

Grays Harbor County

10-Year Homeless Housing Plan



ESSHB 2163- The Homelessness Housing & Assistance Act

- ▶ Passed by legislature in 2005
- ▶ Requires counties to adopt homelessness plans every 10 years (from December 31, 2005)

The Homelessness Housing & Assistance Act cont.

- ▶ Minimum Goal for each county:
Reduce homelessness by 50% by July 2015
- ▶ Planning requirements tied to collection of recording fees under RCW 36.22.178
- ▶ Department of Commerce (formerly CTED) provides local planning guidelines

Department of Commerce Planning Guidelines



**There are essentially 5
planning requirements:**

Planning Requirements:

1. Homeless population & sub-population counts
2. Inventory of housing activities
3. Identify service gaps for helping homeless obtain stable housing & preventing at-risk housing from becoming homeless

Planning Requirements cont.

4. Develop strategies with long-term or short-term activities for these **OBJECTIVES**
 - ❖ Homeless Families
 - ❖ At-Risk Homeless People
 - ❖ Homeless Youth
 - ❖ Chronically Homeless People

Planning Requirements cont.

STRATEGIES must cover one or more of these:

- ❖ Housing
- ❖ Income
- ❖ Prevention
- ❖ Health

Planning Requirements cont.

5. Make recommendations for legislative and policy changes needed to address homelessness

Current Planning

- ▶ Develop strategies and projects with long-term and short-term activities for
 - Housing
 - Income
 - Prevention
 - Health

Current Planning

Workshop #1: December 2, 2009

- ▶ Identify projects that will benefit:
 - Homeless individuals: single men, single women, veterans
 - Homeless families: families with children, families without children, youth, victims of domestic violence
 - Homeless special needs people: mentally ill, HIV/AIDS, chronically physically disabled
- ▶ Determine & Select short & long-term projects

Current Planning

Workshop #2: December 9, 2009

- Calendar selected projects
- Identify resources we have available in the community
- Identify services needed in the community to assist with completing projects

AT-RISK HOMELESS

A term that refers to a person or household in **imminent danger** of becoming homeless, often because they have low incomes and pay more than half of those incomes for housing

Definitions

CHRONICALLY HOMELESS

A person who is “chronically homeless” is an unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more, or has had at least 4 episodes of homelessness in the past 3 years.

In order to be considered chronically homeless, a person must have been sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation (e.g., living on the streets) and/or in an emergency homeless shelter.

A disabling condition is defined as a diagnosable substance use disorder, serious mental illness, developmental disability, or chronic physical illness or disability including the co-occurrence of two or more of these conditions.

A disabling condition limits an individual’s ability to work or perform one or more activities of daily living.

Definitions

HOMELESS FAMILY WITH CHILDREN

A family that includes at least one homeless parent or guardian and one child under the age of 18, a homeless pregnant woman, or a homeless person in the process of securing legal custody of a person under the age of 18.

Definitions

HOMELESS YOUTH

Young people estranged from their families who live on the streets, have no stable housing and are not well served by current housing options for adult homeless people.

Definitions