

CITY OF HUNTSVILLE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY SUMMARY ON HOMELESSNESS

VISION

The City of Huntsville approaches homelessness with the understanding that everyone experiencing homelessness is vulnerable and deserving of being treated with dignity and respect. The City's Community Development Department will collaborate with community partners to connect persons experiencing homelessness to housing, shelter, and services within the community.



HOMELESSNESS *as defined by US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)*

- Individuals and families who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and includes a subset for an individual who resided in an emergency shelter or a place not meant for human habitation and who is exiting an institution where he or she temporarily resided;
- Individuals and families who will imminently lose their primary nighttime residence;
- Unaccompanied youth and families with children and youth who are defined as homeless under other federal statutes who do not otherwise qualify as homeless under this definition; and
- Individuals and families who are fleeing, or are attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or life-threatening conditions that relate to violence against the individual or a family member

GOALS

- Help homeless persons, chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth gain access to permanent housing that is safe, stable, and affordable
- Assist persons in making the transition to permanent housing and independent living, and reducing the period of time persons experience homelessness
- Aid in preventing individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again

2022 – 2025

ESG GRANT FUND DISTRIBUTION

- Emergency Shelter: \$550K
- Prevention: \$280k
- Rapid Rehousing: \$250K
- Street Outreach: \$419K

2022 – 2025

CDBG GRANT FUND DISTRIBUTION

- Health and Medical: \$30K
- Emergency Shelter: \$30K
- Prevention: \$540K
- Street Outreach: \$75K

2022 – 2025

ERAP FUND DISTRIBUTION

- Rent & Deposits: \$13.5M
- Permanent Supportive Housing: \$4.7M

COMMUNITY SUMMARY ON HOMELESSNESS

2025 POINT-IN TIME COUNT

466 (Estimated) Sheltered
Homeless

266 Unsheltered Homeless

2024 HOUSING INVENTORY

564 Beds



2024 ESG COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- AshaKiran, Inc.
- Community Action Partnership
- Crisis Services of North Alabama
- Family Services Center
- First Stop
- Hands Across Decatur
- New Futures
- North Alabama Coalition for Homeless (NACH)
- Salvation Army

STRATEGIES

- The City of Huntsville Community Development Department's strategy to reduce and end homelessness includes continued support of the Continuum of Care (CoC) community partners.
- The City of Huntsville Community Development Department and Department of Multicultural Affairs developed and assists in the facilitation and leadership of the Homeless Strategy Network (HSN). The Homeless Strategy Network is a community group that meets bi-monthly to develop strategies and execute activities that serve the overall community goal of reducing homelessness. The areas of focus with active working groups include: Legislation and Policy, Housing and Shelter Solutions, Workforce Development and Self-Sufficiency, Outreach and Engagement, and Systems Coordination and Accountability.
- Since 2022, the City has distributed over \$20 million of federal and state grant funds to 20 agencies within the community to aide in preventing and assisting with homelessness.
- The Homeless Outreach Initiative (HOI) is a City of Huntsville program administered by the Community Development Department and the Huntsville Police Department to implement a multidisciplinary outreach team to address unsheltered homelessness in the community. The vision is to improve the quality of life for all individuals with a mission to deliver a multidisciplinary and community-wide approach to addressing and reducing unsheltered homelessness in Huntsville. The purpose of the HOI is to identify goals and objectives that will produce positive outcomes bene-



As lead of the CoC, the City of Huntsville Community Development Department has partnered with service providers and Family Services Center, the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) lead, to coordinate an annual Point In Time (PIT) count and assessment of sheltered and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness in Madison, Morgan, and Limestone Counties. The assessment allows for distribution of federal funding from the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Acts Program.