

My name is Luis Guillen. I'm living in Silver Spring. I am a member of Housing Justice Montgomery. I have been in shelter for 9 days. It's like a miracle because this situation has impacted my life.

I am writing to urge Montgomery County to fund \$13.7 million for Permanent Supportive Housing to ensure both current clients and new individuals receive the long-term support they need to remain housed. I am also urging that you fund \$9,475,427 to cover the costs of sheltering and housing of an estimated 642 current clients and 200 new clients in 2026, so that there is enough to fund everyone's exit out of homelessness.

The situation has affected us very strongly, so far the impact has been devastating. I have lost my house. The economy is not good. My family and I are going through a thousand difficulties. We are sleeping in the street, we are looking for help. Just like my family there are many going through difficulties. Many times you can't find a job because of languages. Many people are dying of hunger and cold in the street without hope, there are anguished hearts crying out for help and one of those hearts is mine. We have hope they can listen to us. I hope that our situation improves. It is horrible not having anything to eat, not having daily bread on the table, not having a home. But the hardest suffering is seeing our children in the streets without a home.

Respectfully, I urge the council to fund solutions to homelessness and hunger. Thank you.