



**City of Bainbridge Island
Housing Solutions Center Year End Report 2022**

Report on Execution of Services:

1. Summarize the activities undertaken in providing the scope of services described in Attachment A.

March 2022 marked the seventh year of operations for the Housing Solutions Center (HSC), working with the social work staff at Helpline House on Bainbridge Island, after receiving a second funding award from the City of Bainbridge Island. Working through direct client contact and referrals from Helpline House staff, we interviewed clients identifying with housing needs. The half-time HSC navigator met with 99 unduplicated households, 15 of whom were literally homeless (ie. Living in a place not meant for human habitation). Additional households were at significant risk of losing their housing due to an imminent eviction. These remaining 84 households had housing but the housing costs were so high that their housing stability was in jeopardy.

HSC services provided included: Referrals for deposit and rental assistance funding, emergency shelter, supportive housing, landlord referrals, collaborations with Kitsap Mental Health, employment and training referrals, Peninsula Community Health referrals for mental and physical health, community outreach, and Veteran's Assistance referrals, along with working closely with community partners.

2. Reference the project objectives identified in your project proposal. Were those objectives achieved? Why or why not? Were there any unexpected positive outcomes or challenges?

The most significant goal of this project is to provide assistance to families and individuals who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless to secure housing and/or funding to stay housed. The ultimate goal of this project is to help as many households as possible that are in crisis to find permanent housing or at least shelter on an interim basis until more permanent housing resources can be identified. In the last couple years we have seen the need for affordable housing sharply increase. There is an insufficient supply and an ever increasing demand. People who work and live on Bainbridge Island want to continue to live and raise their families there and remain part of the community. We are committed to working with people as long as it takes to get them connected to options that may work for them. In many cases, this includes helping them move off the island to more affordable parts of Kitsap County or transportation assistance to family members outside the area and even other states.



Now in our seventh year, we are an established resource on Bainbridge Island. We have maintained an excellent community partnership with Helpline House and our contact information is distributed throughout the community. We also work regularly with and receive referrals from Housing Kitsap (Rhododendron Apartments and Finch Place), Ad West (Virginia Villa and island Terrace Apartments), and Housing Resources Bainbridge.

3. Reference the specific measurable results identified in your project proposal. Were they achieved? If not, what challenges prevented the achievement of the anticipated results? How many Bainbridge Island residents were served? Are conditions for those residents generally improving or worsening? Please explain.

OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES 2022		
Program Activities or Services	Annual Goal: Unduplicated Bainbridge Island residents Served (Outputs)	Outcomes of Receiving Program/Service (Outcomes)
Navigation and Referral Services	150 Households (HH) will meet with navigators and receive housing and community referrals	99 HH (165 individuals) met with navigators and received referrals
Deposit Assistance	8 HH will be eligible for assistance, find a landlord, and move into permanent housing	0 HH were assisted with funds to move into permanent housing
Eviction Prevention	20 HH will be eligible for assistance that will prevent eviction or homelessness	31 HH (64 individuals) were assisted with eviction prevention funds

During 2022, Housing Solutions Center provided rental assistance totaling \$349,177 on Bainbridge Island, which prevented the eviction and potential homelessness for 31 households. We were not able to provide deposit and initial rental assistance to any households on Bainbridge Island in 2022. Our numbers for assistance in households served have decreased again this year in large part due to the COVID 19 pandemic, changes in state housing laws, and the sharp increases in rent on Bainbridge Island. We were also unable to meet our projected outcomes for deposit assistance due to the challenge of finding both affordable housing and landlords willing to take clients with multiple barriers on the Island. We continue to work with many households seeking HSC services, getting them connected with affordable housing and landlords whenever possible. The biggest barrier we are finding to help these households is the lack of affordable housing. Even with the available financial assistance, we have many people who are still unable to find an affordable place to live. HSC is also able to link households with other services they can utilize that HSC does not provide. Those receiving eviction prevention funds were able to stay stably housed (often for multiple months) while assessing other income or housing options. In addition to eviction prevention funds, we spent an additional \$9,596 in



utility assistance with the COVID 19 pandemic funding described in the next section. We were able to spend a total of \$358,773 on both utilities and funding to keep individuals and families from becoming homeless on Bainbridge Island.

Actual Bainbridge Island residents served by the Housing Solutions Center:

January-March 2022

Total clients assisted: 37. Of those 36 (97%) live on Bainbridge Island.

April-June 2022

Total clients assisted: 47. Of those 45 (96%) live on Bainbridge Island.

July-September 2022

Total clients assisted: 30. All of these clients live on Bainbridge Island.

October-December 2022

Total clients assisted: 19. All of these clients live on Bainbridge Island.

4. Describe the involvement of any partners identified in your project proposal, as well as any unexpected cooperative relationships that developed through the implementation of the project. Did the City funding help attract additional funding or other types of support?

The Housing Solutions Center has multiple community partners throughout Kitsap County that we regularly work closely with including Helpline House, North Kitsap Fishline, Housing Kitsap, Kitsap Mental Health, the YWCA, and several local homeless shelters, just to name a few. Our partnership with Helpline House has been immensely beneficial to our mutual clients, especially through collaborative referrals to and from their social workers and mental health professionals. In addition, we maintain a close relationship with Housing Resources Bainbridge by assisting their clients in need of rental assistance and referring client to their housing waitlist. We also work with the local Oxford Houses, domestic violence service providers, and other affordable housing options to ensure that clients stay housed by providing rental assistance (and deposit assistance when possible). We also partner throughout the county with treatment centers, Peninsula Community Health Services, Kitsap Transit (who provides free bus tickets), and employment and training programs.

In addition to rental assistance provided by Kitsap Community Resources and the Salish Behavioral Health Organization, we were able to secure funding for rental assistance through 1/10 of 1% that can help individuals and families with mental health issues or substance use disorder (SUD) with their rent for up to 6 months. Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, we were able to utilize 3 new funding sources this year: CDBG funding, CARES Act funding, and ERAP funding became available to HSC in an effort to help combat those struggling financially during the pandemic.



5. Reference the projects budget specified in Attachment A. Provide an analysis of actual expenses and income in relation to the project budget.

AREA	BUDGET	COBI 2021 Funds Spent	BALANCE
Human Resources (Staff Salaries, Supervision, Benefits, Consultant Services)	\$ 19,181.00	\$ 16,356.33	\$ 2,824.67
Space/Facilities			
Equipment Purchase			
Travel/Training	\$ 500.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
Insurance			
Operating Expenses	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 811.76	\$ 188.24
Scholarships/Stipends			
Other - Direct rental Assistance			
Indirect Administrative Costs	\$ 1,819.00	\$ 1,532.79	\$ 286.21
TOTAL	\$ 22,500.00	\$ 18,950.88	\$ 3,549.12

This budget reflects that costs in all categories ran lower than expected.

6. Please provide a short description of how the City funding has helped your organization or community. Please also include any quotes or stories related to this support.

The Housing Solutions Center's goal is to connect as many households in crisis to permanent housing as possible. When housing is not available, we encourage clients to go to a shelter on an interim basis until more permanent resources can be identified. The funding provided by the City of Bainbridge Island has made it possible for us employ a housing navigator who is particularly knowledgeable about resources on Bainbridge Island and the surrounding area. This navigator is primarily dedicated to clients from Bainbridge Island and North Kitsap County.

7. What recommendations, if any, do you have regarding future funding cycles?

Having funding available from the City of Bainbridge Island is always beneficial in helping to provide Housing Solutions Center services for those living on the Island. We are very pleased with the two year funding cycle and happy to be a part of the funding through City of Bainbridge Island.

