**Supportive Housing Services Improve Quality of Life While**

**Saving Money for State and Local Taxpayers**

Supportive housing reduces homelessness and unnecessary institutionalization in Illinois, while improving quality of life for vulnerable men, women and children, reducing demands on local first responders, and saving state and local taxpayer dollars.

Those who lack stable housing, a prerequisite for good health, have vastly diminished health outcomes that cost taxpayers more in emergency room and hospitalization costs.

* Dedicated state support for supportive housing services also generates matching funds from the federal government.
* This state funding also helps ensure compliance with federal consent decrees that require the availability of community-based housing options for individuals with a disability or mental illness.

**FY 2020 GRF and Capital Funding Requests**

In FY 2020, supportive housing providers respectfully request:

**$39.9 million in General Revenue Funds** (GRF) to support the baseline of critical services needed to access and maintain stable housing for more than 16,500 individuals who are formerly homeless or at risk of homelessness and/or experiencing mental health challenges or other chronic disabilities.

* This represents an increase of $7.2 million, or 22%, over FY 2019 funding for supportive housing services. The additional dollars will:
* Enable supportive housing providers to offer necessary services to another 514 households of individuals who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and who suffer from a chronic disability.
* Help providers begin the process of restoring services to 4,080 persons in 2,800 units who lost those services due to the budget impasse.

**$300 million in Capital Funding** to develop 3,000 new units of supportive housing across Illinois. (This funding request is a component of the larger request, from the greater affordable housing community, for $1 billion in capital funding to develop affordable housing statewide.)

* Should lawmakers approve this capital funding request, we respectfully would therefore urge the appropriation of an additional $15.75 million in GRF to provide the services necessary to support the individuals residing in those new supportive housing units.