



COMMUNITY ACTION

2475 Center St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

Ph. 503-585-6232
Fax 503-375-7580
www.mycommunityaction.org

**HELPING PEOPLE
EXIT POVERTY**

Collins Foundation
1618 SW 1st Ave.
Portland, OR 97201

RE: Salem Housing Authority – Letter of Support

To Selection Committee,

As a representative of MWVCAA - ARCHES, I would like to express our support for Salem Housing Authority (SHA) in their grant application with the Collins Foundation.

During 2019, 1,095 individuals were identified in Marion and Polk County during the bi-annual Point in Time count. 38.5% of which are defined as chronically Homeless under HUD's definition. The lack of permanent supportive housing is a leading cause for this elevated chronic rate. To combat this issue, SHA seeks to expand their housing services to include a SOAR technician.

This addition to the Homeless Rental Assistance Program (HRAP) would increase SHA's supportive service offerings. Where by generating access to Social Security for the area's chronic sub-population. This action ensures financial supports which can lead to enhanced long-term housing outcomes.

It is the belief of MWVCAA that this program will positively impact housing outcomes through the development of financial resiliency. Therefore, as representative of MWVCAA, I support the SOAR application presented by SHA. A vital, and high quality, service for the betterment of Salem's most vulnerable citizens.

Thank you for accepting our letter of support and helping build a compassionate community.

Sincerely,

Ashley Hamilton
ARCHES Program Director
Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency
P: 503-302-8818
E: Ashley.Hamilton@mwvcaa.org