

State Homeless Assistance Program (SHAP)

For More Information
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Program Overview:

The Oregon Legislature established the State Homeless Assistance Program (SHAP) in 1987. The program funds emergency shelters and related auxiliary services. Community action agencies administer the program at the local level, encouraging people to access permanent solutions.

SHAP funds a variety of shelter activities including:

- shelter conversion or rehabilitation (repair)
- operational costs of shelters (rent, utilities, insurance, furnishings and supplies)
- counseling (drug/alcohol, employment, housing, domestic violence support, etc.)
- education and pay for shelter employees.

Community action agencies may also use SHAP funds as a match for federal dollars.

Program Requirements for Lead Agencies:

Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) distributes funds to designated lead agencies through a formula based upon the number of homeless and at-risk population in each geographic region. The lead agencies coordinate and establish area plans to use the funds. Local service providers, interest groups, and citizens must have the opportunity to participate in the plan. Community action programs have first refusal rights for the funds. Any remaining funds are distributed through a request for qualification procedure.

Each local agency must limit program administrative costs to 10 percent of the award. In addition, it must maintain client records of services received, signatures, referrals to other services, and receipt and dispersal of all funds.

Agencies must provide OHCS with an annual audit of program and fiscal transactions within 180 days of the close of the agency's fiscal year. OHCS monitors client files, program records, fiscal records, and facilities used for providing services.

For More Information:

To talk with someone about resources and services in your local area or county, contact your local community action agency at <http://www.caporegon.org/members.htm>.

OHCS is the state housing finance agency, providing financial and program support to create and preserve opportunities for quality, affordable housing for lower income Oregonians. The agency also administers federal and state antipoverty, homeless and energy assistance community service programs.