Hello,

We are excited to announce Idaho Housing and Finance Association’s renewal of the Idaho Homelessness Coordinating Committee (IHCC) Newsletter!

This newsletter will be distributed quarterly and provide updates, share information, and engage partners in the ongoing efforts to end homelessness.

To suggest or contribute content for next quarter, please email snap@ihfa.org with “NEWSLETTER” in the subject line.

Resource Page Updates

The IHCC board approved changes to the Written Standards as follows:

- Pages 11-13, Section 2, Subsection 1A: Added the "Categories for Defining Homelessness".
- Page 14, Section 2, Subsection1C: Added section on "Subrecipient Internal Controls".
- Pages 22-23, Section 2, Subsection 2F: Updated language on "Conducting Inspections on ESG Funded Shelters or Units".
- Pages 38-39, Section 3, Subsections 2A and 2B – Recordkeeping – Updated language on ESG and COC record retention

Coming soon!
A platform to access previously issued Policy Memos and IHCC Newsletters.

Partner Spotlight

Idaho Homelessness Coordinating Committee

Vision: “A Home for Everyone.”

Mission: Provide leadership in addressing the challenges of homelessness in Idaho through community engagement and collaboration. We encourage communities to creatively leverage resources and develop partnerships, services, and solutions toward ending homelessness.

Purpose: Facilitate the coordination, communication, and cooperation of housing and supportive services. Committee input ensures that scarce resources devoted to alleviate homelessness are utilized to the maximum benefit by filling the identified service gaps in communities throughout Idaho. The IHCC shall:
Be instrumental in the development, recommendation, and implementation of a comprehensive statewide strategy to deal with homelessness and the housing needs for each of Idaho's six regions.

- Consider and make decisions as the Continuum of Care (CoC) Board.
- Coordinate with the Collaborative Applicant, the ESG recipient, the Boise City/Ada County Continuum of Care, and the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).
- Be the lead agency regarding the Continuum of Care Homeless Assistance Application, the Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plans, and state homelessness policy.

Please welcome the new IHCC board members:

Jamie Simpson
Homelessness Programs Manager, IHFA

Jamie’s position at Idaho Housing and Finance entails the oversight of CoC, ESG, HOPWA, HMIS and IHCC activities. Jamie grew up on the Palouse, then moved to the Treasure Valley, where she has worked in health and human services for the past 30 years. She obtained her bachelor's degree in social sciences from Boise State University and master’s degree in business administration (MBA) from Northwest Nazarene University. Jamie looks forward to assisting the IHCC to enhance innovation and expand partnerships to end homelessness in Idaho.

Ryan Hertling
Reentry Specialist,
Idaho Department of Corrections

Ryan has four years of experience with IDOC as a reentry specialist. He focuses on reducing recidivism in Idaho. Typically he employs the housing-first model when helping someone reenter society after incarceration. He has witnessed that those who have safe and stable housing are much more likely to keep a job, take care of their needs and commitments, and become productive members of society.

Learn more about the Idaho Homelessness Coordinating Committee and how to get involved here.

By the Numbers

Point-in-Time Count
Conducted annually, the Point-in-Time (PIT) Count provides a snapshot of homelessness in Idaho. Those experiencing homelessness includes people who are living in places not meant for habitation and those in emergency shelters or other supportive housing. People who are staying with friends or relatives, living in a hotel/motel, in a treatment facility, or who are incarcerated are not included in the count.

The PIT count is best used to identify homelessness trends over time. It is important to note that results can be affected each year based on location, weather and number of surveyors.

Percentages in the graphic below represent each region’s percentage of the statewide total of sheltered and unsheltered individuals on the night of January 26, 2022.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REGION</th>
<th>SHELTERED</th>
<th>UNSHeltered</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>143 (10.4%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>219 (15.9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>495</td>
<td>571 (41.4%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>285</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>314 (22.8%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>72 (5.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>59 (4.3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>570</td>
<td>808</td>
<td>1,378</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SNAPSHOT OF IDAHO HOMELESSNESS**

**Q:** Is the monthly service cost for internet usage an eligible ESG expense for shelter, homeless prevention or rapid rehousing?

**A:** Heidi Sellick, Housing Support Programs Coordinator

Per HUD guidelines, it depends on the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) component and whether the internet usage is for staff or program participants.

For staff usage, internet is considered an eligible cost if it is used to carry out necessary services and activities.

Participant usage is generally covered as long as the internet service is used for essential communications and activities and not for entertainment. In some cases, ESG funds can be used to support a data plan for a phone as long as it is not too expensive and is not used for entertainment purposes.

In all circumstances, internet expenses must be pro-rated if costs are not 100% related to necessary services and activities of the ESG.

*Please note this response has been provided based on the current requirements and guidance available. Notices or other HUD-issued guidance in the future may change the current requirements. Also, the response in this email is specific to the question submitted and may not apply to similar questions. Therefore, please use discretion in providing the response to others, as the answer may not apply.*

The live interview was conducted on Thursday, May 26, and answered questions from the community such as “Whose responsibility is it solve the housing crisis in the Treasure Valley?” “What can regular people do to help?” and “What should we know about the history of housing and development in the Treasure Valley to make sense of the current situation?”

One innovative solution to homelessness mentioned by Jodi Stigers was the city of Boise’s pilot program to construct tiny houses on homeowners’ private property. The city of Boise has selected LEAP Housing as the nonprofit partner for the two pilot programs.

If you are a Boise homeowner interested in adding an ADU or tiny home, read more and fill out the form at https://www.cityofboise.org/news/mayor/2022/may/boise-explores-new-affordable-housing-solutions-selects-leap-housing-as-partner-in-pilot-projects/.


How many households have benefitted from emergency rental assistance through IHFA’s Housing Preservation Program from April 2020 through April 2022?

A. 1,345
B. 14,744
C. 7,208

Submit an answer below for a chance to win a prize! The correct answer and winner will be announced in next quarter’s newsletter.

Submit your answer here