



## United States Interagency Council on Homelessness

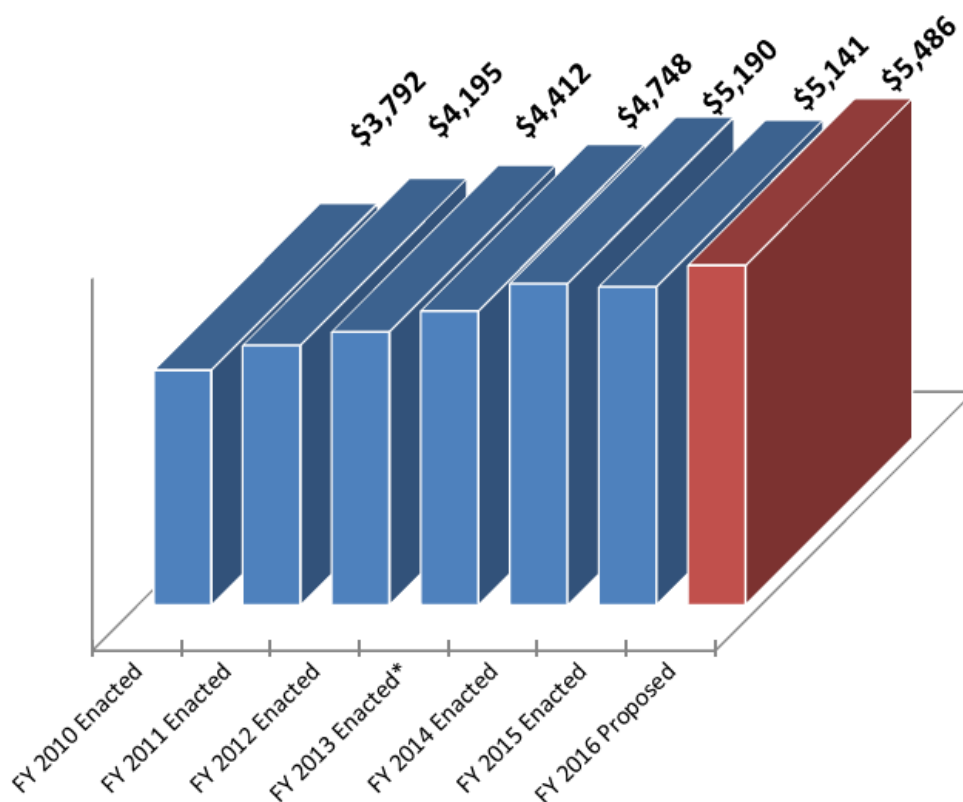
*Preventing and Ending Homelessness in the United States*

### The President's 2016 Budget: Fact Sheet on Homelessness Assistance

President Obama's 2016 Budget demonstrates his deep commitment to ending homelessness. The Budget makes investments needed to end chronic homelessness in 2017, make significant progress toward ending homelessness among families, children and youth in 2020, and sustain efforts to end Veteran homelessness in 2015. In his Budget, the President calls for nearly \$5.5 billion in targeted homelessness assistance. In addition to targeted homelessness assistance, the Budget also includes key investments in mainstream programs needed to end homelessness, such as 67,000 new Housing Choice Vouchers to support low-income households, including families experiencing homelessness; survivors of domestic and dating violence; families with children in foster care; youth aging out of foster care; and Veterans experiencing homelessness, regardless of their discharge status.

With the launch of *Opening Doors* in 2010, the President set ambitious goals to end homelessness across the Nation, and since then we have made significant progress. Overall homelessness is down 10 percent since 2010, including a 25 percent reduction in unsheltered homelessness. Family homelessness is down 15 percent. Chronic homelessness is down 21 percent, and Veteran homelessness is down 33 percent nationwide. Our progress is the result of the hard work of community partners, unprecedented collaboration at all levels of government and across sectors, and a commitment by this Administration to invest in what works to end homelessness—evidence-based solutions like Housing First, permanent supportive housing, affordable housing, and rapid re-housing.

#### Targeted Homeless Assistance Programs (Budget Authority in Millions of Dollars)



\*Reflects post-sequester funding levels

## Prevent and End Veteran Homelessness in 2015

**The Budget demonstrates an unwavering commitment to our Nation's Veterans and their families,** ensuring continued investments to end Veteran homelessness. New Orleans, Louisiana became the first major city in the U.S. to achieve this goal, one year ahead of the national goal, and other cities have already hit important milestones toward this goal including Salt Lake City, Utah and Phoenix, Arizona, which have ended chronic homelessness among Veterans. Over 440 mayors, governors, and local leaders have committed to ending Veteran homelessness in their communities through the Mayors Challenge to End Veteran Homelessness. With continued focus from Federal, State, and local partners, the goal to end Veteran homelessness by the end of 2015 is in reach. Strategic investments include \$300 million to help end and prevent homelessness for Veterans and their families through the Supportive Services for Veterans Families rapid re-housing and homelessness prevention program and \$374 million in case management and clinical services to support 94,966 Veterans nationwide through the HUD-VA Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program.

## Prevent and End Chronic Homelessness in 2017

**The Budget calls for the investments needed to end chronic homelessness in 2017.** As part of an overall investment of \$2.5 billion in HUD's Continuum of Care (CoC) and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Programs, the Budget calls for the resources to create 25,500 new units of permanent supportive housing—the proven, cost-effective solution to chronic homelessness. Shortfalls in the most recent budget passed by Congress have forced us to move the national goal to end chronic homelessness from 2015 to 2017. The President's 2016 Budget would bring the nation's inventory of permanent supportive housing to a scale needed to achieve an end to chronic homelessness in 2017. Meanwhile, there are communities—such as those participating in Community Solution's *Zero: 2016* campaign—who can and should continue to work toward achieving this goal ahead of this new timeline. This Administration is committed to working with every community to end chronic homelessness as quickly as possible.

## Prevent and End Homelessness among Families, Children, and Youth in 2020

**The Budget makes continued investments to end homelessness among families, children and youth.** As part of the \$2.5 billion investment in HUD's Continuum of Care and Emergency Solutions Grant Programs—an increase of \$345 million over current levels—the Budget calls for new rapid re-housing capacity to prevent and end homelessness for 15,000 families with children. In addition, the Budget calls for more than \$177 million in tenant-based rental assistance for families, Veterans regardless of discharge status, and tribal families experiencing homelessness. The Budget invests \$20 million for new Family Unification Program (FUP) vouchers to serve youth and families and calls for increases to the Runaway and Homeless Youth program and to Head Start. The Budget also calls for more than \$37 million for vouchers for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking who require an emergency transfer from their current assisted housing.

\*\*\*

*The President's 2016 Budget is the fifth budget developed by USICH member agencies since the launch of Opening Doors and includes strategic investments in what is working to end homelessness. This fact sheet serves as an overview of the homeless assistance programs across the Federal government.*

## HOMELESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS BY DEPARTMENT

### Department of Education

#### *Education for Homeless Children and Youth*

To ensure that all children and youth experiencing homelessness have equal access to the same free, appropriate public education available to other children, the Education for Homeless Children and Youth Program provides assistance to States to: (1) establish or designate an Office of Coordinator of Education of Homeless Children and Youths; (2) develop and carry out a State plan for the education of homeless children; and (3) make sub-grants to local educational agencies to support the education of children experiencing homelessness.

FY 2014 - \$65 million

FY 2015 - \$65 million

**FY 2016 (proposed) - \$71.5 million**

### Department of Health and Human Services

#### *Health Care for the Homeless*

The purpose of the Health Care for the Homeless Program is to provide primary health care, substance use treatment, emergency care with referrals to hospitals for in-patient care services and/or other needed services, outreach services to assist difficult-to-reach people experiencing homelessness in accessing care, and assistance in establishing eligibility for entitlement programs and housing.

FY 2014 - \$308 million

FY 2015 - \$366 million

**FY 2016 (proposed) - \$371 million**

#### *Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness*

Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness is a formula grant program that provides financial assistance to states to support services for individuals who are experiencing homelessness and who have serious mental illness or co-occurring mental illness and substance abuse disorders.

FY 2014 - \$65 million

FY 2015 - \$65 million

**FY 2016 (proposed) - \$65 million**

#### *Treatment Systems for Homelessness*

The Treatment Systems for Homelessness programs in SAMHSA's Center for Substance Abuse Treatment enable communities to expand and strengthen their treatment services for individuals experiencing homelessness with substance abuse disorders, mental illness, or co-occurring substance abuse disorders and mental illness.

FY 2014 - \$41 million

FY 2015 - \$41 million

**FY 2016 (proposed) - \$41 million**

### ***Homeless Prevention and Housing Programs***

The Homeless Prevention and Housing programs in SAMHSA's Center for Mental Health Services help prevent or reduce chronic homelessness by funding services for individuals and families experiencing homelessness while living with severe mental illness or co-occurring mental and substance disorders. The programs address the need for treatment and support service provision to individuals and families.

FY 2014 - \$33 million

FY 2015 - \$33 million

**FY 2016 (proposed) - \$33 million**

### ***Runaway and Homeless Youth Act***

The Runaway and Homeless Youth Program funds hundreds of community and faith-based organizations through three grant programs that serve the runaway and homeless youth population: the Basic Center Program, the Street Outreach Program and the Transitional Living Program. The President's Budget requests an additional \$9 million for RHYA over 2015 funding levels.

#### **Basic Center Program**

The Basic Center Program establishes or strengthens locally controlled, community and faith-based programs that address the immediate needs of runaway and homeless youth and their families. Basic Centers provide youth with temporary emergency shelter, food, clothing and referrals for health care. Other types of assistance provided to youth and their families may include individual, group, and family counseling, recreation programs, and aftercare services for youth once they leave the shelter. Grants can also be used for outreach activities targeting youth who may need assistance.

#### **Transitional Living Program**

The Transitional Living Program provides shelter, skills training and support services to homeless youth between the ages of 16 and 22 for a continuous period generally not exceeding 540 days, or in exceptional circumstances 635 days. Youth are provided with stable, safe living accommodations and services that help them develop the skills necessary to move to independence. Living accommodations may be host family homes, group homes, or supervised apartments.

#### **Street Outreach Program**

The Street Outreach Program provides educational and prevention services to runaway and street youth who have been subject to, or are at risk of, sexual exploitation or abuse. The program works to establish and build relationships between youth and program outreach staff in order to help youth leave the streets.

FY 2014 - \$114 million

FY 2015 - \$114 million

**FY 2016 (proposed) - \$123 million**

## Department of Housing and Urban Development

The President's 2016 Budget provides \$2.48 billion to support programs designed to prevent and end homelessness through the Continuum of Care Program and the Emergency Solutions Grants. This represents an increase of \$345 million over the FY 2015 enacted level, which will provide the funding necessary to implement HEARTH requirements and to continue implementation of *Opening Doors*. Specifically, these resources enable the Administration to end chronic homelessness in 2017 through the creation of 25,500 new units of permanent supportive housing. Additionally, the Budget provides funding to support the existing 80,000 HUD-VASH vouchers and provides new vouchers for families, Veterans, and tribal families experiencing homelessness, as well as survivors of domestic or dating violence to advance progress toward the goal of homelessness among families and youth by 2020.

### The Continuum of Care (CoC) Program

The Continuum of Care Program is HUD's largest and broadest targeted program to serve individuals and families experiencing homelessness, funding evidence-based programs and approaches like permanent supportive housing, rapid re-housing, and Housing First. It also provides the infrastructure for the implementation of a comprehensive planning approach, data collection and analysis, and performance measurement. CoCs have the dual role of planning and operating programs, and using data collected through Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) to inform planning decisions and track performance at both the project and systems levels. Eligible activities include CoC planning; acquisition, rehabilitation, and new construction for capital projects; leasing; rental assistance; housing operations; HMIS; supportive services; and administration.

### The Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG)

The Emergency Solutions Grant Program includes funds for a variety of life-saving activities in addition to newer interventions like rapid re-housing and homelessness prevention that have proven to be successful in many communities at preventing and ending homelessness. ESG is an essential component of continuing the program infrastructure that was started via the Recovery Act Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) and has proven an efficient and effective way of quickly transitioning people from homelessness to permanent housing.

FY 2014 - \$2.105 billion

FY 2015 - \$2.135 billion

**FY 2016 (proposed) - \$2.480 billion**

### Emergency Food and Shelter Program

The Budget calls for the transfer of funding and administration of the FEMA Emergency Food and Shelter program from the Department of Homeland Security to HUD to reduce fragmentation and align efforts to end homelessness. The Emergency Food and Shelter Program helps meet the needs of people experiencing hunger or homelessness throughout the United States and its territories by allocating funds for the provision of food and shelter as well as homelessness prevention through the administration of rent, utilities, and mortgage assistance. The program is governed by a National Board, chaired by FEMA, and comprised of representatives from American Red Cross, Catholic Charities USA, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA, Jewish Federations of North America, Salvation Army, and United Way Worldwide.

FY 2014 - \$120 million

FY 2015 - TBD<sup>1</sup>

**FY 2016 (proposed) - \$100 million**

---

<sup>1</sup> A Continuing Resolution maintaining FY 2014 funding of Department of Homeland Security (DHS) programs, including EFSP, through February 27, 2015 was enacted on December 12, 2014. A new appropriations bill that would fund DHS through the end of FY 2015 is being considered by Congress.

## Department of Justice

### ***Transitional Housing Assistance Grants for the Victims of Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, or Stalking Program***

The Transitional Housing Assistance Grants for Victims of Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, or Stalking Program focuses on a holistic, survivor-centered approach to providing transitional housing services that move individuals into permanent housing. These grants support programs that provide assistance to survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and/or stalking who are in need of transitional housing, short-term housing assistance, and related support services. Transitional housing programs may offer individualized services such as counseling, support groups, safety planning, and advocacy services as well as practical services such as licensed child care, employment services, transportation vouchers, telephones, and referrals to other agencies.

FY 2014 - \$25 million

FY 2015 - \$26 million

**FY 2016 (proposed) - \$25 million**

## Department of Labor

### ***Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program***

The Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program provides services to help Veterans experiencing homelessness obtain meaningful employment and to stimulate the development of effective service delivery systems to address the complex problems facing Veterans experiencing homelessness. It is the only nationwide program exclusively focused on helping Veterans experiencing homelessness reintegrate into the workforce. Funds are awarded through competitive grants. The program also includes funds specifically for grantees providing specialized services to female Veterans experiencing homelessness and Veterans with families experiencing homelessness. This specialized funding was initiated in FY 2010 in recognition of the special needs of these subgroups.

FY 2014 - \$38 million

FY 2015 - \$38 million

**FY 2016 (proposed) - \$38 million**

## Department of Veterans Affairs

The President's 2016 Budget calls for \$1.4 billion for VA programs that prevent or end homelessness among Veterans. With continued focus from Federal, State, and local partners, the goal to end Veteran homelessness by the end of 2015 is in reach. Since the launch of *Opening Doors*, the number of Veterans experiencing homelessness on a given night has declined 33 percent from 76,329 in 2010 to 49,993 in 2014.

### ***Supportive Services for Veteran Families***

Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) provides supportive services to very low-income Veteran families in or transitioning to permanent housing. Funds are provided through grants to private non-profit organizations and consumer cooperatives that will assist very low-income Veterans' families by providing a range of supportive services designed to promote housing stability. Through the SSVF Program, VA aims to prevent Veterans from falling into homelessness whenever possible and to rapidly re-house Veterans' families who become homeless, thereby improving housing stability for very low-income Veterans' families.

FY 2014 - \$300 million  
FY 2015 - \$300 million  
**FY 2016 (proposed) - \$300 million**

### **Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem (GPD) Program**

VA's Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program funds community agencies that provide services to Veterans experiencing homelessness. The purpose is to promote the provision of transitional housing and services with the goal of helping homeless Veterans achieve residential stability, increase their skill levels and/or income, and obtain greater self-determination. As the Federal government, VA, and our community partners continue to make progress in reducing the number of homeless Veterans, resources will be aligned to be commensurate with the anticipated need. The GPD Program is taking steps to ensure transitional housing resources remain available and a gradual right-sizing of the program occurs in conjunction with the overall decrease of the homeless Veteran population. The investment in GPD represents a commitment to balancing these needed community-based services for Veterans experiencing homelessness with increased access to permanent housing opportunities.

FY 2014 - \$244 million  
FY 2015 - \$250 million  
**FY 2016 (proposed) - \$201 million**

### ***The Domiciliary Care for Homeless Veterans Program***

The Domiciliary Care for Homeless Veterans Program provides 24-hours-per-day, seven-days-per-week structured and supportive residential rehabilitation and treatment services for economically disadvantaged Veterans and Veterans experiencing homelessness. Each year, the program provides rehabilitation and treatment to approximately 6,000 Veterans who are experiencing homelessness and who have health problems.

FY 2014 - \$246 million  
FY 2015 - \$183 million  
**FY 2016 (proposed) - \$183 million**

### ***Healthcare for Homeless Veterans Program***

The core mission of the Healthcare for Homeless Veterans Program (HCHV) is primarily to perform outreach, provided by VA social workers and other mental health clinicians, to identify Veterans experiencing homelessness who are eligible for VA services and assist these Veterans in accessing appropriate health care and benefits. The main goal of outreach is to connect Veterans with needed services that will end their homelessness. HCHV also provides residential treatment through contracts with community providers and longer-term case management through the HCHV- Supported Housing program.

FY 2014 - \$140 million  
FY 2015 - \$158 million  
**FY 2016 (proposed) - \$155 million**

### ***The Justice Outreach, Homelessness Prevention: Healthcare for Reentry Veterans (HCRV, prison outreach) and Veteran's Justice Outreach (VJO, law enforcement, jail and court outreach)***

Justice Outreach addresses the justice involvement continuum from first contact with law enforcement through release from prison or jail. Veterans Justice Outreach is designed to help justice-involved Veterans avoid the unnecessary criminalization of mental illness and extended incarceration by ensuring that eligible Veterans have timely access to Veterans Health Administration mental health and substance abuse services when clinically indicated, and other VA services and benefits as appropriate. Health Care for Reentry Veterans assists Veterans released from prison to readjust to community life through access to community reintegration, health, and social services provided through VA and community services.

FY 2014 - \$29 million  
FY 2015 - \$38 million  
**FY 2016 (proposed) - \$38 million**

## **United States Interagency Council on Homelessness**

USICH ensures interagency collaboration and local engagement, helping to guide homelessness funds into evidence-based solutions that are measurably reducing homelessness in America. The Council performs this work through support to Federal council members and partners in the field.

The President's FY 2016 Budget Proposal includes funding for USICH to continue and accelerate the ambitious collaboration, focus on data and performance measurement, emphasis on evidence-informed practice and policy, coordination among Federal agencies, innovation, disciplined place-based work, and above all, an aggressive commitment to getting to the finish line of ending homelessness.

FY 2014 - \$3.5 million  
FY 2015 - \$3.53 million  
**FY 2016 (proposed) - \$3.53 million**