



Oregon's Poverty Fighting Network

February 25, 2016

**TO:** Joint Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Capital Construction  
**FROM:** Community Action Partnership of Oregon  
**RE:** Support for EHA/SHAP Funding

Co-Chair Read, Co-Chair Girod, and members of the SubCommittee,

We all share a bright vision for Oregon's future. In order for our state to achieve the goals we have set for our state's health, education and economic growth, we must ensure that everyone has a safe place to call home. The ongoing impacts of the recession mean that too many families and individuals are forced to choose between paying their rent and putting food on the table. The Department of Education reports that during the 2014-15 school year one in every 28 students experienced homelessness at some point during the year.

Oregon has two programs - the Emergency Housing Account (EHA) and the State Homeless Assistance Program (SHAP) that provide short term assistance to help prevent or end homelessness. EHA and SHAP also help people who are homeless or fleeing domestic violence to quickly enter safe, stable housing.

We, the Community Action Partnership of Oregon, ask that the co-chairs prioritize the allocation of General Fund dollars to the Emergency Housing Account (EHA) and the State Homeless Assistance Program (SHAP) in the amount of **\$8 Million for EHA and \$2 Million for SHAP.**

We all need a safe, stable place to live. These critical programs help people in our communities find stability and success. We urge your support.

Sincerely,

The Community Action Partnership of Oregon

For more information contact Ryan Fisher | email: [ryan@nwpublicaffairs.com](mailto:ryan@nwpublicaffairs.com) | cell: (503) 807-7525

