

YV Conference of Governments
Housing and Homeless Program
YVCOG Homeless Programs
3/9/2017 deadline

Sacred Messengers DBA Transform Yakima Together Emergency Homeless Encampment and Day Shelter

\$ 100,000.00 Requested

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Application Questions

1. Please summarize your project or proposed use of funds, including specifically how it will address the immediate needs of the chronically homeless and how it fulfills a need currently not addressed (if applicable). (2 points)

Transform Yakima Together (TYT) recognizes the significant impact that unmanaged homelessness has on local businesses, housed residents and governmental entities that are located in and around the downtown core.

Providing Downtown Yakima with a safe, accommodating, and well-managed solution for homeless individuals will create relief for downtown businesses, public works, law enforcement and sidewalks so that these places may be used for their intended purposes.

The current winter shelter program funded by YVCOG and managed by Yakima Neighborhood Health will end on March 21. As a result, dozens of homeless individuals will have no place to find shelter and will likely end up on public property or in the doorway of local businesses. A solution needs to be provided in order to meet the needs of these individuals as well as the business and government community.

Therefore, TYT proposes to create a Day Center at the Shiloh Navigation Center at 112 Pierce Ave, Yakima, WA, and a "managed," temporary encampment on the City-owned lot behind the old Kmart on Hwy 24 adjacent to the City's wastewater treatment plant. Due to the needed time for City approval and lease negotiations after the grant has been awarded, the temporary encampment will serve as a 24-hour shelter until the Day Center can be opened.

Filling the Gaps in Homeless Services

This project will succeed in fulfilling multiple needs outlined by the City of Yakima and YVCOG gap analysis.

Consolidation of Shelter Services

The Encampment and the Center will provide shelter for homeless adults. It will offer services to meet the basic needs of the street community and connect people to a coordinated network of vital social services. For the past several years, faith communities in the Yakima area have sheltered adult men and women, primarily during our wet and cold winter months. It is time to take the pressure off these amazing partners by providing unsheltered men and women with trained, qualified, paid staff who are able to meet needs that extend far beyond overnight stays in these communities' buildings.

TYT will prioritize meeting a person's basic needs by minimizing barriers to entry, providing a much-needed gateway to services including housing programs, drug and alcohol treatment, and mental health assistance. TYT will be establishing a comprehensive community network of providers via the MOU system, whereby these partnering agencies will be provided secure access to shared clients in one of the many meeting rooms at this facility.

Stabilizing the Homeless Community Stabilizes Our Entire Community

Our Shelter model emphasizes the importance of getting people off the streets as a public safety strategy. Safety concerns within the downtown core and surrounding residential areas stem partly from an unmanaged homeless population. On-site management of The Shelter will include a 24-hour trained staffing model, on-site, outdoor gathering space for guests, and a direct phone line to on-site management when issues or concerns arise. Moving people off public sidewalks and out of sleeping overnight in business doorways will be a major step for our downtown. Our ability to connect people with the large network of public services and members of the Faith Community will result in a positive outcome for all.

The Day Center will be overseen by the TYT staff, as well as utilize Homeless Outreach Teams from the community that have been trained to assist the homeless. The Day Center will provide unsheltered residents daytime sheltered provision protected from the elements. They can come inside for hot and cold beverages, food, counseling, health screenings, clothing, and other basic needs assistance from 7:30 AM to 7:30 PM. These additional health and essential needs services are provided as match services and not included in the TYT budget. The Day Center can accommodate up to 50 people at a time. TYT will be securing Memorandums of Understanding or MOUs with Community Clinics in the Yakima area. These MOUs will seek to secure outreach professionals and clinicians that are qualified to conduct health screenings and brief effective counseling sessions for TYT clients.

The temporary encampment will be managed by TYT staff and will host up to 50 guests each night. The camp will be open from 7:30 pm to 7:30 am every night with guests registering each night with the camp host. The camp will have separate areas for male and female guests along with storage facilities for the guests' belongings. A camp host will be on site at all times while the camp is open. The encampment will be cleared out and locked during the day.

Based on lessons learned from the operation of a tent city last summer and on the experience of the TYT staff, an encampment at the Fruitvale site would be managed in a very different manner than last year's tent city. For example, our proposal calls for a requirement that individuals be registered with the organization to stay in the encampment – meaning that it won't just be open for anyone to come at any time. There will be a maximum occupancy established that shall not be exceeded and the entrance will be controlled by security and individuals will need to check in when they come and go.

In addition, the plan calls for large military dormitory style tents to be used, rather than individual tents. We are close to an agreement with the National Guard to borrow these tents. This will keep the clutter that was experienced last summer to a minimum as well as allow for monitoring of resident activity. In addition, each person wishing to stay at the encampment will be asked to sign a Good Neighbor Agreement which will outline expectations for behavior and consequences if expectations are not met. Each resident will be expected to provide up to 10 hours of volunteer service at the encampment to help keep it clean and tidy.

To facilitate clients being able to travel between the encampment and the Day Center we will coordinate bus service with the city bus service, People to People or private buses. The bus schedule will pick the clients up in the morning and take them to the Center and then return them in the evening. Both trips will be timed so as to allow the clients to stop and get a meal at the Union Gospel Mission

2. Please describe the population you intend to serve as well as the estimated number of homeless individuals you intend to serve. (1 point)

“Transform Yakima Together” (TYT) will provide coordination of a shelter, meals and basic needs assistance to up to 50 homeless individuals and families from April 1, 2017, to June 30, 2017. This may be extended depending on how long it takes for the zoning approval for the 24-hour shelter.

3. Please describe the location of your project or proposed use of the funds and why that location was chosen. (1 point)

The day shelter will be at the Shiloh Navigation Center at 112 Pierce Ave, Yakima, and the “managed,” temporary encampment on the City-owned lot behind the old Kmart building off Hwy 24 adjacent to the City's water treatment plant.

The Shiloh Navigation Center was specifically chosen for several reasons. The first being we already have a relationship with the owners of the building who support the mission of TYT. The facility is currently located in a central area, which is in the business district and easily accessible by clients and service providers. The facility also currently is equipped with critical infrastructure such as a kitchen, which will minimize upstart cost and time.

The temporary tent encampment will be on property owned by the City behind the old Kmart building off Hwy 24 adjacent to the City's water treatment plant. This site was approved by City Council for the encampment at the March 7 City Council meeting. City staff has provided a no-cost lease agreement with Transform Yakima for this site.

Because of the last minute nature of this project and the RFP, we are still in the process of getting final approval by City Council and public hearing for rezoning. If for some reason this site is not approved or otherwise obtained then an alternative site will be pursued. We are confident we will be able to successfully resolve this issue and obtain a workable site.

4. Please explain how your project or proposed use of the funds complies with Yakima County's 5 Year Homeless Plan. (1 point)

This proposal complies with the needs identified by the YVCOG 5 Year Homeless plan by specifically building capacity to provide housing and other services identified as follows:

- Emergency shelter for single men, men with children, couples, households and individuals with pets, and large families;
- Housing and services for homeless individuals entering community from jails, correctional facilities, foster care, hospitals, mental institutions, and those who are chronically unsheltered.
- Emergency Overnight shelter;
- Coordination of case management both between homeless providers and other systems of care;
- Resident outreach and communication
- Integration of planning efforts

In addition to meeting these general needs, this proposal will meet the following goals and objectives of the 5 Year plan:

Goal 3: Develop additional Shelter beds with access to services

- 3.1 Support existing shelter programs, including Cold Weather Emergency Shelter
- 3.2 Encourage increased utilization of existing shelter services when appropriate for individuals
- 3.3 Obtain additional existing indoor location for low barrier shelter
- 3.5 Provide daytime shelter and common areas for homeless persons that create a safe environment
- 3.7 Establish consistent emergency shelter options including interim emergency measures.

Goal 6: Facilitate continued data collection efforts and share data between all programs

- 6.1 Use HMIS data and processes
- 6.2 Support Point-in-Time data collection efforts and improve accuracy
- 6.3 Obtain additional data on youth when available
- 6.4 Utilize visual reports / aides to provide transparency of program performance of clients being served

Goal 8: Build community and political commitment to end homelessness in our County

- 8.1 Develop understanding and information to foster a community voice and consistent message on issues related to homelessness
- 8.2 Engage political leaders to participate in creating solutions for addressing the causes of homelessness as well as solutions for addressing the causes of homelessness as well as programs to assist homeless issues

8.3 Engage and use the business community as well as faith-based organizations to lead in support of programs and solutions that address homeless issues

8.4 Engage with consumer advocate agencies

8.5 Engage with homeless individuals

8.6 Support and increase Valley-wide provider outreach to obtain new services that can address client needs.

5. Please list the date(s) upon which your project or proposed use of the funds will begin to serve the homeless population. (2 points)

If there are steps that need to be addressed before service can begin, please describe those steps and the estimated timeline.

"Transform Yakima Together" (TYT) will provide coordination of a shelter, meals and basic needs assistance to homeless individuals and families from March 21, 2017, to June 30, 2018. The model will rely on the attached "Unified Strategy to Deal with Homelessness," under the umbrella 501c.3 organization, TYT. TYT will staff and provide a shelter at the "Shiloh Navigation Center" (SNC) on Pierce Street in Yakima, as well as work with the Faith Community of the Yakima Valley to accommodate homeless residents with typical and special needs.

This year's program will be based on a three-phase program that will provide an interim plan (Phase I and II) for services to be rendered in the City of Yakima during the gap between the current Winter Shelter program and the new programs expected to be authorized under the new YVCOG 5-year plan beginning in July, 2017. This interim plan is necessary in order to allow for the time needed for the proposed Day Center and long-term 24-hour shelter location to go through the zoning review process, approximately four months.

Phase I calls for a "managed," temporary encampment on a City-owned lot behind the old Kmart on Hwy 24 adjacent to the City's wastewater treatment plant.

The temporary encampment will be managed by TYT staff and will host up to 50 guests each night. The encampment will operate 24 hours a day until the Day Center (Phase II) can be opened. (The opening of the Day Center is dependent on funding and TYT finalizing a lease on the proposed property.) The camp will have separate areas for male and female guests along with storage facilities for the guests' belongings. A camp manager will be on site at all times while the camp is open. An appropriate number of gender specific staff will monitor both the male and female spaces so as not to create a situation where genders are mixed both in clients and in staff. A camp host will be on site at all times while the camp is open.

To facilitate clients being able to travel between the encampment and the Day Center we will coordinate bus service with the city bus service, People to People or private buses. The bus schedule will pick the clients up in the morning and take them to the Center and then return them in the evening. Both trips will be timed so as to allow the clients to stop and get a meal at the Union Gospel Mission

6. What are the short term and long term goals of your program and describe how you will gauge success. (1 point)

TYT will achieve the general goal of building capacity to provide housing and other services identified through the following short and long term goals:

1. Provide Emergency shelter for single men, men with children, couples, households and individuals with pets, and large families by:

- Establishing an Emergency Overnight shelter (encampment) at the Fruitvale location;
- Developing additional Shelter beds with access to services and obtaining additional existing indoor location for low barrier shelter by securing the Shiloh Navigation Center location and ultimate rezoning for Mission status.
- Providing daytime shelter and common areas for homeless persons that create a safe environment by establishing the Shiloh Day Center prior to obtaining 24-hour capability / approval.

2. Coordination of case management both between homeless providers and other systems of care by establishing a comprehensive community network of providers via the MOU system, whereby these partnering agencies will be provided secure access to shared clients in one of the many meeting rooms at this facility.

3. Resident outreach and communication by on-site management of the Shelter that will include a 24-hour trained staffing model, on-site, outdoor gathering space for guests, and a direct phone line to on-site management when issues or concerns arise. As part of their stay with us, our guests will participate in a "good neighbor" program as well as participate in grounds-keeping and other work as they develop pride and ownership in the work we are doing. We will have round-the-clock staff and designated-monitored outdoor spaces to ensure no disruption to the businesses and activities in the surrounding area.

4. Facilitate continued data collection efforts and share data between all programs by:

- Using HMIS data and processes
- Supporting Point-in-Time data collection efforts and improve accuracy
- Obtaining and sharing additional data on youth when available
- Utilizing visual reports /aides to provide transparency of program performance of clients being served

5. Build community and political commitment to end homelessness in our County by:

- Developing understanding and information to foster a community voice and consistent message on issues related to homelessness. TYT leadership is an active voice in public forums and the media to encourage a positive perspective and involvement toward the homeless by the community.
- Engaging political leaders to participate in creating solutions for addressing the causes of homelessness as well as solutions for addressing the causes of homelessness as well as programs to assist homeless issues. TYT leadership is actively engaged with political leaders from the City and County to promote positive solutions for homelessness. The collaboration between the City and TYT is representative of this engagement.
- Engaging and use the business community as well as faith-based organizations to lead in support of programs and solutions that address homeless issues. TYT hosts regular meetings with these groups and Shiloh Navigation Center and the TYT Tiny House Project are an outgrowth of this outreach.
- Engaging with consumer advocate agencies such as Faith Action Network and the Homeless Network.
- Engaging with homeless individuals through our HOT Teams as well as the coordination of other groups seeking to serve the homeless population.
- Supporting Valley-wide provider outreach to obtain new services that can address client needs. TYT supports YVCOG in its outreach to the Provider community.

7. Describe your operational approach, including any best practices you intend to utilize. (1 point)

Our Approach

- Relational service model allows staff and volunteers to develop a rapport.
- Rapport turns to trust over time which leads to richer opportunities to support and empower people.
- When people are supported HOPE is developed.
- Hope EMPOWERS people to take the next step in life.

Team Work!

TYT believes in a team approach when supporting and empowering people.

- Staff and volunteers are empowered to work together for the common good of the people we serve.
- Teamwork takes effort, grace, mercy, good communication, and trust.
- Together, as a team of people who each have their own piece in the puzzle (no matter the size or shape), we make a difference.
- TYT values collaboration and partnership

Working Within the Community

TYT recognizes the significant impacts that unmanaged homelessness has on local businesses, housed residents and governmental entities that are located in and around the downtown core.

Providing Downtown Yakima with a safe, accommodating, and well-managed facility for homeless individuals will create relief for downtown businesses, public works, law enforcement and sidewalks so that these places may be used for their intended purposes.

Filling the Gaps in Homeless Services

This project will succeed in fulfilling multiple needs outlined by the City of Yakima and YVCOG gaps analysis.

Consolidation of Shelter Services

The Center will be a fixed-site shelter for homeless adults. It will offer services to meet the basic needs of the street community and connect people to a coordinated network of vital social services. For the past several years, faith communities in the Yakima area have sheltered adult men and women, primarily during our wet and cold winter months. It is time to take the pressure off these amazing partners by providing unsheltered men and women with trained, qualified, paid staff who are able to meet needs that extend far beyond overnight stays in these communities' buildings.

Services-Enhanced Shelter Offers a Gateway to Services

SNC will prioritize meeting a person's basic needs by minimizing barriers to entry, providing a much-needed gateway to services including housing programs, drug and alcohol treatment, and mental health assistance. TYT and SNC will be establishing a comprehensive community network of providers via the MOU system, whereby these partnering agencies will be provided secure access to shared clients in one of the many meeting rooms at this facility.

Stabilizing the Homeless Community Stabilizes Our Entire Community

Our Shelter model emphasizes the importance of getting people off the streets as a public safety strategy. Safety concerns within the downtown core and surrounding residential areas stem partly from an unmanaged homeless population. On-site management of The Shelter will include a 24-hour trained staffing model, on-site, outdoor gathering space for guests, and a direct phone line to on-site management when issues or concerns arise. Moving people off public sidewalks and out of sleeping overnight in business doorways will be a major step for our downtown. Our ability to connect people with the large network of public services and members of the Faith Community will result in a positive outcome for all.

A Vital Step Towards Housing

Providing maximum access to basic needs services will provide greater opportunity for people to connect with the social service network. By working collaboratively and cooperatively with other organizations that provide services and access to housing we can move people into housing more quickly and efficiently. TYT through SNC will be forming a primary working relationship with local Housing Authorities, including Catholic Charities and Habitat for Humanity, and utilizing an MOU to bring about the transition of our clients into supportive housing with these Housing agencies as well as the TYT tiny house project that is anticipated to be deployed through local churches.

8. Will you collaborate with other service providers? If so, please list those providers and describe your partnership. If agreements have been made, please so state. (1 point)

TYT will prioritize meeting a person's basic needs by minimizing barriers to entry, providing a much-needed gateway to services including housing programs, drug and alcohol treatment, and mental health assistance. TYT will be establishing a comprehensive community network of providers via the MOU system, whereby these partnering agencies will be provided secure access to shared clients in one of the many meeting rooms at this facility.

Currently, we have an agreement with Sunrise Outreach to provide lunches for the day shelter as well as some administrative services.

We are in discussion with the Union Gospel Mission regarding the provision of meals and other food and miscellaneous needs for our guests. In addition, we will work with the Mission to place willing and qualified guests into their rehabilitation program.

We are working with various churches in the area to provide transportation to and from the encampment, Day Center, the Mission, and other critical services.

We expect to establish a working relationship with Yakima Neighborhood Health, Comprehensive Mental Health, and other private providers for case management services as well as other medical, dental, mental health, and substance abuse treatment.

Homeless Outreach Team (HOT)

We are currently actively recruiting volunteers, staff, and other organizations to partner with TYT to provide a Homeless Outreach Team or HOT. HOT will respond as requested to areas within Yakima County as staffing and funding allows.

HOT will act as a response team to the Yakima County Community. HOT will respond with specially trained volunteers to calls placed by the community, city or other service providers for homeless who may be congregating, or unaware of the services they can access.

- Our goal is to provide the community with an immediate response.
- Provide relief off of emergency service providers having to deal with non-criminal nuisance complaints. HOT will provide safe transportation for the client to sheltering /encampment/service providers.

- Provide our homeless population with a trained person immediately aware of resources directly affecting their immediate needs.
- Treating Homeless Population with dignity & respect.

Through a 24-hour hotline, community outreach, and a partnership with The Downtown Business Association, we will provide business owners an alternative to calling 911 when issues arise. This will greatly decrease pressure on the Yakima Police Department in responding to nuisance calls as well as reducing the fiscal impact on the Police Department for such calls.

9. What other funding (monetary, in-kind, volunteer hours, etc.) are you contributing to the project or proposed use? (1 point)

TYT expects to contribute a minimum of 20% of the planned budget (>\$30,000) in monetary, in-kind, and volunteer hours. In fact, we expect to activate over 1000 hours of volunteer support over the time-span of this proposal. We will leverage our relationship with our member churches as well as other civic groups such as the Rotary Club, and Junior League to give their time in fixing up and maintaining the encampment and Day Center facility as well as serving our guests during normal operations. Material donations are also being made to TYT for this project that will offset or augment budget items. In addition, TYT will draw upon its members and community leaders to make a financial contribution to this project. We currently have \$15,000 of donor funds pledged to this project that will be released once the project is approved and the Grant assigned.

Budget

Funding Sources/Revenues	Total Project Cost	TOTAL
Amount Requested	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 100,000.00
Federal	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
State		\$ 0.00
County		\$ 0.00
Local/City		\$ 0.00
In-kind	\$ 50,310.00	\$ 50,310.00
Private cash donations	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
Other:		\$ 0.00
Other:		\$ 0.00
Other:		\$ 0.00
Total	\$ 165,310.00	\$ 165,310.00

Funding Uses/Expenses	Grant Funds Requested	Other Leveraged funds
Personnel Costs	\$ 40,300.00	\$ 10,000.00
Project Manager/Consultants	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 13,810.00
Rent/Mortgage	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 7,500.00
Insurance	\$ 4,000.00	
Operating Supplies (phone, printing/copying, etc.)	\$ 2,400.00	\$ 2,000.00
Facilities	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 22,000.00
Garbage and Sanitation	\$ 5,790.00	
Transportation	\$ 2,000.00	
Utilities	\$ 3,200.00	
Rental Assistance		
Services	\$ 4,200.00	
Other: Security	\$ 15,000.00	
Other: Food	\$ 910.00	\$ 10,000.00
Other:	\$ 1,200.00	
Other:		
Total	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 65,310.00

Total Project Cost **\$ 165,310.00**

Percent of Leveraged Funds **\$ 0.40**

Budget Narrative

The primary costs of this project are personnel and facility expenses.

Due to the nature of the population we are endeavoring to serve and the fact that it will be a 24-hour service, the main cost to the project is staffing. Even though we will be able to utilize volunteers to help cover needed positions, we will still need to maintain a minimum staffing level of 3 people per shift during the day and one full-time security person at night along with supervisory personnel.

Facility expenses will be relatively high because we will be operating at two locations for the duration of this project covered under this RFP. Even though the temporary encampment will be a no-charge lease we will have to carry the expense of garbage, sanitation, transportation, insurance and other expenses on that site as well as the permanent shelter.

TYT expects to contribute a minimum of 20% of the planned budget (>\$30,000) in monetary, in-kind, and volunteer hours. In fact, we expect to activate over 1000 hours of volunteer support over the time-span of this proposal. We will leverage our relationship with our member churches as well as other civic groups such as the Rotary Club, and Junior League to give their time in fixing up and maintaining the encampment and Day Center facility as well as serving our guests during normal operations. Material donations are also being made to TYT for this project that will offset or augment budget items. In addition, TYT will draw upon its members and community leaders to make a financial contribution to this project.

Private funding of at least \$15,000 has already been committed to the project and will be processed as soon as the project and the grant has been approved.

Documents

Documents Requested *	Required?	Attached Documents *
Letters of Support/Commitment letters for leveraged funds (optional)		
Project Map/Program Service Area		
For Non-Profits: IRS Form 990	✓	IRS FORM 990
For Non-Profits: Board Documentation (List of Board Members, Charter, ByLaws)		
For Non-Profits: 501(c)3 Tax Exempt Letter	✓	IRS FORM 990
General Liability Insurance Certificate		
Agency's Audit Report for the most recent Fiscal Year or Financial Statements	✓	Audit Statement
Photos, Misc. (Optional)		

* ZoomGrants™ is not responsible for the content of uploaded documents.

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