

Home Again

*A 10-year plan to end homelessness in
Portland and Multnomah County*

JULY - SEPTEMBER, 2005 REPORT

In late December 2004, the City of Portland and Multnomah County released their 10-year Plan to End Homelessness. This plan is built on three principles: **focus on the most chronically homeless populations, streamline access to existing services to prevent and reduce other homelessness, and concentrate**

resources on programs that offer measurable results.

The three principles are inherent in each of nine action steps. Below are some of the changes that have occurred in the last few months.

Nine Actions to End Homelessness:

1. Move people into Housing First.

First year goals are listed after each action step:

- ✎ 175 chronically homeless people will have homes.
 - ✓ 20 “hard to reach” homeless youth will be permanently housed.
 - ✎ 250 homeless families with children will be permanently housed, of whom 50 will be high resource users.
- 2. Stop discharging people into homelessness.**
- 3. Improve outreach to homeless people.**
- ✓ A design will be in place for a day/resource center to engage homeless people.
- 4. Emphasize permanent solutions.**
- ⊕ Waiting lists for shelters and numbers of those turned away from shelters reduced by a minimum of 5%.
- 5. Increase supply of permanent supportive housing.**
- ✎ 160 new units of permanent supportive housing will be opened and 300 additional units will be under development.
 - ⊕ Resources for permanent supportive housing will increase from 12% to 20% of the overall amount spent by the homeless system.
- 6. Create innovative new partnerships to end homelessness.**
- ⊕ An enhanced partnership to end homelessness will be formalized by public and private community partners.
- 7. Make the rent assistance system more effective.**
- ✎ Rent assistance program reforms will be completed to produce a streamlined administration and better outcomes for families and individuals.
- 8. Increase economic opportunity for homeless people.**
- 9. Implement new data collection technology throughout the homeless system.**
- ✎ The new Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) database will be fully operational in 26 homeless service agencies.

FROM JULY TO SEPTEMBER:

◆ **101 chronically homeless people moved into permanent housing. Of these, 59 went directly from the streets to housing.** *From January through September, a total of 500 chronically homeless people moved into permanent housing. Exceeded goal by 381%.*

◆ **101 homeless families with children moved into permanent housing, of which 42 were high-resource users.** *Since January, a total of 304 homeless families with children moved into permanent housing, of which 159 were high-resource users. Exceeded goal by 162%.*

◆ **4 “hard-to-reach” youth moved into stable housing.** *Since January, a total of 27 youth have moved into housing. Exceeded goal.*

◆ **99 units of permanent supportive housing opened and 48 units were added to pipeline.** *Since January, a total of 244 units have opened and 223 units were added to pipeline. Exceeded goal.*

◆ **The HMIS is fully operational in 22 homeless service agencies.** On schedule.

Related activities:

Project Homeless Connect is planned for December 8th. It will be a day of service and support for homeless people in the Portland area. Details to come soon.

✎Exceeded goal ✓Achieved ✎On schedule ⊕Behind schedule/Still collecting data

As of 10/25/05.

Bureau of Housing and Community Development

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