

The Homeless to Homes Shelter Collaborative

The problem:

On any given night in Hamilton County, 750 people are sleeping on the streets or in shelters. Currently, shelter providers are limited in how they can serve their clients. Poor bathroom facilities, dense sleeping quarters, outdated kitchens, and limited space for medical services make it difficult to care for the homeless. Landlocked sites prevent the expansion needed to offer daytime programs, meeting rooms, medical services and clinics. Clients often have to exit onto the streets during the day and receive limited assistance in finding their way back to housing.

The solution:

In 2008, the City of Cincinnati passed an ordinance setting in motion the Homeless to Homes Plan, which stated that "homeless individuals should have safe, appropriate shelter facilities that provide comprehensive services necessary for homeless individuals to obtain and maintain housing."

The Plan's MAIN recommendations are to reconfigure and improve the quality of services at homeless shelters, and to dramatically increase the amount of permanent supportive housing available in the community to help clients make the transition out of homelessness.

Strategies to End Homelessness, four shelter operators, and development partner 3CDC have been working together to upgrade the shelter facilities which lack the space to accommodate needed improvements. The Cincinnati community, including City and County governments, and corporate and philanthropic partners, have pulled together to support the plan through funding and donated services. The planned changes will drastically improve the quality of the current shelter capacity, and better meet the needs of homeless individuals by providing day services such as drug and alcohol treatment, mental health services, and job search and training. The space for and availability of such services encourage homeless people to come in off the streets, and eliminates the need for shelter providers to exit residents onto the streets during the day. In addition, higher quality and increased case management services will ensure that residents are helped in negotiating complex systems, and individuals receive the assistance they need to exit homelessness. All five shelters will offer a step-up model that provides incentives for individuals to engage in these services.

The outcomes:

- Increased percentage of individuals who successfully move from shelter to housing
- Increased percentage of individuals who obtain additional income while in shelter
- Decreased number of people sleeping on the streets, under bridges, in doorways or parks
- De-concentration of services (over 250 homeless shelter beds currently located in the center city)
- Continued restoration of the urban core and livability of the downtown area
- Establishment of a coordinated, community-wide system of services, which provides improved access and opportunities for volunteers and community groups that want to help solve homelessness

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Scheduled For Construction 2015:

Drop Inn Center Men's Facility

The Drop Inn Center is Cincinnati's largest emergency shelter, providing basic human services to over 3,000 people annually. Its current facility on Elm Street lacks the operational and physical infrastructure to keep up with daily demand. One bathroom with nine showers for 180 men, no separation for sick patients, and two washers and dryers for all of the Drop Inn Center's male clients limit the operational efficiencies of the organization. Additionally, dated and non-functional kitchen equipment, along with limited space for recurring programming and case management for the chronically homeless need to be addressed.

The new facility at 747 W. 5th Street will support:

- 150 bed facility for men
- Smaller sleeping quarters provide added privacy, safety, and cleanliness
- Full-Day Services for expanded daytime programming and an increased ration of case workers to residents
- Modern kitchen for 3 daily meals
- Updated laundry facility



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Under Construction:

Drop Inn Center Women's Facility

The Drop Inn Center has been serving homeless women for over three decades, yet has never had a facility in which to serve only women. In this facility, the DIC will ensure women have access to basic human needs such as shelter, food, clothing and toiletries, and then begin to define reasonable steps to be taken towards independence and self-sufficiency.

The new facility at 2499 Reading Rd. will support:

- Basic needs for food, shelter, and safety will be immediately met
- Reduced trauma and optimized women's health
- Increased capacity of emergency shelter beds (from 42 to 60), with non-dormitory sleeping quarters (1-4 per private room)
- Full day treatment services tailored to each woman's specific needs
- Residents will not be forced to exit facility during daytime hours
- High quality individualized case management
- Parking facility that will support the demands of the shelter, the Anna Louise Inn, and the neighboring United Way facility



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Under Construction:

City Gospel Mission

The City Gospel Mission's current shelter facility is located on Elm Street in Over-the-Rhine. Limited space and a landlocked site require their clients to wait outside the facility each afternoon for a chance to receive food and shelter, and to exit again in the morning.

The new facility at 1805 Dalton St. will support:

- 74 emergency beds for men (more than double the current capacity)
- 36 transitional housing beds in a separate building for the Exodus recovery program (more than double the current total transitional housing capacity)
- Improved Sleeping Arrangements — 10 or fewer beds in each room, more privacy and reducing health concerns
- Full-Day Services: Day programming will eliminate forced exit during daytime hours
- Increased ratio of case workers to residents, providing more one-to-one interaction
- Shared facilities with a physical training agency and an employment agency.



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Capital Campaign to Date:

TOTAL ACQUISITION, HARD & SOFT COSTS	\$41,585,500
Drop Inn Center Women's Facility	\$8,340,000
Drop Inn Center Men's Facility	\$18,190,500
City Gospel Mission	\$14,555,000
Talbert House Parkway Center renovation	\$500,000
TOTAL FUNDRAISING	\$35,513,300
City of Cincinnati Grant	\$10,000,000
State (Ohio Housing Finance Agency)	\$5,000,000
NMTC Equity	\$5,370,300
3CDC (Property Acquisition)	\$2,750,000
Federal Home Loan Bank	\$2,040,000
Private Grants / Foundations	\$10,353,000
FUNDING GAP	\$6,072,200
TOTAL PENDING	\$2,345,000
Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati	\$1,825,000
Private Grants / Foundations	\$520,000
FUNDING GAP	\$3,727,200

Operating Support

A parallel fundraising effort toward the \$3 million in increased operating costs across all five shelters has yielded support from the Hamilton County Indigent Care Levy, Mercy Health, Charlotte R. Schmidlapp Fund, Fifth Third Bank, Trustee, the Carol Ann & Ralph V. Haile, Jr. / U.S. Bank Foundation, United Way of Greater Cincinnati, PNC Charitable Foundation, Interact for Health, Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield Foundation, and the Helen Steiner Rice Fund of the Greater Cincinnati Foundation. A total of \$2,485,000 has been raised. Homeless to Homes is also in the Indigent Care Levy for \$1.3M, \$2M, and \$2M, respectively, over the next three years.

Homeless to Homes Capital and Operating Funders to Date:

Anonymous Donors (2)	Mercy Health
Anthem Blue Cross / Blue Shield Foundation	Ohio Housing Finance Agency (OHFA)
Carol Ann & Ralph V. Haile, Jr./U.S. Bank Foundation	PNC Bank
City of Cincinnati	PNC Charitable Foundation
Deaconess Associations Foundation	P&G Fund of the Greater Cincinnati Foundation
Farmer Family Foundation	Francie & John Pepper
Federal Home Loan Bank of Cincinnati	Joseph & Susan Pichler
Greater Cincinnati Foundation	Charlotte R. Schmidlapp Fund, Fifth Third Bank, Trustee
Hamilton County Indigent Care Levy	Jacob G. Schmidlapp Trusts, Fifth Third Bank, Trustee
Helen Steiner Rice Fund of the Gr. Cincinnati Fdtn.	Scripps Howard Foundation
Interact for Health	Louise Taft Semple Foundation
	United Way of Greater Cincinnati