



# Homelessness in Grays Harbor

2019 Plan Update

# 2019 Housing Plan Update

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## **Goals of Meeting:**

- ▶ Briefly outline scope of and contributors to Homelessness in Grays Harbor
- ▶ Provide orientation about what is required as part of the plan update (*2019-2024 Grays Harbor Plan to Address Homelessness*)
- ▶ Where can the community provide input on the 2019 plan update?
- ▶ Ask this group to share their priorities in more flexible areas (i.e. “vote” on strategies they feel are most important to address homelessness in Grays Harbor)



# Scope of Homelessness in Grays Harbor

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- ▶ Reasonable to estimate there are as many as 3,000 residents who are not stably housed at any given time –**between 500-700 are literally homeless**
  - ▶ 2018 Point in Time Count
    - ▶ 174 literally homeless: 117 unsheltered, 57 sheltered
  - ▶ 2017-18 Coordinated Entry data
    - ▶ 761 HH assessed, 453 of those were literally homeless, 113 enrolled in programs (*difference of 340*)
  - ▶ 2015-16 OSPI Data
    - ▶ 974 Homeless Students (75% doubled up, 10% shelters, 10% motels, 5% unsheltered)
  - ▶ 2018 DSHS Data
    - ▶ 2,055 clients homeless (873 literally homeless, 1,177 unstably housed/couch surfing)



# Homelessness in North Beach

Current DSHS Clients by Zip Code and Housing Situation as of February 2018			
Zip code/city	Homeless without housing	Homeless with housing	Total
Copalis Beach	4	14	18
Copalis Crossing	0	10	10
Humptulips	5	5	10
Moclips	5	9	14
Ocean Shores	44	66	110
Pacific Beach	6	11	17
Taholah	8	14	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>201</b>

**Homeless without Housing** includes clients who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and do not have a place to stay at the time of report.

**Homeless with Housing** includes clients commonly referred to as "couch surfing", which means they do not have a fixed, regular nighttime residence, but they do have a place to stay at the time of report.

## OSPI School District Data

Homeless According to Housing Questionnaire			
School	Number of Homeless	Number of Students	Percentage Homeless
North Beach Junior High	6	94	6.4%
North Beach Senior High	11	195	5.6%
Ocean Shores Elementary	24	232	10.3%
Pacific Beach Elementary	4	155	2.6%
<b>Total North Beach School District</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>676</b>	<b>6.7%</b>

# Factors contributing to homelessness

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- ▶ **Not enough affordable housing for low-income clients\***
- ▶ Tenants need access to sustainable income to pay rent
  - ▶ Jobs
  - ▶ Benefits (SSI, TANF, etc.)
- ▶ Domestic Violence/family break-up
- ▶ Individualized and long-term supports are needed to obtain and maintain housing for many
  - ▶ Behavioral health
  - ▶ Medical health
  - ▶ Education/Employment
- ▶ Need all steps of continuum from emergency shelter to help now – all the way to permanent housing and supports
- ▶ Low barrier/Housing First programs and units are critical to ending homelessness
  - ▶ Behavioral Health
  - ▶ Pets
  - ▶ Criminal/eviction history
  - ▶ Physical disabilities

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▶ *\*<https://www.zillow.com/research/homelessness-rent-affordability-222471>*

# Affordable Housing in Grays Harbor

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Income Status	Definition	Annual Income range	Monthly affordable housing costs	Number of renter households	Estimated number of affordable rental units
<b>Extremely low income</b>	<30% Median Income	<\$15,630 per year	\$390 or less per month	1,775	615
<b>Very Low Income</b>	30% to 50% Median Income	\$15,630 - \$26,050 per year	\$390 - \$650 per month	1,715	605

*Source: American Community Survey 2012-2016 5 Year Estimates : Grays Harbor, Housing*

The Housing Authority averages an annual turnover of 8% and issues approximately 25 vouchers per year. The average voucher holder has received housing benefits for 6 years and 5 months. Persons who were issued a voucher in the preceding year waited an average of 39 months on the waiting list. *Source: Affordable Housing Online*

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# Grays Harbor Homeless System Performance

August 2018

Between July 2017 - June 2018,

**453**



homeless households sought housing services in Grays Harbor.

Of that total,

**73%**

were single adults;



**26%**

were families;



and

**113**

were enrolled in Rapid Rehousing.



Together, we are working to make homelessness in Grays Harbor:

**rare,**

Households	2017-18	2016-17
Total assessed	453	564
Single adults	73%	59%
Families	26%	41%
Total enrolled	113	158
Unmet need	340	406

**brief,**



Length of time household was homeless  
2017-18: 54 days  
2016-17: 59 days

**and one-time.**



Moved into permanent housing  
2017-18: 75%  
2016-17: 67%



Increased or maintained income  
2017-18: 59%  
2016-17: 69%

Our partners provide a variety of housing services to our community.



**Emergency shelters** provide temporary housing to alleviate the immediate crisis of homelessness.

	2017-18	2016-17
Households served	98	102
Shelter utilization	59%	51%



**Homelessness Prevention** includes financial assistance and/or case management to prevent a household from imminent homelessness.

	2017-18	2016-17
Households served	140	152
Rental vacancy	2.5%	3.8%



**Rapid Rehousing** quickly stabilizes households that are actively experiencing homelessness with financial assistance and short-term, intensive case management.

	2017-18	2016-17
Households served	219	269
Unsheltered	59%	51%

County seeks to support homeless crisis response systems that efficiently reduce the number of people living outside, and that when scaled appropriately can house all unsheltered people



# County Housing Plan Update

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- ▶ **GHC Current plan published early 2016**
- ▶ **Legislation in 2018 required the State to publish guidance on required elements to local plans**
  - ▶ Commerce published final draft of guidance November 30
- ▶ **New Plan must cover 2019-2024**
- ▶ **Local plans are required to describe actions that will be taken to meet objectives**
  - ▶ Must include responsible parties, timelines, at least one milestone completed prior to 2022, and description of how success will be measured
- ▶ **4 required goals/objectives:**
  - ▶ Quickly identify and engage people experiencing homelessness ✓
  - ▶ Prioritization of homeless housing for people with the highest needs ✓
  - ▶ Effective and efficient homeless crisis response housing and services ✓
  - ▶ Projection of the impact of the fully implemented plan on number of households housed and number still left unsheltered
- ▶ **Per RCW** local funds must be invested in strategies/activities that directly accomplish the goals laid out in the local plan







## Grays Harbor 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness Priorities

Read the complete plan at: [www.healthygh.org/directory/housing](http://www.healthygh.org/directory/housing)

### Fully develop Coordinated Entry system

- System Goals: Maximum efficiency of available resources
- Client Goals: The right assistance at the right time

### Maintain and Expand Affordable Housing Resources

### Invest in Housing for Vulnerable Populations

- Domestic Violence Survivors
- Youth and Young Adults (18-25)
- Veterans and their families
- Expand Emergency Housing options
- Individuals with Behavioral Health challenges

### Build Capacity of Housing System

- Training and Technical Assistance in Evidence Based Practices
- Create and utilize mechanisms to evaluate system performance

### Increase Community Awareness and Discussion

- Report progress towards goals and incorporate community feedback
- Share and incorporate information from all areas of the County

# CURRENT Plan Priorities

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## ▶ State Mandated

- ▶ Coordinated Entry
- ▶ Landlord Liaison services
- ▶ Rental assistance to landlords in the community (primarily RRH)
  - ▶ HEN – single, disabled clients
  - ▶ TANF – low-income families
  - ▶ CHG – low-income, vulnerable clients
- ▶ Case management
- ▶ Systems support, data reporting/analysis, and Administration

## ▶ Community Priorities

- ▶ 3 units of Family Shelter
- ▶ Partial funding of Domestic Violence Shelter
- ▶ Domestic Violence Supportive Housing
- ▶ Rapid Rehousing
  - ▶ Families with children
  - ▶ Young Adults
- ▶ Housing supports for Therapeutic Court clients



# Where can the community provide input on the 2019 plan update?

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- ▶ **Community Priorities**

- ▶ Small flexible funds
- ▶ Future opportunities

- ▶ **Maintain and expand affordable housing**

- ▶ We won't discuss this in-depth today – stay tuned!
- ▶ Affordable Housing funds vs. Homeless housing funds



# Key Local Homeless Housing Plan and Investment Values:

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- ▶ **County seeks to support homeless crisis response systems that efficiently reduce the number of people living outside, and that when scaled appropriately can house all unsheltered people**
  - ▶ **State-required performance metrics measure our ability to prioritize unsheltered clients, increase exits to permanent housing, and decrease returns to homelessness**
  - ▶ Investments are sustainable – *annual spending  $\leq$  annual revenue*
  - ▶ Fund of last resort – *use all other resources before tapping local funds*
  - ▶ Whenever possible leverage existing funding sources to increase likelihood of positive outcome
  - ▶ Investments clearly align with community-driven Plan
  - ▶ Investments are data driven with high return on investment
    - ▶ *Look at long-term and big picture impact beyond immediate result – generational and community-wide impact are important factors*
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# Homeless Housing Glossary - Basics

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- ▶ **Intervention Type:** Categories of programs/services designed to resolve the client's homelessness or housing instability
- ▶ **Literally Homeless:** person/household who is actively experiencing homelessness i.e. sleeping outside, a car, emergency shelter, place not meant for human habitation, or actively fleeing Domestic Violence
- ▶ **At Risk of Homelessness:** low income person/household who will imminently lose their current accommodations and no other alternatives can be identified i.e. couch surfing, staying in a motel paid for by client, will be exiting a system of care with no housing plan, been issued an eviction notice with timeline



## Homeless Housing Glossary – Intervention types

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- ▶ **Homelessness Prevention:** short-term housing relocation and/or stabilization services – and/or temporary rental assistance necessary to prevent an individual or family from becoming literally homeless
- ▶ **Diversion:** help identifying immediate alternate housing arrangements, and if necessary connecting them with services and financial assistance to help them return to permanent housing
- ▶ **Emergency Shelter:** facility-based or other crisis housing alternatives for individuals/families (i.e. motel vouchers) to prevent them from becoming unsheltered (typically 90 days or less)
- ▶ **Rapid Rehousing:** Program aimed to quickly connect people who are literally homeless to a home and providing short-term rental assistance and case management to achieve stabilization
- ▶ **Permanent Supportive Housing:** Permanent (or very long-term) program that combines low-barrier affordable housing, health care, and supportive services to help the most vulnerable residents



# Prioritize intervention types

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Intervention Types to Address Homelessness	
Homelessness Prevention/Diversion	● ○ ○ ○ ○
Emergency Shelter	● ● ○ ○ ○
Rapid Rehousing	● ● ○ ○ ○
Permanent Supportive Housing	○ ○ ○ ○ ○



# Homeless Housing Glossary – Populations

*All publicly-funded programs are prioritized to enroll clients with highest needs (disability(ies), criminal/eviction history, low/no income, unsheltered, length of time homeless, etc.)*

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- ▶ **Youth:** Under 18
  - ▶ **Young Adults:** 18-24
  - ▶ **Veterans:** Individuals/families who have served in the military
  - ▶ **Adults:** Individuals or households over 24
  - ▶ **Families with Children:** Families with at least one adult and one child (under 18)
  - ▶ **Low Barrier:** Harm-reduction philosophy to maximize access – i.e. does not require sobriety and/or participation in supportive services, allows pets/couples to stay together, etc.
  - ▶ **Individuals/families fleeing Domestic Violence:** clients who are fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, have no other residence, and lack resources or support networks
  - ▶ **Therapeutic Court/Justice involved:** Individuals enrolled in drug court, diversion, or community court programs and/or clients preparing to discharge from incarceration
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**Intervention Types to Address Homelessness by Population**

<b>Homelessness Prevention/Diversion</b>	
Youth (Under 18)	● ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Young Adults (18-24)	○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Veterans	○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Adults (24+)	● ● ○ ○ ○ ○
Families with Children	● ● ○ ○ ○ ○
<b>Emergency Shelter</b>	
Youth (Under 18)	○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Young Adults (18-24)	○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Veterans	○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Adults (24+)	○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Families with Children	○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Low barrier	○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Individuals/families fleeing Domestic Violence	○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
<b>Rapid Rehousing</b>	
Young Adults (18-24)	○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Veterans	○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Adults (24+)	○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Families with Children	○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Therapeutic Court/Justice involved	○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Individuals/families fleeing Domestic Violence	○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
<b>Permanent Supportive Housing</b>	
Young Adults (18-24)	○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Veterans	○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Adults (24+)	○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
Families with Children	○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

# Next Steps

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- ▶ Outreach and engaging stakeholders, gathering input for consideration for content, structure, and priorities of 2019 Plan Update and next funding cycle (*Now – May 2019*)
- ▶ Plan update published April/May 2019
- ▶ Contracts awarded by July 2019



# How can you help?

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- ▶ Updates on Housing website [www.healthygh.org/directory/housing](http://www.healthygh.org/directory/housing)
  - ▶ Coalition meetings quarterly in January, April, July, and October
- ▶ Donate time or money
  - ▶ Agencies serving homeless and/or vulnerable residents are always looking for volunteers to cook and serve meals, organize supplies, and help with events
  - ▶ United Way of Grays Harbor has established a designated fund called “Pooled Benevolence” where donations will be pooled and provided to help assist families prevent homelessness before it becomes a crisis
- ▶ If you or someone you know is a landlord, consider partnering with local nonprofits to house households in need. There are protections in place to help insure your assets.
  - ▶ Case management for tenants and you as landlord to get ahead of problems
  - ▶ Mitigation Fund to help mitigate concerns of damages
  - ▶ Addressing homelessness in your own community
  - ▶ Reliable revenue stream through rental assistance
  - ▶ Contact **Jim Sorensen**, Landlord Liaison at CCAP for more info [james@coastalcap.org](mailto:james@coastalcap.org) or call **360.743.1994**



# Contact information

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