

Broad Efforts - What we are already working on.

- Police Department collaboration with mental health detachment in both Polk and Marion counties.
- Sobering center – exploring in partnership with Salem Health, Marion County, and Bridgeway as the provider in the new ARCHES facility.
- Investing \$2 million, including \$1.4 million General Fund revenue in the Homelessness Rental Assistance Program (Housing First model) administered by SHA.
- Funding non-profit affordable housing development on Portland Road using Urban Renewal and HOME funds.
- Funding SHA transitional housing development on Fisher Road using Urban Renewal funds and affordable housing at Yaquina Hall at the State Hospital Campus using HOME funds.
- Adopting a property tax exemption program for non-profit providers of affordable housing.
- Consolidated funding recommendations from the General Fund, CDBG and HOME through one board and allocate \$400,000 of general fund money to help address social service needs.
- Participation in a 100 day youth homelessness challenge.
- Partial funding for the new Homeless Initiative Program Coordinator position at the COG

What are we solving for?

Broad Issues:

- Housing
- Emergency shelter/services
- Additional resources for housing
- Mental health services/ psychiatric services
- Drug and alcohol addiction treatment – need sobering center

What are we solving for?

Downtown Issues:

- Behavioral expectations
- Bathrooms/toilets/hygiene
- Safe, dry storage for possessions
- Drug and alcohol abuse
- Safe downtown for everyone
- Clean-up garbage/human detritus
- Resource reference material availability - Consistent response to homeless
- Communication/ coordination
- Economic impact

From submitted comments:

- Customers avoid downtown due to aggressive behavior from homeless individuals
- Inappropriate comments from homeless individuals
- Aggressive panhandling
- Businesses have to clean excrement from outside their business on a regular basis and have to tell campers to move on.
- Uncertain sources of food

What are potential causes of the problem?

- Trauma
- Low housing stock over the past 10 years (for low income persons)
- Evictions
- Lack of transitional housing
- Lack of veteran services
- Substance abuse and mental health
- Lack of personal resources/toilets/showers
- Lack of education/skills
- Lack of a safe space for personal goods storage
- No weekend public transportation
- Safe housing - lack of funds for housing
- Lack of public/private partnerships

Additional causes from submitted comments:

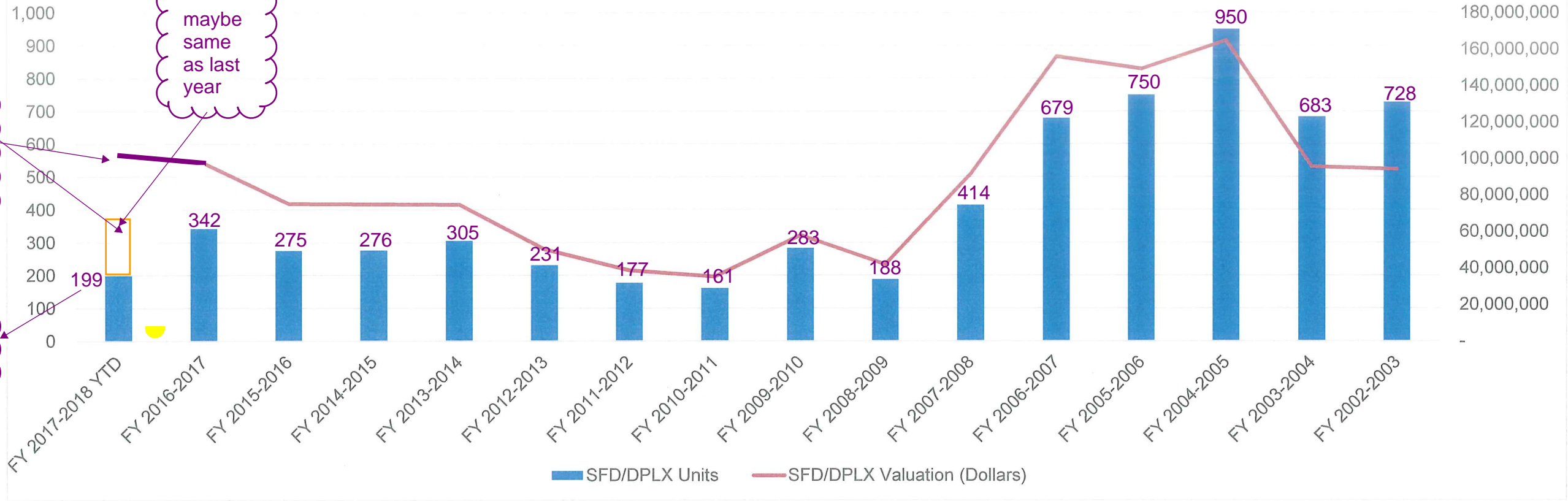
- Domestic violence
- Economics, job loss
- Skyrocketing rents
- Disabling injury and medical issues
- Mental illness

**CITY OF SALEM FISCAL YEAR NEW DWELLING & MULTIFAMILY PERMITS & VALUATION TOTALS**

	New Dwelling (SFD/DPLX)				New Multi Family			YEARLY TOTAL DW & MF PERMITS AND VALUATION	
	SFD Permits	DPLX Permits	SFD/DPLX Units	SFD/DPLX Valuation (Dollars)	MultiFamily Permits	MultiFamily Apartments	MultiFamily Valuation (Dollars)	PERMITS	VALUE
FY 2017-2018 YTD	183	8	199	51,720,076	45	526	52,740,616	236	104,460,692
FY 2016-2017	322	10	342	97,556,438	43	454	47,475,900	375	145,032,338
FY 2015-2016	261	7	275	75,252,103	15	193	22,320,192	283	97,572,295
FY 2014-2015	270	3	276	74,966,527	10	105	10,760,049	283	85,726,576
FY 2013-2014	299	3	305	74,794,433	20	239	23,041,359	322	97,835,792
FY 2012-2013	231	0	231	50,357,471	20	234	21,540,349	251	71,897,820
FY 2011-2012	173	2	177	38,734,857	9	216	7,343,056	184	46,077,913
FY 2010-2011	157	2	161	35,305,527	7	75	6,880,195	166	42,185,721
FY 2009-2010	279	2	283	58,003,765	19	153	14,806,789	300	72,810,554
FY 2008-2009	182	3	188	41,957,095	3	20	1,680,659	188	43,637,755
FY 2007-2008	398	8	414	91,613,724	25	87	7,845,474	431	99,459,198
FY 2006-2007	633	23	679	156,005,154	55	309	23,049,395	711	179,054,549
FY 2005-2006	718	16	750	149,279,075	3	14	1,729,216	737	151,008,291
FY 2004-2005	928	11	950	164,792,269	50	463	24,405,997	989	189,198,266
FY 2003-2004	661	11	683	95,560,474	11	87	4,960,773	683	100,521,247
FY 2002-2003	718	5	728	94,199,553	19	160	8,596,081	742	102,795,634

FY 17-18 data is not final (missing four months (March to June))

### Number of Single Family and Duplex Units and Valuation (Dollars)

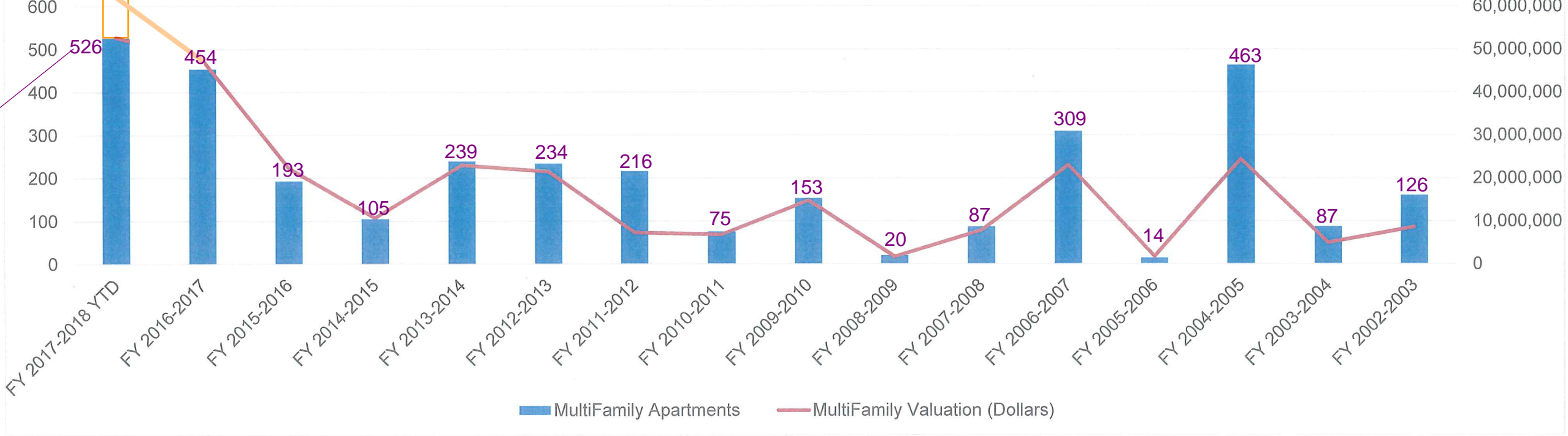


maybe same as last year

Estimated number for FY 17-18

at the end of February

### Number of MultiFamily Apartments and Valuation (Dollars)



Estimated number for FY 17-18

at the end of February



**HOUSING & HOMELESS (Rental and Transitional)**

ARCHES Project 503.399.9080  
615 Commercial St NE

Catholic Community Services 503.390.2600  
3737 Portland Rd NE  
St. Brigid's - Unwed Mothers  
St. Monica's - Under 18 with children  
St. Teresa's - Young Moms & children

Community Alliance of Tenants 1.800.288.0130  
Portland, OR

Marion County Housing Authority\* 503.798.4170  
2645 Portland Rd NE

NW Human Serv (Yth & Family Prg) 503.581.5535  
335 Belmont St NE

RENT Program 503.399.9080  
615 Commercial St NE

Salvation Army Social Services 503.585.6688  
1977 Front St NE

Salem Housing Authority\* 503.588.6368  
360 Church St SE TDD 711

Salem Interfaith Hospitality Network 503-370-9752  
1055 Edgewater St NW

Salem-Keizer Community Devp 503.856.7077  
945 Columbia St NE

Salem-Keizer Homeless Education 503.391.4060  
1309 Ferry St SE—(STEP)

Simonka Place-Women/Children Shelter 503-362-7487  
5119 River Rd N Keizer, OR

Salem Outreach Shelter 503-0588-8898  
2933 Center Street NE Ste 200

St Francis Conference 503-588-0428

Union Gospel Mission 503-362-3983  
345 Commercial NE

West Valley Housing Auth (Polk Co)\* 503.623.8387  
204 SW Walnut Ave. Dallas, OR

*\*Housing authorities primarily offer long-term rental housing subject to a waiting period.*

**Medical/Dental Insurance**

Oregon Health Plan (OHP) 503.378.2666  
Apply online or at DHS office

**LATINO SERVICES**

Encuentro Family Service Center 503.981.4214  
120 East Lincoln Street Woodburn

Immigration & Farm Worker Info 503.982.0243

Mano A Mano Family Center 503.363.1895  
2911 Saddle Club Rd SE

Fair Housing 800-424-3247 x2

**LEGAL**

Domestic Violence Advocate (on-scene) Salem Police Dept. 503.588.6499  
X7116

Legal Aid Services of Oregon 503.581.5265  
105 High Street

Neighbor to Neighbor Mediation 503.588.5253  
945 Columbia St NE

Oregon Legal Services (Portland) 503.981.5291  
921 SW Washington St

Oregon State Bar Lawyer Referral 503.620.0222  
16037 SW Upper Boones Ferry Tigard

**PARENTING**

Catholic Community Services 503.390.2600  
3737 Portland Rd NE

Family Building Blocks 503.363.3057  
1135 Edgewater NW Gracies Place  
2425 Lancaster Dr Chelseas Place 503.566.2132

Disabled Children Parent Training Ctr 503.581.8156  
2288 Liberty St NE

Parents Anonymous (YWCA) 503.581.9922  
1255 Broadway NE #110

Parenting NOW! Classes 503.623.9664  
Academy Building, Dallas

**PAROLE AND PROBATION**

A New Leaf- W. Salem Foursquare Ch 503.391.4346  
Email: anewleaf@wsfc.org

DeMuniz Pine St Resource Center 503.990.7370  
355 Pine St NE

**RESPIRE (CAREGIVER SUPPORT)**

ARC—Dev Disabled 503.581.2726  
1745 State St

Daybreak Program—Adult Support 503.316.3950  
3995 Fairview Industrial SE #130

Lifespan Respite Network-Special Nds 503.588.1778  
2475 Center St NE

Willamette Valley Hospice 503.588.3600  
1015 3rd St NW

Salem Alliance Church— encouragement & prayer support for families 503.581.2129  
555 Gaines St NE

**SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCIES**

Catholic Community Services 503.485.5968  
3737 Portland Rd NE

Community Action Agency 503.585.6232  
2475 Center Street NE

Congregations Helping People 503.391.4365  
600 State St SE

Dallas Resource Center 503.623.8429  
326 Main St Dallas

Dept. of Human Serv. 503.378.2731  
North Keizer 503.373.0808  
South 503.378.6327

Oregon Health Authority 503.947.2340  
500 Summer St E-20

Oregon Telephone Assistance Program 503.378.8819

Salvation Army 503.585.6688  
1977 Front St NE

St. Vincent DePaul 503.364.5672  
3745 Portland Rd NE

**TRANSPORTATION**

Salem Area Mass Transit - Cherriots 503.588.2424  
285 Church St NE

Salvation Army Social Services - bus pass 503.585.6688  
1977 Front St

Salem Veterans Center 503.362.9911  
2645 Portland Rd NE

Cherry Lift med & disability transport only 503.585.5187  
925 Commercial St SE #100

**UTILITIES**

City of Keizer Water 503.393.1608  
930 Chemawa Rd NE

City of Salem Water 503.588.6099  
555 Liberty St SE

Energy Assistance 503.581.1650  
2585 State St

Energy Assist. (Weatherization) 503.315.7055  
2551 Pringle Road SE x300

Low-Income Energy Assistance Program 503.588.9016  
1850 45th Ave NE Suite 101

NW Natural Gas 503.585.6611  
3123 Broadway NE

Portland General Electric 503.399.7717  
4245 Kale St NE

Salem Electric 503.362.3601  
633 7th St NW

**VIDA**

Salem Housing Authority, Sonya Ryland 503.588.6460  
MERIT Business Services, Forrest Peck 503-584-7314

**VETERANS**

Salem Veterans Center 503.362.9911  
2645 Portland Rd NE

OR State Veterans Affairs 503.373.2000  
700 Summer St NE

Veterans of Foreign Wars Hall 503.364.7997  
630 Hood St NE

**YOUTH & TEENS (Activities and Life Skills Resources)**

Boys & Girls Club Summer St. NE 503.581.7383  
Market St. NE 503.391.1519  
Noren Ave NE 503.304.1313

Encuentro Family Service Center 503.981.4214  
120 E Lincoln St Woodburn

Home Youth & Resource Center 503.391.6428  
625 Union St

HOST Youth & Resource Center (Shelter for homeless, runaways or youth in crisis) 503.588.5825  
1143 Liberty St NE

Juvenile Emancipation (Courts) 503.588.5411  
3030 Center St

Salem Pregnancy Resource Center 503.364.2464  
2630 Market St NE

Teen Parents Program—Barbara Roberts High School 503.399.5550

Young Life Christian Ministry Salem Keizer 503.399.7310  
503.463.1516

**SALEM HOUSING AUTHORITY****GUIDE TO SERVICES**

**The availability of services listed in this directory depends on funding and may change at any time. For the most current and up to date information, please call 211 or visit [www.211info.org](http://www.211info.org)**

Salem Housing Authority  
360 Church St. SE  
Salem, OR 97301-3707  
Phone: 503-588-6368  
FAX: 503-588-6465  
Website: [salemhousingor.com](http://salemhousingor.com)  
E-mail: [housing@cityofsalem.net](mailto:housing@cityofsalem.net)

**SALEM HOUSING AUTHORITY**  
Is part of the Housing and Social Services  
Division of the City of Salem  
Urban Development Department

January 2017



<b>CHILD CARE</b>		<b>DRUGS &amp; ALCOHOL</b>		<b>FAMILY PLANNING</b>		Mid-Valley Community Action Salem Woodburn Dallas	503.585.6232 503.982.8212 503.623.8429
Childcare Resource & Referral 2475 Center St NE	503.585.2491	Alcohol-Drug Helpline	1.800.621.1646	Birth Right 1880 Lancaster Dr NE #124	503.585.2273		
Head Start 2475 Center St NE	503.581.1152	Alcoholics Anonymous 687 Cottage St NE	503.399.0599	Boys & Girls Aid Portland, OR	1.800.342.6688	Mid-Willamette Valley Hospice 1015 3rd St NW	503.588.3600
Healthy Start 3737 Portland Rd NE	503.362.3138	Bridgeway 3325 Harold Dr NE	503.363.2021 503.399.5597	Child Safety Seat Resource Center	877.793.2608	New Perspectives Counseling Ctr 1675 Winter St NE	503.316.6770
Nutrition 1st (USDA) 2475 Center St NE	503.581.2460	Cascadia Behavioral Health 3321 Harold Dr NE	503.585.4949	Marion County Family Planning 3180 Center St NE	503.588.5355	NW Human Services (Salem area medical clinic info.)	503.581.5535
YMCA 685 Court St NE	503.581.9622	Catholic Community Services (OHP) 3737 Portland Rd NE	503.390.2600	Michael the Archangel 1725 Capitol St NE	503.581.2229	Options Counseling 2645 Portland Rd NE	503.390.5637
<b>CITIZENS' REPRESENTATIVE (GOVERNOR'S OFFICE)</b> www.governor.oregon.gov	503.378.4582	Marion County Drug Treatment 3180 Center St NE #2100	503.588.5358	<b>FINANCIAL COUNSEL</b>		Oregon Health Plan (OHP) 500 Summer St NE	503.378.2666
Responds to citizen complaints about government officials or agencies.		Polk County Drug Treatment 1495 Edgewater NW	503.623.9289	Apprisen 3000 Market St NE #412	800.355.2227	Overeaters Anonymous 590 36th Ave NE	503.581.5828
<b>CLOTHING (LOW COST/CONSIGN)</b>		Serenity Lane 1885 Fisher Rd NE	503.588.2804	NEDCO– Homeownership Counseling 2700 Market St NE	503.779.2680	Poison Control Center	1.800.452.7165
Big Gals Consignment State & 17th	503.588.9202	<b>EDUCATION</b>		<b>FOOD</b>		Polk Co. Health Dept. 182 SW Academy #333	503.623.8175
The Maze 4710 River Rd N Keizer	503-393-3516	Barbara Roberts High School—GED 3620 State St	503.399.5550 503.399.3103	Marion-Polk Food Share 1660 Salem Industrial Dr NE	503.581.3855	Polk County Mental Health 1495 Edgewater NW	503.585.3012
Goodwill 3535 Lancaster Dr NE	503.585.4686	Chemeketa Community College 4000 Lancaster Dr NE	503.399.5000	NW Senior & Disability Services Meals on Wheels 6450 Fairway Ave SE	503.304.3420	Psychiatric Crisis Center 1118 Oak St SE	503.585.4949
Helping Hands (interview clothes) 1755 13th St	503.364.9936	Mid Valley Literacy Center 606 Dearborn Ave NE Keizer	503-463-1488	Salem (Salud) WIC 2020 Capitol St NE	503.391.7872	Salem CPR & First Aid Center 1610 Commercial St SE	503.371.9533
Humane Society Thrift 548 High St NE	503.362.6892	Salem Childbirth Education Assn. 189 Liberty St NE	503.364.9381	Salvation Army Social Services 1977 Front St NE	503.585.6688	Salem Free Medical Clinic 1300 Broadway St NE #104 3850 Portland Rd NE	503.990.8772
Reruns for Kids 1455 Commercial St SE	503.371.7933	Salem-Keizer School District 2450 Lancaster Dr NE	503.399.3000	St. Vincent de Paul 6421 Lancaster Dr NE	503-364-5672	Salud Medical Center 1175 Mt Hood Ave Woodburn	503.982.2000
<b>Domestic Violence/Sexual Asslt</b>		<b>EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE (Crisis)</b>		<b>FURNITURE</b>		Salvation Army Social Services 1977 Front St NE	503.585.6688
Crimes Victim's Services Division 1162 Court St NE	503.378.5348 800.503.7983	NW Human Services Crisis Hotline 335 Belmont St SE	503.581.5535	Helping Hands Resources 1755 13th St SE	503.364.9936	Salem Area Medical Clinics 681 Center St NE	503.581.5535
Victims Asst. Program 100 High St 1st Floor Marion County Court House	503.588.5253	Center for Hope and Safety 605 Center St NE	503.378.1572	UGM The ROC 901 Front St NE	503.566.7001	Salem Clinic 2020 Capitol St	503-399-2424
VINE Victim information & Notification	877-674-8463	<b>EMPLOYMENT</b>		<b>HEALTH AND COUNSELING</b>		Salem Women's Clinic 1935 Liberty St SE	503.399.2444
<b>SENIORS &amp; PERSONS W/DISABILITIES</b>		BDI Staffing Services 3400 State St #6720	503.364.5189	AIDS Hotline	1.800.777.2437	Sleep Disorder Clinic (SH) 875 Oak St SE	503.370.5170
Abuse & Adult Protective Services 500 Summer St NE	503.945.6474	Galt Foundation 3220 State St #11D	503.361.1277	Alzheimers Support Group	503.364.8100	The Doctors Clinic 5050 Skyline S	503.391.1110
ARC-Developmentally Disabled 2405 Front St NE #120	503.581.2726	Goodwill Job Connection 3535 Lancaster Dr NE	503.371.5930	American Red Cross 475 Cottage St NE #110	503.585.5414	U-CANTU-SAVE-A-LIFE CPR/First Aid/AED Certification	971-283-2888
Easter Seals 1313 Mill St SE	503.370.8990	Job Corps 3865 Wolverine St N	800.733.5627	ARC—Develop. Disabled 2405 Front St NE #120	503.581.2726	West Salem Clinic 1233 Edgewater NW	503.378.7526
Aging & Disability Resource 3410 Cherry Ave NE Keizer	503.304.3420 1.866.206.4799	Job Growers, Inc 605 Cottage St NE	503.378.8120	Catholic Community Services 945 Columbia St NE	503.390.2600	WVP Medical Group 2480 Liberty St NE #180 1155 Mission St SE #205	503.363.8047 503.362.6304
Juntos Podemos Family Center 2475 Lancaster Dr NE B-9	503.566.7727	Labor Ready 699 High St NE	503.363.9577	Catholic Community Services 945 Columbia St NE	503.390.2600	YWCA Women's Health program Breast/cervical cancer screen 1255 Broadway NE #110	503.581.9922
NW Senior & Disability Services 3410 Cherry Ave NE Keizer	503.304.3400	Oregon Employment Dept. 875 Union St NE	503.378.4846	Dental Referrals	1.800.917.6453 503.581.9353		
Vocational Rehabilitation Services 500 Summer St NE E87	503.945.5880	Shangri-La 4080 Reed Rd SE #150	503.856.6619	Eating Disorders Info & Refer.	503.370.3733		
		Vocational Rehabilitation 500 Summer St NE E87	503.945.5880	Marquis Home Care Services 1449 Liberty St SE	503.363.4733		
		Worksource Oregon 605 Cottage St NE	503.378.4846	Kaiser Permanente 2400 Lancaster Dr NE	503.361.5400		
				Marion Co. Drug Treatment 2035 Davcor Street SE	503.588.5358		
				Marion County Health Dept. 3180 Center St NE	503.588.5342		
				Marion County Mental Health 2421 Lancaster Dr NE	503.588.5351		



## Kristin Retherford

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**From:** SALEM Manager  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2018 9:23 AM  
**To:** Steve Powers  
**Cc:** Kristin Retherford  
**Subject:** FW: Nordstrom and homeless

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

FYI

**From:** Harold Boyd [mailto:cerisas@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 25, 2018 1:39 PM  
**To:** SALEM Manager <MANAGER@cityofsalem.net>; Janet Carlson <Jcarlson@co.marion.or.us>  
**Subject:** Nordstrom and homeless

Greetings. Along with 40 years of Salem medical expertise and my peripheral involvement in Commissioner Carlson's Homeless study group, which is currently implementing the Salem LEAD program, I have two observations.

Medically there is a public health emergency for both the Salem homeless group and the Salem community. Have your staff at the three Salem City public sessions list the negative aspects on the lives of residents/Salem business owners, unattractive debris laden sidewalks and customers who will not wander through the downtown Salem businesses (homeless aggressive behavior). For the homeless list the lack of homeless hygiene, safe dry shelter, uncertain sources of food, drug/alcohol usage, and untreated mental illness. A survey at St. Mark Lutheran of those sleeping on our porch, almost 50% of the homeless were recent Veterans with claims that had been turned down.

(1) Begging for money and confrontation must not be permitted.....only chits for food, shelter, and clothing should be offered. Chits could be purchased on line, at churches, and perhaps from a payment machine (this is occurring in Salt Lake City). There must be a deputized group to enforce the downtown rules and they must be clearly posted. The walkways must be kept pleasant and trash picked up...no trace camping...if you want downtown foot traffic.

(2) The City of Salem should declare this as a public health emergency, especially if you do not want the public to go to the Woodburn Mall for shopping. An official Salem City public health declaration might create medical treatment funding opportunities.

(3) Sunday AM, 2/25/2018, I went to Nordstrom: the bathrooms were locked, next to a sign about acceptable mall behaviors there were several homeless women hanging out on a bench for over two hours (I get a ticket when I overstay my parking slot), and a man was going through the trash containers in the alley adjacent to Nordstrom. Under the Rite aid awning there was a large pile of debris with several people laying there at 1100 AM.

(4) Where is Sunday enforcement? What are the rules for downtown behavior and expectations for cleaning up? Should the Mission be allowed to continue in the center of town or be forced to move in the next several months to the periphery of Salem? Nordstrom's exit from Salem, without a substitute Nordstrom Rack in Salem, implies downtown Salem is unpleasant from homeless behavior and unattractive for foot retail traffic. It was unattractive today.

(5) My medical observation is based on the benefit of simple vaccinations, tb testing, mental health treatment, sending recent homeless Veterans to the VA clinics, and taking care of the acute medical needs with a systematic checklist and digital records using a navigator (part of the LEAD program). A medical navigator should be an outgrowth of the current LEAD program. There are many excellent Salem professionals/groups assisting the homeless with acts of compassion but there is no systematic or uniform approach. Lacking is a prospective medical response to a public health emergency, finding the TB cases, enhancing herd immunity by vaccinations, treating wounds, a checklist of medical questions and simple treatment. These people do not go readily to clinics, so send navigator (PA,SS,RN,MA?) to them. This approach could morph into a variation of the Oregon Health Plan with digital records available throughout Oregon.

Nordstrom left Salem for all of these reasons, including an inability to find other tenants. We can become smarter with a systematic homeless response, keeping data, and making adjustments. Offer this concept to other communities in homeless crisis. No more inaction.

Harold S. Boyd, MD Retired Salem trauma surgeon

## **Kristin Retherford**

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**Subject:** FW: Task Force Members

**From:** lorrie walker [mailto:dakotalor@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2018 8:36 PM  
**To:** Kristin Retherford <KRetherford@cityofsalem.net>  
**Subject:** Re: Task Force Members

Kristen,

Thank you. I believe it was the very last conversation of the task force. Causes of homelessness? I don't have my notes handy.

I believe my opinions, thoughts & comments were re; domestic violence, economics, income, loss of job, skyrocketing rents, disabling injury, medical issues & mental illness.

As a retiree of the state hospital I am very aware of the broken mental health system. Over \$20,000 spent per month stabilizing a civil admit and later a discharge to the front door of the UGM, a street corner or the Joyce Motel in Portland. Continuum of care is almost non existent for civil patients not under the Psychiatric Security Board.

The streets, jails and prisons have become the new institutions of mental health patients. Not the state hospitals as it used to be. The numbers in those places are far greater than the numbers in the state hospital. Now it falls onto police, shelters, the public.

Quite sadly I see numerous very mentally ill people I once worked with living in the streets, homeless camps, etc. in the Salem area. They are often too paranoid to trust anyone. No guardian, Social Security payees, etc.

Again, great job to you and the chair of a well run meeting. I plan to attend the next two as well.

Respectfully,  
Lorrie Walker  
Cell

## Kristin Retherford

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**From:** Cara Kaser  
**Sent:** Monday, February 19, 2018 2:52 PM  
**To:** Kristin Retherford; Sheri Wahrgren  
**Subject:** FW: Homeless Solutions Task Force

Hi there – Wasn't sure who to forward these to -- Public comment for the Downtown Homeless Solutions Task Force below.

Cara Kaser  
Salem City Councilor, Ward 1  
ckaser@cityofsalem.net

**From:** Leigha Gaynair [mailto:leigaynair@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 15, 2018 10:27 AM  
**To:** Cara Kaser <CKASER@cityofsalem.net>  
**Subject:** Re: Homeless Solutions Task Force

Hello Cara:

Robert and I attended the Downtown Homeless Task Force meeting at the library last week Tuesday and I wanted to send a few thoughts as I understand that you are spearheading this large and complicated issue. First, thank you for putting your expertise forward to try to identify solutions. A huge job and you continue to impress with your skill set.

It was interesting to see the approach by the task force to begin by brainstorming the causes of the problems. However, it is my belief (and hope) that the task force is well beyond the identification phase and that was just an exercise in reiterating. Our input is that there are several categories of homelessness and not just a blanket identifier. There are people that can benefit from housing and transitional services who are both willing and able to take advantage of resources provided. Yes, we likely need more of these services and that is a good place to start. To trim down the overlapping services and streamline funding to make the most impact for individuals and families. However, it is our belief and experience that individuals with mental health and addiction problems are not willing or able to follow the rules and guidelines of provided housing. It is known, that in order for these folks to receive government services for their health issues, they must be in the system. The only way to get "in" the system is seemingly to become incarcerated, then sent to treatment/state hospital for mental health. Since that is the current situation and people with health issues need that support (to take meds, detox and so forth) the question is how to get them to the point of treatment. A recent investigative report on KGTW in Portland where they sent out a reporter with the homeless task force for two weeks shadowing the police offering assistance to homeless resulted in nearly 100% of the people refusing services. It was painful to watch the reporter struggle with the actuality, as we do not think that was the story he was looking to report.

This is already getting lengthy, but the suggestion we would like to pose is making vagrancy and the like "illegal" so these folks can enter the system. In tandem (or preferably before) using city tax revenue from marijuana sales to

increases the services for mental health and drug rehabilitation in contained facilities (not out-patient) that are staffed with quality care providers. Certainly there are other needs such as warming centers and emergency care, but for long term we need to have a place of healing for people with these problems. Building tiny house communities or taking over apartment buildings for housing for homeless still leaves the barrier- the willingness/ability of the individual to utilize a service that has rules and regulations attached to their use.

Robert and Leigha Gaynair, Ward 1



## Kristin Retherford

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**From:** webmaster@cityofsalem.net on behalf of vawa2@pdx.edu  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2018 4:32 PM  
**To:** Kristin Retherford  
**Subject:** Contact Kristin Retherford  
**Attachments:** ATT00001.bin

Your Name	valisa way
Your Email	vawa2@pdx.edu
Your Phone	503-884-8134
Street	4340 kacey cir ne
City	salem
State	OR
Zip	97305
Message	<p>v I was among the nearly 100 public observers at the first Downtown Homeless Task Force meeting. My attendance was partly due to an assignment for a course for my Masters of Social Work schooling, and partly because of my personal concerns regarding our community's homeless population. I must say, I was disappointed to not see any representation of the current homeless community actually ON the task force. It appears as though this task force is going to decide for the homeless what the task force wants to do with them, as appose to including the homeless population (who are a part of OUR community) in this decision making process. I can assume this is not the first time this question has been posed to you or the task force. I would like to think that there are plans to involve representatives of the homeless population in the decision making process at some point? Though, the outline of the decision making process has not presented that approach, which is very disappointing to say the least. Also, I have to ask, what were the dates for various "clearing" of homeless camps around Salem, this may have quite possibly had an impact of the exponential increase in the homeless population downtown over the past few years? The reason for HOW this influx came to be, as it may possibly hold a key in presenting a solution to reversing this incredible increase. I know solution suggestion are to held for the third meeting - I will state some of my thoughts here and now: I have not researched the details, but have heard of other cities offering jobs to the homeless who are interested, this could include health insurance coverage, obviously, minimum wage, counseling services, etc. and it could NOT impact their qualifications for social services. Also, a part of these jobs could be to build and maintain shelters, bathrooms/showers, etc. FOR the other homeless population who are not ready or not willing or not able to take on jobs. There is an abundant of skills and knowledge among our homeless population, and with compassion, proper encouragement and hugs, its is possible to tap into that potential if approached correctly, with respect and without predigest. And lastly, as a social work student, I am also very surprised there were no social workers on the task force. Thank you for your time. It is my hope that my message is read with sincerity and an open mind. Valisa Way</p>

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 2/24/2018.

I am a concerned resident of Salem and am responding to the issue of homelessness in Salem. I am also the mother of a former homeless person, so I see this from a somewhat different angle than many.

A few decades ago, our son decided he wanted to try living as a homeless person. He quit his job, moved out of his apartment and lived and survived on the streets for a long period of time. It was an extremely difficult time for us as a family. The first desire of the family is to rescue the person. However, having been through Codependence Anonymous and counsel, we were advised to not allow him to come home until he was ready to get free of the addictions and his destructive lifestyle. He was not willing. We told him we would support him in any way that he wanted to get free of this, but he declined. We also told him that we would not support him in anything that enabled him to be in that destructive lifestyle. This we stood firm on. Many years later (and much pain) he told us that that was what helped him to get his life in order.

I can say that he is now a productive member of society and has been clean and sober for decades. He is a productive citizen and a good father and husband. I do not want my name used with this letter in order to protect his privacy.

During the time he was homeless, we looked into all sorts of things. I was especially impressed by the program the Union Gospel Mission uses and we continue to support it in many ways. This is the way we help the homeless help themselves. We do not give handouts or enable the street people in any way. This is important to their ability to make a decision for themselves, which is the only way they will change.

I have some suggestions: Since not all street people choose that way of life, I would give first help to the children and parent (if they want it and want to get off the streets) and to those who sincerely seek to get out of the messes they are in. That might include rehab and responsibilities (ie like the UGM program). But for those just out to get what they can for nothing, they need to be incarcerated or moved on. Feeding them and housing them does not change them (those who don't want help). Places given are trashed. People are harmed. Opening your home to them can be downright dangerous. If there are those with mental disorders, I would like to see them helped.

I heard from some homeless people that Oregon is considered a mecca for homeless because the benefits are so great here and people give them so much. As it is now, Portland has a monster problem on its hands and Salem will be the same if people are coddled and just given everything. Taxpayers have to be afraid to use public parks and I noticed the curved walkway up to the bridge in Salem is now covered with tents, which precludes that as a walkway for an average citizen. People's homes and property are being devalued due to the influx and crime increases. This is not acceptable.

I don't have all the answers. I don't pretend to. However, one idea may be to discuss the issues with other cities in different states who don't have that problem and see how they handle it. I just know that catering to their whims is not the answer. It is plain and simple, enablement and will cause the situation to grow worse.

Talk with those organizations who do have a success rate with rehabilitation. Many well-meaning people are simply making the problem worse by thinking they are helping.

We love living in Salem and want to see it be a safe and healthy community, but this problem is growing in monumental proportions. Please consider these thoughts. Help those who can and want to be helped in a constructive way (especially the children).

With respect,

A concerned resident

## Kristin Retherford

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**From:** Amy Johnson  
**Sent:** Friday, February 16, 2018 10:28 AM  
**To:** Kristin Retherford  
**Cc:** Sheri Wahrgren  
**Subject:** FW: Downtown homeless task force

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Pat Donenfeld [mailto:PLDonenfeld@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 16, 2018 10:05 AM  
**To:** CityRecorder <CityRecorder@cityofsalem.net>  
**Subject:** Downtown homeless task force

I attended the first meeting and have been thinking about the needs of both the downtown & the needs of our houseless residents.

A #1 priority needs to be public restrooms. This is a health & safety issue for all. There need to be restrooms that are available 24/7 for anyone to use. If we do not have this (& we currently do not), there will be feces and urine in the alleys & on the sidewalks. The City owns property in and near the downtown and I'd be happy to help locate places to put restrooms.

In traveling to other cities & countries, I have seen innovative permanent public restroom facilities integrated into the busier areas of cities. Even if we can't get there immediately, let's get the portable restrooms back out & in use.

We need more affordable housing & more transitional housing. We need housing that allows couples or families to stay together. We need the sobering center.

Eugene has an organization called Cahoots (not sure of spelling) that provides a mobile crisis service. Having such a service in Salem would help de-escalate situations and keep them from becoming law enforcement issues.

People complain that the houseless population smells bad but they have no or limited access to ways to clean themselves. Businesses don't want them to use their restrooms. Online, I have seen a mobile showering bus. Maybe that's an option.

Based on comments from business owners at the first meeting, they need a list of resources for our houseless population. I loved the idea one has implemented of posting a resource list where the houseless population can see it. Maybe we could have a list posted in many spots downtown (as well as other areas of town).

I applaud our community providers who have been trying to provide services to an expanding population with complex problems. Thank you. We need you.

Pat Donenfeld  
Ward 7

Sent from my iPhone

## Kristin Retherford

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**From:** Sheri Wahrgren  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 14, 2018 2:59 PM  
**To:** Kristin Retherford  
**Subject:** FW: Increasing Downtown Homeless Problem

Doug Vandegriend would like his email shared with the Downtown Homeless Solutions Task Force. Sheri

**Sheri Wahrgren**  
*Downtown Revitalization Manager*  
City of Salem | Urban Development Department  
350 Commercial Street NE  
[swahrgren@cityofsalem.net](mailto:swahrgren@cityofsalem.net) | 503-540-2495  
[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [YouTube](#) | [CityofSalem.net](http://CityofSalem.net)

**From:** Doug Vande Griend [mailto:doug@vandegriend.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 14, 2018 8:33 AM  
**To:** Sheri Wahrgren <SWahrgren@cityofsalem.net>  
**Subject:** Increasing Downtown Homeless Problem

Sheri: So this morning there was a human excrement pile at the top of our stairs landing, and evidences of an abandoned camp site. One of my lawyer tenants who came early called her husband to do a clean out. She's beyond ticked of course.

I came to the office later. There is a small city encampment in front of one of Venti's doors (and always is but this morning was bigger – is raining).

Last week, our assistant (Laura) donned her yellow Harbor Frieght fireman-looking suit and cleaned up both human excrements and other nasty "debris" from the sides of our building.

Every day – that is, literally every day – when I first come to the office, I tell the various encampments "time to move on."

A grate on the rounded corner of our building has been kicked in.

I've called 911 and talked to police (re aggravated episodes not discussed above) twice in the last couple of weeks. The police are sympathetic, but really don't do much of anything. If they arrested someone, it wouldn't have a last effect, and they are not quick to arrest (perhaps knowing the futility of doing it).

Here's what I suggested to one police officer: have the night shift police crew set a time (or two) every night to tour the downtown buildings where the encampments (they are that) set up and disburse them. If they are interrupted like that – every night – they will either stop and not come back or discontinue once they initially start.

In all my years downtown in this building (since 1983), I've never see it even close to this bad. This wave started perhaps 6 months ago or so? I suspect there is one or more specific things that attracted them, or that sent them, but the concentration has simply gotten waaaaaaayyyyyyy out of hand and will, unless interrupted and reversed, do damage to everyone, homeless included (because generalized sympathy for them will – is already – disappearing and being replaced with an acute sense of pissed-offed-ness).

And yes, we have all of our no trespassing signs up and letters on file. I've done that before and those things make no difference at all – and haven't now. Between you and me, I believe the police require that to give folks something to do when they complain.



I'm happy to sit down and talk with someone about this. I'm looking to find a rational solution and avoid a bit of a catastrophe for downtown. Seriously, I think we may be getting to a breaking point of changing the general reputation of downtown (for safety, cleanliness, as a place-to-be-or-go) and once that point is passed, bringing it back is difficult and takes time.

**Doug Vande Griend**  
Manager  
*317 Court Street LLC*  
317 Court Street NE  
Salem OR 97301  
[doug@vandegriend.com](mailto:doug@vandegriend.com)  
503-364-7612 (vc tel)  
503-581-2260 (fax)

1670 Cinnamon Hill Dr. SE  
Salem, OR 97306

Feb. 13, 2018

Dear Salem Homelessness Task Force,

Thank you for forming a task force to address the problem of homelessness in Salem. It is a difficult and sensitive issue that requires compassion and creative problem solving. I am writing to ask the task force to address homelessness throughout the entire city and not just downtown. I have lived in the South Salem Gateway neighborhood for over 20 years and am concerned about the increasing population of homeless people who have set up camps in South Salem. Two are close to my home. I see the most impact on my neighborhood from the camp on S. Commercial St. where it merges onto I-5 South.

What was once a quiet, peaceful neighborhood is now experiencing increased car break-ins, thefts, abandoned cars, more trash along the sides of the road and, in some cases, in peoples' front yards. Local businesses are also experiencing thefts. While these incidents are not all attributable to the homeless camps, and could be due to an increased general population, there likely is some correlation.

Increased panhandling on street corners is another issue. The parking lot by the Taco Bell and Subway sandwich shop on S. Commercial and Wiltsey, and the traffic light behind Winco near MAPs Credit Union are favorite spots. Almost daily I see someone with a sign asking for money. It is sad and it makes me uncomfortable. Can an ordinance be passed to help alleviate this situation? I have heard that cities such as Medford and Pendleton passed laws that have had a significant positive impact. What laws are currently in place here?

Finding long-term solutions is key. Perhaps some of the many empty buildings throughout the city can be used as shelters? Perhaps helping people find work will help get them off the streets? Also, rent stabilization measures need to be enacted and more affordable housing units made available so that more people are not forced to live on the streets in the future.

Please keep me informed of the task force's progress. Again, I realize that this is a difficult issue that will take a lot of effort and vision to resolve, but action is needed sooner rather than later. The health and safety of our community is at stake.

Sincerely,

Arlene McKenna

Cc: Steve McCoid, Ward 4 City Councilor  
Salem Police Department

## Kristin Retherford

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**From:** Amy Johnson  
**Sent:** Monday, February 12, 2018 2:20 PM  
**To:** Kristin Retherford  
**Cc:** Sheri Wahrgren  
**Subject:** FW: Downtown homeless solutions task force

**From:** Frank Ortmann [mailto:fbortmann@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 12, 2018 2:19 PM  
**To:** CityRecorder <CityRecorder@cityofsalem.net>  
**Subject:** Downtown homeless solutions task force

Hello,

I am writing to express my personal views on this problem and maybe offer some solutions.

First of all, I fully agree that every person has a right to live and to conduct their lives as they see fit. However, in a democratic society certain rules and codes of conduct need to be established and observed by every person living in this type of society, regardless of race, social status, religion, age etc. This means compromising on the one hand and adapting rules and codes that are adapted by a majority of people.

As far as the situation of homeless people in Salem is concerned, I would voice a strong warning and that is to look at what is happening in Portland, where the homeless problem appears to be out of control for a number of reasons. Salem should not, repeat not, go down that same path. It is not acceptable to allow people, regardless of their status in society or financial situation to set up camp wherever they see fit, to disregard public parks, sidewalks and other areas, to defecate and relieve themselves wherever they please, to harass citizens, use drugs and alcohol, just to name a few issues. It is further not acceptable for the city to use taxpayer's money for people that do not pay taxes. Regular citizens should be able to enjoy their city and to feel safe in parks and on streets. I have seen and heard reports of people, especially single women with or without children that will not use certain areas because of fear of being harassed, not to mention sanitary conditions along homeless camps, trash being strewn all over the place, needles and other drug paraphernalia being all over the area. This is not acceptable and something needs to be done, the sooner the better:

1. Change city ordinances (if not already done so) to make it an offense to camp in public areas, parks and sidewalks. Impose fines or jail time and make these rather drastic so they can act as a deterrent.
2. Empower the city, similar to what is being proposed in Portland, to take action, regardless of who owns a property where a homeless camp is established.
3. As far as the judicial system is concerned, empower judges to impose fines and jail sentences without the possibility of appeal, as long as the facts are clear and evidence shows that (a) law(s) were broken
4. Empower local law enforcement to act swiftly and caution homeless people or, alternatively arrest them and hold up deadlines, i.e. give for example 24 hours notice and, after this has expired, move in, arrest any campers and dispose of any trash and belongings.
5. Put constant pressure on homeless people and keep them on the move so that they leave Salem and (hopefully) surrounding areas.
6. Enforce any loitering laws and/or ordinances or in absence of such create them in order to remove beggars from street corners.
7. As far as civil rights are concerned, people that choose to live outside rules and codes of conduct established by society through a democratic process, forfeit their civil rights.

If all this sounds rather harsh, it is fully intended to do so. Many, if not most, homeless people are so by choice (according to some I personally know or have known), because it seems to be an easy way to make a living and because there are many organizations, both secular and religious, that just portion out everything a person needs to survive. What is missing in this whole situation is to hold people accountable and hold them responsible for their actions or lack thereof. Some organizations, such as the Union Gospel Mission, do a fantastic job trying to reintegrate homeless people and, granted, they are not always successful or it takes more than one attempt to be successful.

If the funds that are currently thrown at the homeless, could be re-directed towards reintegration programs, that would probably go a long way towards that goal. And those that are not willing to be reintegrated, need to be compelled to work.

Long-term, I could very well envision that by applying strict rules, the current situation could be resolved.

Thank you

Frank Ortmann  
503-268-1554  
[fbortmann@comcast.net](mailto:fbortmann@comcast.net)

## Kristin Retherford

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**From:** Amy Johnson  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 07, 2018 8:03 AM  
**To:** Kristin Retherford  
**Subject:** FW: Tonight's task force meeting on homelessness

**From:** Vernelle J Judy [mailto:vernelle.judy@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 06, 2018 8:26 PM  
**To:** CityRecorder <CityRecorder@cityofsalem.net>  
**Cc:** Kasia Quillinan <kquilesq@comcast.net>  
**Subject:** Tonight's task force meeting on homelessness

I appreciate the effort by so many capable folks who come in contact with the homeless people who survive among us. The final comment that the issue is so complex that a "band aid" would not answer the problem is obvious to everyone. Also, the lack of funds to provide better resources will be the roadblock to success.

From my limited perspective, the layers, or levels of causes of the issue is the driving force behind the problem. So, perhaps addressing levels in ways that have historically worked in other cities could help.

On that note, the idea of having enough housing for this community is way down the road. Why can't the city pick a location near services, put in tent platforms, porta potties, and garbage cans. These folks already are using certain areas in parks near the river. Can't we make it safe so they would at least get some relief? If they were in one location, services could be provided easier. It would not fit everyone but it would answer some of their needs. I step around people sleeping on cardboard in the center of the sidewalk and can't help but believe they would rather have a more comfortable arrangement. A tent city could be self regulated as long as the inhabitants know the rules. I know they work in other cities.

The cost to our city would be minimal, potties, garbage, but the current cost far exceeds that. Also, having our city police working with the group living in a tent city would not only cut the policing time but would provide the safety these folks need.

Our city council is looking for quick, inexpensive answers. There really are none. But a city controlled tent city could be a start.

Thank you for trying. This problem is heart wrenching.

From Vernelle J Judy, author of: ***THE BIG ONE***  
***TRIPPING ON OREGON'S TREASURES***  
***TRIPPING ON A SHOESTRING***



## Kristin Retherford

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**From:** Amy Johnson  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 07, 2018 8:03 AM  
**To:** Kristin Retherford  
**Subject:** FW: Contact City Recorder

**From:** webmaster@cityofsalem.net [mailto:webmaster@cityofsalem.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 07, 2018 4:52 AM  
**To:** CityRecorder <CityRecorder@cityofsalem.net>  
**Subject:** Contact City Recorder

Your Name	Jim Quinlan
Your Email	<a href="mailto:quinje@gmail.com">quinje@gmail.com</a>
Your Phone	503-819-3296
Street	4568 Beth St NE
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97301
Message	RE: Homeless Task Force Downtown business owners and City of Salem may want to look at the example of Portland's "Rose City Resource Guide" <a href="http://www.streetroots.org/about/work/resourceguide">http://www.streetroots.org/about/work/resourceguide</a> published annually by Street Roots <a href="http://www.streetroots.org/about">http://www.streetroots.org/about</a>

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 2/7/2018.

## Kristin Retherford

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**From:** Amy Johnson  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 06, 2018 1:13 PM  
**To:** Kristin Retherford  
**Subject:** FW: Downtown Homeless Solutions Task Force meetings will be held Tues

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Chris [mailto:Chris@nwrusa.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 06, 2018 12:07 PM  
**To:** CityRecorder <CityRecorder@cityofsalem.net>  
**Subject:** Downtown Homeless Solutions Task Force meetings will be held Tues

Hello-

Thank you for addressing this issue. We are a property owner in the North Downtown area. I am incredibly concerned about the Union Gospel Mission project on the next to the new Salem Police Center.

If this center goes in the issues of trash, health, hygiene, and perceptions of safety will be TRIPLED! Are the police ready to deal with 3x times the problems. The surrounding property owners are being

This really is our gateway into our Salem downtown as well as West Salem. The scene will look no different than the current mission site. 10-50 homeless lined up along the road with more occupying the cul-de-sac, parks and walking areas. If we look at the situation at the current Union Mission shelter, the visual impacts are extreme. At this point we are potentially drawing homeless from outside our Salem area. The new UGB site is requesting 300 beds with an additional 200 overflow. This will literally be the field of dreams for the homeless. We will pull a lot more single homeless men from Portland and Eugene. The UGM site will only serve MEN, not women, not children, not families. Why should our riverfront park, AC Gilbert house, the Marion Square Park and all the surrounding business be negatively impacted from this excessive expansion?

The current site of the UGM shelter is a nightmare for any business wanting to locate next to them. PLEASE ask if you would want to open a business next to this shelter.

The last point regarding a shelter is that it is NOT a home- It is a temporary solution that does not solve the issues of homelessness. There is NO sense of home or stability with shelters-

Housing is the ONLY solution for the homeless- not a temporary shelter or cot in the middle of the city. Find a home for these homeless- not a concentrated camp in our downtown.

--

Chris Blackburn  
Office: (503) 391-8191 ext 111  
Cell (503) 551-7481  
NW Remarketing Inc

360 Belmont St. NE  
Salem OR 97301  
USA  
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sales@nwrusa.com <mailto:sales@nwrusa.com>

IM= chris nwr

## Kristin Retherford

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**From:** webmaster@cityofsalem.net  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 06, 2018 1:49 PM  
**To:** Kristin Retherford  
**Subject:** Contact Kristin Retherford

Your Name	Eric Rutherford
Your Email	eric.rutherford@gmail.com
Your Phone	503-901-7756
Street	2000 Boone Rd SE
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97306
Message	<p>RE: Downtown Homeless Solutions Task Force Meeting Tuesday, February 6. I am a resident of South Salem. We have recently seen an increase of homeless camps being set up in the right of way on the north side of Kuebler specifically between Battle Creek and Commercial. After numerous attempts to get the police to even respond, the police finally came out and investigated. My neighbor was told it looked vacant, so he attempted to clean the area of all the trash and tentage that was left behind. Upon locating dozens of syringes and drug paraphernalia, he called the police, who responded and gave the homeless individuals 24 hours to vacate. When they finally left, we the people are left to clean their mess up, or wait for some unknown date in the future for an inmate work crew to come along to clean it. As a resident and a taxpayer in Salem, I would like to hear answers to the following questions: What is the city of Salem's stance on trespassing homeless individuals off public right of ways? As the homeless are pushed further away from services in the downtown area, and move more and more into residential areas of the city, how will Salem protect the residents from homeless camps in their neighborhoods? As outlying cities become inundated with homeless individuals, what is Salem going to do to stem the flow of homeless into the city from other cities? Which city departments are truly responsible for the public right away and parks in the city, and what is their authority for removing homeless from those places? As in, if we see a homeless camp set up in a park, who can we call to have it removed? Thank you. Eric Rutherford Salem Resident.</p>

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 2/6/2018.

## Kristin Retherford

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**From:** webmaster@cityofsalem.net  
**Sent:** Monday, February 05, 2018 2:56 PM  
**To:** Kristin Retherford  
**Subject:** Contact Kristin Retherford

Your Name	Carol Leimbach
Your Email	niksta3@yahoo.com
Your Phone	503-881-2180
Street	587 46th Place SE
City	Salem
State	OR
Zip	97317
Message	<p>I am greatly distressed at the number of people who are sleeping outside even on sidewalks, doorways, parks, etc. It breaks my heart to see this but I know some people choose this lifestyle. I no longer like to go downtown, or to the parks. I am single and female and I don't feel safe. I am feeling sad about it because photography is my hobby. I cant go ANYWHERE anymore. Not that all these people would harm me, but I don't know. Places like the parks that I liked to go to - I have seen garbage, feces, and people sleeping there too. I am not judging these people. They all have their own unique situations. I wish there was more that society could do to help those who choose help. Otherwise, I have just been staying home. I am unhappy for them and for myself. I give what I can to the Union Gospel Mission. Last week I wanted some socks at Penny's. There was a man sitting along the walkway going into the store and when you come out. When I exited the parkade, there was a person sleeping there too (I hope sleeping!!) on the sidewalk. Also I support bathrooms if possible for them to use. I hope this doesn't sound dumb.</p>

This email was generated by the dynamic web forms contact us form on 2/5/2018.

## Kristin Retherford

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**From:** Amy Johnson  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 06, 2018 8:26 AM  
**To:** Kristin Retherford  
**Subject:** FW: Comments for Homeless issue downtown.

**Follow Up Flag:** Flag for follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

FYI

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Jesse Newell [mailto:ensjesse@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 05, 2018 8:40 PM  
**To:** CityRecorder <CityRecorder@cityofsalem.net>  
**Subject:** Comments for Homeless issue downtown.

Being a resident who owns a home downtown I can understand the plight of the homeless and the challenges they face however at the same time I feel that the city is not doing enough to make the downtown area safe for the citizens where they can egress freely in a manner without feeling threatened or harassed. I have a three year old Daughter who loves to go on long walks, in the past six months she has been subjected to side walk drug use, inappropriate comments, aggressive panhandling tactics and scary and aggressive behavior amongst the homeless on Church, State, Center, Marion and others in the past six months as we have toured our new city on foot. Right now there are numerous tents, garbage and other hazards along the pedestrian bridge and these areas have no lighting or cameras. There is no real sense of safety of any kind. Please increase patrols and maybe add bicycle police as well as cite these people for leaving their garbage and camping.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

## Kristin Retherford

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**From:** YAHOO UPDATE <cfsacchi@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 05, 2018 12:52 PM  
**To:** CityRecorder  
**Subject:** Salem homeless

1. First try to help those who want to be helped; those who are job ready or nearly job ready, but have no living quarters, have transportation issues, hygiene, clothing or similar issues which restricts or severely limits their ability to find suitable work. Maybe think about getting the Chamber of Commerce involved and converting one of Truitt Brothers old warehouses into micro-apartments for some of the ready for work homeless who could be placed with Chamber members who have trouble recruiting and retaining employees.
2. Enforce what ever laws are currently on the books. Almost every grocery cart being pushed by the homeless has been misappropriated. Instead offer homeless folks a safe, clean and dry facility to store their belonging while requiring shopping cart owners to collect their property. If there is no camping in the city's parks, enforce the ordinance instead of looking the other way while at the same time offering homeless campers one or more locations where they may legally stay. Downtown sidewalks and alcoves, under the bridge, private backyards and vacant lots are not good alternatives from anyone's point of view. We all get tired of being panhandled, smelling urine, seeing trash and stepping over bodies while trying to walk in the downtown area.
3. Concentrate services for these people away from downtown and residential areas, yet along public transportation and not too far from services, such as the old K-Mart store just off 25th Street and Mission or maybe near the V.A. clinic and the Social Security office. Just ask the people who live and work near NE Church and Union about the trash in the street and along the sidewalks, things missing, campers sleeping in doorways and under the bridge with large numbers of homeless gathered out front most weekday mornings. This is a horrible location for a store front homeless service. Concentrate these types of services where they will be more readily available for folks who need them.
4. Panhandling may not be a crime, but it should require a permit
5. Think about ways to help and encourage the homeless, not enable them.

## Kristin Retherford

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**From:** Sheri Wahrgren  
**Sent:** Thursday, February 08, 2018 5:31 AM  
**To:** Kristin Retherford  
**Subject:** Follow-up - Downtown Homeless Solutions Task Force

Hi, the following questions were given to me at the Task Force meeting on Tuesday that I understand will be answered and then provided to the task force members and available to the public. Please let me know if you want me to provide any assistance in directing these questions to the individual(s) most qualified to provide a response.

Joanna Simmons – Q How many Agencies are there here in Salem? Is there a centralized group for all these agencies? (this is the lady we were talking to at the end of the meeting who is trying to understand if there is one central contact (State/Salem/County) who oversees all of the service providers/programs)

Cassandra Cinnabar – Q I run & cycle across the Marion Street bridge pedestrian walkway from west Salem to the “spiral” down to Riverfront Park. Now there are tents on the “spiral” and they block my way with trash/clothes/bikes, etc. Can law enforcement do anything to enforce pedestrian right-of-way on this passageway down to access Riverfront Park? (Kristin, I think this is new. Clint and I both noticed this was happening recently, so not sure if police are aware of the homeless utilizing this area.

**Sheri Wahrgren**  
*Downtown Revitalization Manager*  
City of Salem | Urban Development Department  
350 Commercial Street NE  
[swahrgren@cityofsalem.net](mailto:swahrgren@cityofsalem.net) | 503-540-2495  
[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [YouTube](#) | [CityofSalem.net](http://CityofSalem.net)