

Project PATH

1st Quarter Report, FY 23-24

PILOT PROGRAM CONTACTS

COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Dan Dorran

CITY MANAGERS

Dave Stockdale, Umatilla

Byron Smith, Hermiston

Ben Burgener, Stanfield

Dave Slaght, Echo

PROJECT CONTACT

Esmeralda Perches

STEPPING STONES CONTACT

Jesalyn Cole

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is provided in accordance with the Service Agreement between Stepping Stones Alliance and the City of Umatilla as part of the West Umatilla County partnership to provide services to our community's homeless residents through Project PATH (Practical Assistance through Transitional Housing). This report provides an update on site preparations, community outreach, strategic plan, budget, and general services. More detailed materials are available upon request which might include draft/adopted operational policies and procedures, meeting minutes of Stepping Stones Alliance, or general member policies and code of conduct. This report is intended to serve as a high level update of the services provided and the general progress we have made thus far.

PERSONNEL

After turn over throughout the summer and losing staff due to college resuming, we currently have four night staff employees rotating through 10 hour shifts with short overlaps with each other and/or volunteer shifts to cover the 12 hours that the Sleep Center is currently operating.

We currently are working through creating job descriptions and preliminary schedule options for our move to the permanent location and having members using the ISUs; which will require 24-hour coverage. An option being explored is contracting the 12 hour night shift to a security agency.

TRANSPORTATION

Atkinson Staffing has continued to donate the use of a company vehicle for guest transportation. Night staff drops off guest in town at 7:15am and picks up at 7:15pm. Project Path received two grants: EOCCO \$50,000 and Wildhorse \$16,000. These funds will be used for the purchase of a vehicle for guest transportation.

CONSTRUCTION SITE

Cultural study has been completed at sent to SHPO for comment, SHPO did not comment on the Geotech report. Ground leveling was completed. Currently we are seeking bids for fencing, electrical and septic drilling.





COMMUNITY OUTREACH

We continue with our social media campaigns; highlighting partners, sponsors, donors and sharing our needs via a grocery list weekly.

We reached over 11,000 people on Facebook and Instagram. We had 42 posts this quarter.

This quarter we participated in the following community activities: Echo/Stanfield Market, Hermiston Melon Fest, Good Shepherd Community Health Fair and Mirasol's Health Fair. At these events we share information, answer questions, give away brochures and hand away promotional items.

Presentations were made to Hermiston Kiwanis, Hermiston Lion's Club, 7th Day Adventist Church, Hermiston Hispanic Committee and were interviewed by the Chamber Business Connection Radio Show.

We now have brochures we are sharing with community members.

Our navigation director, Carolina, began outreach within encampments in the area in partnership with COPEs and EOICL to share what resources are available with those who need our services. The group was able to reach 13 people in July, 18 in August and 20 in September.



PARTNERSHIPS

Ongoing conversations and projects continue to strengthen partnerships. Time was spent with AWS, Hermiston Police and Fire Chief, Hermiston School District Technology Department, Next Step program at Hermiston High School. We received sizable donations of items from churches and businesses in the community.

FUNDRAISING

AWS donated \$100,000 to our general fund. We applied for and received \$10,000 towards technology from AWS-ChangeX Eastern Oregon grant program. Two additional grants \$10,000 each, have been submitted specific to the outdoor common areas and kitchen. Worked in conjunction with CAPECO as part of the local planning group to complete the HB5019 funds application and shelter addendum; funding going directly to PATH from shelter addendum totaling \$627,200.

Worked through HUD grant process under the umbrella of the ROCC. First year applicants are not typically funded, but those numbers are used to set the budget for the following year.



Sleep Center

July total of 178 guest stays, 21 unduplicated, 7 new guest and 11 came for meals only.

August total of 170 guest stays, 25 unduplicated, 10 new guest and 10 came for meals only.

September total of 196 guest stays, 33 unduplicated, 13 new guest and 10 came for meals only.

Volunteer Info

Volunteer outreach continues to be a focus as we need a large pool to draw from each month. We did stagger the night staff in order to lessen the dependence on volunteers, but still need one volunteer each morning and one volunteer each evening.

Below are total volunteer shifts:

July: 65 Shifts

August: 62 Shifts

September: 62 Shifts

Meals:

July: 24 Meals

August: 27 Meals

September: 24 Meals

Looking Forward....

1. Grand Opening

Individual Shelter Units

Volunteer work days took place on July 21st, 22nd and September 30th. Doors, beds and trim work was all completed. Units are ready to be moved onsite where final cleanings and finishing touches can be completed.

