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## Understanding the Players Addressing Homelessness

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# Understanding Terms: Definitions of Homelessness

The HUD final rule on the Definition of Homeless establishes four categories under which an individual or family may qualify as homeless.

**Category 1:** Literally homeless individuals/families: Individuals and families who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, which includes one of the following:

- Place not meant for human habitation
- Living in a shelter (Emergency shelter, hotel/motel paid by government or charitable organization)
- Exiting an institution (where they resided for 90 days or less AND were residing in emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering institution)

**Category 2:** Individuals/families who will imminently (within 14 days) lose their primary nighttime residence, which includes ALL of the following:

- Have no subsequent residence identified AND
- Lack the resources or support networks needed to obtain other permanent housing

**Category 3:** Unaccompanied youth (under 25 years of age) or families with children/youth who meet the homeless definition under another federal statute and includes ALL of the following:

- Have not had lease, ownership interest, or occupancy agreement in permanent housing at any time during last 60 days
- Have experienced two or more moves during last 60 days
- Can be expected to continue in such status for an extended period of time because of chronic disabilities, OR chronic physical health or mental health conditions, OR substance addiction, OR histories of domestic violence or childhood abuse (including neglect) OR presence of a child or youth with a disability, OR two or more barriers to employment

**Category 4:** Individuals/families fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or life-threatening conditions that relate to violence against the individual or family member and includes ALL of the following:

- have no identified residence, resources or support networks
- Lack the resources and support networks needed to obtain other permanent housing

# Major Players and Roles, Resources and Responsibilities: **GOVERNMENT ENTITIES**

- Federal
- State
- County
- City
- School District
- Public Housing Authorities

# Major Players and Roles, Resources and Responsibilities: The Federal Government

The Federal Government provides several sources of funding to States, to Cities, and to eligible entities to address issues of housing and homelessness.

## HUD FUNDING IN OREGON

HUD brings more than \$5 BILLION to the Oregon economy. HUD provides funding in three ways:

**Mortgage insurance** – provides credit enhancements for home buyers and for multifamily developers. The insurance results in additional private investment exceeding \$4 billion in recent years.

**Rental Assistance** – makes housing affordable for the very low-income. HUD contracts with local public housing authorities and private landlords to provide housing under the Low-Income Public Housing, Section 8 Vouchers, and the Section 8 project-based programs. Rental assistance brings in excess of \$300 million to the Oregon economy.

**Grants** – for housing and community development activities. HUD awards grants to local and state government, and occasionally non-profits. Awards are made either by formula distribution or by competitive process.

# Major Players and Roles, Resources and Responsibilities: The Federal Government

The Dept. of Housing and Urban Development provides grant funding to support affordable housing, community development and homelessness assistance, to both State and local entities.

- Community Development Block Grant funding: **State-\$11,449,421/City of Ashland-\$179,575**
- Continuum of Care Funding (directly to CoC's) **OR-502-\$268,247**
- Emergency Solutions Grants: **State-\$1,975,255**
- HOME funding: **State-\$9,498,563**(For Housing Development)
- Housing Opportunities for People with Aids (HOPWA): **State-\$734,941**
- Housing Trust Funds: **State-\$5,468,941.58** (For Housing Development)

# Major Players and Roles, Resources and Responsibilities: The State Government

The State Government has several different agencies providing a wide variety of programs, grant funds, and services to support health, housing, and address issues of homelessness.

- Oregon Housing and Community Services: <https://www.oregon.gov/ohcs/pages/agency-programs.aspx>
- Oregon Health Authority: <https://www.oregon.gov/oha/pages/index.aspx>
- Oregon Department of Human Services: [https://www.oregon.gov/odhs/pages/default.aspx?utm\\_source=odhs&utm\\_medium=egov\\_redirect&utm\\_campaign=https%3a%2f%2fwww.oregon.gov%2fdhs](https://www.oregon.gov/odhs/pages/default.aspx?utm_source=odhs&utm_medium=egov_redirect&utm_campaign=https%3a%2f%2fwww.oregon.gov%2fdhs)
- Oregon Youth Authority: <https://www.oregon.gov/oya/paroleprobation/Pages/residential.aspx>
- Business Oregon: <https://www.oregon.gov/biz/programs/CDBG/Pages/default.aspx>

# Major Players and Roles, Resources and Responsibilities: The County Government

The County Government has a few agencies providing services to support public and behavioral health, veteran's services, and some resources through the Criminal Justice Division, including a 139-bed criminal justice transition center.

- Jackson County Mental Health:

[https://jacksoncountyor.gov/departments/health\\_human\\_services/programs\\_and\\_services/mental\\_health/index.php](https://jacksoncountyor.gov/departments/health_human_services/programs_and_services/mental_health/index.php)

- Transition Center:

[https://jacksoncountyor.gov/departments/community\\_justice/transition\\_center/index.php](https://jacksoncountyor.gov/departments/community_justice/transition_center/index.php)

The County has provided staff and funding support for the Mobile Crisis Unit and for the Jackson County Continuum of Care. Jackson County is the primary State CDBG recipient.

# Major Players and Roles, Resources and Responsibilities: The City Government

The City of Ashland is an entitlement Jurisdiction for Community Development Block Grant funding and dedicates some General Fund money and staff time to address issues of housing and homelessness. The City also offers incentives in the form of fee waivers and deferrals to support the development of Affordable housing.

- CDBG Funding: Approx. **\$180,000** Annually.
  - Highly Restricted uses, capital, and rehab funding available, limited funding to support direct services.
- Affordable Housing Trust Funds: Approx. **\$100,000** Annually
- Social Service Grants: Approx. **\$134,000** Annually.
  - Budget Committee and City Council authorized on year of funding for the last two biennia. Additional allocations TBD.
- Inclement Weather Shelter. **\$100,000** Annually.
  - Budget Committee and City Council authorized on year of funding for the last two biennia. Additional allocations TBD.
- Night Lawn. **\$?** Annually.



# Major Players and Roles, Resources and Responsibilities: School District

The McKinney-Vento Act’s Education of Houseless Children and Youth Program, ensures that houseless children and youth are provided a free, appropriate public education, despite lack of a fixed place of residence or a supervising parent or guardian. Every school district in Oregon has at least one designated Houseless Student Liaison to provide direct assistance to families navigating houselessness and unaccompanied youths to access and achieve in school.

*The McKinney-Vento Act defines homeless children and youth as individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. This definition also includes: Children and youth who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason. As of this week the Ashland School District reports a total of **92 students** who meet the criteria to be considered homeless under the McKinney-Vento definition.*

Row Labels	District	Doubled-Up	Motel/Hotel	Shelter	Unsheltered	Unaccompanied
2113	Adrian SD		29		11	0
1899	Alsea SD 7J		6	*	*	0
2252	Amity SD 4J		12	*	*	*
2111	Annex SD 29		10	*	8	0
2005	Arlington SD 3		16			17
2041	Ashland SD 5		76	24	7	14

# Major Players and Roles, Resources and Responsibilities: Public Housing Authority

## HUD'S PUBLIC HOUSING PROGRAM

### WHAT IS PUBLIC HOUSING?

Public housing was established to provide decent and safe rental housing for eligible low-income families, the elderly, and persons with disabilities. Public housing comes in all sizes and types, from scattered single-family houses to high rise apartments for elderly families. There are approximately 970,000\* households living in public housing units, managed by some 3,300 HAs. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) administers Federal aid to local housing agencies (HAs) that manage the housing for low-income residents at rents they can afford. HUD furnishes technical and professional assistance in planning, developing, and managing these developments.

### WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE HA?

An HA is responsible for the management and operation of its local public housing program. They may also operate other types of housing programs.

(1) On-going functions: (a) Assure compliance with leases. The lease must be signed by both parties; (b) Set other charges (e.g., security deposit, excess utility consumption, and damages to unit); (c) Perform periodic reexaminations of the family's income at least once every 12 months; (d) Transfer families from one unit to another, in order to correct over/under crowding, repair or renovate a dwelling, or because of a resident's request to be transferred; (e) Terminate leases when necessary; and (f) [maintain the development in a decent, safe, and sanitary condition](#).

(2) Sometimes HAs provide other services, that might include such things as: homeownership opportunities for qualified families; employment training opportunities, and other special training and employment programs for residents; and support programs for the elderly.

**The Housing Authority of Jackson County (HAJC) provides affordable rental units and rental assistance through the Housing Choice Voucher Program. HAJC provides housing for more than 4,000 Jackson County households. HAJC administers nearly 2,100 housing choice vouchers, and has offered a robust home repair loan program for homeowners. HAJC is one of the largest developer, owner, and operator of affordable rental housing in Southern Oregon.**

## **PUBLIC HOUSING PROGRAMS**

Below is a summary of public housing programs within the Office of Public and Indian Housing:

[Capital Fund](#): The Capital Fund provides funds to housing authorities to modernize public housing developments.

[Demolition/Disposition](#): The Demo/Dispo program was created in an effort to help eliminate old, run-down public housing.

[Homeownership](#): A Public Housing Authority (PHA) may sell all, or a portion of, a public housing development to eligible residents or resident organizations, for purposes of homeownership, provided that a Homeownership Plan has been submitted by the PHA and has been approved by HUD.

[HOPE VI](#): Since 1993, HOPE VI has been the engine driving the revitalization of the Nation's most distressed public housing developments by providing grants and unprecedented flexibility to address the housing and social service needs of their residents.

[Housing Choice Vouchers](#) (Formerly Section 8): Allow very low-income families to choose and lease or purchase safe, decent, and affordable privately-owned rental housing.

[Mixed-Finance Public Housing](#): Mixed-Finance public housing allows HUD to mix public, private, and non-profit funds to develop and operate housing developments. These new developments are built for residents with a wide range of incomes and are designed to fit into the surrounding community.

[Moderate Rehabilitation](#): Provides project-based rental assistance for low-income families. The program was repealed in 1991 and no new projects are authorized for development. Assistance is limited to properties previously rehabilitated pursuant to a housing assistance payments (HAP) contract between an owner and a Public Housing Agency (PHA).

[Moving to Work Demonstration \(MTW\)](#): MTW is a demonstration program that allows housing authorities (Has) to design and test ways to give incentives to families to become economically self-sufficient, achieve programmatic efficiencies, reduce costs, and increase housing choice for low-income households.

[Operating Fund](#): The Public Housing Operating Fund provides operating subsidies to housing authorities (HAs) to assist in funding the operating and maintenance expenses of their own dwellings, in accordance with Section 9 of the U.S. Housing Act of 1937, as amended. The subsidies are required to help maintain services and provide minimum operating reserves.

[Resident Opportunities and Self Sufficiency \(ROSS\) and Neighborhood Networks \(NN\)](#) : The ROSS program links services to public housing residents by providing grants for supportive services, resident empowerment activities and activities to assist residents in becoming economically self-sufficient.


# Coalitions, Task Forces, and Committees




## Jackson County Homeless Task Force

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# HUD Continuum of Care Program

The CoC Program is designed to promote community-wide planning and strategic use of resources to address homelessness; improve coordination and integration with mainstream resources and other programs targeted to people experiencing homelessness; improve data collection and performance measurement; and allow each community to tailor its programs to the strengths and challenges in assisting homeless individuals and families within that community.

The CoC Program is also designed to assist individuals (including unaccompanied youth) and families experiencing homelessness and provide the services needed to help such individuals move into transitional and permanent housing, with the goal of long-term stability. HUD provides Funding to support this implementation of these goals.

## The Five Program Components that can be funded with CoC funding

**Permanent Housing:** Permanent housing (PH) is defined as community-based housing without a designated length of stay in which formerly homeless individuals and families live as independently as possible. Under PH, a program participant must be the tenant on a lease (or sublease) for an initial term of at least one year that is renewable and is terminable only for cause. Further, leases (or subleases) must be renewable for a minimum term of one month. The CoC Program funds two types of permanent housing: **permanent supportive housing (PSH)** for persons with disabilities and **rapid re-housing (RRH)**. Permanent supportive housing is permanent housing with indefinite leasing or rental assistance paired with supportive services to assist homeless persons with a disability or families with an adult or child member with a disability achieve housing stability. Rapid re-housing emphasizes housing search and relocation services and short- and medium-term rental assistance to move homeless persons and families (with or without a disability) as rapidly as possible into permanent housing.

**Transitional Housing:** Transitional housing (TH) is designed to provide homeless individuals and families with the interim stability and support to successfully move to and maintain permanent housing. Transitional housing may be used to cover the costs of up to **24 months** of housing with accompanying **supportive services**. Program participants must have a lease (or sublease) or occupancy agreement in place when residing in transitional housing.

## The Five Program Components that can be funded with CoC funding Continued

**Supportive Services Only:** Funds under this component may be used only by the entity designated by the CoC to lead the CoC's coordinated entry process. HUD requires each CoC to establish and operate a [coordinated entry process](#) to increase the efficiency of local crisis response systems and improve ease of access to resources, including mainstream resources. Funds awarded through a **Supportive Services Only - Coordinated Entry (SSO-CE)** grant may be used for a range of supportive services that directly relate to carrying out CE activities, such as conducting outreach to sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons and families (including initial assessment, crisis counseling, and addressing urgent physical needs) and connecting persons experiencing homeless to housing and other resources. While an SSO grant is no longer available for entities that are not the CE Lead Agency, recipients and subrecipients are able to receive supportive services funds to provide services to homeless individuals and families not residing in housing operated by the recipient. Supportive services may be offered in a structure or structures at one central site, or in multiple buildings at scattered sites where services are delivered. Projects may be operated independent of a building (e.g., street outreach) and in a variety of community-based settings, including in homeless programs operated by other agencies.

**Homeless Management Information System:** Funds under this component may be used only by Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Lead Agencies. The HMIS Lead Agency is the entity designated by the CoC to operate the CoC's HMIS on the CoC's behalf. Under the HMIS component, funds pay for leasing a structure in which the HMIS operates, for operating the structure in which the HMIS is housed, and/or for covering other costs related to establishing, operating, and customizing a CoC's HMIS. Other recipients and subrecipients may not apply for funds under the HMIS program component, but they may include costs associated with contributing data to the CoC's HMIS within their project under another program component (PH, TH, SSO, or HP).

**Homelessness Prevention:** Recipients and subrecipients located in HUD-designated High Performing Communities (HPCs) may use CoC Program funds for homelessness prevention assistance for individuals and families at risk of homelessness. The annual CoC Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) will provide additional details about CoCs applying for designation as an HPC. The services under this component may include housing relocation and stabilization services as well as short- and medium-term rental assistance to prevent an individual or family from becoming homeless. Through this component, recipients and subrecipients may help individuals and families at-risk of homelessness to maintain their existing housing or transition to new permanent housing. Homelessness prevention must be administered in accordance with 24 CFR part 576.

# Agencies, Organizations and Programs

## **OR-502 - Medford, Ashland/Jackson County CoC**

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Community Works DV New Project 2023	CoC	\$67,807
DV Renewal Project	CoC	\$87,639
FY2023 ACCESS HMIS Project	CoC	\$10,000
FY2023 ACCESS Planning Project	CoC	\$50,000
FY2023 Test RRH project	CoC	\$55,710
OnTrack RRH 2023	CoC	\$49,061
<b>OR-502 Total :</b>		<b>\$320,217</b>

# Agencies, Organizations and Programs





# Homeless – Focused Services

## **SHELTER-HOUSING AND RELATED RESOURCES**

OPTIONS FOR HELPING RESIDENTS OF ASHLAND: Shelter/Navigation/Showers  
2200 ASHLAND STREET SHELTER: Shelter/Navigation/Showers  
PARKER HOUSE: Shelter/Women/Children  
KELLY SHELTER: Shelter/Men/Women/Children  
ROGUE RETREAT CROSSING: Shelter/Men/Women/Children  
DUNN HOUSE SHELTER (Domestic Violence Svcs/Women/Children)  
MEDFORD GOSPEL MISSION – Men’s Shelter/Dinner for everyone  
MEDFORD GOSPEL MISSION – Women’s and children’s shelter  
ST. VINCENT de PAUL OF MEDFORD (Meals, clothing, family shelter  
SALVATION ARMY “HOPE HOUSE”-Transitional Housing  
MAGDALENE HOME-shelter for homeless pregnant and parenting teens

## **VETERANS SERVICES**

ACCESS. SSVF  
VA HOMELESS OUTREACH  
SO. OR REHABILITATION CENTER & CLINICS/ DEPT. OF VETERANS AFFAIRS--  
EASTER SEALS-HOMELESS VETERANS REINTEGRATION  
PROGRAM- Job development & svcs

## **FOOD PANTRIES AND FOOD RESOURCES**

ACCESS-24 + Food pantries  
ASHLAND COMMUNITY FOOD BANK  
SALVATION ARMY FOOD PANTRY  
UPPER ROGUE COMMUNITY CENTER Shady Cove Lunch/food boxes  
SET FREE MINISTRIES-showers/food resources  
ASHLAND FOOD ANGELS  
PEACE HOUSE MEALS  
SOUTHERN OREGON JOBS WITH JUSTICE

## **SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT**

ADDICTIONS RECOVERY CENTER-Treatment and Housing  
JACKSON COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH Primarily-Services (limited housing)  
ONTRACK, INC-Treatment and Housing  
OPTIONS FOR SOUTHERN OREGON-Services and Housing  
COLUMBIA CARE-Services and Housing

## **SOCIAL SERVICES, LEGAL, ADVOCACY, HEALTH, HOUSING**

AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CONNECTION  
ACCESS-Rent, utility, energy assist., etc.)  
CENTER FOR NON-PROFIT LEGAL SERVICES  
DISABILITY SERVICES OFFICE (State Services)  
HELP NOW! ADVOCACY CENTER  
HOUSING AUTHORITY OF JACKSON COUNTY (Section 8, subsidized housing)  
OREGON DHS CHILD WELFARE (Report child abuse or neglect)  
OREGON DHS SELF SUFFICIENCY (Food Stamps, TANF, DV)  
OREGON EMPLOYMENT DEPARTMENT-Unemployment Benefits  
ROGUE RETREAT (housing, cold weather shelter)  
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL-rent and utility assistance  
SALVATION ARMY-rapid rehousing, rent assistance  
UNETE-Population specific rental/utility/medical/advocacy/other  
COMMUNITY WORKS-Population specific resources and services  
LA CLINICA- HEALTH-Health Care/Behavioral Health  
ROGUE COMMUNITY HEALTH-Health Care/Behavioral Health Services  
**AT RISK YOUTH-SHELTER-HOUSING AND RELATED RESOURCES**  
OASIS-Family SUD Resources and Support (limited housing)  
MASLOW PROJECT-Resources and Support for Homeless Families and Youth  
HEARTS WITH A MISSION Shelter, ages 10-17  
HEARTS WITH A MISSION-TLP/ILP shelter program w/DHS  
COMMUNITY WORKS-TRANSITIONAL LIVING PROGRAM: 16-21, 22-29w/children)  
MASLOW PROJECT (youth ages birth to 22,outreach)  
FAMILY NURTUING CENTER



**Questions?**