



Creating Partnerships and Building Community

## Who we are:

- ▶ Our mission is to promote, preserve and provide residents of our community with safe, sanitary and affordable housing in good condition.
- ▶ Our vision is to collaborate with the community to promote, create, and provide affordable housing units to everyone in need in the South Coast region.
- ▶ The North Bend City/Coos-Curry Housing Authorities have been serving the South Coast since 1969.
- ▶ Public Housing Authorities are regional government entities that were established to provide decent and safe rental housing for eligible low-income families, the elderly, and persons with disabilities. Public housing comes in all sizes and types, from the Housing Choice Voucher programs (formally known as Section 8) to high rise apartments for elderly families, etc.
- ▶ There are approximately 1.2 million households living in public housing authority units, managed by some 3300 PHAs.

# Our History:

- ▶ In 1969 the North Bend City Housing Authority was chartered by Rev. Richard Cochran, Lyle B. Chappell, Joe Jokovac, Mabel Gardner, and Anthony Anusich to provide affordable housing to the community of North Bend.
- ▶ In 1970 the Coos-Curry Housing Authority was chartered and shortly thereafter the 2 Public Housing Authorities merged together to operate jointly as the North Bend City/Coos-Curry Housing Authorities. Each Housing Authority has its own separate Board of Directors and both Housing Authorities are operated by a shared staff team. This allows for the 2 Housing Authorities to operate as one without creating a competition for HUD resources in the South Coast region.
- ▶ There are three appointing bodies for the North Bend City/Coos-Curry Housing Authorities Boards of Commissioners. The North Bend City Council, Coos County Board of Commissioners, and the Curry County Board of Commissioners.

# Our Work:

- ▶ We have 258 Public and Affordable Housing units from North Bend to Port Orford and inland to Powers, Myrtle Point, and Coquille.
- ▶ We served 278 (23 transitioned) households and individuals in 2022 through these units.
- ▶ We serve approximately 802 leased-up households each month through our voucher programs. Of the household served about 122 are in Curry County and 680 in Coos County.
  - ▶ 35 of our voucher households (EHV) that we served in 2022 were literally homeless (based on the federal definitions). I want to grow this number in 2023.
- ▶ We are currently assisting 244 households that were recently awarded vouchers.
- ▶ In 2022 we have served 1,322 low income (includes unsheltered) households in the South Coast region.
- ▶ In 2022 we leveraged in and paid out \$4,658,161.00 of HUD funds to local landlords in our voucher programs. In 2023, we are projecting to leverage \$5.334 million into the region through our voucher programs.

# Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV)

- ▶ In order to be eligible for an EHV, an individual or family must meet one of the four eligibility categories:
  - ▶ Homeless
  - ▶ At risk of being homeless
  - ▶ Fleeing or attempting to flee , domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking
  - ▶ Recently homeless and for whom providing rental assistance will prevent the family homelessness or having high risk of housing instability.
- ▶ Certification required from referring agency.
- ▶ Referring agencies are:
  - ▶ ORCCA
  - ▶ The SAFE project
  - ▶ Nancy Devereaux Center
  - ▶ Curry Homeless Coalition

# The Need For More of this Work:

- ▶ Coos County has approximately 392 unsheltered members of the community (2022 PIT Count). I believe this number is extremely low and is being impacted by the pandemic. In 2019 the PIT Count showed 1299 unsheltered members of the community.
- ▶ North Bend School District has over 100 unsheltered families.
- ▶ Curry County has approximately 127 unsheltered members of the community (2022 PIT Count). This number is also low.
- ▶ Over 16% of the Coos Bay population lives below the federal poverty line.
- ▶ Coos Bay has been designated as severely rent burdened community. This means that the majority of households have to spend more than 30% of their income on rent. This is true for the entire South Coast Region and beyond.
- ▶ 14.8% of the Curry County population live below the federal poverty line.
- ▶ HUD reported that in 2022 there were 3,304 more people experiencing homelessness in Oregon.

# What Needs to Happen:

- ▶ We have to build community. This is a graphic that we created when I was at Rogue Retreat in Medford, OR on how to build up true shelter and housing continuums. This is the work that I teach other communities how to build.



# Steps to Building More Community:

- ▶ We need to build more affordable housing units in the South Coast region.
- ▶ We need to create partnerships that both break down organizational silos and wrap supportive services around households in need of them. This will help families escape the well of homelessness and poverty.
- ▶ We know that poverty and the break down of families (catastrophic loss) is one of the leading causes of homelessness and a number of other societal issues. Housing alone cannot fix this, but building community can.
- ▶ We need to educate the community on the importance of housing and shelter opportunities. This could be done through creating a community newsletter for all things shelter and housing. This could be a shared resource between multiple organizations.
- ▶ PHA Staff trainings (ACEs, Fair Housing, De-Escalation, Cultural Trauma, Impact of loss, D.E.I, etc.) and getting more PHA staff (as it relates to their work) involved in more community groups and initiatives.
- ▶ More Organizational and Regional Strategic Planning.



# Bangor School Housing Development



This two phased project will bring up to 150 new affordable housing units to the South Coast Region.

This is our first new development in over 30 years.

# Curry County

- ▶ We are actively talking with Curry County community partners and leaders to identify potential developments that will allow us to build up more affordable housing units in Curry County. Currently, we have units in Port Orford and everyone else we assist in Curry County is in our voucher programs.

# What We Would Like to Do:

- ▶ Create and MOU and Partnership between the North Bend City/Coos-Curry Housing Authorities and Coquille Indian Housing Authority.
- ▶ The MOU would include:
  - Partnership to help serve Tribal Members in need of housing at North Bend Family Housing.
  - Obtain Tribal Assistance with training for Housing Authority Staff:
    - Cultural Training
    - Impact of Cultural Trauma
    - Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
  - A statement of willingness to explore the possibilities of potentially partnering together on future developments that can help build up the regions affordable housing inventory and maximize the regions ability to leverage resources.