

PROJECT:

NEWBERG HARVEST HOUSE: STABILIZING SHELTER FOR THE HOUSELESS

JUSTIFICATION:

COVID-19 has placed significant strain on our community's already spread thin resources for housing support. This has led to even more displaced Newberg community members including single moms, families, and medically fragile individuals.

Newberg Emergency Shelter formally joined Community Wellness Collective as a housing support subcommittee in January 2021 in effort to provide additional financial and resourcing support for our community members struggling with housing placement. In January 2021, YCAP, Community Wellness Collective and the Newberg Emergency Shelter created a formal partnership and contract to repurpose YCAP Harvest House at 615 N College St, to act as the city's first low-barrier shelter, welcome to any community member.

At opening, Newberg Emergency Shelter had been 100% volunteer run, aiming to be open any night under 32 degrees from 8pm-8am. Since then, in partnership with YCAP funding, Newberg Harvest House has 5 part-time staff. Because of this, the shelter has been able to remain open Thursday-Tuesday nights, 8pm-8am, and additional days/nights during inclement weather, while maintaining COVID-19 safety precautions. **Most nights, the shelter is at or near capacity of 22 people staying in the home overnight.** Five part-time employees have brought stability to the shifts, requiring less volunteers to run the shelter. We have also been able to expand to support medical and mental health visits onsite at the shelter 1 night per week in partnership with Providence Medical Group. This has allowed our shelter guests to feel cared for and committed to in an entirely new way and has fostered personal goals in guests that may not have previously been had.

Newberg Harvest House currently supports:

- Dinner and breakfast
- Showers
- Laundry
- Job search
- Medical, mental health, substance use disorder visits
- COVID-19 testing and vaccination
- OHP application submission
- Motel vouchers for medically fragile and COVID-19 cases

Goals for 2022 are:

- Provide 7-day week nightly stays
- Open during the day during inclement weather
- Continue to provide services onsite
- Staff and volunteer de-escalation and trauma informed training
- Expand peer support groups
- Enhanced support in job search
- Transportation to appointments
- Case management of long-term hotel guests
- Submission to coordinated entry for long-term housing placement
- ADU extension to property for single moms with kids and domestic violence victims (in partnership with local foundation)

Supporting of this project would allow the shelter to continue current programming, staffing, and expansion of above goals through July 2023.

Project Budget: \$350,000

Item	Cost	EC Assigned	Comments
Continuation of current staffing and expansion to case management services	\$250,000	1.1, 1.2, 1.10, 1.11, 2.10, 3.10, 3.11, 3.12	Current funding ends June 30, 2022
ADU: Expansion to support single moms with kids and domestic violence victims	\$75,000	2.10, 3.10, 3.11	Partnership with local foundation
Shelter car	\$10,000	2.10, 3.13	Transportation to job interviews, medical appointments
Training and Education:	\$5,000	1.10, 2.10, 3.16	Peer support certification for staff and de-escalation training
Prescription fund	\$10,000	2.10, 3.13	Bridging guests until OHP approval letter



PROJECT SUSTAINABILITY:

Many organizations in our county and state support long term housing placement and options, but very few resources exist to support temporary relief to individuals and families in need of immediate shelter. Newberg Harvest House is currently the only low-barrier shelter, aiming to be open to all community members 365 days a year, with onsite medical, mental health, and social support present.

In the short time of being open, just over a year, we have gained relationships with community members that have a variety of life situations, but all commonality in simply needing love, compassion, and safety to rest with zero judgment of their situation. Providing shelter and resourcing allows a person the dignity to have space to create goals for their medical, mental, financial, and spiritual health.

As our community comes out of the COVID-19 pandemic, immediate shelter options will be crucial for our families, youth, and individual community members to find relief and rebuild pieces of their lives that have been displaced. Community Wellness Collective and Newberg Harvest House is committed to our community's houseless population and hopes to provide respite and hope to those community members in need.

ARPA EXPENDITURE CATEGORIES (EC):

1.1, 1.2, 1.10, 1.11, 2.10, 3.10, 3.11, 3.12, 3.13, 3.16 (see description designation in budget above)