



Low Barrier Shelter & Navigation Center

IMPLEMENTING A PLAN TO REDUCE HOMELESSNESS IN EUGENE & LANE COUNTY

Homelessness directly impacts the people experiencing it and the communities that are working to positively address the challenge. The City of Eugene and Lane County governments are working collectively to create systematic change and reduce homelessness through programmatic interventions and increased investment in shelter and housing.

HOMELESS SYSTEM AND SHELTER FEASIBILITY

In March 2018, Lane County and City of Eugene contracted with the Technical Assistance Collaborative (TAC) to conduct a Public Shelter Feasibility Study and Homeless Service System analysis. The TAC’s work provided information about our system-wide needs and gaps as well as recommendations about actions and investments that will fill those gaps and make our system more effective at providing pathways out of homelessness. The Lane County Board of Commissioners and Eugene City Council each endorsed the TAC Report and recommendations and agreed to support implementation in May of 2018.

FINDINGS

Lane County’s current shelter capacity for single adults is limited, and can be difficult to access. Individuals with some of the most significant vulnerabilities and challenges – criminal histories, behavioral health issues, etc. – are often unable to access existing year-round emergency shelter.

Expanding shelter beds is critical to impacting homelessness in the county.

TAC RECOMMENDATION

Establish 75 bed, low-barrier shelter. The number of beds was determined after a comprehensive review of current capacity and growth analysis. This shelter will serve as both a “next step” for current crisis response and play a key role in the overall continuum of services. In addition, the navigation center will provide a vital connection to additional services and housing.

Technical Assistance Collaborative Recommendations

HOMELESS SERVICE SYSTEM RECOMMENDATIONS	
<p>1</p>  <p>EXPAND AND COORDINATE STREET OUTREACH</p>	<p>2</p>  <p>EXPAND DIVERSION & RAPID EXIT STRATEGIES</p>
<p>3</p>  <p>EXPAND AND COORDINATE RAPID REHOUSING</p>	<p>4</p>  <p>350 UNITS PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING</p>
<p>5</p>  <p>MOVE-ON STRATEGIES</p>	<p>6</p>  <p>TENANCY SUPPORTS</p>
<p>7</p>  <p>COORDINATED ENTRY CHANGES</p>	<p>8</p>  <p>LANDLORD PARTNERSHIPS</p>
<p>9</p>  <p>BEST PRACTICE TRAINING</p>	<p>10</p>  <p>75 BED EMERGENCY SHELTER</p>



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OUTCOMES

Space for 75 individuals at a time for immediate shelter and navigation to additional housing services

Based on our FUSE (Frequent User Service Engagement) data, we know that connection to these vital services reduces impacts on emergency departments, jails, law enforcement and other services

35% reduction in Medicaid health care costs

58% reduction in arrests after engagement and 62% reduction in jail bookings

PROGRESS TO DATE

The City and County are partnering to meet the need for a low barrier, emergency shelter.

An intergovernmental siting team is evaluating sites and conducting stakeholder focus groups with community members and people with lived experience to inform the location and programming

In the interim, over the last year the City and County partnered to increase capacity of the Dawn to Dawn shelter which will serve over 250 people per night through April. This program provides temporary shelter and storage for people who are typically camping illegally throughout the community.

TIMING

KEY MILESTONE

Site selection for shelter and navigation center

Land use and construction requirements

Service provider selection

Resource identification

Expected construction or renovation

Opening

COMPLETED BY

Winter 2020

Spring 2020

Winter/Spring 2020

On-going in 2020

Fall 2020

Fall 2020