

Episcopal Church in Western Oregon
Report to the 135th Annual Meeting of Convention
Submitted October 16, 2023 to the Secretary of the Convention

Contact: **Housing Crisis Working Group**

Phone none

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Working Group members in 2023 in alphabetical order (we have no leader):

- Carl Braginsky, St. Michael and All Angels, Portland;
- Jan Childs, St. John the Evangelist, Milwaukie;
- Cass Cole, St. David of Wales, Portland;
- The Rev. Jennifer Creswell, St. Andrew, Portland;
- The Rev. Sara Fischer, Sts. Peter and Paul, Portland;
- Sara Jameson, St. Martin, Lebanon.

2023 Activities Report:

- Submitted to Diocese ongoing progress reports including information on causes and background information on homelessness in Oregon.
- Provided a page of theological underpinnings, Biblical references and mandates requiring our action to end homelessness
- Provided Housing Crisis resources for inclusion on Diocesan website
- Prepared and conducted a survey to gauge parish actions in solving housing crisis
- Summarized survey data in a visual graphic to showcase actions around the Diocese
- Sponsored speaker Kevin Nye in May, 2023. Kevin is the author of Faith Can Lead Us Home; A Christian Call to End Homelessness, and works with houseless youth in Minneapolis as director of a housing agency. Kevin spoke at four venues while in Oregon.

Expenditures

- \$2,100 for travel expenses and honorarium for Kevin Nye

2023 Goals Progress

- Identified three to four “housing success stories” to profile via short videos. The first video is under production, with assistance and distribution of videos to be provided by the Diocese
- Summarized survey data in a visual graphic (map) to showcase actions around the Diocese (see page 2.)

2024 Goals

- Continue producing “housing success” videos and share.
- Create materials for congregations containing tools for theological reflection and discernment, as well as an invitation to particular action steps.
- Host one or more Zoom (or in person) workshops to follow up on our videos for parishes/missions.
- Continue identifying organizations we can partner with for housing.

