

A Road Home



Community Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness

2020 Homeless Assessment Report
to the
Board of County Commissioners

A Summary of Outcomes
and Challenges

December 2020



WASHINGTON COUNTY
OREGON

December 2020

This publication was produced by the Washington County Department of Housing Services, in collaboration with the Homeless Plan Advisory Committee (HPAC) and the Housing and Supportive Services Network (HSSN).

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To learn more about the homeless programs in Washington County, visit the county's website at <http://www.co.washington.or.us/homeless> or contact Annette M. Evans, Homeless Program Manager at 503-846-4760 or email Annette_Evans@co.washington.or.us

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overview

A Road Home: Community Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness was approved by the Washington County Board of Commissioners on June 5, 2018.

This report is the 12th in a series of reports charting our progress in preventing and ending homelessness for the **period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020**.



A Road Home values

- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- Housing First
- Person-centered Services and Approach
- Collaboration Across the Continuum System
- Data Driven Decisions and Results Based
- Continuous Change and Improvement

Embracing these values, this report demonstrates the impact of the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) and the collective commitment of our public and community-based organizations to plan, prepare and respond to the needs of vulnerable populations during this public health crisis.

The report highlights new initiatives in systems change, enumerates local homeless demographics and trends, the collaborative work to address the increasing need for affordable housing and person-centered services, the outcomes achieved through public and private investments, and the priority initiatives and programs to be implemented in FY2020/2021.

A Road Home Investments

In FY2019/2020 an estimated \$26.8 million is needed to implement strategies outlined in *A Road Home*. Approximately \$14.4 million in public and private resources served 2,550 people in shelter and housing programs, and 8,404 people with prevention assistance. Included in the \$14.4 million is \$1.1 million in leveraged Medicaid reimbursement for mental health and addictions treatment, and other health-related services.

A Road Home 7-Year Budget, \$150.4 million*	FY2019/2020 Est. Need	FY2019/2020 Actual	Variance +/-
Goal 1: Prevention & Crisis Intervention (e.g. Shelter)	\$ 9,338,902	\$ 4,908,915	\$ 4,429,987
Goal 2: Move People to Housing	\$ 9,688,894	\$ 5,882,060	\$ 3,806,834
Goal 3: Link People to Services	\$ 6,295,521	\$ 3,084,758	\$ 3,210,763
Goal 4: Increase Income Support & Economic Opportunities	\$ 1,388,903	\$ 428,560	\$ 960,343
Goal 5: Expand Data Collection	\$ 48,568	\$ 48,568	\$ -
Goal 6: Public Education	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ 26,760,788	\$ 14,352,861	\$ 12,407,927

* A Road Home estimated budget, April 2018

CoC Response to COVID and Implementation of New Initiatives

Coronavirus (COVID-19) – Plan, Prepare and Respond

A person who lives in Washington County was the first positive case of coronavirus in Oregon, as reported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The response to COVID-19 during the last four months of this reporting period exemplifies the collaborative public and private partnerships that worked quickly to prepare and respond to this public health crisis.

- On March 4, 2020 the Washington County Board of Commissioners adopted Resolution and Order 20-31 declaring a county-wide emergency. As the County’s emergency response to the COVID-19 crisis continued, the Board of Commissioners took action to extend the declaration providing additional resources and support to keep our community safe.
- On March 9, 2020 the County’s Emergency Operation Center (EOC) “Houseless Branch” was activated to develop a response plan that positioned the CoC to receive regular CDC and Public Health guidance and resources to prevent disease transmission while maintaining services for persons in homeless programs and supports for people sleeping outside.
- On March 13, 2020 President Trump declared the COVID-19 outbreak a national emergency.
- On March 23, 2020 Governor Brown issued Executive Order 20-12, “Stay Home, Stay Safe” directing Oregonians to stay at home to the maximum extent possible. This order asked that churches and businesses close to reduce the exposure and spread of COVID-19, which seriously impacted partner organizations that deliver homeless services in partnership with faith-communities, e.g. overnight shelter, soup kitchens, food pantries, clothing closets.
- See Appendix A for COVID-19 plan, prepare and response activities.

Metro Supportive Housing Services Measure

The [Metro Supportive Housing Services \(SHS\) Measure](#)¹ provides new funding that will address decades-long gaps in providing supportive housing with person-centered and culturally-specific services to people experiencing homelessness or at imminent risk.

- The collected revenue is forecasted to be available by July 1, 2021. This new tax revenue will be generated by a 1% tax on taxable income of more than \$125,000 for an individual and \$200,000 for couples filing jointly, and a 1% tax on profits from businesses with gross receipts of more than \$5 million.
- On June 16, the Board of County Commissioners received a briefing on the Metro SHS with a proposed timeline to complete a comprehensive community engagement process that prioritizes the voices of people with lived experience and people of color. This briefing cited by August, a Local Implementation Plan (LIP) Committee would be convened to perform strategic planning resulting in recommendations to advance racial equity outcomes, engage communities of color and historically-marginalized communities, and propose strategies for use of funds that will align with the Metro SHS Measure.

¹ Measure 26-210: On 5/19/2020 voters approved 10-year levy to fund the Metro Supportive Housing Services Program. <https://www.co.washington.or.us/Housing/SupportiveHousingServices/index.cfm>

- The Metro SHS will be allocated into two categories: a) 75% of funds to serve people who have extremely low-incomes and have one or more disabling conditions and who are experiencing long-term or frequent episodes of literal homelessness or are at imminent risk of experiencing homelessness; and b) 25% of funds to serve people experiencing homelessness or have a substantial risk of experiencing homelessness.

Built For Zero – A Systems Approach to Ending Chronic Homelessness

Kaiser Permanente invited Washington County to participate in a national movement to learn best practices in systems change and resource prioritization to effectively end chronic homelessness.

- In October 2019 a cohort team comprising County staff and nonprofit providers attended training sponsored by Community Solutions to develop (1) a comprehensive, real-time By-Name List of chronic homeless persons, (2) an Outreach Subcommittee to address gaps in achieving 100% geographic outreach coverage to identify all chronic persons, and (3) a network of providers committed to case conference each individual on the By-Name List.
- On February 28, 2020 Washington County Housing Services implemented written standards and held first case conference session with 139 chronic homeless people on the By-Name List. To sustain this work, Washington County pivoted to virtual case conferencing and reviewed safety protocols for partner agencies to assist homeless persons apply for housing during the COVID-19 pandemic. The resulting outcomes over a 4-month period March 2020 to June 2020 were impressive, as 31 high acuity chronicity people moved into housing with a combined 101 years of homelessness.

Public Safety Replacement Measure

The [Washington County Public Safety Replacement levy](#)² was approved by voters to sustain critical funding for existing homeless shelters serving victims of domestic violence and leverage expansion of a new Sojourner’s House program providing rent assistance and person-centered services to survivors of domestic violence and their children.

Strategic Direction in FY2020/2021

Stabilize severely rent-burdened households and increase economic supports.

1. Implement \$15,380,615 in rent assistance and \$2,692,962 in utility assistance programs to prevent evictions for households impacted by COVID-19. Community Action Organization will administer these funds in partnership with culturally-specific provider agencies.
2. Implement rent assistance and career coach/employment programs that co-enroll homeless participants with Workforce Investment Opportunities Act (WIOA) programs; e.g. Economic Opportunity Program. Career Coaches are at Portland Community College, Community Action Organization, Centro Cultural, Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization (IRCO), and HomePlate Youth Services. The rent assistance will be funded by Community Action Organization.

² Measure 34-296: On 5/19/2020 voters approved the Public Safety Replacement Levy <https://www.co.washington.or.us/Levies/PublicSafetyLevy/index.cfm>

Tailor outreach and housing navigation services to those that are least likely to request assistance.

1. Increase number of persons exiting the Winter Shelters to housing with Emergency Solution Grant (ESG-CV) rent subsidy and align with Housing Navigator positions.
2. Increase number of persons exiting the Winter Shelters with health insurance funded by 2 FTE Care Coordination positions providing COVID information, assisting with health insurance applications, and navigating through systems of care. The East Bay Community Foundation awarded \$100,000 in private funds to Washington County Housing Services.
3. Create alternative housing options for persons living in encampments and continue work to develop year-round shelter serving adult-only households. On November 18, 2019 nearly 40 stakeholders convened to begin planning for the development of a year-round emergency shelter to serve adult-only households. Coordinate with the SHS Program to prioritize funds to develop a year-round shelter.

Create new permanent housing and participate in regional efforts.

1. Prioritize and align the Metro SHS Program³ to leverage other community-based resources to develop supportive housing. The Washington County Affordable Housing Bond⁴ Local Implementation Strategy (LIS) identifies a capital investment to construct 100 units PSH.
2. Align Kaiser Metro 300 program with culturally-specific providers to expand housing opportunities to persons of color who are age 50 years and older with disabling conditions and experiencing homelessness. Funded in January 2020, the \$5.1 million regional program (Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington County) will provide housing subsidy to 80 homeless households in Washington County.
3. Leverage the Housing Authority “Move-On” policy providing a Section 8 or Mainstream Voucher subsidy when the homeless individual no longer requires supportive housing.
4. Implement new Sojourner’s House providing tenant-based rent assistance and services. On March 13, 2020 the US Department of Housing and Urban Development awarded \$407,214 for the Sojourner’s House in the [FY2019 CoC Program application](#) to Washington County and the Domestic Violence Resource Center with funds available September 1, 2020.

Reduce housing barriers for persons engaged with institutions of care.

1. Convene stakeholders to analyze and improve discharge policy and plans to reduce the number of people exiting institutions into homelessness; e.g. Jail, Foster Care, Hospitals.
2. Implement new Reentry Housing program to provide 20 units of rent assistance for justice-involved persons to overcome housing and employment barriers. On March 13, 2020 the US Department of Housing and Urban Development awarded \$321,906 for the Reentry Housing in the [FY2019 CoC Program application](#) to Washington County and New Narrative (formerly known as Luke-Dorf, Inc.) with funds available July 1, 2020.

³ Measure 26-210: On 5/19/2020 voters approved 10-year levy to fund the Metro Supportive Housing Services Program. <https://www.co.washington.or.us/Housing/SupportiveHousingServices/index.cfm>

⁴ Measure 26-199: On 11/6/2018 voters approved 5-year bond to fund the Metro Affordable Housing Bond. <https://www.co.washington.or.us/Housing/AffordableHousingBond/index.cfm>

HOMELESS DEMOGRAPHICS AND TRENDS

Point-In-Time Homeless Count (Census)

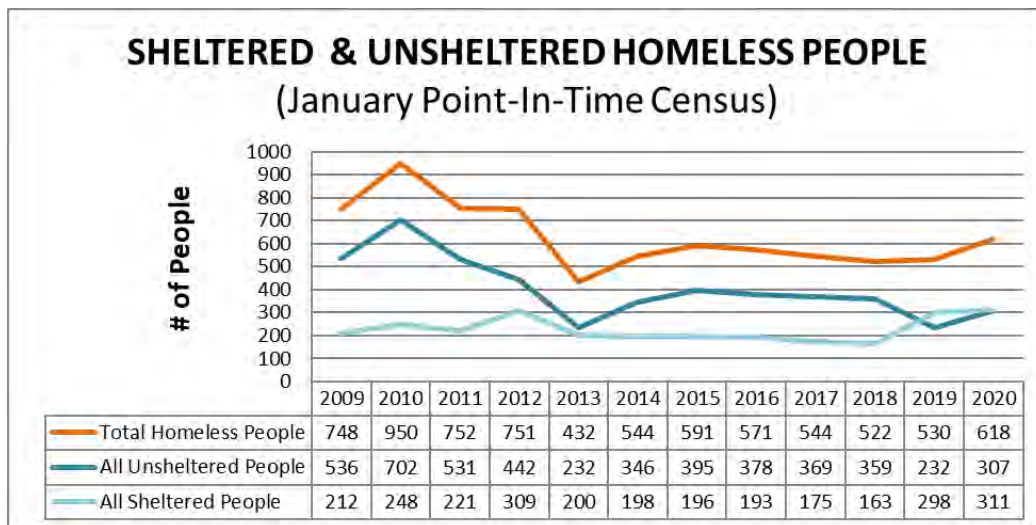
Data collection performed January 22 to January 29, 2020

The annual homeless census data provides a basis for planning purposes and is used in weighted formulas for distribution of state and federal funds to jurisdictions. Washington County continues to enumerate, de-duplicate and ensure quality of the annual homeless census using Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). Community Action Organization is the lead agency in coordinating the annual homeless census activities.

	Total Sheltered and Unsheltered	[Family] At Least One Adult and One Child ≤17 Years	[Adult Only] Single Adult and Couples without Children	[Youth Only] Only Children ≤17 Years
# of Homeless Households	491	41	449	1
# of Homeless People	618	141 (10 chronic ⁵)	476 (139 chronic)	1
Literally Homeless: Sheltered ⁶	311	104	206	1
Literally Homeless: Unsheltered	307	37	270	0

Source: Washington County Point-In-Time (PIT) Homeless Count, January 2020

- The number of “sheltered” people increased slightly with additional winter shelter beds.
- The number of “unsheltered” people increased with expanded outreach coverage, the use of ArcGIS Survey123 digital APP to collect data and new encampments reported.



Source: Washington County Point-In-Time (PIT) Homeless Count, January 2020

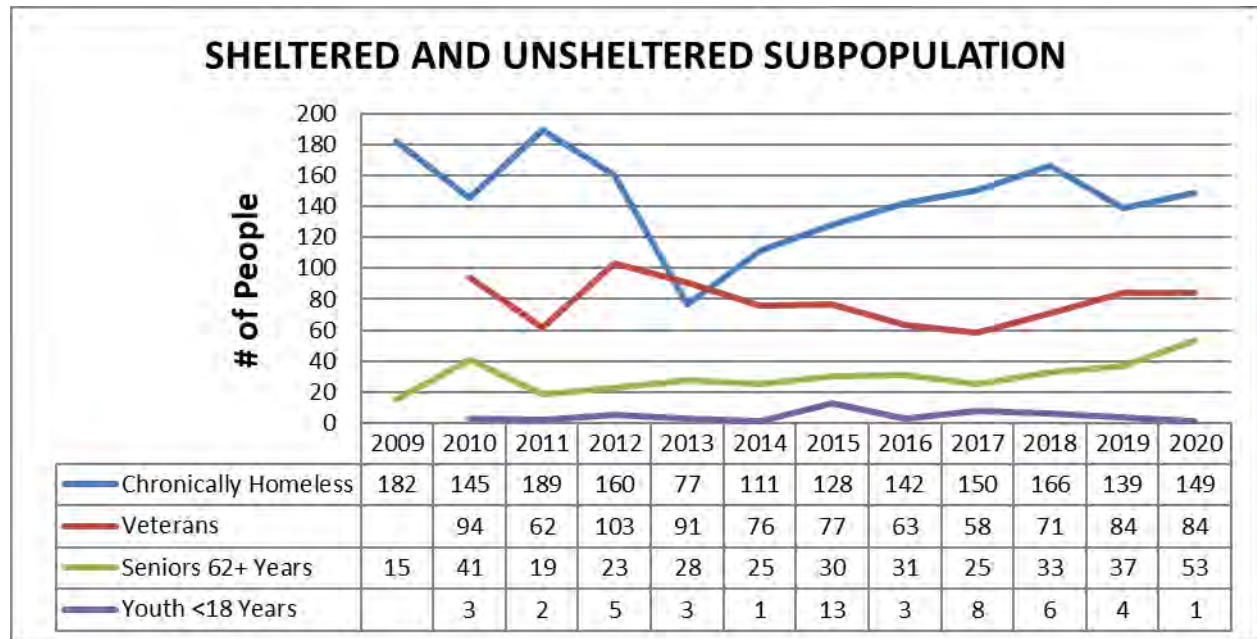
⁵ **Chronic homeless definition** includes literally homeless people living in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter, and has been homeless and living or residing in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter continuously for at least one year or on at least four separate occasions in the last 3 years, and can be diagnosed with one or more disabling conditions. [December 2015, 24 CFR Parts 91 and 578.3]

⁶ **Federal homeless definition** includes literally homeless people living in shelter and housing designated to provide temporary living arrangement, and people with a primary nighttime residence that is a place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation (place not meant for human habitation). [December 2011, 24 CFR Part 91]

Point-In-Time Homeless Subpopulations

People experiencing homelessness tend to have special needs for housing and services to address physical, psychological and physiological disabilities.

The CoC providers work to address a range of housing barriers that delay or prevent people from transitioning out of homelessness and into housing to include poor credit and/or eviction history, criminal background, lack of education and/or job skills to obtain or retain living wage employment, fleeing domestic violence, and other socioeconomic factors.



Source: Washington County Point-In-Time Homeless Count, January 2020

Homeless Student Count

HOMELESS STUDENT POPULATION: SCHOOL YEAR 2019/2020

Total = 2,754 homeless students in Washington County

The Oregon Department of Education completed a Plan that reflects the state's education priorities and began implementation in the 2017-2018 school year to comply with the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). This work is carried out by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Student Liaisons from seven school districts in Washington County. Liaisons collaborate with homeless service providers to align homeless students and their families with housing resources.

A reduction in student homelessness is reported for school year 2019/2020.

- See Appendix C for a summary of homeless students by school district and data on Oregon's homeless student populations.

Ethnicity and Race of Washington County Populations

601,592 people⁷ call Washington County home and is reflective of a diverse community.

Characteristics of Washington County Populations	Percentage of the Point In Time Street/Shelter Homeless Count 1/22/2020 618 people	Percentage of Persons in Shelter/Housing Programs 2019/20 1,759 people	Percent of Persons in Permanent Housing Programs 2019/20 924 people	Percent of Persons <100% Federal Poverty Level 2019 ACS 1-Year 49,741 people (8.4%)	Percentage of the County Population 2019 ACS 1-Year 601,592 people
Ethnicity					
Hispanic/Latino	16.3%	21.3%	17.9%	13.1%	17.1%
Non-Hispanic/non-Latino	83.7%	78.7%	82.1%	6.8%	82.9%
Race					
American Indian/Alaskan Native	2.8%	2.4%	2.3%	N	1.1%
Asian	1.3%	0.9%	0.6%	6.2%	11.7%
Black or African American	8.6%	10.5%	8.4%	26.7%	2.5%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	2.3%	3.3%	1.9%	N	0.5%
White	78.0%	73.2%	78.7%	7.4%	79.6%
Other Multi-Racial/Unknown	7.0%	9.7%	8.1%	23.2%	4.6%
Special Populations					
Veteran (Adults Only)	13.6%	16.5%	18.5%	5.3%	5.2%
Disabled (Children and Adults)	48.2%	40.9%	49.7%	13.9%	7.2%
Elderly 62+ years	8.6%	6.6%	9.3%	11.8%	13.9%

An "N" entry indicates that data cannot be displayed because the number of sample cases is too small.

Source: Washington County Point-In-Time Homeless Count, January 2020
 Washington County Homeless Programs, HMIS July 2019 through June 2020
 U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate
 U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimate

Communities of color are disproportionately represented in the populations experiencing homelessness and living below 100% Federal Poverty Level. A leading cause of family homelessness can be attributed to low-income employment and the high cost of rental housing and childcare. Similar findings are found in “Leading With Race: Research Justice in Washington County⁸” and “Issues of Poverty⁹” released by Community Action Organization of Washington County.

The homeless provider network continues to focus on expansion of culturally specific providers and will align efforts with the Metro Supportive Housing Services Measure implementation. CoC provider agencies have implemented trauma informed services to provide equal access to programs with an emphasis on diversity, equity and inclusion at program intake. Public and private providers continue to work toward system integration to leverage greater access to health, education and economic supports.

Washington County Housing Services will support and monitor efforts to provide culturally specific services and access to affordable housing, to increase opportunities for communities of color in decision-making, to educate public leaders and stakeholders on the value of cultural diversity, and to create a culture of compassion.

⁷ U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey; September 16, 2019

⁸ Coalition of Communities of Color (CCC); June 12, 2018 <http://www.coalitioncommunitiescolor.org/leadingwithrace/>

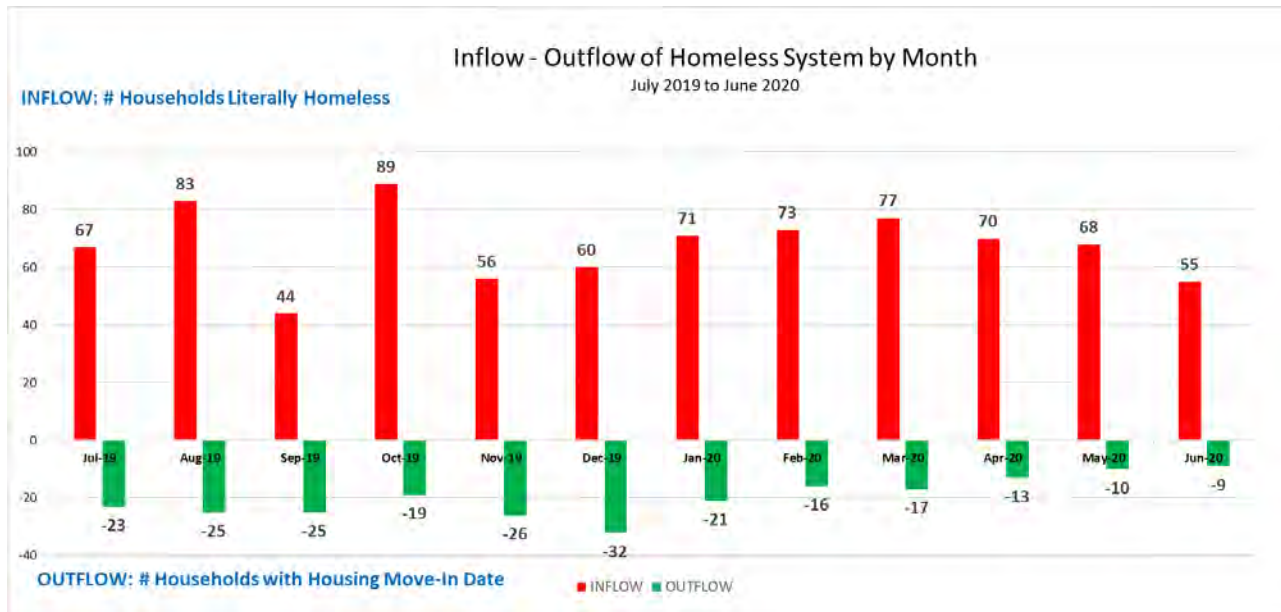
⁹ Issues of Poverty, 2020 https://caowash.org/about_us/publications.html

Community Connect Homeless System Capacity

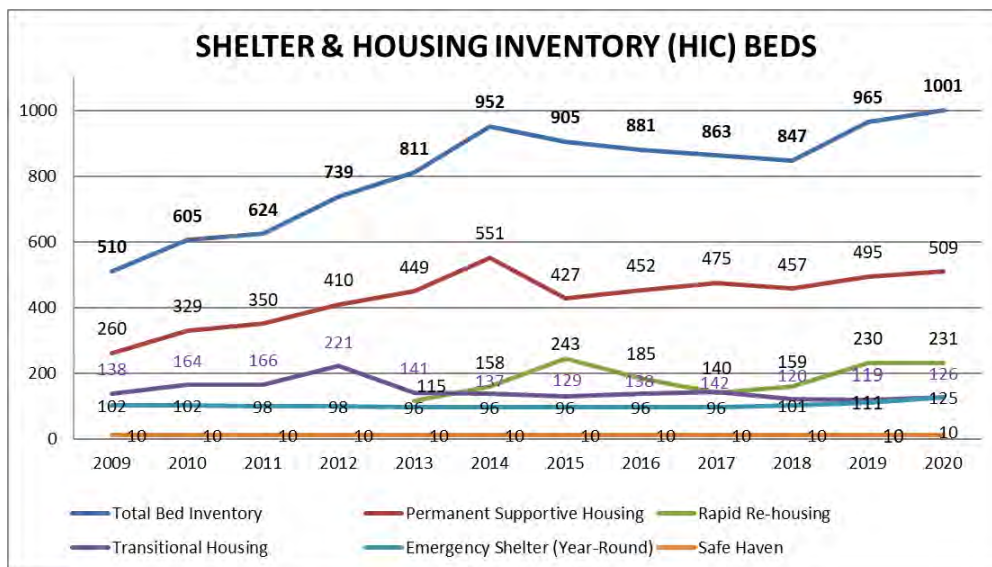
Implemented in January 2014, *Community Connect* is a person-centered system of care which includes low-barrier access, standard intake and assessment, and housing prioritization. The system provides data on homeless trends and aligns with local goals to:

- Prioritize the most vulnerable with disabilities and long-term homelessness;
- Reduce racial disparities across the system;
- Reduce future episodes of homelessness (recidivism) through greater access to affordable housing, services and economic supports that make the experience of homelessness rare, brief, and one-time only.

This chart details the rate of literal homelessness inflow and outflow to permanent housing.



Source: Inflow = Community Connect HMIS data with Homeless Dates; Outflow = Housing Program HMIS data with Move-In Date



Source: OR-506 CoC Housing Inventory Chart (HIC), January 2020

SYSTEM PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS

A *Road Home* is the community’s vision to end homelessness with a responsive system and resources in place to prevent homelessness whenever possible and if homelessness occurs that it is a rare, brief, and non-recurring experience. Plan goals will be assessed as prescribed in [A Road Home: Community Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness](#), Section 2 Measuring Progress.

An effective homeless response system is centered in the principles of “housing first” and “racial equity” and embraces a commitment to coordination and responsiveness. Data is used to drive decisions in planning and prioritizing resources that lead to “function zero”¹⁰ - and if an episode of homelessness is experienced, the individual can rapidly return to housing.

System Performance Strategies

- Reduce Racial Disparities
- Increase Funding, Diversify and Support Culturally-Specific Providers
- Create Affordable Housing Aligned with the Homeless System
- Create Adaptable Programs Providing Person-Centered Services
- Coordinate with Other Systems of Care
- Invest in System Capacity with Staffing, HMIS Tools and Training
- Education and Data-driven Decisions to Support Change

A *Road Home* goals promote a system with “no wrong door” for homeless needing long-term care and immediate safety with pathways to shelter and housing. Refer to Appendix D for a detailed listing of *A Road Home* 2020 Work Plan strategies and outcomes.

- To be eligible for federal CoC Program and Emergency Solution Grant funds, the CoC has implemented a coordinated entry system – Community Connect – that aligns with outreach, crisis intervention (e.g. shelters), housing, and services. [24 CFR Part 578.7a8].

Federal Metrics: System Performance Measurement

Federal Fiscal Year (October to September)	Average Length of Time Homeless (ES, SH)	Recidivism: Exits to PH and Return in 24 months	Earned Income: Increase at Exit HUD-only CoC Programs	First-time Homeless (ES, SH, TH, PH)	% Successful Exit or Retention in PH from Outreach	% Successful Exit or Retention in PH from ES, SH, TH, RRH	% Successful Exit or Retention in PH from PSH
Goal	30 Days or less	5% or less	20%+	82% or less	40%+	70%+	80%+
2012-13	42	10.9%	19.5%	85.1%	30.2%**	53.5%	92.4%
2013-14	52	17.1%	15.5%	82.8%	25.0%**	56.8%	91.2%
2014-15	53	11.0%	12.5%	83.6%	16.9%	56.7%	93.4%
2015-16	55	11.3%	20.6%	83.7%	7.4%	53.7%	84.6%
2016-17	56	11.3%	19.2%	81.6%	7.8%	55.1%	92.6%
2017-18	66	7.3%	23.0%	85.8%	10.7%	62.0%	94.3%
2018-19	44	7.9%	26.3%	86.9%	7.3%	33.0%	97.1%

**Housing Team funded by the U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

ES=Emergency Shelter, SH=Safe Haven, TH=Transitional Housing, PH=Permanent Housing, PSH=Permanent Supportive, RRH=Rapid Rehousing

Source: *Washington County Outreach, Shelter & Housing Programs, Federal Fiscal Year October 2018 through September 2019*

¹⁰ “Function Zero” is a term that identifies ending homelessness at any point in time when the number of people experiencing sheltered or unsheltered homelessness will be no greater than the current monthly housing placement rate for people experiencing homelessness.

Goal 1: Prevent People from Becoming Homeless

A contributing factor for households “at risk” of homelessness is the increasing rental costs while living on fixed or low-wage income. Prevention assistance served 8,404 people to retain current housing, reducing trauma and costly crisis intervention. Resources have been prioritized to implement a more robust prevention program that addresses *situational poverty*¹¹. The plan prioritizes prevention as a cost-effective and humane strategy to assist households in crisis.

When assistance is not able to prevent homelessness, the shelter system is the pathway to safety. Gaps in the shelter system do not meet the needs of the increasing number of homeless families and individuals seeking crisis intervention services, but collaborative efforts to identify alternative strategies is ongoing.

EMERGENCY PREVENTION ASSISTANCE

The CoC recognizes the contributions made by faith-based and nonprofit agencies administering rent and utility assistance.

- St. Vincent DePaul (Tigard Council) Emergency Rent Assistance.** 576 people (172 households) received rent assistance valued at \$73,398 from private funds.
- St. Vincent DePaul (St. Matthew Conference) Emergency Rent Assistance.** 4,842 people (478 households) received \$91,337.44 in rent assistance (\$20,000 City of Hillsboro, \$5,000 COVID Relief, and \$66,337.44 in private funds).

Programs aligned with the CoC coordinated entry system prioritize households with 72-hour eviction notice.

- County Prevention Assistance Program** provides rent assistance for severely rent-burdened households with incomes at or below 50% AMI. \$125,000 in County General Funds served 242 people (71 households). Funds administered by Community Action.
- Emergency Rent Assistance (CDBG-COVID, EHA, EFSP, SSVF, OHCS EHA Veteran, and including COVID-19 Funds).** 2,744 people (882 households) facing eviction received nearly \$1,728,006 in prevention assistance administered by Community Action Organization. Of the \$1.7 million, \$848,488 was COVID-19 funds.

Eviction Court Cases Filed (By Calendar Year)	# of Eviction Cases Filed
CY 2007	4,222
CY 2008	4,348
CY 2009	4,194
CY 2010	3,819
CY 2011	3,422
CY 2012	3,235
CY 2013	2,739
CY 2014	2,687
CY 2015	2,726
CY 2016	2,977
CY 2017	2,818
CY 2018	2,624
CY 2019	3,095

CY2020	# of Eviction Cases Filed
January	286
February	250
March	98
April	5
May	12
June	17

Source: Washington County Circuit Court

¹¹ Situational Poverty happens when a household suffers negative financial changes due to illness, job loss and/or other temporary events.

Residential Eviction Moratorium

On March 22, the Oregon legislature imposed a temporary moratorium on residential evictions for nonpayment, prohibiting law enforcement from serving, delivering, or acting on any notice, order or writ of termination of tenancy, relating to residential evictions for nonpayment.

- The moratorium resulted in significant decrease in eviction court cases; e.g. 17 eviction cases filed in June 2020, compared to 286 eviction cases filed in January 2020.
- Community Action Organization will administer \$15,380,615 in rent assistance to persons impacted by COVID-19 resulting in nonpayment of rents. The funding sources include \$5,300,000 Washington County CRF CARES Act and \$748,000 Washington County CDBG CARES Act, \$600,000 City of Beaverton CDBG, \$390,000 City of Hillsboro CDBG, and \$8,342,615 Oregon Housing & Community Services.

In June 2020, Multifamily Northwest collaborated with a broad group of housing professionals to collect surveys¹² of conventional and affordable rental housing to establish the ongoing impact on rent payment during the COVID-19 crisis.

- On average, 15.4% or 77,420 units in the Portland region could not pay their rent by the 8th of the month (June 2020).

EMERGENCY SHELTER

The CoC shelter system serves families, victims of domestic violence and runaway/homeless youth; however, there are zero year-round shelter beds available for adult-only households. To bridge the shelter gaps, a collaborative Severe Weather Shelter Response Plan is activated each winter to prevent loss of life during inclement weather.

2020 OUTCOMES: Severe Weather Shelter Response Plan

To address the gap with zero year-round shelter beds for adult-only households and insufficient bed capacity within the family and youth shelters, the County's [Severe Weather Shelter Response Plan](#) partnered with Just Compassion Shelter (Beaverton), Old Town in partnership with Emanuel Lutheran (Cornelius), Forest Grove United Church of Christ (Forest Grove), SOS-Shelter at Sunrise Church (Hillsboro), St. Francis Catholic (Sherwood), Calvin Presbyterian and St. Anthony's Catholic (Tigard), and Rolling Hills Community (Tualatin).

The winter shelter system was implemented in 2008 to address life-safety of homeless persons living on the streets during inclement weather. The winter shelters are a "walk-in first-come first-serve" model with rotating nights of activation. Exception: SOS-Shelter is a 90-day enrolled shelter program open December through February.

- 791 adults and children receive shelter, meals and referral to services November 1, 2019 through March 15, 2020 (136 days of operation).

¹² Multifamily NW report "May, June and July Rental Data for Oregon" released July 2020 [Note: The survey asked, "How many households were unable to pay full rent by the 8th day of the month?" The 8th of the month is the customary date for issuing nonpayment notices and is a good measure of the hardship renter households are experiencing. The survey adjusted for vacancy in order to arrive at the true percentage of occupied households impacted.]

Year-round shelter bed capacity remains the same at 125 beds. A 13% decrease in people were sheltered due to COVID-19 as the shelter providers extended stays to provide protection for families and youth in shelter. The Family Promise shelters either closed or reduced capacity.

Nonprofit Shelter Provider Agency	Population Served	# Units	# Beds
Community Action Family Shelter	Family	5	20
Family Promise of Beaverton	Family	4	14
Family Promise of Washington County	Family	3	12
Family Promise of Tualatin Valley	Family	4	14
Good Neighbor Center Shelter	Family	9	36
<i>Subtotal Beds</i>		<i>25 Units</i>	<i>96 Beds</i>
SafePlace Youth Shelter (<21 years of age)	Youth	-	5
Domestic Violence Resource Center (DVRC)	Family	6	21
Domestic Violence Resource Center (DVRC)	Singles	-	3
<i>Total Bed (Adult with child, youth and DV)</i>		<i>31 Units</i>	<i>125 Beds</i>

2020 OUTCOMES: Family Shelter Network and Monika’s House/DVRC

498 adults and children (157 households) accessed shelter services

5% or 27 adults and children from 12 households are chronically homeless with at least one member of the household diagnosed with a disability

Of the 445 adults and children that exited: 52% or 232 adults and children exited emergency shelter to permanent housing

Of the 218 adults that exited: 31% or 68 adults were employed at program exit
67% or 146 adults exited shelter with economic support¹³



2020 OUTCOMES (Safe Place Youth Shelter)

65 unaccompanied homeless youth (age 12 to <21 years) accessed shelter services

Of the 59 youth that exited: 44% or 26 youth exited shelter to permanent housing (includes family reunification)

Of the 24 youth age 18 years and older (adults) that exited: 8% or 2 adults were employed at program exit
8% or 2 adults exited shelter with economic support

¹³ Economic Support is defined as income from one or more of the following: Social Security, TANF, Food Stamps, Veterans Benefits, Employment, Unemployment, Medicaid, and other income.

Goal 2: Move People Into Housing

In 2014 the CoC implemented a coordinated entry system - Community Connect – that prioritizes people for housing and services based on vulnerabilities and severity of need. While the system capacity has increased nearly 175% since implementation of *A Road Home*, gaps continue to exist in the system to include affordable housing and flexible service funds.

- 73.5% of the program participants include persons with prior living conditions on the streets or in temporary shelter/housing, as compared to 53.7% in 2009.
- 4.8% of the program participants access shelter and temporary housing upon discharged from institutions, as compared to 3.8% in 2009.

Prior Living Arrangement the Night before Program Entry	2009 % Prior Living	2020 # of Adults	2020 % Prior Living
Total # Adults In Shelter and Housing Programs	415	1140	
Total from Street and Shelter			
Place not meant for human habitation	31.3%	467	41.0%
Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing & Safe Haven	22.4%	371	32.5%
Total from "Housing"			
Rented or owned housing unit (Voluntary/Eviction/Foreclosure)	4.3%	47	4.1%
Staying with Family/Friends	38.1%	145	12.7%
Total from Institutional Settings			
Psychiatric Hospital	0.2%	2	0.2%
Hospital	0.0%	10	0.9%
Inpatient Alcohol and Drug Treatment Facility	1.2%	23	2.0%
Jail, Prison or Juvenile Detention Center (reside <90 days)	2.4%	19	1.7%
Other			
Other include hotel/motel, foster care, and unknown.	0.0%	56	4.9%

Source: Washington County Shelter and Housing Programs; HMIS data for FY2009 and FY2020

AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR 30% MFI HOUSEHOLDS

A Road Home prioritizes the development of units serving extremely low-income households at or below 30% Median Family Income (MFI). This is accomplished by various public-private partnerships and resources to include the Metro Affordable Housing Bond, the Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC), HOME Partnership funds by Washington County Office of Community Development, and the Housing Authority of Washington County (HAWC) providing Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV) as project-based operating subsidy.

Additionally, Washington County created the Housing Production Opportunity Fund (HPOF) in FY2016/2017 to support to the housing crisis through the development of affordable housing units. The County's appropriation to the HPOF in FY2019/2020 is \$4 million.

The Housing Authority of Washington County (HAWC) *2020 Report To The Community* provides an inventory of housing projects planned for development that will create 194 units for extremely low-income <30% MFI households.

- ✓ **Plaza Los Amigos** REACH and Bienestar are collaborating to develop 113 units of affordable housing on North Davis Street in Cornelius. Twenty-six of the units are for those at <30% MFI, and 16 of those units will receive assistance from Project Based Vouchers. Sequoia Mental Health Services, Inc. and LatinoBuilt will provide resident services.
- ✓ **The Aloha Project** BRIDGE Housing Corporation is developing 82 units of affordable housing in Aloha on SW 174. It is developed in partnership with Hacienda CDC as the project's service provider. Thirty-three of the units are for those at <30% MFI
- ✓ **Basalt Creek** Community Partners for Affordable Housing (CPAH) is developing 116 units of affordable housing in the Basalt Creek area of Washington County on Boones Ferry Road. Forty-seven of the units are for those at <30% MFI, and 8 of those units will receive assistance from Project Based Vouchers. Community Action and Centro Cultural will provide case-management services.
- ✓ **South Cooper Mountain Project** BRIDGE Housing Corporation, along with service partner Hacienda CDC, is developing 75 units of affordable housing in a high opportunity area of South Cooper Mountain near Mountainside High School. Fourteen of the units are for those at <30% MFI. This project is in collaboration with the City of Beaverton.
- ✓ **Forest Grove Family Housing Project** DCM Communities is developing 36 units of affordable housing in downtown Forest Grove and will also provide turnkey development services to the Housing Authority as the post-construction owner. Eight of the units are for those at <30% MFI and will be served by eight Project Based Vouchers. Bienestar, Sequoia Mental Health, and Latino-Built are community-based partners and services providers.
- ✓ **Terrace Glen** Related NW is developing 144 units of affordable housing in Tigard across from Washington Square Mall, and they will partner with the Housing Authority for cost-efficiencies. Forty-three of the units are for those at <30% MFI and will be served by three Project Based Vouchers. HomePlate Youth Services, Immigrant Refugee Community Organization (IRCO), and EngAGE are community-based partners and services providers.
- ✓ **Tigard Senior Housing** Northwest Housing Alternatives (NHA) is developing 58 units of affordable housing for seniors in downtown Tigard. Twenty-three of the units are for those at <30% MFI, and all units will receive assistance from Project Based Vouchers. The Veterans Administration, SAGE Metro Portland, and DAVS Washington County are community-based partners and service providers.

Homeless with development disabilities is on the rise, with 32 individuals accessing Community Connect for housing and services. [Families for Independent Living](#) and other community advocates promote and support the need for deeply affordable housing that meets the needs of people experiencing intellectual and development disabilities.

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

Transitional homeless programs limit the housing stay while working on a permanent housing plan and provides an array of services to homeless individuals with low to moderate barriers to housing. Transitional housing provides opportunities to participate in addiction recovery or other services, complete education, access employment, and work toward self-sufficiency.

2020 OUTCOMES

272 adults and children (189 households) accessed transitional housing

6% or 17 adults and children were chronically homeless with at least one member of the household diagnosed with a disability

Of the 178 adults and children that exited:

76% or 94 adults and children exited to permanent housing

Of the 143 adults that exited:

24% or 34 adults were employed at program exit

44% or 63 adults exited with economic support

RAPID RE-HOUSING (DIVERSION FROM THE HOMELESS SYSTEM)

Consistent with the “housing first” model where the rental lease is in the household’s name, rapid re-housing is a permanent housing model that supports individuals and families to transition quickly from homelessness to housing with rent subsidy and services as a means of diversion from accessing more costly homeless resources; e.g. emergency shelter, transitional and permanent supportive housing programs. Households remain in the program from 1 to 24 months and retain their housing when rent subsidy are removed upon exit from the program.

2020 OUTCOMES

356 adults and children (114 households) accessed rapid re-housing assistance

3% or 12 adults and children were chronically homeless with at least one member of the household diagnosed with a disability

Of the 143 adults and children that exited:

86% or 123 adults and children exited to permanent housing

Of the 70 adults that exited:

50% or 35 adults were employed at program exit

64% or 45 adults exited with economic support

- In a partnership with [Good Neighbor Center](#) – a nonprofit family shelter - the Housing Authority of Washington County provides 12 units with reduced rents during the first year of leasing at two affordable multifamily housing complexes in Tigard. Good Neighbor Center provides the household with person-centered services that support housing stability and assistance in accessing employment and other economic supports.
- Other rapid rehousing programs are managed by Community Action. In 2020/2021, New Narrative will implement a rapid rehousing program for justice-involved persons.

PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Washington County provides permanent supportive housing using a “housing first” model linked with intense person-centered supportive services that assist individuals with disabling conditions stabilize in housing. The housing lease is in the name of the individual with no time limit on how long the individual can stay in the program. The outcomes of this program model can be leveraged with a “move-on” subsidy provided when the individual no longer needs intensive services and can live independently with a housing subsidy.

A Road Home aligns with federal priorities to end veteran and chronic homelessness. To support this goal, each individual is prioritized on a comprehensive By-Name List that supports case conferencing the housing and service needs of that individual. The combination of By-Name List + Case Conferencing + Housing and Service Resources will support the goal to reach “functional zero¹⁴” in ending veteran and chronic homelessness.

An increase and renewing of long-term permanent supportive housing units includes:

- 6 units (new) – New Narrative (former Luke-Dorf, Inc.) is the developer of Clover Court providing 6 studio units of permanent supportive housing. HUD CoC Program awarded \$413,058 that leveraged surplus land and other public/private investments. The units leased in January 2020 serving chronically homeless adults with severe mental illness.
- 80 units (new) – The Housing Authority of Washington County (HAWC) received a funding award in January 2020 to implement the Kaiser Metro 300 program serving high acuity disabled homeless persons age 50 years and older. The HAWC will provide short-term rent subsidy to 80 households of the regional 300 units in Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington County. Total regional investment is \$5.1 million.
- 167 units – The HAWC administers 167 units of rent subsidy providing housing assistance to homeless veterans and their families.
- 79 units – The HAWC administers 79 units of Mainstream Voucher rent subsidy providing housing assistance to non-elderly disabled homeless persons.

2020 OUTCOMES

568 adults and children (386 households) accessed permanent supportive housing

33% or 189 adults and children were chronically homeless with at least one member of the household diagnosed with a disability

Of the 58 adults and children that exited:

53% or 31 adults and children exited permanent “supportive” housing to other independent permanent housing

Of the 53 adults that exited:

19% or 10 adults were employed at program exit

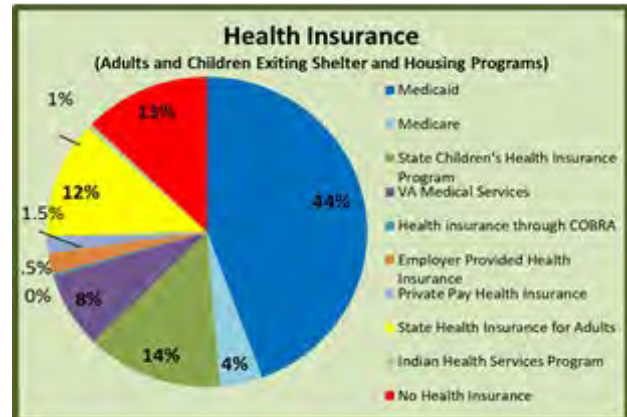
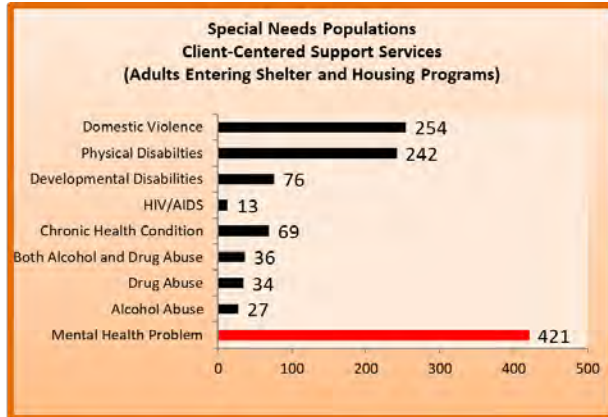
75% or 40 adults exited with economic support.

¹⁴ “Function Zero” is a term that identifies ending homelessness at any point in time when the number of people experiencing sheltered or unsheltered homelessness will be no greater than the current monthly housing placement rate for people experiencing homelessness.

Goal 3: Link People to Appropriate Services and Remove Barriers

2020 OUTCOMES

Homeless providers design programs and train staff to deliver services through a racial equity lens that is person-centered, recovery-centered and trauma-informed.



Source: Washington County Shelter and Housing Programs, July 2019 through June 2020

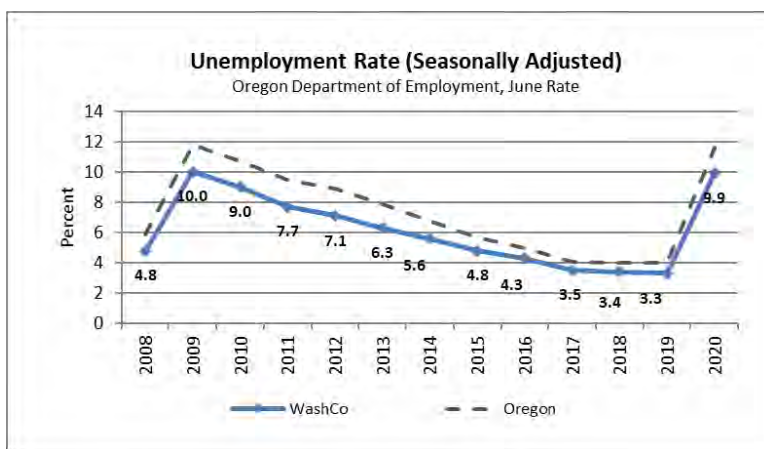
- CoC Program supportive housing leverages \$1.1 million in Medicaid and other health care services provided by [Cascade AIDS Project](#), [Housing Independence](#), [Lifeworks NW](#), [New Narrative](#), [Open Door](#), and [Sequoia Mental Health Services, Inc.](#)
- City investments of \$768,304 include expansion of the City of Beaverton [Safe Parking Program](#), outreach, shelter and homeless services; the City of Hillsboro provided an array of homeless and prevention programs; the City of Forest Grove created a street outreach program; and the City of Tigard funded shelter, day center and services.
- On October 1, 2019 nearly 40 homeless service provider staff attended “The Role of a Health Plan in Coordinating Care” presented by [Care Oregon](#) and convened by Beaverton Round Executive Suites and Washington County Department of Housing Services.
- On November 25, Ms. Lori Kelley with the Oregon Health Authority, presented at the [HSSN Housing and Health Subcommittee](#) on the new Coordinated Care Organization (CCO 2.0) and the State’s policy discussion on Medicaid services.
- [Virginia Garcia Memorial Health Center \(VGMHC\)](#) is a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) delivering comprehensive and culturally appropriate primary health care and supports individuals and families in applying for health insurance through the OHP.
- [Washington County Hawthorne Walk-In Center](#) provides urgent care for mental health and addiction services. [CODA, Inc.](#) provides addiction treatment and recovery housing.
- [Family Justice Center](#) and [Domestic Violence Resource Center](#) provide services for persons fleeing domestic violence, sexual assault, and seeking restraining orders.
- [Project Homeless Connect](#) served nearly 400 people at January 24, 2020 event.
- [Metro Trash Bag](#) program assists homeless to maintain clean and sanitary campsites.

Goal 4: Increase Income Support & Economic Opportunities

A leading factor for episodic homelessness is housing affordability for older adults and low wage working families and individuals living on fixed incomes. A wage increase is reported in the minimum wage rate; however, employment wages and Social Security benefits have not kept pace with rent increases. Service providers assist participants to co-enroll in Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA) job skills training, education, on-the-job and employment linkage opportunities, Vocational Rehab and Supported Employment programs.

- Senate Bill 1532 approved by the Oregon Legislature in 2016 enacted a series of annual minimum wage rate increases through 2023, after which the minimum wage rate will be indexed to inflation based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI). For workers within the Urban Growth Boundary, with [BOLI rate](#) increased to \$13.25 per hour on July 1, 2020.

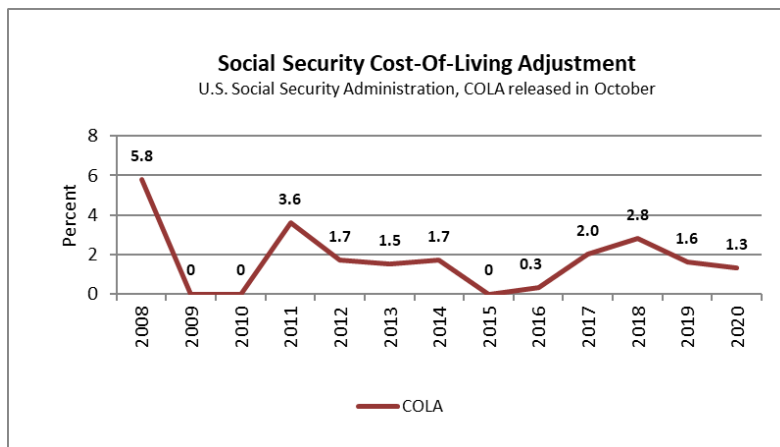
- The unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted) reflects the economic impact of COVID-19. The unemployment rate for Washington County is 9.9% in June 2020 compared to 2.7% in February 2020. Similarly, the rate for Oregon is 11.6% in June 2020 compared to 3.3% in February 2020.



Source: Oregon Department of Employment, June 2020

[Social Security](#) is a federal program that promotes income stability by providing a regular source of income to replace lost wages due to retirement, disability or death. An increase in the number of older adults (age 62+ years) and persons with disabilities is reported by *Community Connect* as “at risk” or experiencing homelessness.

- In 2020 a 1.3% Social Security¹⁵ cost of living adjustment (COLA) was announced. The increase takes effect on January 1, 2021.



Source: United States Social Security Administration, 2020

¹⁵ Social Security Administration, October 2020

2020 OUTCOMES

- 29% shelter and 50% rapid rehousing adults exit programs with increased income attributed to strong jobs market and career coaching supports. The 61% Economic Support decreased as adults with earned income receive less in mainstream assistance.
- 19% permanent supportive housing adults exit programs with less employment income as housing is prioritized for high acuity chronicity populations. A decrease in Economic Support as SSI/SSDI benefits not received prior to early program exits as chronic homeless individuals struggle to transition from street to housing.
- [ASSIST Program](#) has expanded to serve chronic homeless and is aligned with *Built For Zero* case conferencing and achieving success in helping homeless receive SSDI benefit.

SELF-SUFFICIENCY AT PROGRAM EXIT:		Benchmark			
Adults with Employment and Economic Support	Year	% Exit	2020	% Exit	
EMERGENCY SHELTER		2008-09		2019-20	
Number of Adults (18+ Years)		279		242	
Number of Adults with Employment Income	39	14%	70	29%	
Number of Adults with Economic Support*	243	87%	148	61%	
TRANSITIONAL HOUSING		2008-09		2019-20	
Number of Adults (18+ Years)		69		143	
Number of Adults with Employment Income	36	52%	34	24%	
Number of Adults with Economic Support*	44	64%	63	44%	
RAPID RE-HOUSING** (PERMANENT HOUSING)		2008-09		2019-20	
Number of Adults (18+ Years)		n/a		70	
Number of Adults with Employment Income	n/a		35	50%	
Number of Adults with Economic Support*	n/a		45	64%	
PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING		2008-09		2019-20	
Number of Adults (18+ Years)		27		53	
Number of Adults with Employment Income	17	63%	10	19%	
Number of Adults with Economic Support*	21	78%	40	75%	

*Includes TANF, SSI/SSDI, Food Stamps, Veteran Benefits, Medicaid, State Children Health Insurance, and Employment Income

**Note: Rapid Re-Housing implemented in 2012-13.

Source: *Washington County Homeless Programs, HMIS data for period 2008 to 2020*

Goal 5: Expand Data Collection

A Road Home embraces the concept that a Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) will improve system performance by establishing data sharing that ensures privacy and creates accurate information on homeless demographics used for planning and program development.

Washington County Department of Housing Services is the System Administrator and renewed an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) in March 2020 with the Portland Housing Bureau for use of the [WellSky](#) Community Services (formerly ServicePoint) software to support coordinated entry, manage client data, track system and programmatic outcomes, and meet federal reporting requirements; e.g. Point-In-Time, Housing Inventory, Longitudinal System Analysis, System Performance Measurements, and Annual Performance Reports.

- 11 new HMIS users. The Department of Housing Services provides training and technical support to 24 organizations (144 user licenses).

Goal 6: Implement Public Education on Homelessness

The Housing and Supportive Services Network (HSSN) provider agencies were involved in a variety of community events to engage the public. Due to COVID-19 restrictions on public gatherings, some planned events were cancelled, and other engagement events pivoted to virtual presentations.

As recommended by the Homeless Plan Advisory Committee (HPAC), a formal plan will be developed to provide information that is readily available to the public on homeless demographics, progress/outcomes and action going forward.

2020 OUTCOMES:

- **Washington County Board of Commissioners:** On October 15, 2019 the Board proclaimed October 20 to 27, 2019 “National Family Promise Week” with media release distributed to the community to announce Open House events at Family Promise shelters. On November 5, 2019, the Board proclaimed November 16 through 24, 2019 “National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week. A food drive in partnership with the Oregon Food Bank was coordinated by Washington County Department of Housing that collected food and monetary donations to provide over 5,000 meals.
- **Forest Grove City Council:** On November 11, 2019, the Council received homeless demographic data, an overview of the winter shelter operations in Forest Grove and Cornelius and discussed gaps to inform future planning and funding initiatives.
- **Public Safety Coordinating Council (PSCC):** On November 15, 2019, the members received information on the countywide effort to prevent and end homelessness as outlined in A Road Home, and to answer questions on resources for homeless persons experiencing domestic violence, a proposal to bring Project Reset to Washington County, and other justice-involved initiatives. Leading this work in the CoC Board is Ellen Johnson, Attorney (retired) for [Oregon Law Center](#).
- **Washington County Board of Commissioners:** On May 19, 2020 the Board received a report on homeless encampments with policy and program recommendations. A policy consideration is the development of a Safe Parking Resolution and Ordinance that will go to the Board for action in September 2020.
- **COVID-19 Winter Shelter Extension:** Beginning in June 2020, presentations were provided to city councils on outcomes and findings of operating the 2-month (April and May 2020) Winter Shelter extension in response to COVID-19. The presentations were provided by Community Action, [Just Compassion of EWC](#), Project Homeless Connect, St. Francis Winter Shelter, and city of Beaverton and Hillsboro staff.

ALIGNMENT WITH STATE AND FEDERAL PLANNING EFFORTS

State of Oregon: Breaking New Ground

The State of Oregon believes all people in Oregon should have the opportunity to be at home in their communities and to be physically, emotionally and economically healthy. The Oregon Housing Stability Council adopted "[Breaking New Ground](#)", the Oregon Statewide Housing Plan.

The Oregon 80th Legislative Assembly ended on March 8, 2020 with three bills that did not pass. These bills would have addressed the needs of homeless Oregonians; however, the legislative process ended when members of the House and Senate Caucuses left the Capitol and did not return prior to the expiration of the session.

- HB 4001: Emergency Shelters would have required local governments to allow siting of emergency shelters by qualifying entities notwithstanding land use laws and regulations. This bill did not pass; however, there is discussion that this would return at a future session.
- HB 5202: General Obligation Bonds would have allocated \$50 million to build additional safe and stable homes.
- HB 4039: Homeless Youth funding would have provided resources to address youth homelessness.

The State of Oregon convened for Emergency Sessions to pass policy and funding in response to COVID-19 pandemic.

Federal Strategic Plan: Home, Together

On July 19, 2018, the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness released "[Home, Together: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness](#)". Home, Together incorporates new strategies and goals and carries forward best practices from Opening Doors, the previous version of this plan.

Home, Together embodies the belief that only a "home" can end homelessness and we all need to work "together" to accomplish this work. The plan emulates the priorities established on May 20, 2009, when President Obama signed into law the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act, which amends the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to change HUD's definition of homelessness, increase prevention resources and emphasize performance and outcomes. HEARTH Act regulations were released in 2012.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS TO THE 2020 HOMELESS REPORT

Special thanks and recognition to the following individuals and organizations represented in the Homeless Plan Advisory Committee, the Continuum of Care Board, and the Housing and Supportive Services Network for the advocacy, leadership and contributions made to implement the vision outlined in *A Road Home*.

Homeless Plan Advisory Committee (HPAC) - 7/2019 to 6/2020

- Commissioner Dick Schouten, Washington County
- Councilor Elena Uhing, City of Forest Grove
- Commander Erroll McCrea, Washington County Sheriff's Office
- Brenda Christoffer, Citizen At-Large
- Carol Herron, St. Anthony's Severe Weather Shelter
- Jeff Hindley, Citizen At-Large
- Kara Kazemba, Ancora Therapy
- Komi Kalevor, Housing Authority of Washington County
- Sarah Huggins Smith, Person with Lived Experience
- Phillip Williams, Oregon Dept. of Human Services
- Rachael Duke, Community Partners for Affordable Housing
- Kemp Shuey, Community Action Organization
- Roberto Franco, Oregon Community Foundation
- Samira Godil, SW Community Health Center
- Steven Berger, Community Corrections, Washington County
- Talia Buchsbaum, Oregon Health Science University
- Vera Stoullil, Boys & Girls Aid

Continuum of Care (CoC) Board - 7/2019 to 6/2020

- Andrea Logan-Sanders, Boys & Girls Aid
 - Annette Evans, Washington County Housing Services
 - Blair Schaeffer-Bisht, Worksystems, Inc.
 - David Pero, Forest Grove School District
 - Ellen Johnson, Attorney, Oregon Law Center
 - Gary Smith, U.S. Veterans Affairs
 - Gordon Teifel, Families for Independent Living
 - Hanna Gustafson, Cascade AIDS Project
 - Katherine Galian, Community Action Organization
 - Komi Kalevor, Housing Authority of Washington County
 - Lindsay Downen, New Narrative
 - Marcia Hille, Sequoia Mental Health Services, Inc.
 - Mari Valencia-Aguilar, Office of Community Development
 - Mellani Calvin, ASSIST Program
 - Pat Rogers, Person with Lived Experience, Community Action Organization
 - Renee Brouse, Good Neighbor Center
 - Rosemary "Rowie" Taylor, Domestic Violence Resource Center
 - Sarala Ram, CODA, Inc.
 - Undersheriff Shawn Fischer, Washington County Sheriff Office
 - Vernon Baker, Just Compassion of East Washington County
- Liaison City Representation (non-voting):
- Ken Wyatt, City of Tigard
 - Megan Cohen, City of Beaverton
 - Tami Cockeram, City of Hillsboro

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS TO THE 2020 HOMELESS REPORT - CONTINUED

Housing and Supportive Services Network (HSSN) - 7/2019 to 6/2020

- 211Info
- 4D Recovery
- Aloha Community Library
- Americorp
- APANO
- ASSIST Program
- Barbara Nelson, Citizen Advocate
- Beaverton School District
- Beaverton Center for Mediation and Dialogue
- Bienestar
- Boys & Girls Aid
- Bridge Meadows
- Bridges To Change
- CareOregon
- Cascade AIDS Project
- City of Beaverton
- City of Forest Grove
- City of Hillsboro
- CODA, Inc.
- Community Action Organization
- Community Partners for Affordable Housing
- Community Corrections, Wash. Co.
- County Administrative Office, Washington County
- Department of Housing Services, Wash. Co.
- Department of Mental Health, Washington County
- Disability, Aging and Veteran Services, Wash. Co.
- Disability Rights of Oregon
- Domestic Violence Resource Center
- Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon
- Families for Independent Living (FIL)
- Family Promise of Beaverton
- Family Promise of Washington County
- Forest Grove School District
- Good Neighbor Center
- Gung Ho Ministries
- Here Together
- HomePlate Youth Services
- Homewatch 1915i
- Housing Authority of Washington County
- Housing Independence
- Just Compassion
- Lifeworks Northwest
- Luke-Dorf, Inc.
- Lutheran Community Services
- Mental Health Association of Oregon
- METRO
- Metro HomeShare
- Northwest Housing Alternatives
- OHSU
- Office of Community Development, Washington County
- Old Town Church Forest Grove
- Open Door Counseling Center
- Oregon Department of Human Services
- Oregon Food Bank
- Oregon Law Center
- Pacific University
- Portland Community College
- Portland Rescue Mission
- Providence
- Safe Families for Children
- Sequoia Mental Health Services Inc.
- Sheriff's Office, Washington County
- St. Anthony's Catholic Church (Tigard)
- St. Francis Catholic Church (Sherwood)
- The Community Housing Fund
- The Salvation Army
- Tonia Cottrell, Citizen
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
- U.S. Office of Housing and Urban Development
- Union Gospel Mission
- Unite Us
- Washington County Cooperative Library Services
- Washington County Veteran Treatment Court
- WorkSystems, Inc.
- Write Around Portland

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COVID-19 PLAN, PREPARE AND RESPOND

COVID-19 Initiatives and Outcomes – Reporting period 3/2020 to 6/2020

The County's Emergency Operation Center (EOC) Houseless Branch was activated on March 9, 2020 to include a Washington County Sheriff Deputy, volunteer (engineer) employed by Intel Corporation, a Housing Occupancy Specialist and the Homeless Program Manager both employed with Washington County Department of Housing Services, and a Public Health Liaison.

The Houseless Branch developed a response plan to prevent disease transmission while maintaining homeless system capacity to sustain services for persons in homeless programs (e.g. shelters) and create new resources to support people sleeping outside.

This response was centered in racial equity, and included strategies to:

- 1. Sustain existing services and the homeless response system – Community Connect.**
 - a. Community Action pivot from in-person housing needs assessment to phone assessments. Shelters and outreach continued faced-to-face assessments.
- 2. Enhance communication and education on COVID symptoms and perform wellness checks through outreach to encampments.**
 - a. Love Inc. of Tualatin Valley prepared 350 COVID Personal Assistance Care Kits (PACK) that were distributed by Washington County Sheriff Office, Hillsboro Police, and nonprofit outreach teams who visited homeless encampments in the last week of March.
- 3. Provide hygiene and sanitation in the form of restroom and handwashing stations placed at day centers, large encampments, food pantries, and other known sites where homeless persons congregate.**
 - a. Homeless Day Centers implemented “day space” model that limits the number of people in the area by scheduling showers and laundry and providing Grab-n-Go lunches.
- 4. Extend the Severe Weather Shelter (SWS) operations through May 31, 2020 with funds provided by Oregon Housing & Community Services.**
 - a. On March 18, 2020 the Oregon Housing & Community Services awarded \$250,000 to extend Winter Shelters. Community Action partnered with SWS Beaverton Just Compassion and a new Project Homeless Connect SWS-Hillsboro shelter that served 192 people.
- 5. Create a Respite Shelter for COVID+ and COVID-Symptomatic homeless and unstably housed populations (e.g. multi-generational households or shared housing situations).**
 - a. On April 2, 2020 the Washington County Respite Shelter opened at the Comfort Inn, a 114-room hotel located in Hillsboro. The Respite Shelter served 31 COVID+ or COVID-Symptomatic individuals between April 2 through June 30, 2020, with a contract to continue operation after July 1, 2020 as the pandemic continues.

Federal Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) CARES Act Funded Projects

On March 27, 2020 the federal Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) was passed by Congress and signed into law by President Trump. Washington County received \$104.5 million. Funds will expire December 30, 2020.

In June 2020, an allocation of \$1.7 million was prioritized to fund homeless initiatives providing shelter and services to houseless persons at high risk of COVID-19 due to age of 60 years or older, underlying health conditions and persons of color who are disproportionately impacted.

The outcomes of the following COVID-19 programs will be reported in *A Road Home: 2021 Homeless Assessment Report* to cover reporting period July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021.

- **Family Promise shelters** were impacted following the March 23, 2020 Executive Order to “Stay Home, Stay Safe”. The faith-based facilities providing overnight shelter closed and volunteer staffing was primarily in the high-risk category for COVID-19. In June, Washington County Housing Services contracted with Family Promise of Beaverton and Family Promise of Tualatin Valley to open non-congregate shelter operations located in hotel facilities. The new non-congregate shelters expanded daily operation capacity from serving 8 family households to serving 29 family and adult-only households at any point-in-time. Economic outcomes are reported as staff were hired, and the nonprofit agencies retained business operations. Note: The Family Promise of Washington County located in Hillsboro was not able to reopen as the Executive Director retired July 1, 2020.
- Nearly 100 homeless persons were identified in four large encampments that are at high-risk of disease transmission due to lack of sanitation, persons not able to maintain 6’ physical distance and no personal protective equipment (PPE). Homeless persons with vehicles and tents created large RV encampments that lack sanitation and supports. To prevent disease transmission, three projects were identified:
 - **A 50-person tent village** with sanitation and on-site services to include daily wellness checks (Safe Sleep Village opened in August at the Cloverleaf Building).
 - **Hotel Vouchers** for individuals and families due to age or underlying health conditions that may not be able to live in a tent village. Hotel vouchers were aligned with the coordinated outreach to transition people from the encampments.
 - **RV Parking** program with sanitation, safety fencing, on-site staff and wellness checks (Safe Sleep RV Parking will open October 15 through December 30, 2020 at the Fairground property).

The **Winter Shelters** will incorporate CDC safety protocols to prevent disease transmission. The \$1.5 million shelter operation in four cities will provide 150+ bed capacity to be open daily for 120-days continuously using an enrolled model.

Washington County Housing Services received a grant award \$256,152 in federal Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) and \$100,000 East Bay Community Foundation grant for Care Coordination, the Washington County Office of Community Development will provide \$520,000 in Emergency Solution Grant CARES Act funds, Community Action will provide \$125,400 Oregon Emergency Housing Assistance (EHA), the City of Beaverton \$45,000, the City of Tigard \$5,000, and \$500,000 in County CRF CARES Act to bridge the funding gap.

CoC INFRASTRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE

Housing and Supportive Services Network – the CoC Membership

The [Housing and Supportive Services Network \(HSSN\)](#) is open to the public and represents the continuum of care (CoC) membership with more than 60 stakeholder agencies and persons with lived experience that perform strategic planning, comprehensive gaps analysis, address racial equity, implement “housing first” and “person-centered” practices. They also perform system evaluation to address continuous change and improvement, implementation of *A Road Home* strategies, and collaborate on submitting the Federal CoC Program grant application.

- To be eligible for Federal CoC Program funds, the HSSN meets the compliance requirement to establish a CoC governance [24 CFR Part 578.5a].

Validation of this work is documented in annual system-level reports to include local reports (e.g. *A Road Home: Homeless Assessment Report*) and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that encompasses all public and private resources within the CoC jurisdiction dedicated to ending homelessness. The Washington County Department of Housing Services leads this work to submit the CoC Point-In-Time Count (PIT); Housing Inventory Chart (HIC); Longitudinal System Analysis (LSA), a report submitted by HUD to Congress; System Performance Measurements (SPM); and all federal CoC Program-funded project Annual Performance Report (APR)s to demonstrate outcome metrics.

The HSSN is charged with implementation of the goals and comprehensive strategies outlined in *A Road Home: Community Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness*. This work includes the alignment of programs with the jurisdiction’s coordinated entry system – Community Connect. As a component of the continuous change and system improvement process, the HSSN performs annual analysis that includes a Racial Equity Analysis and System Performance Measurement (SPM) data analysis

The HSSN participates in and supports the *2020-2024 Consolidated Plan* goals and strategies administered by the Washington County Office of Community Development.

The CoC Board

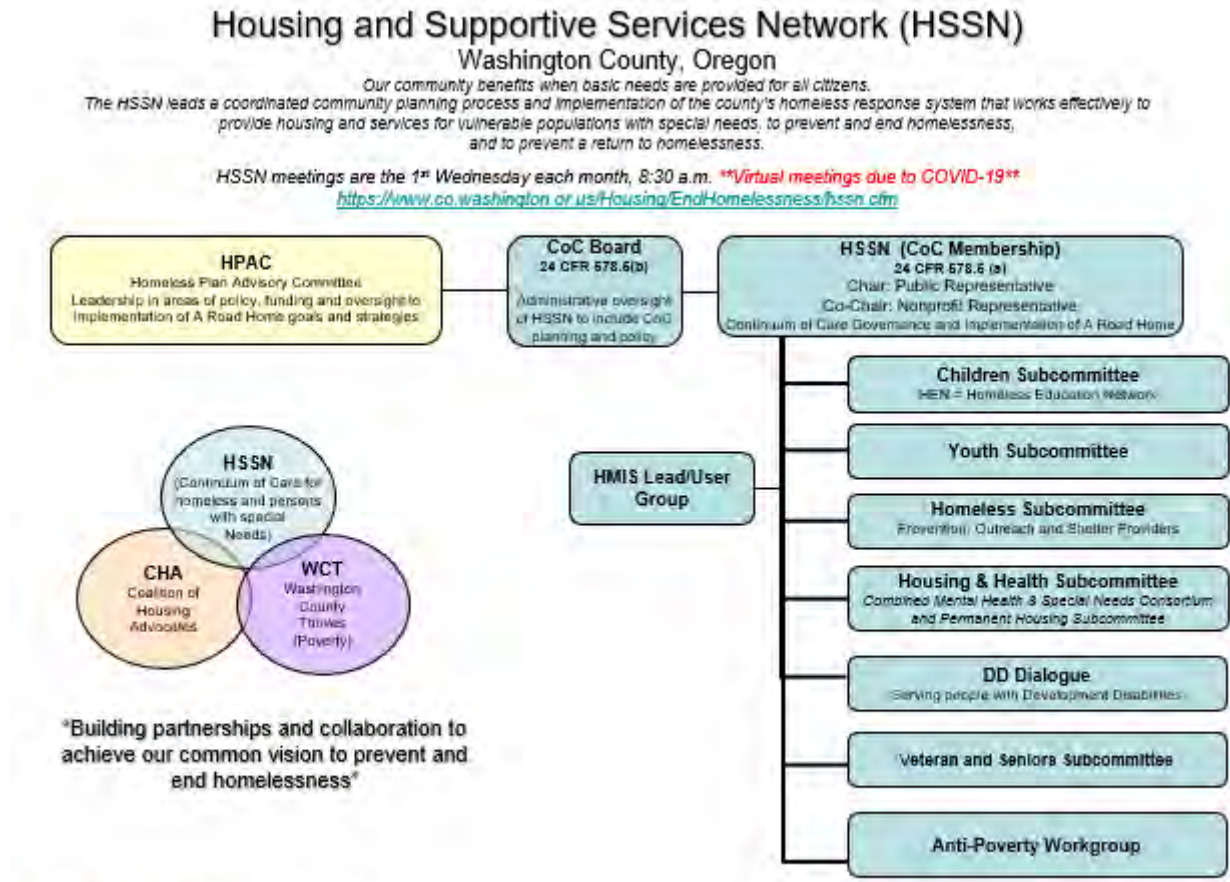
The 18-member CoC Board is elected by the HSSN (the CoC membership) and is representative of the [relevant organizations](#) serving homeless subpopulations and person with lived experience. The CoC Board supports systems and capacity development through policy and advocacy, performs discharge policy analysis (e.g. Jail/Prison, Mental Hospital, Foster Care, Hospitals), performs ranking and rating of CoC Program projects, and provides oversight to the HMIS System Administration managed by the Department of Housing Services.

- To be eligible for Federal CoC Program funds, the [CoC Board](#) meets the compliance requirement to establish a CoC Board [24 CFR Part 578.5b].

Homeless Plan Advisory Committee

The 17-member Homeless Plan Advisory Committee (HPAC) is appointed by the Washington County Board of Commissioners to provide oversight to the implementation of *A Road Home* and to provide leadership directed to effectively work with local and state agencies to develop additional resources to meet the Plan’s ambitious goals. This work is carried out in public [meetings](#).

- The [HPAC By-Laws](#) govern the committee activities to include the advisory role to county staff and the Board of County Commissioners.



Annette M. Evans, Washington County Homeless Program Manager
Annette_Evans@co.washington.or.us / 503-846-4760 (4/1/2020)

Source: *HSSN Governance; April 2020*

HOMELESS STUDENTS IN WASHINGTON COUNTY SCHOOLS

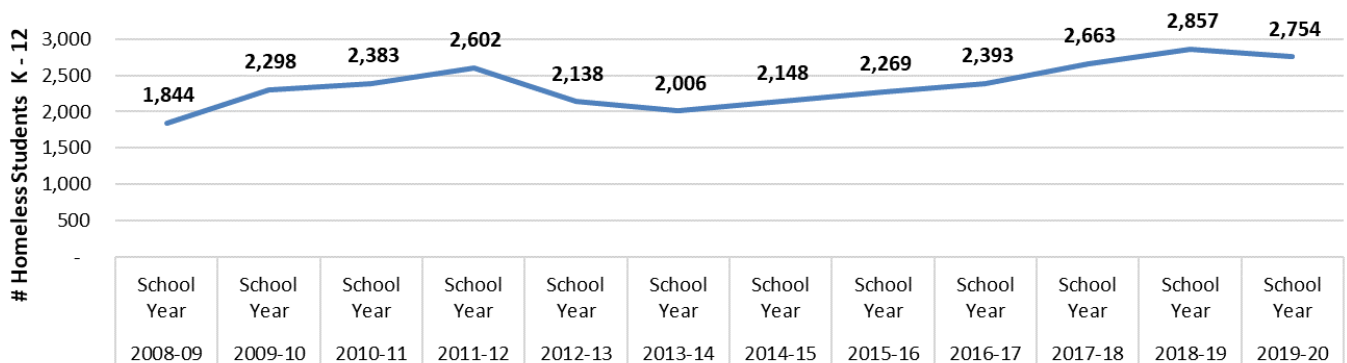
Definitions of Homeless Children and Youth

In 2015, Congress passed Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) that replaces the No Child Left Behind Act and provides states more flexibility in the operation of their schools. Oregon completed the ESSA Plan and implemented it in the 2018-2019 school year. ESSA is more commonly called “the McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Program”. Each school district McKinney-Vento Homeless Liaison assists children and youth experiencing homelessness to enroll in, attend, and succeed in school. Liaisons ensure students are enrolled in school, have the supplies they need and provide referrals to the community services for shelter, health care and counseling. This effort includes data reporting to state and federal officials.

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Student Liaison data reflects those homeless children and youth (Kindergarten through 12th grade) who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence, and includes children and youth who:

- *are sharing the housing of other persons (“doubled-up”) due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason;*
- *are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of adequate alternative accommodations;*
- *are living in emergency or transitional shelters;*
- *have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;*
- *are living in vehicles, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and/or*
- *are migrant children and youth (as defined under NCLB Title IC – Migrant Education) who qualify as homeless for the purposes of this subtitle because the children are living in circumstances described above.*

Total Homeless Students in Washington County, Oregon



Source: Oregon Department of Education, December 2020

Washington County Homeless Students by School District

HOMELESS STUDENT COUNT (K-12): SCHOOL YEAR 2019-2020

Total = 2,754 homeless students in Washington County

Historic Homeless Student Count Trends by School District

School District	2008-09 Year	2009-10 Year	2010-11 Year	2011-12 Year	2012-13 Year	2013-14 Year	2014-15 Year	2015-16 Year	2016-17 Year	2017-18 Year	2018-19 Year	2019-20 Year
	1,844	2,298	2,383	2,602	2,138	2,006	2,148	2,269	2,393	2,663	2,857	2,754
Banks	5	2	8	11	2	5	7	5	10	6	4	4
Beaverton	1,114	1,580	1,584	1,840	1,379	1,291	1,380	1,383	1,522	1,799	1,971	1,871
Forest Grove	104	146	140	102	110	100	100	108	119	125	111	64
Gaston	13	14	18	16	12	18	48	33	14	18	21	9
Hillsboro	403	403	463	411	351	386	386	409	417	461	493	515
Sherwood	35	60	95	94	82	58	39	58	43	47	46	49
Tigard-Tualatin	170	93	75	128	202	148	188	273	268	207	211	242

Source: Oregon Department of Education, September 2019 to June 2020

Homelessness as a percent (%) of Total Student Enrollment and Living Situation

School District	2019-20 # Homeless Students	% of District Enrollment	Sheltered: Emergency Housing	Sheltered: Doubled-up	Unsheltered: Vehicle/Tent/ Other	Unsheltered: Hotel/Motel	Subpopulation: Unaccompanied Youth
	2,754		230	2,223	217	103	457
Banks	4	0.4%	0	*	*	0	*
Beaverton	1,871	4.5%	157	1,619	80	36	303
Forest Grove	64	1.1%	8	38	17	*	52
Gaston	9	1.6%	0	7	8	0	3
Hillsboro	515	2.5%	42	355	88	30	74
Sherwood	49	0.9%	*	46	*	0	8
Tigard-Tualatin	242	1.9%	23	158	24	37	17

*Counts of 5 or less students are suppressed by the Oregon Department of Education

Source: Oregon Department of Education, September 2019 to June 2020

Tri-County Comparison

County	2008-09 School Year	2019-20 School Year	% + / -
Clackamas	1,072	993	-8%
Washington	1,844	2,754	33%
Multnomah	3,137	2,844	-10%

Source: Oregon Department of Education, September 2019 to June 2020

- Note: Washington County schools report a significant increase in student enrollment in the past decade as more families move into Washington County suburbs, with similar increase in homeless students.

Homeless Students in Oregon

HOMELESS STUDENT COUNT (K-12)

Total = 21,080 homeless students in Oregon

The following is a summary of school districts in Oregon reporting more than 500 homeless students.

School District Highest Homeless Student Counts	2019-20 Homeless Student Count: Hi to Low
Beaverton SD 48J	1871
Medford SD 549C	1207
Salem-Keizer SD 24J	1117
Portland SD 1J	1109
Lincoln County SD	801
Eugene SD 4J	707
Reynolds SD	609
Hillsboro SD 1J	515

Source: Oregon Department of Education, September 2019 to June 2020

Number of Homeless Students in Oregon by School Year

2008-09	18,051
2009-10	19,040
2010-11	20,545
2011-12	20,370
2012-13	18,165
2013-14	18,902
2014-15	20,524
2015-16	21,340
2016-17	22,541
2017-18	21,756
2018-19	22,215
2019-20	21,080

Source: Oregon Department of Education, September 2019 to June 2020

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A Road Home

Community Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness in Washington County

July 2019 - June 2020

1. Prevent People from Becoming Homeless

Action Steps (Strategy #)	Status	Lead	
Provide 1-month <i>Rent and Energy Assistance</i> (1.1)	650 households St. Vincent DePaul 882 households Community Action	H	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Provide 1-6 month <i>Prevention Rent Assistance</i> (1.2)	71 households served County Prevention Assistance	H	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Expand <i>Housing Specialist</i> staffing (1.3)	No increase – retained 5 FTE Housing Specialists, 1 FTE Veterans Housing Specialist, 1 FTE Housing Program Supervisor	H	
Expand <i>Rental Education Programs</i> (1.4)	3 Rent Well classes were held prior to issuance of “Stay Home” order with 63 participants	H	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Expand <i>Outreach w/ Community Connect</i> (1.5)	Contracting in-process to expand outreach effective 7/1/2020; assess gap in geographic coverage annually	H	<input type="checkbox"/>
Expand <i>Runaway & Homeless Youth shelter</i> (1.6)	5 beds Safe Place Youth Shelter, no increase	RHY/HEN	
Develop year-round <i>Adult Emergency Shelter</i> (1.7)	11/18/2019 stakeholder convening with nearly 40 attendees; add to Metro SHS priority funding request	H	<input type="checkbox"/>
Expand <i>Family Emergency Shelter</i> (1.8)	117 year-round Family Shelter beds, no increase. Public Safety Levy passed to sustaining beds Family Promise shelters developing plan to expand beds	H	<input type="checkbox"/>
Create a <i>Master List</i> of homeless people (1.9)	Built For Zero By-Name/Case Conference to end chronic homelessness implemented 2/28/2020	H	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Revise <i>Discharge Plan</i> Strategies & Training (1.10)	No revisions required	CoC Board	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Foster <i>Homeless Consumer Representation</i> (1.11)	Homeless/formerly homeless reside on agency boards (CoC-funded), to include HSSN and HPAC	CoC Board	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

2. Move People into Housing

Action Steps (Strategy #)	Status	Lead	
1-6 mo. rent assistance with services (2.1)	43 people assisted in 10-bed Homeless To Work 11 households assisted in Mary Mac House (DV) 10 households assisted in Frederick House	H & H	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1-24 mo. rent assistance with services (2.1.b)	New housing: 4 households in OHCS COVID19 Rapid Rehousing 12 households in DVRC's Sojourner's House Retain housing: 14 households in SSVF Rapid Rehousing 38 households in CoC Rapid Re-Housing for Families 24 households in Emergency Solutions Grant (HUD) 116 households in VA Salvation Army Veteran Center 22 households in Housing Stabilization Program	H & H	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Expand <i>Transitional Living Program</i> (2.2)		RHY/HEN	
Create <i>Medically Complex Transitional Housing</i> (2.3)		H & H	
Create <i>Permanent Supportive Housing</i> chronic (2.4)	New units: 6 units at Clover Court opened in January 2020 Retain housing: 167 VASH vouchers	H & H	<input type="checkbox"/>
Create <i>Permanent Supportive Housing –non-chronic</i> (2.4b)	New housing: 7 households in Kaiser Metro 300 (80 units total)	H & H	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Create <i>Affordable Housing</i> serving <30% AMI (2.5)	194 units in the development pipeline	H & H	<input type="checkbox"/>
Create a <i>Risk Mitigation Pool</i> – Investigate partnership with Multnomah County (2.6.c)		H & H	
Cultivate <i>Private Landlord Relationships</i> (2.7)		H & H	

A Road Home

Community Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness in Washington County

3. Link People to Appropriate Services and Remove Barriers

Action Steps (Strategy #)	Status	Lead	
Create <i>Housing Navigator</i> position (3.1)	Housing Authority contracted 2 Housing Navigator positions	H & H	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Develop volunteer <i>Service Navigator</i> program (3.2)		HSSN	
Expand <i>Case Management and Services</i> (3.3)	Gap in Case Management not covered by Medicaid/OHP	H & H	<input type="checkbox"/>
Develop <i>One-Stop Resource Center</i> (3.4)		H	
Expand <i>Project Homeless Connect</i> (3.4.e)	Expand Community Connect events to include 1 Vision, 1 Dental, 1 Employment Connect, and the Project Homeless Connect service event on January 24, 2020	H	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Create <i>Recuperative Care Program</i> (3.5)		H & H	
Expand resources at <i>Community Connect</i> (3.6)	In addition to 3 FTE CRA at Community Action, expand to perform assessments in shelters, outreach, County WIC Office, Oregon DHS, Hawthorne Walk-in Center, and Family Justice Center	CoC Board	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Expand <i>Veteran Service</i> programs (3.7)	Grant funding renewed to support Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) administered by Community Action and Transition Projects	DAVS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increase <i>Transportation</i> resources (3.8)		H/AP	

4. Increase Income Support and Economic Opportunities

Action Steps (Strategy #)	Status	Lead	
Expand <i>Aligned Partner Network</i> (4.1)	9 agencies in partnership with Worksystems Inc	AP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Develop <i>Economic Opportunity Program</i> (4.2)	Worksystems presented at 11/6/2019 HSSN meeting; EOP implementation will begin 7/1/2020	AP	<input type="checkbox"/>
Create <i>Child Support Training Program</i> (4.3):	Annual class canceled due to COVID pandemic	AP	
Increase <i>Mainstream Resource</i> access at Community Connect (4.4)	Community Connect Assessors continue to make referrals to ASSIST for SSI/SSDI applications and provide OHP and SNAP/TANF enrollment assistance.	AP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reduce barriers to SSI/SSDI benefits: Annual SSA training and SOAR training (4.5)	274 formal referral forms received; 86 people enrolled in ASSIST Program (81% receive SSDI) and 79 cases pending approval as of 6/30/2020 ASSIST provided SSI/SSDI Application training to Virginia Garcia Clinic Primary Care; Sequoia MHS, and CAO Intake Screeners	AP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Expand <i>Supported Employment</i> program (4.6)	LifeWorks NW Supported Employment Program integrated with Supported Education Services 7/1/2019. Supported Employment served 172 individuals; Supported Education served 39 individuals	H & H	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Consolidated Plan <i>Anti-Poverty</i> strategy review (4.7)	Anti-Poverty convened to report on Consolidated Plan	AP	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

5. Expand Data Collection

Action Steps (Strategy #)	Status	Lead	
Expand number of HMIS users (5.1)	11 new users, total 24 agencies with 144 users	HS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Analyze <i>Impact of Intervention Programs and System</i> (5.2)	CoC Board performed program analysis on 8/9/2019; HPAC updated 10/17/2020	CoC Board/HPAC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increase US Congressional Awareness (5.3)	CoC Board reviewed and approved submittal of FY2019 Longitudinal Systems Analysis report on 2/14/2020	CoC Board/HPAC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Analyze <i>System Performance Measurements</i> (5.4.a)	CoC Board reviewed System Performance Measurement report and approved submittal on 2/14/2020; Presentation to HSSN on 4/1/2020 cancelled	HSSN/CoC Board	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Develop A Road Home Annual Work Plan (5.4.b)	Recommended for approval by HSSN on 8/7/2019; approved by CoC Board on 8/9/2019	CoC Board/HPAC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

6. Implement Public Education on Homelessness

Action Steps (Strategy #)	Status	Lead	
Create <i>Community Partnerships</i> (6.1)	Public notices to educate and invite to HSSN	HSSN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publish annual <i>Homeless Assessment Report</i> (6.2):	A Road Home: 2019 Annual Assessment Report published 1/15/2019 (for period 7/2018-6/2019)	CoC Board/HPAC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Develop a <i>Public Education Campaign</i> (6.3)	10/15/219 Proclamation-National Family Promise; 11/5/2019 Proclamation-Hunger & Homelessness; HPAC noted this strategy needs a budget line item	CoC Board/HPAC	<input type="checkbox"/>