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Serving Hood River, Wasco, and Sherman Counties
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MCCAC Acquires Old Motel, to Increase Housing Stability and Revitalize Downtown Core

The Dalles, Oregon – Mid-Columbia Community Action Council (MCCAC) is pleased to announce that it has completed the acquisition of the Oregon Motor Motel, a 54-room motor lodge located on the edge of downtown The Dalles. MCCAC plans to complete a large-scale renovation of the motel and convert it into transitional housing and shelter that will bring 100 new beds while adding much needed family shelter to the community.

The purchase and renovation of this the Oregon Motor Motel was made possible thanks to a \$4.27 million grant from the Project Turnkey 2.0 program, which MCCAC applied for at the end of the summer of 2022. The goal of Project Turnkey is to give Oregon communities the resources to acquire hotels and/or motels that can be rapidly converted to much needed shelter or transitional housing. Project Turnkey funds were awarded to MCCAC through a partnership of the Oregon Community Foundation, Oregon Housing & Community Services, the Oregon Legislature, and a diverse statewide Advisory Committee.

“The acquisition of the Oregon Motor Motel is a huge win for our communities as the site will provide critical housing and shelter capacity while also revitalizing the entry to the downtown core,” MCCAC Executive Director, Kenny LaPoint said. “This is such an exciting project that we believe will help reduce houselessness by 50% while also turning a rundown hotel into a community asset.”

MCCAC has renamed the motel “The Annex” due to its close connection to the MCCAC Navigation Center project that will break ground in March of this year. Additionally, they are planning nearly \$1.5 million in renovations to The Annex as it works to restore the old hotel and beautify the entry to downtown. MCCAC anticipates that renovation will begin immediately and likely run through the Fall of 2023. They hope to open The Annex as housing and transitional shelter by the middle of 2023.

The Annex will provide housing and shelter in partnership with the Mid-Columbia Center for Living (MCCFL), The Next Door, the Oregon Human Development Corporation, Nch'I Wana Housing, the Columbia Gorge Health Council, Bridges to Health, Mid-Columbia Medical Center and Providence Memorial Hospital in Hood River. Each of these agencies will provide on-site services to those staying at The Annex as we work to transition clients into permanent housing. The site will be staffed 24/7, include two on-site resident managers and overnight security 365 days per year. The Annex will serve formerly houseless and housing unstable community members, including families with children in MCCAC's three county service territory of Hood River, Wasco and Sherman counties. For more information on MCCAC's plans for The Annex and its operations, you can visit www.mccac.com/project-turnkey.

MCCAC is the Community Action Agency serving Hood River, Wasco and Sherman Counties. MCCAC's mission is to build a better future for our community through partnership and equity-centered programs that prevent and eliminate poverty and houselessness.

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