



## Our Path Home

### **Project Evaluation:**

The Shelter Better Task Force [Recommendation Report](#) outlined a request for Our Path Home, as the public-private partnership for ending homelessness in Ada County, to evaluate shelter siting proposals for alignment with best practices. Based on a shelter needs analysis, shelter best practices, community criteria, and recommendations for leadership, Our Path Home developed this template evaluation for proposed shelter sites.

### **Interfaith Sanctuary State Street Emergency Shelter:**

This template has been filled out with answers from Interfaith Sanctuary based on their State Street emergency shelter proposal. This form is for review by the Our Path Home Executive Committee to assess the proposed site for alignment with best practices. Ultimately, Our Path Home Executive Committee will host a proposal specific discussion which will conclude with a vote to determine Our Path Home's formal support for the project. Notes will be taken for the discussion to capture general feedback, including identification of where best practices are unmet by proposal (if they are unmet by a proposal) and how they could be addressed by the proposal if it is to move forward.

### **Our Path Home Executive Committee:**

Through review and discussion of the proposal materials and evaluation, the Our Path Home Executive Committee voted on Monday, September 27<sup>th</sup> 2021 to support the project moving forward, finding the proposal meets the shelter needs of the partnership and satisfactorily aligned with shelter best practices. The discussion and vote were recorded in the EC Recap from the meeting.

## Needs Analysis

The [Shelter Needs Analysis](#)<sup>1</sup>, conducted by the Corporation for Supportive Housing, defined an absolute system need for additional shelter beds. The analysis concluded there are significant system gaps for families (111 beds) and medically fragile guests, in addition to the need for additional low-barrier beds to better covered bed capacity for individuals experiencing homelessness that are not serviced by high-barrier shelter beds in the local emergency shelter system.

Families	94 beds for families - units set up for privacy and unit specific storage, in segment of the building to serve only families
Medically Fragile	22 beds for medically fragile - private beds with unit specific storage, A.D.A. bathrooms, space for medical equipment; 2 hospice rooms
Individuals (gender segmentation)	84 beds for individuals - 20 private rooms with unit specific storage, desks; 40 single beds with unit specific storage; 24 bunk-beds, access to general storage

## Business & Operations Plan

Staffing	<b>Interfaith Sanctuary Staffing Teams</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>Admin Team</u>: 3</li> <li>- <u>Interfaith Team (shelter)</u>: 27</li> </ul>
Remodel Budget & Development	<b>Proposal One-Time Costs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>Building purchase</u>: purchased at \$2.4M with support from Idaho First Bank and Idaho Housing and Finance Association</li> <li>- <u>Remodel cost</u>: approximately \$2.5M, Interfaith has \$2.7M in promised funding</li> </ul>

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<sup>1</sup> For the analysis, data was evaluated from Our Path Home’s Homeless Management Information System on shelter utilization over the past two years including: unique households entering shelter, unique households exiting shelter, number of households exiting into permanent housing, the average length of stay for all exits, median length of stay for all exits, average length of shelter stay for all stayers, median length of stay for all stayers. In addition, we reviewed Our Path Home’s shelter capacity which includes the number of beds by shelter and by service population (adult only, families with children, unaccompanied youth). Beyond shelter, the needs analysis covered projections looking into the future. These projections considered how the demand for shelter might increase due to population growth and the increased use of shelter by our unsheltered population. It also looked at how our need for shelter will be impacted by our progress toward housing people experiencing homelessness. As described in the presentation, the tool developed for this analysis will be retained by Our Path Home to be used in ongoing strategic planning.

<b>Ongoing Operational Costs</b>	FY23 projected income totaling to \$1.9 M with expenses projected at \$1.84
<b>Design &amp; Floor Plan</b>	Found in attached presentation slides 14 - 17.

### Shelter Practices

<b>Requirements for Entry Limited</b>	<p>Low-barrier shelter ensures access to men, women, and families with children, where populations are segmented by shelter design in several different population specific unit configurations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Only disqualifying factor is sex offender, in which case coordination occurs with Boise Rescue Mission that is designated shelter for these individuals</li> </ul>
<b>Welcoming Guests &amp; Behavioral Expectations</b>	<p>All guests complete an intake that includes a behavioral agreement, focused on guest safety - no violence, no engagement of staff/guests, no alcohol/drugs inside building, no weapons</p> <p>Behavioral Correction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>De-escalation by Interfaith Sanctuary staff</u>: guest kept on-site, removed to either available hospice space or to day shelter, provided floor space and staff oversight</li> <li>- <u>De-escalation by safety partners</u>: first move with Mobile Crisis called to move guest to another shelter/voluntary hospital admission; escalation or extremity of situation with 911 to move guest to another shelter/involuntary hospital admission/jail (reserved for violence/physical assault)</li> </ul>
<b>The 4 P's</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>Pets</u>: service and companion animals allowed - general pets are not allowed; process for service animal admission - staff ask if animal is required for a disability, if yes then asked what task animal is trained for, request vaccination records; have vaccination partners (Nomadic Critters, Habitat Vet)</li> <li>- <u>Possessions</u>: outside lockers provide general storage for all guests; families units and majority of the beds serving individuals are accompanied by space specific storage access</li> <li>- <u>Parking</u>: 31 spaces on site for guest parking, not allowed to sleep in vehicle but allowed to park them on premises; working towards process for determining total number of spaces available for guest parking</li> <li>- <u>Partners</u>: families housed together, partners without children can access private rooms as they are available; limited in number based on reduced bed count in project proposal</li> </ul>
<b>24/7 Access, Day Shelter, Night Curfew</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 24/7 access to the facility with day shelter services provided to all Interfaith Sanctuary Guests</li> <li>- Curfew being determined, either holding at 5 pm or opening for a period from 5 - 7 pm; desire to control intake and provide neighborhood reasonable expectation of guest inflow</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Developing process for intention of return/bed hold with guests to accommodate reasonable need for inability to meet curfew</li> </ul>
<b>Intake Process</b>	Nightly intake, limited bed availability requires bed coordination between shelter operators; Interfaith Sanctuary prioritizes beds for individuals based on total system constraints to provide beds for individuals with the least amount of options (examples: medically fragile based on severity of issue; families with either single fathers or with male children older than 12)
<b>Housing Plan Development with Guests</b>	All guests connected with Our Path Home CONNECT upon entry into Interfaith Sanctuary system to sure housing plans are developed and prioritized for all guests.
<b>No “Length of Stay” Limits</b>	No time-out for guests
<b>Night By Night Shelter Role (not housing)</b>	Offers night by night emergency shelter, allows guests to have beds saved for the amount of time they are staying while moving towards exit to housing
<b>Data Collection</b>	Participate in HMIS; will work with ICA to develop plan for increasing data capture and accuracy for “exits”
<b>Supportive Services</b>	Include daytime programming, case management, medical, recovery, mental health, employment & job training, nutrition, support groups, daycare/school.
<b>Transportation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Interfaith Sanctuary: 3 vans that serve guests in getting to employment activities, medical appointments, child/youth activities, and other similar guest movement</li> <li>- Public Transit: on major bus route running, see <a href="#">Valley Regional Transit schedule</a></li> <li>- School: school required to provide busing</li> </ul>

## Process

<b>Community Engagement with CUP</b>	<b>Engagement Timeline</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>Paused CUP</u>: outreach to Veterans Park Neighborhood Association over email and presentation on January 27<sup>th</sup>, neighbor meeting on February 5<sup>th</sup> privacy/security fence, neighborhood meeting February 10<sup>th</sup>, several other gatherings in February and March</li> <li>- <u>Shelter Better Task Force</u>: 9 meetings over course of more than two months, extensively documented online for engagement on shelter best practices and Interfaith Sanctuary’s proposed design and programs</li> <li>- <u>Restarted CUP</u>: Interfaith Sanctuary plans to host additional virtual community engagement event in mid-October, meeting will be noticed to neighbors in September with more outreach performed to</li> </ul>
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	enhance community engagement, agenda will be presentation follow by question and answer session, still determining facilitator
<b>Proactive Emergency &amp; Safety Plan</b>	<p><b>Develop with partners after the CUP issued, building upon agency comments in CUP process</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>Partners:</u> Our Path Home OUTREACH, Boise Police Department, Mobile Crisis (Department of Health and Welfare), Boise Fire Department, Ada County Paramedics</li> </ul>
<b>Good Neighbor Agreements</b>	<p><b>Develop with interested businesses and neighborhood associations after the CUP issued (template attached, developed with individual organizations)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>Agreement parties:</u> Corona Village, Flying Pie, Burger &amp; Brew, Valore Point, Collister Neighborhood Association, Sunset Neighborhood Association, Veteran’s Park Neighborhood Association, Collister Church</li> <li>- <u>Develop Good Neighbor Committee/Board:</u> 2 neighbors from each neighborhood (1 neighborhood association leader, 1 neighborhood leader), 1 leader for each business, 3 Interfaith Sanctuary staff, 2 Interfaith Sanctuary guests</li> </ul>