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This newsletter contains information and updates from the Joint Office of Homeless Services.

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**Happy 2023!**

**To all our colleagues, partners and community members,**

Welcome to the Joint Office of Homeless Services monthly newsletter!

The purpose of this newsletter is to help you learn more about our collective work and shared commitment to addressing homelessness in Portland and Multnomah County.

Follow us on:



**If you are experiencing homelessness and need assistance, please call 211 or go to [211info.org](https://211info.org).**

**Question of the month:**

**Is Portland's homeless crisis more severe than anywhere else in the US?**

(scroll to the bottom of the newsletter to see the answer)

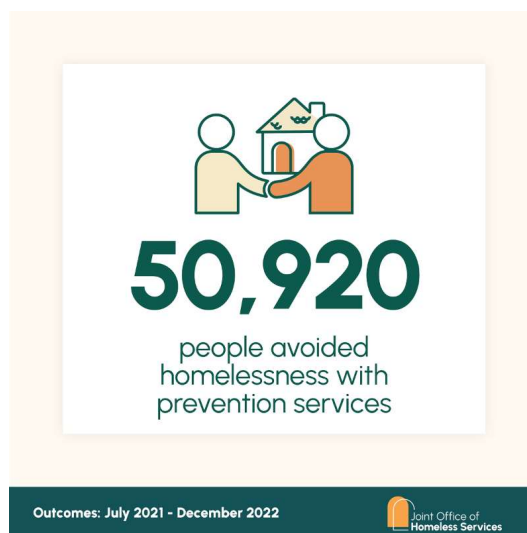
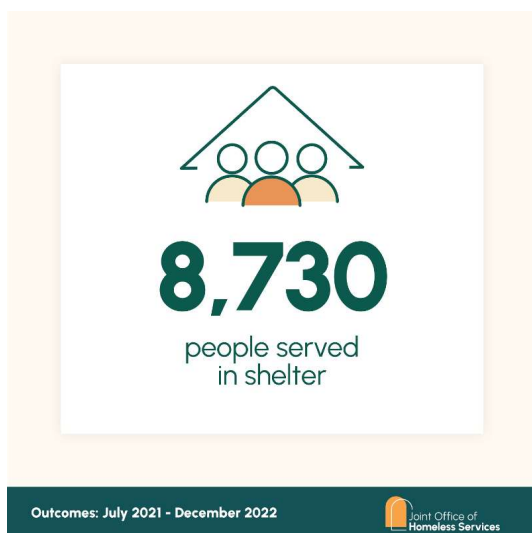
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## Permanent Housing Opened in 2022



New permanent, affordable housing opened all across the County in 2022. Thank you to voters in Portland, Multnomah County and the Metro region for supporting so many households moving into permanent housing. Looking forward to many more units opening in 2023!

### By the numbers (July 2021 - Dec 2022)



[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)**5,450**people placed  
into housing

Outcomes: July 2021 - December 2022

**10,260**people enrolled in  
housing programs

As of December 2022



## JOHS-Supported Shelters opened 2020 - 2022



From 2020 - 2022, in the midst of a global pandemic, Portland and Multnomah County opened more shelters than in any previous two-year period. This includes alternative shelters, motel shelters and congregate shelters.

(This slideshow does not include temporary COVID-19 isolation shelters)

[More info on JOHS-supported shelters](#)  
([including how to access shelter](#)).

## Behavioral Health Resource Center

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Metro put together this video about last month's opening of the Behavioral Health Resource Center, featuring former JOHS employee Alexandra Appleton (now Manager of the new Center), and her colleague Deandre Kenyanjui.

[Read more on Metro News](#) about the opening of the Behavioral Health Resource Center in downtown Portland.

## Winter weather support



Throughout the winter, the Joint Office works with providers to distribute supplies, open up emergency overflow shelter beds, and activate severe weather shelters when thresholds are met. If you are

interested in getting involved, our provider partner [Transition Projects](#) offers trainings for severe weather shelter volunteers. And many of our providers have posted 'wish lists' of items they are hoping people will donate, so they can distribute them to people in need. New or gently used coats, hats, gloves, sleeping bags and blankets are among the most needed items.

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## Grand opening of first-ever 'Bridge shelter' in Multnomah County



The Rockwood Bridge Shelter, operated by All Good Northwest, is a 44-room motel, a former Super 8 in Gresham. This is the latest motel shelter to open with the support of the Joint Office of Homeless Services. The new 24-hour, fully staffed

shelter will serve a specialized function in the overall shelter system, providing “bridge shelter” beds for people who are signed up for permanent supportive housing who are waiting to move into their new homes. A bridge shelter program, a nationally recognized best practice, is a first for the Joint Office and Multnomah County.

[Read more about the grand opening of the Rockwood Bridge Shelter](#)

## Spotlight: Menlo Park Safe Rest Village



The Menlo Park Safe Rest Village, located at SE 122nd and Burnside, has officially been open for its first month, managed by provider [Cultivate Initiatives](#)! Neighbors are now safely sheltered and the village is nearly to its capacity of 50 villagers. Peer advocates, case workers, housing specialists, nursing students, and more are all coming together to provide support for and with the villagers.

[More info on the Safe Rest Village initiative.](#)

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## In the News

News reports about the work of the Joint Office of Homeless Services and our providers:

- [PDX Monthly: WeShine Builds Small Pod-Villages as an Alternative Approach to Homelessness Solutions](#)
- [Portland Tribune: Students lend help, hope to Safe Rest Village residents ahead of holidays](#)

## 2023 Point-in-Time Count

Save  
the  
Date!



The 2023 Portland tri-county Point-in-Time (PIT) Count is coming!

The count will occur **the week of January 25 - 31, 2023.**

Every year our communities come together to count and learn more about the people experiencing homelessness in our region.

Be on the lookout in the coming weeks for information about how you can support the PIT.

**2023 Point-in-Time Homeless Count**  
**January 25 - 31, 2023**



*Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington Counties are working together to plan and conduct the upcoming Tri-County regional Point-In-Time (PIT) Count. As part of our planning, we are identifying people who are available to conduct surveys and count people experiencing homelessness between Wednesday, January 25 and Tuesday, January 31, 2023 in the Portland Tri-County area. If you are interested in participating, please complete the [Volunteer Registration Survey](#). This survey will help us to determine coverage gaps early on, and to make preliminary geographical and site assignments. Future emails and forms will finalize shifts, locations, and training times and dates.*



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## Resources for People Experiencing Homelessness:

- ▶ [Who to Call for What](#) - a list of hotlines, helplines and other useful phone numbers.
- ▶ Visit [Oregon Law Help](#) or [Oregon Renters Rights](#) for information about rental assistance and eviction protection.
- ▶ [Rose City Resource Guide](#) from Street Roots - includes an updated, searchable list of food, housing, transit and other resources for the Portland area.

## Racial Justice/Equity Resources

- ▶ [Data on Race, Ethnicity and Homelessness](#): A report from the National Alliance to End Homelessness.
- ▶ [Resource Guide: Race and Homelessness](#): A guide produced by the Homelessness Research and Action Collaborative at Portland State University
- ▶ [Multnomah County Workforce Equity Strategic Plan](#): How the County is addressing historic and institutional inequities within local government.

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## COVID-19 Updates

- ▶ If you test positive with an at-home test, you can self report your positive test to the Oregon Health Authority. Call the hotline at 866-917-8881 or text OHACOVID to 61222, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- ▶ [Upcoming COVID-19 Vaccination Clinics in Multnomah County](#).
- ▶ [Regional COVID-19 dashboard](#): Case data from Multnomah, Clackamas, Washington and Yamhill counties.

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## Employment Opportunities

Current openings in the Joint Office of Homeless Services:

[Department Director](#) - Open Until Filled

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)[Finance Specialist Senior](#) - Deadline January 27, 2023[Assertive Engagement Program Specialist](#) - Deadline January 27, 2023

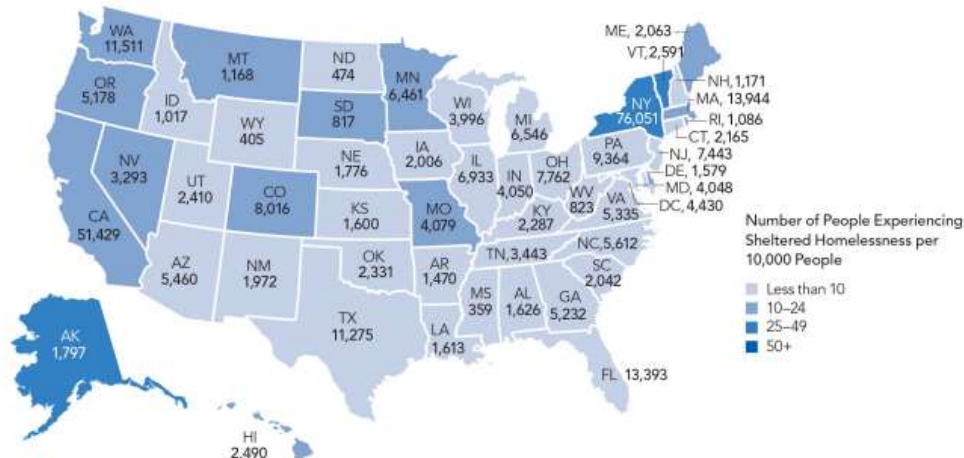
JOHS Partner Organization job listings:

- [2-1-1 Info](#)
- [Blanchet House](#)
- [Bradley Angle](#)
- [Bridges to Change](#)
- [Call to Safety](#)
- [Cascade AIDS Project](#)
- [Cascadia Behavioral Healthcare](#)
- [Catholic Charities](#)
- [Central City Concern](#)
- [City Team Portland](#)
- [Cultivate Initiatives](#)
- [Do Good Multnomah](#)
- [Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon](#)
- [El Programa Hispano Católico](#)
- [Home Forward](#)
- [Human Solutions, Inc.](#)
- [Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization \(IRCO\)](#)
- [Janus Youth](#)
- [JOIN](#)
- [Latino Network](#)
- [Multnomah County](#)
- [Native American Rehabilitation Association \(NARA\)](#)
- [Native American Youth & Family Center \(NAYA\)](#)
- [Neighborhood House](#)
- [New Avenues for Youth](#)
- [Northwest Pilot Project](#)
- [Outside In](#)
- [Portland Homeless Family Solutions](#)
- [Raphael House of Portland](#)
- [Self Enhancement, Inc.](#)
- [Transition Projects, Inc.](#)
- [Urban League of Portland](#)
- [Volunteers of America](#)
- [Washington County](#)
- [Worksystems](#)
- [YWCA of Greater Portland](#)

### Answer to the Question of the Month:

The crisis of homelessness is a national crisis - Portland is neither at the top or the bottom in the number of people experiencing homelessness in the city. According to the most recent report from the US Department of Housing & Urban Development, in 2021, nearly half of all people experiencing sheltered homelessness in the country were in four states: New York (23% or 76,051 people); California (16% or 51,429 people); Massachusetts (4% or 13,944 people); and Florida (4% or 13,393).



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Thank you for reading our newsletter. It is important that we continue to recognize the underlying issues that make homelessness so pervasive in our society right now: from structural racism and disparities, to the economic and social impact from COVID-19, to the lack of affordable housing that makes homelessness unavoidable for so many local households.

We would like to hear from you: ideas, feedback, suggestions and connections. Your feedback can help shape our work in the community. Please reply to this newsletter with your ideas for features, things we should include or questions you have for the Joint Office.

Please share this newsletter with your networks and anyone else you know who would like to learn more.

Thank you all for the work you do and your interest in helping our unhoused neighbors get the support they need to get into housing, so that together, we can end homelessness in the Portland metro area and make any household's experience with homelessness temporary, brief and one-time only.

-The Joint Office of Homeless Services

This notice was distributed to those who have [signed up](#) to hear about opportunities to participate and receive updates on the Joint Office of Homeless Services and the local implementation of [Metro's Supportive Housing Measure](#) in Multnomah County. Did you receive this email from someone else and would like to join our mailing list for future updates? [Click here to sign up](#).



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