



Coordinated Homeless Response Highlights 2024

- In January 2024, Benton County's Coordinated Homeless Response Office submitted a 5-Year Strategic Plan to the State outlining our local framework to address homelessness.
- This update shares community progress from 2022 to 2024, organized by priority areas in the Strategic Plan.

From July 2024 to January 2025, Benton County's new Flexible Housing Subsidy Pool (FHSP) housed 36 households (44 adults, 39 children)

Community, Organizational Systems, and Policy Change

Organizational Capacity

- Launched Benton County's Coordinated Homeless Response Office with staff supported through House Bill 4123: project manager, grant writer, and coordinator. (2023)
- Finalized a Memorandum of Understanding between Benton County, the Cities of Corvallis & Philomath, and Community Services Consortium. (2023)
- Awarded \$112,910 in Community Capacity Building Funds to connect participants with Medicaid Health-Related Social Needs benefits, includes rent assistance. (2025)
- Awarded \$123,300 in Delivery System Transformation funds for a landlord engagement & incentive program. (2025)



Improved Data

- Community wide data improvement efforts were mapped out with action items to align data collection with coordinated entry improvements.
- Coordinated entry participation is now a condition of funding from Benton County and the City of Corvallis for homeless service providers.
- Community Service Consortium has begun the process to create a tri-county continuum of care for more local control over our Homeless Management Information System and improved data.
- Benton County is funding street outreach to improve data about unsheltered households.



Program Development

Benton County's Coordinated Homeless Response Office (CHRO) created the Flexible Housing Subsidy Pool (FHSP) in Benton County to access more units for people experiencing homelessness, provide supportive services to sustain housing, and leverage flexible funding to fill in gaps and transition people out of homelessness into housing. (July 2024)

- CHRO received state funding for rapid rehousing rent assistance.
- Housing navigator hired to provide direct client support to people finding housing.
- Program coordinator hired to work with landlords and coordinate with service providers.



Learn more: health.bentoncountyor.gov/coordinated-homeless-response

Five Strategic Plan Priority Areas

I. Comprehensive Care Coordination

- FHSP hired Program Coordinator & Housing Navigator to coordinate and support journeys into housing.
- FHSP is funding street outreach and case management to provide wraparound care coordination.
- Oregon State University Basic Needs Center added a position for student housing programs, building partnerships, and offering peer supports.
- Unity Shelter hired a Life Skills Coach to support moving into permanent housing.



II. Prevention

- South Benton Food Pantry expanded to Kepi Nak-Nak Commons, a resource center. Services include food assistance, healthcare support, housing navigation, utility assistance, education, childcare, support for victims of domestic violence, and more.
- Vina Moses began pop-up events and community closets in Alsea & Monroe to increase outreach and preventative services in rural communities.
- Community Services Consortium served 180 households with rental assistance in 2024.

III. Street Outreach and Rapid Response

- Situation Table coordinated by Crisis Outreach Response and Engagement responded to 51 high-risk situations in their first year, serving 67 people, with 63% reduced risk for participants. (2024)
- Benton County Crisis Center for mental health is scheduled to launch in June 2025.
- Faith Hope & Charity with First Christian Church in Corvallis provided severe weather sheltering during severe weather. In Winter 2023-Summer 2024, 273 people were served.



IV. Housing

- Corvallis Housing First (CHF) developing 47 units of permanent supportive housing.
- Over 450 affordable housing units added or in development in Corvallis.
- \$1.2 million from House Bill (HB) 5019 (2023) to rehouse 31 people.
- \$975,000 from Oregon Senate Bill 5701 to rehouse 20 households.
- \$1.2 million from the state for emergency sheltering with Unity Shelter.
- Samaritan added 5 medical respite beds.
- Unity Shelter started a Hotel Shelter Program for families and the medically vulnerable.
- Unity Shelter adding more microshelters, including units for couples.
- Jackson Street Youth Services added 4 shelter beds. Their Next Steps program is serving more 18-24 year-olds.
- Medicaid covering limited rent assistance for eligible high-risk beneficiaries.

V. Community Engagement, Inclusivity, and Neighborhood Belonging

- In May 2024, Keys for the People hosted their third annual event to connect BIPOC community members to housing resources.
- A Corvallis Daytime Drop-in Center (CDDC) program assisted with check cashing for people with barriers to access \$160,000 in the last 3 years. CDDC helped people experiencing poverty with accessing \$10,000 in tax refunds in 2023.
- The Vina CDDC Workshare Program added two paid positions at Vina Moses employing 4 individuals throughout 2023 and 2024.
- Vina Moses added a Vina's Closet in Monroe & Alsea. In August 2024, Vina's Closets in Monroe and Alsea each hosted their second annual pop-up Vina's Back to School events, serving 70 rural students.
- Village Food Pantry served an average of 75 people per month from Adair & North Corvallis with food assistance in 2022.