

SWITCHPOINT LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING PAPER

Background:

- The City of St. George, recognizing the need to address homelessness in Washington County, developed the Switchpoint name and community resource model. The City purchased a building and remodeled the building to be operated as a homeless shelter. The City operated the facility for two years prior to turning over the operations to The Friends of Switchpoint, a private non-profit entity. The City still owns and maintains the building.
- Switchpoint is a community resource center with over 21 collaborating health, behavioral health, social service, law enforcement, housing, and educational/vocational training organizations as participating community partners.
- In 2017 Switchpoint served 1,198 individuals experiencing homelessness through the emergency shelter facility, of that number 414 were children.
- Over 1100 families were assisted through Switchpoint's housing services.
- 4,400 people were assisted in 2017 through its food pantry with 1,519,592 pounds of food distributed.
- An average of 80 people served daily through its soup kitchen.
- Switchpoint has raised \$868,853 in local charitable funds to support Switchpoint's Community Resource Center in 2017.
- Developed two micro businesses to provide job skill training and income for clients as well as some additional revenue for Switchpoint programs.

Current Need:

- \$ 1,851,000 would be the projected 2018 Switchpoint annual budget to support the demonstrated community need as evidenced by the previous year's delivered services.
- Of that amount the State's present 2018 commitment is \$ 478,213 (\$100,000 shelter, \$38,381 pantry, \$44,544 diversion, \$118,888, HUD Continuum of Care, \$176,400 rapid re-housing).
- Based on the reduction in state pass-through funds, Switchpoint have a shortfall of \$367,987 and their ability to provide case management and other resource center services.
- 2017 level of services was not sufficient to meet the pressing needs of Washington County's homeless population and those in poverty.
- There is a daily average of 75 homeless individuals who request services from the Community Resource Center (includes: emergency shelter, showers, computer access, laundry, and other social support service).
- The Governor's Intergenerational Poverty Committee reports that Washington County has one of the highest percentage of the population in poverty.

- 857 school age children of Washington County were reported as being homeless in 2017; and, 1 in 4 families have significant difficulty in buying groceries.

Request:

- Switchpoint requests \$450,000 in new state funding. The following chart shows funding for Switchpoint including the state pass-through funding decrease, resulting in a current year shortfall of \$367,987:

REVENUE SOURCES PAST AND PROJECTED

Switchpoint Operational Budget

Revenue	2017 Fiscal (Oct/Sept)	2018 Fiscal (Oct/Sept)	Difference
Utah State including Federal pass through	\$ 1,243,612 Includes accounts received in 2017 from 2016	\$ 478,213	-\$765,399 Includes some 2016 carry- over
Local Government		\$ 50,000	+ \$50,000
Skill Development earned income (Thrift Store etc.)	\$ 253,867	\$ 312,000	+ \$58,133
Charitable Foundations	\$ 204,268	\$ 216,500	+\$12,232
Local Donations	\$ 149,253	\$ 426,300	+ \$277,047
TOTAL SERVICES REVENUE	\$ 1,851,000	\$ 1,483,013	-\$367,987
Current Fiscal Year Funding Gap		\$ 367,987	

Legislative Funding Request

Switchpoint Community Resource Center

Performance measures on how Switchpoint Community Resource Center and the Legislature will determine program success:

All of our data is reflected in UHMIS and on a Google spreadsheet that the Department of Workforce Services designed to help us accurately measure outcomes.

Outcome Measures

- Number of homeless individuals and families placed in permanent housing.
- Number of individuals and families who become employment ready and working towards financial stability.
- Number of individuals and families who experience reduction in recidivism within our justice system.
- Number of individuals enrolled in substance abuse treatment programs.

Process Measures

- Number of units of case management with targeted focus.
- Number of units of case management crisis intervention.
- Number of referrals to other critical social service and healthcare partners (voc rehab, mental health, vouchers, employers, id, etc).
- Number of adults linked to mainstream benefits.