

Grays Harbor 5-Year Plan to Address Homelessness

Strategies and vision

2019-2024

Increase the availability of affordable housing for all income levels

The private housing market will have an adequate number of units that are affordable to our lowest income neighbors, so fewer people will need housing subsidies.



PREVENT HOMELESSNESS

Youth and families will have access to community-based resources so that they can avoid the trauma of homelessness.



QUICKLY IDENTIFY & ENGAGE PEOPLE WHO ARE HOMELESS

Coordinated Entry (the process for ensuring that all people have fair and equal access to housing assistance) will be robust, consistent, and truly accessible in all parts of the County.



PROVIDE TEMPORARY & EMERGENCY SHELTER

Shelter will be available for all household types - youth, adults, families, and survivors of domestic violence.



RAPIDLY REHOUSE WITH PERMANENT HOUSING

Programs that result in permanent housing will be prioritized. No families with children should be unsheltered in our community.



PROVIDE PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

The most intensive services will be given to those who are most in need in our community - those who have been homeless for a long time and face complex challenges.

DRAFT Plan Priorities (County Funded)

State Mandated

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

Community Priorities (currently in contract)

- ▶ 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

DRAFT new/updated plan priorities

Potentially County funded and/or supported

- ▶ Support to lower barriers to existing emergency shelters and/or provide temporary low-barrier emergency shelter in cold weather
- ▶ Housing supports for clients engaged in other case management programs (Department of Corrections, Parents as Teachers, Department of Children, Youth and Families (DCYF), etc.)

Funded by other sources

- ▶ Housing assistance for Foundational Community Support clients
- ▶ “Pooled Benevolence Fund” for Prevention assistance
- ▶ Expand continuum of services for homeless youth and young adults
 - ▶ *Outreach, shelter, housing navigator (pending application)*
- ▶ Permanent Supportive Housing for Chronically Homeless clients
- ▶ Transitional Housing/Rapid Rehousing for Domestic Violence Survivors *(pending application)*
- ▶ Additional housing subsidies from HUD *(pending application)*
 - ▶ *Family Reunification*
 - ▶ *Non-elderly disabled*
 - ▶ *Veterans*

Other activities to address homelessness – resources permitting

- ▶ Develop additional affordable units for lowest income residents
- ▶ Dedicated staff to “divert” people from homeless system
- ▶ Transitional Housing/work release for clients being released from incarceration
- ▶ Increase capacity to support robust Coordinated Entry (assessment and referral) in more rural areas of the County
- ▶ Robust low-barrier shelter
- ▶ “Transitional” shelter for clients enrolled but waiting for housing unit
- ▶ Dedicated staff to implement “SOAR” (i.e. fast-track social security claims for individuals experiencing homelessness)
- ▶ Expand permanent supportive housing resources to serve other vulnerable populations (families with children, veterans, young adults, etc.)