

PHP: Barriers to Getting an ID While Houseless in Portland, OR

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Project Status: Goals & Progression

Our project's goal was to identify barriers that exist for the houseless population in regard to obtaining state-issued IDs. The goal was met through interviews with key stakeholders, targeted surveying of the local population, and extensive research of secondary sources. With these actions, we were able to gain a solid understanding of what barriers exist as well as what systems are currently in place.

Effecting Change

This project has the ability to effect change by raising awareness of the issue among key stakeholders. Advocacy on this issue can prompt policy changes or help expand & streamline resources to reduce barriers to obtaining state-issued IDs for the houseless population. Identifying the barriers was a foundational step towards long-term problem solving through problem and solution identification.

Sustainability and Acceptance of Change

No change has been initiated at this time, although there appeared to be a willingness and receptiveness to various ideas and concepts we shared during the interviews with government agencies and city officials. All of the changes thought of so far will take funding and time so sustainability will depend greatly on the chosen course of action.

Recommendations for Future Work

Future work should be based around increasing awareness and resources, as well as reducing barriers through trainings or legislative action. Examples include mental health training for DMV staff, implementing a sliding fee scales for DMV fees, or advocating for digitalizing IDs.

Audiences and Call to Action

The plan is to share this poster and information with the Maybelle staff at their meeting on June 5th, as well as inviting the mayor's policy advisor for the houseless population to our presentation at the OHSU School of Nursing on May 30th. Additionally, we will send the poster electronically to various stakeholders in the community. One call to action is for all the resources in the downtown area to hold quarterly or bi-annual meetings, in the interest of communication, streamlining resources, minimizing redundancy and increasing efficiency.

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