

Homelessness Services Housing & Navigation Center

Current Problem

The number of individuals experiencing homelessness in Benton County increased dramatically by 89% between 2017 and 2022. Benton County has one of the highest rates of income inequality in Oregon. Among renters, 40% spend more than half of their income on rent; the number rises to 83% for extremely low-income individuals. For every 100 families with exceedingly low income, there are only 14 affordable rental units available. The Corvallis Daytime Drop-in Center is a 503(c)(3) organization with a long history of serving Benton County; employing 7 staff and 50 volunteers and serving 40-70 guests per day. The need and request for service outweighs CDDC's current capacity; with a current footprint of ~2,500 square feet, there is not enough functional space to accommodate the guests and the people who serve them. Additionally, the space is not sufficient for persons with mental, physical, and/or development disabilities, alcohol or drug addictions, or who are frail elderly which makes up a large percentage of the population served.

Project Description

Benton County, in alignment with the Corvallis Daytime Drop-in Center, is seeking support that will provide resources to build a Navigation Center which will provide 24-7 shelter and crucial services to Tri-County residents who are experiencing homelessness. The Navigation Center will be a low-barrier, non-congregate emergency shelter that is open 7 days per week and connects individuals with health services, permanent housing, and public benefits. All guests served will have a one-stop-shop access to service providers and case management, community spaces, basic needs navigation, healthcare, behavioral healthcare, employment resources, and affordable housing services through drop-in hours, Monday – Friday between 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM.

Intended Outcomes & Benefits

The Navigation Center will support systems-level outcomes to improve data coordination, improve care coordination and case conferencing, augment sheltering, identify and address gaps in services, and provide a one-stop resource center for people most in need. Immediate-term impacts of the Navigation Center involve getting individuals off the street, access to diverse services and shelter that springboard people into affordable housing, as well as access to longer-term behavioral health supports (including addiction treatment). Additionally, it would enable our community to build more effective and efficient collaborations. Priority groups for the Center include seniors, people with disabilities, veterans, LGBTQ+ people, and people of color.



Navigation Center Inspiration Photo

Project Budget & Funding Gap

The total estimate for the construction of a Homeless Navigation Center is approximately \$14.2 million. The County will be contributing \$3.0 million of resources, and the Corvallis Daytime Drop-in Center will be providing \$1.0 million from donations and fundraising. **The resources needed to complete the Homeless Navigation Center is \$10.2 million.**

Contact Information

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