

# Ending Homelessness in Yamhill County

*Year 3 Report to the Community*

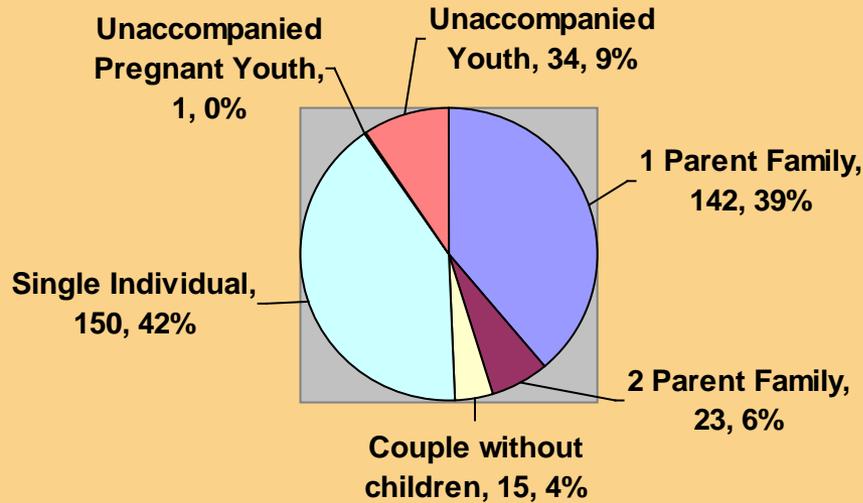
*Elise Hui and Kathy George,  
Co-Chairs of Ending Homelessness Governing Council*

# *“Is there really a homeless problem in Yamhill County?”*

- According to a one night homeless count completed in January 2011
  - 365 families
  - 638 total individuals
- McKinney-Vento count for 2010-2011 conducted by Department of Education
  - 444 homeless youth and children



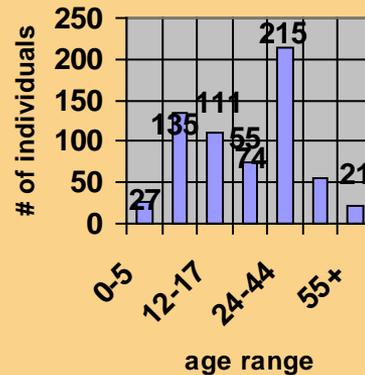
# Household Type



- 365 families counted
  - 55% were families with children or unaccompanied youth under 18
- 638 individuals counted
  - 53% were female
  - 47% were male



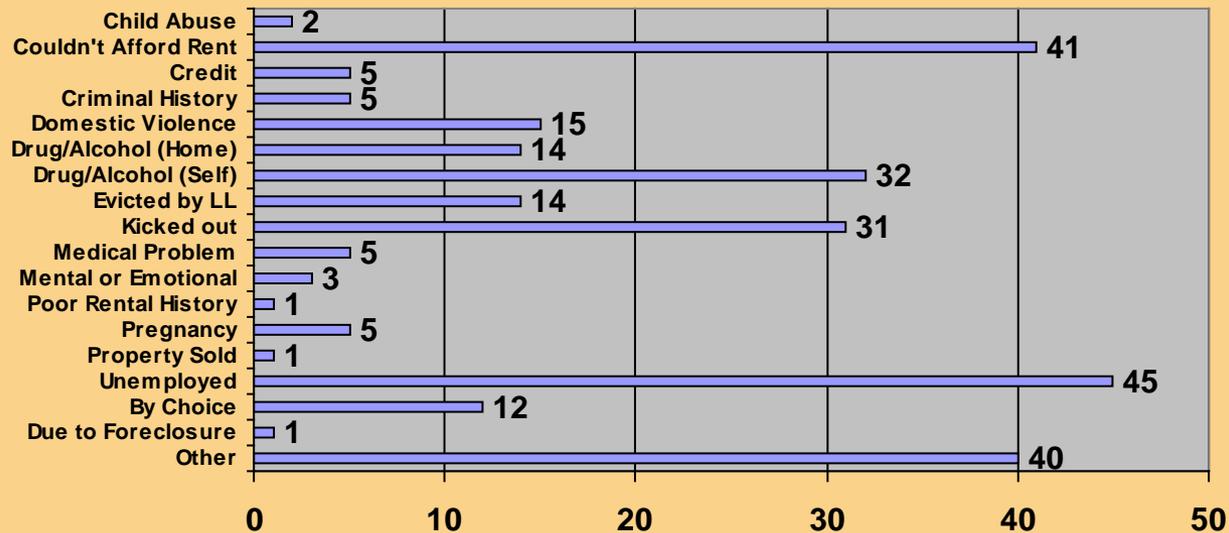
# Age Distribution



- 43% of one-night count are children under 18
- 2010-11 school count – 444 homeless school aged children
  - 185 of these were within Newberg School District
  - 133 of these were within McMinnville School District



# Top Causes for Homelessness



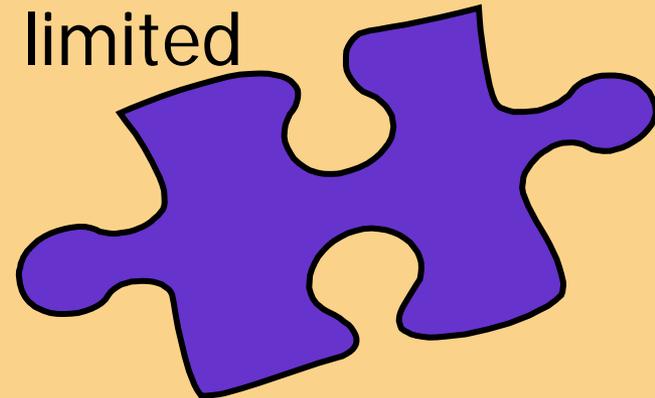
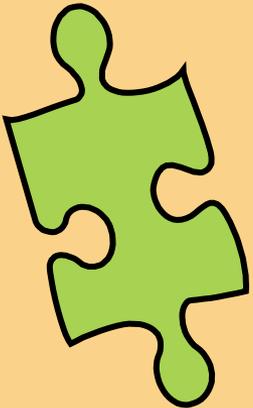
- Unemployed
- Not being able to afford rent
- Drug/alcohol use
- Being kicked out by family/friends



# *"So, why should we care?"*

- **Financial impact:**

- Increased health care costs for all persons, including higher insurance premiums
- Added costs to community, county, & state programs such as:
  - law enforcement, prosecution, courts, & incarceration
  - social services, mental health and addiction services which are already limited



# *“Homelessness matters because...”*

- **Social impact:**

- Education needs are often unmet when youth are homeless
- Public health risks are increased
- More children enter into the care of Department of Human Services (DHS)
- Family stability erodes
- Poor work force development



*“Homelessness puts us at risk...”*

- **Community safety impact:**

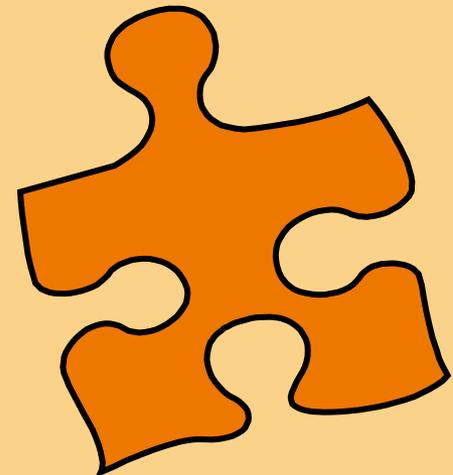
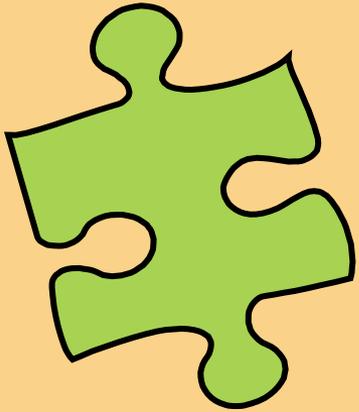
- Homeless persons are more likely to engage in criminal behavior
- Some, but not all, homeless persons enter the criminal justice system repeatedly
- Without a stable residence, some homeless persons may participate in illegal behaviors that they would otherwise never do
- Some of the highest risk and dangerous persons on parole and probation are homeless which makes successful supervision more challenging

# *Previous Yamhill County Efforts*

- Fall 2006, Yamhill County Commissioners passed a resolution to move forward with a 10-year plan
- 2007, Commissioner George and other community leaders created the Ending Homelessness Steering Committee (now Governing Council)
- 2008, shelter count, draft 10-year plan, Ending Homelessness Kickoff Event, and community support broadened

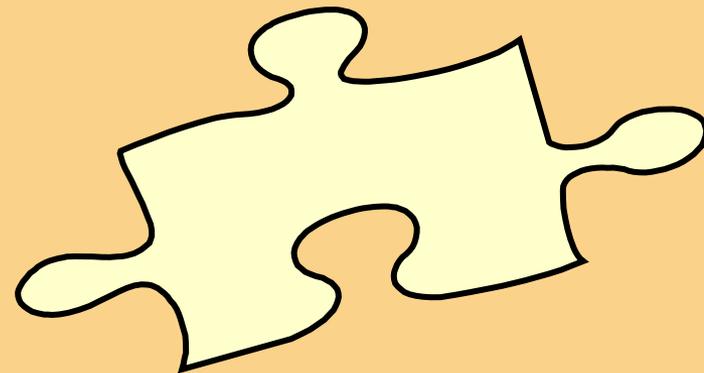
# *Current Progress*

- January 2011 – Countywide homeless count completed
- Evidenced Based Decision Making Initiative (jail) and Adult Mental Health Initiative (hospital) moving forward – address having approved discharge plans in place
- MOA in place – HAYC and YCAP, YCCC, YCH&HS, DHS – prioritized vouchers



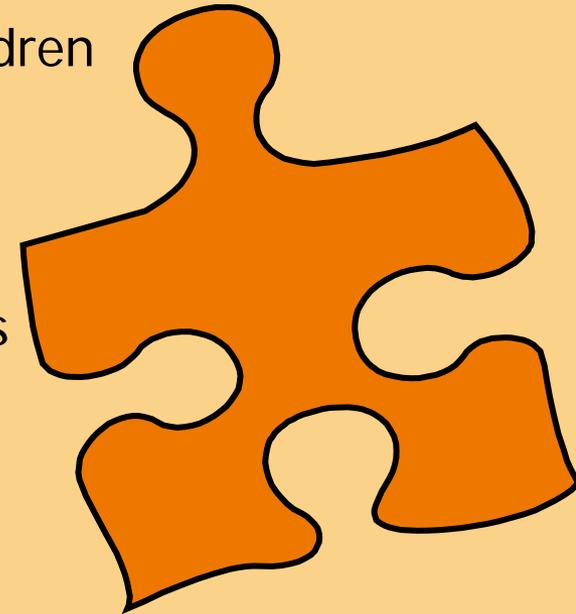
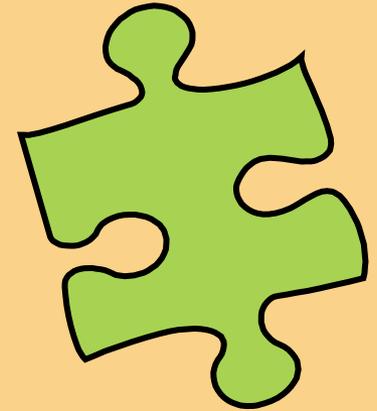
# *Current Progress*

- Community Connect Event – April 2011
  - 400 individuals served
  - 77 service providers, 70 volunteers
- First Federal Facebook page serving as a hub for local volunteer opportunities
- Communication/coordination – Yamhill Providers list serve
  - Member increase 53%
  - Message increase 42%



# *Current Progress*

- Community meals
  - McMinnville – increased to eight per week
  - Newberg – increased from 3 to 4 nights/week
- Affordable Workforce Housing (Habitat)
  - McMinnville – 2 units
  - Newberg – 2 units
  - Sheridan – 1 unit
- Shelters
  - Henderson House – 2011 – 46 women, 44 children
  - Thugz off Drugs – 119 adults and 22 children
  - YCAP – 37 families
  - YCGRM – 106 men, 54 women, 26 children
  - C-WISH – Newberg - 20 nights – 32 individuals
    - McMinnville – 22 nights – 192 individuals

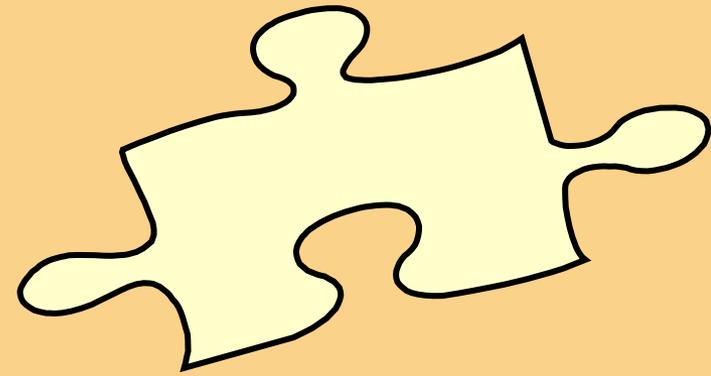


# *Current Progress*

- Newberg Development Code changes to encourage affordable housing development
- Assistance with security deposits/rental payments
- Ready-to-Rent classes and Landlord education
- Mentoring opportunities – Love INC
- YCAP – 13 youth sheltered through Safe Shelter program
- Hope on the Hill – EDGE classes (job skills program)
- Love INC – job opportunities through Love Links
- Healthy Kids Program – Over 10,000 kids now enrolled in program in Yamhill County

# *2012 Goals*

- Utilize YCAP AmeriCorps Volunteer
  - Establish community capacity to facilitate
    - Homeless Count
    - Community Connect Event
- Continue work on Initiatives
  - Evidence Based Decision Making
  - Adult Mental Health
- Establish Daytime Service Center/Resource space



# *2012 Goals*

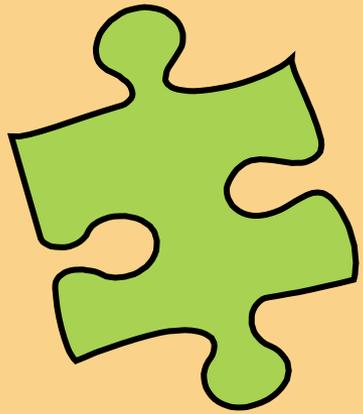
- Increase # of community meals in Newberg to 5 nights a week
- Increase the number of breakfast bags and sack lunch kits
- Secure funding for multi-family development in Newberg
- Work with Thugz Off Drugz, Henderson Housing, Yamhill County Gospel Rescue Mission and Newberg Community Shelter
  - Assess capacity and determine ability/desire to expand services

# *2012 Goals*

- Continue to work with cities on development codes
  - Enable more affordable housing to be developed
- Advocate at state and federal levels
  - Increased investment in affordable housing programs
- Implement strategies for runaway and homeless youth
- Address stigma of criminal background/spotty employment history with employers. Connect people to job training/placement programs.

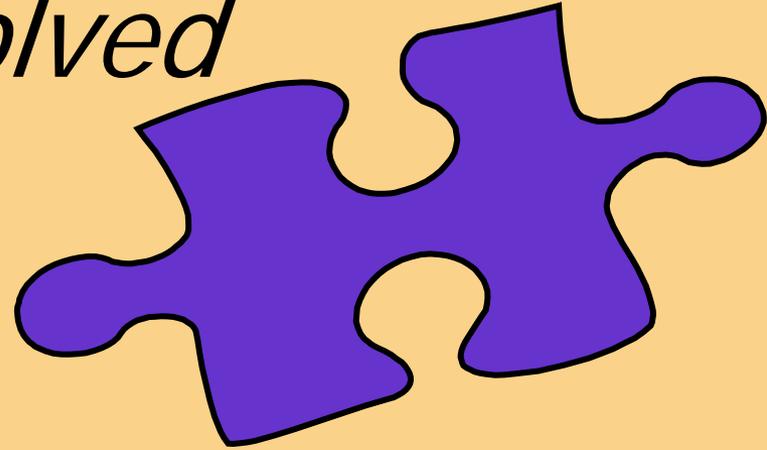
# *Three Important Concepts*

1. The long term goal is to build a stronger community with more productive, self sufficient, and contributing members
2. Sustainability is key; we don't want to become overly dependent on government programs
3. Some people may always need level of assistance, but the cost impact on resources will be significantly reduced

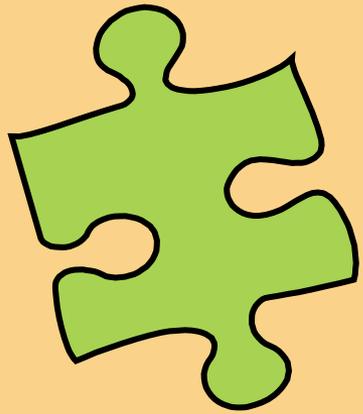


## *Top Three Reasons To Get Involved*

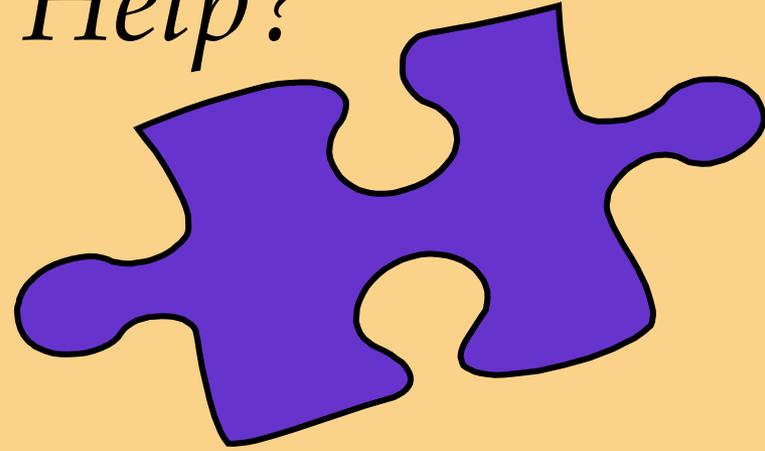
- 1. Fiscal responsibility**
- 2. Community safety**
- 3. Humanitarian values & compassion**



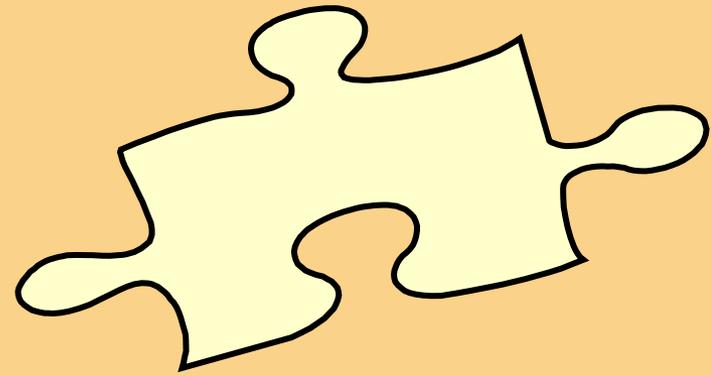
***You Can Make a Difference!***

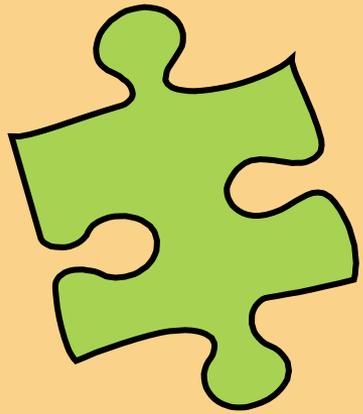


## *“How Can you Help?”*

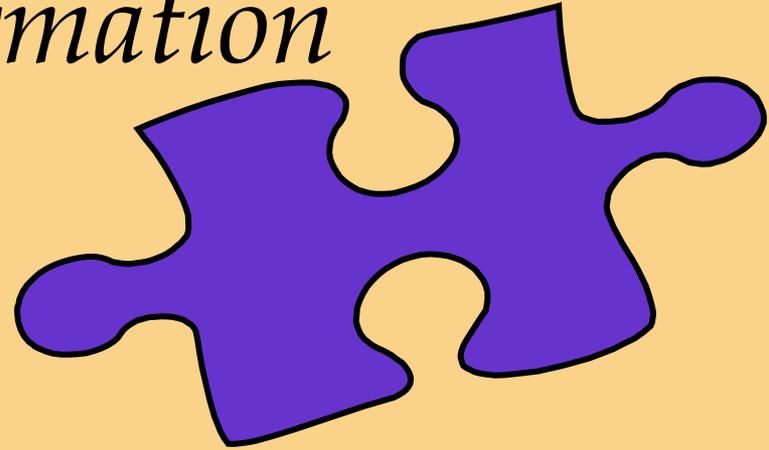


- Homeless Count
- Community Connect
- C-WISH – volunteering for inclement weather shelters
- Volunteering at other community agencies that are listed in update





## *For More Information*



- Yamhill County website
  - [http://www.co.yamhill.or.us/homelessness/home\\_index.asp](http://www.co.yamhill.or.us/homelessness/home_index.asp)
- Contact:  
Elise Hui at [ehui@hayc.org](mailto:ehui@hayc.org), 503-883-4318

