



CITY OF BOISE

Housing and Community Development
1025 S. Capitol Boulevard, Boise, Idaho 83706-3000
Phone 208-384-4158

STAFF

Jim Birdsall
Housing and Community Development

Beth Geagan
Balance Business, COC Coordinator

Theresa McLeod
Mayor's Office

CONTINUUM OF CARE COORDINATING TEAM

Lt. Dave Adams
Gary Barrier
Crista Beck
Jim Birdsall
Bea Black
Tim Brown
Scott Burlingame
Mary Chant
Charlotte Combe
Melanie Curtis

Brian Dale
Jim Gambrell
Beth Geagan
AnaMarie Guiles
Patty Haller
Lori Den Hartog
Anita Havey
Lori Jo Kark
Katy Kujawski
Dalynn Kuster

Rick Leahy
Theresa McLeod
Greg Morris
Lore Muckelroy
Melissa Nickell
Derick O'Neil
Jennifer Otto
Jillian Patterson
Jennifer Richardson
Linda Rodenbach

Capt Randy Roper
Landis Rossi
Paul Schoenfelder
Jayne Sorrels
John Stennett
Sharon Ullman
Jill VanHeel
Deanna Watson
Jennifer Yost



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2010



CONTINUUM OF CARE COMMUNITY UPDATE

Why are People Homeless?

People become homeless for a variety of reasons, but fundamentally, life overtakes them. At some point in time both individuals and families that experience homelessness simply do not have the personal capacity, resources, and support systems in place to meet the challenges anyone can face in daily living.

This state of being can come about due to disability or mental illness, unexpected health care costs, loss of income, the related loss of housing, and a number of other circumstances as varied as the individuals themselves.

Veterans as a group appear to be more susceptible to this occurrence, but families experiencing homelessness are growing at a worrisome rate.

Once an individual or family experiences homelessness, it becomes more difficult to return to self sufficiency.



What is the 20 Year History of Providing for the Homeless in Our Community?

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| 1990 Coordination among providers began | 2007 10 Year Plan to Reduce and Prevent Chronic Homelessness developed; detox and sobering center underway; continuum of care funding diminished over a period of time |
| 1993 Community House began | |
| 1998 Continuum of Care/U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); McKinney-Vento Act; seven programs; annual planning process | 2009 Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (Hearth) Act; Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) funding |
| 2004 Community Detox Center need identified and planning began | |
| 2006 Launched 10 Year planning process at the Neighbors in Need Livability Summit | 2010 Continuum of Care coordinating team; Allumbaugh House opens (sobering, detox and crisis mental health center) |

What is Currently Happening in Our Community?

Emergency shelter, transitional housing, permanent housing and supportive services are administered through a network of providers across our community. These providers are members of the Continuum of Care Coordinating Team.

Allumbaugh House
Operations began in May 2010. Allumbaugh House is a regional facility that offers short-term crisis mental health services, sobering and detoxification services to Treasure Valley residents. All services are provided to Treasure Valley residents who qualify for admission. Allumbaugh House is a result of more than 5 years

of collaboration between many individuals and entities, including the public and private sectors.

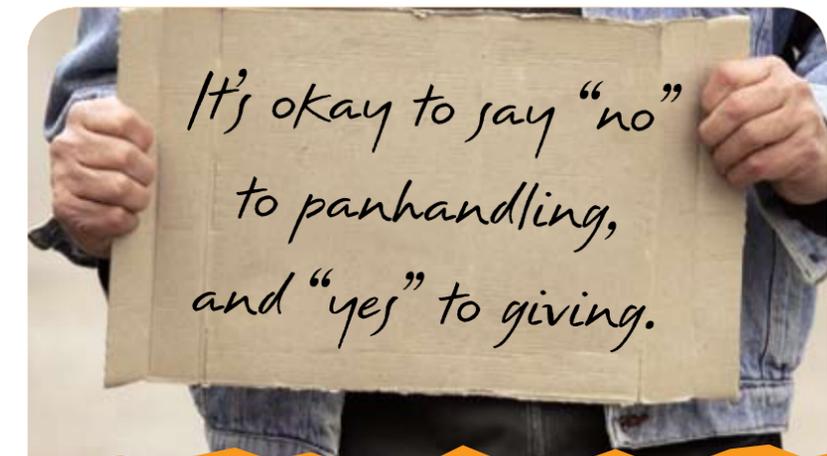
CATCH: Charitable Assistance to the City's Homeless
CATCH is a community collaborative effort, administered by the City of Boise, and designed to assist homeless families with children. This effort is sponsored by community partners, including the United Way, local businesses, local communities of faith, and the City of Boise. CATCH is a program that provides housing first, and then coordinates social services and case management to address the issues which contributed to the

episode of family homelessness. Local businesses and congregations of faith agree to sponsor a family for the terms of a lease (up to a maximum of twelve months). The leases are signed between the family and a landlord, and typically range in market value from \$500 to \$800/month, depending on the size of the unit needed. The City of Boise covers all of the administrative costs of CATCH's operation, which includes the case management of CATCH families.

How Can You Help?

Have a Heart Give Smart
The Have a Heart Give Smart Project is a public awareness campaign that will provide community members an opportunity to contribute to organizations that provide assistance to those in need. The objectives are to connect our caring community with local organizations that provide services and solutions for those in need, while eliminating the need for anyone to panhandle. More information can be found at GiveSmartBoise.org.

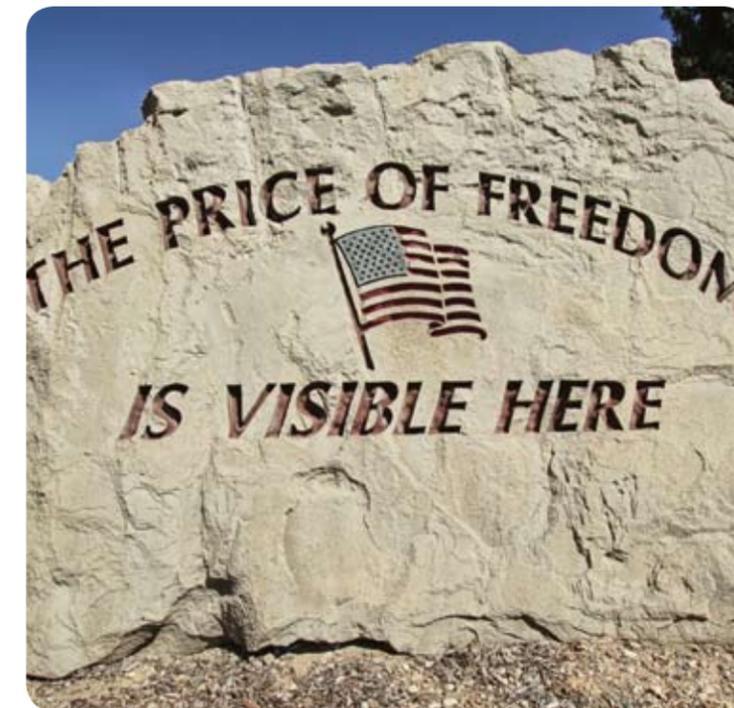
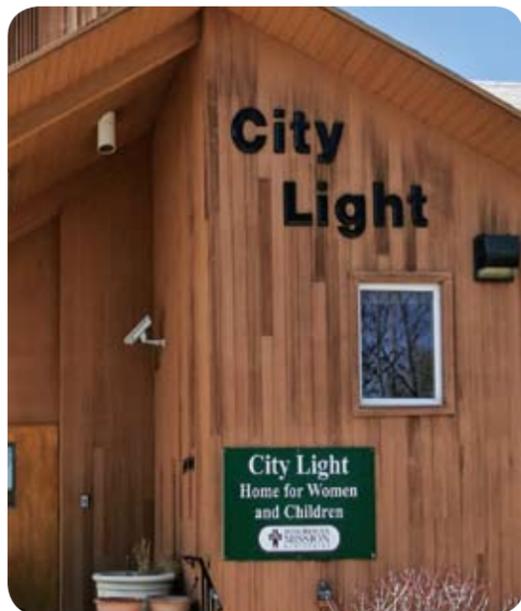
Contribute
Community members are encouraged to give their time, energy and resources directly to our community providers that support those who are experiencing homelessness.



Have a  Give Smart

While panhandling is often associated with homelessness, many panhandlers are not homeless. Boise has a variety of services available to help those in need. Please give smart to ensure your donation has the most positive impact possible.

GiveSmartBoise.org



Funding from multiple sources and collaborative provider efforts help house the homeless.

How are Homeless Services Funded?

Neighbors in Need Trust Fund

On September 12, 2008 the Boise City Council created the “Neighbors in Need” (NIN) Trust Fund. With an initial capitalization of \$2 million, the purpose of this fund is to address and alleviate issues associated with homelessness in Boise.

On September 30, 2008 the Boise City Council passed a City Ordinance establishing City Council as the Board of Trustees for this Fund. In addition, this legislation also created the NIN Trust Fund Advisory Board to provide guidance and recommendations to Council concerning Fund program activities.

Financial management of the Fund was assigned to the City’s Finance and Administration Department. Day to day administration of program activities was assigned to the City’s Housing and Community Development Division (HCD) within the Planning and Development Services Department.

When annual interest earnings from the Fund reach an appropriate level (not to exceed 5% of the Fund balance), they will be made

available through an annual competitive granting process to community based organizations in order to support programs and services that benefit those who are homeless and at risk of becoming homeless.

The funds are administered through HCD’s Community Development Block Grant Cycle. In 2010, the Mayor’s Community Advisory Committee evaluated and awarded \$35,000 in grants from the NIN Trust Fund.

HUD Continuum of Care Funding

The community received \$959,355 to fund programs in 2010. This funding is managed through the Boise City Ada County Housing Authority.

City of Boise

The total funding for homelessness through funds administered by the city from October 2006 to May 2010 is \$4,436,092.

Other Funding

Private contributions and grants directly to providers as well as the Veteran Administration are additional sources of funding for the homeless.

How Many People are Homeless?

The total number of people experiencing chronic homelessness as defined in the 10 Year Plan is based on a percentage of the total population (380,920 in 2008) in Ada County according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Population data is provided for Ada County because services to more than 95% of the homeless population are provided in Boise. The estimate, therefore, is not city specific because those experiencing chronic homelessness come to Boise for assistance.

This methodology for estimating the chronically homeless population is supported with research through the National Alliance to End Homelessness: “Research reveals that between 10 to 20 percent of homeless single adults are chronically homeless.”

The chart here shows the population for homeless and chronic homelessness.

	2007 Estimates	2009 Annual Report
Ada County Population	344,727 2005: U. S. Census Bureau	380,920 2008: U.S. Census Bureau
Ada County Poverty (persons below poverty)	32,060 (9.3%) 2005: U. S. Census Bureau	30,092 (7.9%) 2007: U.S. Census Bureau
Ada County Homeless Based on poverty trends	2,000-3,000	2,000-3,000
Ada County Chronically Homeless	300-350	300-350

An annual point in time count is taken in January. It is an unduplicated one-night count or estimate of sheltered and unsheltered adults, children, and youth. The purpose of the point in time count is to understand the number and characteristics of people sleeping in shelters and on the street, or in other places not meant for human habitation. It is a HUD requirement and data is used to make funding decisions. This year’s total count for individuals and persons in households who are homeless in Ada County was 872.

What is the Continuum of Care?

The Continuum of Care is a community plan to organize and deliver housing and services to meet the specific needs of people who are homeless as they move to stable housing and maximum self-sufficiency. It includes action steps to end homelessness and prevent a return to homelessness.

Due to the Hearth Act and the reauthorization of McKinney-Vento funding, the City of Boise Mayor’s Office is refocusing Continuum of Care efforts by organizing a Continuum of Care Coordinating Team that combines the efforts of the Continuum of Care with the 10 Year Plan to Reduce and Prevent Chronic Homelessness. The process is led by the City’s Housing and Community Development Services and 10 Year Plan Coordinator. The team is comprised of representatives from provider organizations, municipal and county government, and the community who are engaged in both initiatives to eliminate duplication of effort and streamline communication.

This approach provides an enhanced venue for activities outlined in the Continuum of Care to take place in a coordinated manner and ensures that this community remains competitive for McKinney-Vento funding and other sources of funding support.

... raise awareness and maintain community engagement ...

What is the 10 Year Plan to Reduce and Prevent Chronic Homelessness?

The City of Boise, through the Office of Mayor David Bieter, has served as the lead coordinating agency for the development of this plan. The actual process of creating the plan, however, has taken place utilizing a high degree of participatory public involvement.

The initial event to energize this effort took place on November 1, 2006. Homelessness was the focus of the Mayor's Summits on Livability: Series One- Helping Neighbors in Need. Following plenary sessions, with keynote speaker Phillip Mangano, U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH), a facilitated work session attended by more than 125 community members

began to frame content for plan development. Policy and Planning Teams were formed to begin plan development. The first step was to define the purpose of the 10 Year Plan and Boise's homeless community needs. Developing agreement and alignment on the 10 Year Plan approach followed. The 10 Year Plan Strategies were defined and the 10 Year Plan was completed and approved.

Boise's 10 Year Plan to Reduce and Prevent Chronic Homelessness is a plan that focuses initially on meeting the needs of those experiencing chronic homelessness by providing housing first in conjunction with supportive services.

Plan Strategies are:

- Expand access to and resources for housing first.
- Focus on permanent solutions for housing and services.
- Increase level and continuity of support services.
- Ensure adequate availability of appropriate permanent housing stock.
- Align discharge and release practices with plan solutions for housing first.
- Improve information systems to assist those experiencing homelessness.
- Raise awareness and maintain community engagement.
- Maintain an ongoing management support function for plan implementation and innovative partnerships.

What Progress has been made on the 10 Year Plan to Reduce and Prevent Chronic Homelessness?

Year 1: October 2007-September 2008

In year one, an Implementation Team replaced the Planning Team, and a Pilot Project was developed. This was the first phase of implementing a housing first approach for chronic homelessness. Twenty three individuals who were experiencing chronic homelessness were housed. The \$2 million Neighbors in Need Fund was established by the Mayor and City Council to help address issues leading to homelessness. The first 10 Year Plan annual report update was presented to the Mayor and City Council.

Year 2: October 2008-September 2009

In year two, the Pilot Project continued and the Community Support Circle Team was piloted. A marketing and communication strategy was recommended. The consolidation of the 10 Year Planning Process with the Continuum of Care was developed and recommended as a result of the Hearth Act and McKinney-Vento funding reauthorization. A housing production plan was developed to assess housing inventory and identify gaps for planning purposes. The Neighbors in Need citizens' advisory council was formed and the grant process developed. Thirty six individuals who were experiencing chronic homelessness were housed. The second 10 Year Plan annual report update was presented to the Mayor and City Council.

Year 3: October 2009-September 2010

In year three, the Pilot Project was finalized. The Continuum of Care Coordinating Team has been organized and is meeting monthly. The goal was established to house thirty two individuals who are experiencing chronic homelessness based on current funding. Resource capacity will be evaluated based on definition changes from the HEARTH and McKinney-Vento funding reauthorization impact will be identified. A continuum of care community update will be published to provide information on activities related to homelessness in the community.

In three years approximately 90 individuals experiencing chronic homelessness will be housed in permanent supportive housing.



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