Homeless to Homes

The comprehensive plan to end homelessness in Cincinnati/Hamilton County. The goal of the plan is to ensure that single homeless individuals have access to appropriate shelter facilities and comprehensive services which facilitate their movement from homelessness to permanent housing.

BACKGROUND

- Homelessness is a complex issue that requires coordinated engagement from the entire community. To address the problem of homeless individuals lingering in shelters and not exiting to housing programs quickly enough, City Council turned to Strategies to End Homelessness to develop a comprehensive plan.

- Key stakeholders from local government, the business community, human service agencies, philanthropists, and the faith community created a blueprint for a new homeless services system. The Homeless to Homes Plan, containing 56 recommendations, was adopted by the City of Cincinnati and Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners in 2009.

- The Plan recommends a reconfiguration of shelter beds to allow for state-of-the-art facilities which will offer more intensive case management, better connection to medical and clinical services, comprehensive daytime services, and improved quality of life through more private sleeping arrangements, healthier food services, and more hygienic restroom facilities.

- Strategies to End Homelessness and the Cincinnati Center City Development Corporation (3CDC) teamed up with local service providers to form the Homeless to Homes Shelter Collaborative, developing five new emergency shelters to support the needs of specific populations.

HOMELESS TO HOMES SHELTER COLLABORATIVE

1. **Young Adult Shelter**—Lighthouse Youth Services
   Sheakley Center for Youth

2. **Substance Abuse Treatment Facility**—Talbert House
   Parkway Center

3. **Men’s Faith-Based Shelter**—City Gospel Mission

4. **Women-Only Shelter**—Drop Inn Center Women’s Shelter

5. **Safe & Step-Up Shelter for Men**—Drop Inn Center
   Men’s Shelter

DEMOGRAPHICS

OF THE 5,813 HOMELESS ADULTS IN CINCINNATI/HAMILTON COUNTY:

- Male: 68%
- Female: 29%
- Other: 1%

59% suffer from one or more disabling conditions
(physical/developmental, mental health, substance use)

- African American: 68%
- White: 29%
- Multiple Races: 3%
COLLABORATIVE FUNDING

Strategies to End Homelessness established the Funding Advisory Committee, the area’s first funders’ collaborative for homeless issues. The Funding Advisory Committee meets quarterly to review the plan’s implementation and outcomes, and annually allocates funds raised through the collaborative.

Funding is based on outcomes

The Funding Advisory Committee bases its funding recommendations on the following outcomes:

- Increased % of residents successfully exiting to housing
- Decreased % of residents returning to homelessness within 24 months

Cincinnati’s Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) is considered one of the premier systems in the country. With a 100% participation rate by service providers, we are able to accurately track all unduplicated data. The data informs all planning and funding decisions.

Funding Update

The following funders have contributed more than $37 million to support the capital campaign and $6.7 million to support operating costs of the improved Homeless to Homes shelter facilities. Close to $4 million is still needed to complete construction of all five shelters. In November 2014, for the first time, voters approved $5.4 million in public funds to be allocated to Homeless to Homes as a part of the Hamilton County Health & Hospitalization Levy.

Anonymous
Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield Foundation
Carol Ann & Ralph V. Haile, Jr. / U.S. Bank Foundation
Charlotte R. Schmidlapp Fund, Fifth Third Bank, Trustee
City Gospel Mission Campaign
City of Cincinnati
Deaconess Associations Foundation
Farmer Family Foundation
Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati
Federal Home Loan Bank of Pittsburgh
Francie & John Pepper
Hamilton County Health & Hospitalization Levy
Hatton Foundation
Interact for Health
Jacob G. Schmidlapp Trusts, Fifth Third Bank, Trustee
John A Schroth Family Charitable Trusts, PNC Bank, Trustee
KLC Foundation
Louise Taft Semple Foundation
Mercy Health
NMTC Equity
Ohio National Financial Services
P&G Fund of The Greater Cincinnati Foundation
PNC Charitable Trust
Scripps Howard Foundation
Sisters of Charity
State of Ohio (OHFA)
Susan & Joseph Pichler
The Carol Ann and Ralph V. Haile, Jr./US Bank Foundation
The Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati
The Greater Cincinnati Foundation
United Way of Greater Cincinnati
3CDC

Strategies to End Homelessness is funded in part by the City of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, is a United Way Agency Partner, and is a Better Business Bureau Accredited Charity.