

MEMORANDUM

TO: Clackamas County Board of County Commissioners (BCC)
FROM: Rod Cook, Director, Health, Housing & Human Services
RE: State Homelessness Emergency Order Program Update
DATE: July 30, 2024

REQUEST:

The Housing & Community Development Division of Health, Housing & Human Services is seeking to provide the Board with an update on programs, services, and funding made possible by the state homelessness emergency orders and related legislative action. This is an informational update only.

BACKGROUND:

In January 2023, the Oregon Governor signed a trio of Emergency Orders (EOs) intended to address the ongoing homelessness crisis across the state. In late March 2023, the Oregon Legislature passed the \$200 million Affordable Housing & Emergency Homelessness Response Package in House Bills 2001 and 5019 to fund additional investments in affordable housing and homelessness, including to achieve stated goals for each Continuum of Care related to housing retention, shelter, and rapid rehousing. The state set goals and awarded Clackamas County \$7.3 million in one-time funding for new street outreach, homeless prevention, and rapid re-housing programs.

Staff in the Housing & Community Development Division and the Social Services division worked quickly to establish new programs in partnership with local homeless services providers, including Clackamas Women's Services, The Father's Heart, LoveOne, AntFarm, Northwest Housing Alternatives, Northwest Family Services, Up & Over, Immigrant Refugee Community Organization, and Parrott Creek. All of the programming was developed with a priority for serving rural area households, including the county's first-ever rural area outreach. Clackamas County met or exceeded nearly all of its goals.

This winter, the Oregon Department of Housing & Community Services evaluated program outcomes and supported the Oregon Legislature in securing funding to sustain and build on the success of the new programs. Clackamas County was awarded an additional \$11.0 million to fund programs through June 30, 2025. This includes \$4.6 million to sustain street outreach (\$1.8 million), rent assistance (\$1.9 million), and rapid re-housing (\$0.9 million). It also includes \$6.6 million for new programs, including \$5.0 million for the new long-term rent assistance program that will support newly placed rapid re-housing households from the initial award and \$1.4 million for the new access centers in Sandy and Estacada funded as part of the city-led initiatives opportunity. These programs will continued to be focused on meeting rural community need.

The State is now working on funding allocations for the 2025 – 2027 biennium and Clackamas County has provided all requested information to support continued funding for these important services.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rod Cook, Director
Health, Housing, & Human Services

Attachments:

Attachment 1 – Table Showing Emergency Order Funding by Year and Program Category

Attachment 1 – Emergency Order Funding by Year and Program Category

Program Category	Contracted Service Provider	HB 5019 FY24 Total	FY24 Outcomes	SB 5511/5701 FY25 Total	FY25 Outcomes
Street Outreach	The Father’s Heart Street Ministry	\$1,000,000	Mobile outreach and weekly pop-up hygiene, laundry, and engagement events. Hundreds contacted and served.	\$1,600,000	Ongoing funding will support up to 1400 contacts and engagements across a variety of mobile, pop-up, and in-reach methods.
Emergency Shelter	TBD	-	-	\$1,400,000	Funding will support ongoing operations of rural area access centers funded as part of city-led initiatives.
Homelessness Prevention	Social Services Division	\$1,883,236	Evictions prevented for over 180 households, preventing homelessness for hundreds of people in rural Clackamas County.	\$1,924,121	Eviction and homelessness prevention will continue as funding allows.
Rapid Re-housing	Clackamas Women’s Services	\$4,315,294	260 households were placed into rapid rehousing, which included navigation, support, and short-term rental assistance.	\$912,171	Ongoing funding will be used to place 75 additional households in the established rapid rehousing program with support and short-term rental assistance.
Long-term Rent Assistance	Housing Authority	-	-	\$4,958,449	The new LTRA program will establish a counterpart to RLRA outside the UGB and provide long-term rental assistance to 128 households.
Administration	Internal Admin and Focus Strategies	\$100,000	Conducted rural needs assessment and assessed rural service capacity.	-	-
Unit Access	TBD	-	-	\$250,000	TBD
Total		\$7,298,530		\$11,044,741	