



MEMORANDUM

Date: November 27, 2024

To: The Honorable Chair and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: Jan Leshner 
County Administrator

Re: **Additional Information for the December 3, 2024 Board of Supervisors Meeting – Agenda Item No. 12 - Emergency Eviction Legal Services – The Craycroft Shelter Update**

The Emergency Eviction Legal Services (EELS) program was founded in 2021 and provides legal services, court navigation, and other services to tenants facing eviction. In many cases, usually due to nonpayment of rent, eviction is unavoidable. Vulnerable tenants in those cases can be left with no shelter as a result of eviction, contributing to the unhoused population.

Therefore, since January 2022, EELS has operated a low-barrier, noncongregate shelter focused on serving families and vulnerable individuals who lose their housing due to eviction. It is the first such shelter in this community focused on this population and since October 2023, has been operated in partnership with the City of Tucson and the City-owned Craycroft Shelter (formerly Knights Inn).

On December 3, 2024, the Board will consider an amendment to an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City to extend operation of the program for an additional year and facilitates the completion of facility improvements funded by a competitive grant the County obtained earlier this year. The attached Memorandum from Community & Workforce Development Director Dan Sullivan provides a program update and additional information regarding the Intergovernmental Agreement Amendment.

JKL/dym

Attachment

c: Carmine DeBonis, Jr., Deputy County Administrator
Francisco García, MD, MPH, Deputy County Administrator & Chief Medical Officer
Steve Holmes, Deputy County Administrator
Dan Sullivan, Director, Community & Workforce Development
Andrew Flagg, Deputy Director, Community & Workforce Development


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Date: November 27, 2024

To: Jan Leshar
County Administrator

From: Dan Sullivan 
Community & Workforce Development
Director

Francisco García, MD, MPH,
Deputy County Administrator

Re: Emergency Eviction Legal Services – The Craycroft Shelter Update

October 23, 2024 marked one year since the Emergency Eviction Legal Services (EELS) Division of Community & Workforce Development (CWD) began operating its shelter out of the City of Tucson-owned Craycroft Shelter (formerly Knights Inn). The shelter is a partnership between the County and the City memorialized in an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) (PO2400003500). On December 3, 2024, the Board of Supervisors will consider Amendment 1. This memorandum provides a brief program update and summary of the changes in Amendment 1.

Program Background and Data

EELS [provides a variety of interventions](#) targeted at preventing avoidable evictions and preventing homelessness when eviction is not avoidable. When evictions cannot be avoided, families and vulnerable individuals who have no other alternative to street homelessness can be temporarily housed at The Craycroft. It is the first low-barrier, non-congregate shelter in Pima County focused on this population. The shelter is a key component of EELS broader effort to promote housing stability in accordance with Policy 3 of [Board of Supervisors Policy E 36.2, Reducing Generational Poverty and Improving Individual and Community Wealth](#).

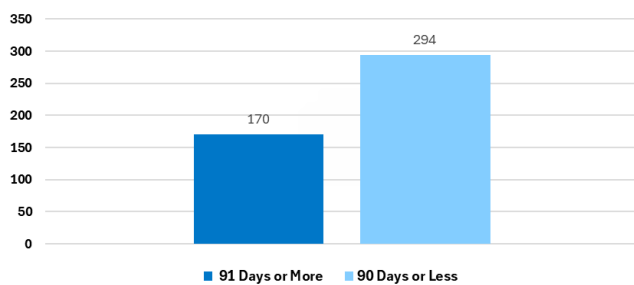
The program provides shelter and on-site wraparound services to clients, focused on bridging them to stable housing. Staff with years of shelter and case-management experience are on-site 12 hours a day, 7 days a week, with overnight security ensuring a 24/7 presence. In addition to CWD staff, program partners provide on-site support including housing counseling, health care, job assistance, school transportation, legal services, and more. Below is a list of program partners along with the services they provide to Craycroft clients.

Program Partner	Role
City of Tucson	Building Owner / Shelter Referral Partner
Compass Affordable Housing	Rehousing Support / Post-Exit Case Management
El Rio Health	On-Site Health Care

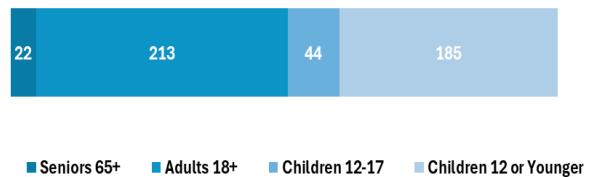
Pima County Constables	Referrals of Vulnerable Households to EELS
Pima County Health Department	On-Site Staff - Covid Education & Testing
Pima County Library District	On-Site Children’s Programming
Pima County One-Stop	On-Site Job Assistance / Resource Navigation
Step Up to Justice	On-Site Legal Clinics
Tucson Collaborative Community Care (TC3)	Shelter Referral Partner / Case Management
Tucson Unified School District	Transportation and Other Student Services

The primary performance metric for the shelter is exits to positive housing destinations. The program has consistently maintained a rate of 80%-85% since the opening in January 2022. Most participants stay for fewer than 90 days, although there is no maximum length, and some families have stayed for significantly longer periods. In its first year at The Craycroft, the program has served 464 individuals, 229 of whom are children.

LENGTH OF STAY AT THE CRAYCROFT EMERGENCY SHELTER



CLIENT AGE DISTRIBUTION AT THE CRAYCROFT EMERGENCY SHELTER



The program is grant-funded, utilizing funding from the American Rescue Plan Act, Arizona Department of Economic Security, and Arizona Department of Housing (ADOH).

IGA Amendment 1

CWD has obtained grant funding through ADOH to pay operating costs to the City of Tucson through June 30, 2026. Additionally, the ADOH grant includes over \$500,000 to fund capital improvements to the property, including a perimeter fence, entry gates, and related improvements. Under IGA Amendment 1, the IGA would be extended for an additional year, and removes the cap on the dollar amount of improvement and repair work to allow the City to complete the improvements and obtain reimbursement from the ADOH grant funds.

This Amendment will allow the program to continue to operate at The Craycroft, and the improvements will increase security at the property. CWD recommends approval of Amendment 1 to the IGA.

- c: Andy Flagg, Deputy Director CWD
- Lenora Anderson, EELS Division Manager

Attachment 1

List of Prior EELS Updates

List of Prior Emergency Eviction Legal Services Updates

[2024-10-24 – Emergency Eviction Legal Services – Rent Assistance Update](#)

[2024-07-22 – Emergency Eviction Legal Services - Update](#)

[2024-06-13 – Additional Information for the June 18, 2024 Board of Supervisors Meeting – Agenda Items Nos. 38, 39, 40 – Emergency Eviction Legal Services](#)

[2024-01-29 – Emergency Eviction Legal Services](#)

[2023-08-18 – Additional Information for the August 21, 2023 Board of Supervisors Meeting, Addendum No. 5, Intergovernmental Agreement with City of Tucson for Operation of Knights Inn](#)

[2023-07-24 – Additional Information for the Board of Supervisors July 25, 2023, Agenda Item No. 55 Grant Acceptance: Emergency Rental Assistance 2 Program \(includes EELS update\)](#)

[2023-07-07 – Update on County Initiatives to Address Homelessness and Public Safety \(includes EELS shelter update\)](#)

[2022-08-24 – Emergency Eviction Legal Services Program](#)

[2022-03-08 – Update on Emergency Rental Assistance Program \(includes EELS update\)](#)

[2022-03-08 – Funding and Contracts Supporting Asylum Seekers and Emergency Eviction Services](#)

[2022-01-18 – Update on Southwest Border Transportation and Shelter for Asylum Seekers \(includes update on EELS shelter\)](#)

[2022-01-27 – Response to Supervisor Steve Christy’s Questions Regarding Aid to Asylum Seekers during the January 18, 2022 Board of Supervisors Meeting \(includes update on EELS shelter\)](#)

[2021-12-06 – Emergency Eviction Legal Services Update and Board of Supervisors December 7, 2021 Addendum Agenda Item 19 \(Procurement – Legal Services\)](#)

[2021-09-16 – Emergency Rental Assistance Program and Emergency Eviction Legal Services Updates](#)

[2021-08-24 – Office of Emergency Eviction Legal Services Update](#)

[2021-08-06 – Emergency Rental Assistance Program Update \(includes EELS update\)](#)

[2021-06-24 – Update on the Emergency Rental Assistance Program known as ERAP 1 and ERAP 2 \(includes EELS update\)](#)

[2021-04-16 – Establishment of the Office of Emergency Eviction Legal Services](#)