



YAMHILL COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP (YCAP)

PROPOSAL FOR CITY OF NEWBERG ARPA FUNDING

Project

YCAP Operation of the Yamhill County Navigation Center and Newberg Motel Program

Justification

List your justifications here and address the following points where relevant. Try to explain what the issue is. Naturally it must be related to attempts to “respond to the economic and public health impacts of COVID19”.

How it addresses one of these issues specifically.

During the COVID pandemic, it became clear that the safety and exposure of homeless populations was a critical public health concern and that providing managed shelter for the homeless population was a strategic component of public health management.

In addition to providing food resources and other needed items, YCAP’s request specifically addresses Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities with the primary EC area of 3.11 Housing Support: Services for Unhoused Persons and secondary EC supports of 3.14 Social Determinants of Health: Community Health Workers or Benefits Navigators, and 3.12 Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance.

Why it needs to be done.

Yamhill County's homeless population exceeds available shelter capacity and has led to the development of many homeless camps throughout the area. Studies have shown that providing shelter plus on-site access to supportive services are critical elements of helping chronically homeless people achieve and sustain long-term housing.

In recognition of the ongoing crisis of people experiencing homelessness in our communities, the Oregon Legislature passed HB 2006 to support emergency housing for homeless populations. One aspect of that bill was the definition of a Navigation Center (low barrier shelter with on-site services to help homeless individuals achieve stability and long-term housing) and a funding mechanism to pay for the development and operation of the facility. The initial \$1.5 million grant from the bill will be used to renovate, expand, and combine two neighboring shelters owned by YCAP into one Navigation Center. The new Navigation Center must be operational by June 30, 2022. HB 2006 is very specific about the type of entity that needs to manage a funded Navigation Center, namely an entity with the experience and authority to manage homeless shelters.

The second funding priority related to addressing homelessness is the Newberg area non-congregate motel shelter program. The program has been extremely successful with more than 75% of those who have been sheltered since March 2020 moving from the shelter into long-term housing. Due to the program's success, YCAP was able to partner with Providence Health & Services to secure a Project Turnkey grant from the Oregon Community Foundation. After all efforts to purchase a suitable motel in Newberg failed, a motel in McMinnville was secured. However, YCAP has identified the need still exists in Newberg and is committed to providing non-congregate shelter beds in Newberg for individuals and families who need to stay in Newberg due to financial, health, or family reasons. To listen to a Vietnam Veteran who was helped by the motel program, visit www.tinyurl.com/YCAPVoices and click on David's video.

What is included in the cost?

Since the majority of the \$1.5 million grant will be needed for the renovation, expansion, and development of the Navigation Center, YCAP is seeking ARPA funds from the City of McMinnville, Yamhill County, and the City of Newberg to support the first three years of operation. The City of McMinnville has already committed \$500,000 to the project's operational costs which is estimated to be \$1.4 million over the next three years. Operational costs include salaries for case managers and other staff as well as facility expenses.

For the non-congregate shelter beds in Newberg, YCAP was able to secure OHCS cold weather funds to pay for motel beds through late spring 2022, but in order to continue the successful motel shelter model, funds are needed to support the program year-round.

YCAP is requesting ARPA funds in the amount of \$350,000 to support approximately half a year of operations for the new Navigation Center (\$200,000) and to support four Newberg area non-congregate motel shelter beds (\$150,000) after the cold weather shelter funds currently paying for the rooms is exhausted.

An estimate (if known) of how long it might take to implement.

Due to requirements in the HB 2006, the Navigation Center must be operational by June 30, 2022, so operational funds will start being utilized after that date. With Newberg motel sheltering, we anticipate OHCS cold weather funds will be exhausted sometime between late April and early June 2022 based on the number of individuals seeking shelter.

Project Sustainability

How will the project bring long lasting economic recovery benefits to Newberg?

The Navigation Center will be a place for people who are homeless in Yamhill County to find immediate services and shelter onsite in McMinnville. The Newberg motel shelter beds will provide individuals and families with a local resource for emergency shelter with intensive case management that has proven to lead to stable and/or permanent housing.

YCAP has a robust service model that consists of Outreach Specialists, Case Managers, Housing Specialists, and partnerships with other service providers which creates the holistic approach

needed to help individuals and families experiencing homelessness find a permanent housing solution that works for them.

As stated by Max Williams, President and CEO, Oregon Community Foundation: “We know that housing instability and homelessness are linked to other issues facing families and children across the state—success in school and in employment, the ability to afford the basics like food, transportation and day care, and physical and mental health. Solving the housing crisis could unlock the potential of tens of thousands of Oregonians, creating a stronger economy and healthier people.”

Are local or minority vendors involved?

Yes, local vendors will be used where available, and the funds for the motel shelter will be spent directly in Newberg with motels that are minority owned. Most of the funds for the Navigation Center will be used to pay the salaries of the case managers and staff at the center, and a priority will be placed on hiring bilingual employees wherever possible.

YCAP also partners with a diverse group of culturally specific and culturally responsive organizations to ensure our housing services and programs are inclusive and equitable. Over the last two years, YCAP has more than doubled the number of bilingual case managers, and we have participated with statewide equity initiatives with the Oregon Health Authority.

Please describe its sustainability if applicable.

Three years of secure operational funding will provide the Navigation Center with a strong start and a track record which can be used to secure future State and private grant support. By working together, the City of McMinnville, the City of Newberg, Yamhill County, and YCAP can continue the progress that has been made in reducing the incidents of homelessness in our communities and helping people thrive.

ARPA expenditure categories (EC):

Code the correct EC from the ARPA list, p.30 – p.31 of the compliance and reporting guidelines. The EC table is found in this document as Appendix C.

3: Services to Disproportionately Impacted Communities

Primary: 3.11 Housing Support: Services for Unhoused Persons

Secondary: 3.14 Social Determinants of Health: Community Health Workers or Benefits Navigators

Secondary: 3.12 Housing Support: Other Housing Assistance.