



February 14, 2023

Hello Neighbor,

Hope you all are having a great start to the New Year. Now two months into operations at Catalyst we wanted to share some updates with the neighborhood.

Beginning December 12, 2022, participants began moving in to the Catalyst project. As of February 13th we have 62 participants on site at Catalyst. We plan to enroll approximately 10 people each week moving forward and expect to be fully occupied in mid-March.

These first two months of operations and on-site programming are going well. We continue to offer 3 meals per day, weekly laundry service, transportation assistance and more. In addition, we have onsite programming focusing on substance misuse, access to healthcare, connections to DSHS for benefits, community-led support groups and more. On January 25th we provided transportation for any participant interested in attending the Homeless Connect and many did, accessing services including haircuts, resource tables, support with benefits and job applications.

The Catalyst service team is focused on working with each participant on short- and long-term goals, securing permanent housing options, and supporting participants in their stabilization journey. The operations team continues to excel in supporting participants' day-to-day needs, ensuring safety is prioritized and rules are followed, and playing the critical role in 24/7 support for those in need.

Through this support and our participants hard work, we have achieved some early successes including:

- 5 participants have moved into or have secured permanent housing.
- 4 out of 5 participants are engaging with our onsite substance use disorder professionals and 1 in 5 participants have enrolled in formal treatment.
- One-half of all participants are actively engaged in healthcare services to improve their wellbeing.
- 2 out of 5 participants are engaged in behavioral health care service through our onsite services.
- All participants are contributing their time and talents to help support the Catalyst through cleaning, meal preparation, grounds maintenance, and peer supports.
- Catalyst has only required one call to SPD to respond to criminal behavior, other calls to SPD have been made requesting support from the behavioral health crisis response team to support our participants' wellness in times of crisis.

These early successes mean that participants are meaningfully changing their lives and are leaning into this opportunity to achieve their goals, live healthier lives, and move towards permanent housing. This



success also means that taxpayer supported emergency services are less burdened in meeting the needs of individuals who are now housed the Catalyst project.

In addition to these successes, we have had 18 exits from our program where residents were not moving to permanent housing; 3 exits when a participant determined that the program was not a good fit for their needs, 15 involuntary exits where a participant was unable to meet the expectations of the program. In cases where a participant was exited from the program, Catalyst case managers worked to ensure they were exiting to another emergency housing program. In one instance a participant passed away at a medical facility as a result of significant pre-existing medical conditions.

Beginning in March we look forward to being able to support requests for volunteer opportunities and increased community connections for participants. We are thankful for the neighbors who have reached out to offer their support of our residents and interest in helping beautify the Catalyst garden and grounds. In addition, we look forward to further collaborating with and growing the Catalyst Advisory Council, a group of neighbors and partners focused on solving challenges and sharing information about the Catalyst. We are also working with invested partners to develop programmatic partnerships that will support our participants' success.

CCEW is continuing to prioritize safety for Catalyst participants, staff, neighbors, and other partners. At this time we would like to offer neighbors the Safety Team phone number, (509) 953-4769, to be called when there is a safety concern involving a Catalyst participant. If the issue does not involve Catalyst participants we will encourage neighbors to call crime check or 911. We will continue to explore ways in which neighbors can share concerns with program leadership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized, cursive name followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Dawn Kinder, MSW, MHP
Chief Stabilization Officer