

Housing and Behavioral Health Advisory Board

2022 Annual Report

Funding Priorities for 2023

According to resolution 33-18 the Housing and Behavioral Health Advisory Board will submit report containing recommendations for funding priorities to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) by January 31 of each calendar year. In 2023, RFP's and contract renewals will be evaluated, and these recommendations will help identify gaps and funding priorities.

Board Members:

- Kevin Shutt, Chair, Board of County Commissioners
- Eric Onisko, City of Shelton Council Member
- Peggy VanBuskirk, Board of Health
- Mark Freedman, Administrative Service Organization, Behavioral Health
- Cappy Shapiro, citizen member
- Randy Olsen, citizen member
- Beau Bakken, citizen member

Housing and Behavioral Health Advisory Board's recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners:

Housing & Homelessness:

- **Priority #1:** Create Permanent Supportive Housing Units – Housing Types with Mental Health Services
- **Priority #2:** Create Permanent Supportive Housing Unites – Housing Types that prevent the need for shelter
- **Priority #3:** Increase emergency shelter capacity – Family Shelter
- **Priority #4:** Increase emergency shelter capacity – Household without children
- **Actions/Recommendations:**
 - BOCC to adopt HB1590
 - County-City joint project

Behavioral Health/Substance Use Disorder:

- **Priority #1:** Crisis co-responder programs coupled with law enforcement
- **Priority #2:** Sustainability of jail substance use and re-entry services
- **Priority #3:** Sustainability of Behavioral Health Transportation Program
- **Priority #4:** Increase detox beds for youth
- **Actions/Recommendations:**
 - Partner with a licensed Behavioral Health Agency (i.e., OHRS) for sustainability of jail SUD and re-entry services; increase 0.5 FTE peer to 3.0 FTE

- Permanent funding allocation for Behavioral Health Transportation Program

Mental Health:

- **Priority #1:** Increase crisis stabilization beds
- **Priority #2:** Conduct a comprehensive, multi-system (homeless, behavioral health, and mental health care) study to identify needs and gaps
- **Priority #3:** Increase crisis response capacity
- **Actions/Recommendations:**
 - Mason County DCR piloted through July 2023 (City of Shelton allocated grant); co-responder program with MCSO & SPD to grow/expand crisis services
 - Move upstream into schools to increase Navigator engagement with youth and families
 - Engage Shelton School District Wellness Coordinator; increase county support to bridge gaps with other smaller school districts (education, awareness, Spanish-speaking resources)
 - Conduct quantitative and qualitative analysis of Behavioral Health program deliverables and outcomes to measure the impact of interventions/program activities; determine gaps and opportunities to modify/improve