Frequently Asked Questions RE: Coordinated Homelessness Response Systems

March 2025

What are the Metrics for Homeless Program Outcomes in Lincoln County

The Lincoln County Homeless Advisory Board (LCHAB) serves as the State of Oregon's Local Planning Group (LPG) for our region. Through this role, we have successfully leveraged the initial \$1 million in pilot funding from House Bill 4123 into an additional \$3.23 million across four grants. These funds are designated for specific housing and homelessness initiatives.

LCHAB functions as a passthrough entity, ensuring that funds reach local direct service organizations. These organizations are responsible for meeting specific grant-related outcomes defined by the State of Oregon and the respective funding sources.

Some Key Metrics Tied to This Funding:

- Increase shelter capacity by 36 beds.
- Rehouse at least 31 households experiencing unsheltered homelessness.
- Sustain 142 shelter beds across four organizations.
- Provide housing-focused services to school-age children (K-12) and their families at risk of or experiencing homelessness to enhance family stability and school success.

An Additional Metric Identified in the LCHAB Strategic Plan:

• Ensure all local service providers effectively utilize the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to support Lincoln County's homeless response system.

Metrics in Development:

- Improve coordination and resource management across all county municipalities by collecting data on current spending, consolidating services, identifying cost savings, and fundraising for local service providers.
- Establish accurate year-over-year benchmarks for the number of individuals counted in the annual HUD Point-In-Time (PIT) Count to create a reliable homelessness indicator for Lincoln County.

In addition to these metrics, local service providers and agencies have their own program-specific goals, which are not governed by LCHAB. Homelessness and housing availability are interconnected issues, and while substantial funding has been secured for homelessness services, additional efforts are underway to increase housing availability and production. See the Shelter to Housing Continuum on LCHAB.org for more information.

For more information on state programs, visit:

- Oregon Housing and Community Services
- Oregon Rehousing Initiative
- Youth Emergency Housing Assistance

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Services Available Following the Closure of Coastal Services in Lincoln City (1/1/25)

Several organizations continue to provide services to the unhoused and underhoused community in Lincoln County, including:

- Coastal Phoenix Rising (operated by Northwest Coastal Housing)
- Family Promise
- Helping Hands Hope Center
- Lincoln County Health and Human Services (Behavioral Health & Harm Reduction teams)
- Reconnections Counseling

Additionally, Agape Respite Center in Newport is open six days a week, offering outreach, housing navigation, and mail services. LCHAB is connecting with local service providers to assess opportunities for expanding services to address gaps left by the closure of Coastal Support Services.

Where is the money going, and why is homelessness still a problem?

Money alone will not solve the homelessness crisis. However, it is being used to strengthen the countywide response to what is a nationwide epidemic. LCHAB is working to ensure that every member of our community has access to the resources they need, while also working to prevent the circumstances that lead to homelessness.

How many homeless individuals are in Lincoln County?

Estimates suggest the number may be as high as 2,000. The 2024 Point-In-Time (PIT) Count recorded 517 unhoused individuals in Lincoln County on a single day. However, this does not include all McKinney-Vento data (636 in 2025) for unhoused and underhoused youth. Due to the large geographic area of Lincoln County, PIT counts likely underrepresent the full scope of the issue. For a detailed analysis, refer to Section 3: Research and Analysis of the *Lincoln County, Oregon: Five-Year Strategic Plan to Provide a Regional, Coordinated Homelessness Response.*

What is the plan for helping homeless individuals with mental illness and addiction?

Homelessness is not solely the result of addiction. Many individuals experiencing homelessness struggle with mental health challenges, and some use substances as a form of self-medication. Addressing this requires access to:

- Detox and rehabilitation centers
- Transitional housing
- Counseling and mental health support

Local providers offering recovery and mental health services include:

- CHANCE
- Helping Hands Hope Center
- Lincoln County Behavioral Health (for individuals with severe and persistent mental illness)
- Lincoln County Parole and Probation
- Nate's Place

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- Oxford Houses
- Phoenix Wellness Center
- Reconnections Counseling

Success varies by individual. For some, achieving stability in permanent supportive housing is a success, while others may recover from addiction and reintegrate into the workforce. LCHAB's role is to ensure access to necessary resources and to prevent circumstances leading to homelessness.

Does LCHAB receive Federal funds?

LCHAB is not regulated by a federal agency and does not receive federal funding.

What was the homeless count for 2024, and what is the current count?

The PIT Count is a federal Housing & Urban Development (HUD) requirement for assessing homelessness on a single day each year. The 2024 count recorded 517 unhoused individuals in Lincoln County. The 2025 results have not yet been released.

How many locations provide shelter in Lincoln County?

For current shelter availability, refer to the Shelter to Housing Continuum. Key locations include:

- Coastal Phoenix Rising (Lincoln City)
- Community Shelter & Resource Center (Lincoln City temporarily closed due to permitting)
- Community Shelter & Resource Center (Newport)
- Don's Place (Yachats)
- Helping Hands Hope Center (Lincoln City)

What was the budget for homelessness last year and this year?

LCHAB is currently collecting data from the county and municipalities to determine spending on homelessness response. This information is not yet available.

For further information, visit LCHAB.org.

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