

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

RESOLUTION NO. _____

Adopting the framework “A Home for Everyone: A United Community Plan to End Homelessness in Portland/Multnomah County.”

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:

- a. Multnomah County, the City of Portland and Home Forward, formerly the Housing Authority of Portland, have responded to the issue of homelessness for many years and recognize our collective role in providing a safety net of services to prevent and end homelessness.
- b. In 2004, the City of Portland and County adopted *Home Again: A Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness*, which focused our efforts on ending chronic homelessness in Multnomah County. The success of that collective effort is documented in annual and summary reports. In total, we have found homes for 12,500 individuals and families.
- c. Despite these efforts, the economy, tight rental market, and other factors have contributed to a crisis of homelessness in our community. The most recent one-night street and shelter count found more than 1,700 people sleeping on our sidewalks each night, and a total of 4,655 homeless individuals. Just fewer than thirty percent of the individuals counted were in families with children. Twelve percent of individuals were identified as veterans. Nearly half (46%) of those experiencing homelessness are people of color. More than 3,000 school children in Multnomah County were homeless last year.
- d. Multnomah County is committed to the fundamental ideal that no one in our community should be homeless and everyone should have a safe, stable place to call home.
- e. Homelessness can be solved but it will take an updated plan that builds on past success, shared learning and an alignment of policies and funds between Multnomah County, the City of Portland, Home Forward, the Federal Government, private funders, and community partners.
- f. For the past year, a committee has been looking at our prior efforts to end homelessness, the current landscape of people in our community experiencing homelessness and how we can do a better job of addressing homelessness in our community. The outcome of that group is a recommended framework entitled *A Home for Everyone: A United Community Plan to End Homelessness in Portland/Multnomah County*.

- g. Within that framework, the committee recommends that our plan to address homelessness prioritize serving those who are most vulnerable in our community when homeless - families **with children, women, adults with disabilities, youth, and veterans.**
- h. The framework also recommends that a Governance body be created with the authority to oversee implementation of the plan and align the budgets of Multnomah County, City of Portland, Home Forward and private funders in order to make funding allocation recommendations that better utilize financial investments and more effectively address homelessness in Multnomah County.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Resolves:

- 1. Our continued commitment to end homelessness in Multnomah County by adopting the framework “A Home for Everyone” and directing it’s continued implementation in partnership with the City of Portland, Home Forward and our community partners.

ADOPTED this 11th day of April, 2013.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

Jeff Cogen, Chair

REVIEWED:

JENNY M. MORF, COUNTY ATTORNEY
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By_____

SUBMITTED BY:
Commissioner Deborah Kafoury, District 1