



# Project PATH

## 1st Quarter Report, FY 24-25

### PILOT PROGRAM CONTACTS

#### COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Dan Dorran

#### CITY MANAGERS

Dave Stockdale, Umatilla

Byron Smith, Hermiston

Ben Burgener, Stanfield

Dave Slaght, Echo

#### PROJECT CONTACT

Marisela Morales

#### STEPPING STONES CONTACT

Jesalyn Cole

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is provided in accordance with the Service Agreement between Stepping Stones Alliance and the City of Umatilla as part of the West Umatilla County partnership to provide services to our community's homeless residents through Project PATH (Practical Assistance through Transitional Housing). This report provides an update on site preparations, community outreach, strategic plan, budget, and general services. More detailed materials are available upon request which might include draft/adopted operational policies and procedures, meeting minutes of Stepping Stones Alliance, or general member policies and code of conduct. This report is intended to serve as a high level update of the services provided and the general progress we have made thus far.

### PERSONNEL UPDATES

- ◆ We hired and onboarded 5 part-time staff members to fill the roles of staff assistants and site support.
- ◆ These new staff members ensure that SSA is now staffed from 6am-8:30 pm seven days a week.
- ◆ The new hires cover transportation needs both in the morning and evening, as well as scheduled trips a few times a week for members to attend appointments and run errands.
- ◆ Phoenix continues to operating from 8pm-6am seven days a week, with one officer on site during these hours.



## TRANSPORTATION UPDATES



### 1. Daily Shuttle Services:

- Shuttle drop off occurs every Morning at 7 a.m. at C.O.P.E.S (140 SW 11th St. Hermiston).
- Evening pick-up from C.O.P.E.S is at 7:15 p.m. each evening.
- There is a nearby Kayak bus stop that guests/members can catch after riding the shuttle into town.



### 2. Scheduled Shuttle Trips:

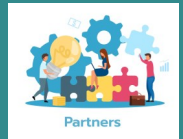
- Members can schedule shuttle trips into town during certain hours for errands, appointments, and meetings.
- Medical appointments are coordinated by Navigation Director through other partners.



### 3. Funding Update:

- We received \$5,000 from our original EOCCO transportation grant.
- These funds were used to:
  - Brand our shuttles with the Stepping Stones logo and contact information.
  - Install backup cameras in both vehicles.

## PARTNERSHIP UPDATES



### 1. C.O.P.E.S Partnership:

- ◆ C.O.P.E.S is now offering weekly skill-building classes on-site for our members. These classes are designed to help our members grow personally and professionally.
  - Current Classes include: Skill Building.
  - Upcoming class opportunities under consideration:
    - Money Management.
    - RentWell (a housing readiness program).
    - Anger Management.
    - Parenting.



### 3. Donations Received:

- ◆ Union Pacific Railroad: Water Donations.
- ◆ Hermiston Nazarene Church: Breakfast items collection and donation.
- ◆ NW Metal Fabricators: Stepping Stones/ Path sign.
- ◆ Regular Meal Donations:
  - Veg Out.
  - Ye Olde Pizza Shoppe.



Individual community members and area businesses are incredibly supportive!

## COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

### SOCIAL MEDIA AND CAMPAIGNS

#### Weekly Grocery List:

- ◆ **Success:** The weekly grocery list posts have been effective in communicating the Sleep Center's needs and generating regular donations.

#### Activity:

- ◆ **Posts:** 40 total posts on Facebook (FB) and Instagram (IG) this quarter.

#### ◆ Metrics:

##### □ Facebook:



- Reach: 13K
- Content Interactions: 867
- Followers: 821

##### □ Instagram:



- Reach: 757
- Content Interactions: 161
- Followers: 164

## COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

### Quarterly Activities/Meetings:

- ◆ Local Planning Group.
- ◆ Conversations with Ducote Consulting.
- ◆ Conversations with NEON.
- ◆ Hermiston Chamber Summer Mixer.
- ◆ NE Oregon Housing Summit.
- ◆ Umatilla Chamber Luncheon.
- ◆ Faith Presbyterian Congregation Presentation.
- ◆ Umatilla Police Department Staff Meeting.
- ◆ Hermiston Faith Advisory.
- ◆ Echo City Council.
- ◆ County Commissioners Staff Meeting.
- ◆ KOHU Odds and Radio Guest.
- ◆ OWhN Consortium.
- ◆ Umatilla Housing & Homeless Service Summit.
- ◆ ROCC Meetings.

## Outreach Activities:

- ◆ **Monthly Outreach:** We hosted on-site tours for state politicians, area partners, organizations, grant funders, ROCC Program manager and Community members.

## FUNDRAISING AND ONGOING FUNDING

### AWARDED GRANTS



#### Outdoor/Indoor Activities:

- ◆ Amazon Change X: \$10,000.
- ◆ Ag West Farm Credit: \$3,500.
- ◆ MDU Resources Foundation: \$2, 500.

#### Navigation Center Capacity Building:

- ◆ EOCCO \$100,000.
- ◆ Community Action Program of Eastern Oregon: \$628,560 for operational support.

#### Pending Grants:

- ◆ Oregon Community Foundation: \$40,000 for Outdoor Kitchen Shelter.
- ◆ Community Development Block Grant: \$ 226,700 for Indoor/Outdoor Kitchen spaces.

#### Fundraising Events:

- ◆ Raffle: Raised \$9,600.
- ◆ Boots & Bling Gala: Raised \$15,000.



## SLEEP CENTER

- ◆ July had a total of 287 guest stays, 10 new guests, and 5 came for meals only.
- ◆ August had a total of 233 guest stays, 16 new guest and 12 came for meals only.
- ◆ September had total of 270 guest stays, 5 new guest and 6 came for meals only.

## VOLUNTEER OUTREACH

### Outreach Efforts:

- ◆ **Focus:** Continuously expanding the volunteer pool to meet monthly needs.

### Volunteer Shifts:

- ◆ **July:** 37 Shifts.
- ◆ **August:** 23 Shifts.
- ◆ **September:** 25 Shifts



## Looking Forward....

Stepping Stones Alliance is excited to expand our class offerings for members and optimistic about reaching an agreement on the next phase of ISUs, especially as our membership continues to grow. Our primary focus remains on financial sustainability, and we are grateful for the ongoing collaboration with Ducote on securing larger grant opportunities. This quarter has been exceptional for fundraising and grants, and we aim to maintain that. Community education efforts are also on the rise, and we will keep participating in events and sharing information to increase awareness. Our members are steadily achieving their goals, and we look forward to continued success.

## INDIVIDUAL SHELTER UNITS

### 1. Guest Relocation in to the ISUs:

- ◆ July, 7 guest were moved into the ISUs.
- ◆ August, 8 guest were moved into the ISUs.
- ◆ September, 5 guest were moved into the ISUs.

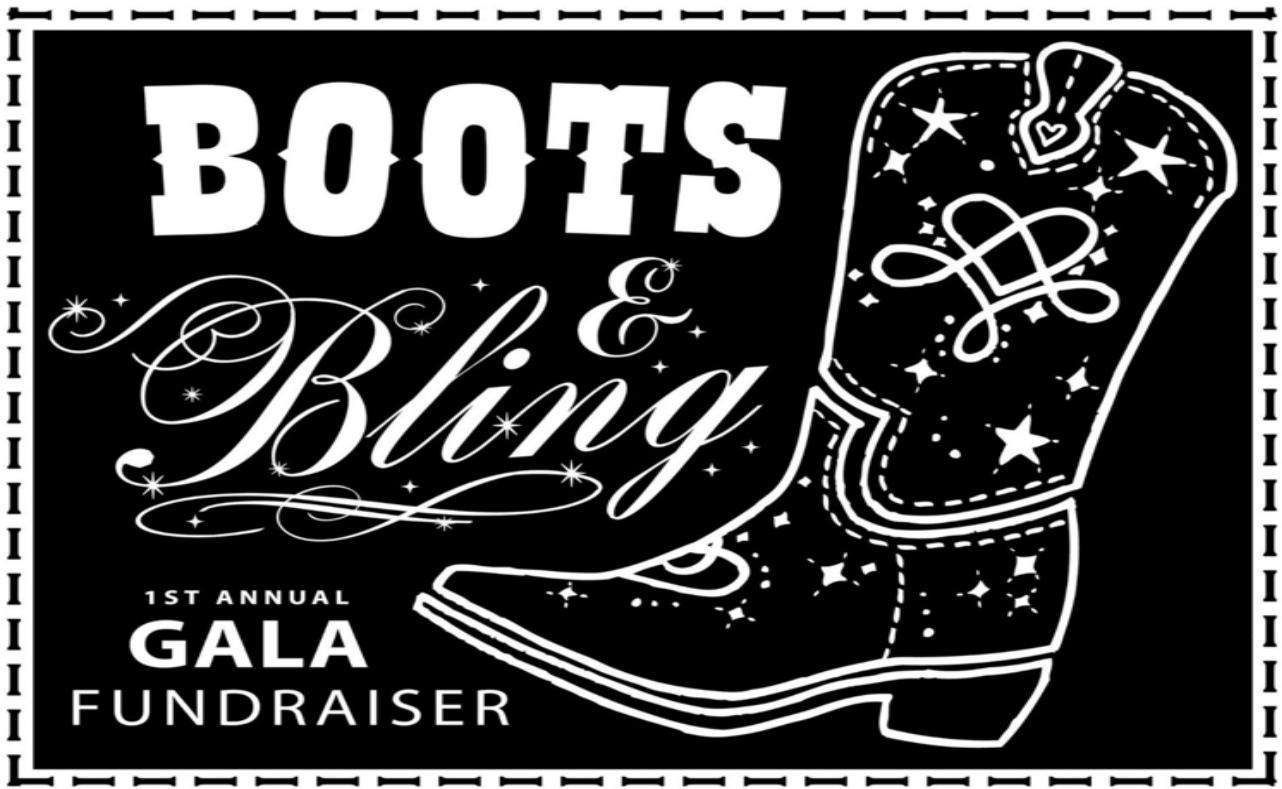
### 2. Meals Provided:

- ◆ 31 total meals were served.
- ◆ 19 meals were provided by volunteers.
- ◆ 11 meals were prepared and served by staff.

### 3. Volunteers and Staff:

- ◆ 62 Volunteer shifts were filled.
- ◆ 23 Volunteers contributed to these shifts.
- ◆ 39 Staff members participated.





*Mike Atkinson and Executive Director Jesalyn Cole Leading the Heads and Tails Game!*



## Memorable Moments with Our Guests



*Thank you to everyone who attended and made the gala such a success!*

**Our guest, Supporting change and making an impact.**



Our guests were truly the heart of the Boots & Bling Gala Event.

# An unforgettable evening of elegance and Impact at Boots & Bling Gala!





## Guest Enjoying the Evening!



Guests mingled and enjoyed the live music and delicious food!!!

# City of Umatilla Staff, Nanci Sandoval Supporting Boots & Bling Gala Event!



## Floral Arrangement!



This beautiful floral arrangement showcases a different style, thoughtfully designed by **Shera at Sassafrass!**

Once again, thank you to **Kim and Julie Puzey** for sponsoring the centerpieces, adding beauty and charm to our event.

## Floral Arrangement and Centerpiece Sponsorship



We are excited to showcase these stunning floral arrangements, designed and created by **Shera at Sassafrass**. The arrangements feature boots that were generously donated!

- **Floral Design:** Shera at Sassafrass crafted unique centerpieces using donated boots, creatively mounted on wood rounds.
- **Sponsorship:** A special thank you to **Kim and Julie Puzey** for their generous sponsorship, making these beautiful centerpieces possible!

## A Delicious Dinner Catered by CG Public House



We were proud to serve a dinner, catered by **CG Public House**, which was a true culinary delight for all our guests. The meal featured:

- Marinated Tri-Tip
- Roasted Garlic Mashed Potatoes
- Green Beans Sautéed with Bacon & Onions
- Caesar Salad
- Fresh Baked Rolls

The meal was as visually appealing and it was delicious, making it a highlight of the evening!

## Desserts for our Guests!



We were thrilled to offer a delightful selection of desserts at our event, all made and generously donated by various local contributors!

### **Big Thank you to the following Sponsors:**

- Delish Bistro
- Veg Out
- Safeway
- Cupcake Paradise
- Evs Sweet Tooth
- Blaine Brathwaite
- Kalinda Harris
- Cathy Lloyd
- Susan Ross
- Linda Turner

## Our Valued Sponsors!



We extend our gratitude to our amazing Sponsors for their generous support:

- AWS
- Clayton Homes
- C&C Roofing
- River Point Farms
- Hermiston Kiwanis
- Admiral Beverage
- UEC (Umatilla Electric Cooperative)
- Rogers Toyota
- Lifetime Vision Source
- Wheatland Insurance
- Kirby Nagelhout Construction
- Legacy Financial
- Kopacz Nursery

## Live Music Entertainment!



We were thrilled to feature a fantastic performance by **Dallin Puzey**, who energized the crowd with his music and talent!