

**SPECIAL JOINT CITY COUNCIL
MEETING, CITIES OF EAST
WENATCHEE AND WENATCHEE**

August 29, 2024

UPDATES

Two-city homeless response approach

- Lessons from the City of Auburn
- 5-Year Homeless Plan/City Plans
- City Contracts
- New staff position: Homeless Response Administrator

Pallet shelter complex update

- Pallet shelter client eligibility criteria & referral/placement policies

INTERLOCAL RESPONSE

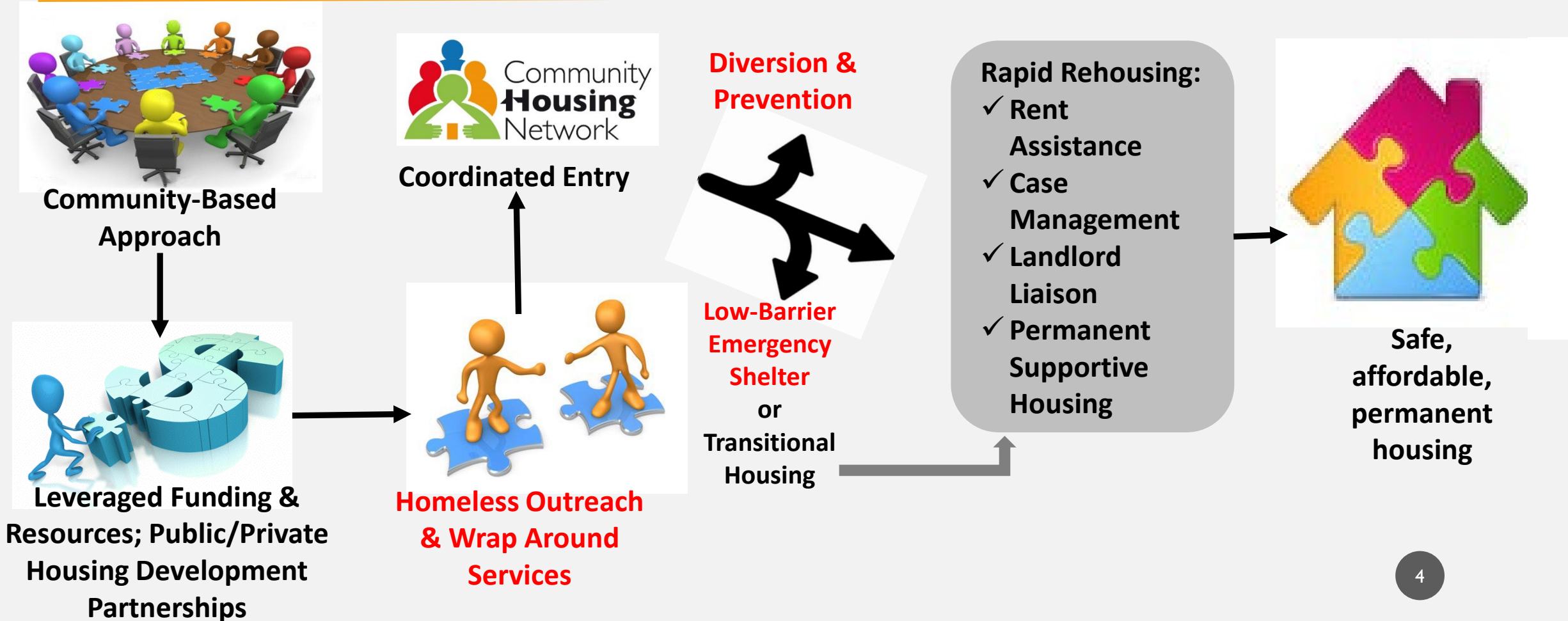
- The City of Wenatchee entered into an interlocal agreement in October 2021, to manage homeless funds on behalf of East Wenatchee and Wenatchee(temporary .28 Consultant FTE, and Director part time):
 - Approximately \$2.34 million dollars annually
 - Contract with 4 local agencies with a current focus on outreach, diversion, hotel vouchers, permanent supportive housing and low barrier shelters, the and landlord liaison program
 - Capital Oversight
- Facilitate and administer the Columbia River Homeless Task Force and Program, Shelter Network, Coordinate with community housing network.
- **Filling a gap in the system: a low barrier shelter network and an outreach team partnered with wrap around service providers and law enforcement- 51 RV shelter stalls, and 204 shelter beds by Summer 2024**





Cities are part of the Chelan-Douglas Homeless Crisis Response System

System Goal- To ensure that homelessness is rare, brief, and a one-time event



HOMELESSNESS IN WENATCHEE & EAST WENATCHEE



2024 Winter Homeless Point-In-Time Count

| TOTAL HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS- (Two Counties) | Total Sheltered Homeless Individuals (Two Counties) | Total Unsheltered Homeless Individuals- Wenatchee/E. Wenatchee | % of Unsheltered Homeless Residing in RVs or vehicles- (Counties) |
|--|---|--|---|
| 482 | 341 | 45 | 33% |

- The Unsheltered population in the two cities was 113 in 2022, 61 in 2023, and now 45 in 2024.
- Sheltered homeless: Residing in a temporary housing program including shelters, transitional housing programs, or hotels.
- Unsheltered homeless:
 - Living outside or in a place not intended as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings; or
 - Fleeing domestic violence



What is Coordinated Entry?

- The Community Housing Network operates the coordinated entry system for our region. System established 2014.
- It is a regional network of service agencies who provide coordinated access to housing & shelter for residents in Chelan and Douglas counties.
- Coordinated entry is required by HUD & the Department of Commerce.
- Historically has been operated by dispersed providers, Catholic Charities, Hope Source, and Wenatchee Rescue Mission, and effective in July, Chelan County

WHAT'S THE ROLE OF CHELAN COUNTY ?

- Manage homeless grant funds on behalf of Chelan and Douglas counties, (5 FTE's):
 - Approximately \$3.1 million dollars annually
 - Contracts with 11 local agencies for 15 homeless programs
- Facilitate the Chelan-Douglas Homeless Task Force and Chelan-Douglas Homeless Advisory Committee
- Staff and administer the Community Housing Network coordinated entry system
- Coordinate the annual Point-in-Time Count



WHAT'S THE ROLE OF THE CITY OF WENATCHEE?

- The City of Wenatchee entered into an interlocal agreement in October 2021, to manage homeless funds on behalf of East Wenatchee and Wenatchee (temporary .28 Consultant FTE, and Director part time):
 - Approximately \$2.34 million dollars annually
 - Contract with 4 local agencies/8 contracts with a current focus on outreach, diversion, hotel vouchers, permanent supportive housing and low barrier shelters
 - Capital Oversight
- Facilitate and administer the Columbia River Homeless Task Force and Program, Shelter Network, Coordinate with community housing network.
- **Filling a gap in the system: a low barrier shelter network and an outreach team partnered with wrap around service providers and law enforcement- 51 RV shelter stalls, and 204 shelter beds by September 2024**



TIMELINE, CITY HOMELESS PROGRAMS

- 2009, The City of Wenatchee entered into an interlocal agreement to manage the Chelan-Douglas Homeless Crisis Response System
- 2010-2021, The City of Wenatchee administered the Chelan-Douglas Homeless programs and system
- 2019-2020 , Agency and non-profit partners studied low barrier shelter systems and how to develop and manage them. Low barrier shelters were not available in the Valley. Site locations and funding were the biggest obstacles
- 2021, The City of Wenatchee withdrew as the administrator of the Chelan- Douglas Homeless Programs/and received it's share of Document Recording Fee Funding (RCW 36.22.179)
- 2021, The cities of Wenatchee and East Wenatchee took councilmatic action under House Bill 1590/1070 Affordable Housing Sales Tax (RCW 82.14.530) to implement a multiple phased approach to exiting unsheltered households from homelessness in the two cities.
- 2021, The Columbia River Homeless Task Force was established

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT, 10/19/21

1. Provides a framework for the joint administration of funds under the affordable housing sales tax for both cities along with other available funds
2. A commitment to joint planning for homeless policies and direction
3. Establishes the Columbia River Homeless Advisory Task Force to provide recommendations to the cities on homeless policies and program administration
4. Provides that the City of Wenatchee is the lead entity for the task force and joint homeless program with responsibilities for:
 - Contract development, management and performance monitoring
 - Fiscal oversight, contract procedures and policies
 - Meeting coordination and regional participation in the continuum of care, communication and education efforts
 - New program, plan and policy development, data collection and reporting
 - System collaboration and partnership development
 - Provide staffing as the lead entity

CITY FUNDING SOURCES & ALLOWABLE USES

| Funding Source | Description | Allowable Uses |
|---|--|---|
| <p>House Bill 1590/1070 Affordable Housing Sales Tax (RCW 82.14.530)</p> <p>(\$2,240,000.00-2024)</p> | <p>Provides cities and counties the ability to implement the local sales and use tax for affordable housing through councilmanic authority not to exceed one-tenth of one percent of the selling price (for sales tax) or value of the article (for use tax).</p> | <p>Constructing and/or operating affordable housing, facilities providing housing services, or behavioral health facilities <u>for homeless individuals & families; individuals with physical or behavioral health disabilities; Veterans; seniors; and DV survivors</u></p> <p>Supportive homeless services (max. 40%)</p> |
| <p>House Bill 1406 Sales & Use Tax (RCW 82.14.450)</p> <p>(\$93,990.00- 2024)</p> | <p>Local state-shared tax for affordable and supportive housing allows local jurisdictions to impose a local state-shared sales and use tax to fund affordable or supportive housing. The consumer does not pay this tax, and the effective sales tax rate remains the same. Instead, this tax is credited against the 6.5% state sales tax.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acquisition, rehabilitation or construction of affordable housing <u>Funding the operations</u> and maintenance costs of new units of affordable or supportive housing, or Provide rental assistance to tenants |
| <p>Document Recording Fee Funding (RCW 36.22.179)</p> <p>(\$100,000.00-</p> | <p>Cities receive set fee per document recorded in each city to be used for homeless services</p> | <p>Emergency shelter, street outreach, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, rental assistance, eviction prevention, affordable housing development, & other activities consistent with local homeless plan</p> |

FUNDED PROGRAMS

| Program Type | Agency | Program Description | 2 year Contract Funding Amount (exp. 12/24) |
|------------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Emergency Shelter | Wenatchee Rescue Mission | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Men’s communal shelter (65 beds) – RV Safe Parks 1 & 2 (51 spaces) – Homeless street outreach – Tiny shelter complex (44 units/90 beds) | \$2,090,554 |
| Emergency Shelter | People’s Foundation | Night-by-night drop-in shelter (50 beds) | \$405,000 |
| Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) | Women’s Resource Center | Miller Park PSH (20 units) | \$338,122 |
| Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) | YWCA | New Bridges PSH (7 units) | \$140,979 |
| Landlord-Tenant Liaison Program | Women’s Resource Center | Assists clients with rental vouchers to identify, obtain, & maintain permanent housing | \$478,150 |
| Hotel Voucher/Diversion | Wenatchee Rescue Mission / Catholic Charities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Emergency hotel vouchers – Diversion/flexible funding | \$81,000 |
| Hotel Voucher/Diversion | People’s Foundation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Emergency hotel vouchers – Diversion/flexible funding | \$27,000 |
| Hotel Voucher/Diversion | YWCA | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Emergency hotel vouchers | \$27,000 |

PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS, (3 YEARS)

- Opening of two RV Safe Parks, providing 51 safe spaces with a significant reduction of unsheltered households living in RVs.
- 43 unit Pallet Shelter, low barrier shelter complex planning & construction. Established a total of 204 low barrier shelter beds with partners that did not exist previously.
- Establishment of WRM homeless street outreach program.
- Development & establishment of a shelter-based hotel voucher/flexible funding program.
- Establishment of the Shelter/Outreach Network group.
- Shelter Vacancy Tracker launched
- Ongoing collaboration & coordination with Chelan County housing program staff to increase communication & alignment of programs (i.e., RV Safe Park 2 shelter categorization; data reporting/sharing; GIS software for PIT Count; homeless plan data collection & sharing).
- Developing Outreach program with the City's GIS software for homeless street outreach data collection & performance tracking.

LOW BARRIER PROGRAMS

- Low Barrier programs are guided by a housing first philosophy in which barriers and pre-conditions to entry are eliminated or minimized. Project participation is based on realistic and clear expectations that are behavior-based rather than rules-based. Low barrier is a term often used in reference to emergency shelters but can be applied to any type of housing intervention.

City of Wenatchee
Homeless Shelter Bed Vacancy Tracker

The Shelter Vacancy Tracker provides information on current bed availability at emergency shelters within the Wenatchee & East Wenatchee city limits. Current Bed Availability is updated one time per day at 5:00 p.m., Monday - Friday. Please note: Current bed availability numbers are subject to change throughout the day/evening. Therefore, it's critical that Law Enforcement call shelters prior to attempting to drop-off clients. See detailed instructions below.

| Agency | Shelter Name | Address | Total Bed Capacity | Current Bed Availability | Date Last Updated - updates automatically | Client Population Served | Contact Information | Client Intake Times | Special Notes |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|---|---|--|---|---|--|
| People's Foundation | St. Francis Shelter | 810 S. Wenatchee Ave., Wenatchee | 50 | 2 | 6/5/2024 | Adult men & women 18+ years (34 men's beds, 16 women's beds) | 509-885-3851 (7:00 pm - 7:00 am); 509-888-7775 (daytime) | Daily 7:00 pm - 7:00 am | Can accommodate clients with sex offense records. If no beds are available, shelter staff will accommodate law enforcement drop-offs by using mats. |
| Wenatchee Rescue Mission | Men's Shelter | 1450 S. Wenatchee Ave., Wenatchee | 65 | 28 | 6/5/2024 | Adult men 18+ years | 509-204-3209 M-F 8am-4pm 509-663-4289 ext 1002 (after hours) | 24/7 | No sex offenders; 2 designated beds for law enforcement drop-offs. |
| Wenatchee Rescue Mission | RV Safe Park 1 | 1434 S. Wenatchee Ave., Wenatchee | 13 | 0 | 6/5/2024 | Adult men & women 18+ years living in illegally parked RVs or cars | 509-204-3209 M-F 8am-4pm 509-663-4289 ext 1002 (after hours) | No drop-offs; by appt. only | No sex offenders |
| Wenatchee Rescue Mission | RV Safe Park 2 | 3240 Highway 97, Wenatchee | 38 | 0 | 6/5/2024 | Adult men & women 18+ years living in illegally parked RVs or cars | 509-204-3209 M-F 8am-4pm 509-663-4289 ext 1002 (after hours) | No drop-offs; by appt. only | No sex offenders |
| Wenatchee Rescue Mission | Women's Shelter (winter only) | 1450 S. Wenatchee Ave., Wenatchee | 10 | 0 | 6/5/2024 | Adult women 18+ years | 509-204-3209 M-F 8am-4pm 509-663-4289 ext 1002 (after hours) | 24/7 | Seasonal operation: Generally November - April |
| Wenatchee Rescue Mission | Pallet Shelter Units | 1450 S. Wenatchee Ave., Wenatchee | N/A | N/A | N/A | Adult men & women 18+ years; couples | N/A | N/A | Not operational. Opening date 2nd quarter 2024 |
| YWCA | Emogene's Shelter | 212 First St., Wenatchee | 10 | 2 | 6/5/2024 | Adult women 18+ years & women with children; serves clients who identify as transgender or non-binary. | 506-662-3531 Option 2 (M-F 8:00 am - 5:00 pm) | Walk-ins 10:00 am - 3:00 pm; by appointment 9:00 am - 5:00 pm | No sex offenders |
| SAGE | Domestic Violence Shelter | Confidential location. See comments. | 20 | N/A - Does not participate in bed tracking system | N/A | Adult women 18+ years or adult women with children who are fleeing domestic violence | (509)663-7446 | Call for drop-off instructions | For the safety of their clients fleeing domestic violence, SAGE's shelter is at a confidential location and cannot accept direct client drop-offs. Call SAGE to obtain client referral instructions. |

We had 48 people last night

Instructions for Law Enforcement

To check shelter bed availability for a homeless individual:

1. Check the "Client Population Served" column to identify if the individual meets the client eligibility criteria of the shelter.
2. For those shelters, review the "Current Bed Availability" column to determine if the shelter(s) has an opening.
3. Before transporting an individual to a shelter, **call the shelter at the phone number listed above under the "Contact Information" column to verify that a bed is still available.** Note: Bed availability is only updated once daily Monday-Friday at 5:00 p.m. Bed availability can fluctuate throughout the day and evening, so therefore, the bed availability listed may not be accurate on an hour-to-hour basis.
4. ADA accommodations: Most shelters have limited ADA access and utilize bunk beds which can be challenging for clients with limited mobility. Therefore, when calling to confirm bed availability, please inform shelter staff of any special ADA needs.

CONTRACT MONITORING PROCESS

- Monitoring purpose: Ensuring contractor compliance with contract & statement of work terms; opportunity for ongoing education, training, & communication between contractors and the City.
- Is an ongoing process, not a one-time event.
- City monitoring process:
 - Detailed statements of work & contract terms
 - City Housing Contract Guidelines
 - Contract orientation meetings
 - City Monitoring Plan
 - Contractor Risk Assessments
 - Monitoring frequency & schedule
 - Monitoring types: Desk monitoring; on-site monitoring visits
 - Monitoring visit structure
 - **Monthly/weekly coordination meetings (formal checklists in development) TO BE IMPLEMENTED**
 - Performance outcomes & metrics **IN REVIEW FOR AN UPDATE IN 2025**
 - Post-monitoring reports & follow-up

CONTRACTOR MONITORING SCHEDULE

| Agency | Program | Risk Assessment Score (76 max) | Risk Assessment Level | On-Site Monitoring Frequency | On-Site Visit Schedule |
|--------------------------|---|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--|---------------------------|
| Wenatchee Rescue Mission | Communal low-barrier shelter; RV Safe Parks 1 & 2; homeless street outreach; tiny shelter complex; diversion/hotel vouchers | 74 | Significantly high | Every six months with weekly coordination meetings | 9/28-9/29/23; 4/24; 10/24 |
| The People's Foundation | St. Francis House shelter; diversion/hotel vouchers | 47 | High | Annually with monthly coordination meetings | 6/14/23; 6/24 |
| Women's Resource Center | Miller Park Permanent Supportive Housing | 22 | Medium | Annually | 5/30/23; 5/24 |
| YWCA | New Bridges Permanent Supportive Housing; diversion/hotel vouchers | 17 | Medium | Annually | 6/26/23; 6/24 |
| Women's Resource Center | Landlord/Tenant Liaison Program | 12 | Medium | Annually | 5/30/23; 5/24 |

- Low or medium risk assessment scores: In-person monitoring at least one time per calendar year.
- High risk assessment scores: On-site monitoring annually unless circumstances dictate more frequent visits; may include monthly coordination meetings/telecons.
- Significantly high risk assessment scores: On-site monitoring every six months until risk assessment score decreases to a “high” risk or lower; weekly coordination meetings/telecons.

PERFORMANCE TARGETS

- Each contracted program has established performance targets which are included in their contracts & to which they are monitored.
- Performance measures & targets are established by program type based on recommended industry standards established by HUD.
- Each contracted program has an acceptable progress outcome which is incorporated into their contracts.
- Acceptable progress can vary by program/contractor and is established at the start of the contracting process based on the contractor's previous performance levels.
- For new programs, acceptable progress may be established in the second year of the contract to allow time for baseline data to be collected during the first year.
- Performance measures will be under review for the 2025 contracts to set meaningful metrics that assist in program evaluation. What helps us evaluate if the programs are successful, an ongoing discussion.

PERFORMANCE METRICS (4TH QUARTER 2023)

| Program Type | Agency | Program | Performance Metric | Target | Acceptable Progress | Performance Outcome |
|-------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|---|--------|---------------------|---|
| Emergency Shelter | Wenatchee Rescue Mission | Men's communal shelter | Increase exits to positive outcome destinations | 50% | TBD | 55 clients; 35 exits; 14% positive |
| Emergency Shelter | Wenatchee Rescue Mission | RV Safe Park 1 | Increase exits to positive outcome destinations | 50% | TBD | 26 households; 7 exits; 100% positive |
| Emergency Shelter | Wenatchee Rescue Mission | RV Safe Park 2 | Increase exits to positive outcome destinations | 50% | TBD | 32 households; 6 exits; 100% positive |
| Emergency Shelter | People's Foundation | St. Francis communal shelter | Increase exits to positive outcome destinations | 50% | TBD | 189 clients; 3% positive (3 rd quarter 2023) |
| PSH | Women's Resource Center | Miller Park PSH | Increase exits to or retention of permanent housing | 95% | 85% | 20 clients; 98% retention |
| PSH | YWCA | New Bridges PSH | Increase exits to or retention of permanent housing | 95% | 85% | 7 clients; 100% retention |

COMMUNITY COORDINATION & COLLABORATION

- Establishment of the Shelter/Outreach Network Group:
 - A collaborative of shelter, outreach, & hotel voucher providers; established by the City.
 - Kick-off meeting in February 2023.
 - Purpose:
 1. Provider resource sharing
 2. Problem-solving working sessions for shelter-specific issues
 3. Brainstorming & partnership development
 4. Shelter client care conferencing
- County Care Conferencing & Chelan – Douglas Task Force meetings: participation based upon topic
- Homeless Advisory Committee: Quarterly provider meetings facilitated by Chelan County staff.
- Frequent, ongoing coordination between City & Chelan county staff.
- Ongoing development & coordination of wrap-around service partnerships.
- Membership in the subcommittee for the development of the Chelan-Douglas 5 year plan to end homelessness.

AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN FROM OTHERS, LESSONS INCORPORATED FROM THE CITY OF AUBURN

- Field outreach- City lead homeless administrator will be in the field coordinating with services, partnerships, monitoring and actively doing outreach with unsheltered households, working with the other outreach teams and providers
- Pallet Shelters are spaces of growth and transition
- Integrate with essential services for shelters/be able to actively bring services to, or bring unsheltered individuals to services
- Provide compassion, striving to put households on a path for health, safety and housing
- The unsheltered are members of the community, working on actions to break down barriers with them. Set expectations to make steps to improve from their points of crisis.
- Services and shelter are available, where they are refused accountability in the community is necessary to help the individual and to also protect the public health, safety and general welfare and community commerce.

PLANNING TO END HOMELESSNESS

- Each city has a council member on the Chelan - Douglas Homeless Task Force. The cities will participate in the 5 year homeless plan update, and staff will provide feedback where there are opportunities to do so. The cities historically adopt this plan as a guidance document. This plan is an important overarching document for the regional homeless system and services.
- Specific policy direction for the two cities will be placed in each city's comprehensive plan housing elements. The cities are coordinating this effort. This planning process is a two year process that can prioritize funding for the cities as a required action component of planning.
- In 2025 the cities and task force will be able to evaluate and prioritize options for remaining and future resources. Opportunities exist to provide requests for proposals, RFP's, for homeless housing where the cities could provide a match toward capital costs. Available funds may be between \$250,000 to \$450,000 annually.

HOMELESS RESPONSE ADMINISTRATOR

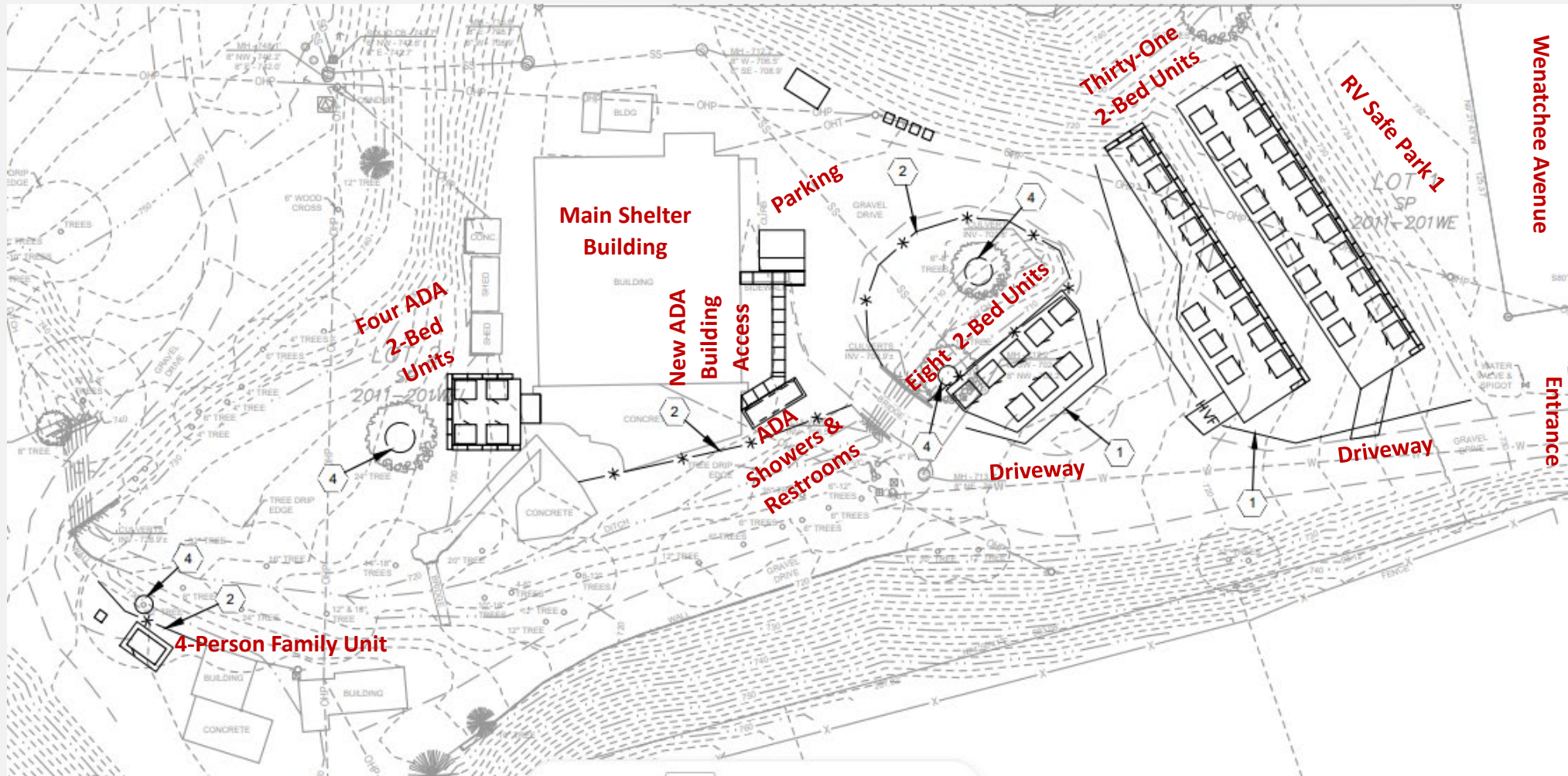
- Training program and transition from consultant and Community Development Director
- Public outreach, response and education
- Coordinate with and build relationships with service providers to facilitate wrap around services
- Administer responsibilities of the interlocal agreement
- Develop, manage and monitor grant contracts
- Implements, researches and designs components of the homeless program for consideration. Seeks new funding where appropriate.
- Coordinates with each city closely to meet their needs and direction.
- Working directly in the field with the unsheltered homeless population and partners to facilitate positive outcomes

PALLET SHELTER STATUS

- The final component of the infrastructure to support the Pallet Shelters will be installed this week, pumps at the sewer lift station for the Wenatchee Rescue Mission.
- Outreach will be working with developed lists of the most vulnerable unsheltered households in the two cities in a phased approach to place individuals in the units.
- The focus of these shelters is with individuals whom are chronically homeless in the two cities. Chronic homelessness describes people who have experienced homelessness for at least a year in the two cities — or repeatedly — while often struggling with a disabling condition such as a serious mental illness, substance use disorder, or physical disability.

Pallet Shelter Complex Site Map

Wenatchee Rescue Mission



PALLET SHELTER CLIENT ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA & REFERRAL/PLACEMENT POLICY

Client Eligibility Criteria:

Due to the high demand for pallet shelter units, the following client eligibility criteria will be observed. These units are part of an overall shelter system, some individuals may instead qualify for congregate care beds:

- Reserved for adults or couples over the age of 18 within the city limits of Wenatchee or East Wenatchee. No minors under 18 are allowed.
- Units used as the shelter of last-resort for clients who are unable to enter a communal shelter prioritizing the chronically homeless including:
 - Clients requiring ADA accommodations
 - Women
 - Couples
 - Clients with animals, (Not brand new acquired for the purposes of entry)
 - Clients who can't be placed in a communal setting (i.e., PTSD, mental health or behavioral issues).

PALLET SHELTER CLIENT ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA & REFERRAL/PLACEMENT POLICY (CONT.)

Client Eligibility Criteria:

Sheltered households who are currently enrolled in a communal shelter or transitional facility may not transfer to a pallet shelter unit unless authorized by the Homeless Response Administrator. No transfers will be allowed until the current unsheltered population in the two cities are addressed or refuse services.

The focus of the shelter system is to first house those individuals that the system previously did not have the capacity to assist.

PALLET SHELTER CLIENT ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA & REFERRAL/PLACEMENT POLICY

Client Referral Process:

- The Wenatchee Rescue Mission (WRM) Outreach Team will receive client referrals and determine client eligibility. No referrals will be accepted in the first 30 days of operation. No phone calls or applications are accepted outside of the process described here.
- Referrals may only be made by:
 - WRM Outreach Team
 - Catholic Charities Outreach Team
 - City's Homeless Response Administrator
 - People's Foundation St. Francis Shelter
 - YWCA Women's Shelter
- Shelter providers may only refer clients who are not currently enrolled in their shelter and who are unable to enter communal shelters for the reasons outlined in the eligibility criteria. Two shelters shall be reserved for placement by law enforcement.

PALLET SHELTER CLIENT ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA & REFERRAL/PLACEMENT POLICY

Client Placement:

- All potential pallet shelter clients must agree to the following minimal conditions:
 - Enroll in HMIS and Coordinated Entry
 - Commit to engaging in housing stability assessment/planning and case management during the duration of their stay.
- If the WRM Outreach Team determines the client to be eligible and the client agrees to the placement requirements outlined above, the client will be placed on a waiting list or placement for pallet shelters.

PALLET SHELTER CLIENT ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA & REFERRAL/PLACEMENT PROCESS

Client Length of Stay:

There are no length-of-stay limits for clients who are enrolled in the pallet shelter program. However, clients who do not meet the program participation requirements (i.e., enrollment in coordinated entry, engaging in housing stability planning/case management, and demonstrating progress in moving towards positive housing outcomes within 90 days and thereafter) may be transferred to other types of shelter accommodations. These are prioritized units. Studies have shown that there is a higher success rate with individual shelter units vs. congregate care beds for stabilizing people out of points of crisis and exiting homelessness.

CONTRACT EXPIRATIONS & RENEWAL OPTIONS

- All current City contracts expire on 12/31/24 to align with the City's calendar-year budget cycle. Planning for new contract periods should begin 5 – 6 months in advance of the current contract expirations.
- County contracts expire on 6/30/25 to align with the State's fiscal year budget cycle. County planning for the 2025 – 2027 funding cycle won't begin until January 2025.
- The cities are faced with Growth Management Act mandates to take action steps for low barrier shelters, and homeless housing in their jurisdictions. This may mean grants or RFP's to stimulate more housing for the unsheltered population.
- The cities need time to work through their respective planning processes and requirements and coordinate with the new Homeless Response Administrator. At this time if a City contract(s) is not renewed, a provider would face a 6-month funding lapse until new county contracts are awarded in June 2025.
- For the reasons noted above, contracts are being proposed for extensions:
 - Extend the current City contracts through 6/30/25 to allow adequate time for city planning, review by the new Homeless Response Coordinator and the ability for any potential contract changes to find alternative funding sources.
 - Contract extensions will be reviewed by the Columbia River Homeless Task Force and Wenatchee City Council in October 2024.

QUESTIONS?