

# FY2016 Rebuilding Lives REPORT CARD

Columbus and Franklin County's community plan to end homelessness.

GOALS	DESCRIPTION	CONVENER	PROGRESS	REPORT
Coordinate Emergency Aid	Coordinate emergency aid from community-based assistance programs.	United Way of Central Ohio and Franklin County Department of Job and Family Services		The administration of the emergency food and shelter program was reassigned to HandsOn Central Ohio, the entity that also manages the homeless hotline for access to emergency shelter. The change was made with the goal to improve prioritization of available funds to prevent homelessness. Alignment with the Franklin County Prevention Retention and Contingency dollars is the next goal.
Increase Access to Benefits & Income	Provide immediate and systematic access to mainstream benefits and services for persons who are homeless and served by the homeless service system.	Community Shelter Board		The YWCA Benefits Partnership program closed in July 2016. There is no interest among partner agencies to deliver the program because of limited funding availability. Four partner agencies are pursuing SOAR training – a best practice approach for increasing SSI approval rates. The SOAR method is recognized as an evidence-based practice by the Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration. COHHIO will contract with a local provider for SOAR services.
Employment	Coordinate and expand access to community-based employment assistance programs.	Community Shelter Board		The Transitional Work Program administered by Goodwill in collaboration with Donatos and Columbus Hospitality Management was implemented in permanent supportive housing projects. To date, 51 people completed work readiness and financial literacy training and 57 people participated in hands-on work experience. Thirty-one people were hired.  Amethyst, Community Housing Network, National Church Residences, Volunteers of America of Greater Ohio and YMCA of Central Ohio operate additional employment initiatives within their permanent supportive housing communities.
Single Point of Contact for Adult Shelter	Develop a single point of contact system, with stronger linkage to community resources, for adults experiencing a housing crisis.	Community Shelter Board		The coordinated point of contact has been fully integrated into the single adult system. Diversion rates for single adults increased from 16% in FY2013 to 22% in FY2016. The service was expanded to include coordinated intake for families in June 2015.

Collaborative Outreach System	Create a unified system to better respond to homeless persons who are not accessing shelter, including a coordinated call and dispatch system, common documentation, and shared outcomes for outreach programs.	City of Columbus		Coordination among providers and organizations serving those experiencing street homelessness has improved. 84% of clients were linked to safe shelter or housing in FY2016. Maryhaven coordinated several heating and cooling stations – a collaboration among shelters, meal sites, congregations and community centers.
Unified Supportive Housing System	Create a unified system for permanent supportive housing which includes centralized eligibility determination and placement, periodic review of tenant needs, and “move up” incentives to encourage tenants to be more independent.	Community Shelter Board		The Unified Supportive Housing System leased 100 new housing units at Volunteers of America of Greater Ohio's Van Buren Village and 184 new scattered site units across Columbus during FY2016. The system housed 687 homeless individuals and families during the fiscal year. Currently there are 1,944 housing units under management by the Unified Supportive Housing System, dedicated to those experiencing homelessness.
Increase Supportive Housing Units	Develop an additional 1,400 units of permanent supportive housing to reach a total inventory of 2,700 single adult/couple units.	Community Shelter Board		To date, nearly 300 site-based and 247 scattered sites units have been brought online. Ninety-two units are in the development pipeline. 144 more housing units are needed to reach the 2,700-unit goal.
Provide Rent Subsidies	Develop longer-term rent subsidies for homeless single adults to meet annual need.	Community Shelter Board		CSB continues to provide limited rent subsidy to those exiting shelter. The end of the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing stimulus programs resulted in a dramatic reduction in available funds for rent subsidy. The need is still greater than available resources. CSB continues to seek rental assistance dollars from public and private sources.
Tier II Family Conversion	Transition Tier II shelter from a fixed unit approach to a flexible supply of housing with interim supports.	Community Shelter Board		All tier II family shelter units have been converted to rapid re-housing.
Affordable Housing Campaign	Launch a campaign for increased resources for affordable and supportive housing as well as rent subsidies for persons who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.	Community Shelter Board		CSB is one of one of 11 founding members of the Affordable Housing Alliance of Central Ohio, a new organization mobilizing to protect and expand affordable housing options. The Alliance commissioned research to demonstrate and quantify the need for affordable housing in our community. They will soon publish a report that proposes a specific goal for the number of affordable housing units needed, and specific strategies for achievement.

Significant progress/complete

| Goal shows improvement/is in progress

Goal made minimal progress or strategy deferred

Re-Entry Housing Advocacy	Advocate with other systems to improve and increase housing placements for people returning to the community from domestic violence shelter, institutional or residential settings.	Community Shelter Board		<p><b>Incarcerated Populations:</b></p> <p>Community Shelter Board participates in the Franklin County Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health Systems Improvement Project. A data match between Franklin County jail, ADAMH and Community Shelter Board was completed. Work is underway to improve access to housing and support services to reduce the incidence of homelessness for people with serious mental health challenges who are released from jail. This work focuses on four major areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Consistent risk assessment</li> <li>2. Behavioral health screening and assessment</li> <li>3. Re-entry planning</li> <li>4. Availability and accessibility of effective community-based behavioral health housing</li> </ol> <p><b>Domestic Violence Populations:</b></p> <p>The domestic violence shelter, CHOICES, is now operated by Lutheran Social Services. LSS also partners with Huckleberry House for transitional housing units for youth experiencing domestic violence. People experiencing homelessness and exiting the domestic violence shelter are able to access CSB's rental assistance dollars, as well as permanent supportive housing through the Unified Supportive Housing System.</p> <p><b>Mental Health Populations:</b></p> <p>A pilot project was implemented with Community Housing Network to reduce the number of people discharged from a mental health institution into homelessness. 71% of patients referred from acute care settings avoided a discharge to homelessness.</p> <p>The loss of federal funding for New Horizons has halted progress. New Horizons' target population was those who were homeless at time of admission to mental health inpatient programs and were homeless at time of discharge from mental health inpatient settings. ADAMH continues to fund this project at a limited capacity.</p> <p>The ADAMH Board has invested in three specialty mental health teams to work with their clients experiencing homelessness.</p>
		Community Shelter Board		
		ADAMH Board of Franklin County		

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