

Strategic Plan to Address Homelessness

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Blue Ribbon Commission on Ending Chronic Homelessness

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Research Findings: Enumeration

- Number of homeless persons:

12,000-14,000

30,000 annualized count

Research Findings: Needs Assessment

- 3 groups of homeless persons
 - 35% require Extensive Care
 - Lifelong, supervised
 - 55% require Ongoing Care
 - Episodic, variable levels
 - Range of competencies within group
 - 10% require Temporary Care
 - Short-term, one time

Research Findings: Needs Assessment

- Underlying fundamental issue
 - Dearth of mental health services and substance abuse treatment
 - 57.7% reported substance abuse
 - Approximately 575 inpatient treatment beds
 - 55.7% reported mental illness

Research Findings: Needs Assessment

- Programs vs. the three groups
 - Most programs geared to 10% needing temporary care
 - ***Inappropriate or inadequate for the 90% of clients who need long term support***
 - Supportive permanent housing

Research Findings: Rapid Re-housing

- Even chronically homeless people can be re-housed, if:
 - Specialized outreach teams approach them
 - Non-clinical as well as clinical settings are offered
- With intensive case management
 - Clients will remain in housing

Research Findings: Gaps Analysis

- Very little is spent on prevention services and permanent housing
- Clear indication that funds can be allocated more effectively
- Need for urgency and ethic of scarcity

Research Findings: Storm Experience

- Evacuee Resettlement System Management Function
 - Need for Homeless System Management Function
 - Accepts accountability for implementation of Plan

Research Findings: Aggregate

- More housing for low/no income persons
 - More Single Room Occupancy (SRO) housing
 - Housing First approach to supported housing

Year 1 Action Steps: Overview

- Transition year in which:
 - System management function is established
 - Strategic plan is implemented collaboratively with providers
 - Funding plan is developed and implemented
- Action steps based on Year 1 goals

Unmet Permanent Housing Needs

Number of Homeless persons 2005 Enumeration point-in-time	12,000
Deductions	
Inventory of Permanent housing beds: 2005 Continuum of Care	1,531
Number of persons in Temporary Care Group	1,200
Number of persons in Ongoing care group who will not need supported housing	1,980
Total Deductions	4,711
Total Unmet Housing Need	7,289

Goal 1. Housing/Re-housing

- 200 new permanent housing units/
100 leased units
- 100 new homeless vouchers for chronically homeless
- Use vacated evacuee housing for Rapid Re-housing Intervention

Goal 2. Prevention/Intervention

- \$1 million for case management and rent and utility payment assistance

Goal 3. Information, Policy, Accountability

- **Standards of care** for prevention and intervention services
- Participate in planning and implementation of **Houston Street Solicitation Initiative**
- Effective **communications campaign**

Goal 4. Outreach to Chronic Homeless

- Commitment of an additional \$250,000 in public/private funds for specialized outreach
- 4 Rapid Re-housing Interventions within 12 months

Goal 5. System Management

- Restructure and expand the Coalition for the Homeless to assume System Management
 - Purpose of the System Management Function
 - Intense strategic direction of services, housing & funding
 - Directing the re-housing efforts
 - Resources/funds development

Goal 6. Sustainability

- Develop and implement **Funding Plan** for Year 1 Action Steps
 - Community giving
 - Catalyst fund
 - Bond funds
 - Federal funding
 - Local government funding