

Tab 1

Date: 3/27/25
Location: Municipal Plaza Room #1

Purpose: Monthly meeting

PIT Numbers:

PIT Year	Unsheltered	Sheltered	Total
PIT 2025 (1/23)	86	126	212
PIT 2024 (1/25)	87	48	135
PIT 2023 (1/26)	40	28	68
PIT 2022 (2/24)	14	46	60

Library

- To encourage our neighbors to move from the Library, we need to give them a place they can belong.
 - Salvation Army - when the day center has been opened during cold days, the Library number decreases.

Salvation Army:

- How is the day center going right now?
- What are they doing?

Austin/San Antonio Trip update:

- SAM Ministries
- Haven for Hope
- SA Day Center
- Networking to learn best practices on the possibility to mirror a day center here.

Continuity of local organizations - HMIS

- Through continuity we can identify our biggest need and start targeting the needs one at a time by establishing processes and procedures. Networking resources, and case managing.

Next meeting:

- Infrustrur for OHC (Odessa Homeless Coalition)
 - MOU's/Membership

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Library Update - Howard Marks

Salvation Army Update - Leslie Williams

Austin/San Antonio Report - Jesus Gomez

- Haven for Hope
- Sam Ministries
- Day Center

Share-data software - HMIS

Next meeting - 4/24/25

- Infrustrur for OHC (Odessa Homeless Coalition)
 - MOU's/Membership?

Meeting Minutes:

Date of meeting: 3/27/25

Time of meeting: 8:30am - 10:00am

Attendees:

- Stacy Roman - ECOC
- Howard Marks - Library
- Leslie Williams - Salvation Army
- Captain Robert Coriston - Salvation Army
- Tammy Duke - Odessa Community Development
- Oscar Romo - Odessa Links Project Hope
- Sylvia Cambell - Odessa Links - Assessor
- Jesus Gomez - Chairman - Odessa Links Coalition Lead

PIT Report - Jesus Gomez

Meeting was opened by reporting and talking about PIT numbers and answering questions regarding the amount counted.

- West & South Odessa are a concern and if that will magnify the number of homelessness in our community.
- Partnership with West Odessa Coalition is being prioritized to understand the area.
 - Explained that West Odessa is a spread out community and most unsheltered live in abandoned home/buildings/RV's and would need a guide to find locations.
 - Seeking ways to bring the unsheltered to central location to engage with them. But transportation is also an issue.

Library Report - Howard Marks

- 1st floor is still being occupied by "unsheltered"
- Recently have found that there is a group of seemingly unsheltered come to use wifi/computers and meet with those who are actually unsheltered.
 - There seems to be a mixed group of sheltered and unsheltered coming to hang out at the 1st floor of the Library.
- Concerns are that some parents are not feeling comfortable coming/bringing their children to the library, they sleep at the furniture areas, using it as a daycenter.

Salvation Army - Captain Robert Coriston

- Have opened the day center since winter
- Operate day center with showers, and hygiene products
- Also have the Emergency Shelter open in the evenings
 - Current Challenges:
 - Funding
 - Funding is not sufficient to keep doors open. Have had to cut staff and payroll for all staff.
 - Limited on staffing due to funding deficit

- Volunteers
 - Current clientele have been helping with some of SA duties, but still need help with volunteers to maintain day center.
- Capacity to build day center up w/staffing, computers, fencing, and exterior furniture

Share-data software -

- Odessa Links is researching for best share-data software for our area.
 - SA recommended Charity Tracker.

Closed on the thought that as a Coalition, we need to define the infrastructure of its future.

Date: 4/24/25

Location: Municipal Plaza Room #1

Purpose: Monthly meeting

CDBG Application deadline 5/5/25 4pm tduke@odessa-tx.gov

Odessa Homeless Coalition Mission & Vision

- Why do we exist?
- Who do we serve?
- What do we value?

Agency updates:

Objectives:

- Why does the homeless coalition exist?
 - PIT Count
 - Connect to community resources
 - Identify Gaps in services to spearhead/develop programs
 -
- What is a win for the homeless coalition?
 -
 -
 -
 -
- What do you expect to get from the coalition?
 -
 -
 -

4/24/25 - Homeless Coalition Meeting Minutes

Started at 8:35

In attendance:

Jesus Gomez - Odessa Links Homeless Coalition Coordinator

Seila Johnson - Odessa Housing Authority

Tamee Argo - Community member

Oscar Romo - Odessa Links - Project Hope

Tammy Duke - Odessa Community Development

Leslie Williams - Salvation Army

Stacy Roman - ECISC Outreach Center

Howard Marks - EC Library

Keisha Templeton - Permia Care

Niyah Odum - VA HUDVASH

Community Development CDBG explanation and information.

Shared about CDBG Funding application and due date.

Presented the need for community input for 5 year consolidated plan.

Moved on to Vision and Mission development for coalition

Have rich discussion in answering "why we exist, what we value, and who we serve".

All feedback was compiled to submit vision & mission statements to be voted on for next meeting.

Date: 5/22/25
Location: New Hope Church

Agenda:

- Reviewal and decision for vision statement
- Develop action plan
 - Outreach - boots on the ground
 - Awareness (Education)
 - Presence - Social Media
- Who else needs to be part of this coalition

Vision Statement Review and vote:

Vision

1. OHC collaborating to prevent and end homelessness, with compassion and coordinated action.
2. OHC paving a future to end homelessness, through advocacy and community support.
3. OHC paving a better future ending homelessness with community networks and education.
4. OHC, a community addressing homelessness through unified resources, education, and advocacy.

5/22/25 - Homeless Coalition Meeting Minutes

Started at 8:40am

In attendance:

Jesus Gomez - Homeless Coalition Coordinator
Andrea Quiroz - Odessa Links Exec. Dir.
Oscar Romo - Odessa Links Case Mngement
Sylvia Campbell - Odessa Links Assessor
Sheila Taylor - Odessa Housing Authority
Stacy Roman - ECISD Outreach Center
Naira Enriquez - Odessa Community Development
Tammy Duke - Odessa Community Development
Greg Connell - City Council
Howard Marks - Ector County Library

Vision statement decision:

A vote from all four vision statement options was cast a unanimous vote was cast for V-Statement #4. Edit was submitted to enrich option #4 with wording from other V-Statements.

4. OHC, a community collaboration addressing homelessness through unified resources, advocacy, and coordinated action.

Action plan: Where do we start?

Upon discussion of various needs a consensus was reached that the coalition needs to **take action on “awareness” in the direction of preventing the community from becoming homeless**. One of the underlying issues in the community is the challenge of remaining housed due to the cost of living, inequitable wages, and impact from evictions.

Bringing awareness to the community of programs, resources, services, agency support, and property owners to prevent tenant evictions. Part of community awareness is providing information on the 4 levels of homelessness.

Help: Who else needs to be part of this movement?

Salvation Army
Door of Hope
Jesus House
Red Cross
Food Bank
Family Promise
Permian Basin Mission Center
Realtor Association
Habitat for Humanity

Why should other agencies be invited?

We do better when we do it together. Other agency participation at the table is important for collaborative work addressing the needs of the homeless in our community. All our efforts are necessary to end homelessness one person or family at a time.

Meeting closed @ 9:50am.

Odessa HC:

- **Vision Statement:** OHC, a community collaboration addressing homelessness through unified resources, advocacy, and coordinated action.

Tagline: Ending homelessness one person, one family at a time.

Date: 6//26 - 8:30 am

Location: Municipal Plaza Classroom #1

Agenda:

Follow up:

- Prevention awareness - Avoiding evictions
 - Networking with rental association of Permian Basin to bring awareness of rental assistance to prevent eviction
- Library still being occupied by unsheltered
 - Need a plan & place for them to go to.
 - Report

Awareness:

- October - National Homeless Awareness
 - What?
 - When?
 - Who?
 - How?
- PIT Fundraising/Supplies donation
 - September & October are blocked for United Way fundraising
 - Need \$5,000 for PIT supplies, meals we provide for and during the count, and miscellaneous items. (\$1,500 Backpacks & supplies, meals for PIT Count, Coffee, etc.)

2025 Plan:

July	Fundraise for PIT Goal \$5K
August	Fundraise for PIT Goal \$5K
September	Plan Calendar 2026
October	National Homeless Awareness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What? - When? - Who? - How?
November	PIT Prep - Coordinate trainings and volunteers (committee members)
December	Closed - Occupied by holidays

Meeting Notes: 6/26/25 - 8:30am - 9:50am

Location: Municipal Plaza Classroom #1

Odessa HC:

- **Open with prayer:** Jesus Gomez
- **Vision Statement:** OHC, a community collaboration addressing homelessness through unified resources, advocacy, and coordinated action.
- **Introductions:**

Agenda:

Follow up:

- Prevention awareness -
 - Working on promoting prevention and resources available to prevent evictions
 - Potential Partners:
 - Odessa Finance Housing
 - Local Churches
 - Endeavor to build a network with the churches to unify efforts.
 - Meet with committee members spearheading the Jackrabbit statue to bring awareness of community needs concerning homelessness.
- Update on Library
 - Assessing the unsheltered to hear what it is that they need so then we can determine how to help.
 - Crisis Center of WTX stated that clients are looking for autonomy through employment that works with their schedule and shelter schedule. Create jobs to work through the program as a lived experience/advocate for the program and clients.
 - Odessa Links - presented the need for a day center with wrap-around social services to provide necessary support services involving case management/document retrieval/etc to help the unsheltered take a step to self sufficiency
 - Crisis Center of WTX offered support with day center direction and wrap-around service.
 - Closed with informing that as we acquire more data we will continue to report and provide feedback.
 - Working with PD to develop protocol for addressing or tending to the homeless community.

Awareness:

- October - National Homeless Awareness
 - What? - Walk
 - Walk from Library to Jesus House & Family Promise
 - When? - Friday October 10, 2025
 - Who?
 - Stacy Roman - T-shirts

- Andrea - Parks & Rec, PD about the walk,
- Speakers - CPS, Crisis Center, Lived Experience, Premiacare

- How? - Walk from Lib - JH/FP
 - Levels of homelessness
 - Have food at the end of the walk

- PIT Fundraising/Supplies donation
 - Use T-Shirt sales for fundraising.
 - Stacy Roman in charge of T-shirts.
 - T-shirt sales and donation proceeds will be going to PIT Budget for January 2026.

 - September & October are blocked for United Way fundraising
 - Need \$5,000 for PIT supplies, meals we provide for and during the count, and miscellaneous items. (\$1,500 Backpacks & supplies, meals for PIT Count, Coffee, etc.)

September 16, 2025 - [THN Conference in Austin](#)

- Need to know who is interested and/or plans on going, please email back to send scholarship application link.

Upcoming conversations:

2025 Plan:

July	Fundraise for PIT Goal \$5K
August	Fundraise for PIT Goal \$5K
September	Plan Calendar 2026
October	National Homeless Awareness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What? - When? - Who? - How?
November	PIT Prep - Coordinate trainings and volunteers (committee members)
December	Closed - Occupied by holidays

Location: Municipal Plaza Classroom #1

Odessa HC:

- **Open with prayer:**
- **Vision Statement:** OHC, a community collaboration addressing homelessness through unified resources, advocacy, and coordinated action.
- **Introductions:**

Welcome

- Introductions
- Brief overview of meeting goals
 - 2025 OHC Focus
 - The walk
 - Citywide meeting
 - Close

1. 2025 Vision & Focus: "Awareness"

Objective: Educating the community on the real impact of homelessness

- Discuss the need for shifting public perception
- Economic impact, youth/family homelessness, resources

2. "The Walk" – Awareness & Fundraising Event

Objective: Use the Walk as a catalyst for both education and support

- October 11, 2025 - 8am @Ector County Library
- Registration Goals:
 - 200 Participants
 - Registration deadline 8/31/2025
- Advertising
 - Social media
 - Partnerships (schools, churches, businesses)
- Needs:
 - Week of the walk
 - T-Shirt inventory and pickup
 - Signage???
 - Goodie bags
 - Brochures, bottled water, granola bar, agency information, etc.

- Day of the walk
 - Walk off instructions
 - Tables or place for water and granola
 - Megaphone/Loud Speaker
 - Coordination for attention to closing speakers
 -
- Volunteers
 - Lead instructions and starting
 - Engine, Cart, & Caboose
 - Direction and safety
 - Water/snacks handlers

3. Citywide Community Meeting

Objective: Publicly share the Coalition's 2025 Vision Statement

- August 7 - 9:30am - Maybe American Legion
- Objectives:
 - Update on Coalition activity
 - Announce "The Walk"
 - What else does the community need to know/be engaged with

4. Closing Remarks

- Vote on OHC Logo
- Next meeting September 25, 2025
 - Push Citywide meeting for August.

Meeting Notes: 7/24/25 - 8:30am - 9:50am

Location: Municipal Plaza Classroom #1

Odessa HC:

- **Open with prayer:** Councilman Greg Connell
- **Vision Statement:** OHC, a community collaboration addressing homelessness through unified resources, advocacy, and coordinated action.
- **Introductions:**

1. 2025 OHC Focus

- a. Coalition development
 - i. Vision statement which is used to channel direction to action
- b. Community Awareness
 - i. Causes of homelessness, not always substance abuse
 - 1. Economic impact, available resources, and education

2. The Walk - "Walking in the shoes of the unsheltered"

- a. Awareness event and fundraiser for coalition
 - i. Date: 10/11/2025 - 8am
 - 1. Registration is open on [Zeffy](#) through 8/31/2025
 - 2. City of Odessa Communications Dpt are partnering with OHC to promote the event.
 - 3. Odessa Links is working with Backstage Event Marketing to get the word out, create stories, and capitalize on social media presence.
 - 4. **Need partnerships** with schools, churches, and businesses to engage more community members and agencies.
 - ii. Walk Need:
 - 1. Inventory volunteers for t-shirts - Week of Sept. 29 - Oct. 3
 - a. Benadine Spears
 - b. Tammy Duke
 - c. Sheila Cox
 - 2. Signage for the walk
 - a. Tammy Duke - can order arrows with "The Walk" logo and agency QR
 - i. Tammy will need to get your agency information
 - 1. Salvation Army, Jesus House, Catholic Charities, Family Promise of Odessa.
 - b. Councilman Connell will be helping with short phrases for picket signs
 - i. Potential support with handmade signs
 - 1. Schools, Non-Proffit Management
Generations Class
 - 2. Data from Odessa Work Force

3. Day of the walk
 - a. Walk off instructions
 - i. Jesus & Bernadine
 1. Megaphones provided by Tammy Duke & Howard Marks
 2. Map for walkers to have with them
 - b. Tables @ the end of the walk providing water, goodie bags and directing to stage area.
 - i. Sheila Cox, Evonne, and other volunteers (elicited by them)
 - c. Salvation Army providing coffee and breakfast
 - d. Attention coordinators for keynote speakers
 - i. **Need volunteers -**
 1. Stage - Tammy Duke
 - e. Safety volunteers
 - i. **Need help, send email or contacts of who could help.**
 1. Engine -
 2. Cart (middle) -
 3. Caboose - Gabriel Tovar + 2 more
 - a. Potentially have golf cart in case of needed assistance (**let me know if you have one**)

3. Citywide Meeting
 - a. 8/7/2025 - @American Legion of Odessa - 8:30am
 - i. The meeting agenda is in development but will be focused on promoting OHC & The Walk.
 1. Want to highlight agency needs so if you have a needs list, let's collaborate to highlight at the Citywide meeting.
4. OHC Logo Selection



- a.
 - i. Majority vote from attending members.
5. Meeting concluded

Meeting Agenda:

Date: 8/28/25 - 8:30am - 9:50am

Location: Municipal Plaza Classroom #1

Odessa HC:

- **Open with prayer:** Pastor
- **Vision Statement:** OHC, a community collaboration addressing homelessness through unified resources, advocacy, and coordinated action.
- **Introductions:**

Agenda Items:

- Walk - Update on Tickets
- Nov. - Citywide meeting
- 2026 Calendar proposal
- Committee development
 - Outreach **(3)** Collect data that can help us advocate for change and leverage for programs and funding in the future.
 - Interview/meet unsheltered
 - Needs assessments
 - PIT **(3)**
 - Helping with coordinating volunteers
 - Tagging locations
 - Working with PIT Lead to map out locations
 - Awareness **(3)**
 - Walk
 - Other awareness events to build in direction of advocacy

2026 Plan:

January (pending)	PIT Count
February (2/26/26)	OHC Meeting - Schedule PIT Numbers announcement
March (3/26/26)	Citywide Meeting - PIT Number report
April (4/23/26)	OHC Meeting
May (TBD)	Night out Awareness -
June (6/4/26)	Citywide Meeting - Walk announcement & advertising OHC Meeting - 6/25/26
July (7/23/26)	OHC Meeting
August (8/27/26)	OHC Meeting
September (9/10/26)	Citywide Meeting - Walk push OHC Meeting - 9/24/26)
October (10/22/26)	The Walk - National Homeless Awareness

November (11/19/26)	PIT Prep
December (no meeting)	Closed - Occupied by holidays

Meeting Agenda:

Date: 8/28/25 - 8:30am - 9:50am

Location: Municipal Plaza Classroom #1

Odessa HC:

- **Open with prayer:** Pastor Nicholas Carroway from Belmont Baptist Church
- **Vision Statement:** OHC, a community collaboration addressing homelessness through unified resources, advocacy, and coordinated action.
- **Introductions:**

Agenda Items:

- Former meeting update:
 - **OHC Logo** – Presented voted logo from July Meeting with minor adjustments. Logo will help promote initiatives directly related to the coalition and or driven by



and any future partnerships.

- **Citywide meeting** – We had a very informative meeting at the citywide meeting. Shared progress of OHC, Community Development presented CDBG information and promoted the walk further.
- **New Information:**
 - Letter of commitment from THN – It is a letter itemizing what is expected of the coalitions. It is encouraging that we are satisfying many of the expectations i.e. meeting, recruiting of community agencies, and community members to participate in the effort to end homelessness. Yearly PIT count, Housing inventory, etc. So it was encouraging to see that we are progressing in regard to infrastructure and direction.
 - We will be working on adopting a governance model for the coalition. Will be placed to vote in the upcoming meetings for inviting language and expectations.
- **Walk** - Update on Tickets
 - We are currently at 60 tickets sold
 - **Good News:** There is a probability that we will extend registration past 8/31. Not specifically because of the lack of ticket sales, but because United Way will be voting on keeping/eliminating the blackout period. Also, the walk is more an awareness event than it is a fundraiser.
 - Logistics and walk planning will be scheduled for 1st week of September via zoom.
 - Community Development will be calling to reserve stage and canopies if possible.
 - Will be having resource tables available for audience/walkers to acquire.
 - Further logistics will be planned out
- **Nov. - Citywide meeting** – Did not talk about Citywide meeting in November.

- **2026 Calendar proposal** – No current concerns were expressed with 2026 Calendar. (see calendar at the end of notes)
 - Question about PIT date – We are still waiting on PIT date from THN but is normally 3rd Thursday of January.
 - It was brought up that Odessa Links has been spearheading the PIT for approximately 20yrs. **“Woo-hoo!!!”**
 - The PIT is not only numbers, but it is data available and accessible to all local agencies that are applying for any type of funding.
 - The PIT is also a means to determine progress for those who have found themselves homeless at any given moment.
 - The PIT uses forms of follow up to connect people to resources and determine community gaps.
- **Committee development** – Former conversation bridged opportunity for explaining purpose of committees that are needed for the coalition. Specifically, the outreach committee will help collect data and build relationships with the unsheltered to relocate, connect to resources, or follow up on progress from resources provided recently. Through outreach committee the awareness committee can plan events to educate the community, build engagement opportunities, and help drive prevention. Much was discussed on the benefits of outreach and new member, Geno, shared some of his story and the success in overcoming homelessness in a season of his life.
- **Outreach** - Thank you Geno and Lt. Jacobs for volunteering. If anyone would like to volunteer, email homeless@linksodessa.org to add you to our outreach committee.
 - (Collect data that can help us advocate for change and leverage for programs and funding in the future.)
 - Interview/meet unsheltered
 - Needs assessments
 - **PIT** – Thank you Stacey & Greg for volunteering to spearhead this endeavor. If anyone would like to volunteer, email homeless@linksodessa.org to add you to our outreach committee. Helping with coordinating volunteers
 - Tagging locations
 - Working with PIT Lead to map out locations
- **Awareness** – Thank you for volunteering Tammy Duke & Kara, we’ll finish up the walk and start planning for next year. If anyone would like to volunteer, email homeless@linksodessa.org to add you to our outreach committee.
 - Walk
 - Other awareness events to build in direction of advocacy

January (pending)	PIT Count
February (2/26/26)	OHC Meeting - Schedule PIT Numbers announcement (Announce Night Out - Youth homelessness prevention)
March (3/26/26)	Citywide Meeting - PIT Number report

April (4/23/26)	OHC Meeting
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October (10/22/26)	The Walk - National Homeless Awareness
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2026
Plan:
Meeting
was

concluded with other information:

Salvation Army has the day center open and provides shoes and clothes for the unsheltered in need.

Lastly, anything of concern is welcomed. Please submit concern to be added to agenda for future meetings.

September meeting:

Finalize "Walk" needs

Open position for committee leads

- Events -
 - PIT - January
 - Night Out - May
 - Walk - October
- Outreach - Connecting with the support groups & unsheltered regularly
- Story teller - photographer/social media lead

What:

- Awareness
 - Capture data, stories, and needs assessment
- Advocacy
 - Fill gaps from urgent and possible to needed and costly

Meeting Agenda:

Date: 9/25/25 - 8:30am - 9:50am

Location: Municipal Plaza Classroom #1

Odessa HC:

- **Open with prayer:**
- **Vision Statement:** OHC, a community collaboration addressing homelessness through unified resources, advocacy, and coordinated action.
- **Introductions:**

Agenda Items:

- Current status of unsheltered in Odessa
 - There has been an influx of unsheltered appearing in Odessa (Ector Library, open encampments)
 - Made news last week
 - (It's not a problem, it's an opportunity to identify what is happening)
- Outreach outcomes and goals
 - Show qualitative data results
 - Identify needs (10/3/25)
 - Schedule consistent times and days with volunteers
 -
- Walk update
 - About 150 walking tickets sold.
 - Have about 10 sponsored spaces
 - Will be emailing all participants with instructions the next couple of weeks.
 -
- 2026 Calendar Update

Meeting Agenda:

Date: 9/25/25 - 8:30am - 9:35am

Location: Municipal Plaza Classroom #1

Odessa HC:

- **Open with prayer:** Donnie Kiker
- **Vision Statement:** OHC, a community collaboration addressing homelessness through unified resources, advocacy, and coordinated action.
- **Introductions:**

Agenda Items:

- Current status of unsheltered in Odessa
 - There has been an influx of unsheltered appearing in Odessa (Ector Library, open encampments)
 - Made news last week
 - (It's not a problem, it's an opportunity to identify what is happening)
 - In the midst of negative news, also good news.
 - Councilman Connelle announced to the Homeless Coalition that the city did a proclamation adoption 10/11/25 as Homeless Awareness Day and their partnership to Odessa Homeless Coalition with initiatives for helping the unsheltered.
 - THN Conference
 - Odessa Links staff and Tammy from Community Development attended the conference.
 - Great networking opportunities and support to addressing main needs in our community
- Outreach outcomes and goals
 - Committee members of outreach
 - Tamme Argo, Geno, and Lt. Jacobs
 - Carissa, Dylan - ???
 - Show qualitative data results
 - Presented results of most recent outreach efforts from qualitative survey
 - Major points:
 - 63% Hispanic males
 - 50% + 2yrs or more on the streets
 - 3 major reasons for homelessness - Eviction/asked to leave, financial hardship, and domestic violence
 - 40% of unsheltered have disability
 - 55% have suffered some type of emotional trauma
 - 63% have been survivors of substance abuse
 - 40% have consistent income but not enough for rent
 - Identify needs (10/3/25)
 - Schedule consistent times and days with volunteers
 - The goal of the outreach is to gently relocate the unsheltered who camp at the library (inside & out) to another location that can meet their needs.

- Question: Have the churches been engaged to provide support or is it a non-issue? Possibly using the churches to help with a place of gathering to the unsheltered.
 - Jesus is currently working on branching out to churches in efforts to build a bridge of support. This network is also to teach the churches through resource empowerment to know how to help, and or where they can refer.
 - Catholic charities helps with the pantries of the catholic churches, nights of columbus is currently helping with the families in project hope and in Midland.
 - Jesus has reached UTPB to work with sociology, psychology, social work majors to develop an objective questionnaire that can assist in determining the needs of the unsheltered to then structure the necessary programs to assist.
- One of the issues of the outreach initiative is that we need a place for the unsheltered to go to.
 - There are concerns that Salvation Army will close, which will make it difficult for any agency to refer the unsheltered individuals for emergency shelter.
 - There was a report that there have been sweeps, meaning that encampments and unsheltered individuals have been asked to leave from places they are occupying. We need help in identifying where they are so that we can engage them.
- Question came up about the county jail releasing individuals and they have nowhere to go, maybe they can be referred somewhere to go.
 - There is currently nowhere for those released from county jail to go to or anyone to pick them up and they end up in the Noel Plaza.
- The main focus of outreach is for the unsheltered to have somewhere to go and take preventative measures.
 - Need a solution for the unsheltered to arrive, a place of shelter and case management to be provided the resources to prevent them from continuing to be in an unsheltered situation.
- Salvation Army needs to work with & as the outreach team to identify the necessary data to write the grants, ask for the funding, and develop the programs. Outreach is necessary, but the both the outreach team need a place to refer the unsheltered and a means where they are case managed.
 - A current challenge to relocating the unsheltered from the library to salvation army is the trust. Trust in the community that is

referring them there, and trust in the agency that is receiving them (salvation army).

- Currently, the major challenge is that the unsheltered do **NOT** have a place to go, and that needs to be resolved.
 - Meeting with stakeholders and Salvation Army to be scheduled.

- Walk update
 - About 150 walking tickets sold.
 - Have about 10 sponsored spaces in case anyone knows of someone that would like to walk, but cannot pay.
 - Will be emailing all participants with instructions the next couple of weeks.
- 2026 Calendar Update

2026 Plan:

January (pending)	PIT Count
February (2/26/26)	OHC Meeting - Schedule PIT Numbers announcement (Announce Night Out - Youth homelessness prevention)
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December (no meeting)	Closed - Occupied by holidays

Meeting adjourned @9:35am.

Meeting Agenda:

Date: 10/23/25 - 8:30am - 9:50am

Location: Municipal Plaza Classroom #1

Odessa HC:

- **Open with prayer:**
- **Vision Statement:** OHC, a community collaboration addressing homelessness through unified resources, advocacy, and coordinated action.
- **Mission Statement:** Ending homelessness one person, one family at a time.
- **Introductions:**

Agenda Items:

- Unfinished business
 - Central location for the unsheltered to be
 - Salvation Army - Cap. Michael Cain
- Walk in the Shoes of the Unsheltered update
 -
- Winter Donations & Distribution
 - What is needed?
 - Who can help? & Who will it be dropped off with?
 - Where is the central distribution?
 - Process of vetting & resourcing
- Outreach
 -
- Citywide Meeting 11/6/2025
 - Response from last meeting.
 - Walk update and hype for next year
 - Donations advise and promote donation opportunities
 - PIT Preparation obtain help/interest for the upcoming PIT Count

Meeting Agenda:

Date: 10/23/25 - 8:30am - 9:50am

Location: Municipal Plaza Classroom #1

Odessa HC:

- **Open with prayer:** Councilman Greg Connell
- **Vision Statement:** OHC, a community collaboration addressing homelessness through unified resources, advocacy, and coordinated action.
- **Mission Statement:** Ending homelessness one person, one family at a time.
- **Introductions:**

Agenda Items:

- Unfinished business
 - Central location for the unsheltered to be
 - Salvation Army - Cap. Michael Cain
 - Captain Cain addressed the concern regarding the Salvation Army closing. Informed everyone that night shelter has no concerns, although there was some concern with the Daycenter, Salvation Army will continue to open their doors as a Daycenter (warming/cooling shelter) especially as winter weather approaches. Explained that in the Salvation Army Daycenter, there are classrooms/offices available for agencies who would see it fit to meet clients there.
 - Jesus Gomez, elaborated that Salvation Army was not present last meeting and did not have the opportunity to speak on matters of the shelter. Additionally, the goal is for the unsheltered to be in a central location where services can be provided. Ideally, the focus is for the unsheltered to know where to go to get help. As the unsheltered find that the Salvation Army part of their routine, then a schedule can be arranged with other agencies to case manage or serve the unsheltered population.
- Walk in the Shoes of the Unsheltered update
 - Overall, Walk was a success. About 203 walking participants, and \$10,840 earned and \$5,850.51 profit after all expenses.
 - Great feedback from community members who attended.
 - Most of the attendees were from an agency (employee/volunteer) and friend or family who invited to attend the walk.
 - Many reported to be motivated to walk to support the cause and bring awareness. Someone commented, “expected enough people to draw public awareness”. Others said they enjoyed the lived experiences and agency speakers along with the food at the end of the walk.
- Winter Donations & Distribution
 - What is needed?
 - Coldweather sleeping bags, Handwarmers, and Jackets/coats. Other items were considered such as Thermal underwear, socks, scarfs, and lotion or chapstick, but overall summed up to just those three main items (**coldweather sleeping bags, handwarmers, and jackets/coats**)
 - Who can help?

- Most attending agencies expressed interest in knowing more of what the Homeless Coalition is doing. Expressed interest participating in initiatives lead by the Homeless Coalition. Also had 50% interest in participating in PIT Count 2026.
- Agenda for citywide meeting is the following but will add agenda items as necessary.
 - Walk update and hype for next year
 - Donations advise and promote donation opportunities
 - PIT Preparation obtain help/interest for the upcoming PIT Count
- Informed everyone that the next coalition meeting will not be on Thanksgiving, so to expect emails with the change of date in their calendars.

Closing inquiry by Housing Authority (Sheila J.)

- Clients being assisted by Housing Authority are concerned about government shutdown due to SNAP benefits may/will be unavailable on 11/1/2025.
 - Several members informed of different pantries and locations where the families can go for food.

Closed meeting at 9:30am.

Meeting Agenda:

Date: 11/20/25 - 8:30am

Location: Municipal Plaza Classroom #1

Odessa HC:

- **Open with prayer:** Coalition Coordinator - Jesus Gomez
- **Vision Statement:** OHC, a community collaboration addressing homelessness through unified resources, advocacy, and coordinated action.
- **Mission Statement:** Ending homelessness one person, one family at a time.
- **Introductions:** All agencies introduced themselves

Agenda Items:

- Old business:
 - Sleeping bags & Coats
 - JH is collecting Winter Coats, Hand Warmers, & have blankets available for upcoming inclement weather.
 - Salvation Army will be asking for donations for them on their social media platforms
- Where we are vs where we've been (Progress)
 - The Homeless Coalition has grown since March. We started this coalition with approximately 4 agencies attending, today we had 13 agencies present, and others who were unable to be here today.
 - The Salvation Army has opened the day center. It was opened around this time last year and has been able to stay open since.
 - Vision for the Homeless Coalition created direction and strategy
 - Prioritize that of bringing awareness of homelessness to the community, which is more so in the direction of eradicating the stigma of homelessness happens and that it's not just drugs, alcohol, but it's a lot more things than that.
 - The whole awareness is what we want to emphasize, that not everyone is an addict to something but instead they are human/person with real needs.
 - Here to create the systems and collaborations to be able to provide support, whether it's connecting them to housing or taking preventive measures is the goal.
 - Actively bringing awareness of homelessness impact in our community
 - The walk had a great level of community participation, looking forward to next year having more community involvement and engagement.
 - Have had the opportunity to connect and engage with churches to also support the goal of helping those who are unhoused.
 - The money collected from the walking passes is going to the PIT count.
 - Buying backpacks, hygiene products, and winter gear-things of that nature, are what's going to be purchased for the PIT count.
 - The backpacks will be full of everything they need, ready to go. All we do is order it and they prepare the bags. We receive the backpacks, take them and hand them out, that easy.

- It helps all our agencies apply for grants and services within the scope of service we each render to our community.
 - Helps the coalition make informed decisions, improve coordination, and effectively help the unhoused connect to services they need.
 - Data Needed from agencies:
 - Fiscal year
 - # of Cases for the year
 - Poverty level
 - Housing status
 - Preventative
 - Reactive
 - Demographics (gender & age)
 - Outcomes
 - Measurements
 - Method of documentation
 - Outreach efforts
 - Resources
 - This data will be gathered and distributed amongst participating Coalition agencies to bring clarity of how, what, and who are being served.
 - Proposal of **“united effort for the unhoused”**
 - The unified effort would be determining a set date, whether monthly, quarterly, or otherwise suggested, for the sake of a unified and coordinated effort connecting to resources as needed and available. Coordinated effort can help in obtaining trust, and finding encampments for optimal means of intervention.
 - The Coalition would decide collectively
 - What?
 - What will be the effort? (location/services)
 - When?
 - Frequency
 - How?
 - These are determined by greatest need, will help drive donations to the coalition and coordinated distribution.
 - Proposal was tabled due to time constraints and will be revisited in the next meeting.

Concerns brought up during the meeting:

- Bus stop across the street from Library. The concern is that the bus stop downtown is perpetuating the encamping for the unsheltered at the library.
- Responses about public transportation:
 - Changing drop off location in Central Odessa is not one of public transportation’s top priorities
 - Removing public transportation from Central Odessa is not a guarantee to change the unhoused routine

- A recent action item is the partnership with Soulfood Ministries and Salvation Army to move food to Salvation Army where the unhoused can eat @ Salvation Army facilities.

1. Homelessness is multi-dimensional

People experiencing homelessness often need a combination of:

- Medical care
- Mental-health support
- Substance-use treatment

- Housing navigation
- Employment assistance
- Legal help
- Basic survival resources

No one agency provides all of these. Coalitions ensure people receive **coordinated, comprehensive support** instead of fragmented services.

2. It reduces duplication and gaps

When groups outreach separately, they may:

- Visit the same encampments repeatedly, wasting resources, OR
- Miss certain individuals or areas entirely

Coalitions allow teams to **share maps, data, and schedules**, making outreach more efficient and equitable.

3. Builds trust with the unhoused

People are more likely to engage when outreach workers:

- Are consistent
- Communicate with each other
- Share information (with consent)

A connected network prevents clients from having to “start over” with their story each time they meet a new worker.

4. Leverages broader expertise and resources

Coalitions combine:

- Funding
- Supplies
- Professional skills
- Case management capacity
- Emergency response ability

This creates a stronger safety net and improves odds of getting someone housed.

5. Advocacy is stronger together

Unified coalitions can:

- Push for policy change

- Request funding
- Influence local government
- Coordinate emergency responses (heat waves, cold snaps, sweeps)

A collective voice is harder to ignore.

6. It respects the reality of homelessness as a regional issue

People move across city or county lines. Coalitions allow:

- Continuity of care
- Shared understanding of individuals' needs
- Reduced "service silos" that trap people between jurisdictions

Meeting notes

Nov 25, 2025 8:30 AM

Odessa links Staff Meeting

Attendees:

Andrea Quiroz, Jesus Gomez, Julia Cole, Sylvia Campbell, Anthony Lozano, Tania Hall

Agenda

Topic	Team member
Homeless Coalition Report	Jesus Gomez
Assessor's Report	Sylvia Campb...
Andrea's Report	Andrea Quiroz
Case Manager	Anthony Lozano
Resource Specialist	Julia Cole

Summary or key decisions

- HUD Grant comes out on Monday and the new grant has many changes. One of which is the most important, which is transitioning from Rapid ReHousing to Transitional housing.
- There will be many changes and everyone will need to help make this a successful transition.

Homeless Coalition Report- Jesus Gomez

- Hired an intern

- Has met San Angelo Coalition to see how they run their coalition
 - They are under a non-profit umbrella
- Will be meeting the Abilene homeless coalition after the holidays
 - They are not under the nonprofit umbrella
 - They have their own bylaws and governance
- Will be meeting with other coalitions; he is trying to see how they run their own coalition, that have had some success. We may be able to incorporate some of these aspects to make ours successful.
- Our goal as a coalition is for collaborative participation in helping the unsheltered. At the moment , Odessa Links is seen as the spearheading agency to plan and execute.
- Tammy will work as a liaison between the coalition and each agency/organization.
- Jesus will send the link to the staff (through text message) - the link is for us to be able to report when we see a homeless encampment, in real time.

Assessor's Report - Sylvia Campbell

- Passed out a copy of her report
- 2 People were approved to get a voucher
 - Pruitt
 - Gonzalez
- When we come back from the holidays Sylvia will let them know they were approved
- Will call the apartment complex on 8th St to see if they have a 1 or 2 bedroom

Executive Director - Andrea Quiroz

- Gave us a copy of her report
 - November for Dec has been paid - the report on hand is for January
- Has touched based with all of staff about the transitional housing program
 - We will phase out rapid rehousing as to not lose any time or clients
 - HMIS is at 98% and needs to be at 100% - need two more clients
- September 2026 is when the new transitional housing begins
- For the grant, Andrea has applied for the following positions
 - Case Manager
 - Assessor/ Housing Specialist

- “Workforce staff” - will work on name of position
- Resource Specialist
- Homeless Community Coordinator
- Transitional housing will now allow other organizations to refer to us if they have/had/are:
 - Foster Care
 - Mental Health
 - Domestic Violence
 - Formerly incarcerated
 - Drug rehabilitation
- Focus will be on employment first and then housing
- Community National Bank has a 6 months finance course that will be available to our clients, given by Eddie Montoya.
- There is currently 12 clients
- 2 potential clients

Case Manager - Anthony Lozano

- Passed out his report
- Orientations are all caught up
- It was suggested that Anthony refer the clients to Goodwill to get help with appropriate attire for interviews, mock interviews, and writing resumes.
- Get the new list from WIOAA and OC for the education available to the clients
- The clients have 2-3 weeks to get a job
- It is recommended that you get the following information from your DV about the aggressor:
 - Most recent vehicle description
 - Name
 - DOB
 - Appearance
 - Anything the client tells you about the aggressor to help recognize them
- Some suggestions for his report
 - Names a little bigger - do not have to put both of the peoples' full names
 - Numbers of people in # form
 - Combine school and school status into one
 - Add a line for mental health/faith

Resource Specialist - Julia Cole

- We get 1-3 calls daily, mostly needing help with utilities - referred to us by United Way and HUD.
- HUD waiting list will also refer to us - usually twice a year
- Julia would like for Jesus to give everyone access to the phone log and/or teach them how to use it/ find it. (if possible)
- Anyone taking calls keeps a log or sends it to me, so I can keep track of it.

Details

Raw notes

- Tania passed out the payroll schedule to everyone.
- Time sheets are due on Friday 10am (last day of pay period)
- Tania will send the new timesheets
- Holiday Schedules:
 - Thanksgiving:
 - Fulltime - Tues, Wed, Thurs, and Friday - 8 hours
 - Parttime - Tues, Wed, and Thurs - 6 hours
 - Christmas:
 - Fulltime - Tues, Wed, Thurs, and Friday - 8 hours
 - Parttime - Tues, Wed, and Thurs - 6 hours
- When we return from the holidays, we will help Julia return phone calls as a team.

Ideas for later

- We will discuss the Grant and what changes and transitions we will be making in the new year
- Grant comes out on Monday , Andrea will be working on this , it is due within 2 weeks.



Happy Thanksgiving! God Bless and Be safe!!!

