

**COVID-19 Final Report from NeighborImpact (Non-RHIP)
“Social Distancing Shelter Alternatives”**

Summary of Activities:

- This project was designed to provide camping equipment for people experiencing homelessness in order to reduce the census numbers in warming shelters and permanent shelters.
- NeighborImpact distributed all 50 camping kits.
- As a result, we successfully reduced the census in the Bend Warming Shelter by 50% on a nightly basis through the end of the season.
- Additionally, these funds enabled us to utilize other funding to shelter some of the warming shelter high risk population in motel rooms.
- The mitigation of a COVID outbreak would not have been possible without this mini grant.
- We were also able to offer new equipment to the final guests exiting as the shelter season ended.
- In observation of the great need for the most basic of supplies, NeighborImpact has continued the camping supply program that was seeded by the generosity of COHC.

Story:

“One of the warming shelter guests shared that between the warming shelter and the availability of brand new outdoor kits as they were exiting finally made them feel that someone actually cared and saw them as people. The fact that they did not have to take stuff (gear) that no one wanted anymore helped them to feel dignity and like maybe the community really supported them instead of marginalizing them.”