

**CENTRAL OFFICE**  
125 N. 17th St.  
St. Helens, Oregon 97051  
Voice (503) 397-3511  
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Administration  
Information & Referral Ext. 274

**FISCAL OFFICE**  
124 N. 18th St.  
St. Helens, Oregon 97051  
Voice (503) 366-6570  
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**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS**  
125 N. 17th St.  
St. Helens, Oregon 97051  
(503) 397-3511 Ext. 279  
Housing Development  
Community Facilities

**HOUSING CENTER**  
(503) 325-8098  
(800) 325-8098  
Housing Information & Referral  
Homeowner & Tenant Trainings  
Home Ownership Assistance

**SELF-HELP HOUSING**  
Acquisition Rehabilitation Sweat Equity  
(503) 366-6550  
(503) 366-6544

**HOUSING REHABILITATION**  
Rehabilitation  
Weatherization  
Astoria  
(503) 325-8098  
(800) 325-8098  
Columbia  
(503) 366-6552

**EMERGENCY HOUSING PROGRAM**  
125 N. 17th St.  
St. Helens, Oregon 97051  
(503) 336-6546  
(800) 404-3511

**CHILD & FAMILY  
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**  
PO Box 10, 108 W. B. St.  
Rainier, Oregon 97048  
(503) 556-3736  
Head Start  
Healthy Start

**ENERGY SERVICES PROGRAM**  
125 N. 17th St.  
St. Helens, Oregon 97051  
(503) 397-4951  
(866) 722-4951  
Energy Utility Assistance  
Consumer Education  
Tillamook  
(503) 842-3267  
(866) 722-4951  
Astoria  
(866) 722-4951

**SENIOR, RESPITE & VETERANS  
SERVICE PROGRAMS**  
125 N. 17th St.  
St. Helens, Oregon 97051  
(503) 366-6543  
Respite Care, OPI  
Senior Support & Nutrition Programs

Veterans Service Program  
125 N. 17th St.  
St. Helens, Oregon 97051  
(503) 366-6580

**DISASTER RECOVERY PROGRAM**  
125 N. 17th St.  
St. Helens, Oregon 97051  
(503) 366-6563

## COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM, INC.

*"BUILDING BRIDGES TO SELF-SUFFICIENCY"*



March 16th, 2017

TO: Ways and Means Subcommittee On Transportation and Economic Development  
FROM: Martha Olmstead, Emergency Housing, Community Action Team  
RE: Funding for the Emergency Housing Account in the OHCS Budget, HB 5012

Co-Chair Johnson, Co-Chair Gomberg, Members of the Committee:

At Community Action Team in St. Helens, the Emergency Housing Account (EHA) is our most valuable tool to prevent and end homelessness. It makes miracles happen in our community every day. The program's unique flexibility has allowed us to effectively serve more families in need.

In 2016, the legislature allocated an additional \$10 million to the Emergency Housing Account due to the dramatic need for housing assistance across the state. Our agency used our portion of the funding to prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless and to help those who are experiencing homelessness to be quickly re-housed and stabilized.

Due to the lack of housing or affordable housing in our community, the main focus of EHA funding was prevention, we helped individuals and families remain in their existing housing. Many families are just a paycheck away from losing their homes with little or no flexibility in their budgets to deal with unexpected costs.

The additional EHA funds allowed us to prevent eviction for 46 households. Some of these families only needed assistance for one month while others were in need of support for a little longer. In addition to providing rent payment assistance, we helped each family create a budget and get connected to other resources both internally and externally.

These dollars also allowed us to provide assistance to 18 households who were experiencing homelessness. The flexibility of EHA gives us the ability to work more efficiently when it pertains to assisting clients with their housing needs. We were able to provide deposit assistance, first and last month's rent, and screening fees. We are pleased to report that 100% of these families continue to remain housed, six months after being served.

Adequately funding The Emergency Housing Account will ensure that we are able to serve those in our community who need it most.

Sincerely,

Martha Olmstead  
Emergency Housing Programs Manager