

**From:** Meg Martin <meg@iwshelter.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 27, 2018 2:06 PM  
**To:** Cheryl Selby; Jessica Bateman; Nathaniel Jones; Clark Gilman; Lisa Parshley; Renata Rollins; Jim Cooper  
**Cc:** Steve Hall; Danny Kadden  
**Subject:** A Request

Greetings Mayor Selby and distinguished City Council Members,

As you know Interfaith Works is currently operating the Community Care Center, 6 days a week, in partnership with Providence Health and many other key service providers in Thurston County to serve the highest needs citizens of our city and county who are experiencing homelessness. Thank you for all the support the city has given thus far to get this unprecedented collaboration and innovative program off the ground.

I am writing today to urgently request \$30,000 from the City of Olympia to help fill a gap in funds for the current program year for the 5FTE of staffing resources Interfaith Works provides as the primary support of the day-to-day operations of the Community Care Center. This contribution will likely be accompanied by other jurisdictions in hopes that a regional approach to supporting sensible solutions can be fostered. So far we have made a matching request for Thurston County emergency funds that is being considered, and we found out today that Tumwater City Council plans to allocate CDBG service dollars to the project for a comparable amount for the coming program year.

While many key stakeholders understand the necessity of adequate access to 24 hr. sheltering and ample opportunity for people to connect to mental, physical, and substance use related health services, our community has not yet created a clear and sustainable funding plan to support endeavors which would help us achieve our 5 year plan benchmarks. The vital organizations serving those with the highest needs and the most complex members of our community who are disabled and experiencing chronic homelessness, are often left scrambling to fill gaps in program year budgets because of a lack of clear funding priorities.

We are hopeful that this dynamic will change in the coming year with additional resources and coordination coming to the city and the county to address this humanitarian crisis that our community is facing. In the meantime, this request would greatly help us make it through our program year in September, at which point additional county homeless funding support dollars through 2163/CHG will become available.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and please do not hesitate to reach out with questions.

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**"Overcoming poverty is not a task of charity it is an act of justice."  
Nelson Mandela**