

April 4, 2024

Mid-Willamette Valley Homeless Alliance (MWVHA) 100 High Street SE., Suite 200 Salem, OR 97301

Dear MWVHA Board Members,

I am writing to express Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency's (MWVCAA) enthusiastic support for Church @ the Park (C@P) and their initiative to establish micro communities in Dallas and Monmouth, Polk County, to assist families and vulnerable adults experiencing homelessness.

Through our work in rural Polk County, we have identified a critical need for transition-focused emergency shelter for individuals and families facing homelessness. Despite being less visible than urban homelessness, rural homelessness is a growing concern that demands attention and action. We firmly believe that providing a safe and stable environment for people to sleep is a crucial step towards empowering them to achieve self-sufficiency.

Having collaborated closely with C@P's outreach team, we have witnessed their dedication and commitment to serving our community. Their efforts in listening to feedback and overcoming obstacles to tailor their plans to the unique needs of Polk County residents are commendable.

We appreciate C@P's proactive approach in engaging with community partners and stakeholders to ensure the success of their endeavor. MWVCAA is already partnering with C@P in rural Polk County, and we value the opportunity to continue working together to support individuals and families in need. By joining forces, we can provide comprehensive support to vulnerable individuals and contribute to the creation of a more compassionate and inclusive community.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you require any further information or assistance.

Sincerely,

Ashley Hamilton

Chief Program Officer

Ashley Hamilton

Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency

E: Ashley.Hamilton@mwvcaa.org