



# **City of Seaside Homeless Commission**

## **Annual Work Plan**

**FY 2022-2023**

**Adopted by the Commission  
April 12, 2022**

## **Commission Members**

**Benjamin Strickland – Chair**

**Stacey Fiess– Vice Chair**

**Lynda Cunningham**

**Gwen Nash**

**Leslie Mugan**

**Pastor Kenneth Murray**

**Vacancy**

**Staff Liaison – Mary Gutierrez, Fire Chief**

**Liaison Assistant – Rosalinda Barrios Chavez, Fire Department**

## **Mission Statement**

To plan, advocate, support and collaborate with those affected by homelessness and the organizations that serve them.

## **Historic Background**

The Seaside City Council created the Homeless Commission on November 2, 2017. The Commission will have completed its fourth full year as of November 2, 2022.

## **General duties of the Homeless Commission**

The Commission on the Status of Homelessness shall have the power, and it shall be the duty of the commission to make recommendations to the City Council and to advise the Council in the following matters:

- Review and comment on City ordinances, programs and policies and state mandates related to housing, CDBG grants and programs, and other poverty mitigation programs;
- Monitor and assist the City's progress in implementing needed homeless services and facilities;
- Develop policy recommendations and processes to measure the effectiveness of new and existing policies in ending and preventing homelessness and coordinate with the CDAC for their required reporting in the HUD mandated Annual Action Report;
- Identify strategic goals for the City and estimate resources needed to accomplish these goals; investigate funding to implement programs to benefit the homeless community.
- Identify partnerships with County, City and other community programs that achieve the goals of ending or preventing homelessness in the City of Seaside.

## **Responsibilities**

### **The commission on the status of homelessness shall:**

- Hold public meetings on matters related to homelessness;
- Investigate best and contemporary practices with regard to eliminating and preventing homelessness;
- Serve in advisory capacity to the City Council, commissions, committees, and boards on related issues;
- Prepare an annual report to the City Council on progress and effectiveness of various programs and policies.
- Ensure regular maintenance of homeless commission resources on the City website.

## **Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Work Plan**

### **A. Cultivate a “Housing First” culture which includes bold and innovative ideas and activities:**

- Identify additional City properties to utilize as transitional housing
- Advocate for rental assistance programs
- Advocate for viable emergency housing programs and emergency temporary housing
- In the event of a vacancy, ensure a member of the City Staff is appointed as the Homeless Commission Liaison
- Collaborate with the City of Seaside Family and Community Support Program Staff whose job duties include address housing and homelessness

**B. Engage, amplify and collaborate with organizations that work with our Seaside community members who are at risk of homelessness:**

- Identify, participate and collaborate with food programs that serve the community
- Amplify support and improve current safe parking programs in the community through partnerships
- Engage, collaborate and participate with Monterey Peninsula Unified School District (MPUSD) programs that serve at risk and homeless youth
- Identify and collaborate with agencies that provide supportive services for young children
- Increase awareness of homelessness solutions and outreach by participating in a public outreach campaign. Examples include:
  - Speak at school assemblies
  - Neighboring city council meetings
  - School board meetings

**C. Invite all voices to the table and in our conversations; especially our Seaside community members who are at risk of homelessness:**

- Receive regular updates from local organizations that serve those at risk of homelessness to include:
  - Casa De Noche Buena Family Center
  - Gathering for Women
  - Salvation Army
  - IHelp for Women and Men
  - Coalition of Homeless Service Providers
- Partner with the City of Seaside Family and Community Support Program to host community forums where neighbors can share their ideas for addressing housing and homelessness

**D. Investigate options to provide additional services to the un-housed to include:**

- Lockers for storage of personal items
- Phone charging station
- Mobile hygiene station

**Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Homeless Commission Accomplishments:**

- Toured Casa De Noche Buena Family Shelter with Shelter Staff
- Provided new toys, blankets and clothing to Casa De Noche Buena Family Shelter
- Provided \$2,250 in visa gift cards to “Casa De Noche Buena Family Shelter” to distribute to their residents during the holidays
- Provided \$400 in visa gift cards to “All In Monterey” to assist an unhoused family during the holidays
- Provided \$1,500 to Bethel Missionary Baptist Church to feed those with food insecurities (Helpless to Hopeful Food Ministry)
- Received a presentation from Ben Nurse, Housing Program Manager for the City of Seaside regarding Tiny Homes
- Received a presentation from Derrick Elder, Family and Community Support Program Manager for the City of Seaside
- Received a presentation from Roxanne Wilson, from the Coalition of Homeless Service Providers
- Received a presentation from Yesenia Rubio, Housing Program Manager and Lacey Baldrige, Resident Service Coordinator of the Salvation Army
- Received a presentation from Marissa Kobylenski and Mitch Davis of IHelp for Women and Men. (Board Members)
- Received a presentation from Haven of Hope on Wheels regarding mobile shower/restroom and washer/dryer program
- Filled one commission vacancy - Pastor Kenneth Murray

- Updated the Homeless Resource page on the City website
- Facilitated the donation of a Home Depot storage shed to Casa De Noche Buena (PENDING)

### **Expected Expenditures for Projects and Programs - Budget Request**

**\$12,000** a year (1,000 a month) - City of Seaside food insecurity programs

**\$2,500** Presentations for Homelessness solutions (Travel expenditures for consultants etc.)

**\$2,500** - Support / Facilitate a minimum of one community homeless outreach forum (advertising costs etc.)

**\$5,000** - Holiday Donations to local homeless advocacy organizations and non-profits

**\$5,000** - Backpacks, school supplies and clothing for at risk and homeless students

**\$48,000** - Mobile Hygiene Unit (Showers, Laundry, Toilets and Handwashing) in cooperation with a local faith based organization to manage

**Total: \$75,000**