

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

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Joint Office of
Homeless Services
Newsletter
May 2023

To our colleagues, partners and community members,

Welcome to the Joint Office of Homeless Services monthly newsletter!

Here you will learn more about our collective work and shared commitment to addressing homelessness in Portland and throughout Multnomah County.

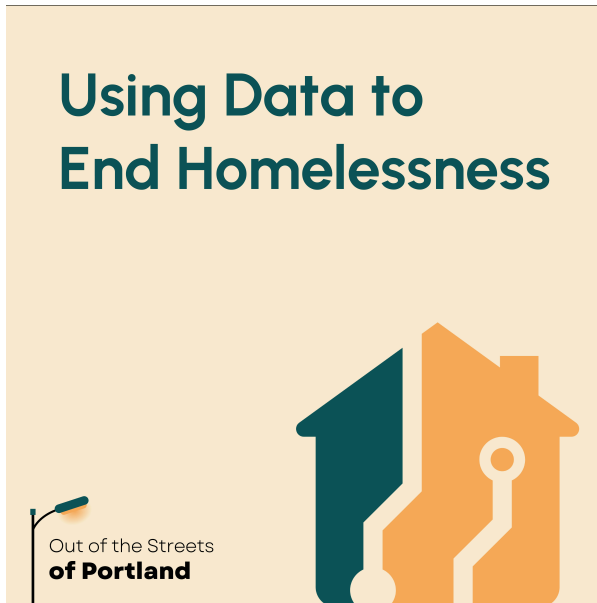
If you are experiencing homelessness and need assistance,
please call 211 or go to 211info.org.

Question of the Month

What is the Homelessness Management Information System?
Is it a national registry of people experiencing homelessness?

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

Using Data to End Homelessness



The podcast produced by the Joint Office of Homeless Services, 'Out of the Streets of Portland', has [released its fourth episode](#), "Using Data to End Homelessness."

This episode focuses on one of the most important, time-consuming, and altogether under-recognized tasks of the JOHS: the collection and analysis of sets of data to help guide and prioritize the work to end homelessness.

On this episode, we speak with Lori Kelley, the JOHS Planning & Evaluation Program Manager, Beth Sandor with Community Solutions, and Dr. Marisa Zapata, the head of the Homelessness Research and Action Collaborative.

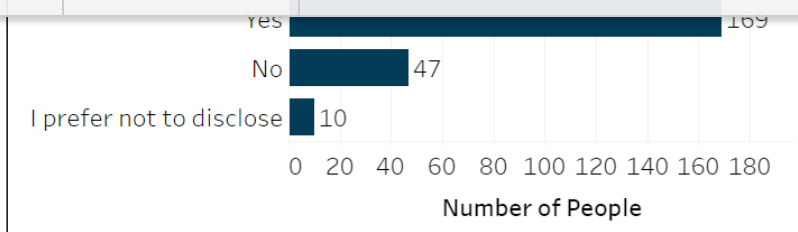
And we share the story of Gary, who is in stable housing and receiving much-needed medical care thanks to Street Roots, the Veterans Administration, the JOHS, and the evidence-based Housing First practice.

[Listen to the new podcast episode - and subscribe!](#)

Portland Safe Rest Village Data Dashboard

The City of Portland has shared [The Safe Rest Village Data Dashboard](#), with program data for the Safe Rest Villages for the past three quarters. The dashboard shares things like numbers of people who have been served, where people go when they leave the villages (exit destinations), demographic information and other information.

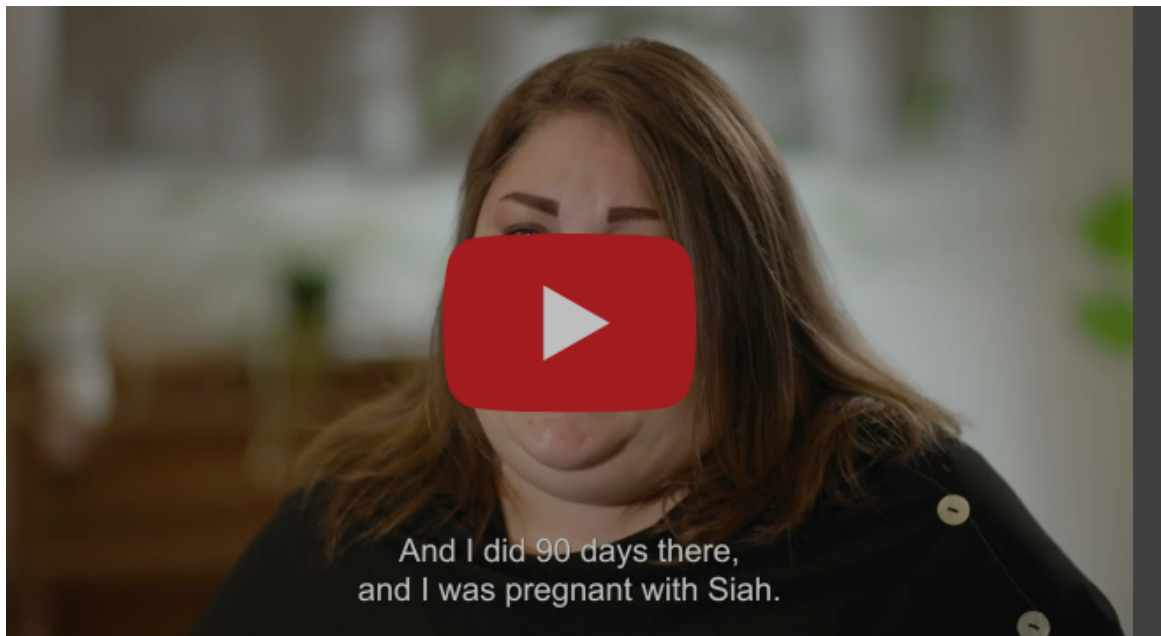
Example of one of the tables in the data dashboard:



This dashboard is specifically about Safe Rest Village program outcomes. This is just one of several programs funded by the City of Portland's American Rescue Plan Act grant funds. To see where other funds are going and how the big picture dollars are making an impact, check out the [City's Rescue Plan Open Data portal](#).

Comments and questions are welcome at safereestvillages@portlandoregon.gov.

Provider Spotlight: Transition Projects

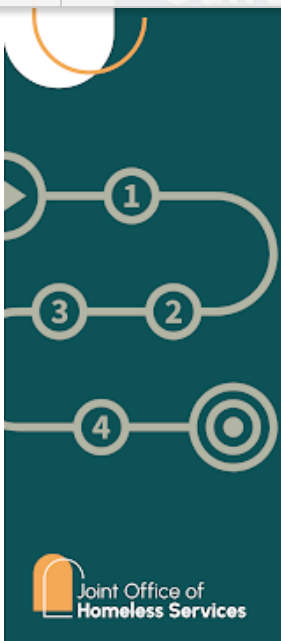


Stephani received help from the [Native American Rehabilitation Association \(NARA\)](#) and [Transition Projects Inc \(TPI\)](#) to overcome her addiction and get into stable housing. She continues to strive for a better tomorrow with her family, her career, and her dreams. Permanent housing has been her catalyst to a new beginning.


Notices of Funding Availability

Notice of Funding Available

Our Timeline & Process



NOFA Issued	Tues, May 8
Opt'l Info Session	Wed, May 17 12:00 - 1:00 pm 1:00 - 2:00 pm
FAQs Released	Sat, May 20
Proposal Deadline	Wed, May 31
Funding Announced	~ Mon, July 26
Implement Program	~ Tues, Aug 1

 Joint Office of Homeless Services

of Homeless Services (JOHS) is launching a funding opportunity to increase Outreach Data Collection with a \$330k investment.

Deadline: May 31, 2023 at 11:59 pm.

[Click here for more info and application.](#)

We also have a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) open now for the Frequent User Systems Engagement (FUSE) Program. This funding opportunity represents an investment of over \$1M

Frequent User System Engagement

Notice of Funding Available



Our Timeline & Process

NOFA Issued	Mon, May 1
Opt'l Info Session	Tues, May 9 10:00-11:00 am
FAQs Released	Fri, May 12
Proposal Deadline	Sun, June 4 @ 11:59pm
Funding Announced	~ Fri, June 30

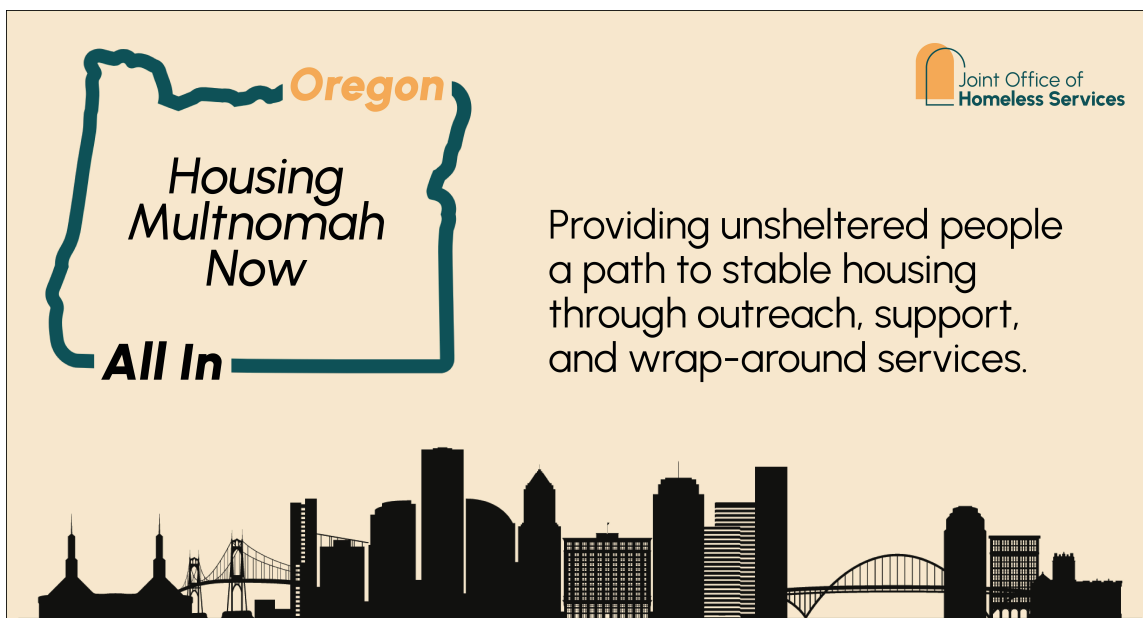


investment to provide permanent supportive housing with wrap-around support services to 50 participants identified in FUSE data.

Deadline: June 4, 2023 at 11:59 pm.

[Click here for more info and application.](#)

Housing Multnomah Now/Oregon All In



On Jan. 10, 2023, Gov. Tina Kotek issued an [Emergency Declaration Due to Homelessness](#) that created a process for new emergency funding to be allocated to local governments across the state. That funding was finalized on April 28th.

And in February 2023, Multnomah County Chair Jessica Vega Pederson [announced a related initiative called Housing Multnomah Now](#) — in full partnership with the City of Portland — to rapidly house hundreds of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness in a particular geographic area, starting with a portion of the central city.

The Joint Office is working with community partners to implement these ambitious initiatives to rapidly move hundreds of our most vulnerable neighbors into housing, while providing the needed supports for them to be successful there.

Preliminary Point-in-Time Data Released

Leaders from the three Portland-area counties on Wednesday, May 10, released federally required data on people experiencing homelessness on a single night

Homelessness in MultCo Compared to 2022

- Chronic homelessness count fell by 16%, from 3,120 to 2,610, despite increase in count of sheltered and unsheltered people
- Record # of people in shelter; increase of 400 people; steady increase in shelter capacity during and after pandemic



@multco_johs

The number of people counted under the federal definition of chronic homelessness — meaning they reported a long spell of homelessness and a disabling condition — fell 17% across the region, also falling in each county, since last year's Count.

With increased funding through the [Metro Supportive Housing Services](#) measure, and other ongoing

investments, Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas counties have made significant strides toward working with more people experiencing homelessness and increasing shelter and housing solutions for vulnerable community members.

[Read the full press release here.](#)

Upcoming Events and Meetings

The Joint Office of Homeless Services invites the public to attend our advisory board and committee meetings. These advisory groups provide opportunities for community members to learn about the Joint Office's work, bring a community perspective to our decision-making, and make recommendations on programs, services and policies.

Continuum of Care (CoC) Board Meeting

Thursday, May 18th, 2023 · 11:00am – 1:00pm.

Click here for [Virtual Meeting](#).

[More info](#) about the Continuum of Care Board.

The public can attend via this [Virtual Meeting](#) link. This committee reviews and makes recommendations on county departmental budgets and operations. CBAC meetings are posted on the [Office of Community Involvement Website](#). For more info about CBACs please visit the [Office of Community Involvement](#).

Supportive Housing Services Advisory Committee

Thursday, June 8th, 2023 from 3:00 – 5:00pm.

Click here for [Virtual Meeting](#).

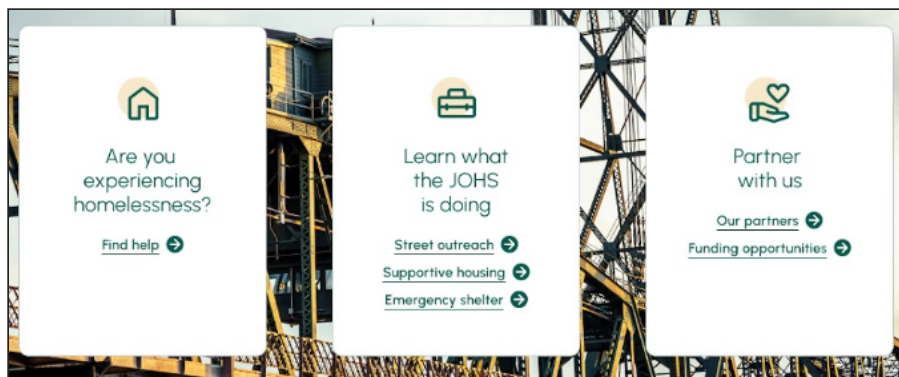
[More info](#) about the Supportive Housing Services Advisory committee.

For more info on our advisory boards and committees, including meeting links, agendas and other materials, please visit <https://www.multco.us/johs/johs-community-advisory-bodies>.

Please email us at johscommunityadvisory@multco.us with any questions.

New JOHS Website | Launching June 2023

Our new site will feature data dashboards, an easy-to-navigate interface, resources and info for people looking for help or interested in our work at the JOHS. Check next month's newsletter for a link to the new site!



New Permanent Supportive Housing

Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) inviting qualified providers to submit proposals for new tenant and project-based PSH programs.

We are excited to announce that seven providers were selected to open 233 new PSH opportunities in the coming fiscal year.

- [Transition Projects](#) will operate two programs: one will serve 30 households for TPI's Compass Program that supports non-binary, transgender, and two spirit individuals, and the second will serve 38 Black, Indigenous, People of Color households.
- [Self Enhancement, Inc](#) will serve 30 Black/African American households.
- [Cascade AIDS Project](#) will serve 30 people living with HIV.
- [Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization](#) will serve 30 Immigrants and Refugee households.
- [JOIN](#) will serve 30 households with these funds.
- [Native American Rehabilitation Association](#) will serve an additional 15 households as the Nesika Illahee project (expanding the capacity of this important PSH project).
- [The Department of County Human Services](#) will serve 15 households with intellectual disabilities and 15 households from the Aging, Disability, and Veteran Services Division.

All of these new programs will serve adults with disabling conditions who are experiencing or at imminent risk of experiencing long-term, literal homelessness.

We are grateful to everyone that participated in this process, from all of the organizations and county departments that submitted proposals to the staff and community members that reviewed proposals and selected the final projects, the Joint Office expresses deep gratitude for your participation.

In the coming year, there will be opportunities to submit housing project proposals. Please review the JOHS webpage for current and upcoming funding opportunities at: <https://www.multco.us/johs/current-notice-funding>.

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.

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 MultCo, ClackCo, WashCo and YamCo.

Employment Opportunities

Find current job listing at our Partner Organizations.

- [2-1-1 Info](#)
- [Blanchet House](#)
- [Bradley Angle](#)
- [Bridges to Change](#)
- [Native American Rehabilitation Association \(NARA\)](#)
- [Native American Youth & Family Center \(NAYA\)](#)

Subscribe	Past Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call to Safety • Cascade AIDS Project • Neighborhood House • New Avenues for Youth 	Translate ▼
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cascadia Health • Catholic Charities • Central City Concern • City Team Portland • Cultivate Initiatives • Do Good Multnomah • Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon • El Programa Hispano Católico • Home Forward • Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization (IRCO) • Janus Youth • JOIN • Latino Network • Multnomah County 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northwest Pilot Project • Our Just Future (formerly Human Solutions) • Outside In • Path Home (formerly 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

No! The Homelessness Management and Information System (HMIS) is NOT a national registry of everyone experiencing homelessness in the country that is shared between cities and agencies. In fact, HMIS is a local database that is not shared beyond the local level. The information that's collected by service providers is protected information - with protections that are, in many ways, even more strict than protections on health information.

Local agencies involved in homeless services choose the software they will use to keep track of people's progress from homelessness into services and housing. And that data, with all personal information removed, is used to make sure that we are meeting our goals of getting people housed, and providing people with the needed support and services to get back on their feet after experiencing homelessness.

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: 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 in your circles and with anyone who would like to learn more!

Subscribe

Past Issues

Translate ▼

PDX metro and make anyone's experience with homelessness temporary and brief.

-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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