

BUILDING A JOINT OFFICE ON HOMELESSNESS



More than **65** service providers and community groups offer ongoing support to people experiencing homelessness and housing instability in Deschutes County.

65% of people experiencing homelessness in the HLC region are homeless for the first time. Homelessness has increased in each of the last 6 years.



992 people were counted as experiencing homelessness in Deschutes County on 1/20/2021.

\$2.5M

Estimated funding for homeless services in Deschutes County and the City of Bend in 2020

WHAT'S NEEDED?

- Stronger regional planning & coordination
- Additional funding for housing and services
- Larger workforce
- More affordable housing
- Public education

We asked members of the Task Force what the **most significant gaps** are in the region's response to homelessness and what would be **most helpful** from a joint city/county office.



STRATEGIC COORDINATION

Community leaders and service providers are calling for a more coordinated and strategic response to the crisis of homelessness in the City of Bend and Deschutes County.

A Joint Office could streamline efforts to prevent and end homelessness by coordinating and supporting service providers by identifying strategic priorities and directing funding and holding accountability across partners.

PROPOSED CORE FUNCTIONS



Supporting Partnerships



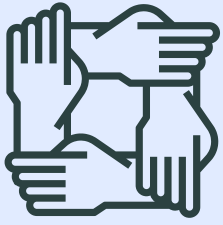
Leading Systems Improvement



Developing Strategy



Coordinating Funding



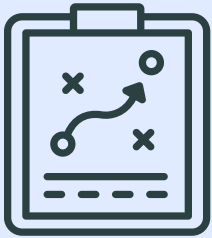
Supporting Partnerships

- Provide community partners with additional capacity as well as guidance and partnership in pursuing the community's shared priorities
- Streamline regional and local efforts to prevent and end homelessness by de-duplicating information sharing, roles, and responsibilities



Leading Systems Improvement

- Manage and update the region's strategic plan, monitor progress, analyze trends and changes
- Lead the community in strengthening its homeless response system by establishing shared priorities based on data and input from service providers, advocates, and people with lived experience of homelessness and housing instability



Developing Strategy

- Identify opportunities and challenges to improve the region's response to homelessness and develop and refine solutions in partnership with the HLC, service providers, municipal leaders, and people experiencing homelessness
- Coordinate implementation and continuous quality improvement across the homeless response system



Coordinating Funding

- Identify unmet service and infrastructure needs, project funding gaps, and identify potential funding sources
- Build sustainability and streamline efforts by planning and coordinating City and County investments and funding for homeless services