

EMERGENCY SHELTER ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

One City Center

Thursday, December 21, 2023
8:30 AM

AGENDA

- 1. Introductions**
 - a. Approval of November 16, 2023 Draft Minutes
- 2. Monthly Shelter Bed Usage Statistics**
 - a. November, 2023 Statistics
- 3. Discussion: Change Meeting to a One-Hour Meeting from 9:AM to 10:00 AM**
- 4. Encampment Update**
 - a. Update on Resolution of the Harbor View Encampment
 - b. a. Related City Council Updates
- 5. Hub 2 Update**
- 6. Winter Planning**
- 7. Region 1 Update**
- 8. PIT Count Update**
- 9. Federal, State and Local Legislation**
 - a. Providing for Unhoused People with Pets Act of 2023 (PUPP ACT)
- 10. Other Business**
 - a. [My Dog Is My Home's Co-Sheltering Conference 2024](#)
 - b. Longest Night of Homelessness Vigil

Next Meeting

January 18, 2023 Time: 8:30* AM to 10:00 AM

Location: One City Center

If you should have any questions, please contact:

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ESAC

11/16/2023

Encampment Update –

Jim (HVJ): City Council will be voting on the 20th on a proposal to postpone encampment sweeps.

Terence (PS): City Council also voted 6-2 to expand the Homeless Services Center by 50 beds. The City also announced that the MIRC Shelter will be opening up on November 29th. This will total around 170 new beds available after the 29th at the HSC. Preble Street and the ECRT have been providing meals at the Harbor View encampment each Monday alongside ongoing efforts by outreach teams to continuously provide food and other basic needs. First read at the end of this CC meeting for a moratorium on encampment sweeps until April 30th, 2024. Public comment will be accepted at the CC meeting on Monday the 20th.

Terence (PS): The CC discussed options as well for lowering barriers at the HSC for folks who are struggling to stay there successfully.

Bill (HA4A): Opening of new beds won't necessarily mean that same number of people are able to access the shelter. Additionally, there are 140 tents at the Harbor View encampment currently (as of his last count). Currently, there are only two porta potties available to all of these individuals. Folks down there don't have access to hand-washing stations, showers, places to wash their clothes, etc. We need more data on the folks that are staying at the encampments so that we can help them meet their needs. I have been washing people's clothes for them and trying to help them out as much as I can, but we need more coordinated efforts to do this.

Brian (COMMONSPACE): Commonsplace, like many other provides who work with unhoused folks, is publicly against the proposal that folks can continue to live outside. As horrific as sweeps are, we need to provide people with more options than simply continuing to live outside. Everything we do should be laser-focused on getting people inside and making sure that no one freezes to death outside. The implication that there is only one solution to this issue is incorrect, and we need to approach this from many angles while allowing ourselves to approach this from multiple angles. The emotions and values that we attach to this work can be incredibly helpful, but we need to let go of the narrative that you are "all the way good" or "all the way bad".

Jim (HVJ): Ditto to what Brian said. In my experience, a quick and emotional response to something is not always the right thing. Sometimes, you need to take a step back and look at the whole picture before you act.

Greg Owen (active in recovery community): I would just like to agree with the past two speakers that finding a middle ground is very important. My name is Greg Owens and I am very active in the recovery community. It wasn't that long ago that I was sharing pipes with a lot of the folks who live outside right now. Many of these people are my friends. I have a background in sales and I listen to Rush Limbaugh every day. I try very hard to sit in the middle and wait to speak until I know what I need to say. I think having a headcount at the encampment is a good idea, but we need to acknowledge that many people at the encampments might not want to be counted and known. Many folks down there may think that

any efforts to alter their current lifestyle will keep them from living this beautiful life that they have romanticized in their minds. This may be the first time that they have felt they have a community. Our only goal should be housing these folks. Let's leave the politics out of it and focus on helping these people. Because I my own unique experience, I have something to offer that a degree might not.

Vickey (CHOM): I don't think it could be put in better terms than what Greg shared personally. Every single person that sits around these tables is compassionate. I've never seen anyone in these meetings treat anyone with anything other than dignity and respect. I think from a systems perspective, we need to try to treat everyone with this same dignity and respect, regardless of where their position falls. There will always be a small group of people who camp outside in the winter, but for everyone we can, we need to find a way to bring them inside. Everyone deserves to be indoors. If folks say no today, they deserve to be outreached tomorrow. The more we can find common ground, the better. The HSC has worked to reduce some barriers since opening, and I think that is a direct response to the feedback they have heard from the community. The more we can all work together, the better off we will be. Everyone deserves to have four walls and a roof over their head, full stop. People are deserving of more.

Bill (HA4A): Maybe it would be possible to make a small section of the HSC friendly to service animals, like they do at the Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter. Capturing data would be a voluntary process at the encampments. Giving people tours of the HSC, providing resources to help folks get over to the HSC with all of their things. Maybe the HSC could use Uber or Taxis to do this.

Maybe get a number of agencies together and have an Uber account with funding from multiple sources. Maybe the ECRT could house this?

TTD and Commonsplace both have Uber business accounts that they use, but funding is very difficult to come by, and adds up quickly.

Anne-Maire will bring this to UWSM to see if this would fall under HUB Coordinator responsibilities as well.

Manna might be able to help out as well, the Family Shelter frequently uses their services.

Hub 2 Update –

Naqueesha has found that the HSC has been a very strong partner in the work of attempting to move people into shelter. Another piece that has been a very positive outcome has been housing navigation support. Individuals in the encampment who have vouchers, but who haven't been able to get help with housing navigation are starting to get connected to housing navigators at the HSC. Josh as the HSC has been very helpful in this work.

The City of Portland is also looking to bring on more housing navigators to do some of this work. The City is also looking to fill outreach worker positions for the ECRT and HSC. On Monday from 10:00 – 2:30, this City will be holding a hiring event for many of these positions. This will be at 39 Forest Ave.

There has been a lot of good movement around case conferencing and the work that has been done to create access sites. There aren't as many resources as we need, but this is good progress!

Winter Planning –

There's a lot of overlap between the encampment conversation and the winter planning discussion. Greater Portland Peer Services, in partnership with First Parish Church received funding for a warming shelter.

TTD applied for the long-term solution funding to add 5-6 additional beds to their DV shelter, but have run into neighborhood issues that are extending the process. These beds were supposed to be ready to open in January, but are currently held up.

Salvation Army and the YMCA are both available, but only through February 2nd. These services are available to families, and have primarily been asylum-seeking families, though this is not specifically written.

The State Street Church is also reopening this year, and will take 4-6 families (about 25 people).

Legislative Update –

Hopefully the Government will not shut down. As of right now, things have been figured out, though this is temporary.

SNAP work requirements have changed as of September 1st – homelessness is now an exemption from SNAP work requirements.

Emergency bills were decided by the Legislative Council. All 7 emergency bills related to homelessness failed in the Legislative Council. Only 4 of the sponsors for those bills are appealing.

Only one housing-related bill got through.

An appeal requires; formal letters of appeal from the bill sponsor and the primary supporters of the bill

Mastraccio bill - \$2m in emergency funds for shelters (being reconsidered today 11.16)

Lookner is appealing on a bill that would prohibit certain municipalities from sweeping encampments when there is a lack of emergency shelter

Joint Select Committee on Housing has a hearing on Dec. 5th regarding \$5m of emergency funding allocated in the Spring session – potential opportunity to discuss the larger issues of how shelters are funded

Region 1 Update –

Most of the meeting was spent talking about encampments and ways that advocacy can be provided. York County has quite a few things going on and there are a growing number of encampments in Biddeford and Sanford. The encampments are more spread out than in Portland, but the numbers are pretty high. There is an ongoing discussion on how to serve populations in more rural encampments.

Other Business –

HVJ Mayoral Candidates Forum was cancelled.

December 13th HVJ will go to the Police Academy in Vassalboro to present to the graduating class of cadets.

Homeless Persons Memorial Vigil will be on December 21st from 4:30 – 5:30pm.

Winter Walk may be coming to Maine – Bill (HA4A) will keep us updated.

PORTLAND HOMELESS SHELTERS

Average Total Number of Individuals Residing in Shelters* per Night:

	November 2022	November 2023
ADOLESCENTS	22 Individuals	16 Individuals
FAMILIES	131 Individuals 45 Average Families	123 Individuals 40 Average Families
ADULTS	376 Individuals	314 Individuals
Total	529 Individuals	453 Individuals

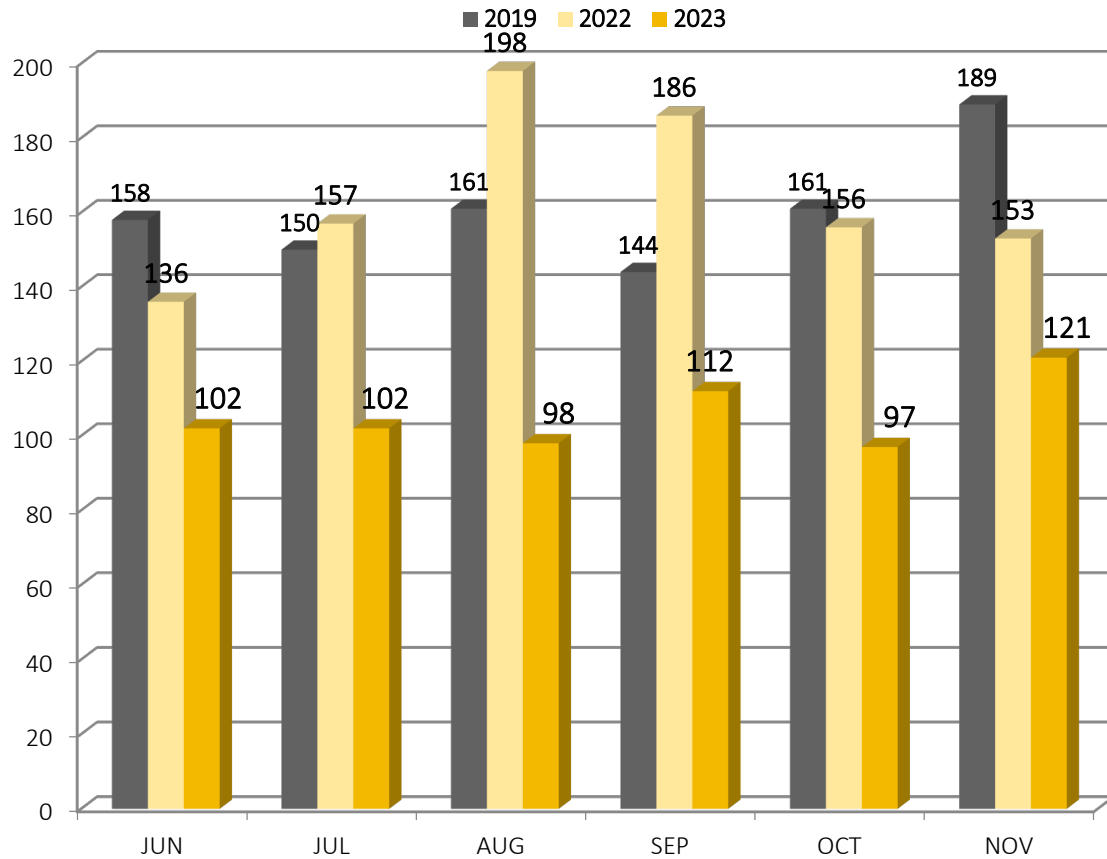
*GA hotels are on the next slide.

HOMELESS SERVICES CENTER NOVEMBER , 2023 Intakes by Residency

*Because people are entering the country in other communities then relocating here, what would be considered out of country intakes are captured as out of state.

MAINE TOWN				OUT-OF-STATE				*OUT-OF-COUNTRY					
Augusta	1	Skowhegan	1			AZ	1						
Bangor	2	South Portland ME	2			CA	6						
Benton Harbor	1	South Portland	1			FL	2						
Buxton	2	Thomaston	1			MA	1						
Gorham	1	Topsham	1			NH	2						
Kennebunk	1	Waterboro	1			NV	1						
Lewiston	2	Westbrook	1			NY	2						
Lisbon Falls	1	Windham	1			OR	1						
OOB	1					UT	1						
Orland	1					WA	1						

PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE NOVEMBER , 2023 SHELTER INTAKES BY MONTH

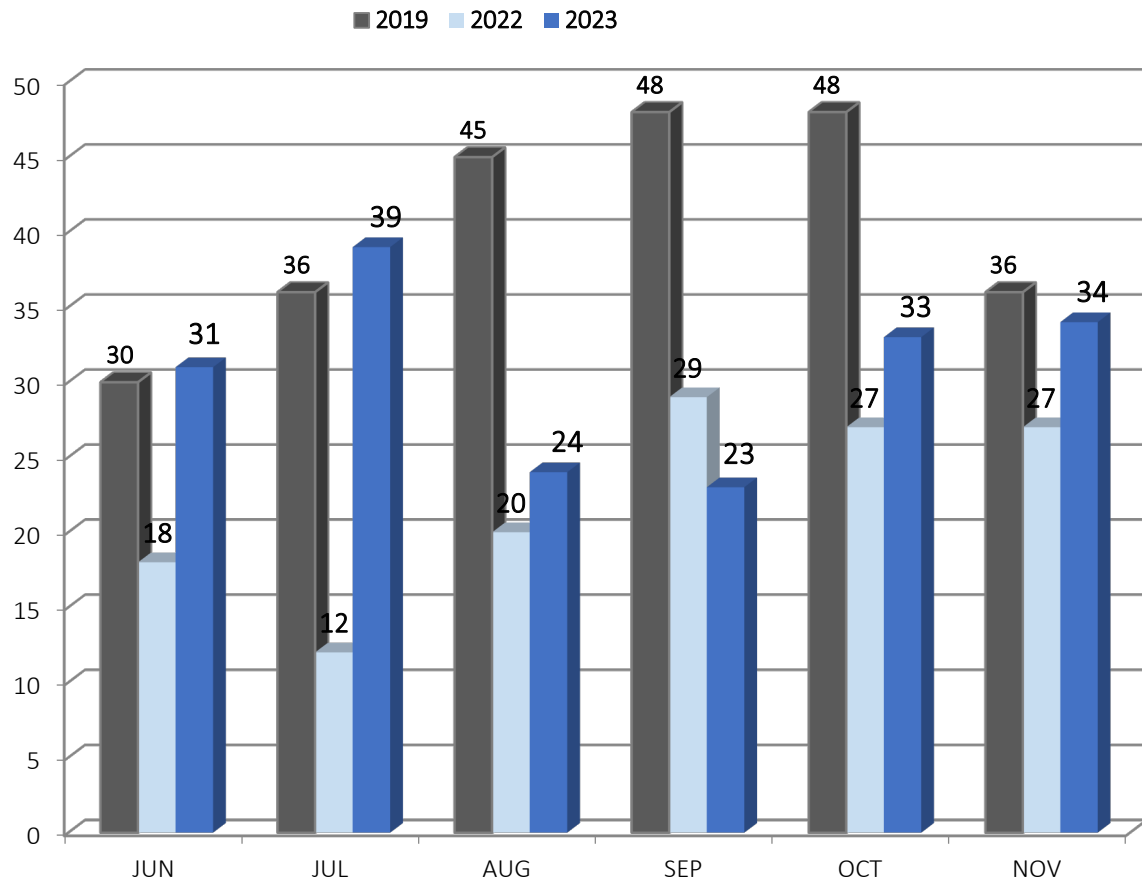


* NOTE: this and the next two slides compare the current year, last year, and the last year before the pandemic.

* * Due to a COVID outbreak at the shelter beginning on 10/3, new admissions were paused until 10/23 when the quarantine period had ended and all clients tested negative.

	INTAKES	Pre-COVID Bed Capacity	Current Bed Capacity
Through These Doors	4/6	16	16+ at shelter and hotel overflow
Family Shelter	0	146	146
Joe Kreisler	5	24	24
Milestone	20	41	34
HSC (Men)	50	154 at OSS,	208
HSC(Women)	23	75 at PSRC overflow	
Florence House	14	25 at Shelter, 15 at Safe Haven	25 at Shelter, 15 at Safe Haven
Elena's Way**	10	NA	40
TOTAL	121	496	474+

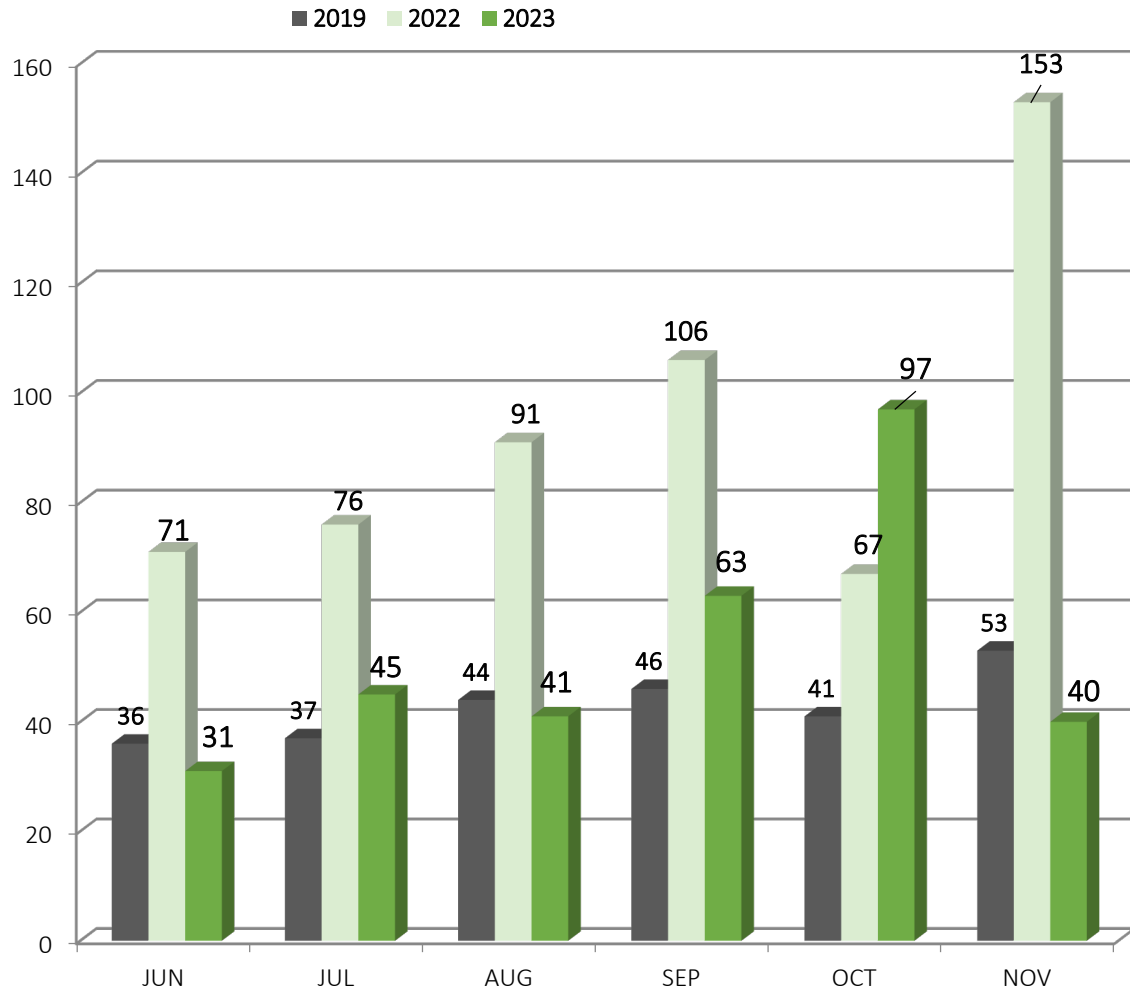
PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE NOVEMBER , 2023 HOUSING PLACEMENTS BY MONTH



***Starting October, 2013, Oxford Street Shelter (HSC) shifted prioritization of housing placements to their 30 longest-term stayers.**

24	TOTAL HOUSING PLACEMENTS	BED NIGHTS	TEMPORARY	PERMANENT
Through These Doors	2	190		2
Family Shelter	9/29	5719		9/29
Joe Kreisler	4	557		4
Milestone	2	714		2
HSC (Men)	7	1752		7
HSC (Women)	1	268		1
Florence House	6	1348	1	5
Elena's Way	3	376		3
TOTAL	34	10,924		

PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE NOVEMBER , 2023 1st TIME HOMELESSNESS STATISTICS (BASED ON SELF-REPORTING)

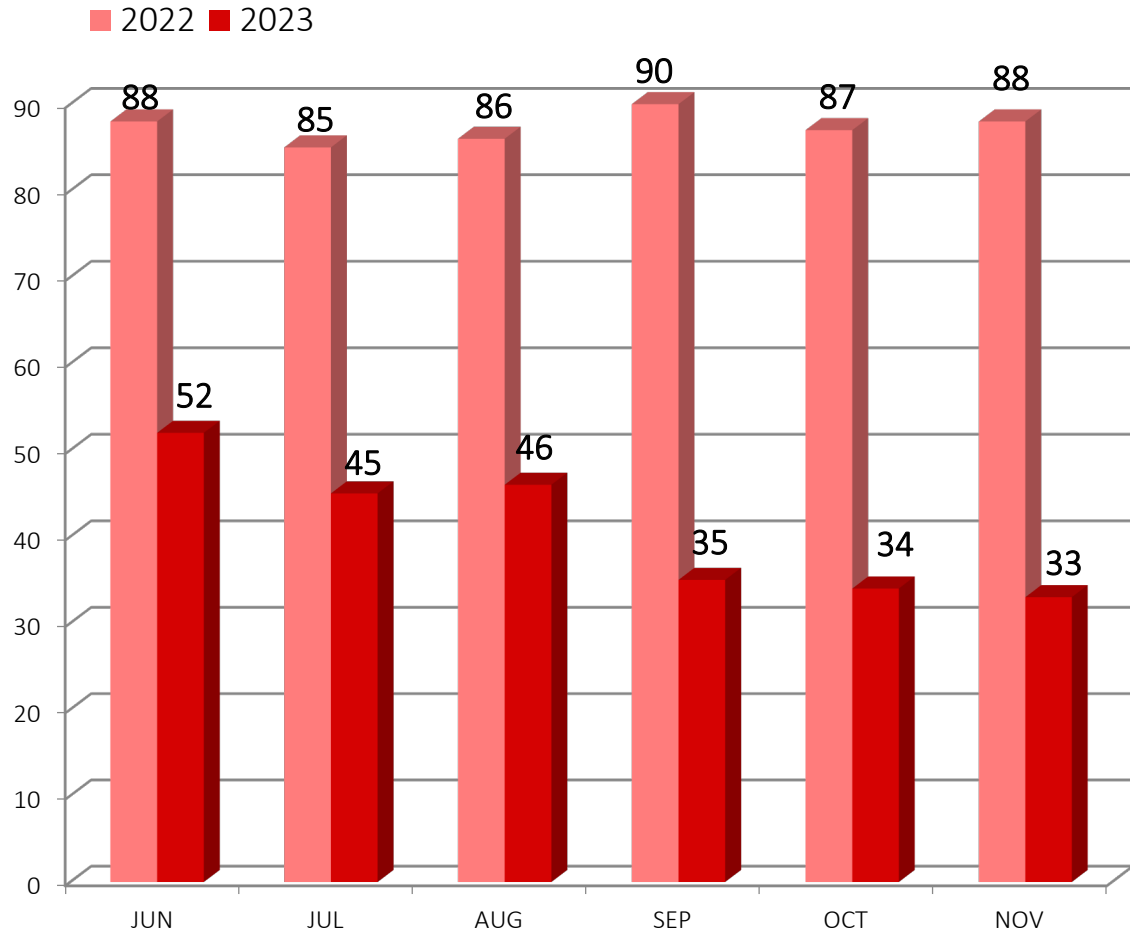


1 ST TIME HOMELESSNESS STATISTICS	All Intakes	1 st Time Homeless Intakes	% of the Shelter's Intakes	% of All Intake	% of Portland First Time Homeless Intakes
Through These Doors	4/6	0			
Family Shelter	0	0			
Joe Kreisler	5	3	60%	2%	8%
Milestone	20	12	60%	10%	30%
HSC (Men)	50	12	24%	10%	30%
HSC (Women)	23	11	48%	9%	28%
Florence House	14	2	14%	2%	5%
Elena's Way	10	0			
TOTAL	121	40		33%	100%

PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE NOVEMBER, 2023 CTOs FROM SHELTER

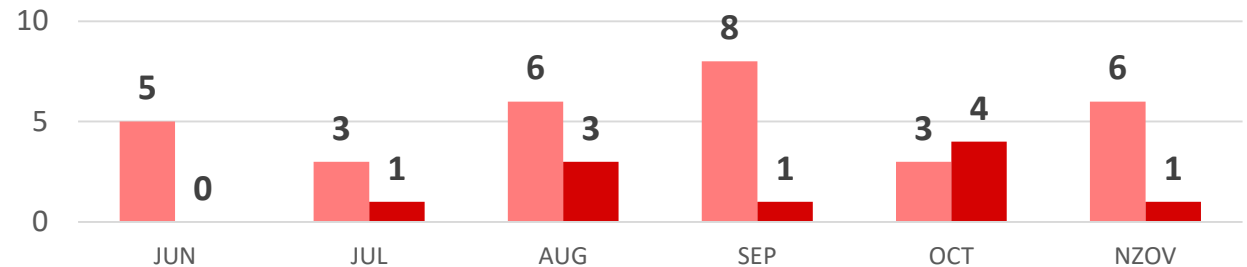
*CTOs from the former Oxford Street Shelter carried over as restrictions with the same end date as the CTOs issued for the OSS shelter address and are included in this number. Anyone restricted from the HSC can ask to speak to management to request lifting the restriction.

Total Current Criminal Trespass Orders



CTO STATISTICS	CTOs in the Month	Medical Restrictions in Month	Current CTOs
Family Shelter	0		0
Joe Kreisler	0		3
Milestone	0		10
HSC*	1		20
Florence House	0		0
Elena's Way	0		0
TOTAL	1		33

CTOs Issued in the Month



PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE NOVEMBER , 2023 HOUSING PLACEMENTS BY TYPE

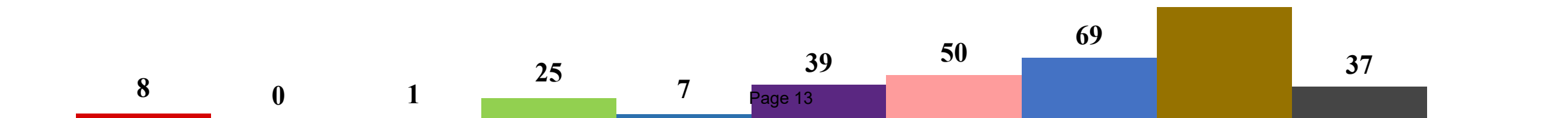
	S+C	BRAP	Recovery Home	Housing Project/PSH	STEP	Family Reunification	Sect. 8/ HCV	OTHER*	GA	No Subsidy
Through These Doors				1						1
Family Shelter						1			7	1
Joe Kreisler						1		2	1	
Milestone								2		
HSC (Men)				2			1		4	
HSC (Women)				1						
Florence House							4	1	1	
Elena's Way				2			1			
TOTAL				6		2	6	5	13	2

* RRH, Recovery Program

Distribution of Placements in the Month: 34



2023 Placements: 360



PORTLAND, CITY-WIDE NOVEMBER, 2023 SHELTER COUNT BY NIGHT

On November : 1

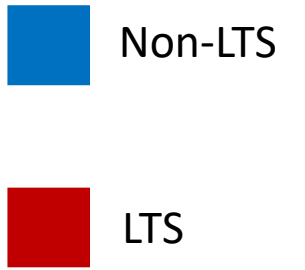
476 individuals

(including families)

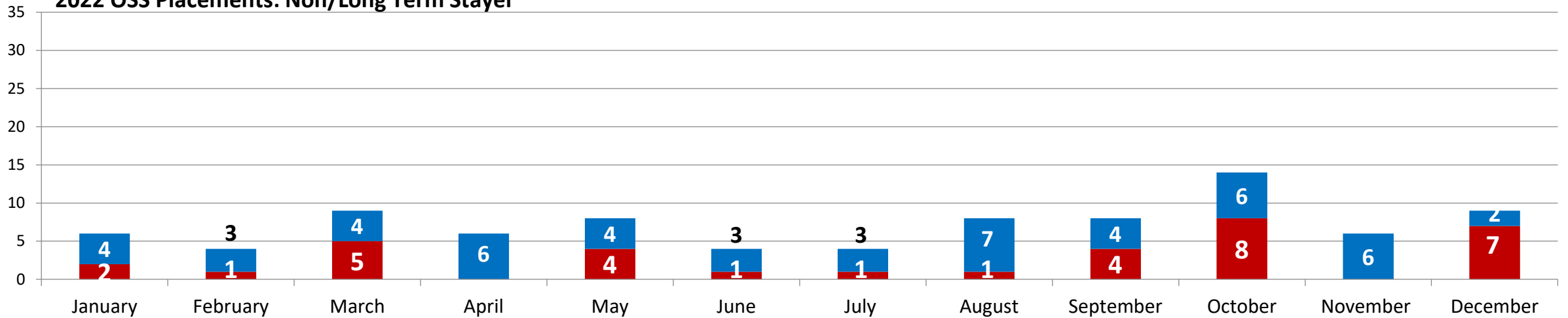
were utilizing shelter services in
Portland

Calendar Day	Through These Doors	Family Shelter	Florence House	Joe Kreisler	Milestone	HSC Beds	FS WC	Elena's Way	Total Bed Nights
1	16	125	42	17	36	206	0	34	476
2	16	118	40	18	32	206	0	34	464
3	14	118	42	16	26	212	0	33	461
4	14	118	39	18	33	208	0	33	463
5	14	115	41	19	35	207	0	33	464
6	14	115	41	18	34	208	0	33	463
7	14	115	41	17	34	208	0	33	462
8	15	115	42	18	36	208	0	33	467
9	15	115	43	18	34	208	0	33	466
10	15	111	42	18	34	207	0	33	460
11	14	111	41	16	30	208	0	32	452
12	14	111	42	15	32	207	0	32	453
13	14	111	42	19	38	207	0	32	463
14	14	107	41	18	37	207	0	32	456
15	16	107	40	15	37	208	0	31	454
16	16	107	40	16	32	211	0	31	453
17	16	107	41	15	32	213	0	32	456
18	16	107	39	15	35	211	0	32	455
19	16	107	40	16	37	212	0	32	460
20	16	107	42	15	38	212	0	31	461
21	18	104	41	14	36	211	0	33	457
22	18	104	40	14	36	210	0	35	457
23	18	97	37	11	35	207	0	35	440
24	18	93	38	12	34	208	0	35	438
25	18	93	40	14	36	208	0	35	444
26	18	93	39	18	37	205	0	35	445
27	18	94	38	18	37	213	0	36	454
28	18	94	39	14	37	210	0	34	446
29	18	92	37	16	37	215	0	35	450
30	18	92	40	17	35	112	0	36	350
Total	479	3,203	1,210	485	1,042	6,173	0	998	13,590
Avg/night	16	107	40	16	35	206	0	33	453
Highest	18	125	43	19	38	215	0	36	476
Lowest	14	92	37	11	26	112	0	31	350

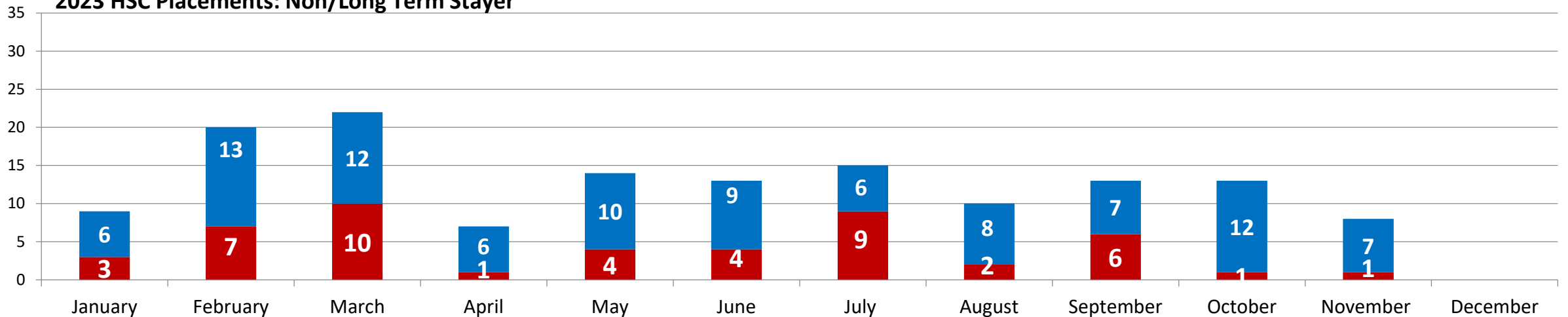
HOMELESS SERVICES CENTER & COMMUNITY OVERFLOW HOUSING PLACEMENT DATA



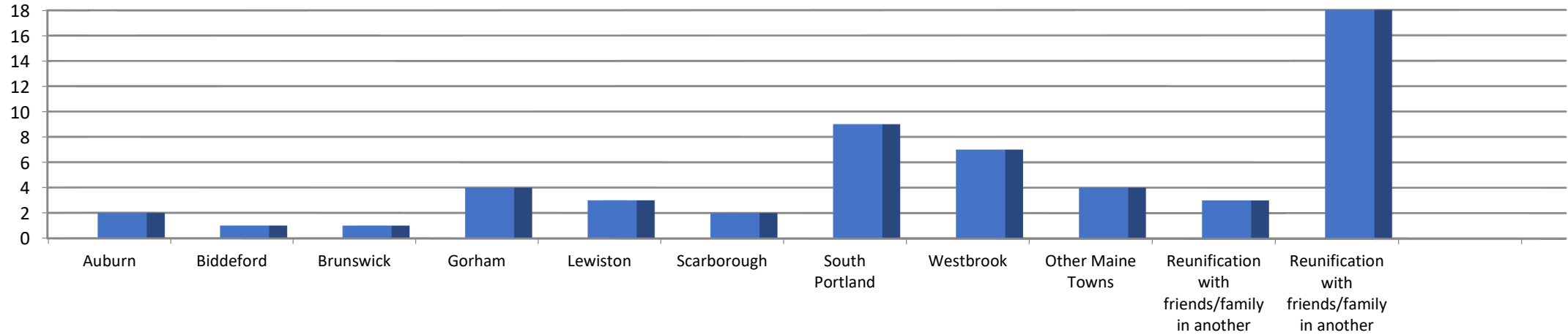
2022 OSS Placements: Non/Long Term Stayer



2023 HSC Placements: Non/Long Term Stayer



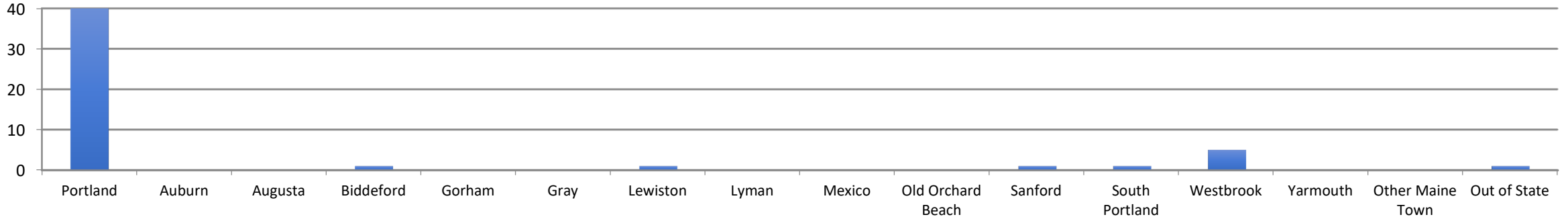
HOMELESS SERVICES CENTER PERMANENT AND TRANSITIONAL 2023 HOUSING PLACEMENT DATA



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL	%
TOTAL HOUSING PLACEMENTS	10	20	22	8	14	13	15	10	13	13	8		145	100%
Portland	6	7	17	3	6	10	11	7	9	7	8		91	62.8%
Auburn	1	1											2	1.4%
Biddeford			1										1	0.7%
Brunswick	1												1	0.7%
Gorham					4								4	2.8%
Lewiston		1			1		1						3	2.1%
Sanford		2											2	1.4%
South Portland	1	2	2				1			3			9	6.2%
Westbrook		5	1							1			7	4.8%
Other Maine Towns	1	1				1				1			4	2.8%
Reunification with friends/family in another Maine town*			1			1	1		1				3	2.1%
Reunification with friends/family in another state*		1	1	5	3	1	1	3	2	1			18	12.4%

FAMILY SHELTER PERMANENT AND TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PLACEMENT DATA

■ 2023



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL	100%
TOTAL HOUSING PLACEMENTS	4	4	8	4	3	5	3	1	4	5	9		50	
Portland	4	3	7	4	3	5	3		2	3	6		40	80%
Auburn														0.0%
Augusta														0.0%
Biddeford										1			1	2%
Gorham														0.0%
Gray														0.0%
Lewiston								1					1	2%
Lyman														0.0%
Mexico														0.0%
Old Orchard Beach														0.0%
Sanford		1											1	2%
South Portland											1		1	2%
Westbrook			1						2	1	1		5	10%
Yarmouth														0.0%
Other Maine Town														0.0%
Out of State											1		1	2%

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3957

To authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to make grants to modify and upgrade structures to serve as interim and permanent housing to accommodate unhoused individuals with pets, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 9, 2023

Mr. CROW (for himself, Mr. FITZPATRICK, Ms. MACE, and Mr. SCHIFF) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to make grants to modify and upgrade structures to serve as interim and permanent housing to accommodate unhoused individuals with pets, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Providing for
5 Unhoused People with Pets Act of 2023” or the “PUPP
6 Act of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANT PROGRAM FOR UPGRADING STRUCTURES**
2 **TO SERVE AS INTERIM AND PERMANENT**
3 **HOUSING TO ACCOMMODATE UNHOUSED IN-**
4 **DIVIDUALS WITH PETS.**

5 (a) **AUTHORITY.**—The Secretary of Agriculture, act-
6 ing in direct consultation with the Secretary of Housing
7 and Urban Development, may carry out a program under
8 this section to make grants to eligible entities for pro-
9 viding interim and permanent housing that accommodates
10 homeless persons, and homeless families, who have pets.

11 (b) **USE.**—Amounts from a grant under this section
12 may be used only for—

13 (1) costs of acquiring, renovating, rehabili-
14 tating, re-purposing, retrofitting, or constructing a
15 property to be used as interim or permanent housing
16 that accommodates homeless persons, and homeless
17 families, who have pets;

18 (2) pet-related costs of operating such housing
19 as provided in this section; and

20 (3) costs of training staff and volunteers associ-
21 ated with such housing in basic pet care, including
22 nutrition, behavioral training, and health mainte-
23 nance.

24 (c) **REQUIREMENTS.**—Interim or permanent housing
25 assisted with amounts from a grant under this Act shall
26 comply with the following requirements:

1 (1) SERVICES.—

2 (A) SUPPORTIVE SERVICES.—Appropriate
3 supportive services, including mental health,
4 employment, substance use disorder, and
5 wellness services, shall be made available to oc-
6 cupants of the housing.

7 (B) VETERINARY SERVICES.—Basic veteri-
8 nary care and behavioral support for pets, in-
9 cluding spay and neuter, basic wellness exami-
10 nations, vaccinations, dental care, heartworm
11 treatment and prevention, flea and tick treat-
12 ment and prevention, and basic medical proce-
13 dures, shall be made available for pets of occu-
14 pants of the housing.

15 (C) LOCATION.—Services required under
16 this paragraph shall be made available on-site
17 in such housing, except that services that can-
18 not be furnished on-site may be made available
19 off-site, but only if direct linkage to transpor-
20 tation services is made available to occupants to
21 access such services.

22 (2) ANIMAL HOUSING.—The housing shall pro-
23 vide accommodations for pets of occupants of the
24 housing that are appropriate for the layout and type

1 of the interim or permanent housing, which may in-
2 clude crates and kennels.

3 (3) COORDINATION.—The manager of the hous-
4 ing shall—

5 (A) coordinate with public services and law
6 enforcement agencies to provide services and
7 safety for the housing, as the Secretary shall
8 require;

9 (B) coordinate with local veterinary service
10 and animal care providers to provide care for
11 pets that accompany occupants of the housing;
12 and

13 (C) in making occupancy available in the
14 housing, coordinate with the administrative en-
15 tity for the Continuum of Care under subtitle
16 C of title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless
17 Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11381 et seq.) for
18 the area in which the housing is located.

19 (d) APPLICATIONS; PLAN.—

20 (1) APPLICATION.—The Secretary shall provide
21 for eligible entities to submit applications for grants
22 under this section and shall require such applica-
23 tions to include a plan under paragraph (2).

24 (2) PLAN.—A plan under this paragraph
25 shall—

1 (A) identify existing housing, shelters, or
2 unused structures or land within the area
3 served by the eligible entity submitting the ap-
4 plication that will be used for providing the
5 housing to be assisted under subsection (b) with
6 amounts from a grant under this section;

7 (B) identify the extent of need, in the area
8 of such housing, shelters, structures, or land
9 identified, for interim or permanent housing for
10 homeless persons with pets;

11 (C) identify partnering veterinary service
12 and animal care providers that will provide care
13 for pets that accompany occupants of the hous-
14 ing and any partnering animal welfare organi-
15 zation;

16 (D) include such assurances as the Sec-
17 retary considers necessary to ensure that such
18 housing will be provided using grant amounts,
19 that such housing will accommodate homeless
20 persons, and homeless families, who have pets,
21 and that such housing will comply with the re-
22 quirements under subsection (c); and

23 (E) provide for targeted outreach to indi-
24 viduals experiencing homelessness within the
25 area served by the eligible entity receiving a

1 grant under this section to inform such individ-
2 uals regarding the availability of the housing
3 assisted with grant amounts.

4 (3) SELECTION.—The Secretary shall select ap-
5 plications to be awarded such grants on a competi-
6 tive basis, based on criteria that the Secretary shall
7 establish.

8 (e) REPORTS.—Each eligible entity that receives a
9 grant under this section for a fiscal year shall submit a
10 report to the Secretary, not later than 90 days after the
11 end of the fiscal year for which the grant was made, that
12 shall include the following information:

13 (1) A description of the activities undertaken by
14 the eligible entity using such grant amounts.

15 (2) Identification of the costs of each of the
16 services provided in connection with the housing as-
17 sisted with such grant amounts.

18 (3) An assessment of the effectiveness of the
19 program grants under this section and any rec-
20 ommendations for improving the program.

21 (f) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section, the
22 following definitions shall apply:

23 (1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—

24 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “eligible enti-
25 ty” means—

- 1 (i) a unit of general local government;
2 (ii) a nonprofit organization; and
3 (iii) an entity providing housing or
4 shelters for homeless persons.

5 (B) LIMITATION.—Such term does not in-
6 clude an animal wellness or welfare organiza-
7 tion or an animal shelter, except that this sub-
8 paragraph may not be construed to prevent any
9 such organization or shelter from partnering
10 with an eligible entity to provide interim or per-
11 manent housing assisted with amounts from a
12 grant under this Act.

13 (2) HOMELESS.—The term “homeless” has the
14 meaning given such term in section 103 of the
15 McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42
16 U.S.C. 11302).

17 (3) INTERIM HOUSING.—The term “interim
18 housing” means any housing or shelter that does not
19 provide permanent housing. Such term includes
20 transitional housing (as such term is defined in such
21 section 401) and emergency shelters (as such term
22 is defined in section 321 of such Act (42 U.S.C.
23 13351)).

24 (4) PERMANENT HOUSING.—The term “perma-
25 nent housing” has the meaning given such term in

1 section 401 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assist-
2 ance Act (42 U.S.C. 11360).

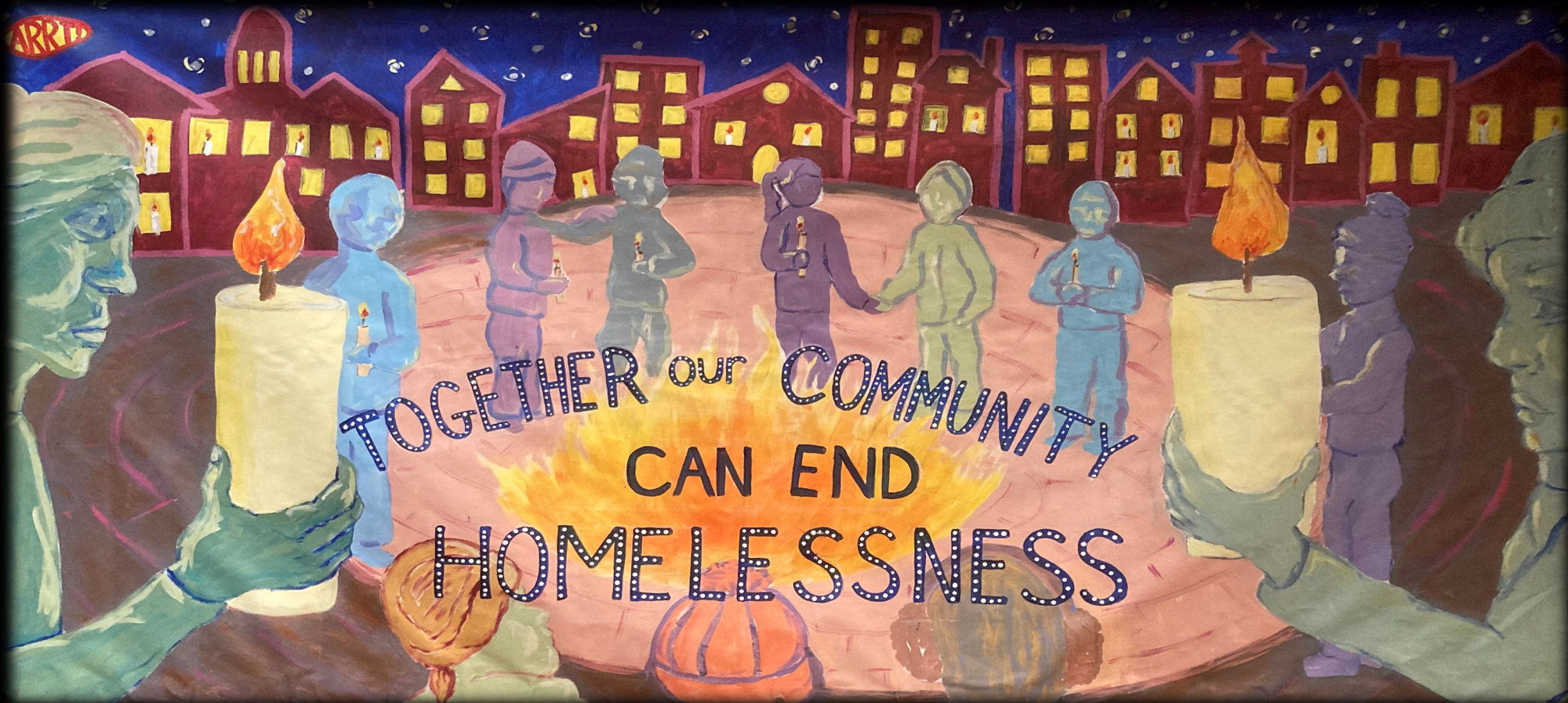
3 (5) PET.—The term “pet” means any domes-
4 ticated animal that is normally maintained as a com-
5 panion or pet animal near the owner or person who
6 cares for the animal, such as a domestic dog (includ-
7 ing a service dog), domestic cat, ferret, gerbil,
8 mouse, rat, guinea pig, rabbit, hamster, or bird.

9 (6) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
10 the Secretary of Agriculture.

11 (7) UNIT OF GENERAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—
12 The term “unit of general local government” has the
13 meaning given such term in the first sentence of
14 paragraph (1) of section 102(a) of the Housing and
15 Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C.
16 5302(a)(1)).

17 (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
18 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
19 \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2024 through 2028.

○



Portland's Annual Homeless Persons Memorial Vigil

Thursday, December 21, 2023, 4:30 pm

The longest night of the year is a time to remember our homeless friends who have died and to recommit ourselves to the task of ending homelessness.

A candlelight procession will start at the Maine Medical Center-Preble Street Learning Collaborative at 20 Portland Street at 4:30 pm and will proceed to Monument Square for a ceremony dedicated to those persons who have died in our community.

All persons who are homeless, who have been homeless, who work with people who are homeless, or who are thankful they are not homeless are welcome to participate.

An ASL interpreter will be present for the ceremony.

