



Resolution No. 089592  
of THE BOARD OF WHITMAN COUNTY COMMISSIONER  
for WHITMAN COUNTY, STATE OF WASHINGTON

**WHEREAS**, the Whitman County Board of Commissioners met in their Chambers on December 15, 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, a public hearing was held to consider the adoption of the Whitman County Five Year Homeless Housing Plan

**WHEREAS**, it has been determined this action serves the best interests of Whitman County citizens

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Board of Commissioners, approve and hereby adopt the Five-Year Homeless Housing Plan.

DATED this 15<sup>th</sup> December 2025.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
WHITMAN COUNTY, WASHINGTON

  
Chairman

  
Commissioner

  
Commissioner

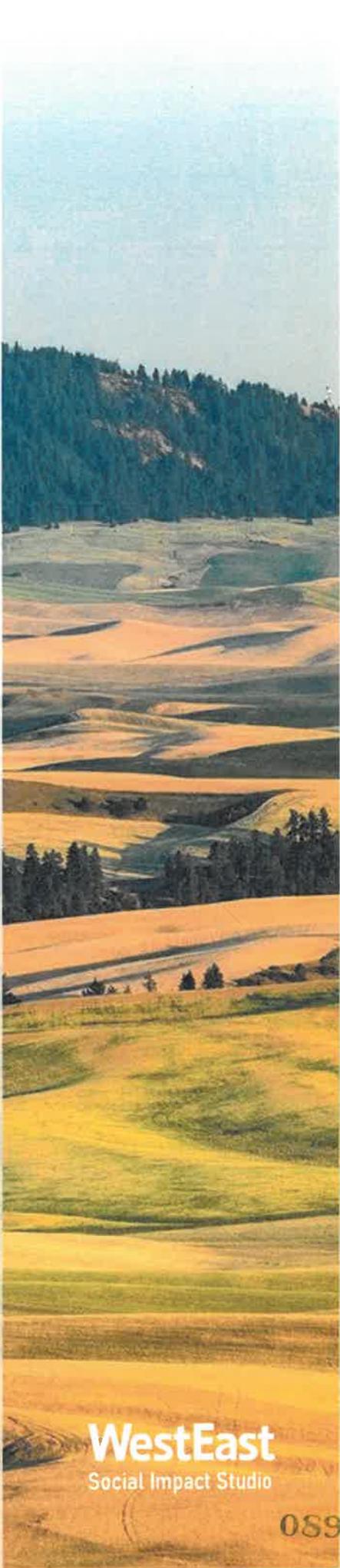
ATTEST:

  
Corey Mitzimberg  
Clerk of the Board

**Arthur D Swannack**  
District 1 Commissioner  
Lamont

**Tom Handy**  
District 2 Commissioner  
Pullman

**Chad Whetzel**  
District 3 Commissioner  
Colfax



# Whitman County

## Five - Year Homeless Housing Plan

November 24, 2025

**WestEast**  
Social Impact Studio

089592

**01** Overview of Plan  
Development Process

**02** 5-Year Plan  
and Objectives

**03** Estimates of Service Levels

**04** Survey of Fund Sources For Homeless  
Housing Assistance Program Projects

**05** Estimates of Permanent and  
Emergency Housing Needs

**06** Community Data

# 01 Overview of Plan Development Process

The Community Action Center of Whitman County, under the direction of the Washington State Department of Commerce, engaged with the WestEast Design Social Impact Studio (SIS) in August 2025 to support the development of the county's 5-year Homeless Housing Plan. The purpose of the plan is to establish county-wide goals related to housing and homelessness that will be addressed between 2025-2030.

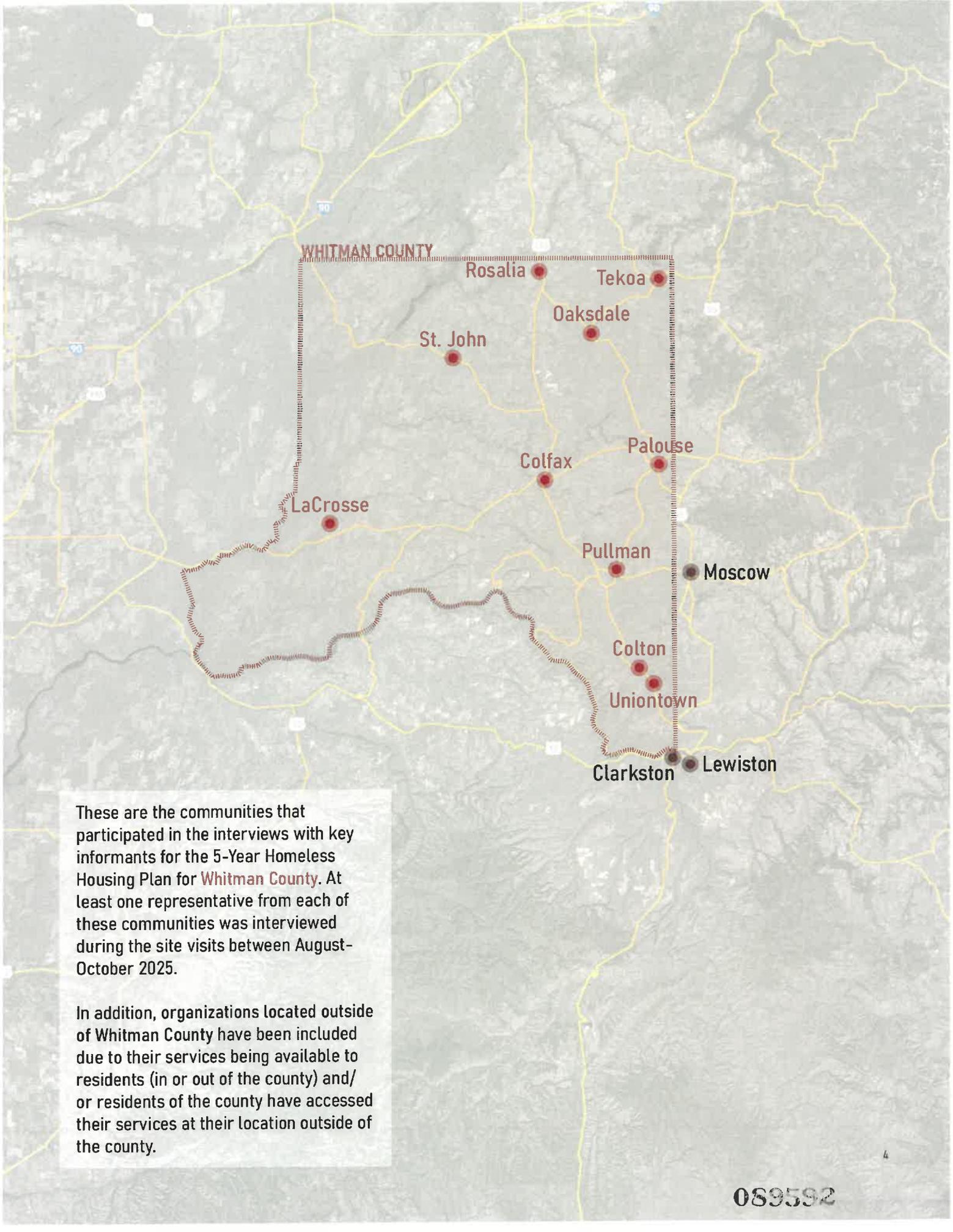
## The scope of the project included:

1

Engaging the Whitman County Community Action Center, Whitman County Commissioners, and select community partners across the county to determine the focus of the 5-year Homeless Housing Plan

2

Developing a 5-year Homeless Housing Plan that documents the input from community leaders and members



These are the communities that participated in the interviews with key informants for the 5-Year Homeless Housing Plan for **Whitman County**. At least one representative from each of these communities was interviewed during the site visits between August-October 2025.

In addition, organizations located outside of Whitman County have been included due to their services being available to residents (in or out of the county) and/or residents of the county have accessed their services at their location outside of the county.

## Key Informants Participation and Collaboration

The following provides a list of the meetings conducted in Whitman County in connection with development of the 5-Year Homeless Housing Plan.

The total number of meetings and participants include:

Number of Meetings: 50 meetings completed

Number of Participants: 105 persons in the gatherings

### September 8 - 12, 2025

Organization	Participants
Whitman County Sheriff	Sheriff Brett Myers
Washington State University, Student Services Department	Heather Leigh Case Lori Ann Manzanares Lei Hofschneider Santos Alejandro Duran Del Cid Annalesha Sims
Family Promise of the Palouse	Autumn Shafer
Greater Health Now Clarkston, WA	Sundie Woodbury
Pullman Homeless Task Force	Reverend Mike Bass (Community Congregational United Church of Christ) Stephanie Rohrbaugh (AVTP) Christine Collins (Disability Action Center) Herb Hill (Community Congregational United Church of Christ) Steve Dublinski (Sacred Heart) Tim Paulitz (Sacred Heart and Community Congregational United Church of Christ) Kevin Owens (Whitman County CERT (Community Emergency Response Team)) Autumn Shafer (Family Promise of the Palouse) Nathan Weller (City of Pullman - City Council)
Chas Health Lewiston, ID	Anna Heir Melanie Jensen

### August 18 - 22, 2025

Organization	Participants
City of Colfax	Jim Retzer (Mayor)
Whitman County Board of Commissioners	Art Swannack (District 1 Commissioner) Tom Handy (District 2 Commissioner) Chad Whetzel (District 3 Commissioner)
Community Action Center	Jeff Guyett Georgia Beck Leona Kaleikini-Torrez
Pullman Regional Hospital	Elizabeth Leraudeau Stephanie Knewbow (RN)
Pullman Police Department	Chief Aaron Breshear
City of Colfax	Chief Michael Melcher (Police Department) Matt Hammer (City Administrator)
Palouse River Counseling	Mike Berney
Whitman County Veteran Service Office	Becky Buri
Whitman County Public Health	Chris Skidmore
Pullman Homeless Task Force	Herb Hill
Pullman City Council	Nathan Weller (Ward 2)
City of Pullman Planning Department	Bethany Johnson Ariel Medeiros

### September 15 - 18, 2025

Organization	Participants
Whitman County Board of Commissioners	Art Swannack (District 1 Commissioner) Tom Handy (District 2 Commissioner) Chad Whetzel (District 3 Commissioner)
Whitman County Roundtable	Becky Buri (Organizer)
Pullman Housing Workgroup Meeting	Megan Guido (Pullman City Council - Ward 3, Organizer) Tom Handy RJ Lott (City of Pullman PD) Mike Burney Tawny Szumlas Helene Hopkins Ariel Maderos Nils Peterson (Housing Trust) Jennifer Wallace (Habitat of the Palouse) Eric Fejeran (City Council)

## October 6 - 10, 2025

Organization	Participants
City of Colton	Jerry Weber (Mayor)
Helene's Property Place and Property Manager's Association	Helene Hopkins Tami Pitzer
Alternatives to Violence of the Palouse	Stephanie Rohrbaugh
Garfield Palouse School District Tekoa School District	Mike Jones (Superintendent)
St. John School District	Angie Shields Dr. Michelle Zuckerman
Whitman County Coroner's Office	Annie Pillers
LC Valley Youth Resource Center	Tryston Soderstrom Beth Hawker Elica McDonald Jennifer Millar
Pullman Police Department	Sergeant Greg Umbright
City of Uniontown	Brian Davies (City Council)
Hills and Rivers Housing Trust, Moscow, ID	Nils Peterson
Neill Public Library	Stephanie Echanove
Council on Aging	Suzy McNeilly
City of Palouse	Tim Sievers

All meetings were conducted in person at their office location or a site selected within the communities, at the request of the participant. These interviews were intentionally designed to be less structured to provide ample opportunities for participants to share their experiences in their role, within the respective organizations and as private citizens. It also allowed for sharing the goals of the project and the overall process and timeline for compiling collective feedback.

Palouse Habitat for Humanity	Jennifer Wallace
Community Action Center	Georgia Beck Leona Kateikini-Torrez
Pullman Chamber of Commerce	Pete Chittenden
Whitman County Recovery Center	Megan Guido
City of Colfax, Fire Department	Jamie Keller
City of LaCrosse	Randy Camp (Mayor) Angela Bennett (Clerk)
LaCrosse Community Pride	Sarah Kane

## October 13 - 17, 2025

Organization	Participants
Whitman County Board of Commissioners	Art Swannack (District 1 Commissioner) Tom Handy (District 2 Commissioner) Chad Whetzel (District 3 Commissioner)
Whitman County District Court	Judge John Hart Dan Bassler Melisse J. Stiglich
Innovia Foundation	Nolan Glueckert
Whitman County McKinney Vento Liaison Meeting	Andree Marcus Rader (Coordinator) Jenna Flemming (Oaksdale) Diane Mylett (Palouse/Garfield) Jenna Shue (Rosalia) Krista Boyd (Colfax) Codi Titus (LaCrosse) Angie Shields (St. John) Jared Rockenbach (Colton) Ashely VanWert (Tekoa)
Pullman School District	Paula Perron-Bates
Community Action Center-Client Focus Group	Focus group with 7 households enrolled in CAC programming
Port of Whitman	Kara Riebold
Pullman Homeless Task Force	Corry Bruya (Sacred Heart) Tim Paulite (Sacred Heart/CCUCC) Kym Dye (CCUCC Justice and Witness Team) Stephanie Rohrbaugh (ATVP) Mary Ann Boemke (CCUCC) Sheila O'Rourke (Sacred Heart)

### ***Public Engagement and Plan Development***

The Whitman County Connections group began meeting in January 2025 through the coordination of the Community Action Center staff to discuss the elements of the 5-Year Homeless Housing Plan. There were sub-groups created for each of the five objectives that met to establish the community needs. The information gathered as a result of these meetings was incorporated into the final plan.

The WestEast Social Impact Studio (SIS) team documented the findings identified across the county through the 50 meetings conducted during the community engagement phase of the project.

One focus group with Community Action Center clients was conducted. The participants were compensated for their time with a \$50 gift card, as required by Washington State Department of Commerce guidelines. The agency collected sign-in sheets to confirm participation. In order to ensure client privacy, their names are not included in this report.

The next visit took place on November 10-12, 2025, and included meetings with various groups that gather across the county on topics related to housing, homelessness, and mental health, during the daytime hours to share initial findings with all the groups. A total of 5 community meetings were scheduled, including the meeting with the Whitman County Commissioners and Community Action Center staff.

In each meeting, the initial findings were presented and discussed with the groups. The second part of the meeting was structured as a focus group to gather participant input for the 5-year plan. The SIS team documented the feedback and incorporated the information in the draft of the 5-year plan.

The SIS team submitted the final version of the 5-year plan to the Whitman County Commissioners and Community Action Center staff on November 24, 2025.

The Whitman County Commissioners and Community Action Center staff will finalize the plan through a formal public hearing prior to the county commissioners adopting the plan prior to December 2025.

*Special thanks to the Whitman County Connections members for their work to initiate and lead the development of the plan*

# 02 5-Year Plan and Objectives

## THE FIVE STATE OBJECTIVES

**1** Promote an equitable, accountable and transparent homeless crisis response system.

**2** Strengthen the homeless service provider workforce.

**3** Prevent episodes of homelessness whenever possible.

**4** Prioritize assistance based on the greatest barriers to housing stability and greatest risk of harm.

**5** Seek to house everyone in a stable setting that meets their needs.

# 01

OBJECTIVE  
OBJECTIVE

Promote an equitable,  
accountable and transparent  
homeless crisis response  
system

# 1

## Inclusive Decision Making

### Goal

Establish and maintain a fair, coordinated, and transparent system that equitably supports individuals experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity. Ensure broad and diverse representation reflective of the community demographics, including cross-system decision makers and people with lived experience

### Strategies

#### COORDINATION

1. Merge disparate planning groups, committees, task forces etc. into one consolidated, multi-sector coalition to include law enforcement, behavioral health providers, fire/EMS, government, businesses, service providers, economic development council, philanthropy, faith-based leadership, and people with lived experience. Create on-going membership chairs for each of these entities
2. Create formal government structures for addressing homeless/housing issues at the municipality and county levels
3. Begin regular coordination meetings between county leadership and City of Pullman leadership

#### ACCESS

1. Integrate McKinney Vento numbers into the community data to give a better picture of the scope of the 'unseen homeless'

\* The U.S. Department of Education, through the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act established guidance for educational rights for children in Pre-K-12 that are experiencing homelessness. The definition for homeless children and youth are those who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, including those who are sharing the housing of others due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason, staying in motels, trailer parks, or camp grounds due to the lack of an adequate alternative, staying in shelters or transitional housing, or sleeping in cars, parks, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, or similar settings. 42 U.S.C. §11434a(2) There is also a provision for unaccompanied youth defined as homeless children and youth who are not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian. 42 U.S.C. 11434a(6).

The funding allocated to support children and youth is separate from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's homeless programs. Additionally, the definitions and eligibility requirements are different. Therefore, communities should review both sources of data to gain a broader understanding of homelessness.

2. Create a system to disseminate information countywide about existing services and how to access these services
3. Create a system on how people engage in services and who is prioritized for services (formalize the coordinated entry system)
4. Develop a homeless hotline for the county as a central point of contact for homeless related issues
5. Develop a stronger and consistent presence for Community Action Center services in municipalities outside of Pullman
6. Explore the community need for emergency housing to support people experiencing homelessness

#### EXPAND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

1. Ensure engagement between Port of Whitman and housing developers. As the Port pursues economic development activities, engage in joint planning efforts for workforce housing development
2. Engage local philanthropy as part of the homeless response ecosystem and inclusion in the coalition. Create a formal group with a governance structure to streamline collaboration
3. Engage Department of Commerce to select a representative from the Department to participate in the formal group
4. Engage the business sector to become more involved in homeless issues/response

#### Measures and Timelines

Begin all activities Q1 2026 and have in place by end of Q4 2026

# 2

## Addressing Disparities

### Goal

Use data to identify and address disparities in homelessness services and outcomes. This includes public-facing data to maintain transparency

### Strategies

Report client demographics at each group meeting to identify any areas of disparity in service delivery systems

### Measures and Timelines

Quarterly reports to the established coalition

# 3

## Tailor Services

### Goal

Provide services that are culturally competent and tailored to the specific needs of different populations, such as veterans, youth and young adults, families, and LGBTQ+ individuals

### Strategies

1. Ensure all service providers are trained in cultural competency for special populations, trauma-informed care, and person-centered planning
2. Hire staff and peer navigators who reflect the identities of people being served
3. Disaggregate data for special populations to track outcomes and improve services

### Measures and Timelines

Complete by Q4 2026 the ongoing

# 4

## Open Communication

### Goal

Utilize multi-channel communication strategies to keep the public informed about homelessness and housing initiatives

### Strategies

1. Utilize the County website to provide information and updates on homeless and housing initiatives. Establish a social media page for the coalition to provide real-time updates and engage the community when needed
2. Create a community initiative to reduce stigma for people experiencing homelessness, mental health conditions, and addiction recovery
3. Explore options for distributing the plan and communication on community progress in additional languages

### Measures and Timelines

Following the establishment of the housing/homeless group

# 02:

OBJECTIVE  
OBJECTIVE

Strengthen the homeless  
service provider workforce

# 1

## TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

### Ongoing Education

#### Goal

Provide continuous training on best practices, trauma-informed care, cultural competence, and emerging trends in homelessness services

#### Strategies

1. Deliver service provider training on evidence-based practices of trauma-informed care, person centered practice, recovery orientation, and motivational interviewing. A few resources include:

- > Homeless and Housing Resource Center (<https://hhrctraining.org/training-courses>)
- > National Alliance to End Homelessness (<https://endhomelessness.org/training/>)
- > Homeless Learning Hub (<https://homelessnesslearninghub.ca/>)
- > National Health Care for the Homeless Council (<https://nhhc.org/learning-hub/>)

All provide free on-line training and certificate programs if the local expertise for training is not available

#### Measures and Timelines

Begin Q1 2026 then ongoing

# 2

## WORK FORCE EMPOWERMENT

### Development Initiative

#### Goal

Expand and support the existing workforce.

#### Strategies

1. Increase Community Health Workers (CHW), Certified Peer Support specialists in all aspects of the homeless response system
2. Utilize reflective supervision techniques in the supervision of peers, CHW's, and front-line staff
3. Obtain and implement technical assistance for Domestic Violence providers on coordinated entry and HMIS and data documentation to ensure access to services while maintaining client privacy compliance requirement
4. Provide critical incident debrief/support for staff following traumatic incidents (Critical Incident Stress Management)
5. Increase breadth and depth of use of peer support staff in behavioral health work
6. Create workforce housing that is affordable for all levels of the homeless intervention workforce. Utilize State Connecting Housing to Infrastructure Program (CHIP) and other local, state, and federal mechanisms to assist in the development of workforce housing
7. Build partnerships with Washington State University and other institutions for internship, job training, and career pipeline opportunities for students in social services and health related fields
8. Develop programs to support people with specialized needs across the county, to include: veterans, youth, mental health conditions, substance use disorders, and others determined necessary

#### Measures and Timelines

Begin Q1 2026 then ongoing

# 03

OBJECTIVE  
OBJECTIVE

Prevent episodes of homelessness whenever possible

# 1

## AFFORDABLE HOUSING Increase Affordable Housing Supply

### Goal

Invest in the development and preservation of affordable housing units

### Strategies

1. Create incentives for affordable housing developers to build across communities in Whitman County
2. Utilize land trust strategies to spur new development
3. Provide resources for home improvement/rehab as a form of homeless prevention and to create supply of naturally occurring affordable housing
4. Establish a community program to identify homes (owner-occupied and rental properties) in need of repair and identify opportunities for home repair support. Coordinate with local government on existing building code to support the rehabilitation of the community's housing stock
5. Explore increasing tax rates for unoccupied buildings/dwellings to create revenue streams for development and rehab of housing stock

### Measures and Timelines

Begin Q1 2026, monitor progress bi-annually

# 2

## EARLY INTERVENTION Eviction Prevention

### Goal

Implement eviction prevention programs that provide legal assistance, mediation, and emergency financial aid to tenants at risk of eviction

### Strategies

1. Begin intentional collaboration between landlords and non-profit housing providers for education, identification of resources, and problem solving
2. Create formal partnership with the Northwest Justice Project to provide legal assistance and mediation services. Create a seat for Northwest Justice Project on the formed group
3. Collaborate with school districts, hospitals, police department, and other front line organizations to identify and refer individuals at imminent risk of homelessness
4. Create a resident supportive services position to interface with renters in Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) and Section 8 units to proactively mitigate issues that could lead to eviction and hold landlords accountable for their responsibilities
5. Identify opportunities to reduce barriers to accessing available rental housing
6. Identify options to provide foreclosure prevention support for homeowners at risk of eviction

### Measures and Timelines

Q1 2026 and ongoing

# 04

OBJECTIVE  
OBJECTIVE

**Prioritize assistance based on the greatest barriers to housing stability and the greatest risk of harm**

# 1

## INCOME Housing Barriers

### Goal

Address the socioeconomic barriers that people experiencing homelessness face when seeking housing

### Strategies

1. Identify the existing gaps for people seeking housing that are underemployed, disabled, elderly on a fixed income, youth, and people with criminal records
2. Determine available housing stock in the community for renters that are underemployed, disabled, elderly on a fixed income, youth and young adults, and people with criminal records

### Measures and Timelines

Q1 2026 and ongoing

# 2

## HEALTH Health and Mental Health Barriers

### Goal

Prioritize those with significant health issues, including chronic illnesses, mental health disorders, and substance use disorders

### Strategies

1. Develop alternatives, such as a Living Room model, to hospitals and jail as primary behavioral health interventions

\* A Living Room model is an alternative space to hospital emergency rooms for people in a mental health crisis to receive support

2. Explore use of injectable psychotropic meds for treating severe mental illness
3. Increase breadth and depth of use of peer support in behavioral health work
4. Collaborate with healthcare and behavioral healthcare providers to track and respond to chronic and complex cases
5. Utilize the coordinated entry system and vulnerability assessment tool to identify priority households

### Measures and Timelines

Q1 2026 and ongoing

# 3

## ASSESS AND MITIGATE RISKS OF HARM Safety Risks

### Goal

Prioritize individuals who are at risk of violence or exploitation, including women, children, and those experiencing domestic violence (DV)

### Strategies

1. Continue engagement with Alternatives to Violence to provide DV services
2. Connect with other service providers to address gaps in access

### Measures and Timelines

Q1 2026 and ongoing

# 05

OBJECTIVE  
OBJECTIVE

**Seek to house everyone in a stable setting that meets their needs**

# 1 TAILORED HOUSING SOLUTIONS

## Diverse Housing Options

### Goal

Offer a range of housing options to meet the diverse needs of individuals and families, including transitional housing, single-room occupancy units, family housing, and shared housing

### Strategies

1. Begin development of transitional housing (master leasing) for families in Family Promise programs and others displaced from permanent housing
2. Develop senior housing/assisted living options to give seniors who no longer need a large home different housing options. This may help create more naturally occurring affordable housing options in the community
3. Create more Oxford House models in the county for people recovering from addiction
4. With Pullman rental occupancy on the decline, work with landlords/realtors to identify potential stock for transitional housing and Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)
5. Consider allowing zoning to split lots to create opportunities for added housing options such as small homes
6. Develop creative options for housing, e.g. small homes, duplexes, quadplexes, etc.
7. Identify opportunities to meet the permanent and emergency housing units listed in Section 5. The total units needed are 908 in the following income ranges: 753 units (0-30% Area Median Income (AMI)- Non-Permanent Supportive Housing); 75 units (0-30% Permanent Supportive Housing); and 70 units (30-50% AMI)
8. Identify available units for people that are denied housing in existing options across the county
9. Identify available housing units for youth and young adults across the county

### Measures and Timelines

Begin Q1 2026, monitor progress bi-annually

# 03

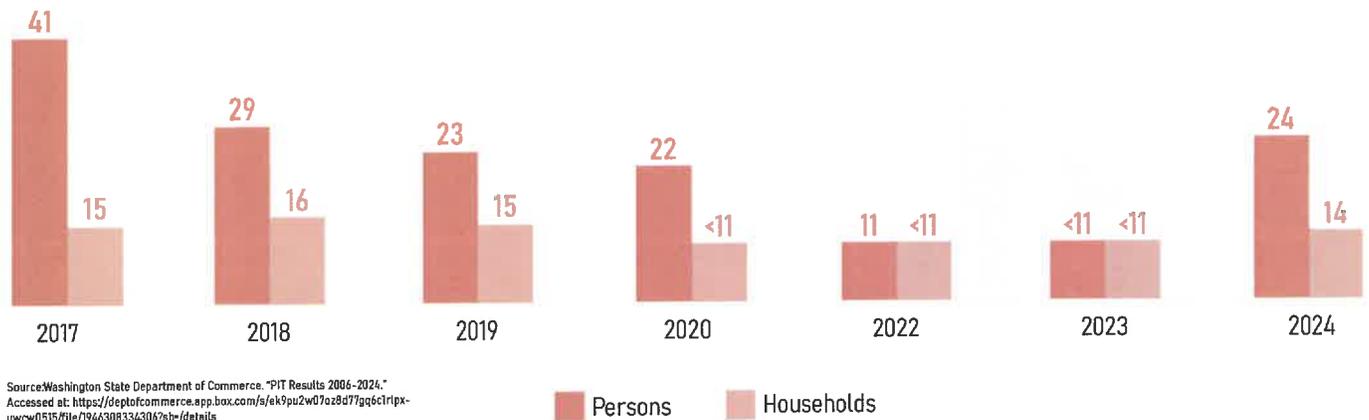
## Estimates of Service Levels

This information was provided by the Department of Commerce through their data analysis tool.

# WHITMAN COUNTY

### POINT IN TIME (PIT) COUNT DATA

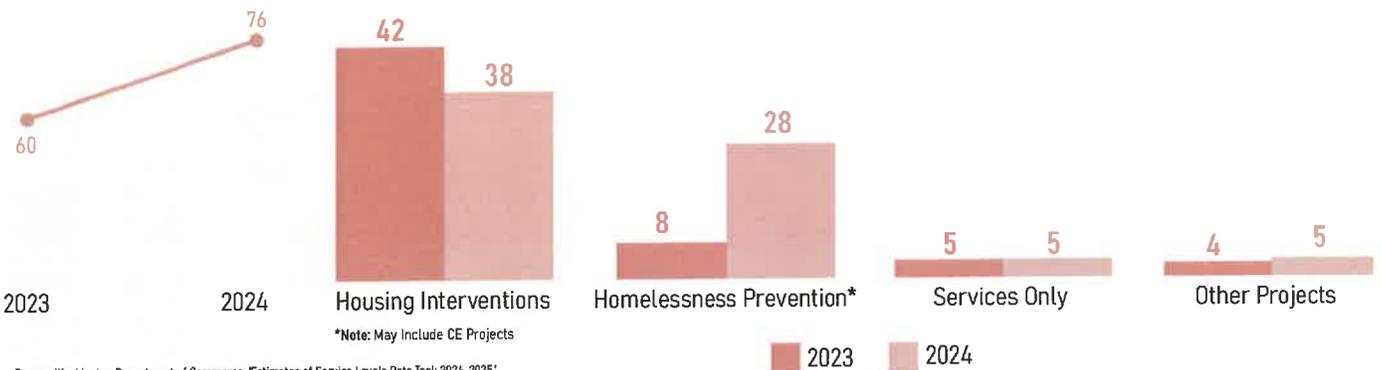
PIT Results (2017-2024)



### ENROLLMENTS

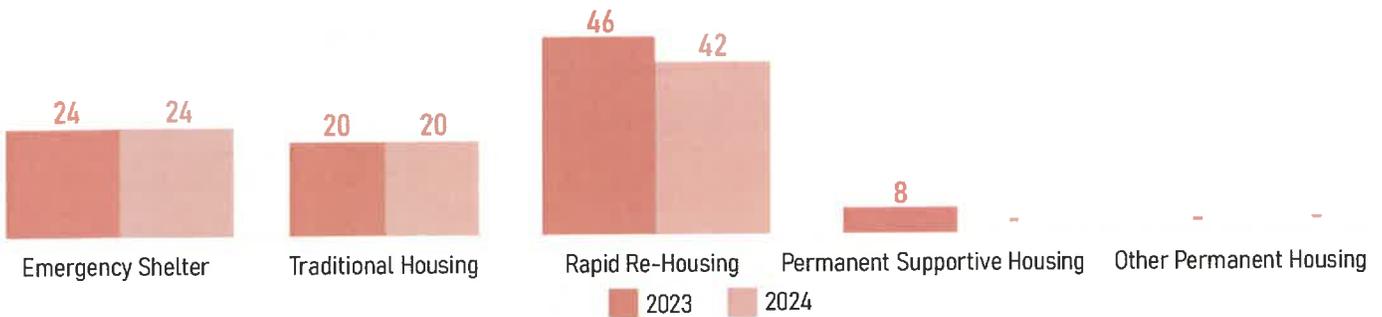
Total Enrollments (2023-2024)

Enrollments by Project (2023-2024)



## HOUSING INTERVENTIONS

### Beds By Housing Interventions Only (2023-2024)



### Expenditures on Housing Interventions Only (2023-2024)

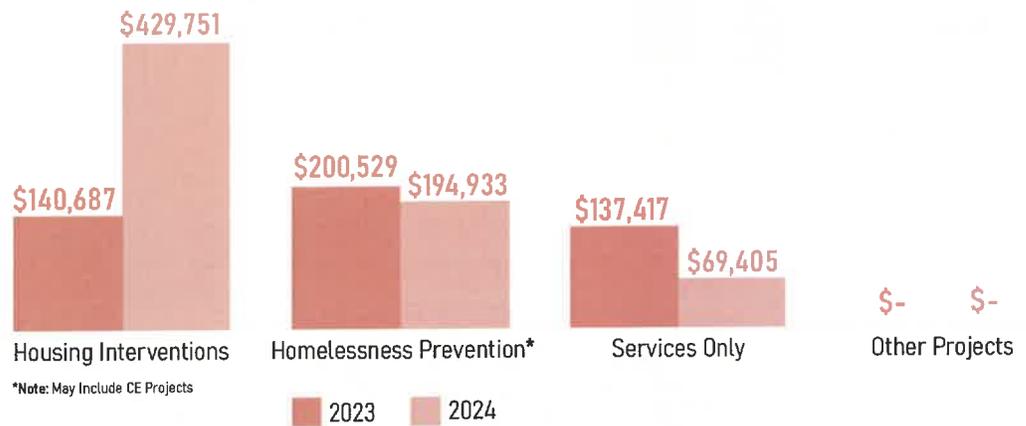


## EXPENDITURES

### Total Expenditures (2023-2024)

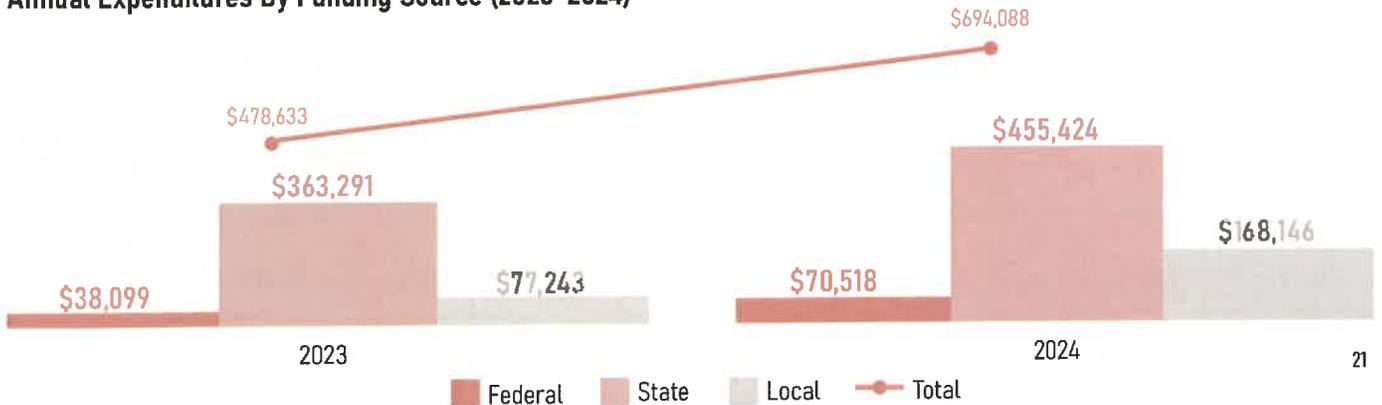


### Expenditures by Project (2023-2024)



## FUNDING BREAKDOWN

### Annual Expenditures By Funding Source (2023-2024)



# 04

## Survey of Fund Sources For Homeless Housing Assistance Program Projects

Fund Source	Source	Status	Allowable Uses	Amount Received SFY 24	Amount Projected Received SFY
<b>Denotes not receiving funds</b>					
Local funds authorized by RCW 82.14.460 (Mental Health Sales and Use Tax)	State	Not Receiving	Revenues must be solely used for new or expanded programs for chemical dependency or mental health treatment services, and therapeutic courts.  <small>Reference: Washington State Legislature (2025). RCW 82.14.460 Sales tax for chemical dependency or mental health treatment services or therapeutic courts. Retrieved from RCW 82.14.460: Sales and use tax for chemical dependency or mental health treatment services or therapeutic courts.</small>		
Local funds authorized by RCW 82.14.530 (Housing and Related Services Sales and Use Tax)	State	Not Receiving	Constructing or acquiring affordable housing, which may include emergency, transitional, and supportive housing and new units of affordable housing within an existing structure, and facilities providing housing-related services, or acquiring land for these purposes; or (ii) Constructing or acquiring behavioral health-related facilities, or acquiring land for these purposes; or (iii) Funding the operations and maintenance costs of new units of affordable housing and facilities where housing-related programs are provided, or newly constructed evaluation and treatment centers.  <small>Reference: Washington State Legislature (2025). RCW 82.14.530 Sales and use tax for housing and related services. Retrieved from RCW 82.14.530: Sales and use tax for housing and related services. Sales and use tax for chemical dependency or mental health treatment services or therapeutic courts.</small>		
Local funds authorized by RCW 82.14.540 (Affordable and Supportive Housing Sales and Use Tax)	State	Receiving	Jurisdictions may use the revenue for the following activities under RCW 82.14.540(6a) for people with incomes at or below 60% of the median income of the county or city imposing the tax: (i) Acquiring, rehabilitating, or constructing affordable housing, which may include new units within an existing structure or facilities providing supportive housing services under RCW 71.24.385 (behavioral health organizations);	\$64,337.46	\$82,000
				<small>Reference: Washington State Department of Commerce (2025). Affordable and supportive housing sales and use tax-collection and use of revenue Retrieved from Legislative Report v3.5.1</small>	

Fund Source	Source	Status	Allowable Uses	Amount Received SFY 24	Amount Projected Received SFY
<b>Denotes not receiving funds</b>					
<p>(ii) Funding the operations and maintenance costs of new units of affordable or supportive housing; or (iii) For providing rental assistance to tenants</p> <p>Reference: Washington State Department of Commerce (2025). Affordable and supportive housing sales and use tax - collection and use of revenue. Retrieved from Legislative Report v3.5.1</p>					
Local funds authorized by RCW 84.52.105 (Local Housing Levies)	State	Not Receiving	Finance affordable housing for very low-income households, and affordable homeownership, owner-occupied home repair, and foreclosure prevention programs for low-income households.		
<p>Reference: Washington State Legislature (2025). RCW 84.52.105 Affordable housing levies authorized- declaration of emergency and plan required. Retrieved from RCW 84.52.105: Affordable housing levies authorized-Declaration of emergency and plan required.</p>					
Local funds authorized by RCW 36.22.179-1791 (Document Recording Surcharge, Local Portion)	State	Receiving	Provide housing and shelter for homeless people including, but not limited to: Grants to operate, repair, and staff shelters; grants to operate transitional housing; partial payments for rental assistance; consolidated emergency assistance; overnight youth shelters; grants and vouchers designated for victims of human trafficking and their families; and emergency shelter assistance; and fund the homeless housing grant program.	\$125,366.55	
<p>Reference: elaws.us (2025). Section 36.22.179. Surcharge for local homeless housing and assistance. Retrieved from Section 36.22.179. Surcharge for local homeless housing and assistance— Use., Chapter 36.22. County auditor., Title 36. COUNTIES, Revised Code of Washington (RCW)</p> <p>Reference: Washington State Department of Commerce (2025). SFY2024 annual exp report_Golden.xlsx. Retrieved from SFY2024 Annual Exp Report_Golden.xlsx   Powered by Box</p>					
Emergency Solutions Grant	Federal	Receiving	Street outreach, emergency shelter (operations only), homeless prevention, HMIS, administrative activities (up to 7.5%).	\$33,059.00	
<p>Reference: HUD Exchange (2025). ESG Eligible Activities Overview. Retrieved from ESG Eligible Activities - Overview - HUD Exchange</p> <p>Reference: Washington State Department of Commerce (2025). SFY2024 annual exp report_Golden.xlsx. Retrieved from SFY2024 Annual Exp Report_Golden.xlsx   Powered by Box</p>					

Fund Source	Source	Status	Allowable Uses	Amount Received SFY 24	Amount Projected Received SFY
<b>Denotes not receiving funds</b>					
Community Development Block Grant	Federal	Not Receiving	<p>CDBG funds can be used for a wide array of activities, including: rehabilitating housing (through loans and grants to homeowners, landlords, nonprofits, and developers); constructing new housing (but only by certain neighborhood-based nonprofits); providing down payment assistance and other help for first-time home buyers; detecting and removing lead-based paint hazards; purchasing land and buildings; constructing or rehabilitating public facilities such as shelters for people experiencing homelessness or domestic violence survivors; making buildings accessible to those who are elderly or disabled; providing public services such as job training, transportation, healthcare, and child care (public services are capped at 15% of a jurisdiction's CDBG funds); building the capacity of nonprofits; rehabilitating commercial or industrial buildings; and making loans or grants to businesses.</p> <p style="font-size: small; margin-top: 20px;">Reference: Gramlich, E. (2023). Community development block grant program. Retrieved from <a href="https://nlhc.org/sites/default/files/2023-03/2023AG9-02_CDBG.pdf">https://nlhc.org/sites/default/files/2023-03/2023AG9-02_CDBG.pdf</a></p>		

Commerce Emergency Housing Fund	State	Receiving	<p>Construction and acquisition of affordable housing units. Renovations and repairs. Support for affordable housing projects. Housing trust fund repair fund.</p> <p style="font-size: small; margin-top: 20px;">Reference: Washington State Department of Commerce (2025). Consolidated homeless grant. Retrieved from Consolidated Homeless Grant - Washington State Department of Commerce</p>	\$23,111.99	
			<p>Reference: Washington State Department of Commerce (2025). SYF2024 annual exp report_Golden.xlsx. Retrieved from SFY2024 Annual Exp Report_Golden.xlsx   Powered by Box</p>		

Fund Source	Source	Status	Allowable Uses	Amount Received SFY 24	Amount Projected Received SFY
Denotes not receiving funds					
Housing and Essential Needs (HEN)	State	Receiving	<p>The Housing and Essential Needs Referral program provides access to essential-needs items and potential rental assistance.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Personal health and hygiene items</li> <li>2. Cleaning products</li> <li>3. Transportation assistance</li> <li>4. Rent and utility assistance if you are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless</li> <li>5. Case management and support</li> </ol> <p>Reference: Washington State Department of Social and Health Services (2025). Housing and essential needs referral program. Retrieved from Housing and Essential Needs Referral Program   DSHS</p>	\$17,400	
Consolidated Homeless Grant (non-HEN)	State	Receiving	<p>Funding for local governments to establish assistance and housing programs. Support for operations of time-limited housing units and rental assistance. Permanent supportive housing services and data collection and reporting. Flexible funding for nontraditional expenses that help homeless households obtain or maintain housing.</p> <p>Reference: Washington State Department of Commerce (2025). CHG technical assistance and training. Retrieved from CHG Technical Assistance and Training - Washington State Department of Commerce</p>	\$323,006.71	
Commerce Office of Homeless Youth Programs- age 18-24 Young Adult Housing Program, Independent Youth Housing Program	State	Receiving	<p>Prevention and reduction of youth homelessness through crisis response, young adult housing support services, residential youth programs, systems of care.</p> <p>Reference: Washington State Department of Commerce (2025). OHY program grants. Retrieved from OHY Program Grants -- Washington State Department of Commerce</p>	\$62,317.97	
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$648,599.63</b>	<b>-</b>

# 05

## Estimates of Permanent and Emergency Housing Needs

The Washington State Department of Commerce released a report in March 2023 that identified the projected number of housing units needed in Whitman County by 2044. There is a gap of 3,591 units over the next nearly 20 years for residents below 50% Area Median Income (AMI). There is no documented housing shortage over 50% AMI.\*

\*Reference: Washington State Department of Commerce "Planning for Housing in Washington: March 2023 Update" Accessed at: <https://deptofcommerce.app.box.com/s/6z6bjbnhat83wikip23yuktum0z4zv>

INCOME RANGE	PROJECTED UNITS NEEDED
0-30% (non-Permanent Supportive Housing [PSH])	3,011
0-30% (PSH)	300
30-50%	280
50-80%	0
80-100%	0
100-120%	0
120%+	0
Emergency Housing	39
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,630</b>

The community determined that the current housing shortage necessitated the following projections for the 2025-2030 plan. It represents 25% of the 20-year need calculated by Commerce.

INCOME RANGE	PROJECTED UNITS NEEDED
0-30% (non-PSH)	753
0-30% (PSH)	75
30-50%	70
50-80%	0
80-100%	0
100-120%	0
120%+	0
Emergency Housing	10
<b>Total</b>	<b>908</b>

## AREA MEDIAN INCOME (AMI) CHART

<b>1-Person Household</b>	<b>30% AMI</b>	<b>50% AMI</b>	<b>80% AMI</b>
	\$20,670	\$34,450	\$55,120
<b>2-Person Household</b>	<b>30% AMI</b>	<b>50% AMI</b>	<b>80% AMI</b>
	\$23,610	\$39,350	\$62,960
<b>3-Person Household</b>	<b>30% AMI</b>	<b>50% AMI</b>	<b>80% AMI</b>
	\$26,550	\$44,250	\$70,800
<b>4-Person Household</b>	<b>30% AMI</b>	<b>50% AMI</b>	<b>80% AMI</b>
	\$29,490	\$49,150	\$78,640
<b>5-Person Household</b>	<b>30% AMI</b>	<b>50% AMI</b>	<b>80% AMI</b>
	\$31,860	\$53,100	\$84,960
<b>6-Person Household</b>	<b>30% AMI</b>	<b>50% AMI</b>	<b>80% AMI</b>
	\$34,230	\$57,050	\$91,280
<b>7-Person Household</b>	<b>30% AMI</b>	<b>50% AMI</b>	<b>80% AMI</b>
	\$36,570	\$60,950	\$97,520
<b>8-Person Household</b>	<b>30% AMI</b>	<b>50% AMI</b>	<b>80% AMI</b>
	\$38,940	\$64,900	\$103,840

\*Reference: Washington State Housing Finance Commission. "2025 Income and Rent Limits to Post.xlsx" Accessed at: <https://www.wshfc.org/managers/AMCLimits/Other/BoxInfo/2025%20Income%20and%20Rent%20Limit%20Charts.pdf>

# 06

## Community Data

Counties are the core geography for ALICE data: They reveal variations often masked by statewide averages, and the data is reported regularly and reliably.

# A L I C E

Asset Limited Income Constrained Employed

Households that earn more than the Federal Poverty Level, but less than the basic cost of living for the county. While conditions have improved for some households, many continue to struggle, especially as wages fail to keep pace with the rising cost of household essentials (housing, child care, food, transportation, health care, and a basic smartphone plan). Households below the ALICE Threshold — ALICE households plus those in poverty — can't afford the essentials.

### 2023 Point-in-Time-Data

<b>Population</b>	47,042
<b>Number of Households</b>	17,952
<b>Median Household Income</b>	\$52,893 (state average: \$94,606)

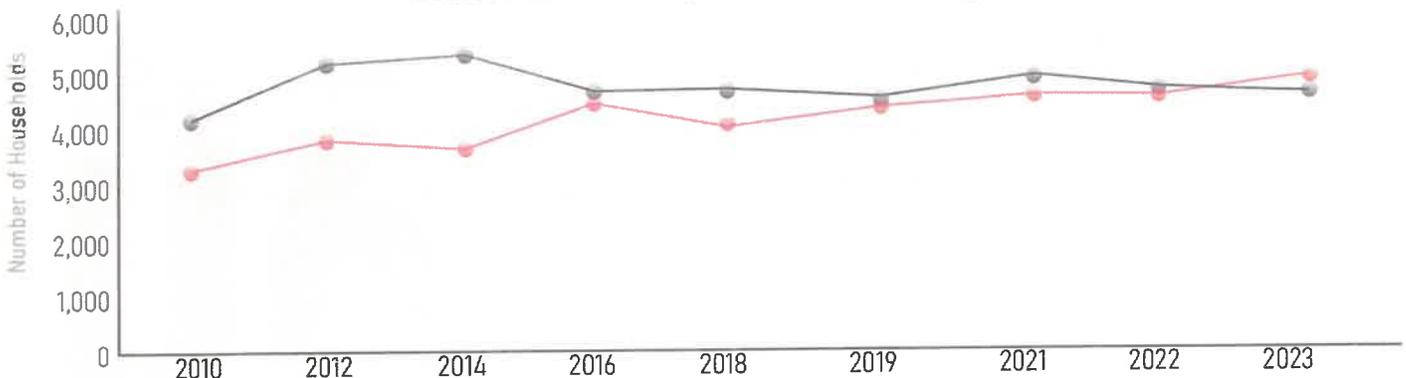
### Labor Force Participation Rate

<b>ALICE Households</b>	27% (state average 28%)
<b>Households in Poverty</b>	26% (state average 10%)

### Financial Hardship Has Changed Over Time in Whitman County

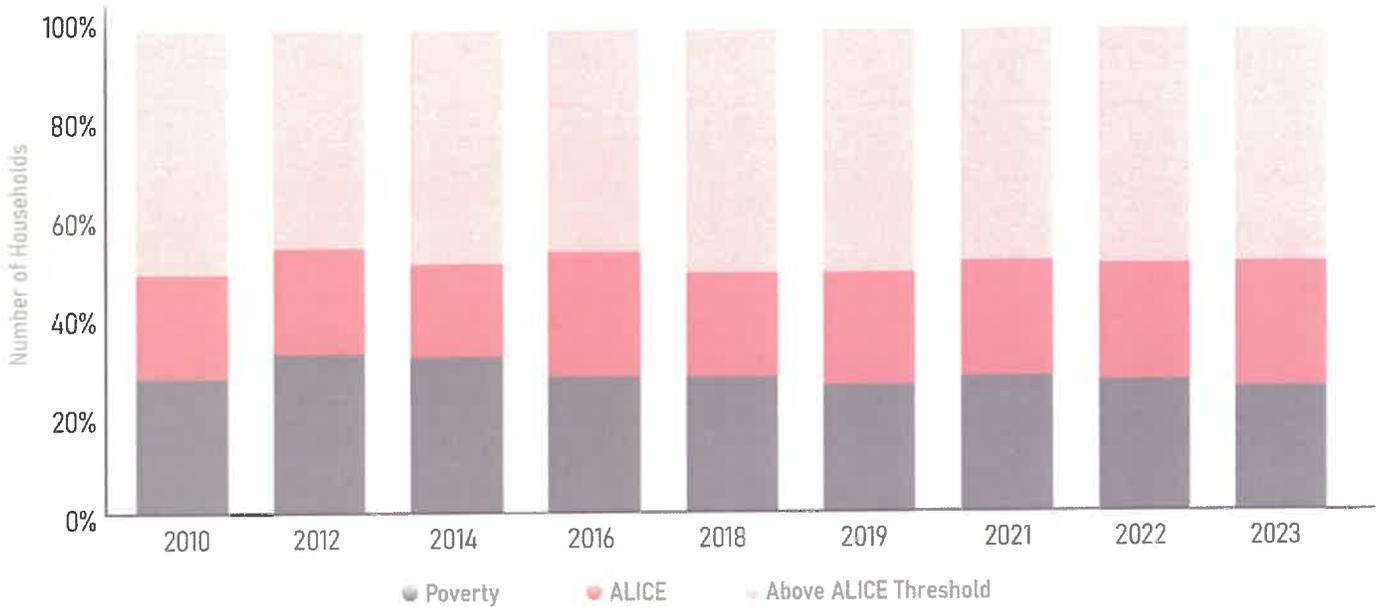
As circumstances change, households may find themselves below or above the ALICE Threshold at different times.

Number of ALICE and Poverty-Level Households, Washington, 2023



Reference: Policy Map, "Housing Needs Assessment Report" February 11, 2022

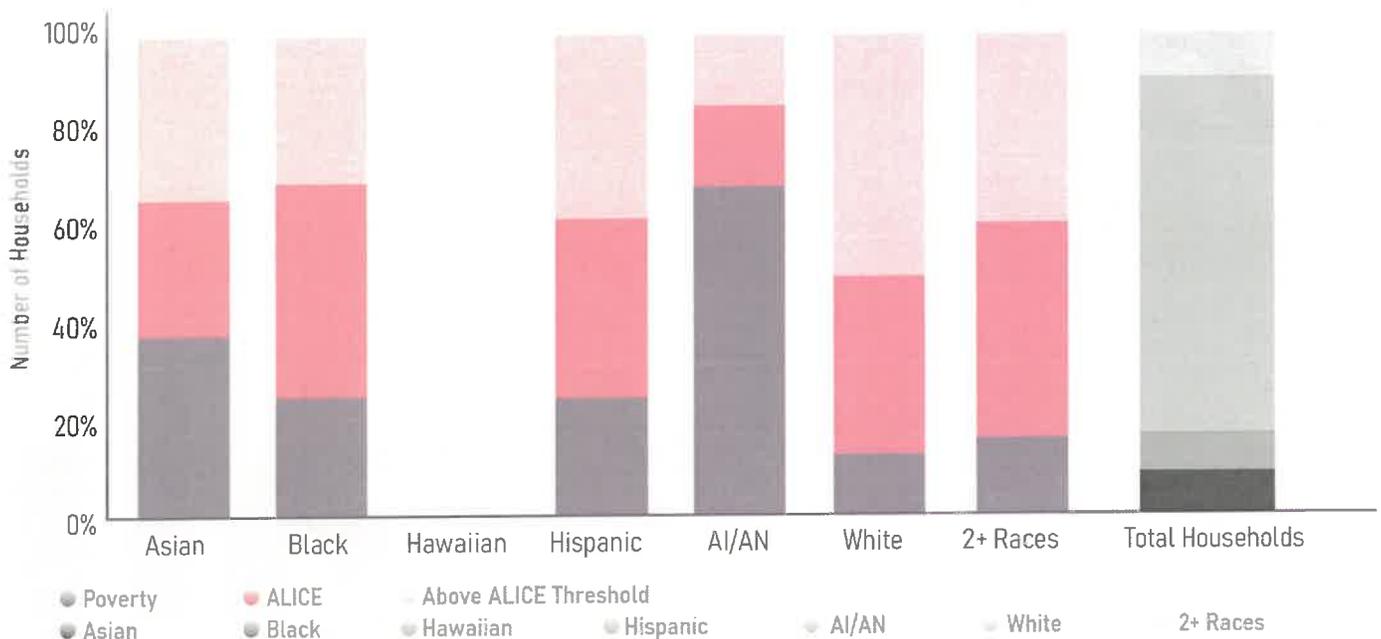
## Percentage of Households, Washington, 2023



### Financial Hardship is Not Equally Distributed

By total number, groups with the largest population of households below the ALICE Threshold tend to also be in the largest demographic groups. However, when looking at the proportion of each group that is below the ALICE Threshold, it is clear that some groups are more likely to be ALICE than others.

## Households by Race/Ethnicity, Washington, 2023



There were also differences in financial hardship by household type and age of householder.

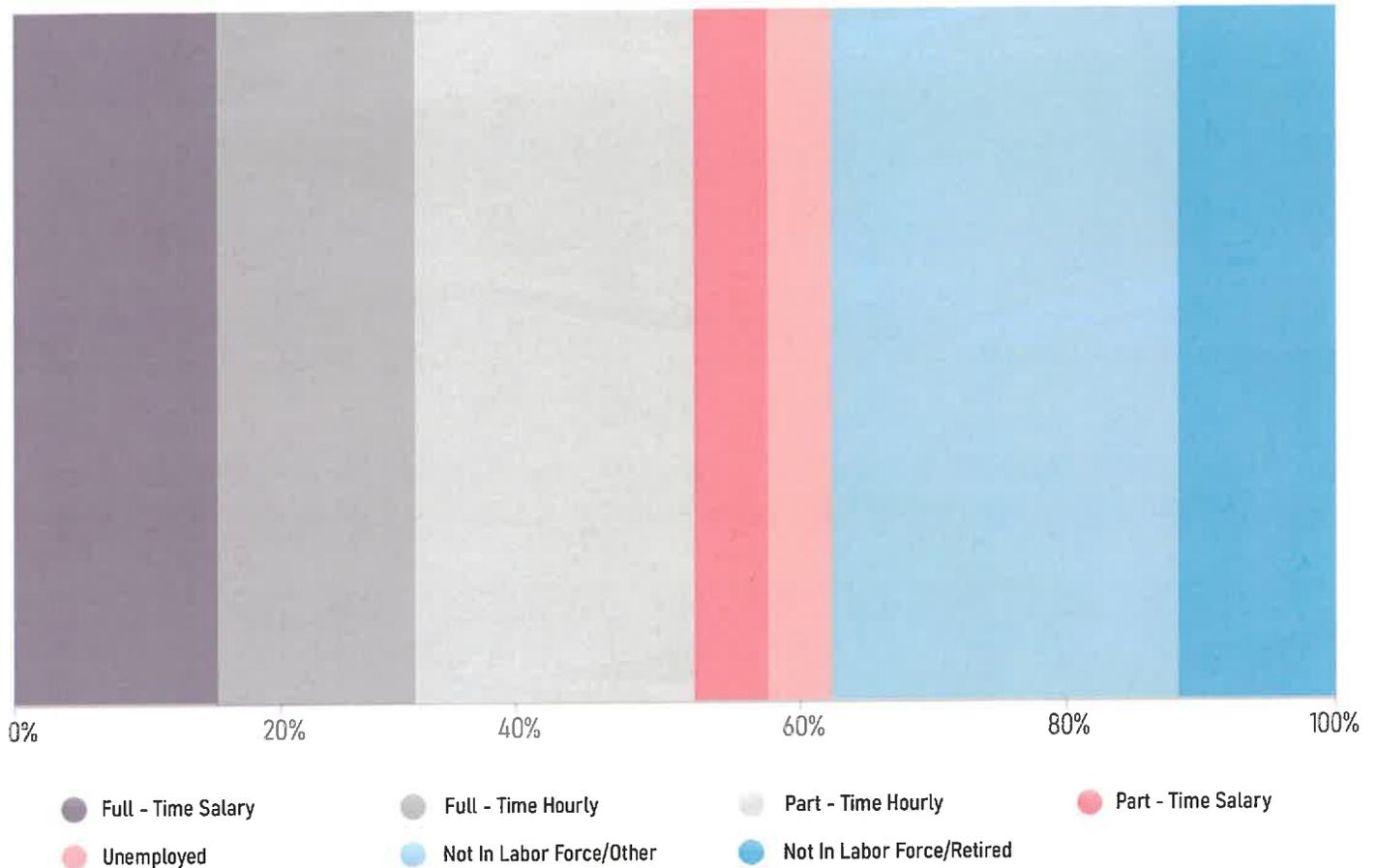
<b>HOUSEHOLD TYPE</b> Group	<b>% Below ALICE Threshold</b>
Single or Cohabiting (no children)	61%
Married (with children)	21%
Single-Female-Headed (with children)	81%
Single-Male-Headed (with children)	55%

<b>AGE OF HOUSEHOLDER</b> Group	<b>% Below ALICE Threshold</b>
Under 25 Years	89%
25 to 44 Years	47%
45 to 64 Years	33%
65 Years and Over	48%

## The Labor Landscape is Challenging for ALICE Workers

A small portion of adults (16 years and older) in were unemployed and a large number were working in 2023. However, a substantial portion of both full- and part-time workers are paid by the hour; these workers are more likely to have fluctuations in income and less likely to receive benefits

Labor Status, Population 16 and Over, Washington, 2023



## The Cost of Basics

To capture the reality of household costs across Washington, United For ALICE provides household budgets that are tailored by location and household type.

### The ALICE Household Survival Budget

The Household Survival Budget reflects the minimum cost to live and work in today's economy and includes **housing, child care, food, transportation, health care, and technology, plus taxes** and a 10% **miscellaneous** category. This budget is the basis for determining whether households are above or below the ALICE Threshold by county.

In 2023, household costs in every county in Washington were well above the Federal Poverty Level of \$14,580 for a single adult and \$30,000 for a family of four.

## ALICE Household Survival Budget, Whitman County, Washington, 2023

Monthly Cost	Single Adult	1 Adult, 1 Child	1 Adult, One in Child Care	2 Adults	2 Adults, 2 Children	2 Adults, 2 in Child Care	Single Adult 65+	2 Adults 65+
Housing	\$785	\$894	\$894	\$894	\$1,168	\$1,168	\$785	\$894
Child Care	\$0	\$397	\$1,058	\$0	\$793	\$2,308	\$0	\$0
Food	\$500	\$846	\$759	\$917	\$1,537	\$1,357	\$460	\$843
Transportation	\$408	\$531	\$531	\$628	\$956	\$956	\$344	\$499
Health Care	\$141	\$421	\$421	\$421	\$806	\$806	\$558	\$1,116
Technology	\$86	\$86	\$86	\$116	\$116	\$116	\$86	\$116
Miscellaneous	\$192	\$318	\$375	\$298	\$538	\$671	\$223	\$347
Taxes	\$258	\$235	\$359	\$347	\$416	\$704	\$326	\$593
Monthly Total	\$2,370	\$3,728	\$4,483	\$3,621	\$6,330	\$8,086	\$2,782	\$4,408
Annual Total	\$28,440	\$44,736	\$53,796	\$43,452	\$75,960	\$97,032	\$33,384	\$52,896
Hourly Wage	\$14.22	\$22.37	\$26.90	\$21.73	\$37.98	\$48.52	\$16.69	\$26.45

## ALICE Household Stability Budget, Washington, 2023

Monthly Cost	Single Adult	2 Adults	2 Adults, 2 Children	2 Adults, 2 in Child Care
Housing	\$1,436	\$1,785	\$2,146	\$2,146
Child Care	\$0	\$0	\$1,031	\$3,279
Food	\$819	\$1,527	\$2,780	\$2,370
Transportation	\$895	\$1,132	\$1,544	\$1,530
Health Care	\$159	\$457	\$878	\$878
Technology	\$86	\$116	\$116	\$116
Miscellaneous	\$340	\$502	\$850	\$1,032
Savings	\$340	\$502	\$850	\$1,032
Taxes	\$579	\$771	\$1,113	\$1,631
Monthly Total	\$4,654	\$6,792	\$11,308	\$14,014
Annual Total	\$55,848	\$81,504	\$135,696	\$168,168
Hourly Wage	\$27.92	\$40.75	\$67.85	\$84.08