

OREGON HOUSING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Senate Bill 893 Update



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HB 2100 (2021) Task Force on Homelessness and Racial Disparities

House Bill 2100 established the Task Force on Homelessness and Racial Disparities in June 2021. The task force was charged with:

- Investigating potential changes to the state's funding structure to address disparities in homelessness.
- Considering additional methods to receive advice and information about needed services.
- Identifying methods to modify contracting processes and eligibility for providers of services to individuals experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity.

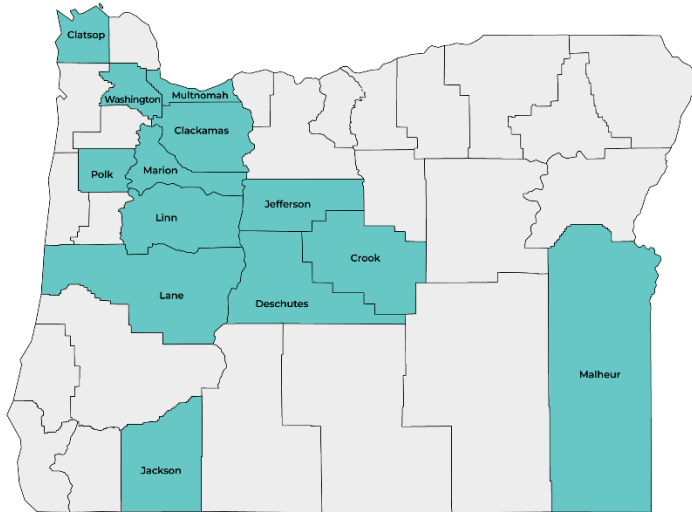
HB 2100 Task Force Priority Areas & Recommendations

- Support Rapid Rehousing and Permanent Supportive Housing, with targeted investment in Balance of State.
- Capacity-building grants to establish local planning groups within the Oregon Balance of State.
- Work with partner state agencies in the Interagency Council on Homelessness to establish universal goals to:
 - address homelessness across the state and
 - employ the tools of targeted universalism to design and implement coordinated programs and policies.
- Changes to state's funding structure for administering resources to address homelessness that prioritizes both maintaining existing service levels and expanding funding availability and eligibility beyond historically funded organizations, geographies, and institutions. Specifically called out were the nine federally recognized tribes within Oregon, Community Action Agencies, and Continuum of Care and local planning groups and culturally responsive and culturally specific organizations.

SB 893 (2023)

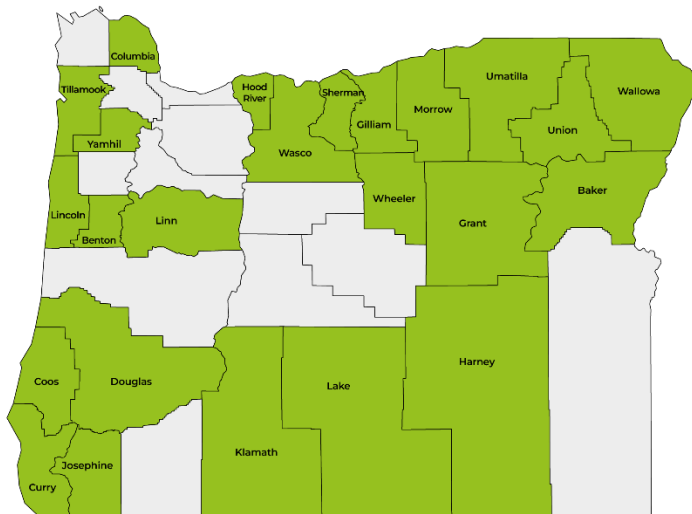
Senate Bill 893 required:

- OHCS to take actions to implement recommendations from the Task Force on Homelessness and Racial Disparities.
- Report to the Legislature on implementation by March 2024.



Investing in a Statewide Funding Structure

- Multi-Agency Coordination (MAC) Groups and Local Planning Groups (LPGs) established in all areas of the state (with Continuum of Care or the House Bill 4123 Pilot Communities as lead entities).
- By tapping into already-existing infrastructure, OHCS:
 - Implemented an outcomes-oriented funding structure that holds local systems accountable.
 - Accelerated providing services in a coordinated and concerted manner.
 - Invested in locally-organized systems allowing decision-making, prioritization, and delivery of vital services while ensuring smaller organizations serving unique populations can access funds.



Looking Forward

- Data governance: OHCS is collaborating with partners to align data and develop governance agreements to build statewide visibility on homeless outcomes.
- OHCS is publishing an equity dashboard that evaluates outcomes by race and ethnicity for the emergency homeless response in rehousing and prevention. This will help lay a foundation for OHCS' larger, collaborative evaluation process to examine the efficacy of work completed as related to the initial planning and strategies intended to address historically underserved populations within rehousing, shelter, and eviction prevention programs.
- Significant expansion of funding beyond the CAA network has been launched and committed over the 21-23 and 23-25 biennia, including groundbreaking funding through the By and For Initiative, Native American Tribes of Oregon Program (BAFI-NATO), and funding directly to culturally responsive and culturally specific organizations for housing retention programming. HSD will be seeking continuation of these investments for 25-27.



Next Steps

- Future planning and implementation will build on local and regional coordination efforts.
- Efforts to address homelessness and racial disparities will align with the Interagency Council on Homelessness' work on system mapping and transparent and consistent reporting on racially disparate outcomes
- The agency will leverage clearly identified outcomes to:
 - determine where funding & system gaps exist,
 - continue to develop strategies to reduce racial disparities, including intentional funding service providers best positioned to reduce those disparities.

Questions?

