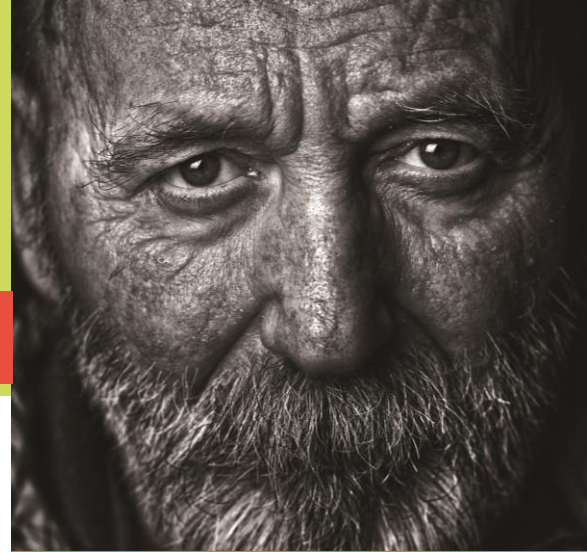


Continuum of Care

(Yellowstone County)



For Billings City Council March 18, 2019

Homeless Response Re-imagined

Will City Council Help Us?

Join Leadership Team

Invest \$90,000

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 FTE Coordinator \$70,000 | Diversion Fund Seed Money \$20,000 |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|

May 2018: New Continuum of Care Leadership met for first time.

Leaders decided to:

- **Change status quo** of how we address homelessness from *isolated and competitive to coordinated and effective*.
- **Start with Coordinated Entry**. Committed to: 1) staff training; 2) one common assessment tool, 3) accountability and communication via shared data dashboard; 4) coordinated housing and service lists; 5) bi-weekly Case Conferencing.

It WORKS.



- Diversion resource and need assessment to be completed May.
- Data dashboard being populated.
- Creating shared vision, aligned goals and activities, and continuous communication mechanisms.
- Coordinating with *Substance Abuse Connect* coalition.

OPPORTUNITY: We need a full time coordinator and a Community Crisis Diversion Fund.

- **Coordinator:** Table 1 provides one example of how the Billings CoC has been unable to access funding compared to a city with a full time CoC Coordinator. A Coordinator keeps all partners engaged, stays current on research and effective practices, ensures quality data, and works on funding.
- **Crisis Diversion Fund:** the difference between being housed or homeless is OFTEN one car repair, one time utility assistance, a bus ticket or gas money home. Currently diversion funding is isolated, hard to find, hard to access, and inadequate.

Table 1: Montana Continuum of Care Funds Going Directly to Programs

| | 2016 | | 2017 | | 2018 | |
|----------|-------------|------|-------------|------|-------------|------|
| Montana | \$2,669,818 | 100% | \$2,277,345 | 100% | \$2,451,407 | 100% |
| Billings | \$195,157 | 7% | \$210,957 | 9% | \$225,021 | 9% |
| Missoula | \$1,153,792 | 43% | \$1,131,315 | 50% | \$1,204,311 | 49% |

Successes

15 Leadership Organizations

One year funding secured (through Jun 30)

Leadership will sustain funding for Coordinated Entry, Data Dashboard (\$146,840)

Coordinated Entry Implemented

- Consultant secured
- Data system adopted
- 18 Trainings
- 53 Agency meetings
- 11 Case Conferencing meetings
- Housing Inventory created
- Housing Navigator secured

People who have come through Coordinated Entry **since October 1, 2018**

- 108 singles not in families
- 12 adults in families with 23 children
- 44 were housed
- 32 currently on list **READY** to be housed

Continuum of Care Leadership Team

Alternatives, Inc.

Billings Clinic

Billings Housing Authority

CASA of Yellowstone County

Community Crisis Center

District 7 HRDC

Mental Health Center

Montana Department of Corrections Probation & Parole, Division IV

Montana Rescue Mission

Rimrock

RiverStone Health

St. Vincent Healthcare

Tumbleweed (Chair)

Volunteers of America

United Way of Yellowstone County serves as the backbone for this coalition.