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## **Special Advocacy Issue**

Remember, the simplest form of advocacy is to just share this newsletter with someone you think could use this information! And if you were forwarded this email, please <u>consider subscribing</u>.

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## Johnson v. Grants Pass



The United States Supreme Court ruling from the Johnson v. Grants Pass case on June 28, 2024, states that jailing people in violation of public camping restrictions is

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legal protections against arresting and fining people experiencing homelessness who are sleeping outside. However, the **majority opinion** also states, "nothing in today's decision prevents States, cities, and counties from going a step further and declining to criminalize public camping altogether."

Working in the human services field, we know that jail is not a practical solution to homelessness. There are proven methods like Permanent Supportive Housing, Rapid Re-housing, and the Housing Choice Voucher program that can help lift people out of poverty and into stable homes.

In light of this recent Supreme Court decision, now is the time to share your homelessness prevention expertise with local municipal leaders and police departments, before they decide that prison is the best place for our unhoused neighbors.

If you need some data to support that discussion, an excellent resource is the National Alliance to End Homelessness

> For more information on the Supreme Court decision, visit https://johnsonvgrantspass.com/

## **County Spotlight: Altoona**



Gloria Gates Care recently partnered with the Altoona Housing Authority to create a one-of-a-kind medical experience for their clients. After years positioning himself, Dr. Zane Gates was finally able to create his vision for better health care with the help of Mr. Donny Beaver. Dr. Zane Gates had a vision through his personal story to enhance the current inadequacies and indignities of the current Medicaid system.

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Education Access and Quality, Health Care Access and Quality, Neighborhood and Built Environment and Social and Community Context.



The partnership centered around the idea of bringing health care to the residents of the Green Avenue and Eleventh Street Towers. Gloria Gates Care wants to improve the outcome for their members. One of the major issues with health care for the population that Gloria Gates Care serves is transportation which at times can be extremely unreliable. Health care is now physically located in the Green Avenue Tower and is only the length of a parking lot away from the Eleventh Street Tower. The idea of whole person care centers around easy access to the following: enhanced primary care, pharmacy, screenings, diagnostic testing, therapies and social and life skills.

The commitment to the partnership is built on creating a better community for the residents of the Altoona Housing Authority. Gloria Gates Care has been involved with events at the Housing Authority and continues to get more members as they become involved in the community. Both organizations are hoping this partnership will continue to be successful for years to come.

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## **Events Corner**









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