



WASHINGTON GORGE ACTION PROGRAMS

The Community Action Agency for Skamania and Klickitat Counties

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October 2022 Board Report

Skamania County Housing Programs

Submitted by Curt Gray, Skamania County Housing Program Director

As an introduction to the monthly report we routinely submit, I'm including this narrative to provide additional insight. Data reported is for the month of September

- The **Emergency Shelter** was full and is currently undergoing some aesthetic renovation and light maintenance.
- **Emergency Cooling (and Smoke Relief) Shelter:**
The Emergency Cooling Shelter operations were terminated on September 30 with some needed repairs to the 702 SW Rock Creek building still pending. Support, information, and outreach were provided during periods when the National Weather Service (NWS) issued Heat Advisories. However, lacking any Excessive Heat Warnings from the NWS, the cooling shelter was not activated.

Smoke from forest fires became a concern on days when the predicted and actual Air Quality Indices (AQI) increased from the usual values of approximately 20 to days where the AQI reached 99. An AQI of 151 or greater was required to trigger the opening and operation of the shelter for smoke relief. Consequently, the shelter was not activated in this capacity.

- **Emergency Warming Shelter:**
The Emergency Warming Shelter operations for the upcoming winter season are being planned and funding sources explored. We propose that shelter operations this winter season revert to using the 702 SW Rock Creek Rd property as a physical shelter in a manner similar to our pilot program of 2020-2021.
- **HEN Housing:**
The remaining two enrollees exited this program. However, four other households were identified and enrolled.
- **Permanent Supportive Housing:**
This program is at capacity and projected to run over budget without other financial interventions. Budgeting for this program is challenging due to:
 - Poor availability of affordable housing
 - Rapidly increasing rents for this area in the last 6-9 months
 - The difficulty in making budget projections with rents increasing in an unstable manner
 - Inability of HUD Voucher recipients to exit PSH into other housing due to high rents and poor availability despite HUD's recent increase in allowable rent payment standards.

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Rental Assistance

Outputs

	Sep
Number of households served	25
Number of individuals within those households	42
Total Number of bed nights provided	4400

Housing and Essential Needs

Outputs

	Sep
Number of individuals served with Housing/Utilities	4
Number of individuals served with Essential Needs	5
Total Number of bed nights provided	120

Permanent Support Housing

	Sep
Number of individuals obtained employment	0
Number of individuals increasing their income	0
Number of individuals retained employment for 90 days or more	0
Number of HH removed Barriers that hindered individuals in obtaining job	0
Number of HH moved into affordable permanent housing	0
Number of HH Received referral to mainstream resources	1
Number of individuals completed Life Skills meeting	1
Number of individuals denied services	0

Outputs PSH

	Sep
Number of households served	4
Number of individuals within those households	4

Shelter

The shelter is open to individuals and families who are homeless. They are required to look for permanent housing during their stay.

Outputs

	Sep
Number of households served	7
Number of individuals within those households	10
Total Number of bed nights provided	258

Total Outcomes for all Programs

	Sep
Number of individuals obtained employment	1
Number of individuals increasing their income	1
Number of individuals retained employment for 90 days or more	0
Number of HH removed Barriers that hindered individuals in obtaining job	1
Number of HH moved into affordable permanent housing	1
Number of HH Received referral to mainstream resources	20
Number of individuals completed Life Skills meeting	16
Number of individuals denied services	2

Success Stories

September 2022:

1. One (1) emergency shelter resident obtained employment
2. One (1) emergency shelter resident obtained permanent housing
3. No COVID outbreaks in our shelters