



Henderson House
610 SE First St.
McMinnville, OR 97128

Dear Co-Chairs Senator Steiner and Representative Sanchez and members of the committee,

I am reaching out to you today to seek your support for the **City of McMinnville's Homelessness Response Project**.

As the Development Director for Henderson House – a nonprofit emergency shelter and advocacy center for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault in Yamhill County – I am keenly aware of the crisis that our community is facing. Our clients' ability to establish lives free of violence and abuse hinges on their ability to secure affordable housing. Without the resources for which we are requesting a direct allocation, many of our clients will have to face the choice of returning to their abuser or living on the street. A significant number of would-be clients choose not to engage in our services altogether because the repercussions they may face from their abuser for reaching out for help are too great when weighed against the increasingly low probability that they will have a safe place to stay if they leave. Survivors need better housing support.

We need your help to deliver solutions to the McMinnville community. We are seeking your support for the City of McMinnville's Homelessness Response.

City of McMinnville's Homelessness Response: \$6,742,505 Direct Allocation

The City of McMinnville has identified four (4) construction projects that will increase our bed capacity to over 100+ new beds. We were able to secure funding from regional and local partners for one of the projects so have reduced the original request. The remaining three (3) projects are ready to be built. We are seeking a direct allocation request of \$6,742,505 for the combined three remaining housing projects.

If you need more information or have questions, please contact Heather Richards at heather.richards@mcminnvilleoregon.gov C: 971.287.8322 or Jody Christensen at jody.christensen@mcminnvilleoregon.gov C: 971.387.1800.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rachel Flores', written in a cursive style.

Rachel Flores
Development Director
Henderson House



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610 SE First St.
McMinnville, OR 97128

Dear Co-Chairs Senator Steiner and Representative Sanchez and members of the committee,

I am reaching out to you today to seek your support for the **City of McMinnville's Third Street Improvement Project**.

Why do we need your help? The City of McMinnville has BIG CITY challenges without access to BIG CITY resources. As a city of 35,000 people, we are **too SMALL** to be eligible for federal programs, so we miss out on matching funds for projects like transitional housing development AND **too BIG** to be considered rural, so we end up competing with large urban centers for resources.

We are FALLING through the CRACKS due to constraints imposed by restrictive criteria based on population size and proximity to urban centers.

We need your help to deliver solutions to the McMinnville community. We are seeking your support for the City of McMinnville's Third Street Improvement Project. Henderson House is a nonprofit emergency shelter and advocacy center for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault in Yamhill County. Our Advocacy Center is located in downtown McMinnville and we benefit from the generosity of our thriving and deeply charitable local businesses. Our vital services rely on funding made possible through the healthy ecosystem of small businesses – many of which are located on our city's cherished "main" street: Third Street. When our Third Street is taken care of well – there is a profoundly positive ripple effect on both the for-profit businesses and non-profit organizations that serve our community.

City of McMinnville's Third Street Improvement Project: \$4,000,000 Direct Allocation

This project will fix deteriorated downtown infrastructure that has led to accessibility and safety issues and will define the character for the next generation. The project is \$11,500,000. The City has secured \$2.9MM (City Urban Renewal) and \$600,000 (City ARPA). We still need \$8,000,000. We are seeking a \$4,000,000 direct allocation. We are submitting a request for the Federal Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) funds for the remaining resources needed.

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Rachel Flores
Development Director
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