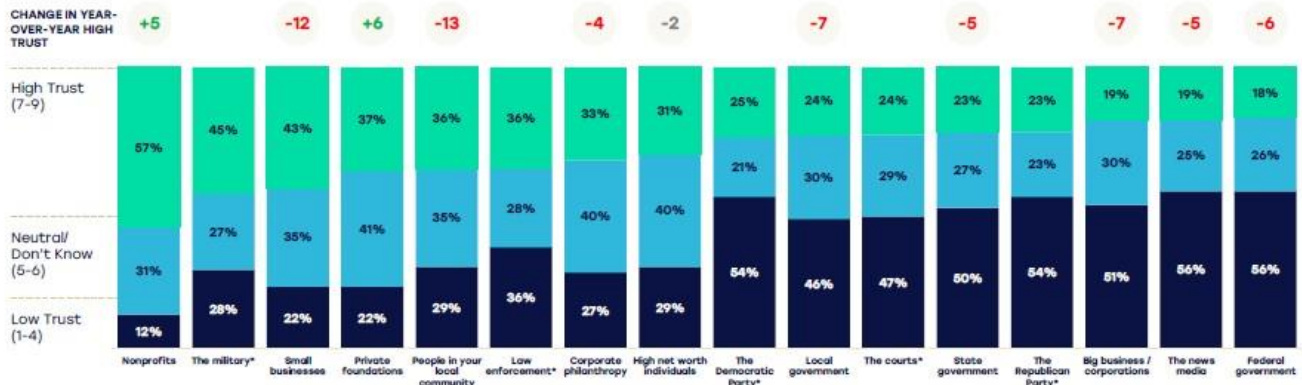
Trust continued to remain high in human services, animals and wildlife, health, and youth development nonprofits.



Independent Sector Trust in Nonprofits and Philanthropy

While trust in nonprofits increased, trust decreased across most other major entities.

Significant dips in trust can be seen among almost all societal institutions, most notably through local community connections and small businesses.



Q18: How much do you trust nonprofit organizations to do what is right? Base Size n=3,000, Q18: How much do you trust corporate foundations to do what is right? Base Size: n=1,004, Q22: How much do you trust private foundations to do what is right? Base Size: n=1010, Q25: How much do you trust high net worth individuals engaged in philanthropy to do what is right? Base Size: n=986, Q30: How much do you trust the following institutions to do what is right? Base Size n=3,000
* indicates new response option added in 2024

Independent Sector Trust in Nonprofits and Philanthropy 17

Jimmy Jones
16 August 2024
Salem, Oregon

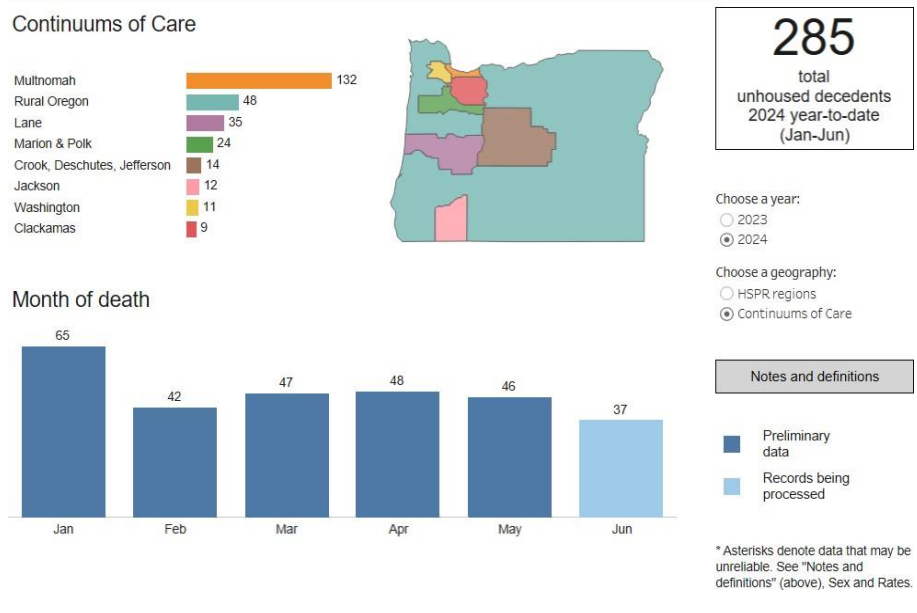
Regional Poverty Report

MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY

August 2024

IP 17 has qualified for the ballot as **Measure 118**. It will go to the voters this November. At its heart, the Measure would create a new 3 percent tax on corporations with business revenue above \$25 million. The tax would be on revenues, not on profits. It would use the projected \$7 billion in new revenue to fund a \$1,600 annual payment to every Oregonian. Still, the knock-on effects on the state’s budget, general fund obligations, and directly for people in poverty would be catastrophic. California-based interests sponsored the initiative effort. It would create a potential impact of more than \$2.8 billion on the state general fund and require extraordinary cuts to front-line services, including health care, public safety, and social services. It likely would dramatically increase the price of consumer goods, and slow job growth across Oregon. Measure 113 is opposed by nearly every public interest group across the political spectrum in Oregon. Recently, the **Chamber of Commerce** has joined **Governor Tina Kotek**, **House Speaker Julie Fahey**, **Senate President Rob Wagner**, and others to oppose the ballot initiative.¹

Domicile unknown deaths
Oregon occurrences, preliminary data



Oregon homeless deaths are down in 2024. Through June of this year, the **Oregon Health Authority** has recorded 285 homeless deaths, which projects to 570 deaths through the end of the year. Last year, there were 645 deaths in Oregon, and we are currently on pace for about an 11.6 percent reduction over 2023. Marion and Polk saw 50 deaths in 2023; currently, we sit at 24 deaths

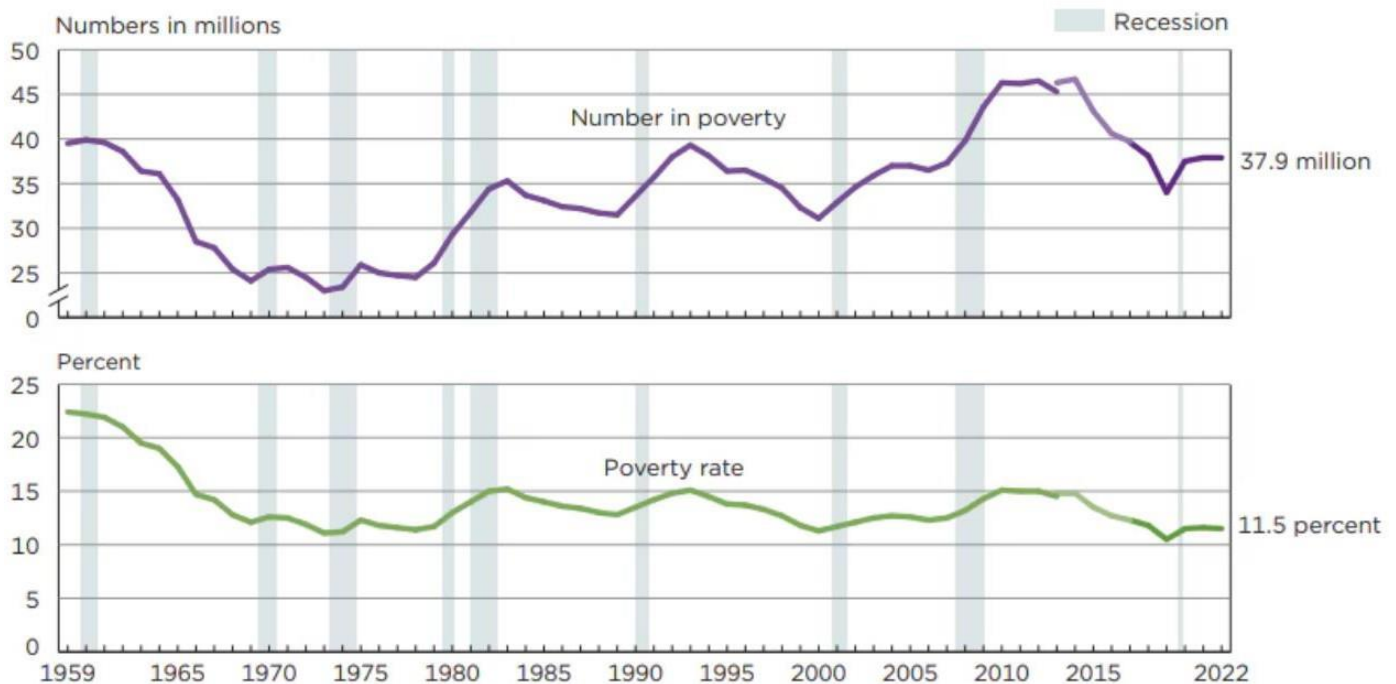
¹ <https://www.wweek.com/news/2024/08/13/legislative-leader-and-a-key-labor-union-oppose-measure-118/>

through 6 months, setting us up for a slight reduction in 2024.²

The age of death remains shockingly young, with 166 of the 255 deaths (65.1 percent) occurring before the age of 55. This data comports with other information we have on mortality rates for homeless persons in Oregon. In [Multnomah County's 2022 Domicile Unknown](#) report, released eight months ago, the majority of the county's homeless died of natural causes at a relatively young age. The largest age demographic in the death report was those between ages 50 and 59.³

Federal poverty levels have stabilized at around 11.5 percent since the end of the pandemic. Expanded state and federal programs, most of which have now expired, helped millions escape poverty during the pandemic. The core fundamentals, however, remain unstable, with high housing costs, rents, basic needs, and utility costs outpacing the ability of low-income families to adjust. When the new poverty numbers are released in January, we can expect some increases across the board.

Number in Poverty and Poverty Rate Using the Official Poverty Measure: 1959 to 2022



Manufactured Home Community Trepidations: One of the recent concerning trends in low-income American housing are private equity firms buying up manufactured home communities across the country, dramatically increasing rents and space costs for a largely captive audience. We have managed to hold the line here in Oregon because we have good

² <https://tinyurl.com/bdeej7w>

³ <https://www.streetroots.org/news/2024/01/03/falling-through-net-aged-homelessness-oregon>

laws that require public notice of sale. Residents also have the opportunity to organize and collectively purchase properties.⁴ Nevertheless, many other states do not have these protections. In Michigan, for example, private equity firms now own one in ten mobile home parks.⁵ In San Diego, just last month, the [San Diego County Board of Supervisors](#) approved a proposal to study and possibly take legal action against corporate landlords who are buying up single-family homes, price gouging and harassing tenants, and other unfriendly practices toward people in poverty. In 2021, [Blackstone Corporation](#) purchased 66 properties in San Diego with over 5,000 total units. Blackstone currently has more than \$1 *trillion* in assets under management. In San Diego, they increased the rent by 38 percent, from an average of \$1,696 to \$2,339 monthly.⁶ They use sophisticated tools to analyze (and set) market rents. The [US Department of Justice](#) and some states have moved to take action against [RealPage](#), a proprietary AI-based rent-setting software that allows landlords to collude to inflate rents. The software model suggests maximum rents to landlords, who then can fix prices across a more expansive geography, which is likely a violation of federal anti-trust law.⁷

Rent conspiracy and private equity capital purchases are two ways corporations make billions off impoverished Americans. That message is at the heart of [Matthew Desmond's](#) most recent book, *Poverty by America*. We have discussed that book and its thesis in the past, but it is easy to overlook the pernicious acts and painful consequences of predatory poverty in our daily lives. I often encourage people to look closely when they go to the bank, grocery store, big box store, and other industries that thrive on the persistence of American poverty. Debt collection is another dimension of that war on low-income people. In June, the [Consumer Financial Protection Bureau](#) proposed new rules to keep medical debts from dragging down credit scores, a problem that touches perhaps as many as 100 million Americans. Paying that debt then limits the ability to buy food, clothing, and other basic needs. Sometimes, folks have to choose between buying gas for their car to get to work and putting food on the table.⁸ Desmond noted, "Poverty isn't simply the condition of insufficient money. It's the condition of not having enough choice and being taken advantage of because of that."⁹ Our work is not just about trying to help people "get more stuff." It is about basic human decency and freedom. Prosperity without liberty is slavery.

⁴ <https://tinyurl.com/ymrhzt4r>

⁵ <https://www.mlive.com/public-interest/2024/06/as-private-equity-buys-up-mobile-home-parks-michigan-ranks-second-highest.html>

⁶ <https://pestakeholder.org/news/san-diego-county-fights-back-against-blackstone-and-other-corporate-landlords/>

⁷ <https://www.propublica.org/article/doj-backs-tenants-price-fixing-case-big-landlords-real-estate-tech>

⁸ <https://www.oregonlive.com/business/2024/06/protection-from-medical-debt-hurting-credit-scores-gains-steam.html>

⁹ Matthew Desmond, *Poverty, by America*.

The Politics of Opioids: I want to pause to refer to some new research on the intersection of the opioid epidemic and the polarization of American politics, which has had a direct impact on the way services are designed in the United States. The most significant public health issue of the past quarter century is the rise of the opioid epidemic. Drug overdose deaths reached 100,000 in 2022, and about 83,000 of those involved opioids. More than 645,000 Americans have died in the United States in the past two decades from opioid overdoses. [Vicky Barone](#) (Assistant Professor of Economics at Notre Dame) and [Carolina Arteaga](#) (Assistant Professor of Economics at the University of Toronto) released two papers this year documenting their study of a tragedy three decades in the making.

The opioid crisis was artificial and fabricated, fueled by corporate greed. In the mid-1990s, [Purdue Pharma](#) (which manufactured [OxyContin](#)) deliberately marketed their new drug to areas with high cancer mortality rates. These were older industrial areas with heavy contamination and poor public health systems. To thoroughly saturate the market, they began to move their cancer pain drug to the much larger non-cancer pain market, flooding communities with pills and leading to a sharp increase in overdose deaths in those communities. That marketing strategy coincided with the beginning of the [War on Terrorism](#), and doctors overprescribed OxyContin to former soldiers suffering from chronic pain (and PTSD). Opioid prescriptions reached their height in 2012, and the deaths from prescription opioid overdoses peaked in 2017. It is important to note that this phenomenon moved from east to west in the United States, demonstrating why the opioid crisis in Oregon is only now in full bloom. By the mid-2010s, the drugs had saturated the black markets around the United States. Politically, voters in districts most heavily impacted by opioid overdoses tended to favor increasingly conservative law enforcement models (over blue district harm reduction strategies) because they were more likely personally to have known someone who died from an opioid overdose.

It is often too easy to infer causal relationships (that are not real) into economic interpretations (especially classical economic modeling analysis) of more significant social welfare issues. But in this case, you have a social byproduct (opioid addiction) manufactured almost whole cloth from a capitalist ethic (corporate greed), which produced political dynamics (much greater polarization) that, in turn, modeled political strategies (coerced treatment, law enforcement engagement in treatment systems) to those very same social byproducts. That is a reciprocating relationship and repetitive loop that makes it difficult for people to separate political preferences from treatment philosophies. Over time, it led to a massive public disagreement between systems of “housing first” (versus “housing ready,” or in this case, “treatment first”) systems.¹⁰ This is another example of how poor criminal justice policies can “perpetuate poverty and inequality.” [Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion \(LEAD\)](#) is a national model of using the police to mandate treatment for homeless persons. Still, the

¹⁰ [Opioid epidemic reaches beyond health impacts to influence politics | News | Notre Dame News | University of Notre Dame](#)

academic evidence demonstrates that anti-homeless laws and vagrancy policing are counterproductive because “consistent punitive interactions, including move-along orders, citations, and destruction of property, systematically limited homeless people’s access to services, housing, and jobs, while damaging their health, safety, and well-being.”¹¹

	Food Insecurity Rates in Oregon		
	2014-2016	2017-2019	2020-2022
Couples with children at home	13.3%	3.5%	7.1%
Couples without children at home	5.9%	3.0%	3.7%
Single mothers	40.2%	31.5%	26.6%
Alone			
- women	22.4%	15.3%	14.2%
- men	12.1%	11.5%	16.7%

Food insecurity continues to grow worse with each passing month, now that pandemic-era benefits have faded. Data from the [US Census Bureau](#) earlier this year shows that about 11 percent of Oregon households

(about 186,000 households or 463,000 persons) lack enough food. They struggle to get enough to eat. They often have to choose between rent, groceries, or gas to get to work. We need additional state assistance to address the growing need.¹² As we work to advocate for more in Oregon, my colleague in Bend, [Scott Cooper](#), summed up the impact on his agency:

“NeighborImpact has budgeted to receive \$748,371 in state grants this year. Last year, we received \$943,294. We are doing more with less, despite the continued surge in demand and cuts to SNAP with more anticipated cuts. To put the demand aspect in context, we have seen a 451% increase in food demand since 2019, translating to approximately 56,000 more people being fed each month. In response, we have increased FTE by 1.0. We also have one additional truck. Through private fundraising, we have paid for a new, larger warehouse, scheduled to open on December 18. This will give us four times the square footage to work, but we will need additional funds for operations. Even as demand is rising, the food supply has contracted (mostly due to the reduced flow of federal commodities and increased grocery business efficiency, reducing food availability.) We are now buying food, which is not something we have had to do. With a 21% increase in food prices since 2020, dollars do not stretch as far as they once did. We need an ongoing state appropriation of approximately \$1 million annually to be secure. The alternative is to lean harder into local fundraising (which is already being substantially tapped) or to start prioritizing our 58 partners for food distribution, with the possibility of eliminating entire categories of partners as we pull back operations. It’s not pretty.”¹³

Jimmy Jones
Salem, Oregon
15 August 2024

¹¹ <https://academic.oup.com/socpro/article-abstract/67/1/131/5422958?redirectedFrom=PDF>

¹² <https://oregoncapitalchronicle.com/2024/01/29/with-hunger-on-the-rise-advocates-and-lawmakers-propose-several-measures-this-session/>

¹³ Scott Cooper, Executive Director, Neighbor Impact (August 2024).

**Chief Financial Officer Report
To The Community Action Agency Board
Kaolee Hoyle, Chief Financial Officer
August 2024**

Actual to Budget, July 2023 - June 2024

- Total agency revenue was \$60,588,717 while total agency expenditures was \$69,606,458.
- Overall, we are at 86% actual spent which is 14% less than expected spent. This is due to renovation dollars which will be spent down as renovations progress.
- Admin rate at 9% for the fiscal year through June 2024.

Fiscal Year-End

The Finance team is working hard to close 6/30/2024. We are expecting to capture all costs in the system by September 30, 2024 and start preparing for our FY24 audit.

Open Audit, Monitoring and Review

- Nutrition First Administrative Review
 - Review Period: February, March and April 2024
 - Review will be from June 17th – June 25th, 2024
 - Status: Working on finalizing our responses
- 401(k) Audit
 - Audit Period: January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023
 - Deadline: Original - July 31th/Extension – October 15th
 - Status: In Progress

Payroll Filings

All payroll deposits have been made timely.

	(b)	Budget	Expected	Actual	Difference	
	CRP Operational	17,468,081	100%	100%	0%	
	CRP Projects	8,175,000	100%	4%	-96%	
		25,643,081				
Total budget includes project grant revenue for which projects had not fully started yet, and thus limited revenue recognized. Of our total budget, the status of the CRP Projects originally budgeted for are as follows:						
	<u>CRP Projects:</u>		<u>Status:</u>			
	Center St R	400,000	We've received bids for the plumbing/sewer replacement and am collaborating with Vet Care to secure their 40% share of the total bill. We've received updates from the CoC indicating that the grant funds don't need to be spent until October 2024 which will give us a more extended timeline to complete the project.			
	Santiam Lodge	800,000	We're currently searching for a condo/multi-family/townhouse acquisition. Finding new or vacant units in the Santiam area has been challenging. Our grant has an expiration date of 2030 which is ample time to spend down. Technically, we can't execute the grant until we secure a property and complete an environmental review. Thus, locating the property is our initial focus.			
	Lodge R	3,425,000	We're getting through the RFP process and anticipate presenting this to the board for approval in April 2024. Once approved, we will start spending down on these project funds.			
	Arches Inn R	3,550,000	We're meeting with the Architect for updated blueprints and project timeline. This will guide our next steps concerning the general contractor and the spend-down of our CoS DAS funds. We anticipate releasing the general contractor RFP/solicitation between May and June 2024.			
		8,175,000				
	(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 underspent due to staff vacancies in previous months. Any funds unspent will roll over to the next fiscal year.				
		2,231,714	2,404,708	100%	93%	-7%
	(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. Polk CDC (sole manager and sole owner of Carson Commons) secured additional funding for the project earlier this year which will allow them to break ground in June/July 2024.				
	(e)	MG&A percentage	9%			
	(f)	Includes the sale of the Drop-In building.				
	(g)	We received additional funds into the Energy program that increases what was originally budgeted.				
	(h)	See corresponding tickmarks on the expenditures to understand the dynamics of the grant revenue.				
	(i)	Based on our review of actual expenditure against what is available, CARS is overspent by 65%. CARS' primary contract has been cancelled by Marion County. We are working on funding to support this program.				
		Jul 2023 - Jun 2024	FY24 - Budgeted	Expected Spent %	Actual Earned/Spent %	Difference
		541,260	346,585	92%	156%	65%
	(j)	We are expecting a remaining carryover balance. The budget is based on an estimated amount calculated by # of claims. Through out the grant year, this # shifts which effects the administrative budget and the provider reimbursement budget.				

HRIS Payroll Project

The Agency is on track to be in a new time-clocking system by September 1, 2024. This is a significant change for the agency, as good stewards of the funds received into the Agency. We are already seeing a significant difference in the overall accuracy of time and attendance systems.

Agency Pay Program

For the last 2 years, HR staff have been working with programs to develop pay scales for all programs and analyze positions for internal and external equity. Many of the positions have similar job titles and yet the jobs are different. That analysis has brought about changes to job descriptions to be more detailed and pay alignment adjustments have been made across the organization. CRP and Early Childhood Education are planning to roll out the new pay scales to staff by September. HR has developed internal review processes for staff to submit educational and certification credentials for pay increases.

HR Staff

New Recruiting Specialist Selene Bustamante has started out this summer supporting the Executive Director while we onboard a new Executive Assistant. Once that process is completed Selene will resume full-time Recruiting Specialist work in HR.

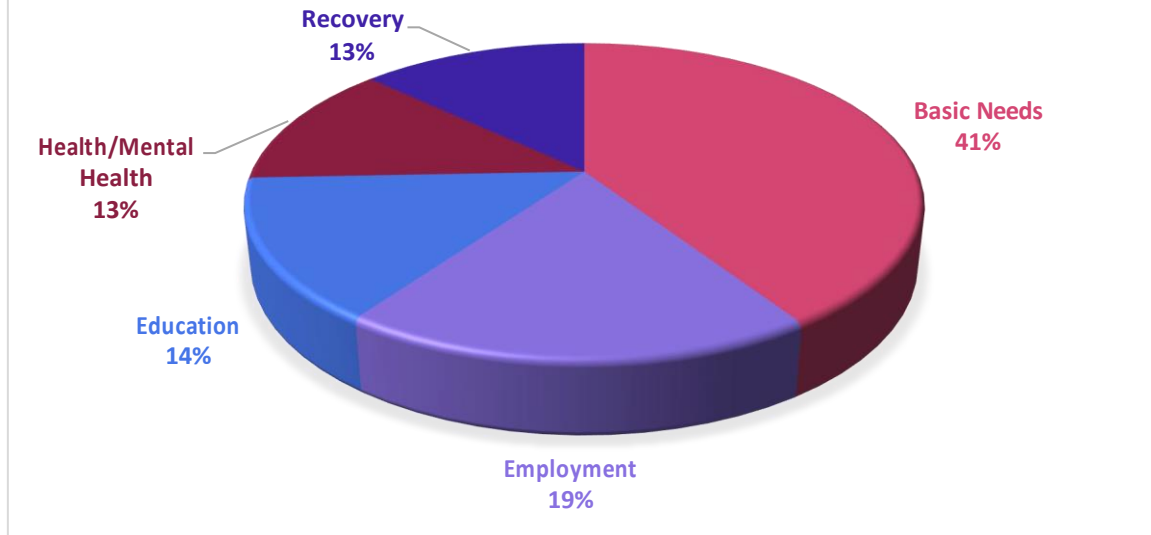
Hiring at MWVCAA

As in previous years, HR works with Head Start to hire staff for the new school year. Recruiters have been busy posting on social medial, holding job fairs and attending community events such as River Front Community event, Public Library, Job Connection and Work Source job fairs, Salem for Refugees, Farmworker Appreciation and Lancaster Family Health Center Event. Recruiters have been showing up in the community to reach out to diverse applicants and promote open positions. There are currently 28 job postings with multiple vacancies for many of the open positions.

Program changes

CRP has several grants ending this month. Although that is not uncommon in non-profit grant funded organizations, it can be challenging for staff in programs going through funding changes. When funding changes, the Agency occasionally has to lay-off staff working under the spent grants. We encourage staff to apply to open positions, as new grants come online. CRP can often place some of the staff into other open positions in CRP and across the agency.

HOW THE DE MUNIZ RESOURCE CENTER SERVED CLIENTS IN JULY



Opportunities/Challenges

- ❖ De Muniz Resource Center served 153 unduplicated clients in July, with 348 services provided. Sixty-seven percent of the services provided were to individuals in custody vs. out of custody.
- ❖ During this reporting period, 21 clients took advantage and attended our cognitive based classes. The classes covered the following topics:
 - Prosocial lifestyle, Journaling, Success planning
- ❖ Our partnership with Northwest Human Services yielded 41 clients completing their enrollment for Oregon Health Plan prior to release (from incarceration).
- ❖ Forty-five clients (82 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.
- ❖ Marion County Sheriff's Office informed us that they were planning to close the Transition Center effective 8/9/24. Within a week we were also informed they were terminating our contract in the middle of a biennium with the minimal 30 days written notice. We've been working extremely hard on relocating the program and securing more funding.
- ❖ We submitted a grant proposal for round 3 of Future Ready Oregon, on behalf of Higher Education Coordinating Commission. If funded, this opportunity would vastly expand our employment and vocational training services for reentry clients.
- ❖ We also submitted a grant proposal to the Oregon Community Foundation to support our operational expenses to fully expand into Polk County and provide full services in rural areas.

Child Care Resource & Referral

Board Report – August 2024

CCR&R is attending events in the community to recruit individuals to enter the Early Learning Workforce such as, a Punx in Park pop-up event in Monmouth, Family picnics in Yamhill County, and other events where individuals and families might be across the region.

CCR&R is coordinating an information session in August for the Spanish speaking one-year Early Childhood Education cohort through Clackamas Community College starting Fall of 2024.

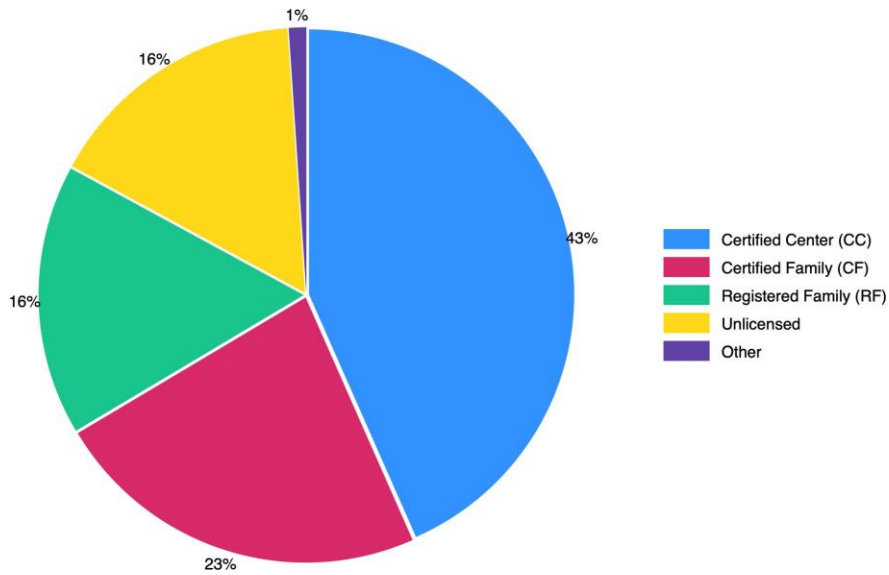
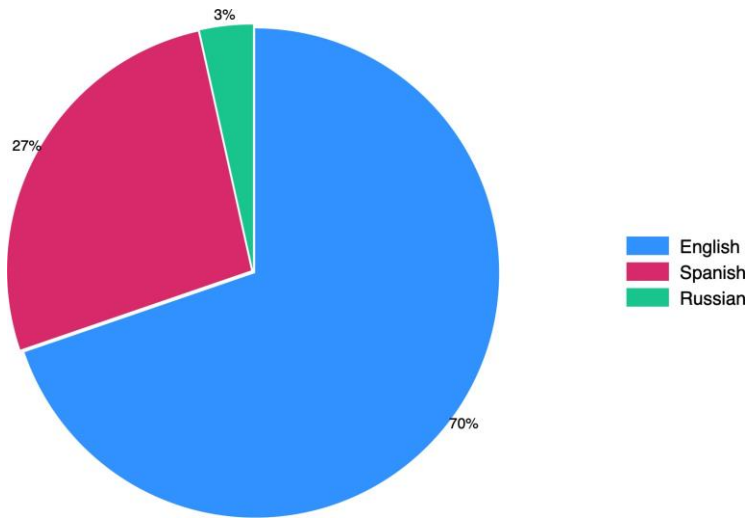
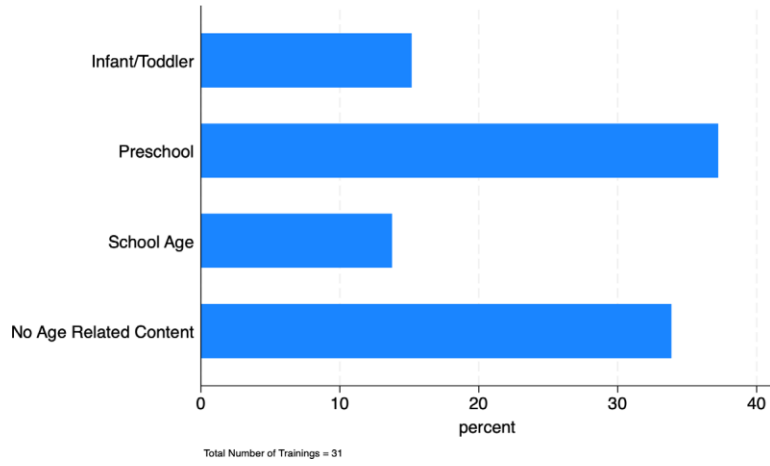
The new Apprenticeship Coach is recruiting for pre-apprentices and apprenticeship employers, designing a data base for reporting to BOLI on the Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP), creating an outline and onboarding plan for RAP, and developing a marketing flier for funders on benefits of RAP to workforce development.

The Yamhill Early Learning Business Navigator has met with fire and zoning boards to identify barriers for new early learning programs and create a user-friendly sheet to make sense of the language, and is creating two training series "Passion to Profit" and "Elevate your Business" to support new and existing businesses and provide PD. This will be part of the new business and expansion cohort and a joint CoP with PSP and Center/School age programs. The Yamhill Early Learning Business Navigator is representing CCR&R in the Yamhill workforce development committee and the TFK Rulemaking - Oregon's Toxic Free Kids Act RAC. She has also created a flier to increase awareness of early childhood businesses and started recruiting for a new/expansion business cohort.

CCR&R created a position to support Licensed centers and school-age early learning programs. The new Early Learning Resource Specialist re-designed the existing Community of Practice format to include professional development sessions quarterly for directors, is providing in person training to two programs for pre-service to start the year, is visiting programs in region not currently engaging with CCR&R to share resources and recruit for the CoP, and is collaborating on Elevate your Business training series.

CCR&R is collaborating with Oregon State University to collate data about the statewide webinars that CCR&R coordinates.

Statewide Webinar Data



Energy Services July PY 2024 Program Report

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

July 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	618	1645	186	260	246	241 =39 of HH's	\$424

In July, 46 of the 527 received applications were denied, 9%. The denied applications included; 19 incomplete, 17 over income and 10 did not meet eligibility guidelines. Energy posts eligibility guidelines, on MWVCAA webpage, 211, reception informs callers, etc. Income is verified for the month prior the application is signed, if over income the previous 3 months are reviewed, yearly (12 months) if household still over income. Denied applicants may apply again during the program year. Pending applicants are contacted and informed of missing information, if they do not respond to written notice within 15 days the application is denied.

Of the 527 new applications received in July, an additional 74 were received to reconnect service. An average of 3.4 requests to reconnect service were received per day and averaging 15 per week in July.

Approximately 1620 people came into Energy office in July, the majority picked up or dropped off an application, others had questions. Approximately 1843 calls were accepted and assisted.

Energy collaborated with Weatherization to deliver 9 portable AC units to eligible low income households. Eligibility includes; household gross income at or below 60% State Median and household includes a member over 60 and/or experiencing a disability. The dual units (AC and heat) were purchased with non federal funding. Energy also utilizes donation funds, when available, to purchase portable units and complete furnace replacements.

Marion and Polk counties temperatures rose over 100' in July. Many residents experienced higher than normal electric bills due to the use of air conditioning, fans and other electronics. Energy team reached out to new clients and those that received program year 24 assistance and offered a second LIHEAP application. Energy also reached out to those that received LIHEAP that have NW Natural but had not received OLGA assistance. Those we have contacted have stated they did not know what they were going to do and were very grateful for the assistance. Outreach continues to bring eligible people in for assistance this summer.

July PY 24 unduplicated completions, Polk county

	HH	People	>6	60+	Disability	75% poverty	pmt
Total	72	188	29	27	31	28 =47% of HH's	\$450

Energy assisted 72 Polk county households in July, of the 72, 32 full applications were submitted by Polk County Resource Center. All applications for Marion and Polk counties are processed in Salem by the date complete applications are received then reviewed for quality assurance.

**HEAD START PROGRAM REPORT TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS & POLICY COUNCIL
Eva Pignotti, CPO of Early Learning & Child Care – August 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%	78.42%
3/24	4/24	5/24	6/24	7/24	8/24
77.21%	78.82%	76.72%	81.12%	74.70%	

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%	74.83%
3/24	4/24	5/24	6/24	7/24	8/24
71.82%	74.03%	73.28%	72.09%	74.39%	

Attendance Analysis - Absences for July 2024

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

- Family/Vacation day – 22.92%
- Approved extended leave – 19.27%
- Child illness – 18.23%

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

- Child illness – 23.80%
- Family/Vacation day – 12.43%

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	548	538	551	544	51	47	

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	221	200	202	207	197	186	

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	51	58	58	102	103	103	

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	49	59	49	69	71	77	

USDA Meal Reimbursements

	July 2024	
USDA Meal Reimbursements	Number of Meals Served	Amount Reimbursed
Breakfast	1,190	\$ 2,820.30
Lunch	1,315	\$ 5,653.02
Snack	248	\$ 208.78
Cash In Lieu		\$ 394.50
Total Reimbursement	2,753	\$ 9,076.60

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

Head Start 2024-2025 Enrollment: The program's enrollment is coming along, and showing promise toward meeting our goal of full enrollment by the start of the school year.

- Head Start – 84.31%
- Early Head Start – 73.85%
- EHS Child Care Partnerships – 69.05%

We are focusing our recruitment efforts this month on a social media campaign, and have been actively participating in events all over the region. In the EHS CCP program, lower enrollment numbers are partially due to the Salem Keizer Teen Parent program typically identifying new students in August, and the addition of a new Salem area Family Child Care Provider, whose current clients are being screened for EHS eligibility. We do anticipate seeing this program's enrollment numbers increasing quickly.

The MWVCAA Staff Child Care program will be ending on 8/31/24. Lessons were learned in this venture, especially in the balance between operating costs and cost to clients. Our staff, who expressed considerable interest in an agency child care, did not actually fill many of the slots because it was not affordable for them. The state child care subsidy program went into waiting list status shortly after we opened, which created additional gaps between client resources and agency costs, as no one was able to apply for and receive Employment Related Day Care. While a learning experience for the division, this is also a loss to us in our goal of making MWVCAA more attractive to prospective employees, and reducing staff absenteeism due to lack of reliable child care.

Nutrition First -Child Care Food Program
Carmen Romero - Program Director
July 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.

Month	Sept. 2023	Oct. 2023	Nov. 2023	Dec. 2023	Jan. 2024	Feb. 2024	March 2024	April 2024	May 2024	June 2024	July 2024
Start	517	526	527	527	531	518	511	507	503	505	503
Opened	24	12	10	14	7	9	6	7	11	5	8
Closed	15	11	10	10	21	16	10	11	9	7	8
Active #	526	527	527	531	518	511	507	503	505	503	503

- For July, we signed on eight providers (six registered with CCLD and one an exempt provider paid by EDRC) Nutrition First also close eight providers, leaving us at the end of April with 503 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 meals.
- During July, staff conducted eight in-home sign-ups, 106 monitoring reviews and saw approximately 848 children in the reviews.

Program updates:

Nutrition First is in the process of its administrative review from the Oregon Department of Education Child Nutrition Program. ODE CNP conducted one unannounced in-home review with each monitoring staff to see how we conduct reviews. They have also visited 22 unannounced homes on their own to gauge the training of providers on the program.

The exit conference was held on 7/29/2024. ODE CNP reviewed all 10 sections of the program (Program Administration, Monitoring, Record keeping requirements, Tiring Procedures, Meal Pattern requirements, Financial, Staff/Provider training, Civil Rights Compliance, Serious Deficiency Procedures and Program Information). Four areas were found in compliance (no findings), four areas had minor findings (Record Keeping, Meal Pattern Requirements, Serious Deficiency Procedure, and Program Information), and two areas had significant findings (Financial and Monitoring). Nutrition First will submit a corrective action plan to ODE CNP on 8/16/2024 that should correct all of the above findings.

I feel that it is important to point out that one of the significant findings (monitoring), was a visit in which ODE went out with the monitor to do a home review to gauge the staff on how confident the monitor is in the CACFP rules and regulating procedure. At the time, two of our staff had only been on the job six weeks. CACFP is an extremely complicated program and we are constantly learning new requirements and changes. The financial finding required us to make two changes: We are required to have a time punch system (after years of tracking time on sign-in sheets. That requirement has been corrected with the agency's implementation of DATIS for staff timekeeping. Secondly, we had been paying providers on the same day state funds were released, to get the funds into provider hands quickly. State rules require us to wait one full day after the money has been transferred to out USDA account before we can pay our providers. We have made that change to our system as well.

Procedures and policies have been written and updated to fit ODE recommendations and requirements as well as Nutrition First is working with CCR&R to create trainings that providers can do on their own time to help them better understand the importance of keeping in compliance with the CACFP. As most of the findings lay on the providers side of the program. ODE did state that the percentage is lower than previous finding and we had two significant findings, compared to 2020 when we had five significant findings. Findings on the program side have significantly lower and we attribute this to the KidKare software we started using in May 2023.

A small overview between the Nutrition First two last audits. This all sits on the provider's side.		
2020	2024	Recordkeeping requirement
56%	22%	Providers had incomplete or missing attendance records.
30%	15%	Providers did not have all required menu records.
26%	30%	Providers did not have all required menu supporting documentation.
47%	25%	Providers did not have Child Enrollment Forms in their homes or the forms were inaccurate or incomplete.

In general we are in a good place as a program and as we implement the new staff and providers training we should be able to be a stronger program by our next program audit.

July 2024 Report for Weatherization Program

Below is the Auditor, Inspectors monthly report and I have attached the Office report.

Audits completed 15
Final inspections 09
Technicians completed 7 Air seals
WRF projects 1 Weatherization Readiness Funds

In July we were State Audited for 10 grants DOE/ DOE Bil files with no major findings. All auditors were able to spend at least one day with the State auditors Kurt Pugh and Francisco Venegas. We did have some flaws which have been discussed and where making changes to accommodate those needed. Overall the audit went very well.

Thanks

Hector Guzman
WX Program Director

WEATHERIZATION



Month: July 2024



WAITLIST

Utility	Pre-Screening Form Request	Pre-screening forms Returned	Total on waitlist
PGE	19	13	238
PPL	7	6	51
NNG	14	4	162
BPA	2	2	26
Other	1	1	3
Total	43	26	480

Waitlist Total:
480



INTAKE

Utility	Appointments Scheduled	No Shows	Pending	Not Qualified	Qualified—Job Number Assigned
PGE	21	7	0	4	10
PPL	6	2	0	0	4
NNG	18	10	2	1	5
BPA	0	0	0	0	0
Other	4	0	0	1	3

TOTAL NEW JOBS: 22
Jobs Year to date: 78

DONE!

COMPLETIONS



Total HH Completed: 12



Total # of people served: 47



Total # of minors: 12

Total # of seniors: 8



Total # of disabled persons: 6



Total # of Veterans: 0



Utility	Completed Jobs	Total Spent
PGE	5	89209.14
PPL	2	26967.00
NNG	5	118,212.78
BPA	0	
Other	0	
Total	12	234,388.92

Site Built Homes	8
Mobile Homes	4

Owners	11
Renters	1

Salem	8
Dallas	1
Woodburn	1
Stayton	1
Hubbard	1

Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, Inc.
Board of Directors Executive & Finance Committee
Meeting Minutes
THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 2024

ATTENDANCE

Committee Members Present: Jade Rutledge, Board Chair; Catherine Trottman, Board Vice-Chair; Kevin Karvandi, Secretary; Helen Honey, Board Member; Steve McCoid, Board Member; and Lori Martz, Board Member.

Absent: none.

Staff: Jimmy Jones, Executive Director; Kaolee Hoyle, Chief Financial Officer; Helana Haytas, Chief Human Resources Officer; Ashley Hamilton; Deputy Executive Director; Robert Hale, Chief Information Officer; Rogelio Cortez, Chief Program Officer and Selene Bustamante, Interim Executive Assistant.

The meeting of the Executive & Finance Committee started at 5:33pm. It was determined that a quorum was present.

1. **Financials:** Kaolee Hoyle, CFO, presented the July 2023 to June 2024 Budget to Actual document. Kaolee Hoyle reported that the FY24 budget for CRP is \$25.6 million, with CRP operational spending on target but CRP renovation projects significantly underspent (4% actual vs. 100% budgeted). Key projects, including Arches Inn and various renovations, are progressing with timelines extending into fiscal year 2025. In CCR&R, budget adjustments were made due to an unawarded Yamhill grant, but overall spending remains below budget, partly due to staff vacancies. The CARS program is overspent by 65% after its primary contract was canceled by Marion County, with alternative funding being explored. Some grant-funded projects have not started, affecting revenue recognition, but carryover balances are expected.
2. **Strategic Planning:** Jade Rutledge and Ashley Hamilton reviewed the Strategic Planning Calendar of Events, discussing a tentative schedule and proposing the formation of a core team composed of senior staff and board members to guide the Uncommon Bridges initiative. Ashley highlighted the critical nature of defining core team membership and responsibilities. Kevin suggested that Strategic Planning be included as a regular agenda item for the full board. Jade requested that this be added to the August agenda and future agendas. In August, the board will address the selection of representatives for the Core Team, with Jade facilitating the discussion.
3. **Executive Director's Program Updates**
 - i. **General Updates:**
 1. Marion County is closing its transition center, using \$1.3 million to reduce homelessness and develop a new navigation center model. The CARS program will be moved to 2085 Commercial with a rebranding effort.
 2. Finance Policies and Procedures will be presented at the next meeting.

3. Mill City property closed in July 2024.
4. Agency insurance premiums are increasing by 12.9 percent.
5. Pence Loop site project has been canceled.
6. Procurement for Arches Inn renovation is complete.
7. Middle Groove will receive \$800,000 to \$900,000 this month to finalize its project.
8. New grants include \$1.3 million from Oregon Housing, \$90,000 for an ARCHES fence, \$585,000 from Pacific Source for Medicaid capacity building, \$660,575 from OHCS ORI Marion, and \$739,985 from OHCS ORI Polk.

ii. Legislative Update:

1. The states Agency Recommended Budgets are being finalized, which will feed into the Governor’s Recommended Budget this winter.
2. Efforts are ongoing to secure additional funding for the Food Bank.
3. IP 17 is now Measure 118; with considerable opposition emerging.
4. Jimmy requested that the board vote on an opposition statement to Measure 118 at the next board meeting.

iii. YCAP Update:

1. The YCAP potential merger has been discussed with the Governor, OHCS, various housing authorities, CAPO, the McMinnville mayor, Polk County, and Yamhill County.
2. Jimmy Jones and the Committee discussed the potential acquisition of YCAP, focusing on future organizational, personnel, and service delivery plans.

4. **August 2024 Full Board Meeting Agenda Draft:** Jade Rutledge motioned to amend the agenda to include Strategic Planning. Jimmy Jones requested that the board vote on Measure 118 at next meeting.

MOTION: To amend the August 2024 Full Board Meeting Agenda Draft to include Strategic Planning and vote on Measure 118 moved made by Helen Honey.

SECOND: Kevin Karvandi.

APPROVED: Unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 7:17pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Selene Bustamante, Interim Executive Assistant

Kevin Karvandi, Board Secretary