



# Services to End and Prevent Homelessness

## RECOMMENDED FY20 BUDGET

\$24,257,922

## FULL TIME EQUIVALENTS

76.50

VICTORIA BUCKLAND, ACTING DIRECTOR

## FUNCTION

The vision of the staff of Services to End and Prevent Homelessness (SEPH) is a community where all persons have access to safe, affordable housing and the opportunity to achieve a higher quality of life. The mission of SEPH is to make homelessness a rare, brief, and non-recurring event by operating from a Housing First philosophy. Housing First recognizes that people are most successful when they have choice in housing and seeks to eliminate barriers such as sobriety requirements or treatment compliance. SEPH provides a full continuum of services including housing stabilization, homeless diversion, and permanent housing; and employs evidence-based and promising practices. The mission cannot be achieved without collaborating with public and private partners through the Interagency Commission on Homelessness. Special needs populations include veterans, both individuals and families, persons with behavioral health challenges, individuals with developmental disabilities, and transitioning youth and seniors with disabilities experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

## PROGRAM CONTACTS

Contact Amanda Harris of the HHS - Services to End and Prevent Homelessness at 240.777.1179 or Joshua Watters of the Office of Management and Budget at 240.777.2768 for more information regarding this department's operating budget.

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

### Homeless Family Services

Homeless Family Services provides emergency shelter and transitional housing to families with children experiencing homelessness. Services include intake and assessment, case management, and housing location to link families experiencing homelessness to housing, behavioral health, financial, and legal programs. All services are housing focused with a goal of connecting families with permanent housing as quickly as possible and removing systemic barriers to accessing housing and services. All homeless service providers participate in the Coordinated Entry System which uses a coordinated assessment to prioritize families for housing.

Program Performance Measures	Actual FY17	Actual FY18	Estimated FY19	Target FY20	Target FY21
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Program Performance Measures	Actual FY17	Actual FY18	Estimated FY19	Target FY20	Target FY21
Percentage of households remaining housed at least 12 months after placement in permanent supportive housing	95	99	90	92	95

FY20 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
<b>FY19 Approved</b>	<b>4,105,720</b>	<b>11.90</b>
Multi-program adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting multiple programs.	(300,786)	(2.00)
<b>FY20 Recommended</b>	<b>3,804,934</b>	<b>9.90</b>

## Chief Special Needs Housing

This program provides leadership and direction for the administration of Services to End and Prevent Homelessness, and advises the Interagency Commission on Homelessness (ICH) and Montgomery County Continuum of Care (CoC).

FY20 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
<b>FY19 Approved</b>	<b>730,253</b>	<b>3.00</b>
Multi-program adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting multiple programs.	268,392	1.00
<b>FY20 Recommended</b>	<b>998,645</b>	<b>4.00</b>

## Permanent Housing

Permanent Supportive Housing provides permanent housing and long-term support services to single adults and families. The single adult or head of household must have a documented disability. Flexible and individualized case management services are provided to support clients in maintaining housing and fostering independence. All permanent supportive housing programs use a Housing First approach where housing is offered without preconditions such as sobriety or treatment compliance.

FY20 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
<b>FY19 Approved</b>	<b>5,783,546</b>	<b>10.50</b>
Enhance: Permanent Supportive Housing Funding to Sustain the County's Commitment to End Chronic Homelessness	1,000,000	0.00
Decrease Cost: Elimination of the Handicap Rental Assistance General Fund Supplement	(329,679)	0.00
Multi-program adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting multiple programs.	(330,888)	(2.00)
<b>FY20 Recommended</b>	<b>6,122,979</b>	<b>8.50</b>

## Homeless Single Adult Services

Homeless Single Adult Services provides emergency shelter, street outreach, safe haven, and transitional housing to adults experiencing homelessness. Services include street outreach and engagement, comprehensive needs assessments, and case management to link persons experiencing homelessness to housing, behavioral health, financial, and legal programs. All services are housing-focused with a goal of connecting adults with permanent housing as quickly as possible and removing systemic barriers to accessing housing and services. All homeless service providers participate in the Coordinated Entry System which uses a coordinated assessment to prioritize individuals for housing.

Program Performance Measures	Actual FY17	Actual FY18	Estimated FY19	Target FY20	Target FY21
Average length of stay in days by homeless families in emergency shelter <sup>1</sup>	92	79	70	65	60
Number of families placed in emergency shelters <sup>2</sup>	124	144	140	151	164

<sup>1</sup> The Montgomery County Continuum of Care has implemented a coordinated entry system for families experiencing homelessness with a goal of connecting households to permanent housing as quickly as possible. Emergency shelter staff have changed their approach to service delivery. Additionally, SEPH's Rapid Rehousing program expansion created greater access to permanent housing for families exiting emergency shelter.

<sup>2</sup> There is a direct correlation between the number of days in family emergency shelter and the number of households served. The shorter the length of stay in shelter, the more households can be served in shelter.

FY20 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
<b>FY19 Approved</b>	<b>4,693,713</b>	<b>2.00</b>
Enhance: Provide Funding for Enhanced Security at Progress Place	83,000	0.00
Decrease Cost: Delay Implementation of the Youth Drop-in Center	(246,500)	0.00
Multi-program adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting multiple programs.	84,737	0.00
<b>FY20 Recommended</b>	<b>4,614,950</b>	<b>2.00</b>

## Prevention

Homelessness Prevention provides intake and assessment for County households that are experiencing a housing-related emergency. The program's focus is on crisis intervention and prevention. State and County grants are provided to prevent evictions and utility cut offs. Additionally, referrals are made for income support programs such as Temporary Cash Assistance. Case Management services are provided to help at-risk households develop and implement plans to prevent a future housing crisis.

Program Performance Measures	Actual FY17	Actual FY18	Estimated FY19	Target FY20	Target FY21
Average number of households receiving a shallow rental subsidy each month	1,720	1,691	1,700	1,700	1,700

FY20 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
<b>FY19 Approved</b>	<b>6,281,789</b>	<b>39.10</b>
Multi-program adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting multiple programs.	1,100,226	9.00
<b>FY20 Recommended</b>	<b>7,382,015</b>	<b>48.10</b>

## Diversion

Homelessness Diversion provides conflict resolution, mediation, financial assistance and case management to County residents experiencing homelessness. The program's focus is to divert individuals and families from the homeless system by finding creative resolutions to their housing crisis. Unlike homelessness prevention services, diversion is only offered to households who do not have an active lease.

FY20 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
<b>FY19 Approved</b>	<b>150,000</b>	<b>0.00</b>
Multi-program adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting multiple programs.	89,701	0.00

FY20 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
<b>FY20 Recommended</b>	<b>239,701</b>	<b>0.00</b>

## ☀ Healthcare for the Homeless

Healthcare for the Homeless provides medical and dental services to individuals experiencing homelessness in emergency shelters, street outreach, and transitional housing. Medical services are also provided to individuals and families served in permanent supportive housing programs. Healthcare for the Homeless is committed to reducing the health disparities for people experiencing homelessness by providing low barrier access to services and reducing re-admissions to hospitals.

FY20 Recommended Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
<b>FY19 Approved</b>	<b>1,069,472</b>	<b>4.00</b>
Multi-program adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting multiple programs.	25,226	0.00
<b>FY20 Recommended</b>	<b>1,094,698</b>	<b>4.00</b>

### PROGRAM SUMMARY

Program Name	FY19 APPR Expenditures	FY19 APPR FTEs	FY20 REC Expenditures	FY20 REC FTEs
Chief Special Needs Housing	730,253	3.00	998,645	4.00
Homeless Family Services	4,105,720	11.90	3,804,934	9.90
Permanent Housing	5,783,546	10.50	6,122,979	8.50
Homeless Single Adult Services	4,693,713	2.00	4,614,950	2.00
Prevention	6,281,789	39.10	7,382,015	48.10
Diversion	150,000	0.00	239,701	0.00
Healthcare for the Homeless	1,069,472	4.00	1,094,698	4.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,814,493</b>	<b>70.50</b>	<b>24,257,922</b>	<b>76.50</b>