



OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY LEADER RECOGNITION

August 22, 2024



Name: Anna Davidson

Role: Homeless Services Advocate

Organization: Ogden Police Department

Background:

Anna Davidson has been a transformative force within the Ogden City Police Department (OPD) since she joined in December 2019. As a full-time Homeless Services Advocate, Anna has played a pivotal role in creating and developing the OPD Homeless Services program. Her vision, initially sketched on a piece of paper, has blossomed into a highly effective initiative aimed at guiding the unsheltered to the right resources with the ultimate goal of securing stable housing.

Drawing from her experience as a business owner in Ogden, Anna recognized significant gaps in services for the homeless population. Her proactive approach has not only addressed these gaps but has also contributed to reducing arrests and incidents related to homelessness in the community. Anna emphasizes the critical need for support, particularly for mentally ill individuals who struggle to navigate resources independently.

Anna has forged strong partnerships with healthcare, behavioral health, and social service organizations. These collaborations have led to a 12% decrease in repeat service calls from homeless individuals in FY24. By reducing the need for law enforcement involvement, the program not only benefits those receiving services but also enhances the overall quality of life

in Ogden City. This achievement highlights the effectiveness of a compassionate approach to addressing homelessness, reflecting OPD's commitment to sustainable and impactful solutions. Since the inception of the OPD Homeless Services program, 118 unsheltered individuals have been successfully housed, with only 5 returning to homelessness. This remarkable achievement underscores Anna's dedication and effectiveness. Her efforts have also been instrumental in changing the hearts and minds of the officers who work alongside her, fostering a compassionate and empathetic approach to addressing homelessness.

Anna Davidson's commitment and innovative strategies have made a significant impact on the community. Her work not only improves the lives of the unsheltered but also enhances the overall well-being of Ogden City. Anna's unwavering dedication continues to inspire and drive positive change, making her deserving of recognition by the Homeless Services Board.