

Suggested Action Plan for Neighborhood Association Homeless Committee (draft)

1. Donate to Portland Rescue Mission (KOIN news has a link)
2. Advocate by writing weekly emails to the commissioners of Portland, the mayor and Deborah Kafoury, county chair of Multnomah County so that the homeless who are drug addicted have access to detox centers, psychiatric assessment and care, minimum of three months of rehab, sober living homes, job training and jobs and long term recovery support
3. Ask for a long term, ten year financial commitment to fund care for the mentally ill to receive emergency care psychiatric hospital beds, assessment and long term care
4. Advocate for the long term finances for regular (weekly) trash removal to be picked up at all homeless camps and provide trash bins in every location of homeless camps
5. Advocate for stationary mobile shower stations in every neighborhood, some drive through homeless camps and offer clean clothes and showers on a weekly basis and port-a-potties at all camps until homes become available.
6. Advocate for funding mobile units of mental health workers to scour the city on trimet transit, light rail and buses and neighborhoods to approach those in need to take them to an intake center for help, this may well take months of interaction to gain trust
7. The goal is to end living in tents and vehicles which will require a massive long term infusion of cash from city, county, state and the federal level
8. Mental health drop in centers could be in every neighborhood?
9. With so many vacant buildings with businesses who lost their business why can't these mental health and drug rehab services be located in neighborhoods?
10. The meth psychosis from the new meth is evident and is very dangerous to meth users and the community in Portland, is the brain damage from the new meth permanent?
11. What is the cost of not creating a stable financial flow of money to fund the services needed for the homeless?
12. What is the future of Portland in ten years or twenty if we do not address and maintain a clean, trash free, graffiti free, needle free parks and neighborhoods?
13. Public safety for those ill with addiction, mental health, homeless, loss of job and family support (why did their families abandon them, can the city interview the families of the homeless to see what they have tried)
14. If the safe rest villages have no rules, (curfew, drug testing, goal setting with counselors -the city of Bend is doing this) all will be for naught
15. The city of Portland and Multnomah county has failed in the last ten years to address homelessness and emergency action is critical to accomplish services now. We need to hold our elected officials accountable by constant communication of our demands to them.

Research: <https://www.kgw.com/article/news/local/tiny-home-pods-help-portlanders-facing-homelessness/283-c01dea86-cb4d-4dd7-ac34-dc60a486bb60>. Tiny Pods

Portland and Multnomah Development pushes out C3PO (Creating Conscious Communities with people outside) homeless village (relocated two of three villages) They were never built to be permanent.

Psychotic episodes of the homeless in Old Town Willamette Weekly:

<https://www.wweek.com/news/2021/09/29/higher-rates-of-psychotic-episodes-in-old-town-prompt-homeless-service-providers-to-hatch-deescalation-plan/>

Summary: Portland Mayor passes the buck to fund mobile crisis services to Multnomah County: "So Wheeler's office informally shopped the idea with the county to fund crisis workers for Old Town. No dice. "We proposed that, and it didn't happen," Allen says. No written plan or request was ever formally made.

What could we actually do to help support homeless in our neighborhood?

I want to do everything I can to support them getting homes, rehab, recovery, job skills assessment, stability and I hope our city supports long term financial investment for the homeless. I have lived in this city for 9 years and have never seen a story on what they day to day life is like, where do they go for food? Toilets? Washing? Clean clothes? How long do they go without food? How many times have they been assaulted? Why did their families abandon them?

Personal family story of drug recovery, my stepson was addicted to drugs (heroin and everything else) for 15 years, from age 15 to 30, his mother enabled him (paying rent, buying him a car, etc.) so Michael and I weren't faced with the tough love choice of letting him hit rock bottom and live on the streets. During the 4th intervention, we paid \$25,000 out of our

medical emergency fund to pay for three months of rehab in Costa Mesa, California. He then had to do three months of sober living which he paid for, he found housing by his retired brain surgeon uncle in Montana so he can work full time and go to school full time he will graduate from college next Fall and has four years of sobriety. Our overall cost to help him for 15 years was \$40,000. When he went into rehab, the counselors said it would take him 14 to 16 months to start to feel happiness because of the long term effects of his drug addiction.

I attended a Oregon Humanities Think and Drink zoom talk by Paul Sussi who worked in downtown shelters for ten years, it was excellent, I attended the Portland for People Zoom session yesterday on Facebook - Mayor Ted Wheeler, Bob Day - Portland police commander, Kimberly Dixon social worker and the man who runs Cahoots in Eugene was there, 1,000 people were there demanding public safety accountability. That session was recorded and available to view.