



Department of Housing and Urban Development

Agency Priority Goal | Action Plan | FY 2024 – Q3

## Reduce Homelessness

**Goal Leader:**

Jemine Bryon, Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of Special Needs, Office of Community Planning and Development

# Goal Overview

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## Goal statement:

- By September 30, 2025, make homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring by reducing the number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness by 7% from 2023 levels.

## Problem to be solved:

- Between 2022 and 2023, the number of people counted in unsheltered locations during the annual Point In Time count rose by 9.5% or 22,778 people.

## What success looks like:

- HUD will seek to reduce unsheltered homelessness by assisting communities in adopting housing first approaches and partnering with other federal agencies, such as the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, to help communities access the funding for the supportive services necessary to implement a housing first approach.
- Communities will initiate collaborative, cross system approaches to prevent people from entering into homelessness, and to quickly house people experiencing homelessness with partners such as the justice system, the healthcare system, and housing providers.
- Learning from these efforts, HUD will share updated strategies for preventing and ending unsheltered homelessness, specifically as it relates to data drive decision making.

# Goal Targets

Achievement statement		Key indicator(s)	Quantify progress			Frequency
By...	We will...	Name of indicator	Target value	Starting value	Current value	Update cycle
9/30/25	Make homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring	Reduce the number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness by 7% from 2023 levels	238,650	256,610	TBD*	Annually

\*This data is reported annually and won't be available until FY 2025 Q1.

# Goal Team

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## **Office of Community Planning and Development, Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs**

### **Senior Lead:**

- Jemine Bryon (Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Special Needs)

### **Team Leads:**

- Norm Suchar (Director, Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs)
- Caitlin Morath (Office of Special Needs)
- William Snow (Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs)
- Lisa Coffman (Office of Special Needs)

### **Agency Partners:**

- United States Interagency Council on Homelessness
- US Department of Veterans Affairs
- US Department of Health and Human Services

## **Office of Public and Indian Housing, Office of Public Housing Voucher Programs**

### **Senior Lead:**

- Danielle Bastarache (Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Public Housing Voucher Programs)

### **Team Leads:**

- Stephen Durham (Director, Office of Housing Voucher Programs Management)
- Ryan Jones (Deputy Director, Housing Voucher Management and Operations Division, Office of Public and Indian Housing)
- Maren Trochmann (Supervisor Housing Program Specialist - Special Purpose Vouchers, Office of Public and Indian Housing)
- Molly Allen (Housing Program Specialist, Housing Voucher Management and Operations Division, Office of Public and Indian Housing)
- Douglas Rice (Special Policy Advisor, Office of Public and Indian Housing)

### **Agency Partners:**

- United States Interagency Council on Homelessness
- US Department of Veterans Affairs

# Goal Strategies

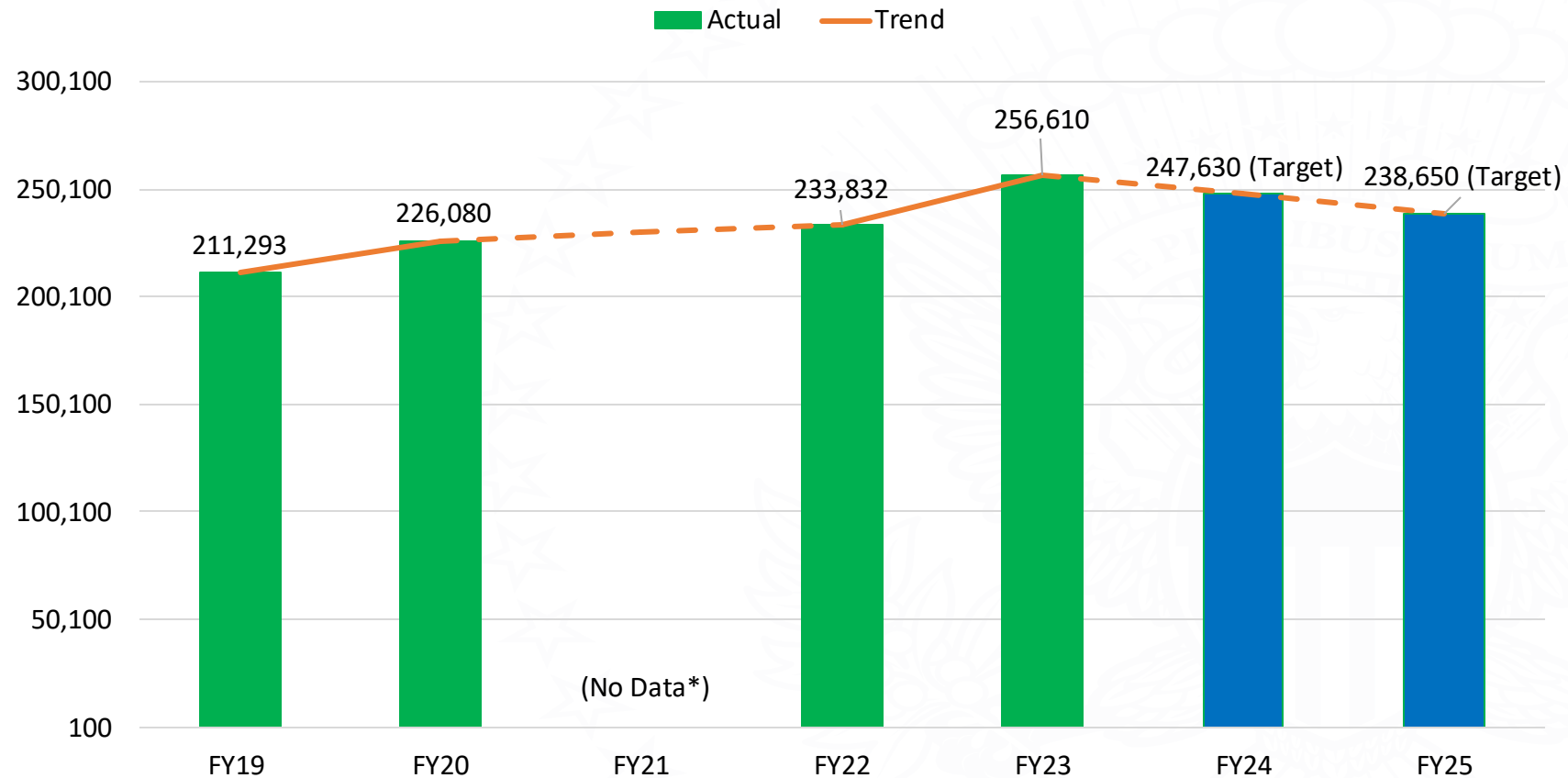
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- Prevent people from becoming homeless when exiting public systems, including but not limited to child welfare, prisons, and mental health, through national and local partnerships.
- Improve retention in housing by improving access to affordable housing and healthcare and other client centered supportive services.
- Improve capacity of Continuums of Care to use existing data to measure and track system performance.
- Customer Experienced-Focused: Improve community approaches--including getting contributions from those experiencing homelessness--to identify, engage, and re-house people experiencing unsheltered homelessness, including through a Housing First approach.
- Customer Experienced and Equity-Focused: Reduce the average length of homelessness through improved coordinated entry system implementation and targeted homeless programs.

# Key Indicators

This measure will annually track the number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness in the Point-in-Time (PIT) count, a count taken on a single night in January each year.

## Number of People Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness



\*In 2021, HUD gave communities the option to cancel or modify the unsheltered survey portion of their counts based on the potential risk of COVID-19 transmission associated with conducting an in-person. HUD has published the 2021 Annual Homelessness Assessment Report (AHAR) [<https://www.huduser.gov/portal/sites/default/files/pdf/2020-AHAR-Part-1.pdf>] which, due to these limitations, does not provide a national number of people experiencing homelessness in 2021. Because this metric is weighted using PIT data, there is not enough data to provide an accurate actual for FY21.

# Key Milestones

Prevent people from becoming homeless when exiting public systems, including but not limited to child welfare, prisons, and mental health, through national and local partnerships.

Milestone Summary			
Key Milestone	Milestone Due Date	Milestone Status	Comments
Publish findings regarding best and promising practices on reentry housing lessons learned, to date, through the Pay for Success Permanent Supportive Housing Demonstration.	9/30/24 12/31/24	Delayed	Finalization of the report took more time than originally estimated, resulting in a delayed publication date.
Develop two TA materials featuring best practices from HOPWA grantees on connecting LGBTQIA+ individuals with healthcare needs to housing in order to prevent homelessness.	6/30/25	On-Track	

# Key Milestones

Improve retention in housing by improving access to affordable housing and healthcare and other client centered supportive services.

Milestone Summary			
Key Milestone	Milestone Due Date	Milestone Status	Comments
Work with USICH and HHS to develop resources and strategies to address the intersection of healthcare and homelessness.	12/31/23	Accomplished	HUD and HHS co-presented at the <a href="#">CSH Supportive Housing Summit 2023</a> that took place from May 30th-June 2nd. This conference presentation marks a key accomplishment in the integration of healthcare and homelessness strategies at the Federal level.
Provide resources on partnering to CoCs and PHAs, including lessons learned from the Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness Initiative, EHV, and how Moving On strategies can be used to promote housing stability.	9/30/24	Accomplished	On July 20, 2023, HUD staff and TA providers presented information on the joint PIH/CPD Notice "Guidance on housing individuals and families experiencing homelessness through the Public Housing and Housing Choice Voucher Programs" (Notice PIH 2023-15/CPD 2023-05). An update to PIH 2013-15, the Notice provides guidance to PHAs on policies and practices to serve families experiencing homelessness most effectively and remove barriers to program entry. Approximately 700 people attended the webinar. A recording of this webinar is <a href="#">available</a> .



# Key Milestones

Improve retention in housing by improving access to affordable housing and healthcare and other client centered supportive services.

Milestone Summary			
Key Milestone	Milestone Due Date	Milestone Status	Comments
Conduct 10 HUD-VASH “Boot Camps” to support the quick transition of veterans from experiencing homelessness to permanent housing with wraparound supportive services.	3/31/24	Accomplished	Ten in-person sessions were completed in 2023. An additional virtual session was held in March 2024, and the recording and materials are posted to HUDEXchange.
Publish TA materials to support the implementation of Medicaid 1115 and 1915 (i) waivers in partnership with HUD stakeholders to facilitate opportunities for cross-state learning.	1/31/25	On-Track	The Housing and Services Partnership Accelerator has completed three peer learning tracks focused on developing partnerships to support the provision of Medicaid waiver-funded health related social needs, strategies on braiding funding streams to support housing, and service delivery. TA materials supporting findings from the implementation are in the works. In addition, SNAPS will be releasing a Medicaid Housing Services - CES Alignment products soon.
Create a product to support workforce development for homeless service providers, utilizing input from frontline staff and people with lived experience of homelessness.	9/30/25	On-Track	HUD is implementing a cost-of-living adjustments for supportive services in renewal grants for workforce capacity building. The increased cap on planning grants in the recent CoC NOFO, and the rural costs budget line item included in recent NOFOs also support building capacity and developing the workforce among local homeless service providers.

# Key Milestones

Improve capacity of Continuums of Care to use existing data to measure and track system performance.

Milestone Summary			
Key Milestone	Milestone Due Date	Milestone Status	Comments
Update the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) data collection requirements for race, ethnicity, and gender identity based on input from relevant stakeholders, including people with lived experience, and provide training on how to collect this data in a trauma-informed and culturally sensitive way.	10/1/23	Accomplished	Training on collection of data on race, ethnicity and gender identity along with other elements in a trauma-informed and culturally sensitive way kicked off on June 14 <sup>th</sup> with the training “ <i>Taking a Client-Centered Approach to Collecting HMIS Data.</i> ”
Develop a project plan that includes considerations for equitable reimbursement of people with lived experience of homelessness to improve the collection and utilization of qualitative data to inform strategic policy decisions.	3/31/24	Accomplished	HUD published a number of <a href="#">technical assistance documents</a> to support grantees in engaging the expertise of those with lived experience. HUD continues to contract with persons with lived experience for NOFO review.
Develop tools, in partnership with people with lived experience of homelessness, to improve the collection and utilization of qualitative data to inform strategic policy decisions.	9/30/25	On-Track	

# Key Milestones

Identify opportunities to increase access to housing for Veterans who cannot be served by HUD Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) and Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF), through programs such as Emergency Housing Vouchers, CoCs, and Housing Choice Vouchers.\*

Milestone Summary			
Key Milestone	Milestone Due Date	Milestone Status	Comments
Release tools to support communities increasing access to housing for Veterans who cannot be served by HUD-VASH, SSVF, or other programs.	12/31/23	Accomplished	Tools were released on 6/23/2023.

\*This strategy has been achieved. It will no longer be tracked now that its milestones have been completed.

# Key Milestones

Improve community approaches--including getting contributions from those experiencing homelessness--to identify, engage, and re-house people experiencing unsheltered homelessness, including through a Housing First approach.

Milestone Summary			
Key Milestone	Milestone Due Date	Milestone Status	Comments
Initiate research and evaluation on strategies to address unsheltered homelessness.	9/30/24	Accomplished	<a href="#">The FY 2023 University-Nonprofit Partnerships Engaged in Community-Based Research Designed to Address Homelessness NOFO</a> was published. The application period opened 5/4/23 and the deadline for applications was 7/13/23. Initiation began on 9/27/23.

# Key Milestones

Improve community approaches--including getting contributions from those experiencing homelessness--to identify, engage, and re-house people experiencing unsheltered homelessness, including through a Housing First approach.

Milestone Summary			
Key Milestone	Milestone Due Date	Milestone Status	Comments
Launch Housing Central Command technical assistance (HCC TA) initiative to support encampment resolution.	9/30/24	Accomplished	HCC technical assistance was launched in two locations. HUD will continue to provide intensive technical assistance to these and additional communities to be included in HCC. This effort is focused on rehousing people from unsheltered locations for grantees awarded under the special unsheltered and rural homelessness NOFO.
Publish lessons learned from the initial implementation of projects awarded through the Special Unsheltered and Rural Homelessness Notice of Funding Opportunity.	9/30/25	On-Track	TA and data collection that will inform best practices is underway.

# Key Milestones

Reduce the average length of homelessness through improved coordinated entry system implementation and targeted homeless programs.

Milestone Summary			
Key Milestone	Milestone Due Date	Milestone Status	Comments
Publish proposed Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Rule for Public Comment.	9/30/23 4/1/24 12/31/24	At-Risk	Delays are due to capacity challenges and competing priorities.
Publish proposed Continuum of Care (CoC) Program Rule for Public Comment.	9/30/23 6/30/24 12/31/24	At-Risk	Delays are due to capacity challenges and competing priorities.
Produce resources on coordinated entry assessment processes, focused on promoting racial equity and tailoring to local priorities.	9/30/24	Accomplished	In June 2024, 13 TA documents were published related to promoting racial equity. SNAPS is planning two webinars as follow-ups to the effort. <a href="https://www.hudexchange.info/homeless-assistance/coordinated-entry/coordinated-entry-equity-initiative/">https://www.hudexchange.info/homeless-assistance/coordinated-entry/coordinated-entry-equity-initiative/</a>
Collect feedback from stakeholders on the integration and implementation of coordinated entry systems to better understand opportunities to streamline the administrative element of chronic homelessness data collection.	9/30/25	On-Track	

## Narrative – FY 2024, Quarter 3

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On June 28, 2024, HUD awarded \$26 million in Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Competitive Grant: Housing Interventions (HINT) To End The HIV Epidemic funding. This funding, which also serves as a homelessness prevention resource, will provide communities an opportunity to create and implement new projects that align with initiatives aimed at ending the HIV epidemic and elevate housing as an effective structural intervention in ending the epidemic. Eleven communities across the nation received these one-time awards.

HUD continues to support innovative approaches to reducing and ending homelessness through a cross-system approach. On June 6, 2024, HUD awarded \$51.1 million in Youth Homelessness System Improvement (YHSI) grants to 38 communities across 26 states, Puerto Rico, and Guam. The grants focus on creating systemic change to either improve or create response systems for youth at risk of or experiencing homelessness by funding projects that create and build capacity for Youth Action Boards; establish regional committees on youth homelessness to direct efforts across multiple systems including education, justice, and child welfare; collect and use data on at-risk youth and youth experiencing homelessness; develop strong leaders within a community; and improve the coordination, communication, operation, and administration of homeless assistance projects to better serve youth, including prevention and diversion strategies.

Also on June 6, 2024, HUD released a \$72 million funding opportunity for the FY 2023 Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP). This NOFO funds housing and supportive services for youth including rapid rehousing, permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, host homes, and wrap-around services such as education, health, and workforce support to help youth access and maintain housing. Applications are due on August 29, 2024.

Work continues in supporting recipients of the Rural and Unsheltered NOFO awarded in 2023. Grantees are working alongside technical assistance providers to establish innovative ways to address rural and unsheltered homelessness with partners in their community. In the first community to receive Housing Central Command intensive TA, over 60 individuals have been housed.

## Data accuracy & reliability

### ▶ Number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness

This measure will annually track the number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness in the Point-in-Time (PIT) count, a count taken on a single night in January each year.

<b>Description:</b>	Total number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness based on a count that occurs on a single night, usually in January.
<b>Data Source:</b>	Point-in-Time (PIT) count reported in the Homelessness Data Exchange (HDX)
<b>Dimension &amp; Unit of Measurement:</b>	Count: Persons experiencing homelessness on a single night, usually in January
<b>Calculation Method:</b>	A count of persons experiencing homelessness on a single night, usually in January
<b>Frequency:</b>	Although many jurisdictions count annually, 24 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 578.7(c)(2) only requires that the counts be done “biennially.”
<b>Data Quality:</b>	HUD establishes PIT count guidance annually that states the minimum amount of data that all COCs must collect and report to HUD. There are additional reporting tools that provide guidance on HUD’s reporting requirements and standards.
<b>Validation and Verification:</b>	When CoCs submit their data in the HDX, there are also several validations in HDX itself to ensure consistency in reporting. After the data are submitted, HUD’s contractors analyze the data again and call communities if there are any discrepancies that need to be explained or corrected.



# Additional information

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## **Contributing Programs**

Organizations:

- United States Interagency Council on Homelessness
- US Department of Veterans Affairs
- US Department of Health and Human Services
- US Department of Justice
- US Department of Education
- US Department of Labor
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- HUD – Office of Public and Indian Housing
- HUD – Office of Community Planning and Development, HOME Program

## **Stakeholder / Congressional Consultations**

- Listening session with National Partners
- Listening session with persons with lived experience of homelessness
- Tribal Consultations

