

# Services to End and Prevent Homelessness

**APPROVED FY21 BUDGET** \$25,027,072

**FULL TIME EQUIVALENTS** 77.50

RAYMOND L. CROWEL PSY.D., 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 Deborah Lambert of the Office of Management and Budget at 240.777.2794 for more information regarding this department's operating budget.

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS



#### Admin - Services to Fnd and Prevent Homelessness

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).

FY21 Approved Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
FY20 Approved	995,095	4.00
Multi-program adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting multiple programs.	(605,912)	(1.00)
FY21 Approved	389,183	3.00



## **Coordinated Entry**

Coordinated entry is a process developed to ensure that all people experiencing a housing crisis have fair and equal access and are quickly identified, assessed for, referred, and connected to housing and assistance based on their strengths and needs. Within a Coordinated Entry System, persons are prioritized for housing based on vulnerability using a data-driven, real-time process. Montgomery County's Coordinated Entry System embraces Housing First principles of low barrier access, consumer choice, community integration, and housing orientation.

Program Performance Measures	Actual FY18	Actual FY19	Estimated FY20	Target FY21	Target FY22
Number of homeless individuals with a completed vulnerability assessment (Using the VI-SPDAT) to determine housing placement	N/A	355	360	365	370
Coordinated Entry - Days from housing program assignment to housed	N/A	52	51	50	49
Percent of homeless individuals with a completed vulnerability assessment (using the VI-SPDAT) to determine housing placement	N/A	88%	89%	90%	91%

FY21 Approved Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
FY20 Approved	0	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.	1,501,540	6.90
FY21 Approved	1,501,540	6.90



#### 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.

Program Performance Measures		Actual FY19	Estimated FY20		Target FY22
Number of individuals receiving primary care services through Healthcare 4 the Homeless (Mobile Med) <sup>1</sup>	N/A	72	78	85	92
Number of hospital transfers from year-round shelters (based on 911 emergency calls) <sup>2</sup>	N/A	372	365	360	355

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This measure tracks new patients served.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 89% of calls in FY19 resulted in transport to hospital.

FY21 Approved Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
FY20 Approved	1,103,976	4.00
Multi-program adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting multiple programs.	15,604	0.00
FY21 Approved	1,119,580	4.00



#### Homeless Services for Families

Homeless Services for Families provides emergency shelter and transitional housing to families with children. 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.

Program Performance Measures	Actual FY18	Actual FY19	Estimated FY20	_	Target FY22
Number of individuals as part of a family unit experiencing homelessness for the first time	617	586	577	568	559
Average length of stay in days by homeless families in emergency shelter	47	55	45	30	30
Percent of households returning to homelessness	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%

FY21 Approved Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
FY20 Approved	3,848,606	9.90
Multi-program adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting multiple programs.	(1,025,721)	(6.90)
FY21 Approved	2,822,885	3.00



#### Homeless Services for Single Adults

Homeless Services for Single Adults provides emergency shelter, street outreach, and transitional housing to adults experiencing homelessness. All services are housing focused with a goal of connecting adults with permanent housing as quickly as possible by removing barriers such as poor credit, criminal history, limited or no access to behavioral and somatic healthcare, and low or no income. Homeless services include comprehensive case management, assertive engagement, housing location, employment training and job development, legal services, and assistance with entitlements like Food Stamps and Medicaid.

Program Performance Measures	Actual FY18	Actual FY19	Estimated FY20	Target FY21	
Number of homeless single adults counted during Annual Point in Time Count	568	441	430	420	410
Length of time homeless in days for adults in emergency shelter, outreach, or transitional housing	108	115	112	109	106
Percent of positive exits to permanent housing from street outreach, emergency shelter, or transitional shelter	37%	36%	38%	39%	39%

FY21 Approved Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
FY20 Approved	4,653,640	2.00
Restore: Funding for the Youth Drop-In Center	311,000	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.	44,095	0.00
FY21 Approved	5,008,735	2.00



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The Housing Initiative Program is a Housing First permanent supportive housing program serving individuals and families with disabilities. Program participants are quickly connected to permanent scattered site units without any preconditions and offered intensive wraparound support services. The rental assistance is provided by the Department of Health and Human Services staff and services are offered via contracts with non-profit partners. This program also acts as the lead entity for the 1115 Medicaid Waiver Assistance in Community Integration Services through the state Department of Health.

Program Performance Measures		Actual FY19	Estimated FY20		Target FY22
Housing Initiative Program: Number of clients served	848	823	840	855	870
Housing Initiative Program -Days from housing program assignment (to accepted) to housed		63	60	55	50
Percent of households who retain permanent housing after 12 months	94%	99%	99%	99%	99%

Program Performance Measures		Actual FY19	Estimated FY20		Target FY22
Decrease in acuity score, measuring the severity of presenting issues impacting housing stability	58	60	63	68	72

FY21 Approved Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
FY20 Approved	0	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.	316,914	2.00
FY21 Approved	316,914	2.00



#### Interagency Commission on Homelessness

The Montgomery County Continuum of Care (CoC) coordinates the community's policies, strategies, and implementation of a housing and services system to prevent and end homelessness through a collaboration of public and private sector groups. Responsibilities include promoting a community-wide commitment to ending homelessness, providing funding for efforts to promote community-wide planning and strategic use of resources to address homelessness, improving coordination and integration with mainstream resources and other programs targeted to people experiencing homelessness. The Interagency Commission on Homelessness is a group of appointed leaders of the CoC who have authority to make decisions on behalf of the CoC.

Program Performance Measures	Actual FY18	Actual FY19	Estimated FY20	Target FY21	Target FY22
Dollars brought into the continuum from non-County funds	\$20,299,667\$2	1,575,760	\$20,155,748\$	21,500,000	\$22,000,000
Number of individuals with lived experience participating as ICH Commissioner or on committees	1	6	6	7	8
Number of total homeless individuals counted during the Annual Point in Time Count	840	647	583	553	517

FY21 Approved Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
FY20 Approved	0	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.	141,752	1.00
FY21 Approved	141,752	1.00



## Permanent Supportive Housing

Permanent Supportive Housing is an evidence-based practice that provides immediate access to a permanent housing subsidy and long-term, wraparound support services to households with disabilities. All programs use a Housing First approach that offers housing without preconditions such as sobriety, treatment compliance, or participation in services.

Program Performance Measures	Actual FY18		Estimated FY20		Target FY22
Permanent Supportive Housing: Number of clients served	1,542	1,489	1,500	1,500	1,500
Permanent Supportive Housing - Days from housing program assignment (to accepted) to housed	N/A	76	72	66	60
Percent of households who retain permanent housing after 12 months		98%	99%	99%	99%
Percent of clients retaining permanent housing	98%	99%	95%	95%	90%
Percent of people that graduate from the program	N/A	7%	9%	11%	12%

FY21 Approved Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
FY20 Approved	0	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.	4,914,396	2.00
FY21 Approved	4,914,396	2.00

## **\*** Prevention

Prevention provides conflict resolution, mediation, financial assistance, housing location, and case management to County residents at risk of or experiencing homelessness. The program's focus is to partner with families and individuals to resolve their housing emergency through creative problem-solving. State and County grants are provided to prevent evictions and utility cut offs or secure new housing. Short-term case management services are provided to help at-risk households develop and implement plans to prevent a future housing crisis.

Program Performance Measures		Actual FY19	Estimated FY20	_	Target FY22
Households receiving emergency grants to prevent eviction/homelessness (County and State funds) <sup>1</sup>	8,978	9,044	9,060	9,060	9,060
Percent of households who received prevention assistance and within 12 months enter the homeless continuum $^{2}$	N/A	9%	8%	8%	8%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This measure includes County and State funds.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This measure, by definition, has a one year lag. FY19 is therefore based on cases initiated in FY18.

FY21 Approved Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
FY20 Approved	7,368,257	48.10
Multi-program adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting multiple programs.	290,247	1.00
FY21 Approved	7,658,504	49.10

# **\*** Rapid Rehousing

Rapid Rehousing provides flexible, short-term rental assistance, and intensive support services. The goals are to help people obtain housing quickly, increase income and self-sufficiency, and stay housed. Rapid rehousing with offered without preconditions such as employment, income, absence of criminal record, or sobriety. Resources and services provided are adjusted to meet the specific needs of the person.

Program Performance Measures	Actual FY18	Actual FY19	Estimated FY20	Target FY21	Target FY22
Rapid Rehousing - Number of clients served	440	544	550	550	550
Cost per positive exit	N/A	\$18,956	\$15,600	\$14,000	\$12,500
Percent of households with Increased income since entering rapid rehousing	N/A	25.9%	28.0%	32.0%	35.0%
Number of exits to permanent housing	78%	73%	74%	75%	76%

FY21 Approved Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
FY20 Approved	0	0.00

FY21 Approved Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
Multi-program adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting multiple programs.	582,889	0.00
FY21 Approved	582,889	0.00



## Rental Assistance Program

The Rental Assistance Program (RAP) provides a shallow subsidy to individuals and families at risk of or currently experiencing homelessness. The target population for this program are seniors, people with disabilities and others on a fixed income.

Program Performance Measures		Actual FY19	Estimated FY20	Target FY21	
Number of unique households with an active rental subsidy during the year	1,961	1,771	1,700	1,700	1,700
Percent of clients who utilized housing stabilization services (HSS) within a year after receiving rental assistance (RAP) <sup>1</sup>	N/A	19.6%	19.0%	18.5%	18.0%
Median percent reduction in rent burden as a share of income	N/A	13%	14%	15%	16%

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This measure, by definition, has a one year lag. FY19 is therefore based on cases initiated in FY18.

FY21 Approved Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
FY20 Approved	0	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.	570,694	4.50
FY21 Approved	570,694	4.50

## **REALIGNED PROGRAMS**

Funding in the following programs has been realigned to other programs within this department.



FY21 Approved Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
FY20 Approved	239,701	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.	(239,701)	0.00
FY21 Approved	0	0.00



# Permanent Housing

FY21 Approved Changes	Expenditures	FTEs
FY20 Approved	6,325,339	8.50
Multi-program adjustments, including negotiated compensation changes, employee benefit changes, changes due to staff turnover, reorganizations, and other budget changes affecting multiple programs.	(6,325,339)	(8.50)
FY21 Approved	0	0.00

#### **PROGRAM SUMMARY**

Program Name	FY20 APPR	FY20 APPR	FY21 APPR	FY21 APPR
	Expenditures	FTEs	Expenditures	FTEs

## PROGRAM SUMMARY

Program Name	FY20 APPR Expenditures	FY20 APPR FTEs	FY21 APPR Expenditures	FY21 APPR FTEs
Admin - Services to End and Prevent Homelessness	995,095	4.00	389,183	3.00
Coordinated Entry	0	0.00	1,501,540	6.90
Diversion	239,701	0.00	0	0.00
Healthcare for the Homeless	1,103,976	4.00	1,119,580	4.00
Homeless Services for Families	3,848,606	9.90	2,822,885	3.00
Homeless Services for Single Adults	4,653,640	2.00	5,008,735	2.00
Housing Initiative Program	0	0.00	316,914	2.00
Interagency Commission on Homelessness	0	0.00	141,752	1.00
Permanent Housing	6,325,339	8.50	0	0.00
Permanent Supportive Housing	0	0.00	4,914,396	2.00
Prevention	7,368,257	48.10	7,658,504	49.10
Rapid Rehousing	0	0.00	582,889	0.00
Rental Assistance Program	0	0.00	570,694	4.50
Tota	24,534,614	76.50	25,027,072	77.50

