We hope you enjoy the Fall edition of the IHCC Newsletter.

If you know someone who would like to be added to the distribution list or who would like to suggest/contribute content for next quarter, please email snap@ihfa.org with “NEWSLETTER” in the subject line.

Resource Updates

Warming Shelters
St. Vincent de Paul has an overnight warming shelter at their thrift store in Post Falls. The warming shelter is open between 6:30 p.m. - 6:30 a.m. when the weather is below 28°.

Region 4 Homeless Coalition is in partnership with Valley House Homeless Shelter and Taproot Church in Twin Falls to create an overnight warming center by the end of December.

Written Standards
View IHCC Board approved changes to the Written Standards here.

Housing Choice Voucher Program
Idaho Housing and Finance administers the HUD Housing Choice Voucher program in 34 of the 44 counties in Idaho – all areas except the southwestern 10 counties and the City of Pocatello.

Waiting lists are open and in addition to the regular program there are preferences for families with children, elderly, or disabled households. To see other targeted programs administered by IHFA, click here.

IHCC Updates

New Board Member
Emily Sommer is the coordinator for the Education for Homeless Children and Youth at the Idaho State Dept. of Education. She oversees the implementation of the McKinney-Vento program for Idaho school districts and charters. As a board member, she hopes to bring an
Lived Experience Panels - Attend or become a Site Host

This summer we launched Lived Experience Panels in Regions 1, 3 and 4 on the second Friday of every month. Panelists include those who are currently homeless or who have experienced homelessness within the last 7 years. Lunch and a honorarium is given to each panelist who attends the meeting to discuss the IHCC Board’s ideas, strategies, and methods. One panelist will be selected to represent those with lived experience on the IHCC Board.

If you are interested in hosting or attending, please reach out to heidis@ihfa.org.

Regional Coalition Success Story

Region 2: Sojourners’ Alliance

A homeless client came into Sojourners’ Alliance Transitional Housing Program from the Latah County jail in July 2021. Shortly after, the client volunteered to clean up units and help out as much as needed. It was clear that the client was serious about their sobriety and their progress at our facility. The client got a job at Goodwill and began participation in the Drug Court Diversion Program.

Within a couple of months, our on-site security monitor left and we offered the part-time job to the client. A couple of months later, the client took on a part-time position as a case manager and successfully moved from the Transitional Housing Program into one of our low-income on-site apartments. Finally, in July of 2022 the client accepted a full-time case manager position.

One year after experiencing homelessness and coming out of jail, the client completely turned their life around. “They are a valued and meaningful part of our organization. We couldn't be happier and more proud of what they have accomplished.” -Rebecca Rucker

Upcoming Events

Avenues for Hope

Housing Challenge

December 12 - 31, 2022

The annual Avenues for Hope campaign kicks off Monday, December 12 at 8 a.m. MST. More than 90 organizations throughout Idaho are raising money to provide crucial housing and/or supportive services to low-income or homeless Idahoans. Participating nonprofits can receive hundreds of dollars in donation matches with your help! Donate between Dec. 12-31 to maximize your impact and provide resources for Idahoans in need.
The **Point-in-Time (PIT) count** is a count of sheltered and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness on a single night in January. The number of individuals experiencing homelessness and their characteristics provide insight into the needs of clients and help identify trends over time.

To volunteer or for more information on the PIT Count email hmis@ihfa.org. Please put “PIT Count” in the subject line.

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## Partner Spotlight

**Wellness Tree Clinic**

Region 4, Twin Falls

Tamara Harmon of the Wellness Tree Clinic led the Region 4 Coalition in hosting a Poverty Simulation in Twin Falls. Volunteers from several different agencies including South Central Community Action Partnership (SCCAP) and United Way of South Central Idaho helped purchase, set up, and conduct the simulation for government officials and interested community members. Tamara and Randy Wastradowski of SCCAP hope to spread awareness throughout the area of what it is like to lose your home and struggle to get back on your feet. A couple of organizations have already asked to conduct the simulation for their employees. Read the full story here.

Interested in running a poverty simulation? Contact Tamara or Randy.

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## Innovative Methods & Best Practices

### Innovative Methods from Haven for Hope and Community First!

LARGE-SCALE HOUSING MODELS: Haven for Hope in San Antonio, and Community First! Village in Austin, Texas are incredible community development models of a transformational campus and a village for those transitioning out of homelessness.

### Innovative Methods from Urban Camp

SMALL-SCALE HOUSING MODEL: An ultra-low cost model for homeless housing urban camp housing model repurposes vacant parking lots. Each housing unit is designed with the minimum size and characteristics that comply with local building codes:

### Innovative Methods from King County Regional Housing Authority

King County Washington is field-testing a regional hub method in hopes to capture a more accurate count of the homeless population than the annual Point-in-Time count.

### Best Practices: Illegal Lease Clauses

Jesse Tree discovered illegal clauses in their clients' leases and helped fight the eviction notices in court. Read the article here.
Is it cheaper to house the homeless than leave them unhoused?


Read the article [here](#).

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**Trivia**

*Answer to the Spring Newsletter Trivia:* There are 1,205 CoC’s in America today.