



Photo courtesy of IHDA



Ending Homelessness in Illinois

FAQ



What is Home Illinois?

Home Illinois, Illinois' Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness, sets the foundational vision to ending homelessness in the state. Through both established and new innovative strategies, Illinois residents, community agencies and state government will work together to prevent entries into shelter. When literal homelessness does occur, the experience will be brief and one-time.

How was the plan developed?

To draft the plan for Home Illinois, we conducted extensive community outreach across the state. Community members detailed priorities for the plan in 16 listening sessions and in written comment. State agencies responded to those priorities through the over 100 activities outlined in the plan.

Who is in charge of implementing Home Illinois?

In September 2021, Governor Pritzker signed the Executive Order to Fight Homelessness in Illinois. The Executive Order created two new commissions within State Government: Illinois Interagency Task Force on Homelessness and Community Advisory Council on Homelessness. Together, these groups will be led by a new position, the State Homelessness Chief.

What are the first steps?

With the infusion of funding from COVID-19 economic recovery resources, State Agencies are expanding capacity to administer programs and communities are expanding to address current needs. Over the next two State Fiscal Years, the Task Force, Community Advisory Council, IOPEH and community providers will complete a deep data analysis to understand what financial, housing, services and human resources will be needed to end homelessness in every region of the state.

What are the key efforts of Home Illinois?

The ambitious initiative is organized into four priorities: building affordable and permanent supportive housing, bolstering the safety net, securing financial stability and closing the mortality gap. Throughout the plan are activities that push forward reducing unacceptable racial inequities.

How does the Task Force work?

The Task Force membership comprises leadership of Illinois State Agencies. The Task Force is charged with delivering a state plan on homelessness and delivering it to the Governor and General Assembly. The key purpose of the Task Force is to coordinate strategy, effort and impact in programs for persons experiencing homelessness and housing instability.

What is the Community Advisory Council?

The Advisory Council provides guidance and recommendations to the Task Force on the strategy and implementation of the Illinois Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness. The representation on the Advisory Council is representative of rural, urban and suburban communities including but not limited to: persons with lived experience of homelessness, persons living with disabilities, philanthropy, statewide housing advocacy organization, statewide behavioral health advocacy organization, local Continuums of Care, and local governments.

How is this initiative being funded?

In Fiscal Year 2023, the 16 State Agencies of the Interagency Task Force will manage \$564.8M in programs that are homeless dedicated or where homeless households are prioritized for assistance. The total investment includes \$256,089,939 in federal funding from the American Rescue Plan, \$97,083,824 in federal funding from COVID-19 stimulus, and \$211,631,212 in state appropriated funding.

