



Restore Funding for the Emergency Housing Account (EHA) and State Homeless Assistance Program (SHAP)

Everyone deserves a safe place to call home. We believe in an Oregon where families and neighbors are supported in times of crisis, and given opportunities to get back on their feet.

The prolonged recession means that many families and individuals are one crisis away from not being able to pay their rent, and many may experience homelessness. The Emergency Housing Account (EHA) and the State Homeless Assistance Program (SHAP) provide short term help to stabilize individuals and families and prevent them from becoming homeless. EHA and SHAP also help people who are homeless or fleeing domestic violence to quickly enter safe, stable housing.

We must stop going backwards. We need to increase General Fund dollars to restore the Emergency Housing Account (EHA) and State Homeless Assistance Program (SHAP) to their 2007 biennium levels, plus inflation. This requires adding back \$3 Million to EHA and \$1 Million to SHAP for a total of \$7.5 Million (EHA) and \$3.6 Million (SHAP). Let's act to prevent or end homelessness for thousands of Oregonians.

EHA and SHAP have experienced severe cuts over the past few years, even as the need has skyrocketed. We need every penny of state funding possible to keep families stable. The Legislature can ensure that programs which help meet essential needs—such as housing and food—are among the first to receive additional dollars as our economy improves.

Housing provides everyone, and especially children, with an opportunity to succeed in life. To prevent and end homelessness for families and individuals throughout Oregon, we need to maximize resources in both EHA and SHAP. These proven, effective and efficient programs can help prevent and end homelessness for thousands of Oregonians. Emergency Housing Account (EHA) is our most flexible tool to provide short term assistance to prevent and end homelessness, and the State Homeless Assistance Program (SHAP) is used to provide emergency shelter, particularly for people seeking to escape violence. EHA and SHAP are allocated to community partners in all counties in the state by formula to meet the most pressing needs in each community. **We urge you to restore funding for the EHA and SHAP.**



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