

FY2017 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		<p>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.</p> <p>Franklin County Department of Job and Family Services updated their Prevention Retention and Contingency program requirements to better target assistance and is currently leading work to pilot and scale up a community-wide approach to organizing and targeting emergency aid for housing needs.</p>
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		<p>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. 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 contracted with a local provider for SOAR services.</p>
Employment	Coordinate and expand access to community-based employment assistance programs.	Community Shelter Board		<p>The Transitional Work Program administered by Goodwill in collaboration with Donatos and Columbus Hospitality Management, implemented in permanent supportive housing projects, concluded in January 2017. Through the 3-year grant timeframe, 57 people completed work readiness and financial literacy training and 64 people participated in hands-on work experience. Thirty-six people were hired.</p> <p>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.</p>

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 remained at 14% in FY2017. The service was expanded to include coordinated intake for families in June 2015. Diversion rates for families were at 45% in FY2017.
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. More than 250 people were linked to safe shelter or housing in FY2017. 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 33 housing units during FY2017. The system housed 401 homeless individuals and families during the fiscal year. Currently there are 1,938 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 280 scattered sites units have been brought online. Two hundred twenty-one units are in the development pipeline. One hundred sixty-nine more housing units are needed to reach the 2,700-unit goal. Updated estimates project a need for 1,419 additional permanent supportive housing units for single adults/couples who need permanent supportive housing to successfully end their homelessness.
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. Updated estimates show a gap of 1,039 slots of rapid re-housing assistance (services and time-limited rental assistance) for single adults. CSB has added some limited longer-term rental assistance for expectant mothers. CSB continues to seek rental assistance dollars from public and private sources.

 Significant progress/complete

|  Goal shows improvement/is in progress

|  Goal made minimal progress or strategy deferred

		ADAMH Board of Franklin County		<p>Mental Health Populations:</p> <p>A pilot effort is underway between Community Shelter Board, Franklin County; City of Columbus; the Alcohol, Drug & Mental Health Board; and Netcare Access to develop cross-system data sharing and service interventions for our most vulnerable citizens. The goal of the Data Driven Justice and Behavioral Health Initiative is to better meet the needs of those who experience repeat episodes of homelessness, incarceration, and use of emergency medical and behavioral health care.</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. Work is underway to further integrate these teams with shelter and re-housing assistance to better meet individual needs following coordination issues with former navigator program.</p>
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