A Place to Call Home: Columbia County

Homes give people an opportunity to build better lives and communities. But how do Columbia County residents fare?

We have a serious shortage of affordable housing

For every 100 families with extremely low incomes, there are only 32 affordable units available.

1 out of 4 renters are paying more than 50% of their income in rent

2 out of 3 renters with extremely low incomes are paying more than 50% of their income in rent

1,210 units are needed to meet the need

Our neighbors are facing homelessness

1 in every 30 students experienced homelessness in 2018-2019

That's 218 children during the 2018-2019 school year in Columbia County.

Oregonians on fixed incomes struggle to pay rent even for a one bedroom apartment.

Social Security: $9,396
Veterans' pension: $17,845
Retirement: $17,576

1 bedroom housing wage: $49,360
Workers can't afford rent

$10.29

Mean renter wage

99 hours

Number of hours per week at minimum wage needed to afford a 2 bedroom apartment

Homeownership is out of reach for many

Average home price someone can afford

Area median renter income: $154,630
Construction Laborer: $186,068
Teacher: $271,598

Median home value: $334,300

Median Home Value, 2019

$334,300 median home value in 2019

...a 6% increase since 2018

A household must earn at least $57,640 to afford a 2 bedroom apartment at fair market rent.

- Housing wage: $57,640
- Teacher: $271,598
- Nursing Assistant: $34,045
- Cook: $29,207
- Minimum wage: $23,400

- Construction Laborer: $186,068
- Teacher: $271,598
- Area median renter income: $154,630

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