BLUEPRINT FOR ENDING HOMELESSNESS:
ALIGNING RESOURCES WITH RESULTS

Recommendations

How We Got Here

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What causes homelessness?

- Housing
  - More than at any other time, there is a lack of housing that low income people can afford. Without housing options, people face eviction, instability and homelessness.
- Income
  - Low income households often do not earn enough to pay for food, clothing, transportation and a place they can call home
- Health
  - Health problems can cause a person's homelessness as well as be exacerbated by the experience. Housing is key to addressing the health needs of people experiencing homelessness.
- Racial inequality
  - While homelessness affects all races and ethnic groups, it impacts some minorities at a higher rate
- Domestic violence
  - Many survivors of domestic violence become homeless when leaving an abusive relationship.

While virtually all homeless people are poor, only a very small fraction of people who live in poverty ever experience homelessness.
Focus Strategies

National Alliance To End Homelessness: WHAT CAUSES HOMELESSNESS?

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Basics: Annualized Households Experiencing Homeless in Ohio
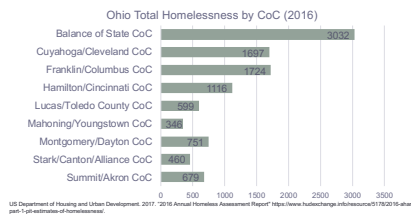
34,545 Individuals

3,775 Households with children

14.8% of Ohio households (or 678,587 households) are poor; about 6% of these experience homelessness. (Census Bureau)

Who experiences homelessness?

Ohio Total Homelessness by CoC (2016)

CoC	Value
Balance of State CoC	3032
Cuyahoga/Cleveland CoC	1697
Franklin/Columbus CoC	1724
Hamilton/Cincinnati CoC	1116
Lucas/Toledo County CoC	599
Mahoning/Youngstown CoC	346
Montgomery/Dayton CoC	751
Stark/Canton/Alliance CoC	460
Summit/Akron CoC	679

US Department of Housing and Urban Development. 2017. "2016 Annual Homeless Assessment Report" https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/5178/2016-ahar-part-1-pit-estimates-of-homelessness/.

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What Does Ending Homelessness Mean?

An **end to homelessness means** that every community will have a **systematic response** in place that ensures homelessness is prevented whenever possible, or if it can't be prevented, it is a rare, brief, and non-recurring experience.

Specifically, **every community** will have the capacity to:

- Quickly identify and engage people at risk of and experiencing homelessness.
- Intervene to prevent the loss of housing and divert people from entering the homelessness services system.
- When homelessness does occur, provide immediate access to shelter and crisis services, without barriers to entry, while permanent stable housing and appropriate supports are being secured, and quickly connect people to housing assistance and services—tailored to their unique needs and strengths—to help them achieve and maintain stable housing.

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Guiding Principles

• Prioritize a person's choice

• Ensure equity in access and outcomes

• Respect individual rights

• Support community integration

• Remove barriers

• Focus on individual need

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Actionable Strategies

Cross-Cutting Priorities	Population Goals
• Housing that's affordable • Employment and earnings • Streamlined and accessible systems and services • Supporting effective local crisis response systems • Using data and analysis to inform planning, tracking and resource allocation	• Resolve and prevent homelessness among veterans by 2018 • Resolve and prevent chronic homelessness by 2018 • Prevent and end family homelessness by 2020 • Prevent and end youth homelessness by 2020 • Reduce homelessness among single adults by 25% by 2020

Where are we going?

Actionable Strategies

Cross-Cutting Priorities	Population Goals
• Housing that's affordable • Employment and earnings • Streamlined and accessible systems and services • Supporting effective local crisis response systems • Using data and analysis to inform planning, tracking and resource allocation	• Resolve and prevent homelessness among veterans by 2018 • Resolve and prevent chronic homelessness by 2018 • Prevent and end family homelessness by 2020 • Prevent and end youth homelessness by 2020 • Reduce homelessness among single adults by 25% by 2020

Cross-cutting Priority 1: *Housing that's Affordable*

• **Strategy 1:** Increase access, preserve and create more affordable rental housing
• **Strategy 2:** Preserve and create permanent supportive housing; ensure targeting to the priority populations to achieve cost-efficient and effective outcomes; and support move-up strategies.

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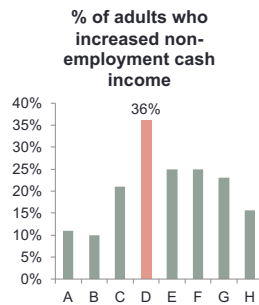
Cross-cutting Priority 2: *Employment and Earnings*

• **Strategy 1:** Increase capacity and ability of programs and systems that serve the employment needs of low-income individuals to prioritize individuals experiencing homelessness.
• **Strategy 2:** Promote employment among people with lived experience of homelessness to work within the crisis response and homeless assistance system

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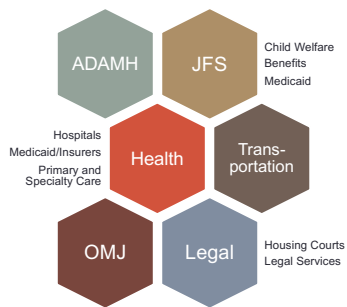The collective for impact

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Cross-cutting Priority 3: *Streamlined and Accessible Systems and Services*

Health care, behavioral health care, early childhood programs and childcare, schools, and other community-based resources must be easily accessible for people at risk of homelessness to avoid entering shelter or being unsheltered. They are equally important for families to exit homelessness.

% of adults who increased non-employment cash income

36%

A B C D E F G H

Better partnerships needed

ADAMH

JFS — Child Welfare / Benefits / Medicaid

Hospitals / Medicaid/Insurers / Primary and Specialty Care — Health

Trans-portation

OMJ

Legal — Housing Courts / Legal Services

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Cross-cutting Priority 4: *Supporting effective local crisis response systems*

- **Because progress on ending homelessness can only occur when local homeless crisis response systems are effective and efficient, the Ohio Homelessness and Housing Collaborative will…**
- Enhance the capacity of programs and systems that serve the crisis needs of people experiencing homelessness through strategic use of technical assistance, guidance and growth of financial resources sufficient to achieve a functional end to homelessness.
- Mobilize and align resources to help families and individuals avoid homelessness whenever possible and assure access to appropriate shelter, services and housing is available when preventing homelessness is not possible.

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Cross-cutting Priority 5: *Using data and analysis to inform planning, tracking, and resource allocation*

- **Because high quality data drives better planning, policy and results, the Ohio Homelessness and Housing Collaborative will…**
- Strengthen Ohio's data warehouse to provide cross-agency and statewide data analysis to inform policy, planning, and investment and to monitor progress and results.
- Enhance the capacity of CoC's and providers to use HMIS to guide evaluation and program and policy improvements.

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Population Goals

- Mutual Accountability
- Strategic Resource Alignment
- By Name List
- Data Quality

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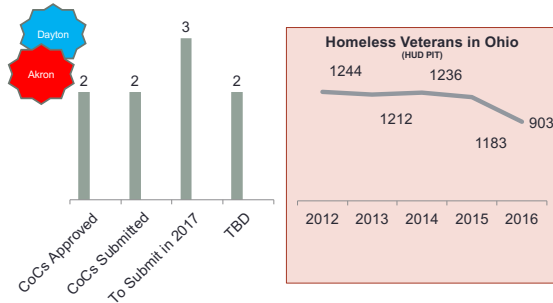
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Population Goals

Because achieving a functional end to homelessness requires collaboration and integration across state agencies and effective partnerships with local communities, the Ohio Homelessness and Housing Collaborative should…

- Strengthen the Collaborative to support and lead cross-agency and statewide efforts to achieve the implementation of this Plan.
- Explore and address racial disparities and develop actions to achieve equity in access and outcomes.
- Enhance the capacity of CoC's and providers to use HMIS to guide evaluation and program and policy improvements.

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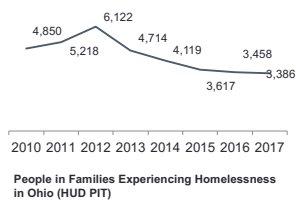## Resolve and prevent future homelessness among Veterans by 2018

Dayton

Akron

CoCs Approved — 2
CoCs Submitted — 2
To Submit in 2017 — 3
TBD — 2

Homeless Veterans in Ohio
(HUD PIT)

1244
1236
1212
1183
903

2012 2013 2014 2015 2016

Resolve and prevent chronic homelessness by 2018

Current Status	Recommended Action

• 7 of 9 CoCs appear to have capacity to end CH in 2017
• None have submitted to USICH
• Strong progress growing PSH
• Not always direct match
  • BoS geography, low shelter
  • Entry requirements/criminal backgrounds
  • Timing of vacancy and identification of chronic status may not line up
	• Assist each CoC achieve the federal benchmarks and criteria for a functional end to chronic homelessness by 2018.
	• Sustain an end to chronic homelessness, and apply the lessons learned from ending chronic homelessness to other populations.

Prevent and end homelessness among families with children by 2020

• Primary intervention is Shelter + RRH
  • 79% of estimated 4,628 homeless families received RRH
• Local CoCs leading with housing first orientation, focus on permanent placements

Family Homelessness Down 30%

4,850
5,218
6,122
4,714
4,119
3,617
3,458
3,386

2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017

People in Families Experiencing Homelessness in Ohio (HUD PIT)

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Prevent and end homelessness among youth and young adults by 2020

- **Because too many young people experience homelessness in Ohio on any given night and because youth experiencing homelessness are often prey to violence and exploitation, the Ohio Homelessness and Housing Collaborative should...**
 - Increase the role and impact of youth-serving systems to support young people facing homelessness and engage these systems to create an improved local community response.
  - Enhance the capacity of programs and systems to serve youth experiencing homelessness through strategic use of technical assistance, guidance and growth of financial resources sufficient to achieve a functional end to homelessness.
  - Mobilize and align resources to help youth avoid homelessness whenever possible and assure access to appropriate shelter, services and housing is available when preventing homelessness is not possible.

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Reduce homelessness among single adults by one-quarter by 2020

- Largest proportion of people experiencing homelessness (66% in 2017)
- Non-chronic, non-Veteran singles have highest unmet need:
  - Diversion
  - Shelter best practices
  - Rapid rehousing (only 29% of annualized single individuals received RRH)
  - PSH turnover
- Significant racial disparity

Black/African-American

State Population 12%
Homeless 45%
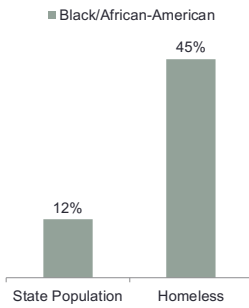
How do you fit in?

Framework for Action and Accountability

- The Collaborative will be responsible for overall implementation of the Plan.
- In order to monitor the progress toward the goals, implementation of cross-cutting priorities and contributions of the state agencies, the Collaborative should provide reports to the public that describe advancement with in four primary areas:
  - Progress on meeting five population goals across the state and within each Continuum of Care
  - Implementing the substance of and the timeline for strategies and actions described in the Plan
  - Achieving system performance metrics across the state and within each Continuum of Care
  - Progress on aligning state investments to incorporate program performance metrics in funding processes

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Next steps

- Final Plan released to OHHC for adoption
- Final Plan published

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