

# Winter Shelter Capacity and Homeless Service System Needs

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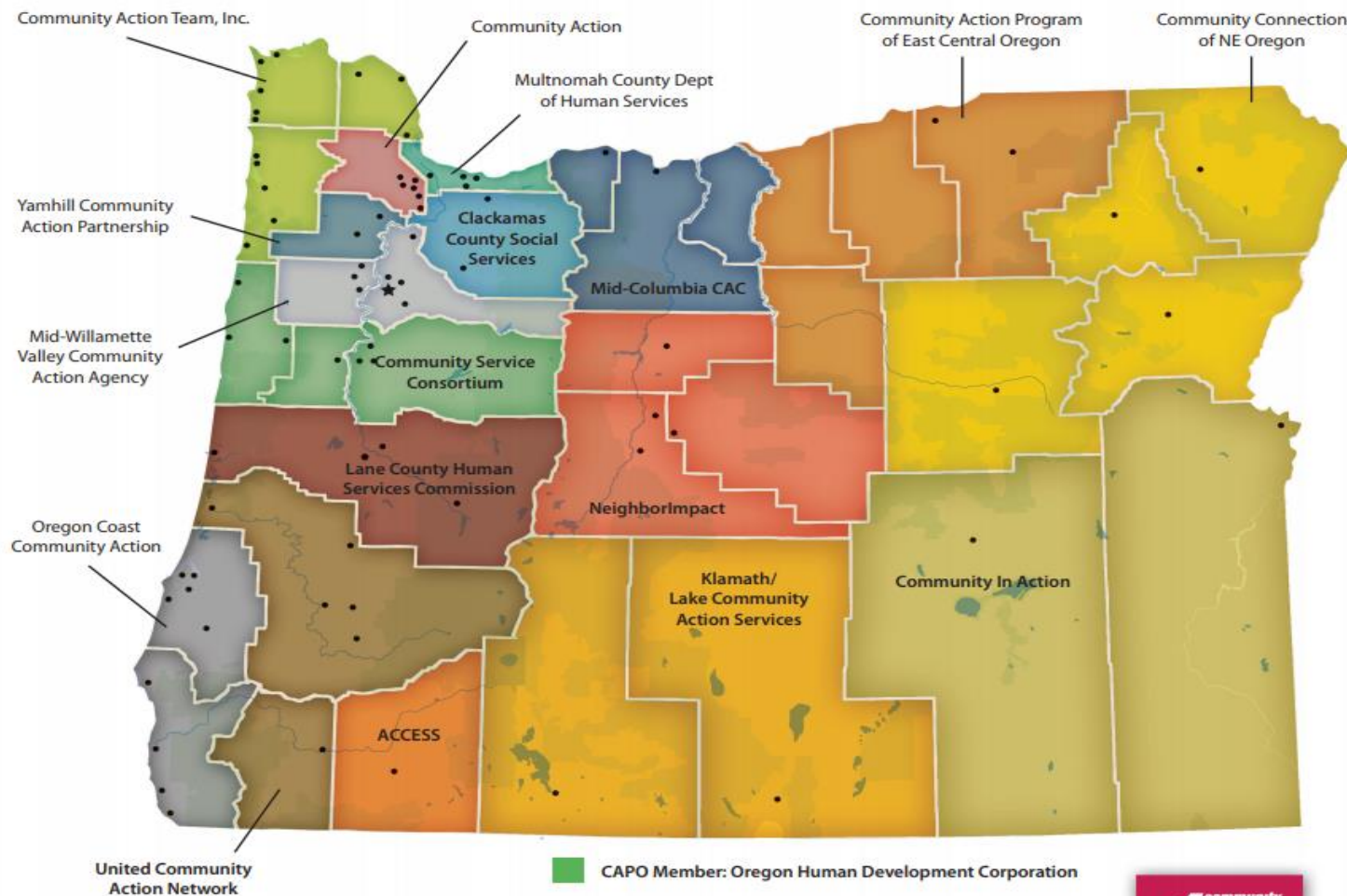
# Our Role



Working together to serve individuals, families  
and communities throughout Oregon

Winter Shelter Capacity

# Homeless Service Delivery System



State Housing Assistance Program (SHAP)

Emergency Housing Assistance (EHA)

# Need for Shelter & Infrastructure

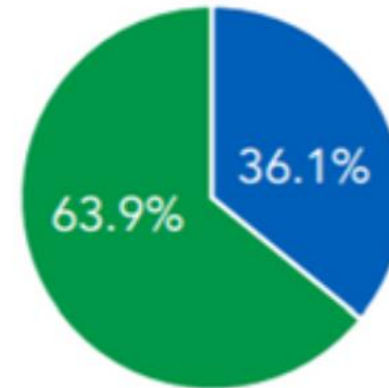
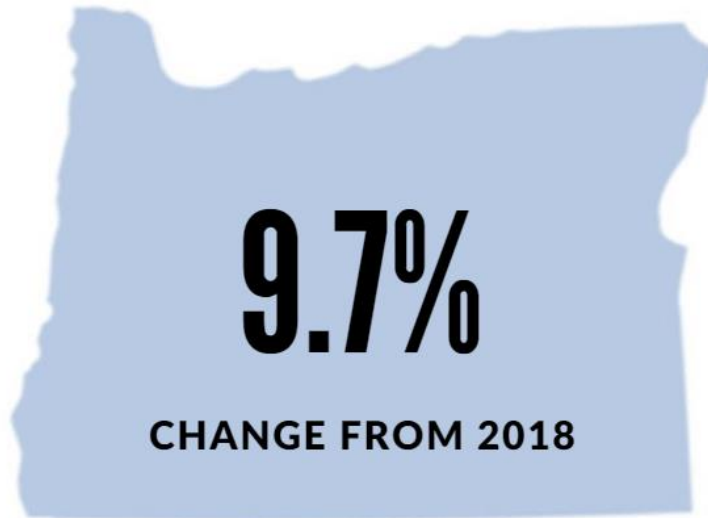
- 64.17% of all people experiencing homelessness live in unsheltered conditions
- In 2018 Oregon was one of four states where more people are unsheltered than living in non-permanent locations
- Oregon Statewide Shelter Study identified a need of 5,814 additional shelter beds to provide relief to Oregonians (currently 4,174 permanent shelter beds)
- Identified need to build capacity of communities to address the issues in their community and need for soft and capital resources



# 2019 Point-In-Time Count

## OREGON

**38.3** in every **10,000**  
people were experiencing  
homelessness



■ Unsheltered (10,142)  
■ Sheltered (5,734)

Total Homeless, 2019  
**15,876**

### Estimates of Homelessness

**12,354** individuals

**3,522** people in families  
with children

**1,590** unaccompanied  
homeless youth

**1,438** veterans

**4,609** chronically homeless  
individuals



# 2019 Point-In-Time Count

- 25% of people experiencing homelessness are in the Portland Metro
- 64.17% of people experiencing homelessness are unsheltered
- Between 2015 and 2019, the estimated number of people experiencing homelessness across the state has increased 19%
- People of color are overrepresented in the number of people experiencing homelessness



- Black/African Americans make up of 1.9% of Oregon, but represent 6% of people experiencing homelessness
- Native Americans make up of 2% of Oregon, but represent 5% of people experiencing homelessness

# New Homeless Service Dollars

\$5 million one-time flexible funds  
to increase winter shelter capacity

## Phase 1

\$1.7 million was allocated directly to organizations across the state to increase shelter access, acquire facilities and expand operating hours

## Phase 2

\$3.3 million to be allocated through competitive award process, funds will create new capacity, rehab, expansion, gap funding



# Phase 1: Expedited Shelter Resources

- Engagement and surveys with Oregon's Continuum of Care leads, Community Action Agencies, and shelter providers
- Expedited procurement process due to emergency health needs and humanitarian crisis
- Geographic coverage
- Commitment and alignment with Statewide Housing Plan, including equity and racial justice considerations





# First Round of Awards

Rural Oregon Continuum of Care (Balance of State) – \$877, 696

- Yamhill Community Action Partnership – \$145,000
- Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency (Marion & Polk Counties) – \$150,000
- Community Action Team (Clatsop, Columbia, and Tillamook Counties) – \$86,500
- KLCAS (Klamath and Lake Counties) – \$27,952
- Helping Hands (Tillamook, Clatsop, Yamhill, and Lincoln Counties) – \$85,000



# First Round of Awards

## Rural Oregon Continuum of Care (Balance of State) – \$877, 696

- Community Connection of Northeast Oregon (Baker, Grant, Union, and Wallowa Counties) – \$55,790
  - La Grande warming shelter
- Oregon Coast Community Action (Coos and Curry Counties) – \$100,000
- United Community Action Network (Douglas and Josephine Counties) – \$75,000



Winter Shelter Capacity

## THE OBSERVER

TOP STORY

### No LUBA appeal to stop warming station

By Dick Mason The Observer Jan 3, 2020 0



The Union County Warming Station has yet to open in suite B at 2008 Third St., but Cody Vela with the station said the contractor is lined up to renovate the building so the shelter can operate. [Buy Now](#)

LA GRANDE — The outlook for the Union County Warming Station is brightening.



It appears the La Grande City Council's Dec. 4 decision to allow the overnight shelter for those in need to operate at its new location at 2008 Third St. near downtown will not face a challenge at the state level.

# First Round of Awards

Rural Oregon Continuum of Care (Balance of State) – \$877, 696

- Hood River Shelter Services (HRSS) - \$11,000
  - OHCS funding is helping to support implementation of Overnight Staff Launch Project, one staff person is on site during all hours of shelter operations for the first time in HRSS ten year history.
  - Additional community support: City of Hood River, United Way of the Columbia Gorge, Kitchings Family Foundation, Oregon Community Foundation, and individual donations to Hood River Shelter Services
  - 95 community volunteers have served 230 volunteer shifts alongside 6 staff members
- Community Services Consortium (Linn, Benn, and Lincoln Counties) – \$141,454



# First Round of Awards

Rural Oregon Continuum of Care  
(Balance of State) – \$877, 696

- Community In Action (Harney and Malheur Counties) - \$150,000
  - Barb Higinbotham, Oregon Housing Stability Councilor and Executive Director of Community In Action, used her local connections and relationships to create political will.



Winter Shelter Capacity

FEATURED

## Pilot shelter gets green light from Ontario City Council

Councilor points out opposition to plan

Griffin Hewitt The Argus Observer

Dec 18, 2019



Community in Action's Barb Higinbotham addresses the Ontario City Council on Tuesday night during its regular meeting, regarding the "tiny house" transitional housing project that is being initiated in Ontario.

Griffin Hewitt | The Argus Observer

ONTARIO — The tiny house project to provide emergency pilot shelter to the homeless is getting closer to realization after Tuesday night's regular Ontario City Council meeting. City Manager Adam Brown addressed the council regarding the project and all of the people who are contributing to it.

"I've got a great supporting cast — Pastor [James] Vogt, Barb Higinbotham," he said. "We have all the parts ready to go."

He indicated that as soon as the city gets "the go-ahead" from the state, the project can continue to move forward.

In a previous meeting it was stated that Community in Action, a partner in the project was securing funding for 15 to 20 tiny houses through Oregon Housing & Community Services.

# First Round of Awards



- Clackamas County Continuum of Care – \$150,000
  - Do Good Multnomah, “K” pictured left
- Lane County Continuum of Care – \$150,000
- Portland/Multnomah County Continuum of Care – \$150,000
- Washington County Continuum of Care – \$150,000



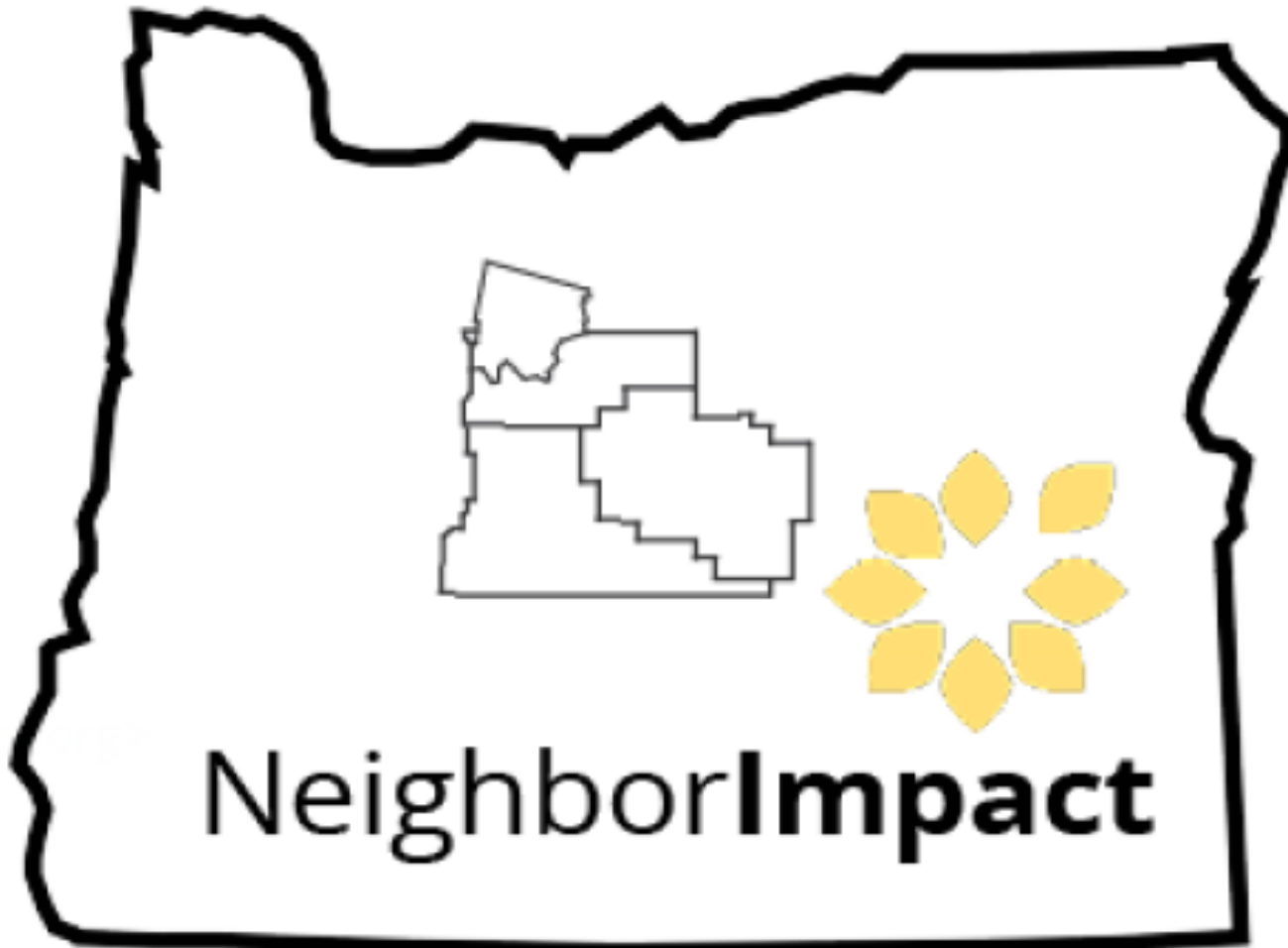
# First Round of Awards



- Jackson County Continuum of Care (ACCESS) – \$150,000
  - Options for Helping Residents of Ashland pictured left
- Central Oregon Continuum of Care (Deschutes, Crook and Jefferson Counties), NeighborImpact – \$150,000



# Central Oregon Investments



Funds awarded to the **Homeless Leadership Coalition** (Continuum of Care) and **NeighborImpact** (local Community Action Agency).

# 2019-2020 Shelter Season Investment: \$150,000

- 7 shelters in 7 communities
- 150 beds, half male and half female
- Mix of volunteer and paid staff
- Some permanent, some rotating spaces
- Churches are a significant partner; also year-round shelters
- 100 percent low-barrier
- Tribal community targeted for outreach
- Pet-friendly
- Warm weather has reduced utilization, about 1/3 full any night





# Shelter in Bend: Community Partnerships



[Click here to read local news coverage.](#)

- State emergency declared in Bend on October 26; zero beds
- Deschutes County Commissioners, Deschutes County Sheriff, Homeless, Leadership Coalition, and NeighborImpact partnered to open former work center
- 48 beds with meals and showers
- One-season only
- Original problem of NIMBYism still on deck for next year
- Will start planning early



# Lessons Learned

- Allow 9-12 month planning window. Shelter planning is year-round.
- Do not underestimate neighborhood resistance, NIMBYism!
- Shelter is complex, expensive and intensive. Not for the faint of heart.
- Shelter management should be separate from management of other housing assistance services. (Shelter management demands full-time attention.)
- Expect the unexpected. Law enforcement and hospitals are crucial partners.
- Be flexible. No one model will meet regional needs. Paid staff and volunteers; permanent and rotating spaces; creativity.
- Compromise on operations; don't compromise principles
- Collaborate, collaborate, collaborate.



# Next Steps for Central Oregon: How Oregon Can Help

- Renewed funding
- Continued education around best-practices
- High level of flexibility
- A longer, smoother glide path for funding and contracting
- Help bring law enforcement and healthcare to the table
- Find the contractor that makes the most sense community by community. **One size does not fit all.**



# Next Steps in Shelter Investments

- Applications will be released in Spring 2020
  - *Please encourage providers in your district to apply!*
- Competitive process that aligns with Oregon's Statewide Housing Plan
- Application will score:
  - Equity Centered Design
  - Shelter Capacity
  - Alignment to Best Practices and Community Needs
  - Policy and Practice Expectations
  - Collaboration
  - Financing and Site Control



# Every Front Door Needs a Back Door

- Working towards ending homelessness in Oregon
- Shelters need a back door, and that back door needs to exit people to housing
- Permanent Supportive Housing
  - \$50M allocated for development in 2019
- Affordable Rental Housing
  - \$150M for the Local Innovation and Fast Track (LIFT) Housing Program in 2019
  - \$25M for preservation of existing affordable housing in 2019



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# Thank you

## Questions?

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