



IMPLEMENTING A COMPREHENSIVE HOUSING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AS A RESPONSE TO THE HOMELESS CRISIS IN ILLINOIS

On any given night 10,431 Illinoisans will experience homelessness. They will be searching for a place to receive shelter in every county in our state. Each area provides a unique system of care that helps our vulnerable neighbors in their housing crisis. Homeless Response Systems are led by Continua of Care who engage diverse stakeholders to respond to homelessness locally. These systems of care need adequate funding so they can provide housing and supportive services to Illinoisans experiencing homelessness.

Funding The Housing Assistance Program, which would be dedicated to responding to the crisis of homelessness, is critical to house and support Illinoisans experiencing literal homelessness now.

The Housing Assistance Program

The Housing Assistance Program would allocate the necessary funding through IDHS to the local Continua of Care to provide rental assistance, supportive services, tenancy and move in assistance, and support for program administration based on community need. Each community has a unique number of people experiencing homelessness, its own rental markets, and factors that impact the homeless experience.

The Housing Assistance Program would be operated by supportive housing providers, non-time limited, and the amount of assistance will be determined by the household’s income and needs. Written standards will be developed and adopted by each community.

The data used to create this recommendation includes the 2020 Point in Time, rental costs by community, average service dollars, and appropriate program administration costs.

The statewide cost for the program's first year is \$264,526,447.

CoC Name	Median Gross Rent	2020 PIT	Rental Assistance	Supportive Services	Tenancy and Move Assistance	Total Assistance Needed	Admin	Total Project Cost
McHenry County CoC	\$ 1,074	155	\$ 2,164,110	\$ 1,085,000	\$ 348,750	\$ 3,597,860	\$ 539,679	\$ 4,137,539
Rockford/DeKalb, Winnebago, Boone Counties CoC	\$ 748	465	\$ 4,521,660	\$ 3,255,000	\$ 1,046,250	\$ 8,822,910	\$ 1,323,437	\$ 10,146,347
Waukegan, North Chicago/Lake County CoC	\$ 1,069	292	\$ 4,057,924	\$ 2,044,000	\$ 657,000	\$ 6,758,924	\$ 1,013,839	\$ 7,772,763
Champaign, Urbana, Rantoul/Champaign County CoC	\$ 814	140	\$ 1,481,480	\$ 980,000	\$ 315,000	\$ 2,776,480	\$ 416,472	\$ 3,192,952
Madison County CoC	\$ 778	79	\$ 799,006	\$ 553,000	\$ 177,750	\$ 1,529,756	\$ 229,463	\$ 1,759,219
Joliet, Bolingbrook/Will County CoC	\$ 1,039	276	\$ 3,727,932	\$ 1,932,000	\$ 621,000	\$ 6,280,932	\$ 942,140	\$ 7,223,072
Peoria, Pekin/Fulton, Tazewell, Peoria, Woodford Counties CoC	\$ 713	311	\$ 2,882,659	\$ 2,177,000	\$ 699,750	\$ 5,759,409	\$ 863,911	\$ 6,623,320
East St. Louis, Belleville/St. Clair County CoC	\$ 796	298	\$ 3,083,704	\$ 2,086,000	\$ 670,500	\$ 5,840,204	\$ 876,031	\$ 6,716,235
Chicago CoC	\$ 1,078	5390	\$ 75,535,460	\$ 37,730,000	\$ 12,127,500	\$ 125,392,960	\$ 18,808,944	\$ 144,201,904
Cook County CoC	\$ 1,082	846	\$ 11,899,836	\$ 5,922,000	\$ 1,903,500	\$ 19,725,336	\$ 2,958,800	\$ 22,684,136
Bloomington/Central Illinois CoC	\$ 769	408	\$ 4,078,776	\$ 2,856,000	\$ 918,000	\$ 7,852,776	\$ 1,177,916	\$ 9,030,692
Springfield/Sangamon County CoC	\$ 743	294	\$ 2,839,746	\$ 2,058,000	\$ 661,500	\$ 5,559,246	\$ 833,887	\$ 6,393,133
DuPage County CoC	\$ 1,143	328	\$ 4,873,752	\$ 2,296,000	\$ 738,000	\$ 7,907,752	\$ 1,186,163	\$ 9,093,915
South Central Illinois CoC	\$ 581	123	\$ 929,019	\$ 861,000	\$ 276,750	\$ 2,066,769	\$ 310,015	\$ 2,376,784
Decatur/Macon County CoC	\$ 656	135	\$ 1,151,280	\$ 945,000	\$ 303,750	\$ 2,400,030	\$ 360,005	\$ 2,760,035
Aurora, Elgin/Kane County CoC	\$ 1,011	410	\$ 5,388,630	\$ 2,870,000	\$ 922,500	\$ 9,181,130	\$ 1,377,170	\$ 10,558,300
Rock Island, Moline/Northwestern Illinois CoC	\$ 678	135	\$ 1,189,890	\$ 945,000	\$ 303,750	\$ 2,438,640	\$ 365,796	\$ 2,804,436
West Central Illinois CoC	\$ 581	113	\$ 853,489	\$ 791,000	\$ 254,250	\$ 1,898,739	\$ 284,811	\$ 2,183,550
Southern Illinois CoC	\$ 686	233	\$ 2,077,894	\$ 1,631,000	\$ 524,250	\$ 4,233,144	\$ 634,972	\$ 4,868,116
Illinois		10431	\$ 133,536,247	\$ 73,017,000	\$ 23,469,750	\$ 230,022,997	\$ 34,503,450	\$ 264,526,447

Supportive Services= \$7,000/person
 Tenancy and Move Assistance= \$2,250/person
 Rental Assistance is projected to include security deposit (13 months total)
 Admin 15% of Assistance

Fiscal Years	Total Cost
1 (July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023)	\$ 264,526,447
2 (July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024)	\$ 218,189,072
3 (July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025)	\$ 206,088,156
Total Project	\$ 688,803,675

Who HAP would serve: Illinoisans experiencing literal homelessness or utilizing current homeless system housing assistance programs (Moving On households).

“Moving On” is a community strategy where households served by supportive housing interventions in the homeless response system, who no longer need or want the intensive services offered yet continue to need assistance to maintain their housing, transition into another housing assistance program to ensure housing stability is maintained.

This program will support at least 10,431 households annually. In three years, the program will be able to serve a minimum of 14,013 households in Illinois. Providing housing stability will help households better their health and wellness and improve their financial albitites, with nearly 30% of these households projected to increase their income and rental contributions within the first year of entering the program

How HAP would work: Supportive Housing Providers would provide person-centered supportive services aimed at resolving homelessness and stabilizing housing, housing identification, move in support, and rental assistance. Rental assistance will be calculated at the time of program entry and be locked in for two years to allow the household to stabilized and move toward self-sufficiency. Supportive Housing Providers will work with each household to obtain income, mainstream benefits, and referrals to other permanent housing subsidies.

Long-term Success Strategy- Alignment of Resources: Utilizing Continua of Care’s Coordinated Entry System, housing vulnerable households will have access to “Move On” vouchers through cross system partnerships between Continua and their local Public Housing Authorities, Child Welfare Agencies, and Veteran’s Affairs Systems. **Support**

Supportive Housing

- Illinois Homeless Response Systems can only successfully connect 33% of the Illinoisans experiencing literal homelessness to permanent housing with their current resources.
- Every year, 66% of Illinoisans who experience homelessness are experiencing it for the first time. Inflow into homelessness includes Illinoisans who were discharged from or served by other systems of care, such as the Health Care System, Child Welfare System, and Criminal Justice system.
- Illinois Supportive Housing Providers are very successful once they connect a homeless household to housing. 97% of Illinoisans that are connected to permanent supportive housing, after experiencing homelessness, maintained housing with the help of supportive services and rental assistance.

The Housing Assistance Program’s Systemic Impact

- This bold initiative will immediately connect over 10,000 Illinoisans to stable housing and services.
- Statewide crisis of homelessness will be resourced with the solution- Supportive Housing
- Less burdened by the crisis, Homeless Response Systems will be able to create sustainable prevention, diversion, and recidivism reducing strategies
- Cross sector collaborations will also be possible- allowing the most housing vulnerable Illinoisans to have access to systemic responses
- Progressive engagement philosophies will ensure that people in HAP are connected to the appropriate resources for their household long term success

Supportive housing is critical to ending homelessness in Illinois and achieving housing stability for many Illinoisians.

Other households best served by supportive housing are those exiting or at risk of institutions/residential programs for people with mental health or intellectual/developmental disabilities, those exiting criminal justice systems, the aging population, and youth and families involved with child welfare systems.

Illinois will need an additional 40,749 units of supportive housing to serve these households.