

# HOUSING PROGRAMS

A Year of Impact 2024



















AVG. LENGTH OF HOMELESSNESS IN YEARS



# **SUMMARY**

The Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency (MWVCAA) offers a comprehensive suite of Rapid Re-Housing (RRH), Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH), and Eviction Prevention programs designed to support homeless and at-risk individuals and families in Marion and Polk counties.

Beyond rental and utility assistance, these programs offer barrier removal services, housing navigation support, case management, tenant advocacy, and landlord engagement and mediation. These services help participants rebuild stability and work toward long-term self-sufficiency.

By combining immediate financial support with tailored services that address both personal and systemic barriers, MWVCAA's housing programs offer a pathway out of homelessness and into long-term stability.

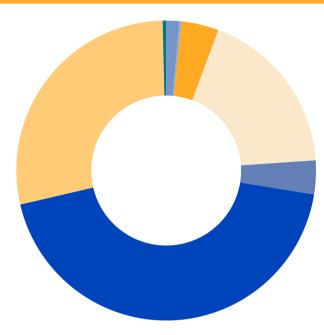




# **PEOPLE SERVED**

BY RACE AND ETHNICITY

In 2024, MWVCAA's housing programs served a racially and ethnically diverse client population. White individuals made up the largest group, with 927 clients, followed by 386 Hispanic/Latine, 598 Biracial/Multiracial, 85 Black, 77 Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, 30 Native/Indigenous, 8 Middle Eastern/North African, and 5 Asian clients. This significant representation highlights MWVCAA's commitment to addressing racial disparities and ensuring equitable access to housing support for all individuals.

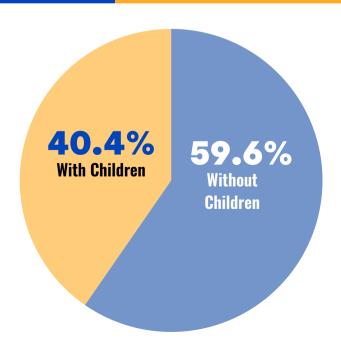




- Hispanic/Latine | 386 Individuals | 18.24% American Indian, Alaska Native | 30 Individuals | 1.42%
- Asian or Asian American | 5 Individuals | 0.23% Black, African American, or African | 85 Individuals | 4.02%
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander | 77 Individuals | 3.64% Middle Eastern/North African | 8 Individuals | 0.38%



# **HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION**



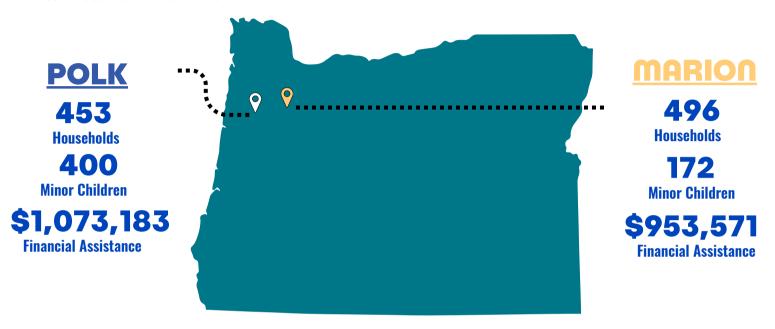
MWVCAA is committed to ensuring that no child experiences homelessness by providing essential support to families in crisis. In 2024, 381 children were either experiencing homelessness or at risk, highlighting the urgent need for continued intervention.

To strengthen its efforts, MWVCAA is launching new targeted programs in 2025 designed to provide housing stability, financial assistance, and comprehensive family support services. These initiatives will help ensure that children have a safe and secure place to call home,



# **RAPID RE-HOUSING**

MWVCAA's Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) offers financial assistance and case management to help clients overcome barriers to independence, including obtaining identification, navigating medical and social security systems, vocational training, and landlord-tenant education. The program also promotes self-sufficiency through budgeting, hygiene, social support, and access to essential household goods, ensuring families have the stability and resources needed to thrive.



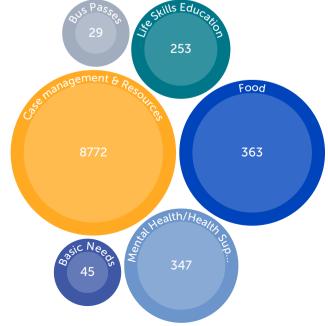


# **SUPPORTIVE HOUSING**

MWVCAA, in collaboration with the Salem Housing Authority, operates three Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) locations: Redwood Crossings, Sequoia Crossings, and Yaquina Hall. These programs provide a safe and stable living environment for individuals who were chronically homeless and require a higher level of support.

The PSH team offers on-site support, assisting residents with tenant-landlord relations and daily essentials, including medical appointment coordination. In 2024, these three locations served a total of 164 individuals across 162 households.

## **SERVICES PROVIDED**

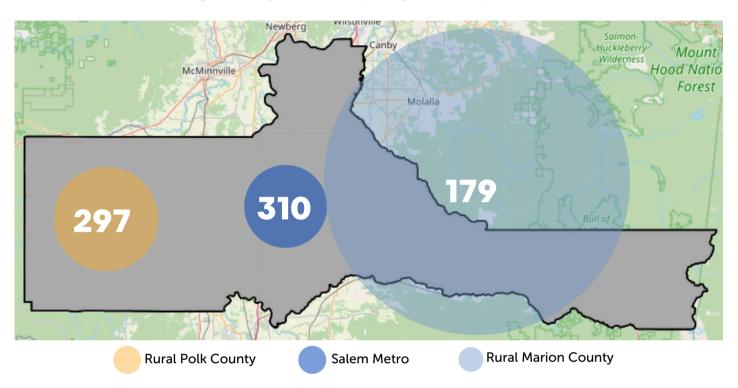




# **EVICTIONS PREVENTED**

BY LOCATION

MWVCAA prevented evictions for 786 households—averaging approximately 65 households each month, or more than two evictions every single day. Significantly, 60.5% of these prevented evictions occurred in rural communities outside the Salem Metro area, highlighting the critical importance of eviction prevention services in regions where resources are limited and housing instability can have especially severe impacts.



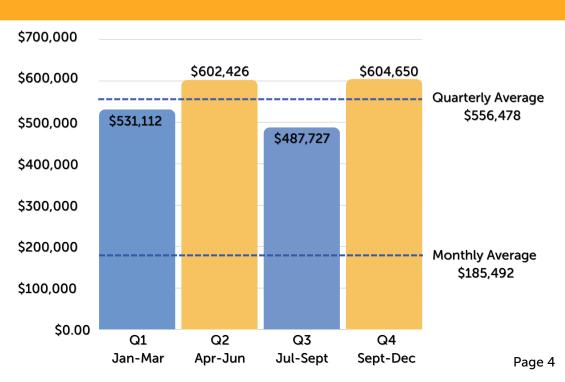


# EVICTION PREVENTION

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

MWVCAA provided \$2,225,915 in financial assistance paid directly to landlords on behalf of tenants, averaging \$556,478.75 per quarter and \$185,492.91 per month.

By directly assisting tenants with rent obligations, MWVCAA helped maintain community stability, reduce the strain on local emergency services, and provide vulnerable households with a foundation for longterm success.





# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

At Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, partnership is our guiding principle. We're proud to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with more than 300 non-profits, local governments, interest groups, and businesses to address our community's systemic challenges and emerging needs.

Please join us in thanking some of our partners and donors:

- City of Salem
- Elected Officials in Marion and Polk County
- JD Health and Wellness
- Polk County Family and Community Outreach
- Marion and Polk Counties
- Marion and Polk Food Share
- Mid-Willamette Valley Homeless Alliance
- Salem Housing Authority
- Oregon State Legislature
- Oregon Housing and Community Services



A special thank you to our team of anti-poverty professionals and volunteers whose unwavering dedication and commitment make this work possible. Your tireless efforts and passion for ending homelessness are the driving force behind our success. Every day, you bring hope, compassion, and solutions to those in need, ensuring that individuals and families have access to safe shelter, essential services, and a path to stability. Your expertise, resilience, and kindness transform lives and strengthen our community.



# **ABOUT MWVCAA**

Founded in 1967, MWVCAA is a leading anti-poverty organization serving Oregon's Marion and Polk Counties. For over half a century, we have been grounded in our mission of empowering people to change their lives and exit poverty by providing vital services and community leadership. We use innovative and research-based practices to design programs that highlight our vision that all people are respected for their infinite worth and are supported to envision and reach a positive future.

Our agency has developed a layered anti-poverty framework, based on a progressive theory of change, and supported by wrap-around resources across all types of basic needs. Supporting eight core programs, and over 50 sub-programs, across three divisions: Early Learning and Childcare, Energy and Weatherization, and Housing and Homeless Services.





(503) 585-6232



# **FUEL THE MISSION**



### WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US IN MAKING A DIFFERENCE AND PUTTING

#### **COMPASSION IN MOTION!**

Your generous donation helps us extend our reach and impact more lives. Together, we can create a world where all people are respected for their invite worth and supported to envision and reach a positive future. Every gift, no matter the size, will have a profound impact on our community. Scan the QR code and donate today.

# COMMUNITY









#### **Bed Night**

A unit of measurement representing one available bed in a shelter or transitional housing facility for one night. This metric is used to track shelter capacity and utilization, helping agencies understand and plan for the housing needs of homeless populations.

#### **Barrier Removal Services**

A set of interventions designed to eliminate obstacles that prevent individuals from obtaining or maintaining stable housing. These services may include assistance with identification documents, credit repair, transportation, childcare, legal aid, or addressing past evictions and criminal records that hinder housing access.

#### **Case Conferencing**

Collaborative meetings involving coordinated entry staff and service provider staff from multiple projects, agencies, and organizations. These meetings discuss individual cases, resolve housing barriers, and make consistent decisions regarding priority, eligibility, and enrollment.

#### **Case Management**

A service process in which a case manager works closely with an individual to assess their needs, develop a personalized plan, and connect them to appropriate community resources and services. This coordinated approach is essential in helping clients navigate complex systems and achieve long-term stability.

#### **Chronic Homelessness**

Chronic homelessness is defined as an individual with a disability who resides in a place not meant for human habitation or an emergency shelter and has experienced homelessness continuously for at least 12 months or on at least four separate occasions within the past three years. The definition also includes individuals who have spent fewer than 90 days in an institutional care facility, provided they met the criteria for chronic homelessness before entering the facility.

#### **Continuum of Care (CoC)**

A regional or local planning body that coordinates housing and services funding for homeless families and individuals. For example, the Mid-Willamette Valley Homeless Alliance (MWVHA) serves as the Marion and Polk Regional Continuum of Care, ensuring that resources and strategies are aligned to address local homelessness challenges.

#### **Coordinated Entry System (CE)**

An approach defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to manage crisis response system resources so that decisions are made consistently using available information. This system efficiently and effectively connects people to interventions that will rapidly end their homelessness.

#### **Financial Assistance**

Support provided to individuals or families in the form of direct payments or subsidies to cover essential expenses such as rent, utilities, security deposits, or other housing-related costs. These payments are made by the organization directly to the vendor on the clients behalf. Financial assistance services help prevent homelessness, stabilize housing situations, and promote long-term financial security.

#### Low-Barrier

A term used to describe programs that have minimal entry requirements or restrictions, ensuring that individuals experiencing homelessness can access support without unnecessary obstacles. Low-barrier programs typically do not require sobriety or participation in specific services as a condition for entry.

#### **Permanent Supportive Housing**

A long-term housing intervention that combines affordable housing with ongoing supportive services. It is specifically targeted to individuals who have experienced chronic homelessness, helping them achieve housing stability while addressing underlying issues such as mental health, substance use, or other challenges.

#### **Rapid Re-Housing**

A service model designed to quickly move individuals and families out of homelessness by providing short-term rental assistance and supportive services. The goal is to reduce the time spent homeless while increasing housing stability through expedited access to affordable housing and tailored supports.

#### **Rural Marion County**

Includes the incorporated and unincorporated cities outside of the Salem Metro area, including Brooks, Woodburn, Silverton, Mt. Angel, Stayton, Sublimity, Aumsville, Turner, Mill City, and Detroit.

#### **Rural Polk County**

Includes the incorporated and unincorporated cities West of Hwy 51 including Monmouth, Independence, Dallas, Falls City, and Grand Ronde.

#### Salem Metro

Includes the incorporated and unincorporated areas of the city of Salem, West Salem, and Keizer.

#### **Substance Use Disorder**

A medical condition characterized by the problematic use of psychoactive substances—including alcohol and drugs—that leads to significant impairment or distress. This disorder often requires specialized treatment and support services to address both the addiction and its broader impacts on an individual's life.

#### **Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH)**

A program tailored for veterans that offers permanent housing solutions coupled with supportive services. This initiative is designed to address the unique needs of homeless veterans by providing access to affordable housing and critical services aimed at stabilizing their living situations and promoting overall well-being.

#### **Vulnerability Index-Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool**

A standardized assessment tool used to evaluate the needs, risks, and vulnerabilities of homeless individuals and families. The results help service providers prioritize clients for housing and supportive services based on their level of need. The VI-SPDAT score range is 1 to 16+ and is reflective of an individual's risks and vulnerabilities, with a higher score indicating a need for immediate intervention.

#### **Youth and Young Adult**

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) defines "youth" as individuals under the age of 18 and "young adults" as individuals aged 18 to 24. These definitions are used to categorize unaccompanied individuals experiencing homelessness within these age groups.

#### **Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP)**

A federal initiative designed to reduce and ultimately end youth homelessness by providing targeted funding, innovative strategies, and community-based collaboration to create effective housing and support solutions for young people experiencing homelessness.