

**FLORIDA'S COUNCIL
ON HOMELESSNESS**



**ANNUAL
REPORT**

SUBMITTED JUNE 2022

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Florida's Council on Homelessness

June 30, 2022

Governor Ron DeSantis
400 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis,

On behalf of the Florida Council on Homelessness, its members and state agency partners, I submit the "Council on Homelessness 2022 Report" for your consideration.

In accordance with state law, the Council has prepared recommendations for reducing homelessness in our state. We have also provided data concerning the extent of homelessness and the characteristics of the men, women and children who do not have home.

Per the annual Point In Time count, over the past five years, Florida experienced a 16.8% reduction in the rate of Floridians experiencing "literal homelessness" (31,030 to 25,810 individuals), this continued a long-term trend which has seen a 55% decrease in homelessness since 2010. Unfortunately, for the first time in over ten years, 2022 showed an increase in the number of literally homeless persons in our state. However, due to COVID and its impacts on the ability to conduct an accurate Point In Time count, the 2021 data is not entirely reliable and we do not know the accuracy of the increase from last year.

What we do know is that Florida is facing an unprecedented housing market. Florida's population growth is the second highest in the country.¹ Supply and demand being fundamental market factors, this is causing housing costs to increase at extraordinary rates. Between April 2021 and April 2022, Florida's single-family home costs have increased 28.8%; and 34.6% of the homes sold in that time were purchased for cash. This makes purchasing a home unobtainable for many families. This, coupled with population growth, increases pressures on the rental housing market. Florida has among the highest year-over-year rent increases; in fact only three cities in the country saw rent increases of 30% or more – and all three are in Florida.² And Florida has the highest percentage of cost burdened renters in the country.³

The lack of affordable housing is the primary cause of homelessness. For these reasons, the Council strongly encourages the State to appropriate more funding to the development of affordable rental housing, focusing on creating housing for Extremely Low-Income, homeless and special needs households.

Prior successes at reducing the rate of homelessness demonstrate it is not an intractable issue. We simply need to appropriate resources wisely to create housing all Floridians can afford.

If you would like any additional information regarding this report or homelessness in Florida, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you,

Shannon Nazworth
Chairperson for the Council on Homelessness

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The formation of the State of Florida's Interagency Council on Homelessness (The Council), created in 2001, has since become a nationally recognized best practice. The Council unites leadership across a spectrum of statewide systems to convene stakeholder meetings, develop policy, and make recommendations on how to prevent and end homelessness across the state.

Pursuant to section 420.622(9), Florida Statutes, the Council submits its Annual Report to the Governor and Legislature, providing the current landscape of homelessness in Florida and offering recommended actions to address the challenge.

Florida's Point in Time Count (PIT) data included in this report and presented in Appendix V provides a snapshot of homelessness in Florida. Prior to the pandemic, Florida had made progress in the reduction of the number of persons experiencing homelessness resulting from a strong economy as well as state and local support. The increase in homelessness from 2021 to 2022 comes with several caveats when comparing the years. Data reported in 2021 is based on modifications to the way homelessness was counted as a result of flexibilities provided by HUD. Many communities did not conduct an unsheltered count of homelessness in adherence to CDC safety guidelines, therefore 2021 represents an undercount of homelessness in Florida. However, as this report highlights, for Florida to impact the current state of homelessness, state and local resources must prioritize the development and preservation of affordable housing.

Florida's State Housing Trust Fund dollars have been used to increase the supply of housing affordable to low-, very low-, and extremely low-income households through rental development and housing subsidies. A portion of these resources are used to create housing for homeless and special needs households, as prescribed in state statute. At the local level, partnerships encouraging the development and preservation of affordable housing, paired with evidence-based strategies that support at-risk households, are successfully serving the most vulnerable Floridians including veterans, students experiencing homelessness, persons experiencing chronic homelessness, persons with disabilities, older adults, and other special needs households.

Building upon Florida's successes, the Council believes it is imperative the State of Florida dedicate adequate resources to the creation of housing affordable to extremely low-income households, those experiencing homelessness and persons with special needs.

Federal economic stimulus funding provided Florida with an unprecedented amount of resources to address homelessness and housing instability. With these funds appropriated by Congress, the State, local governments, CoCs, and partner agencies have prevented people from becoming homeless by providing rental assistance, utilities assistance, emergency shelter, outreach, supportive services and more. These efforts have prevented an even higher increase in homelessness. The number of people becoming homeless is increasing, in part, due to higher home rental rates and lack of affordable housing. Maximizing additional resources will support Florida's efforts to reduce homelessness and prevent the loss of stable housing.

In this report, the Council provides an overview of homelessness in Florida, including data on subpopulations, geographic areas, and trends. Additionally, a synopsis is provided reviewing the solutions working to prevent and end homelessness. Based on the data, trends, and best practices, the Council presents the following recommendations for the State's consideration.

2022 POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Summary of 2022 Policy Recommendations

1. Invest in affordable housing by appropriating full funding of State and Local Housing Trust Funds and promote rental housing as a priority. In response to the housing crisis facing Florida, appropriate additional nonrecurring funding of \$100 million to address the ongoing critical need for affordable rental housing to support Florida's most vulnerable households, including persons experiencing homelessness, those with special needs, and households with extremely low incomes.
2. Increase the recurring appropriations for the Challenge Grant to \$5 million and the Staffing Grant to \$5 million using general revenue.
3. Continue to prioritize the use of best practices that prevent and end homelessness throughout Florida and ensure these households have equal access to affordable low barrier housing.
4. Strengthen local government investments and effort to reduce and end homelessness, specifically commitments to the development and expansion of permanent housing opportunities and services to those experiencing homelessness.
5. Continue to support enhanced, strategic collaborations among Florida's systems of care serving people at risk of, or currently experiencing homelessness.
6. Prioritize Federal resources that can be used for the development of housing to create housing for those who are most vulnerable, including people experiencing homelessness, those with special needs, and households with extremely low incomes.



Comprehensive 2022 Policy Recommendations

1. Invest in affordable housing by appropriating full funding of State and Local Housing Trust Funds and promote rental housing as a priority. In response to the housing crisis facing Florida, appropriate additional nonrecurring funding of \$100 million to address the ongoing critical need for affordable rental housing to support Florida's most vulnerable households, including persons experiencing homelessness, those with special needs, and households with extremely low incomes.

Florida is facing a housing crisis that will result in an increase in homelessness if resources are not prioritized towards affordable rental housing for the most vulnerable households. According to Florida Assessment of Housing for Homeless and Special Needs Populations,⁴ 156,962 homeless and special needs households need affordable or supportive housing. This report reflects data from 2020 and does not include the housing and rental market increases since the end of 2021. It is imperative that funding is made available to create permanent rental housing solutions for vulnerable households to be developed.

The State took a significant step in addressing the impending housing crisis through Senate Bill 2512⁵ (SB 2512) that ended sweeps of the State and Local Housing Trust Funds and established the Housing Trust Funds as a recurring budget line item.

While the Council applauds the actions taken in SB 2512 to end sweeps of the Housing Trust Fund, the Council also recommends that the State of Florida prioritize affordable rental housing by appropriating an additional \$100 million to address the need for construction of new affordable rental housing to replace the amount diverted from the State Apartment Incentive Loan program during the 2022 legislative session. This funding is necessary for Florida to partially address the rental housing needs of those experiencing homelessness, with special needs, and households with extremely low incomes.

2. Increase the recurring appropriations for the Challenge Grant to \$5 million and the Staffing Grant to \$5 million using general revenue.

The State of Florida has supported the homeless continuum of care system in the state by providing \$6.1 million in recurring state general revenue, that in turn is able to leverage \$120,837,179⁶ in federal funding. The Council recommends that the Legislature increase the appropriation for both Continuum of Care (CoC) Staffing Grants, as authorized by Florida Statute 420.622(10), and return Challenge Grants, as authorized by Florida Statute 420.622(4) to their 2016 levels.

Homeless Continuums of Care (CoCs) are responsible for creating a plan to prevent and end homelessness in their local geographic area, implementing that plan, collecting and using data to assess needs and effectiveness of programs, and coordinating local community stakeholders to achieve the plan's goals. This work is challenging and cannot be executed effectively without the support of the State of Florida. While the majority of homelessness funds come from the Federal Government, these critical state dollars provide CoCs the flexibility to address the unique and pressing needs of vulnerable populations that are not feasible with federal dollars alone.

In 2020 the legislative appropriation for the Challenge Grant was \$3.181 million from a high of \$5 million in 2016 and Staffing Grant funding has remained at \$3 million since 2018. The Challenge Grant provides a flexible source of funding for CoCs. Challenge Grants allow CoCs to fill the gap where other grants cannot be used due to more restrictive federal regulations.

The Challenge Grant provides an opportunity to serve those that do not meet the strict eligibility requirements of the grants received from Federal sources. It also provides an opportunity to fund programs that are outside of the limitations of Federal funding. Some examples include programs to divert individuals from homelessness and other supportive programs to support the acute health,

mental health, transportation, and educational needs of those experiencing or at risk of becoming homeless. The Challenge Grant funding allows CoC to provide assistance where there is no other resource available.

In addition, the Staffing Grant provides operating funding that CoCs can leverage to build their capacity to create effective crisis response systems and draw down tens of millions of dollars in federal funding. These additional funds for the Staffing Grants are critical to ensuring CoCs have qualified staff to oversee community collaborations and systematic solutions to homelessness at the local level. Staffing Funds are also often used as match funding to leverage additional private, local and federal funds.

While federal resources have increased Florida's capacity to prevent and end homelessness, these funds have restrictions on how the funds may be used; they are not interchangeable with the Challenge and Staffing grants provided to CoCs by the State of Florida. Flexible State funding such as the Challenge Grant helps ensure a broad range of programs in Florida, as well as increase the capacity of the CoCs to administer the federal funding and other resources. The Challenge and Staffing Grants are critical to meeting those needs that federal funding does not address. The increased appropriation recommended by the Council will further strengthen the services, capacity, and housing supports within the CoC lead agencies.

3. Continue to prioritize the use of best practices that prevent and end homelessness throughout Florida and ensure these households have equal access to affordable low barrier housing.

Florida has made progress in reducing the number of persons experiencing homelessness because CoCs across the state have been committed to prioritizing evidence-based best practices. All state agencies should ensure their programs and policies implement best practices and support these proven practices at the local level.

Housing First is an evidence-based best practice helping households move into stable permanent housing as quickly as possible. The National Alliance to End Homelessness defines Housing First as a homeless assistance approach that prioritizes providing permanent housing to people experiencing homelessness, thus ending their homelessness and serving as a platform from which they can pursue personal goals and improve their quality of life. This approach is guided by the belief that people need basic necessities like food and a place to live before attending to anything less critical, such as getting a job, budgeting properly, or attending to substance use issues. Additionally, Housing First is based on client choice in housing selection and supportive service participation, and that exercising that choice is likely to make a client more successful in remaining housed and improving their life.⁷

The National Alliance to End Homelessness⁸ outlines best practices for effectively ending homelessness including:

- Utilizing a community-wide coordinated approach to end homelessness through the delivery of services, housing and programs;
- Prioritizing rapid re-housing as an intervention designed to quickly connect people to housing and services;
- Designing programs to assist the most vulnerable since some individuals may need longer-term rental assistance and services supports to achieve stability. Permanent supportive housing is a solution to addressing the housing needs of the most vulnerable.
- Designing an effective crisis response system can help people quickly exit homelessness; and

- Incorporating employment strategies in homelessness programs to assist low-income people increase their income as a critical component of housing stability.
- The Council recommends the specific State actions to meet the needs of Florida's most at-risk households:
- The Office on Homelessness, take a leadership role in modeling and sharing proven best practices at the state level to ensure all entities using state resources to end homelessness are implementing best practices;
- The Office on Homelessness continue to use a system to gather data, assemble performance outcome measures, and accurately report on statewide progress toward the goals adopted by the Council; and
- The Office on Homelessness continue to incentivize the adoption of best practices at the local level through housing-focused funding application requirements and monitoring processes administered by the Office.

4. Strengthen local government investments and effort to reduce and end homelessness, specifically commitments to the development and expansion of permanent housing opportunities and services to those experiencing homelessness.

To ensure that homelessness is rare, brief, and one-time, a community-wide effort is required. Local governments, like CoCs, have limited financial resources to increase the supply of housing targeted to special populations. State agencies should incentivize local governments to strategically partner with CoCs to implement strategies that create permanent housing options for people experiencing homelessness. This type of multi-system coordination is encouraged and documented as a best practice by the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH). As quoted from the USICH Home, Together: Federal Strategic Plan for Preventing and Ending Homelessness,⁹ "Achieving these shared goals is not possible through federal action alone—it requires strategic focus, effort, and investments from both the public and the private sectors and across all levels of government."

Further, as part of its annual funding application, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) evaluates CoCs on their ability to increase the number of permanent housing units for homeless households within their local community. This requires the support of external funding sources to leverage state and local funding with federal dollars, thus increasing the capacity for development and rental assistance and creating permanent housing solutions to end homelessness. Local governments have the ability to incentivize best practices at the local level and can maximize their impact on ending homelessness by investing in CoCs and stakeholders that adopt best practices.

Therefore, the Council recommends that state agencies assess how they could incentivize local governments to direct resources to expand housing opportunities for people experiencing homelessness. Since strategies for addressing housing barriers may vary by community, state agencies should also consider if there are local entities that are providing supportive services, such as employment, to people experiencing homelessness. Incentives for these investments can include using local government support as a scoring criteria or preference in competitive awards; agencies can also establish goals to fund programs and partnerships in communities in which local governments are leveraging their resources.

5. Continue to support enhanced, strategic collaboration among Florida's systems of care serving people at risk of, or currently experiencing, homelessness.

Increasing coordination and leveraging financial resources to expand housing opportunities are proven successful strategies for ending homelessness. There are several subpopulations at risk of or experiencing homelessness, including youth, people with behavioral health disorders, older adults, people fleeing domestic violence or human trafficking, and people exiting institutions like jail or hospitals. These individuals and families often intersect with many systems of care. When these systems work in collaboration by sharing data and resources, the services are more effective, reducing duplication, and resulting in a significant costs savings.

The Council supports a collaborative effort between Florida's systems of care including Florida's Department of Children and Families and the state's Community Based Care Lead Agencies, Behavioral Health Managing Entities, certified Domestic Violence shelters, and CoCs; the Agency for Health Care Administration and the state's Managed Care Organizations; Public Housing Authorities; the Florida Department of Elder Affairs and the state's 11 Area Agencies on Aging;



Florida Housing Finance Corporation; Department of Corrections; local law enforcement; housing developers and providers; and other local community-based providers. These collaborations aim to increase Florida's and local communities' capacity to strategically identify multi-system consumers experiencing or at risk of homelessness and coordinate housing and services to increase housing stabilization and retention. The Council supports being forward thinking, vigilant, and flexible to increase collaboration aimed at strategically preventing and ending homelessness throughout Florida. The Council encourages these partners to strategically address ways in which braiding resources can create the maximum impact of the use of government funds.

The Council recommends that the State support a more inclusive relationship across the variety of systems of care organizations. This should be done at the state level by requiring state agencies to consider how their programs and policies impact homelessness, how they can coordinate with other state agencies and systems to increase efficiencies, as well as at the local level through participation in local Continuums of Care and other systems of care impacting homelessness. This will help better coordinate services, including discharge planning and sharing data and resources to help reduce duplication of services, and better address the needs of shared clients in a variety of systems of care.

6. Prioritize Federal resources that can be used for the development of housing to create housing for those who are most vulnerable, including people experiencing homelessness, those with special needs, and households with extremely low incomes.

The Council recommends stakeholders at all levels in Florida to utilize the flexibility of all federal resources to prioritize the development of housing. Florida's communities have received a significant influx of federal funds that may be used to address housing-related needs. This financial support allows communities to address immediate and long-term housing needs. While some federal funds have flexible uses, the Council recommends encouraging communities to prioritize these federal resources to develop housing for the most vulnerable. This prioritization should focus on housing needs of those experiencing and at-risk of homelessness. Communities should consider expanding available housing by supporting local organizations in acquiring dedicated housing and increasing services to the most vulnerable.

Florida continues to respond to the increase in housing instability individuals and families face due to unemployment, loss of income, education challenges, and health issues. State and local agencies have received an influx of federal resources that may be used to develop housing for those experiencing homelessness. For example, Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF) may be used for various affordable housing uses including development of affordable housing and permanent supportive housing, rental assistance, and mortgage assistance. Governmental entities receiving FRF funds have discretion in how those funds may be used to meet local needs. These types of federal resources are critical to addressing the development of housing and will offer relief to households experiencing housing instability and homelessness. Communities should assess all federal resources and consider any flexibility in using the funds for the development of housing. While this activity will require strategic planning and innovation, the Council recognizes the importance of acknowledging the state's current housing deficit and utilizing all available resources to address the shortage.

STATE OF HOMELESSNESS IN FLORIDA

Homelessness occurs when a person lacks a home. While conceptually simple, state statutes and federal regulations dictate what it means for an individual or family to be defined as homeless. It is important to recognize that various systems may have different criteria/definitions, sometimes causing systems to become more complex and difficult to navigate for those who need it. A household's eligibility is often tied to definitions outlined by the funding source. Technical and varying definitions can create unintentional barriers to resolving an individual or family's housing crisis. While the term "homeless" can paint various pictures for people, it is important to understand there is no one defining characteristic of a household experiencing homelessness outside of lacking a stable place to live. Communities are tasked with addressing homelessness among a wide variety of households, including people who are unsheltered, living in places not meant for human habitation, fleeing domestic violence, aging out of foster care, staying in a homeless emergency shelter, and more. The entity responsible for coordinating, planning, and pursuing the end of homelessness in a community is the Collaborative Applicant or Lead Agency of the local Continuum of Care (CoC). This work is primarily funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), therefore CoCs work within a very specific definition and often are tasked with prioritizing households based on the federal goal to reduce and end homelessness.

CoCs are tasked with resolving homelessness among varied populations and is often the final net that catches people after they fall through the gaps of other systems. The system responds to the impact of housing shortages, unemployment, and more. With the diverse characteristics of the households experiencing homelessness, it is critical for the right stakeholders from every sector to be at the table to make decisions.

As alluded to throughout this report, there are varying definitions of homelessness dependent upon sources of funding and state and federal funding or agencies. The varying definitions of homelessness are outlined in Appendix II.

This report utilizes the HUD definition of homelessness, unless specified otherwise.

What is a Homeless Continuum of Care?

One of the most coordinated efforts to prevent and end homelessness was the establishment of the Continuum of Care (CoC) model by HUD. A CoC comprises all stakeholders in a geographic area that are working together to prevent and end homelessness. The State of Florida has 27 CoCs of varying sizes and geographic areas. Some CoCs serve one county, while another spans eight counties.

In alignment with best practice, the CoC is composed of a broad array of stakeholders across multiple systems in the community, extending beyond nonprofits that provide homeless-specific services. To prevent and end homelessness, it is necessary to take a multi-disciplinary approach, encouraging participation in action planning to support activities that address homelessness in local communities. CoCs work to engage multiple sectors, including philanthropy, local government, housing developers, realtors, health care systems, child welfare, criminal justice, and so on. These efforts strengthen collective impact when addressing the needs of people experiencing or at risk of homelessness. These partnerships can assist CoCs to strengthen the housing crisis response system, expand funding opportunities, increase economic opportunity, and incorporate perspectives that help build a more effective system of care.

Prior to the development of the current CoC model, homeless services organizations worked individually and applied directly to HUD for funding. Currently, as required by the federal HEARTH Act,¹⁰ the CoC establishes a local planning body to organize and deliver housing and services to meet the needs of people experiencing homelessness. The planning body is typically a CoC Board or Council comprising community leaders and representatives of multiple stakeholder groups. The CoC also designates a "CoC Lead Agency."¹¹

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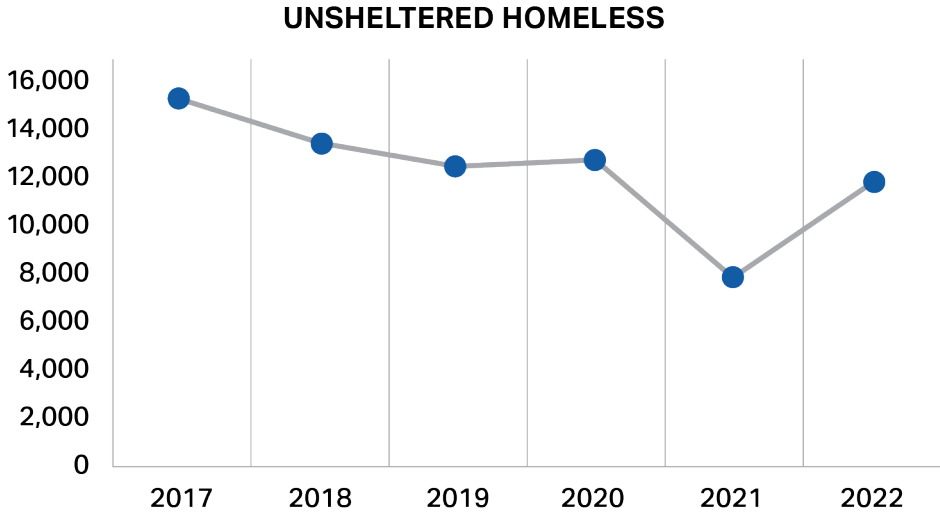
Prior to the development of the current CoC model, homeless services organizations worked individually and applied directly to HUD for funding. Currently, as required by the federal HEARTH Act,¹² the CoC establishes a local planning body to organize and deliver housing and services to meet the needs of people experiencing homelessness. The planning body is typically a CoC Board or Council comprising community leaders and representatives of multiple stakeholder groups. The CoC also designates a "CoC Lead Agency."¹³

CoCs are required to submit an annual consolidated application to HUD for CoC Program funding. All CoCs have a designated Lead Agency that serves as this collaborative applicant. The CoC Lead Agency provides staff leadership for the system, submits funding applications on behalf of the CoC to HUD and the State of Florida, and has a wide range of responsibilities to ensure that the local system is effectively ending homelessness. CoC Lead Agencies are tasked with leading coordination of community efforts that include a diverse group of stakeholders.

The State of Florida supports this vital work of the Lead Agency through CoC Staffing Grants. The CoC geographic areas are agreed upon by the local communities and HUD and are recognized by the State. The Florida CoC geographic areas are provided in Appendix VIII and the contacts for the CoCs are in Appendix IX.

Unsheltered Homelessness

On a single night in January 2022, approximately 11,611 individuals were living unsheltered, which may have included sleeping in cars, park benches, abandoned buildings, or other places not meant for human habitation. 94% of these individuals based on the 2022 PIT count were individuals while 5.67% were households with children and 0.32% were children living alone.



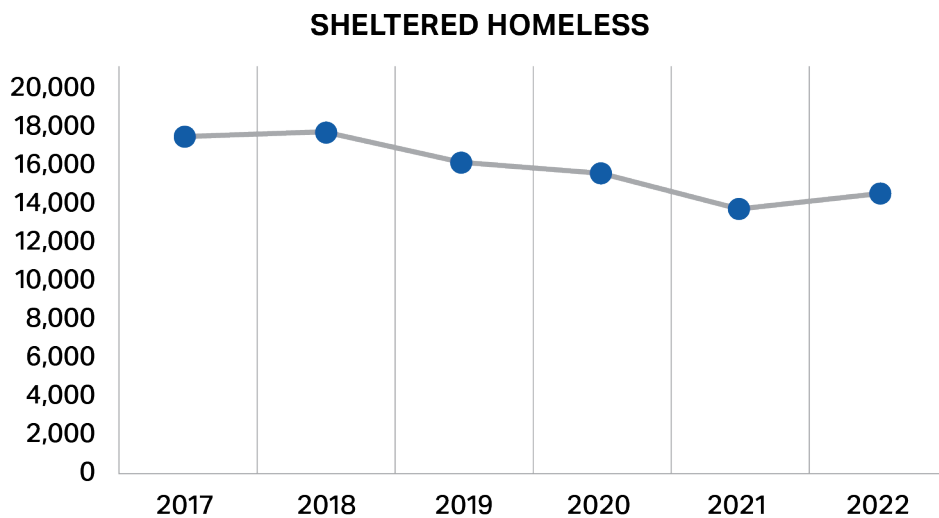
The number of unsheltered homelessness in Florida increased from 7,728 in 2021 to 11,611. It is important to note that PIT counts in 2021 were impacted by COVID-19 safety concerns. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, HUD waived the requirement for CoCs to conduct the count of unsheltered homelessness in 2021.¹⁴ Several CoCs did not conduct an unsheltered PIT count in 2021, while others conducted modified counts. Furthermore, those CoCs that did not conduct an unsheltered PIT count in 2021 were reported as zero unsheltered persons, which resulted in an undercount of homelessness. Since 2021 data has several anomalies, when comparing 2022 data to 2020 data there was a decrease in unsheltered homelessness (12,672 in 2020 and 11,611 in 2022).

While the 2022 PIT data reflects a decrease in unsheltered homelessness compared to 2020, the impact of this population remains a concern for communities. The impact of unsheltered homelessness on a local community could include increased utilization of emergency health services, frequent interactions with police, and governmental costs to managing encampments. At the individual level when coupled with chronic homelessness, unsheltered individuals are more likely to report higher rates of lifetime illnesses, substance use, mental health disorders, and incarceration.¹⁵

Research has found that housing market conditions, including rental costs, eviction rates, and overcrowded housing units are associated with higher unsheltered homelessness.¹⁶ This finding highlights the importance of ensuring Floridians have access to affordable housing and preventing individuals from experiencing unsheltered homelessness and the negative impacts as a result.

Sheltered Homelessness

Sheltered homelessness refers to the count of people who were living in emergency shelters, transitional housing, or other temporary settings. While all CoCs reported the number of sheltered homelessness in 2021, in response to CDC recommendations, most shelters reduced occupancy to adhere to social distancing requirements. For that reason, it is expected for the sheltered PIT count for 2022 to be higher than 2021. The PIT count for sheltered homelessness in 2021 was 13,490, while the sheltered count in 2022 was 14,199. However, when comparing the sheltered count to 2020 there was a slight decrease from 15,079 in 2020 to 14,199 in 2022.



Homelessness Among Families

Approximately 25.12% (or 6,360 households) of the homeless population in Florida are households that include adults with children. The 2022 PIT data reported 6,360 families were homeless, compared to 5,322 in 2021 and 9,163 in 2020 (data does not include families that are doubled up). Homelessness can be a significant stressor on families, including food insecurity, poor physical and behavioral health, compromised education, and possible family separation.¹⁷ These factors may have an impact on obtaining housing stability for families. Homelessness has a significant impact on children including higher levels of behavioral problems, health problems, and academic performance.¹⁸ As with other populations a driving factor in families experiencing homelessness is the shortage of affordable rental housing. As rental costs increase families are left paying a larger share of their income towards housing. In this scenario one crisis can be destabilizing for a family and may result in homelessness.

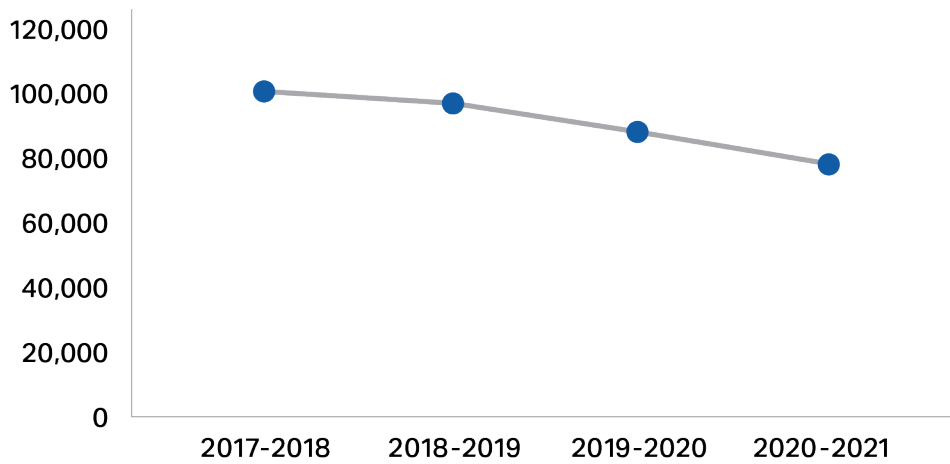


Homelessness Among Special Populations

Students

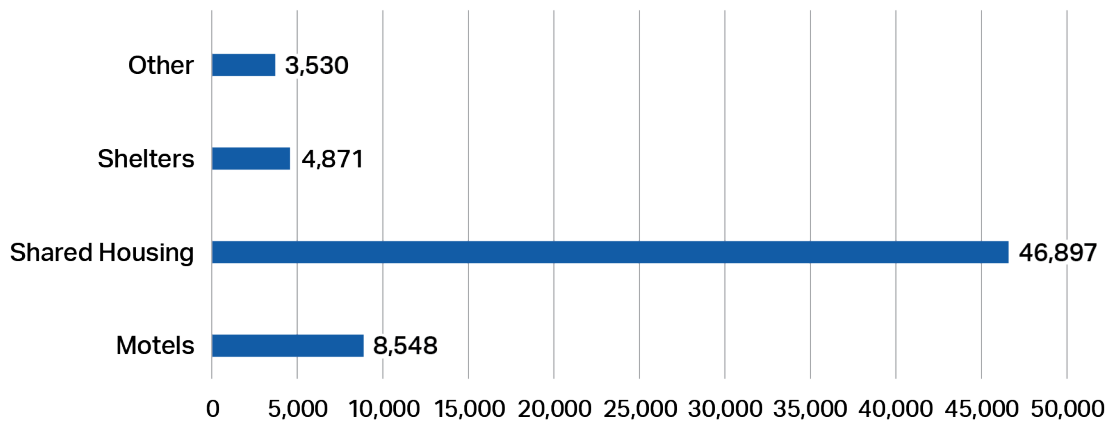
While the annual Point In Time count offers a snapshot of people experiencing literal homelessness it does not account for all types of homelessness among students and other youth subpopulations. The Department of Education uses a broader definition of homelessness to include youth who "lack a fixed, regular, and nighttime residence."¹⁹ Another type of household that falls within the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (subsection VII-B), are sometimes referred to as "doubled-up," and due to their economic and housing crisis these households lack the resources to maintain a lease in their own name. Some of these home-sharing arrangements are relatively stable; in other cases, people, especially young people, may be "couch-surfing" and moving from one place to another in quick succession. The larger numbers of homelessness in this section reflect the broader definition while also counting a cumulative total over the course of an academic school year. Despite a reduction of 15,935 homeless students since the 2019-2020 school year, Florida Department of Education (FDOE) reports that 63,846 students experienced homelessness in the 2020-2021 school year;²⁰ with the root cause being a deficit of housing that is affordable.

NUMBER OF HOMELESS STUDENTS IN FLORIDA



Though most of these youth are not living in emergency shelters or places not meant for human habitation, any type of housing insecurity and lack of regular nighttime setting is a traumatic experience and is proven to cause disruption to a young person’s academic pursuits, as documented by disparities in standardized test scores and graduation rates.²¹

LIVING SITUATION AT THE TIME THE STUDENT WAS IDENTIFIED AS HOMELESS



Solutions to address homelessness among students in Florida’s school system mirror successful interventions in the housing crisis response system which include developing cross-sector collaborations, employing a person-centered approach to services, and advocating for additional funding aimed at affordable housing.

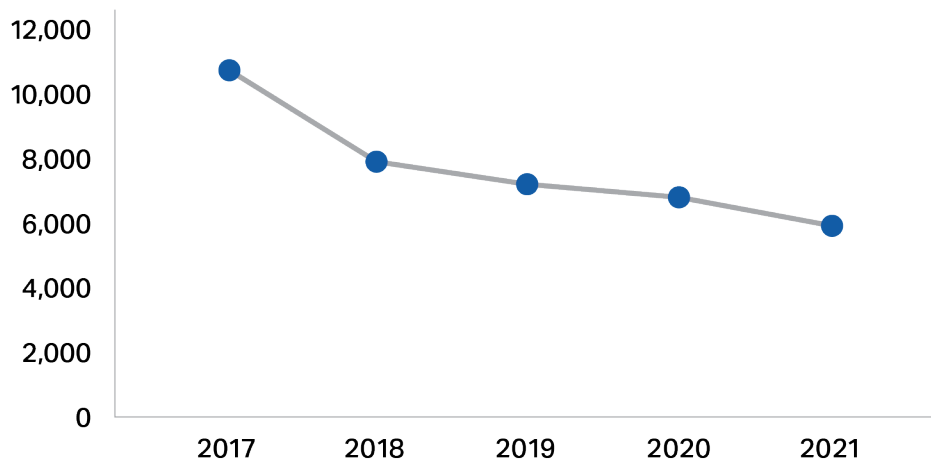
Unaccompanied Homeless Youth

An unaccompanied homeless youth refers to a youth who is homeless and not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian. Risk factors for youth homelessness include sexual orientation, sexual activity, school problems, pregnancy, and substance abuse.

The chart below illustrates the reduction in unaccompanied homeless youth as reported by the Florida Department of Education over the last five years. A study conducted by Voices of Youth

Count from Chapin Hill at the University of Chicago found that 1 in 10 young adults ages 18 to 25 experience some form of homelessness in a year.²² Although Florida has seen progress in the number of unaccompanied homeless youth, homelessness among this population has long-lasting impacts on the lives of youth. Homeless youth are vulnerable to many problems while not in a permanent home including untreated mental health disorders, drug use, and sexual exploitation.²³ In order to adequately address homelessness among unaccompanied youth, systems of care must coordinate services between education agencies, child welfare, juvenile justice, etc.

UNACCOMPANIED HOMELESS YOUTH



Parenting Youth

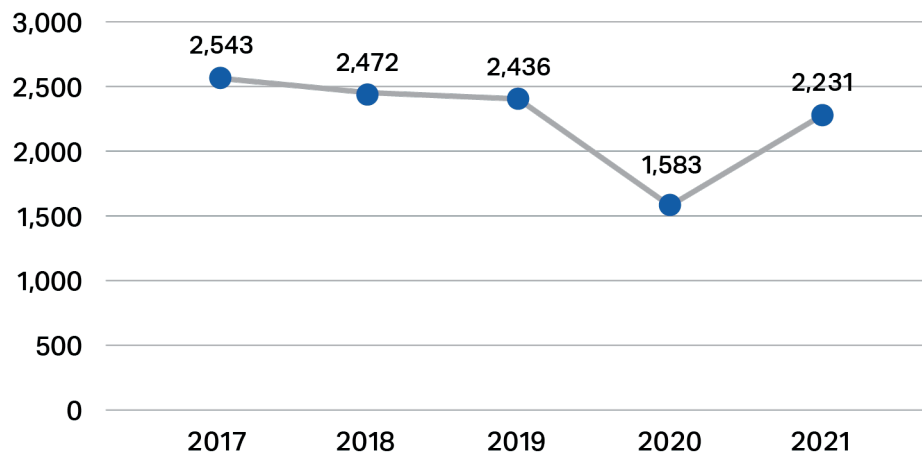
Included in the youth homelessness population is a percentage of youth who experience homelessness and are pregnant or parenting. These youth are not only dealing with the trauma of not having permanent housing, but in also trying to provide stable and safe housing to live with their children. The 2022 PIT data reports that there were 224 parenting youth during the annual count. Data has estimated that about 1.1 million children have a young parent who experienced homelessness in a year.²⁴ The challenges faced by this segment of the homeless youth population requires systems of care to support developmentally appropriate services that address the unique needs of young homeless parents.

Solutions to address homelessness among students in Florida's school system mirror successful interventions in the housing crisis response system which include developing cross-sector collaborations, employing a person-centered approach to services, and advocating for additional funding aimed at affordable housing. To achieve success in addressing the housing needs of homeless youth, there must be an increase of stock in housing that is affordable and available. For schoolchildren and their families who lack stable housing, it takes a multi-system approach, including leveraging local, state, and federal resources, to satisfy the need for housing options. When students and their families have access to stable housing, decent wages, and natural supports they can thrive. For parenting youth it requires recognizing the importance of holistic models that can support young parents and their children as they navigate to self-sufficiency.

Veteran Homelessness

Homelessness among veterans has been a critical issue among state, local and federal agencies. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs reports that through their campaign to secure permanent housing for every veteran, homelessness among the group decreased by 50% between 2010 and 2020. For the time period of 2010 to 2020,²⁵ Florida reduced homelessness by nearly 70%, from 7,794 homeless veterans in 2010 to 2,436 in 2020.

VETERAN HOMELESSNESS



Florida's PIT data shows a more gradual decrease from 2018 to 2020. The data for 2021 can be attributed to the alternative collection methods used as a result of the public health emergency. However, the 2022 PIT data indicates the state continues to prioritize this population in an effort to effectively end veteran homelessness. The reduction may be attributed to programs that specifically targeted this population including the HUD VA Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers and Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program. These vouchers assist veterans by providing long-term rental assistance for permanent housing to those who are high needs. Additionally, the success in serving this population may also be attributed to using Housing First models in addressing veteran homelessness. As indicated throughout the report, in order to continue the Housing First models and support this population the state must prioritize its resources towards affordable permanent housing.

Challenges Addressing Homelessness

Housing Affordability

While no state has an adequate supply of affordable rental housing for low-income households, Florida is one of the states with the fewest available affordable housing units for low-income households.²⁶ Florida has been on the verge of an affordable housing crisis for several years. While Florida's economy has seen significant growth over the last year, housing affordability continues to be a growing concern. Data from the National Association of Realtors (NAR) reports that Florida leads the nation in the share of cost-burdened renters.²⁷ While nationally rent increases are rising, Florida leads this growth with several cities experiencing rent increases of over 20%, including:

- Naples – 38%
- Fort Myers – 32%
- Palm Beach – 27%
- Orlando – 24%
- Tampa – 23%

The high rent growth and demand has resulted in a high share of renters characterized as cost burdened. For the purposes of the data, NAR determines households as cost-burdened if they spend more than 30% of their income on rent. Below are the top 5 states with the highest share of cost burdened renters:

1. Florida – 53.2%
2. California – 50.5%
3. Nevada – 48.6%
4. Oregon - 48.4%
5. Colorado – 48%

Housing is generally considered affordable if it costs no more than 30 percent of a household's income, however the Shimberg Center for Housing Studies 2019 Rental Market Study²⁸ determines a household as "cost burdened" if it pays at least 40 percent of its income toward gross rent. The 2020 update to the Rental Market Study²⁹ reports that 780,146 low-income households in Florida pay more than 40% of their income towards rent. Cost-burdened households are more likely to have difficulty affording food, clothing, transportation, and medical care with much of their income going to rent and utilities.³⁰ While Florida added hundreds of thousands of rental units between 2000 and 2018, the state also lost almost 100,000 units renting for less than \$1,000.³¹ In 2000, 57% of units rented for \$1,000 or less, and by 2017 only 36% of units rented for \$1,000 or less. The data reported in the Shimberg Rental Market Survey further highlight the need to address affordability and housing stock in order to keep pace with housing needs.

The key solution to reducing homelessness is permanent affordable housing. Plans to end homelessness must incorporate an investment in developing affordable housing and providing services to sustain permanent housing.

Permanent housing is the most effective way to end homelessness. In 2021 Florida Housing Finance Corporation released a Needs Assessment for Homeless/Special Needs Households that projected the scale of need for supportive and affordable housing for homeless and special needs populations.³² The assessment determined an estimated need of 12,811 units for supportive housing. Supportive Housing is a model that combines affordable housing, with an indefinite length of stay, with supportive services to assist households with achieving housing stability. Those in need of supportive housing may include individuals exiting behavioral health institutions, youth aging out of foster care, child welfare-involved families, and survivors of domestic violence. In addition to the supportive housing needs, the assessment also estimated the need for 144,151 affordable housing units. In total 156,962 households need either affordable or supportive housing. This estimated need would cost approximately \$36.32 billion to develop enough units to address the supporting and affordable housing needs.³³ It is important to note that this estimate only accounts for the construction of housing, and not the costs of supportive services that are needed to maintain stable housing.

Household Wages

Florida has seen a steady and significant reduction in homelessness until 2021, which can be attributed to the response efforts to the COVID-19 pandemic. To continue the trend, it is critical to recognize the importance of the connection between homelessness, employment with adequate wages, and access to affordable housing. Meaningful and sustainable employment is the key to creating and maintaining housing stability. Unemployment, underemployment, and low wages relative to rent are frequent causes of homelessness.³⁴ In fact, Individuals who are homeless are often dealing with significant barriers such as low educational attainment levels, no access to childcare, limited work experience, and mental health or substance abuse challenges. The National Low Income Housing Coalition's Out of Reach 2021 report states it takes an annual income of \$51,619, or an hourly wage of \$24.82, (more than double the Florida minimum wage), to afford a two-bedroom apartment in Florida.³⁵ While Florida's minimum wage will increase to \$15.00 per hour by 2026, this increase will still not be sufficient for many minimum-wage workers to afford the average two-bedroom apartment in Florida.

COC Staffing Challenges

Florida’s economy has rebounded over the last several months, as of the writing of this report (June 30, 2022) resulting in a declining unemployment rate, strong job growth, and a competitive workforce. Although the positive economic outlook has continued, it has also presented challenges maintaining CoC staffing levels. While CoCs have routinely experienced challenges with staffing, the impact of a competitive workforce was evident during deployment of pandemic funds. Since Florida began its recovery efforts and strengthened its economy, CoCs and homeless services providers are left competing for employees who have an array of employment options and opportunities. Simply, CoCs are struggling to compete with Florida’s robust labor market. This results in high turnover rates and fewer case managers, program managers, and leadership who are essential to serving the homeless population and reducing homelessness in Florida.

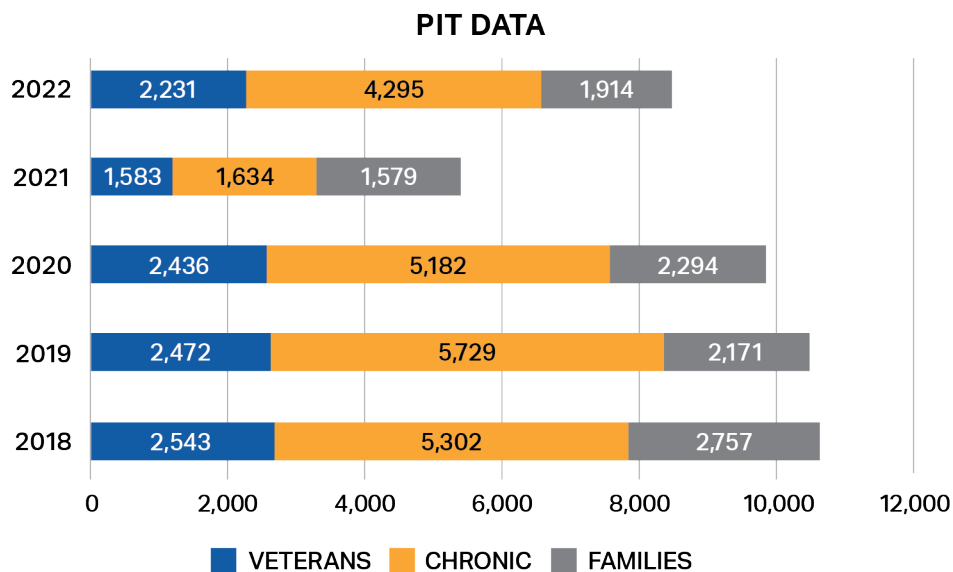
Florida COC Performance

This section highlights the Point in Time Count, HUD System Performance Measures, and CoC Performance Profile. Applying the data from the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and these instruments, CoCs are improving their ability to make homelessness rare, brief, and one-time. As data continues to prove, housing is the solution to ending homelessness.³⁶

HUD requires that CoCs conduct an annual census, coined the Point in Time Count (PIT Count), of persons experiencing homelessness, which are divided into unsheltered and sheltered population categories. Conducting a PIT Count is challenging and requires many volunteers and a great deal of coordination, mapping, resources, and data entry. While PIT Counts provide valuable information, it is understood that they are likely undercounts of homelessness due to the difficulty of locating every person that is homeless in a community, and the count only offers a snapshot because it is completed on a single night in January.

The 2021 Point in Time Count numbers are not comparable to the previous or current years’ counts. Typically, Continuums of Care (CoCs) conduct a PIT Count of both sheltered and unsheltered households. In 2021, due to COVID-19 related safety concerns, only six of the 27 CoCs conducted such a count; 10 CoCs did not conduct an unsheltered count; and others conducted a modified form of the unsheltered count. All CoCs conducted a sheltered PIT count. For those that did not conduct an unsheltered count, the CoCs reported zero unsheltered persons, resulting in an undercount of homelessness.

The following table provides an overview of PIT count data for the last five years. The detailed PIT Count data, including specific subpopulations, homeless characteristics, and more are provided in Appendix VI, Tables 1-7.



In addition to the PIT count data HUD has added to its focus evaluating performance on a system level, seeking to identify how each piece of the housing crisis response system contributes to the effectiveness of the system as a whole. CoC Performance Profile Reports provide a snapshot of a CoC's performance in addressing homelessness using performance indicators such as the length of time persons have been homeless, returns to homelessness over time, and exits to permanent housing. The report compiles data from the Point-in-Time (PIT) count, Housing Inventory Count (HIC), System Performance Measures (SPMs), and CoC Program Competition. This information may be used to recognize gaps in populations served, decision-making for resource allocation, justifying projects or funds, etc.

Rather than focusing on individual service providers, HUD uses these reports to help the CoC evaluate the continuum's overall effectiveness and efficiency in making homelessness rare, brief, and one-time. System Performance Measures (SPMs) offer a comprehensive and complete picture of how long people are experiencing homelessness, how many households are entering and exiting throughout the year and housing outcomes.

System Performance Measures Summary						
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Rate People Return to Homelessness in 6 Months	11.9%	12.3%	11.3%	11.0%	9.9%	8.7%
Number of People who are Homeless for the First Time	53,677	49,913	47,122	43,678	36,188	41,793
Rate People Exit from ES, SH, TH, and RRH to PH	43.1%	42.1%	43.4%	42.4%	41.9%	49.6%
Rate People in PSH and OPH Retain or Exit to PH	92.7%	94.2%	95.5%	95.8%	96.4%	99.1%

According to 2021 data,³⁷ there were 41,793 persons who experienced homelessness for the first time. Housing is the solution to homelessness and is measured by evaluating the number of persons who exit street outreach, temporary housing, and institutional settings to a permanent housing destination. HUD measures exits from homelessness to permanent housing destinations. Of the persons who exited from the housing crisis response system to permanent housing, 99.1% of those persons were successful exits to, or retention of, permanent housing.

SPMs are important to understanding a community's progress towards meeting the needs of people experiencing homelessness. As the above table outlines, Florida has been successful in several key components of the SPMs. The state has lowered the rate at which people return to homelessness and increased the rate of people exiting to permanent housing. As alluded to throughout this report, the public health emergency has also impacted the results of SPMs. With the increases in rent and decrease in available rental units, communities experienced higher utilization of emergency shelters and more people entering homelessness for the first time.

While there is room for improvement throughout Florida communities, the successes of CoCs and state leadership were critical to moving Florida towards its goal of ending homelessness.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX I: 2021 POLICY RECOMMENDATION UPDATES

1. Continue to invest in affordable housing by appropriating full funding for the recurring State and Local Government Housing Trust Funds and appropriate additional nonrecurring funding of \$40 million to address the ongoing critical need for housing to support Florida's most vulnerable households, including but not limited to persons experiencing homelessness, those with special needs, and households with extremely low incomes.

In the 2021 Legislative Session, SB2512 was passed and permanently reduced the percentage of the State and Local Housing Trust Funds dedicated to affordable housing, while also guaranteeing an end to sweeps of the funds. The 2022 session resulted in full funding for the State and Local Government Housing Trust Fund and an additional \$25 million in General Revenue committed to Affordable Housing.

2. Continue to appropriate full funding for the recurring State of Florida Challenge and Staffing Grants.

Challenge Grants and CoC Lead Agency Staffing Grants were fully funded at the recurring levels in State Fiscal Year 2021-2022 and again in State Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

3. Embrace and incentivize the use of best practices.

Florida's CoCs have continued to focus on utilizing best practices, including Housing First models, which has played a major role in successfully reducing homelessness in Florida over the last ten years.

4. Incentivize local governments to invest resources for the development and expansion of permanent housing opportunities for people experiencing homelessness.

Agencies continue to support local governments in increasing capacity for development, rental assistance, and creating permanent housing solutions to end homelessness. This includes coordination and collaboration efforts with local governments on the deployment of Emergency Rental Assistance.

5. Continue to support enhanced, strategic collaborations among Florida's systems of care serving people at risk of, or currently experiencing, homelessness.

There has been increased collaboration across systems of care in Florida. For example, CoCs are working more closely with Managing Entities, Community Based Care lead agencies, and Managed Care organizations. With the deployment of Emergency Solutions Grant-CV funds many CoCs were able to partner and/ or subcontract with substance abuse and mental health providers as well as community-based care partners to assist youth exiting foster care.

6. Prioritize permanent housing resources to those who are most vulnerable, including those most vulnerable to COVID-19, people experiencing homelessness with chronic health conditions, older adults, and unsheltered individuals and families.

There was a continued focus on permanent housing solutions and evidence-based best practices, even as systems addressed immediate needs and the economic impact of COVID-19. Evidence-based practices implemented include, but are not limited to, Housing First, Rapid Re-housing, Permanent Supportive Housing, and Diversion. Additionally several CoCs worked with their partner network to prioritize ESG-CV resources for those most vulnerable to COVID-19, including 65+, unsheltered homeless, individuals with health conditions, etc.

APPENDIX II: DEFINING HOMELESSNESS

While the term “homeless” can paint various pictures for people, it is important to understand there is no one defining characteristic of a household experiencing homelessness outside of lacking a stable place to live. Communities are tasked with addressing homelessness among a wide variety of households, including people who are unsheltered, living in places not meant for human habitation, fleeing domestic violence, aging out of foster care, staying in a homeless emergency shelter, and more.

The housing crisis response system is tasked with resolving homelessness among widely varied populations and is often the final net that catches people after they fall through the gaps of other systems. The system responds to the impact of housing shortages, unemployment, and more. With the diverse characteristics of the households experiencing homelessness, it is critical for the right stakeholders from every sector to be at the table to make decisions.

As alluded to throughout this report, there are varying definitions of homelessness dependent upon sources of funding and state and federal funding or agencies. The report utilizes the HUD definition of homelessness, unless specified otherwise. This section describes some of the varying definitions.

US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

HUD defines homelessness among four categories to provide a defined scope that ensures individuals and families at the greatest risk are served with the limited resources available.

1. Literally Homeless. Individuals and families who live in a place not meant for human habitation (including outdoors or in their car), emergency shelter, transitional housing, and motels paid for by a government or charitable organization.
2. Imminent Risk of Homelessness. Individuals and families who will lose their primary nighttime residence within 14 days and have no other resources or support networks to obtain other permanent housing.
3. Homeless Under other Federal Statutes. Unaccompanied youth under 25 years of age, or families with children and youth, who do not meet any of the other categories are homeless under other federal statutes, have had a lease, and have moved two or more times in the past 60 days, and are likely to remain unstable because of their special needs or barriers.
4. Fleeing or Attempting to Flee Domestic Violence. Individuals or families who are fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and who lack resources and support networks to obtain other permanent housing.

US Department of Education

Subtitle VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (MVA) prescribes a definition of homelessness that more broadly accounts for the traumatic impact of housing instability on children and youth and the impact of that trauma on their education and development.

Homeless children and youth are defined as Individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and includes:

1. Children and youth who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; or are abandoned in hospitals; or are awaiting foster care placement;
2. Children and youth who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
3. Children and youth who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and

4. Migratory children (as such term is defined in section 1309 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965) who qualify as homeless for the purposes of this subtitle because the children are living in circumstances described above in (1) through (3).

Subtitle VII-B of the MVA also defines unaccompanied youth as follows: The term “unaccompanied youth” includes a youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.s

APPENDIX III: SUCCESS IN OUR COMMUNITIES

Department of Children and Families

Under the leadership of First Lady Casey DeSantis, the Department of Children and Families has expanded the Hope Florida – A Pathway to Prosperity program to a statewide initiative. This program mobilizes care navigators to assist Floridians in identifying goals and removing barriers to economic self-sufficiency through partnerships with community-based organizations. Individuals and families utilize these services to resolve immediate needs such as housing, food assistance, and employment. The program has now provided family-centered assistance to more than 25,000 Floridians to help them achieve economic sufficiency.

The State of Florida’s Department of Children and Families State Office on Homelessness has spearheaded coordination of local efforts, bringing together CoCs for regular calls, statewide evaluation of system performance measures, and encouraging the use of best practices such as Housing First to make homelessness rare, brief, and one-time.

The State Office on Homelessness administered nearly \$86 million of Emergency Solutions Grant – CV (ESG-CV) CARES Act funding through CoCs in Florida. In addition, local jurisdictions received almost \$103 million in ESG-CV resources. ESG-CV is being used throughout the state for emergency shelter, rapid rehousing, street outreach, and more; it has significantly increased the capacity of CoCs and partner agencies to directly assist homeless households. Through March 2022, over 100,000 individuals have been served through emergency shelter, rapid rehousing, street outreach, and/or homelessness prevention services.

In 2021, the U.S. Treasury Department provided Florida more than \$1.4 billion of Emergency Rental Assistance Payments (ERAP), of which more than \$871 million is being administered by the Department of Children and Families. In 2022, the U.S. Treasury Department provided an additional \$740.4 million to continue to operate the emergency rental assistance program. The ERAP funds are currently being deployed in Florida communities to provide rent and utilities assistance to households impacted by COVID-19, preventing housing instability and homelessness. The households assisted must have incomes of less than 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI), with a preference for those below 50% of the AMI, targeting the most vulnerable households in Florida.

While these new resources have increased the capacity of the State, local governments, and CoCs to prevent and end homelessness, federal funds are not interchangeable with the Challenge and Staffing grants provided to CoCs by the State of Florida. State funding remains critical to addressing homelessness in Florida, especially in rural areas and for the many programs that cannot be funded by federal funding due to its restrictions. The State funding helps ensure a broad range of programs in Florida, as well as increase the capacity of the CoCs to administer the federal funding and other resources.

Ensuring Permanent Housing Opportunities for Victims of Domestic Violence

In Miami-Dade, survivors of domestic violence experiencing homelessness were provided new permanent housing opportunities thanks to a strategic collaboration between the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust and domestic violence providers. CARES Act Emergency Solutions Grant funding prioritized victims of domestic violence for rapid rehousing (short- to medium-term rental assistance with supportive services). The Homeless Trust then used Point in Time data to set aside 22% of Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV) for survivors of domestic violence and “bridged” domestic violence survivors in need of extended non-time limited housing assistance to EHVs.

The Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust partnered with Miami-Dade's Community Action and Human Services Department (CAHSD) and PHA's in Miami-Dade, Hialeah, Miami Beach and Homestead. CAHSD operates four emergency shelters and two transitional housing programs for survivors, together with the Coordinated Victims Assistance Center (CVAC), a walk-in center for domestic violence and sexual abuse victims and their children in Miami-Dade.

CARES Act Emergency Solutions Grant funding provided through the State of Florida to the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust, and additional ESG funding provided through Miami-Dade Public Housing and Community Development, was used. EHV's from the American Rescue Plan Act were coordinated in partnership with Miami-Dade Public Housing and Community Development, Hialeah Housing Authority, the Housing Authority of the City of Miami Beach and Homestead Housing Authority.

Quarantine and Isolation for Homeless Seniors 65+

The Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust partnered with Mia Casa of North Miami and Chapman Partnership to stand up and operate a quarantine and isolation site exclusively for seniors 65+ to ensure safety. This effort was funded by Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust Food and Beverage proceeds along with Federal Emergency Management Agency Public Assistance Funds, and supported by the Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade and the Florida Division of Emergency Management.

More than 400 senior citizens, age 65+, who were experiencing both sheltered and unsheltered homelessness were diverted from the streets and shelter by the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust and placed at a specialized quarantine and isolation site in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Social distancing, testing and vaccination protocols were employed, along with medication management, health and behavioral health care and case management to keep this population safe. Not a single positive case was detected during more than 24 months of operation. Senior citizens are the fastest growing homeless sub-population in Miami-Dade. According to data collected by the Homeless Trust, one out of four individuals experiencing homelessness in Miami-Dade is 55+.

A special appropriation made in the Fiscal Year 2022 Florida Legislative Session, combined with HOME Investments Partnership Program (HOME) funding provided by Miami-Dade County Public Housing and Community Development, will allow the Homeless Trust to acquire a facility dedicated to seniors experiencing homelessness.

Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP)

Two CoCs in the State of Florida received a Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Grant (YDHP). Palm Beach County and Gulf Coast Partnerships in Charlotte County were awarded funding for YHDP.

The goal of YHDP is to support the development and implementation of a coordinated approach to preventing and ending youth homelessness. These demonstration projects will share their experience with other communities. These programs serve youth experiencing homelessness, including unaccompanied and pregnant or parenting youth. The demonstration has six objectives:

- Motivate homelessness stakeholders and youth services providers across the country to prevent and end youth homelessness by forming new partnerships, addressing system barriers, conducting needs assessments, testing strategies, and evaluating their outcomes;
- Promote equity throughout the community's youth homeless response system for Black, Indigenous, Hispanic (non-white), and LGBTQ youth who are more likely to experience homelessness.
- Evaluate coordinated approaches to preventing and ending youth homelessness;

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- Expand capacity to serve youth experiencing homelessness using a Housing First approach, pilot new models of assistance, and determine what interventions are necessary to serve the target population;
- Evaluate the use of performance measurement strategies to better measure youth outcomes and the connection between youth program outcomes and youth performance measures on overall system performance for the Continuum of Care (CoC); and
- Determine the most effective way for Federal resources to interact within a state or local system to support a coordinated community approach to preventing and ending youth homelessness.

Palm Beach County COC (FL-605)

Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners (FL-605) was one of 23 communities awarded funding in HUD's Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) in 2018 and received a renewal in the amount of \$2,324,281 in the 2021 Continuum of Care NOFO competition. These funds will be used to end youth homelessness in Palm Beach County. The County has developed a Coordinated Community Plan to Prevent and End Youth Homelessness through a variety of community partners including their youth advisory board.

Vita Nova in Palm Beach County provides Rapid Rehousing Assistance for youth experiencing homelessness. They shared the story of T.W. T.W. secured housing with Vita Nova's YHDP Rapid Rehousing Program. Before entering the YHDP program T.W. was sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation.

T.W. possesses an Associate's degree in Business Office Administration. While participating in the YHDP RRH program, T.W. has connected with Vita Nova's Employment services, and gained employment as Gallery Host with a major local hotel. Recently, T.W. completed Vita Nova's new Entrepreneurship Program, in partnership with Palm Beach Leadership Engage. T.W. is working to start his own business, named The Perfect Shade Tint, offering auto glass tinting services, and plans to expand to wallpaper installation and office glass tinting services.

T.W.'s story is a perfect example on how stable housing, combined with education, employment, and life skills is the path to self-sufficiency!



Gulf Coast Partnership (FL-602)

The Gulf Coast Partnership (FL-602 Charlotte County) was one of 33 communities awarded funding in HUD's Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) in the latest round of YHDP selections. The CoC will receive a total funding allocation of approximately \$520,000 annually to end youth homelessness in Charlotte County.

All the work in YHDP Projects is directed and overseen by the community's Youth Action Board (YAB).

The YAB's mission is to achieve transformational change and be the voice for the voiceless. Valuing relationships of mutual respect, service to others, and unwavering support of youth and young adults experiencing homelessness.

The YAB are amazing young advocates who are the subject matter experts regarding homelessness, system deficiencies, community strengths, and areas that need to be re-imagined. None of the projects as undertaken by YHDP providers will be successful without ongoing collaboration between youth with lived experience and agency project partners.

The YAB is comprised 100% of youth under the age of 24, who have lived experience of homelessness, as well as youth who have experienced the multiple public systems including youth foster care, juvenile justice, fleeing domestic violence stalking, and/or sexual assault and trafficking, as well as youth who are at-risk of, or currently experiencing homelessness.

The YAB works intentionally to ensure that youth who have been historically underrepresented are present in the membership including special populations, racial and ethnic inequities, LGBTQ+, as well as teens who are pregnant or parenting.

All YAB Members are full voting members of the CoC Stakeholders Council and all CoC Committees, including but not limited to, those committees whose work effects or intersects with the youth related objectives and tasks.

Alexander Cubbage, Gulf Coast Partnership Youth Advisory Board Chair.



APPENDIX IV: COC FUNDING

Table 1: COC Funding from Federal and State Sources

CoC Number	CoC	Emergency Solutions Grant (Federal)	TANF Homelessness Prevention (Federal)	ESG-CV (Federal)	Federal Total	Staffing (State)	Challenge (State)	State Total	HUD CoC (Federal)	Total (State & Federal)
FL-500	Sarasota, Bradenton/ Manatee, Sarasota Counties CoC	\$172,000.00	\$38,000.00	\$1,303,897.00	\$1,513,897.00	\$107,142.85	\$119,000.00	\$226,142.85	\$1,401,441.00	\$4,881,520.70
FL-501	Tampa/ Hillsborough County CoC	\$151,000.00	-	\$3,286,774.67	\$3,437,774.67	\$107,142.85	\$90,164.78	\$197,307.63	\$8,000,584.00	\$15,270,748.60
FL-502	St Petersburg, Clearwater, Largo/Pinellas County CoC	\$200,000.00	\$46,582.00	\$2,060,114.00	\$2,306,696.00	\$107,142.85	\$148,500.00	\$255,642.85	\$5,459,051.00	\$10,583,728.70
FL-503	Lakeland, Winter Haven /Polk County CoC	\$172,000.00	\$34,683.00	\$876,676.00	\$1,083,359.00	\$107,142.85	\$119,000.00	\$226,142.85	\$2,331,101.00	\$4,950,104.70
FL-504	Deltona, Daytona Beach/Volusia, Flagler Counties CoC	\$200,000.00	\$46,582.00	\$1,452,728.00	\$1,699,310.00	\$107,142.85	\$148,500.00	\$255,642.85	\$2,189,384.00	\$6,099,289.70
FL-505	Fort Walton Beach/ Okaloosa, Walton Counties CoC	\$300,000.00	\$38,000.00	\$3,136,915.65	\$3,474,915.65	\$107,142.85	\$148,500.00	\$255,642.85	\$708,359.00	\$8,169,476.00
FL-506	Tallahassee/ Leon County CoC	\$150,000.00	\$32,250.00	\$1,791,121.00	\$1,973,371.00	\$107,142.85	\$86,000.00	\$193,142.85	\$1,918,424.00	\$6,251,451.70
FL-507	Orlando/ Orange, Osceola, Seminole Counties CoC	\$200,000.00	\$46,582.00	\$3,612,937.02	\$3,859,519.02	\$107,142.85	\$148,500.00	\$255,642.85	\$12,004,258.00	\$20,234,581.74
FL-508	Gainesville/ Alachua, Putnam Counties CoC	\$257,000.00	\$32,250.00	\$5,013,677.85	\$5,302,927.85	\$107,142.85	\$86,000.00	\$193,142.85	\$859,811.00	\$11,851,952.40
FL-509	Fort Pierce/St Lucie, Indian River, Martin Counties CoC	\$300,000.00	-	\$1,571,758.28	\$1,601,758.28	\$107,142.85	\$148,500.00	\$255,642.85	\$2,057,495.00	\$6,042,297.26
FL-510	Jacksonville-Duval, Clay Counties CoC	\$172,000.00	\$46,582.00	\$3,417,678.12	\$3,676,918.12	\$107,142.85	\$148,500.00	\$255,642.85	\$6,603,686.00	\$14,428,149.94
FL-511	Pensacola/ Escambia, Santa Rosa Counties CoC	\$257,000.00	\$38,000.00	\$3,500,652.00	\$3,795,652.00	\$136,600.00	\$119,000.00	\$255,600.00	\$811,279.00	\$8,913,783.00
FL-512	St Johns County CoC	\$226,000.00	\$32,250.00	\$1,452,728.00	\$1,710,978.00	\$107,142.85	\$86,000.00	\$193,142.85	\$178,105.00	\$3,986,346.70
FL-513	Palm Bay, Melbourne/ Brevard County CoC	\$257,000.00	\$32,250.00	\$4,333,437.82	\$4,622,687.82	\$107,142.85	\$119,000.00	\$226,142.85	\$747,980.00	\$10,445,641.34
FL-514	Ocala/Marion County CoC	\$172,000.00	\$38,000.00	\$1,257,639.46	\$1,467,639.46	\$107,142.85	\$86,000.00	\$193,142.85	\$486,740.00	\$3,808,304.62
FL-515	Panama City/ Bay, Jackson Counties CoC	\$226,000.00	\$32,250.00	\$3,000,000.00	\$3,258,250.00	\$107,142.85	\$86,000.00	\$193,142.85	\$60,076.00	\$6,962,861.70
FL-517	Hendry, Hardee, Highlands Counties CoC	\$226,000.00	-	\$1,407,773.00	\$1,633,773.00	\$107,142.85	\$86,000.00	\$193,142.85	\$304,321.00	\$3,958,152.70

CoC Number	CoC	Emergency Solutions Grant (Federal)	TANF Homelessness Prevention (Federal)	ESG-CV (Federal)	Federal Total	Staffing (State)	Challenge (State)	State Total	HUD CoC (Federal)	Total (State & Federal)
FL-518	Columbia, Hamilton, Lafayette, Suwannee Counties CoC	\$257,000.00	\$38,000.00	\$1,895,143.00	\$2,190,143.00	\$107,142.85	\$119,000.00	\$226,142.85	\$383,500.00	\$5,216,071.70
FL-519	Pasco County CoC	\$172,000.00	\$32,250.00	\$1,175,960.00	\$1,380,210.00	\$107,142.85	\$119,991.67	\$227,134.52	\$1,783,109.00	\$4,997,798.04
FL-520	Citrus, Hernando, Lake, Sumter Counties CoC	\$257,000.00	\$38,000.00	\$2,551,910.00	\$2,846,910.00	\$107,142.85	\$119,000.00	\$226,142.85	\$582,532.00	\$6,728,637.70
FL-600	Miami-Dade County CoC	\$200,000.00	\$46,582.00	\$6,356,658.00	\$6,603,240.00	\$107,142.85	\$148,500.00	\$255,642.85	\$41,016,810.00	\$54,734,575.70
FL-601	Fort Lauderdale/ Broward County CoC	\$194,019.00	-	\$2,865,919.63	\$3,059,938.63	\$107,142.85	\$119,000.00	\$226,142.85	\$12,121,768.00	\$18,693,930.96
FL-602	Punta Gorda/ Charlotte County CoC	\$300,000.00	\$46,582.00	\$2,297,230.32	\$2,643,812.32	\$107,142.85	\$148,500.00	\$255,642.85	\$342,453.00	\$6,141,363.34
FL-603	Fort Myers, Cape Coral/ Lee County CoC	\$105,525.00	\$46,582.00	\$1,380,621.57	\$1,532,728.57	\$107,142.85	\$148,500.00	\$255,642.85	\$2,046,670.00	\$5,623,412.84
FL-604	Monroe County CoC	\$257,000.00	\$32,250.00	\$2,064,372.00	\$2,353,622.00	\$107,142.85	\$119,000.00	\$226,142.85	\$541,901.00	\$5,701,430.70
FL-605	West Palm Beach/ Palm Beach County CoC	-	\$38,000.00	\$1,052,023.00	\$1,090,023.00	\$107,142.85	\$86,000.00	\$193,142.85	\$8,479,188.00	\$11,045,519.70
FL-606	Naples/Collier County CoC	-	-	\$837,235.00	\$837,235.00	\$107,142.85	\$86,000.00	\$193,142.85	\$610,387.00	\$2,671,142.70
	Total	\$5,380,544.00	\$852,507.00	\$64,953,580.39	\$70,957,289.39	\$2,922,314.10	\$3,186,656.45	\$6,108,970.55	\$114,030,413.00	\$268,392,274.88

State-administered HUD ESG – Federal Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funding allocated to the State of Florida by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, to be used for homeless-related housing interventions, outreach, shelters, and more.

State-administered TANF-HP – Federal Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) funding that is allocated to the State of Florida, which is utilized for Homelessness Prevention (HP) services.

State Staffing – Funding appropriated by the State of Florida legislature to build capacity in local homeless Continuums of Care (CoCs).

State Challenge – Funding appropriated by the State of Florida legislature and allocated from the Local and State Government Housing Trust Fund, to provide a variety of homelessness-related services and housing.

HUD CoC – Federal Continuum of Care funding granted to local homeless Continuums of Care (CoCs) on a competitive basis to coordinate programs, provide housing interventions, and collect and manage data related to homelessness.

State-administered HUD ESG-CV – Federal Emergency Solutions Grant Coronavirus-related (ESG-CV) funding allocated to the State of Florida by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, to be used for homeless-related housing interventions, outreach, shelters, and other activities to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus.

APPENDIX V: POINT IN TIME COUNT DATA

Table 1: Total Homeless, 2018 – 2022

CoC #	CoC Name	2018	2019	2020	2021*	Unsheltered count conducted 2021?	2022
FL-500	Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness	1,192	1,135	1,044	526	Not conducted	1,138
FL-501	Tampa Hillsborough Homeless Initiative	1,795	1,650	1,452	870	Not conducted	1,513
FL-502	Pinellas County Homeless Leadership Board	2,612	2,415	2,226	2,307	Modified	1,985
FL-503	Homeless Coalition of Polk County	552	563	612	385	Not conducted	506
FL-504	Volusia/Flagler County Coalition for the Homeless	683	875	904	694	Modified	865
FL-505	Homelessness & Housing Alliance	495	399	351	73	Not conducted	403
FL-506	Big Bend Continuum of Care	909	966	805	621	Full	621
FL-507	Homeless Services Network of Central FL	2,053	2,010	2,007	1,544	Not conducted	2,151
FL-508	United Way of North Central FL	756	804	880	677	Full	925
FL-509	Treasure Coast Homeless Services Council	1,542	1,499	1,379	814	Modified	846
FL-510	Changing Homelessness	1,794	1,654	1,366	1,222	Modified	1,049
FL-511	Opening Doors of NWFL	632	518	746	731	Modified	727
FL-512	Flagler Hospital - St Augustine	342	356	367	420	Modified	349
FL-513	Brevard Homeless Coalition	734	815	940	432	Modified	902
FL-514	Marion County Homeless Council	572	475	523	512	Modified	455
FL-515	Doorways of NWFL	381	488	385	101	Not conducted	378
FL-517	Heartland Coalition for the Homeless	453	398	403	27	Not conducted	1143
FL-518	United Way of Suwannee Valley	493	538	578	69	Not conducted	488
FL-519	Coalition for the Homeless of Pasco County	2,668	894	898	857	Full	516
FL-520	Mid FL Homeless Coalition	711	677	703	638	Full	420
FL-600	Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust	3,516	3,472	3,560	3,224	Full	3,276
FL-601	Broward County Homeless Initiative Partnership	2,318	2,803	2,211	2,561	Modified	2,054

CoC #	CoC Name	2018	2019	2020	2021*	Unsheltered count conducted 2021?	2022
FL-602	Gulf Coast Partnership	164	156	169	154	Modified	148
FL-603	Lee County Human & Veteran Services	728	372	444	394	Modified	560
FL-604	Monroe County Homeless Services CoC	973	501	421	242	Not conducted	526
FL-605	Palm Beach County Division of Human Services	1,309	1,397	1,510	458	Not conducted	1,404
FL-606	Hunger & Homeless Coalition of Collier County	653	498	603	568	Full	462
Totals		31,030	28,328	27,487	21,121		25,810

**The 2021 Point in Time Count numbers are not comparable to the previous or current years' counts. Typically, Continuums of Care (CoCs) conduct a PIT Count of both sheltered and unsheltered households. In 2021, due to COVID-19 related safety concerns, only six of the 27 CoCs conducted such a count; 10 CoCs did not conduct an unsheltered count; and others conducted a modified form of the unsheltered count. All CoCs conducted a sheltered PIT count. For those that did not conduct an unsheltered count, the CoCs reported zero unsheltered persons, resulting in an undercount of homelessness.*

Table 2: Sheltered and Unsheltered, 2022

CoC #	CoC Name	Sheltered	Unsheltered	Total
FL-500	Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness	624	514	1,138
FL-501	Tampa Hillsborough Homeless Initiative	925	588	1,513
FL-502	Pinellas County Homeless Leadership Board	1,341	644	1,985
FL-503	Homeless Coalition of Polk County	378	128	506
FL-504	Volusia/Flagler County Coalition for the Homeless	463	402	865
FL-505	Homelessness & Housing Alliance	169	234	403
FL-506	Big Bend Continuum of Care	457	164	621
FL-507	Homeless Services Network of Central FL	1,725	426	2,151
FL-508	United Way of North Central FL	338	587	925
FL-509	Treasure Coast Homeless Services Council	147	699	846
FL-510	Changing Homelessness	1,049	0	1,049
FL-511	Opening Doors of NWFL	360	367	727
FL-512	Flagler Hospital - St Augustine	107	242	349
FL-513	Brevard Homeless Coalition	459	443	902
FL-514	Marion County Homeless Council	267	188	455
FL-515	Doorways of NWFL	44	334	378
FL-517	Heartland Coalition for the Homeless	41	1,102	1,143
FL-518	United Way of Suwannee Valley	81	407	488
FL-519	Coalition for the Homeless of Pasco County	252	264	516
FL-520	Mid FL Homeless Coalition	420	0	420
FL-600	Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust	2,306	970	3,276
FL-601	Broward County Homeless Initiative Partnership	826	1,228	2,054
FL-602	Gulf Coast Partnership	108	40	148
FL-603	Lee County Human & Veteran Services	159	401	560
FL-604	Monroe County Homeless Services CoC	322	204	526
FL-605	Palm Beach County Division of Human Services	526	878	1,404
FL-606	Hunger & Homeless Coalition of Collier County	305	157	462
Totals		14,199	11,611	25,810

Table 3: Homeless Population Characteristics, 2021-2022*

The 27 local Continuum of Care planning agencies have reported the following information on the makeup of people experiencing homelessness in Florida. They captured this information from direct interviews or from agency data on persons experiencing homelessness served as entered into the HMIS. The current 2022 data is compared to reported 2021 data. Reported characteristics are based the individuals own self-report and may not have been verified.

Gender

Gender	2021 Number	2021 Percentage	2022 Number	2022 Percentage
Female	6,886	37.3%	9,285	35.97%
Male	11,494	62.3%	16,446	63.71%
Transgender	30	0.2%	43	0.16%
Gender Nonconforming	39	0.2%	22	0.09%
Questioning**			14	0.05%
Total	18,449	100.0%	25,810	100%

**Data categories added 2022

AGE

Age Range	2021 Number	2021 Percentage	2022 Number	2022 Percentage
Under 18	3,568	19.4%	4,143	16.05%
18-24	966	5.2%	1,198	4.64%
Over 24	13,945	75.7%	20,469	79.31%
Total	18,419	100.0%	25,810	100%

ETHNICITY

Ethnicity	2021 Number	2021 Percentage	2022 Number	2022 Percentage
Hispanic/Latino	2,738	14.8%	4,540	17.60%
Non-Hispanic/ Non-Latino	15,711	85.2%	21,270	82.40%
Total	18,449	100.0%	25,810	100%

RACE

Population Category	2021 Number	2021 Percentage	2022 Number	2022 Percentage
American Indian or Alaska Native	970	4.8%	243	0.94%
Asian	85	0.4%	103	0.39%
Black or African American	7,699	38.1%	10,575	40.97%
Multiple Races	603	3.0%	814	3.26%
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	80	0.4%	145	0.56%
White	10,779	53.3%	13,930	53.97%
Total	20,216	100.0%	25,810	100%

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

HOUSEHOLD COMPOSITION

Household Type	2021 Number	2021 Percentage	2022 Number	2022 Percentage
People in households with at least one adult and one child	5,322	29.8%	6,360	25.12%
People in households without children	12,358	69.2%	18,763	74.12%
People in households with only children	186	1.0%	193	0.76%
Total	17,866	100.0%	25,316	100%

MILITARY VETERANS

Served/Active Duty	2021 Number	2021 Percentage	2022 Number	2022 Percentage
Yes	2,153	10.1%	2,231	8.64%
No or Not Reported	19,065	89.9%	23,579	91.36%
Total	21,218	100.0%	25,810	100%

OTHER CHARACTERISTICS

Condition	2021 Number	2021 Percentage	2022 Number	2022 Percentage
Substance Use Disorder	3,047	14.4%	2,801	10.85%
Severely Mentally Ill	2,705	12.7%	3,954	15.32%
HIV/AIDS	232	1.1%	475	1.85%
Survivors of Domestic Violence	1,204	5.7%	1,903	7.37%

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Table 4: Chronic Homelessness, 2018 – 2022

CoC #	CoC Name	2018	2019	2020	2021*	2022
FL-500	Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness	250	246	188	72	255
FL-501	Tampa Hillsborough Homeless Initiative	262	264	266	64	114
FL-502	Pinellas County Homeless Leadership Board	434	722	592	213	483
FL-503	Homeless Coalition of Polk County	84	80	78	22	57
FL-504	Volusia/Flagler County Coalition for the Homeless	90	89	76	24	73
FL-505	Homelessness & Housing Alliance	119	269	183	18	85
FL-506	Big Bend Continuum of Care	151	152	192	145	153
FL-507	Homeless Services Network of Central FL	272	478	489	158	403
FL-508	United Way of North Central FL	272	261	225	64	223
FL-509	Treasure Coast Homeless Services Council	56	51	45	0	48
FL-510	Changing Homelessness	327	301	71	0	88
FL-511	Opening Doors of NWFL	78	52	184	1	250
FL-512	Flagler Hospital - St Augustine	65	14	43	6	80
FL-513	Brevard Homeless Coalition	116	206	245	15	290
FL-514	Marion County Homeless Council	124	150	130	13	63
FL-515	Doorways of NWFL	98	34	43	3	71
FL-517	Heartland Coalition for the Homeless	259	235	98	2	12
FL-518	United Way of Suwannee Valley	38	41	65	0	37
FL-519	Coalition for the Homeless of Pasco County	826	265	265	68	126
FL-520	Mid FL Homeless Coalition	36	68	58	16	24
FL-600	Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust	384	378	524	392	762
FL-601	Broward County Homeless Initiative Partnership	439	914	654	208	388
FL-602	Gulf Coast Partnership	45	48	23	1	0
FL-603	Lee County Human & Veteran Services	132	99	93	13	47
FL-604	Monroe County Homeless Services CoC	62	36	31	24	35
FL-605	Palm Beach County Division of Human Services	164	215	241	61	248
FL-606	Hunger & Homeless Coalition of Collier County	119	61	80	31	39
Totals		5,302	5,729	5,182	1,634	4,454

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Table 5: Homelessness Among Veterans, 2018 – 2022

CoC #	CoC Name	2018	2019	2020	2021*	2022
FL-500	Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness	108	111	105	51	103
FL-501	Tampa Hillsborough Homeless Initiative	171	149	160	134	147
FL-502	Pinellas County Homeless Leadership Board	281	316	265	285	310
FL-503	Homeless Coalition of Polk County	26	38	46	17	31
FL-504	Volusia/Flagler County Coalition for the Homeless	44	61	73	25	38
FL-505	Homelessness & Housing Alliance	30	21	31	3	30
FL-506	Big Bend Continuum of Care	108	90	83	85	86
FL-507	Homeless Services Network of Central FL	181	177	190	177	149
FL-508	United Way of North Central FL	114	126	155	79	135
FL-509	Treasure Coast Homeless Services Council	61	50	68	3	59
FL-510	Changing Homelessness	121	118	177	139	70
FL-511	Opening Doors of NWFL	103	64	89	37	150
FL-512	Flagler Hospital - St Augustine	30	25	26	3	20
FL-513	Brevard Homeless Coalition	169	182	119	120	147
FL-514	Marion County Homeless Council	69	81	80	44	67
FL-515	Doorways of NWFL	34	54	18	1	19
FL-517	Heartland Coalition for the Homeless	18	1	18	2	20
FL-518	United Way of Suwannee Valley	41	29	39	22	75
FL-519	Coalition for the Homeless of Pasco County	214	92	92	54	44
FL-520	Mid FL Homeless Coalition	45	57	28	37	49
FL-600	Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust	120	169	163	123	131
FL-601	Broward County Homeless Initiative Partnership	189	219	157	42	117
FL-602	Gulf Coast Partnership	40	43	51	25	40
FL-603	Lee County Human & Veteran Services	18	25	17	4	24
FL-604	Monroe County Homeless Services CoC	67	50	61	29	46
FL-605	Palm Beach County Division of Human Services	130	119	100	37	102
FL-606	Hunger & Homeless Coalition of Collier County	11	5	27	5	22
Totals		2,543	2,472	2,436	1,583	2,231

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Table 6: Family Homelessness, 2021 – 2022

CoC #	CoC Name	2018	2019	2020	2021*	2022
FL-500	Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness	238	160	199	141	180
FL-501	Tampa Hillsborough Homeless Initiative	602	456	379	400	458
FL-502	Pinellas County Homeless Leadership Board	359	381	350	372	449
FL-503	Homeless Coalition of Polk County	198	189	160	151	150
FL-504	Volusia/Flagler County Coalition for the Homeless	199	301	300	178	322
FL-505	Homelessness & Housing Alliance	147	80	56	39	83
FL-506	Big Bend Continuum of Care	269	215	215	109	139
FL-507	Homeless Services Network of Central FL	713	745	657	659	858
FL-508	United Way of North Central FL	113	129	163	70	122
FL-509	Treasure Coast Homeless Services Council	688	745	570	76	261
FL-510	Changing Homelessness	384	289	375	247	292
FL-511	Opening Doors of NWFL	165	45	75	3	36
FL-512	Flagler Hospital - St Augustine	123	120	97	80	44
FL-513	Brevard Homeless Coalition	213	211	222	160	172
FL-514	Marion County Homeless Council	129	110	161	141	127
FL-515	Doorways of NWFL	68	34	39	18	22
FL-517	Heartland Coalition for the Homeless	161	156	143	19	82
FL-518	United Way of Suwannee Valley	106	84	205	32	105
FL-519	Coalition for the Homeless of Pasco County	1,839	209	211	134	126
FL-520	Mid FL Homeless Coalition	285	178	180	128	182
FL-600	Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust	1,091	1,160	1,299	1,011	1,054
FL-601	Broward County Homeless Initiative Partnership	462	462	435	329	401
FL-602	Gulf Coast Partnership	34	25	32	25	46
FL-603	Lee County Human & Veteran Services	305	115	136	70	149
FL-604	Monroe County Homeless Services CoC	249	32	24	14	54
FL-605	Palm Beach County Division of Human Services	345	264	276	230	291
FL-606	Hunger & Homeless Coalition of Collier County	102	168	184	145	155
Totals		9,587	7,063	7,143	4,981	6,360

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Table 7: Point in Time Counts by County, 2018 – 2022

County	2018	2019	2020	2021*	2022
Alachua	641	714	657	521	625
Baker	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Bay	372	470	378	185	351
Bradford	33	4	N/A	12	21
Brevard	734	815	815	432	902
Broward	2,318	2,803	2,312	2,561	2,054
Calhoun	0	2	N/A	0	0
Charlotte	164	156	169	122	148
Citrus	169	262	171	221	154
Clay	62	74	74	57	0
Collier	653	498	603	568	462
Columbia	485	316	312	60	276
DeSoto	104	104	104	N/A	239
Dixie	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Duval	1,640	1,494	1,494	1,137	1,049
Escambia	598	504	504	770	724
Flagler	62	130	73	37	65
Franklin	N/A	N/A	7	0	0
Gadsden	6	2	14	8	10
Gilchrist	0	0	N/A	0	1
Glades	36	34	34	N/A	49
Gulf	2	4	2	0	25
Hamilton	N/A	45	45	0	42
Hardee	82	70	70	N/A	406
Hendry	45	45	45	N/A	124
Hernando	182	151	151	169	112
Highlands	136	102	102	N/A	246
Hillsborough	1,795	1,650	1,650	870	1,513
Holmes	3	0	N/A	0	0
Indian River	447	486	486	261	290
Jackson	2	5	3	0	1
Jefferson	N/A	N/A	6	0	3
Lafayette	N/A	27	27	0	25
Lake	312	254	254	223	141
Lee	728	630	444	394	560
Leon	903	951	761	539	596
Levy	26	27	27	38	8
Liberty	N/A	N/A	45	0	0
Madison	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	0
Manatee	545	541	466	185	594
Marion	571	475	523	512	455
Martin	311	305	305	266	248

County	2018	2019	2020	2021*	2022
Miami-Dade	3,516	3,472	3,472	3,224	3,276
Monroe	973	501	437	242	526
Nassau	92	86	86	28	0
Okaloosa	322	372	372	73	353
Okeechobee	50	48	48	N/A	79
Orange	1,539	1,544	1,401	1,162	1,532
Osceola	226	214	234	173	339
Palm Beach	1,309	1,397	1,510	458	1,404
Pasco	1,356	894	894	857	516
Pinellas	2,612	2,415	2,209	2,307	1,985
Polk	552	563	565	385	506
Putnam	56	59	178	106	270
St. Johns	342	356	368	420	349
St. Lucie	784	708	708	287	308
Santa Rosa	34	13	13	24	3
Sarasota	647	594	594	341	544
Seminole	288	252	372	209	280
Sumter	48	10	24	25	13
Suwannee	8	150	182	9	145
Taylor	N/A	9	11	6	12
Union	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Volusia	621	745	839	657	800
Wakulla	0	4	N/A	0	0
Walton	173	27	27	0	50
Washington	2	7	2	0	1
Totals	29,717	28,590	27,679	21,141	25,810

N/A = Not Available

*The 2021 Point in Time Count numbers are not comparable to the previous or current years' counts. Typically, Continuums of Care (CoCs) conduct a PIT Count of both sheltered and unsheltered households. In 2021, due to COVID-19 related safety concerns, only six of the 27 CoCs conducted such a count; 10 CoCs did not conduct an unsheltered count; and others conducted a modified form of the unsheltered count. All CoCs conducted a sheltered PIT count. For those that did not conduct an unsheltered count, the CoCs reported zero unsheltered persons, resulting in an undercount of homelessness.

APPENDIX VI: FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION HOMELESS STUDENT DATE

Table 1: Florida Department of Education Homeless Student Count, 2021-2022

District Name	Living Situation at the Time Students were Identified as Homeless				Total Homeless	Unaccompanied Homeless Youth (UHY)
	Shelters	Sharing Housing	Other	Motels		
Alachua	67	635	17	90	809	57
Baker	<11	91	14	14	120	<11
Bay	133	1,558	253	106	2,050	304
Bradford	<11	118	<11	26	152	18
Brevard	71	824	47	183	1,125	144
Broward	265	2,482	132	385	3,264	251
Calhoun	12	102	17	0	131	<11
Charlotte	20	278	<11	90	396	69
Citrus	37	484	69	48	638	72
Clay	28	661	15	89	793	173
Collier	79	1,034	17	24	1,154	309
Columbia	33	248	14	52	347	17
Miami-Dade	980	3,773	574	422	5,749	247
Miami-Dade – KIPP Miami Charter	13	15	<11	<11	33	0
Desoto	<11	50	<11	<11	61	<11
Dixie	<11	32	<11	<11	41	0
Duval	164	1,965	24	282	2,435	392
Escambia	99	884	107	273	1,363	106
Flagler	10	255	14	<11	284	53
Franklin	18	81	<11	<11	108	<11
Gadsden	10	145	<11	11	170	<11
Gilchrist	0	<11	<11	<11	<11	0
Glades	<11	51	<11	0	56	<11
Gulf	<11	17	<11	<11	23	<11
Hamilton	0	268	<11	<11	273	<11
Hardee	<11	261	19	0	283	51
Hendry	23	430	73	81	607	40
Hernando	33	547	44	62	686	100
Highlands	14	321	16	23	374	17
Hillsborough	396	2,700	274	641	4,011	323
Holmes	0	20	<11	0	21	<11
Indian River	39	287	11	86	423	<11
Jackson	<11	328	20	<11	360	67
Jefferson	<11	23	0	0	26	<11
Lafayette	0	56	100	0	156	0
Lake	37	1,026	102	131	1,296	66

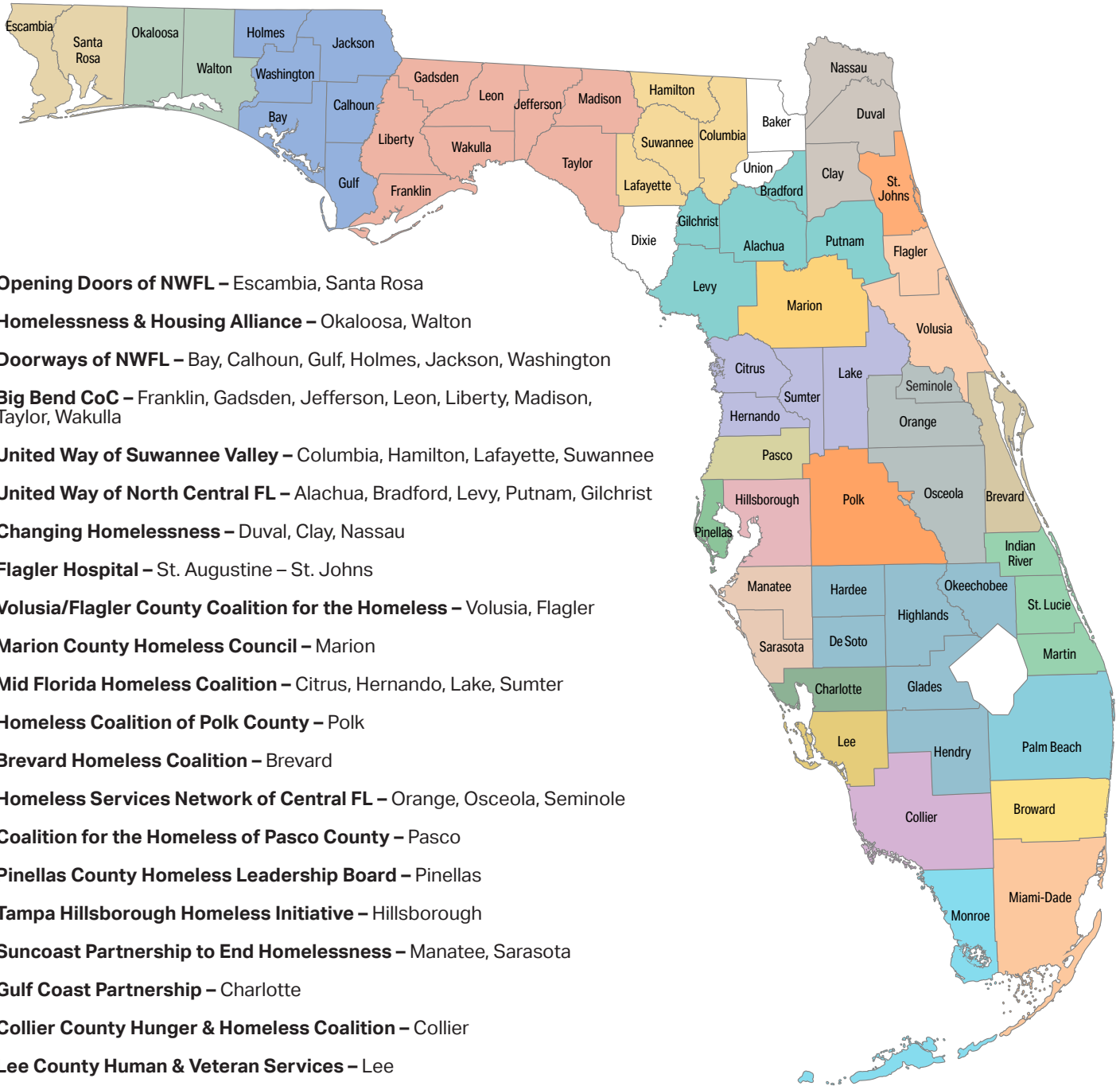
Lee	82	613	50	216	961	141
Leon	77	348	<11	91	521	45
Levy	<11	117	15	13	155	<11
Liberty	<11	51	<11	0	58	<11
Madison	0	101	22	<11	127	14
Manatee	86	965	24	117	1,192	37
Marion	113	613	80	210	1,016	121
Martin	60	510	26	26	622	51
Monroe	32	206	15	11	264	33
Nassau	<11	432	32	19	490	164
Okaloosa	47	428	33	98	606	38
Okeechobee	<11	331	11	<11	356	21
Orange	242	2,451	153	1,068	3,914	165
Orange - UCP Charter	0	<11	0	<11	<11	0
Osceola	48	1,724	104	625	2,501	37
Palm Beach	200	2,311	160	256	2,927	108
Palm Beach - South Tech Charter	0	18	0	<11	21	<11
Pasco	98	1,139	87	226	1,550	260
Pinellas	451	2,153	75	655	3,334	364
Polk	192	2,674	221	595	3,682	460
Polk - Lake Wales Charter	<11	180	30	24	240	<11
Putnam	46	267	25	19	357	98
St. Johns	46	486	39	79	650	119
St. Lucie	51	1,413	47	189	1,700	136
Santa Rosa	18	711	46	45	820	78
Sarasota	55	450	<11	96	611	66
Seminole	64	1,064	25	242	1,395	141
Sumter	11	54	11	16	92	<11
Suwannee	<11	231	<11	<11	252	29
Taylor	<11	57	24	<11	87	<11
Union	0	48	0	0	48	<11
Volusia	193	1,890	97	389	2,569	246
Wakulla	0	67	<11	0	73	17
Walton	0	185	14	21	220	13
Washington	11	206	<11	11	231	15
School for Deaf/Blind	0	22	<11	<11	27	0
Florida Virtual School	<11	299	<11	<11	317	<11
FAU Lab School	0	24	0	<11	25	<11
FSU Lab School	0	<11	0	0	<11	0
FAMU Lab School	0	<11	0	<11	<11	0
UF Lab School	<11	0	0	<11	<11	<11
State Total	4,871	46,897	3,530	8,548	63,846	5,991

Table 2: Florida Department of Education Homeless Student Count by School District 4-Year Totals, 2017 – 2021

DISTRICT NAME	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Alachua	1,021	1,026	1,045	809
Baker	97	55	103	120
Bay	1,523	5,725	3,774	2,050
Bradford	155	160	140	152
Brevard	2,763	2,261	1,614	1,125
Broward	4,903	5,424	5,090	3,264
Calhoun	73	202	271	131
Charlotte	435	364	387	396
Citrus	669	619	637	638
Clay	728	983	812	793
Collier	1,367	1,030	1,163	1,154
Columbia	671	507	462	347
Dade	8,957	9,949	9,438	5,749
Desoto	134	155	125	61
Dixie	80	53	68	41
Duval	5,817	3,770	3,352	2,435
Escambia	1,909	1,936	1,812	1,363
Flagler	529	556	445	284
Franklin	290	289	140	108
Gadsden	287	252	149	170
Gilchrist	13	13	<11	<11
Glades	39	45	35	56
Gulf	16	108	30	23
Hamilton	335	347	285	273
Hardee	147	178	252	283
Hendry	1,231	346	445	607
Hernando	653	577	691	686
Highlands	651	465	426	374
Hillsborough	4,859	4,240	4,782	4,011
Holmes	71	56	58	21
Indian River	416	441	529	423
Jackson	158	2,861	386	360
Jefferson	38	34	26	26
Lafayette	198	204	203	156
Lake	2,269	1,999	1,508	1,296
Lee	2,071	1,275	1,240	961
Leon	790	1,352	837	521
Levy	210	256	207	155
Liberty	29	34	52	58

DISTRICT NAME	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Madison	169	227	186	127
Manatee	1,679	1,406	1,279	1,192
Marion	2,649	2,150	1,080	1,016
Martin	482	620	667	622
Monroe	696	352	276	264
Nassau	543	546	510	490
Okaloosa	449	1,132	733	606
Okeechobee	520	432	352	356
Orange	9,692	6,118	4,774	3,914
Orange - UCP Charter	17	21	16	<11
Osceola	5,212	3,489	2,621	2,501
Palm Beach	4,407	4,465	4,489	2,927
Palm Beach - South Tech Charter	11	39	42	21
Pasco	2,232	1,908	1,877	1,550
Pinellas	4,233	4,371	4,255	3,334
Polk	4,626	3,517	3,665	3,682
Polk - Lake Wales Charter	273	177	251	240
Putnam	634	537	523	357
St. Johns	872	732	643	650
St. Lucie	1,585	1,512	1,429	1,700
Santa Rosa	1,034	1,141	797	820
Sarasota	832	833	727	611
Seminole	2,268	1,590	1,599	1,395
Sumter	148	127	97	92
Suwannee	285	307	266	252
Taylor	124	100	109	87
Union	98	61	73	48
Volusia	2,718	2,744	2,666	2,569
Wakulla	83	94	63	73
Walton	346	465	338	220
Washington	197	211	231	231
School for Deaf/Blind	17	19	27	27
Florida Virtual School	89	38	55	317
FAU - Lab School	24	20	21	25
FSU - Lab School	<11	<11	<11	<11
FAMU - Lab School	<11	16	14	<11
UF Lab School	0	<11	<11	<11
KIPP Charter	0	0	0	33
State Total	95,860	91,675	79,781	63,846

APPENDIX VII: COC GEOGRAPHIC AREAS AND LEAD AGENCIES



- Opening Doors of NWFL** – Escambia, Santa Rosa
- Homelessness & Housing Alliance** – Okaloosa, Walton
- Doorways of NWFL** – Bay, Calhoun, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Washington
- Big Bend CoC** – Franklin, Gadsden, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Taylor, Wakulla
- United Way of Suwannee Valley** – Columbia, Hamilton, Lafayette, Suwannee
- United Way of North Central FL** – Alachua, Bradford, Levy, Putnam, Gilchrist
- Changing Homelessness** – Duval, Clay, Nassau
- Flagler Hospital** – St. Augustine – St. Johns
- Volusia/Flagler County Coalition for the Homeless** – Volusia, Flagler
- Marion County Homeless Council** – Marion
- Mid Florida Homeless Coalition** – Citrus, Hernando, Lake, Sumter
- Homeless Coalition of Polk County** – Polk
- Brevard Homeless Coalition** – Brevard
- Homeless Services Network of Central FL** – Orange, Osceola, Seminole
- Coalition for the Homeless of Pasco County** – Pasco
- Pinellas County Homeless Leadership Board** – Pinellas
- Tampa Hillsborough Homeless Initiative** – Hillsborough
- Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness** – Manatee, Sarasota
- Gulf Coast Partnership** – Charlotte
- Collier County Hunger & Homeless Coalition** – Collier
- Lee County Human & Veteran Services** – Lee
- Heartland Coalition for the Homeless** – DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Okeechobee
- Treasure Coast Homeless Services Council** – Indian River, Martin, St. Lucie
- Palm Beach County Division of Human Services** – Palm Beach
- Broward Homeless Initiative Partnership** – Broward
- Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust** – Dade
- Monroe County Homeless Services CoC** – Monroe

APPENDIX VIII: DESIGNATED COC LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

CoC #	Contact	Continuum of Care	Counties Served
FL-500	Chris Johnson P: 941-955-8987 F: 941-209-5595 chris@suncoastpartnership.org www.suncoastpartnership.org	Suncoast Partnership to End Homelessness 1750 17th Street, Bldg. C-1 Sarasota, FL 34234	Manatee, Sarasota
FL-501	Antoinette Hayes-Triplett P: 813-223-6115 F: 813-223-6178 triplett@thhi.org www.thhi.org	Tampa Hillsborough Homeless Initiative 601 East Kennedy Boulevard, 24th Floor Tampa, FL 33602	Hillsborough
FL-502	Amy Foster P: 727-582-7919 afoster@hlapinellas.org www.pinellashomeless.org	Homeless Leadership Alliance of Pinellas 647 1st Avenue, North St. Petersburg, FL 33701	Pinellas
FL-503	Bridget Engleman P: 863-687-8386 F: 863-802-1436 BEngleman@polkhomeless.org www.polkhomeless.org	Homeless Coalition of Polk County 328 W Highland Drive Lakeland, FL 33813	Polk
FL-504	Jeff White P: 386-279-0029 F: 386-279-0028 jwhite@vfcch.org www.vfcch.org	Volusia/Flagler County Coalition for the Homeless Mailing Address: P.O. Box 309 Daytona Beach, FL 32115-0390 Physical Address: 324 North Street Daytona Beach, FL 32114	Volusia, Flagler
FL-505	Sarah Yelverton P: 850-362-7429 sarah@hhalliance.org www.hhalliance.org	Homelessness and Housing Alliance P.O. Box 115 Ft. Walton Beach, FL 32549	Okaloosa, Walton
FL-506	Joanna Coleman P: 850-792-5015 F: 850-488-1616 JColeman@bigbendcoc.org www.bigbendcoc.org	Big Bend Continuum of Care 2507 Callaway Road Tallahassee, FL 32303	Franklin, Gadsden, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, Madison, Taylor, Wakulla

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CoC #	Contact	Continuum of Care	Counties Served
FL-507	<p>Martha Are P: 407-893-0133 F: 407-893-5299 martha.are@hsncfl.org www.hsncfl.org</p>	<p>Homeless Services Network of Central Florida 4065 L.B. McLeod Road Unit 4065-D Orlando, FL 32811</p>	<p>Orange, Osceola, Seminole</p>
FL-508	<p>Amber Miller/Patrick Dodds P: 352-333-0856/352-333-0866 amiller@unitedwayncfl.org pdodds@unitedwayncfl.org www.unitedwayncfl.org</p>	<p>United Way of North Central Florida 6031 NW 1st Place Gainesville, FL 32607</p>	<p>Alachua, Bradford, Gilchrist, Levy, Putnam</p>
FL-509	<p>Louise Hubbard P: 772-567-7790 F: 772-567-5991 irhslh@aol.com www.tchelpspot.org</p>	<p>Treasure Coast Homeless Services Council, Inc. 2525 St. Lucie Avenue Vero Beach, FL 32960</p>	<p>Indian River, Martin, St. Lucie</p>
FL-510	<p>Dawn Gilman P: 904-354-1100 F: 866-371-8637 dgilman@changinghomelessness.org www.changinghomelessness.org</p>	<p>Changing Homelessness 660 Park Street Jacksonville, FL 32204</p>	<p>Clay, Duval, Nassau</p>
FL-511	<p>John Johnson P: 850-439-3009, ext. 106 F: 850-436-4656 johnj@openingdoorsnwfl.org www.openingdoorsNWFL.org</p>	<p>Opening Doors Northwest Florida Mailing Address: P.O. Box 17222 Pensacola, FL 32522 Physical Address: 1020 North New Warrington Road Pensacola, FL 32506</p>	<p>Escambia, Santa Rosa</p>
FL-512	<p>John Eaton P: 904-819-4425 John.eaton@flaglerhospital.org</p>	<p>Flagler Hospital 400 Health Park Boulevard St. Augustine, FL 32086</p>	<p>St. Johns</p>
FL-513	<p>Amber Carroll P: 321-285-6640 admin@brevardhomelesscoalition.org www.brevardhomelesscoalition.org</p>	<p>Brevard Homeless Coalition 300 N. Cocoa Boulevard Cocoa, FL 32922</p>	<p>Brevard</p>
FL-514	<p>Nick Bennett P: 352-671-8770 F: 352-671-8769 Nick.Bennett@marioncountyfl.org</p>	<p>Marion County Board of County Commissioners 2710 E. Silver Springs Blvd Ocala, FL 34470</p>	<p>Marion</p>

CoC #	Contact	Continuum of Care	Counties Served
FL-515	Kristina Reich P: 850-481-5446 director@doorwaysnwfl.org www.doorwaysnwfl.org	Doorways of NWFL P.O. Box 549 Panama City, FL 32402-0549	Bay, Calhoun, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Washington
FL-517	Brenda Gray P: 863-453-8901 or 863-657-2637 F: 863-453-8903 Brenda.gray@heartlandhomeless.com www.heartlandhomeless.com	Heartland Coalition for the Homeless Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1023 Avon Park, FL 33826-1023 Physical Address: 752 U.S. Highway 27 North Avon Park, FL 33825	DeSoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Okeechobee
FL-518	Jennifer Anchors P: 386-752-5604 F: 386-752-0105 Jen@unitedwaysuwanneevalley.org www.unitedwsv.org	United Way of Suwannee Valley 871 SW State Road 47 Lake City, FL 32025-0433	Columbia, Hamilton, Lafayette, Suwannee
FL-519	Don Anderson P: 727-842-8605 F: 727-842-8538 don@pascohomelesscoalition.org www.pascohomelesscoalition.org	Coalition for the Homeless of Pasco County 5652 Pine Street New Port Richey, FL 34655	Pasco
FL-520	Barbara Wheeler P: 352-860-2308 F: 352-600-3374 mfhc01@gmail.com www.midfloridahomeless.org	Mid Florida Homeless Coalition 104 E Dampier Street Inverness, FL 34450	Citrus, Hernando, Lake, Sumter
FL-600	Victoria Mallette P: 305-375-1491 F: 305-375-2722 vmallette@miamidade.gov www.homelesstrust.org	Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust 111 NW 1st Street Suite 27-310 Miami, FL 33128	Miami-Dade
FL-601	Rebecca Mcguire P: 954-357-5686 F: 954-357-5521 RMcguire@broward.org www.broward.org/homeless	Broward County Homeless Initiative Partnership 115 S. Andrews Avenue Room A-370 Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301	Broward
FL-602	Angela Hogan P: 941-626-0220 F: 941-347-8154 angela.hogan@gulfcoastpartnership.org www.gulfcoastpartnership.org	Gulf Coast Partnership 408 Tamiami Trail Unit 121 Punta Gorda, FL 33950	Charlotte

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CoC #	Contact	Continuum of Care	Counties Served
FL-603	<p>Mark Tesoro P: 239-533-7958 F: 239-533-7960 MTesoro@leegov.com leegov.com/dhs</p>	<p>Lee County Human and Veteran Services 2440 Thompson Street Fort Myers, FL 33901</p>	Lee
FL-604	<p>Mark Lenkner P: 305-619-1976 mark.lenkner@monroehomelesscoc.org www.monroehomelesscoc.org</p>	<p>Monroe County Homeless Services CoC P.O. Box 2410 Key West, FL 33045</p>	Monroe
FL-605	<p>Wendy Tippett P: 561-355-4772 F: 561-355-4801 smcnair@pbcgov.org PBCHHA@pbcgov.org</p>	<p>Palm Beach County Division of Human Services 810 Datura Street Suite 350 West Palm Beach, FL 33401</p>	Palm Beach
FL-606	<p>Michael Overway P: 239-263-9363 F: 239-263-6058 executivedirector@collierhomelesscoalition.org www.collierhomelesscoalition.org</p>	<p>Hunger & Homeless Coalition of Collier County Mailing Address: P.O. Box 9202 Naples, FL 34101 Physical Address: 1791 Trade Center Way Naples, FL 34109</p>	Collier

APPENDIX IX: COUNCIL MEMBERS

420.622 State Office on Homelessness; Council on Homelessness:

(2) "The Council on Homelessness is created to consist of 19 representatives of public and private agencies who shall develop policy and advise the State Office on Homelessness. The council members shall be: the Secretary of Children and Families, or his or her designee; the executive director of the Department of Economic Opportunity, or his or her designee, who shall advise the council on issues related to rural development; the State Surgeon General, or his or her designee; the Executive Director of Veterans' Affairs, or his or her designee; the Secretary of Corrections, or his or her designee; the Secretary of Health Care Administration, or his or her designee; the Commissioner of Education, or his or her designee; the Executive Director of CareerSource Florida, Inc., or his or her designee; one representative of the Florida Association of Counties; one representative of the Florida League of Cities; one representative of the Florida Supportive Housing Coalition; one representative of the Florida Housing Coalition; the Executive Director of the Florida Housing Finance Corporation, or his or her designee; one representative of the Florida Coalition for the Homeless; the secretary of the Department of Elder Affairs, or his or her designee; and four members appointed by the Governor."

Statutory Position (Agency)	Represented By
Agency for Health Care Administration	Kim Smoak
CareerSource Florida, Inc.	Warren Davis
Department of Children and Families	Teresa Berdoll
Department of Corrections	Cassandra Moore
Department of Economic Opportunity	Isabelle Potts
Department of Education	Courtney Walker
Department of Elder Affairs	Ginnifer Barber
Department of Health	TBD
Department of Veterans' Affairs	Robert Asztalos
Florida Association of Counties	Claudia Tuck, Vice-Chair
Florida Coalition to End Homelessness	Leeanne Sacino
Florida Housing Coalition	Amanda Wander
Florida Housing Finance Corporation	Zachary Summerlin
Florida League of Cities	Lisa Kane DeVitto
Florida Supportive Housing Coalition	Shannon Nazworth, Chair

Ex-Officio Appointees	Represented By
Children's Home Society Pensacola	Lindsey Cannon
US Department of Veteran Affairs	Nikki Barfield

Governor's Appointees	Represented By
	Andrae Bailey
	Steve Smith

APPENDIX X: GLOSSARY

Affordable Housing – In general, housing for which the tenants are paying no more than 30 percent of their income for housing costs, including utilities. Affordable housing may either be subsidized housing or unsubsidized market housing. A special type of affordable housing for people with disabilities who need services along with affordable housing is “Permanent Supportive Housing.”

Area Median Income (AMI) – The household in a certain region that is in the exact middle in terms of income compared to other households will set the AMI for their region (the household size is a factor taken into account; there are different AMIs for households of different sizes in the same region). This number is calculated every year by HUD. HUD focuses on a region, rather than a single city, because families and individuals are likely to look outside of cities to surrounding areas when searching for a place to live.

Chronically Homeless – In general, a household that has been continually homeless for over a year, or one that has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years, where the combined lengths of homelessness of those episodes is at least one year, and in which the individual has a disabling condition. (See 24 CFR 578.3)

Continuum of Care (CoC) – A local geographic area designated by HUD and served by a local planning body, which is responsible for organizing and delivering housing and services to meet the needs of people who are homeless as they move to stable housing and maximum self-sufficiency. The terms “CoC Governing Body” or “CoC Board” have the same meanings. In some contexts, the term “continuum of care” is also sometimes used to refer to the system of programs addressing homelessness. The geographic areas for the Florida CoCs are provided in Appendix VIII. (See 24 CFR 578.3 and F.S. 420.621)

CoC Lead Agency – The local organization or entity that implements the work and policies directed by the CoC. In Florida, there are 27 CoC Lead Agencies, serving 64 of 67 Florida counties. The CoC Lead Agency typically serves as the “Collaborative Applicant,” which submits annual funding requests for HUD

CoC Program funding on behalf of the CoC. The contacts for the CoC Lead Agencies are provided in Appendix IX.

Coordinated Entry System – A standardized community-wide process to perform outreach and identify homeless households, enter their information into HMIS, use common tools to assess their needs, and prioritize access to housing interventions and services to end their homelessness. Sometimes referred to as a “triage system” or “coordinated intake and assessment.” (See 24 CFR 578.3)

Council on Homelessness – The Council on Homelessness was created in 2001 to develop policies and recommendations to reduce homelessness in Florida. The Council’s mission is to develop and coordinate policy to reduce the prevalence and duration of homelessness, and work toward ending homelessness in Florida. (See F.S. 420.622)

Diversion – A strategy that prevents homelessness for people seeking shelter by helping them stay housed where they currently are or by identifying immediate alternate housing arrangements and, if necessary, connecting them with services and financial assistance to help them return to permanent housing. This strategy is used in order to keep individuals from entering the homelessness system in their county.

Effectively Ending Homelessness – Effectively ending homelessness means that the community has a comprehensive response in place to ensure that homelessness is prevented whenever possible, or if it cannot be prevented, it is a rare, brief, and non-recurring phenomenon. Specifically, the community will have the capacity to: (1) quickly identify and engage people at risk of or already experiencing homelessness; (2) intervene to prevent the loss of housing and divert people from entering the homelessness services system; and (3) when homelessness does occur, provide immediate access to shelter and crisis services, without barriers to entry, while permanent stable housing and appropriate supports are being secured, and quickly connect people to housing assistance and services—tailored to their unique needs and strengths—to help them

achieve and maintain stable housing. (Source: USICH)

Emergency Shelter – A facility operated to provide temporary shelter for people who are homeless. HUD’s guidance is that the lengths of stay in emergency shelter prior to moving into permanent housing should not exceed 30 days. (See 24 CFR 576.2)

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) – HUD funding that flows through state and certain local governments for street outreach, emergency shelters, rapid re-housing, homelessness prevention, and certain HMIS costs. (See 24 CFR 576)

Encampment – The term encampment has connotations of both impermanence and continuity. People are staying in temporary structures or enclosed places that are not intended for long-term continuous occupancy on an ongoing basis. (Source: HUD)

Extremely Low-Income (ELI) – Household income that is 30 percent or less of the AMI of the community. (See F.S. 420.0004)

Florida Housing Finance Corporation – Florida Housing Finance Corporation was created by the Florida Legislature 40 years ago to help Floridians obtain safe, decent, affordable housing that might otherwise be unavailable to them. The corporation provides funds for the development of housing. (See F.S. 420.501-420.55)

Homeless – There are varied definitions of homelessness. Generally, “homeless” means lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and living in temporary accommodations (e.g., shelter) or in places not meant for human habitation. Households fleeing domestic violence and similar threatening conditions are also considered homeless. For purposes of certain programs and funding, families with minor children who are doubled-up with family or friends for economic reasons may also be considered homeless, as are households at imminent risk of homelessness. (See 24 CFR 578.3)

The Homeless Emergency and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act – Federal legislation that, in 2009, amended and reauthorized the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act. The HEARTH/McKinney Vento

Act provides federal funding for homeless programs, including the HUD ESG funds and the HUD CoC Grant funding. (See https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/S896_HEARTHAct.pdf)

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) – A web-based software solution and database tool designed to capture and analyze client-level information including the characteristics, service needs, and use of services by persons experiencing homelessness. HMIS is an important component of an effective Coordinated Entry System, CoC planning efforts, and performance evaluation based on program outcomes. (See 24 CFR 578.3)

Homelessness Prevention – Short-term financial assistance, sometimes with support services, for households at imminent risk of homelessness and who have no other resources to prevent homelessness. For many programs, the household must also be extremely low-income, with income at or less than 30 percent of the AMI, to receive such assistance. (See 24 CFR 576.103)

Housing First Approach – An approach to ending homelessness that centers on providing people experiencing homelessness with housing as quickly as possible and, once the person is housed, then providing services to help the person remain stably housed. This approach is consistent with what most people experiencing homelessness need and want. Housing first is recognized as an evidence-based best practice, is cost effective, and results in better outcomes as compared to other approaches. The Florida Legislature encourages CoCs to adopt the housing first approach to reduce homelessness.

Housing or Permanent Housing – Any housing arrangement in which the person/tenant can live indefinitely, as long as the rent is paid, and lease terms are followed. Temporary living arrangements and programs – such as emergency shelters, transitional programs, and rehabilitation programs – do not meet the definition of housing.

HUD- The Department of Housing and Urban Development – HUD provides funding to states and local communities to address homelessness. In addition, this department

supports fair housing, community development, and affordable housing, among other issues.

HUD CoC Funding – Funding administered by HUD through local CoC Collaborative Applicant (i.e., CoC Lead Agency) entities. Eligible uses for new projects include permanent supportive housing, rapid re-housing, coordinated entry, HMIS, and CoC planning.

Local Housing Trust Funds – Florida’s Sadowski Act Affordable Housing Trust Funds receive funding from dedicated revenue from real estate doc stamps. 70% of these funds are allocated to the Local Government Housing Trust Fund for the State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program (SHIP) that funds housing programs.

Longitudinal System Analysis (LSA) – The Longitudinal System Analysis for the Annual Homeless Report is one part of HUD’s annual report to Congress. The LSA report is produced from a CoC’s HMIS and is submitted annually to HUD. This report provides information about how people who are experiencing homelessness are using their housing crisis response system.

Low Income – Low-income persons means one or more natural persons or a family, the total annual adjusted gross household income of which does not exceed 80 percent of the median annual adjusted gross income for households within the state, or 80 percent of the median annual adjusted gross income for households within the metropolitan statistical area (MSA) or, if not within an MSA, within the county in which the person or family resides, whichever is greater. (See F.S. 420.0004)

Office on Homelessness – Created in 2001, the Office on Homelessness was established as a central point of contact within state government on matters related to homelessness. The Office coordinates the services of the various state agencies and programs to serve individuals or families who are homeless or are facing homelessness. Office staff work with the Council on Homelessness to develop state policy. The Office also manages targeted state grants to support the implementation of local homeless service CoC plans. The Office is responsible for coordinating resources and programs across all levels of government, and with private providers

that serve people experiencing homelessness. (See F.S. 420.622)

Outreach – A necessary homeless system component that involves interacting with unsheltered people who are homeless in whatever location they naturally stay (e.g., in campsites, on the streets), building trust, and offering access to appropriate housing interventions. (See 24 CFR 576.101)

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) – Safe and affordable housing for people with disabling conditions, legal tenancy housing rights, and access to individualized support services. PSH that is funded through HUD CoC funding should prioritize people who are chronically homeless with the longest terms of homelessness and the highest level of vulnerability/acuity in terms of health issues and service needs. (See 24 CFR 578.3)

Point in Time (PIT) Count – HUD requires CoCs to count the number of people experiencing homelessness in their geographic area through the Point in Time (PIT) Count on a given day. Conducted by most CoCs during the last ten days in January, the PIT Count includes people served in shelter programs every year, with every other year also including people who are un-sheltered. Data collected during the PIT Counts is critical to effective planning and performance management toward the goal of ending homelessness for each community and for the nation as a whole. A one-night snapshot of homelessness in a specific geographic area, the PIT Count data are presented in Appendix VI. (See 24 CFR 578.3)

Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) – A housing intervention designed to move a household into permanent housing (e.g., a rental unit) as quickly as possible, ideally within 30 days of identification. Rapid Re-Housing typically provides (1) help identifying appropriate housing; (2) financial assistance (deposits and short-term or medium-term rental assistance for 1-24 months), and (3) support services as long as needed and desired, up to a certain limit. (See 24 CFR 576.104)

Services or Support Services – A wide range of services designed to address issues negatively affecting a person’s quality of life, stability, and/or health. Examples include behavioral health counseling or treatment for mental health and/or substance use

issues, assistance increasing income through employment or disability assistance, financial education, assistance with practical needs such as transportation or housekeeping, and connections to other critical resources such as primary health care.

Sheltered/Unsheltered Homelessness –

People who are in temporary shelters, including emergency shelter and transitional shelters, are considered “sheltered.” People who are living outdoors or in places not meant for human habitation are considered “unsheltered.”

State Housing Trust Funds – Florida’s Sadowski Act Affordable Housing Trust Funds receive funding from dedicated revenue from real estate doc stamps. 30% of these funds are allocated to the State Housing Trust Fund for programs such as the State Apartment Incentive Loan (SAIL) program. In Florida, the Housing Trust Funds are used for affordable housing when appropriated for that use by the State Legislature. Housing Trust Funds may also be funded by general revenue and government bonds.

Stella P. – Used as a tool to visualize system performance based on LSA data, Stella P. provides an illustrative approach to a housing crisis response system’s data by reporting the number of days homeless, exits from the homeless system to permanent destinations, and returns to homelessness. Stella P. develops data visualization elements to describe trends, population characteristics, performance, and comparisons based on official HUD data sets.

Transitional Program – A temporary shelter program that allows for moderate stays (3-24 months) and provides support services. Based on research on the efficacy and costs of this model, this type of program should be a very limited component of the housing crisis response system, due to the relative costliness of the programs in the absence of outcomes that exceed rapid re-housing outcomes. Transitional housing should be used only for specific subpopulations such as transition-age youth.

United States Interagency Council on

Homelessness (USICH) – A federal Council that co-ordinates the federal response to homelessness, working in partnership with Cabinet Secretaries and senior leaders from nineteen federal member agencies.

Very Low Income – Very-low-income persons means one or more natural persons or a family, not including students, the total annual adjusted gross household income of which does not exceed 50 percent of the median annual adjusted gross income for households within the state, or 50 percent of the median annual adjusted gross income for households within the metropolitan statistical area (MSA) or, if not within an MSA, within the county in which the person or family resides, whichever is greater. (See F.S. 420.0004)

APPENDIX XI: REFERENCES

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- 10 The Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act of 2009 is the primary federal law governing federal programs related to homelessness. The HEARTH Act amended and reauthorized the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, the initial overarching federal homelessness legislation. The provisions of the HEARTH Act are reflected in 24 CFR 578 and other federal statutes. Available at: eCFR :: Home
- 11 The terms “CoC Lead Agency” and “Collaborative Applicant” are often used interchangeably in Florida. The Collaborative Applicant is the CoC-designated organization, sometimes called the CoC Lead Agency, that submits funding proposals to HUD on behalf of the CoC. A Collaborative Applicant may be either a local government or a local nonprofit organization. See F.S. 420.621, 420.6225, and 420.6227. Available at: https://www.myfloridahouse.gov/Statutes/2020/Chapter420/Part_VI/
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