



New Temporary Emergency Housing Program (Mile Hill Road)

April 26, 2021



Brief Topics

- Where and what is this facility?
- What are the plans for this building?
- What is happening now?
- When will it begin operations?
- Who will it serve?
- How is it being funded?
- What is the County's role?
- Questions

Where is the facility?

- Right off of Mile Hill Drive
- Commercial Zone
- Next to an older housing development
- Wave Cable on other side



What is this facility?

- Former “Olympic Fitness” building
- Operating as private gym until County purchased
- 20,000 square feet
- Connected to sewer
- Multiple large rooms, include a full basketball court
- 4 restrooms with showers
- Large parking lot
- Set back on lot with large yard in back



Large spaces





Even larger
spaces



Bathrooms & showers



Office spaces



Exterior



What are the plans for the building?



- Emergency housing programs and services
- Initially, move the current KRM temporary housing program in the Fairgrounds Pavilion to this site
- Ultimately, robust crisis housing programming

What is happening now?



Research & Planning Phase

- Researching procurement requirements per funding sources
- Filing legal documentation
- Securing the building
- Converting utilities and services
- Working with County Facilities Maintenance
- Gathering estimates for renovation work
- Working with DCD on determining appropriate permits
- Beginning community outreach

What's next?

Renovation Phase

- 1) Land use permitting
- 2) Zoning permitting
- 3) Renovations

- Fire suppression and alarm system
- Roof repair/replacement
- ADA upgrades, including bathrooms/showers
- Various health/safety upgrades & repairs



When will it begin operations?



Current occupancy estimate:

Mid- to Late-Fall

Depends on permitting and availability of contractors

Kitsap County will initially contract with Kitsap Rescue Mission to operate a similar program to what is currently at the Pavilion

How does it fit into the homeless plan?

Kitsap Homeless Crisis Response & Housing Plan outlines our goals, core strategies, and new actions

- 1) Make homelessness **rare**
- 2) Make homelessness **brief**
- 3) Make homelessness **one time**
- 4) Continuously improve the homeless crisis response system
- 5) Expand community engagement

- Collective impact model
- National evidence-based practices
- Performance measurement



HEADING HOME

Kitsap Homeless Crisis Response
and Housing Plan

2018 Update

Released for Public Comment 4/26/18



Kitsap County
Department of Human Services



Kitsap Housing and
Homelessness Coalition

Why South Kitsap?



- South Kitsap has many people experiencing homelessness or struggling with housing instability
- Currently there are no emergency housing programs in South Kitsap
- People do better when they can stay in their own community and are more likely to “come inside”

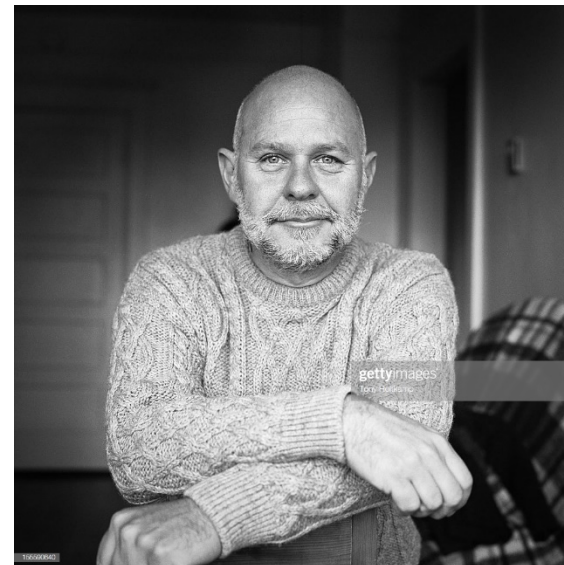
Who will it serve?



- People experiencing homelessness who need safe, stable, secure crisis housing
- Singles, couples, families
- People who have been staying at the Fairgrounds Pavilion program, camping in parks, staying in abandoned buildings, living in their cars

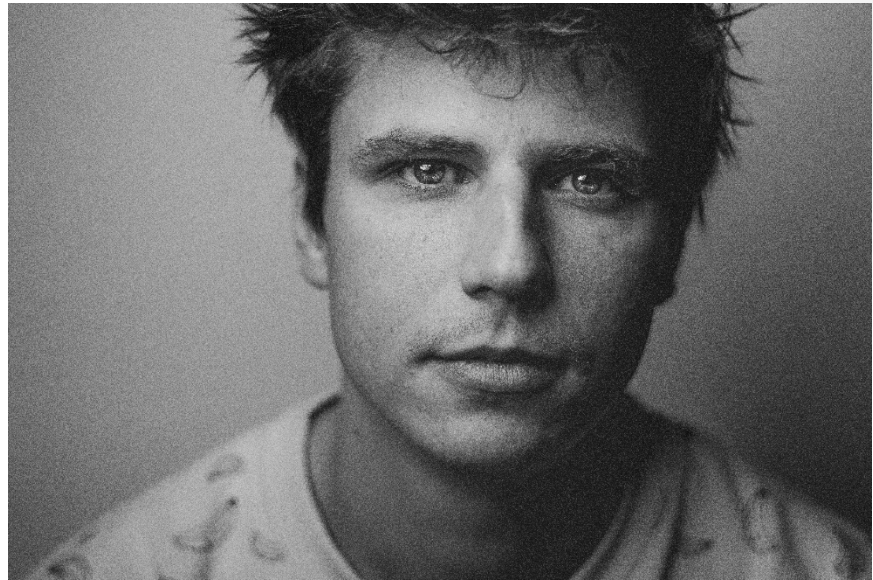
Why do we need programs like this?

- New court cases affirm that all people have the right to be somewhere
- 9th Circuit Court: *“[A]s long as there is no option of sleeping indoors, the government cannot criminalize indigent, homeless people for sleeping outdoors, on public property, on the false premise they had a choice in the matter.”*
- Local governments can not arrest or make people leave public places if there are no available shelter beds



Why do we need programs like this?

- Offer an alternative to people staying in vehicles, parks encampments, woods, streets
- Reduce the spread of COVID-19 and other diseases
- Reduce the need for panhandling



Why do we need programs like this?

- Connection with resources, employment, treatment, and supportive services
- People living outside will not regain their lives without temporary emergency housing
- Stable housing is essential for success!



How will it be funded?



- Kitsap County received several grants to support opening new temporary housing beds
- Some funding is related to the COVID-19 pandemic; some funding is part of a state initiative to increase bed capacity
- Grant funds are available for purchase of the building, renovations, and on-going operations

What will be the County's role?



- Ownership of building
- On-going building maintenance
- Contracting with non-profit for housing services to be provided in the building
- Continuing to seek grant funds for operations, maintenance, and services for the building and programming
- Ensuring compliance with contract for services
- Data collection, reporting, evaluation

Questions?



A home affords us the
freedom to flourish,
invest in our children,
and contribute to our
society.