



# Project PATH

## 4th Quarter Report, FY 23-24

### PILOT PROGRAM CONTACTS

#### COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Dan Dorrان

#### 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

#### New Hires:

- ◆ 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 open from 6 a.m.-8:30 p.m. 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 is now operating from 8 p.m.-6 a.m. seven days a week, with one officer on-site during these hours.



## TRANSPORTATION UPDATES

### 1. Daily Shuttle Services:



- ◆ Shuttle drop off occurs at 7 a.m. every Morning 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 are still waiting for the final \$5,000 from our original EOCCO transportation grant.
- ◆ These funds will be used to:
  - Brand our shuttles with the Stepping Stones logo and contact information.
  - Install backup cameras in both



## PARTNERSHIP UPDATES



### 1. Partnership Engagements:

#### ◆ Hosted visits and tours for:

- AWS.
- GRID Alternative.
- Sarah from Ducote Consulting.
- Mark Gaffney with Home Depot.
- Erinn and James from Marlette/Clayton Homes.
- Walmart.
- AgWest.
- Euvalcree.
- Agape House & Martha's House.
- C.O.P.E.S
- Tobaski Snipes with Snipes H3 Young Adult Program.
- Change X.

### 2. Additional Support:

- ◆ **Technology Assistance:** Hermiston School District IT Department assisted multiple times with tech setup for staff member computers and printers.
- ◆ **Furniture Assembly:** Marlette/Clayton Homes employees volunteered approximately 40 hours to assemble furniture.
- ◆ **Appliance Procurement and Installation:** Home Depot helped maximize grant dollar for appliance purchases and assisted with installations.

### 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.
  - Brown Brunch Box.

## 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:** 35 total posts on Facebook (FB) and Instagram (IG) this quarter.

#### ◆ Metrics:

##### □ Facebook:



- Impressions: 49.8K
- Reach: 11.3K
- Content Interactions: 646
- Followers: 770

##### □ Instagram:



- Reach: 355
- Content Interactions: 106
- Followers: 152

#### “Ways to Help Wednesday” Campaign:

- ◆ **Purpose:** To provide creative ideas for helping beyond traditional volunteer and monetary donations. Different ideas are shared every Wednesday on both FB and IG.

### COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

#### Quarterly Activities/Meetings:

- ◆ Local Planning Group.
- ◆ Conversations with Funders.
- ◆ Fair Housing Friday webinar series.
- ◆ New Hope congregation presentations.
- ◆ Hermiston Faith Advisory.
- ◆ Umatilla City Council.
- ◆ Hermiston City Council.
- ◆ Echo City Council.
- ◆ Stanfield City Council.
- ◆ Wildhorse grantee luncheon.
- ◆ County Commissioners staff meeting.
- ◆ C.O.P.E.S. grand opening and OwHN consortium.
- ◆ Tri-Cities Continuum of Care.
- ◆ Chamber connection radio guest.

### Outreach Activities:

- ◆ **Monthly Outreach:** Conducted by Navigation Director, Carolina, in partnership with C.O.P.E.S and EOCIL.
  - **April:** Met with 13 individuals in encampments.
  - **May:** No outreach trip; hosted “I Love My City” volunteers, offering free haircuts and lunch on-site.
  - **June:** Met with 8 individuals in encampments.

## FUNDRAISING AND ONGOING FUNDING

### AWARDED GRANTS



#### Outdoor Common Space Project:

- ◆ **Ford Family Foundation:** \$20,000.
- ◆ **Walmart D.C:** \$8,000.
- ◆ **Ag West Farm Credit:** \$3,500.
- ◆ **MDU Resources Foundation:** \$2, 500.

#### Navigation Center:

- ◆ **Walmart Store:** \$3,000 for appliances.

#### Pending Grants:

- ◆ **ODHS Resilience Hubs & Network Grants:** \$165,000 for Navigation Center staffing.

### Upcoming Events



- ◆ **Raffle:** Planned for July/August, details are currently being finalized.
- ◆ **Fundraising Gala:** Planned for Saturday, September 21st, 2024 at Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center (EOTEC) in Hermiston.



## SLEEP CENTER UPDATES

- ◆ April had a total of 436 guest stays, 18 new guests, and 31 came for meals only.
- ◆ May had a total of 425 guest stays, 41 unduplicated, 14 new guest and 2 came for meals only.
- ◆ June had total of 279 guest stays, 11 new guest and 10 came for meals only.

## VOLUNTEER OUTREACH

### Outreach Efforts:

- ◆ **Focus:** Continuously expanding the volunteer pool to meet monthly needs.
- ◆ **Appreciation Dinner:** Hosted a dinner for current volunteers to recognized their contribution and encourage them to bring a friend.
  - **Activities:** Provided tours and had in-depth conversations about programming.

### Volunteer Shifts:

- ◆ **April:** 70 Shifts.
- ◆ **May:** 62 Shifts.
- ◆ **June:** 62 Shifts.

## Looking Forward....

Stepping Stones Alliance is excited to enhance our navigation services. With members now on site, our impact on their lives has grown significantly. Expanding our partnerships with local resources is essential to connect our members with the services they need. Our next major project is the development of an outdoor common space, which involves planning, funding, and implementation. We are also pursuing a small grant to acquire recreational items for members, including indoor activities like puzzles, games, and books, as well as outdoor activities like basketball, racquet games, and lawn games.

## INDIVIDUAL SHELTER UNITS

### 1. Member Relocation:

- ◆ At the beginning of June, 14, members were moved into the ISUs.

### 2. Service and Activities:

- ◆ Navigation Services began immediately for all members.
- ◆ Members are actively participating in both outdoor and indoor chores.

### 3. Support and Meetings:

- ◆ Individual meetings are held with members to discuss their goals, outline next steps, and determine how to achieve them.
- ◆ Bi-weekly member meetings are conducted to address concerns, discuss changes, and expectations.



## CAPITAL PURCHASES

### 1. Appliances for Navigation Center:

- ◆ **Description:** Various appliances were purchased for use in the Navigation Center, with the cost covered by grant funding.

### 2. Outdoor Furniture and Accessories:

- ◆ **Description:** Outdoor furniture, including benches, picnic tables, trash cans, smoker poles, and dog clean-up systems, were purchased using grant funds.