



# AFFORDABLE HOUSING SUBCOMMITTEE

Presented by

Matthew Cable



BUNCOMBE COUNTY

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## AGENDA

- ✓ Call to Order & Welcome
- ✓ Approval of Meeting Minutes
  - November 16, 2021
  - December 7, 2021
- ✓ New Business
  - Review of Affordable Housing Committee Calendar – Matthew Cable (5 mins)
  - Homelessness Services Review – Jen Teague and Emily Ball (20 mins)
- ✓ Next Steps
- ✓ Announcements
- ✓ Public Comment
- ✓ Adjourn



BUNCOMBE COUNTY

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# REVIEW OF AHC CALENDAR

AHC Meeting Date	Discussion Topic / Event
January 4	Homelessness Services Review; Committee Questions/Feedback
January 18	Schools' Homeless Data Presentation; Voucher Data Presentation
February 1	FY 2021 and 2022 Program Update; What are other Counties Doing Regarding Homelessness?; Goal Setting Surrounding Homelessness
<i>Feb 11</i>	FY23 Affordable Housing Services Program (AHSP) Applications Due
February 15	Goal Setting Surrounding Homelessness
March 1	Review of AHSP Applications
March 15	Review of AHSP Applications
April 5	Review of AHSP Applications
April 19	AHSP Recommendations Finalized

Future Items: Bylaws; Recipient presentations



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# Homelessness Services Review

Presented by  
 Jennifer Teague  
 Aging and Adult Services Program Manager  
 Buncombe County



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# Overview

- How do the County and City partner on homelessness?
- What is Buncombe County's Role?
- How is homelessness defined?
- How is homelessness counted?
- How many people are homeless in Buncombe County?
- What are the demographics of homeless individuals in Buncombe County?
- What drives homelessness?
- What is City of Asheville's role?
  - What is a Continuum of Care (CoC)?
  - What is the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)?
- What is the Homelessness Support System Framework?
  - What is Coordinated Entry?
- What are City Staff identified gaps in the framework?
- What is the goal of the Continuum of Care System?



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# How do the County and City Partner on Homelessness?

## Buncombe County

Appoints 8 members to HIAC  
 Assists in funding City staffing to HIAC  
 Traditionally: Support Role  
 Oversees County funded contracts/grants

## City of Asheville

Appoints 8 members to HIAC  
 Assist in funding City staffing to HIAC  
 Traditionally: Lead Role  
 Oversees federal/state funded contracts/grants  
 Lead entity for Continuum of Care (CoC)



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# What is Buncombe County's Role?

- Appoint members to the Homelessness Initiative Advisory Council (HIAC)
  - One (1) County staff member is appointed to serve
- Provide \$32,000 in funding annually for City staff supporting to HIAC and its goals
- Oversee County funded contracts and grants

FY22 Funding for Homelessness (Regularly Recurring)*	Amount
<b>County Funding</b>	
City Staff Supporting HIAC	\$32,000
Code Purple	\$40,000
Homeward Bound: Library Outreach	\$50,526
Homeward Bound: Case Management	\$450,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$572,526</b>

\*AHSP funds may be used to address homelessness and housing needs. ARPA funding, due to its one-time nature, is not included.



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# City of Asheville

Presented by  
 Emily Ball  
 Homeless Services System Performance Lead  
 City of Asheville



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## How is Homelessness Defined?

- **Literal Homelessness:** Lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence (emergency shelter, transitional housing, or places not meant for human habitation)
- **Chronic Homelessness:** 12 months of *literal homelessness*, either consecutively or during at least 4 episodes in the past 3 years and having a disability (chronic physical illness or disability, developmental disability, serious mental illness, diagnosable substance use disorder)
- **McKinney-Vento Homeless Children and Youth:** *Literal homeless* or sharing housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; data collected/used by school district
- **Unsheltered/Unhoused:** Lacking shelter/housing



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## How is Homelessness Counted?

- **Point in Time Count (PIT):**
  - Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requirement
  - Continuums of Care (CoCs) conduct this count on a single night in January
  - Count of sheltered people experiencing homelessness (in emergency shelter and transitional housing)
  - Count of unsheltered people experiencing homelessness
- **Next PIT: January 25, 2022**



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## How Many People are Homeless in Buncombe County?

PIT	2018	2019	2020	2021
Total Persons	554	580	547	527
Sheltered	497 (90%)	502 (87%)	482 (88%)	411 (78%)
Unsheltered	57 (10%)	78 (13%)	65 (12%)	116 (22%)



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## What are the Demographics of Homeless Individuals in Buncombe County?

### Chronic

PIT	2018	2019	2020	2021
Chronic	82	123	110	154
% of Total	15%	21%	20%	29%
Sheltered	61	83	-	-
Unsheltered	21	40	-	-

### Veterans

PIT	2018	2019	2020	2021
Veterans	247	256	218	188
% of Total	45%	44%	40%	36%
Sheltered	242	248	-	-
Unsheltered	5	8	-	-

### BIPOC

PIT	2018	2019	2020	2021
BIPOC	202	216	171	158
% of Total	36%	37%	31%	30%
Sheltered	192	197	-	-
Unsheltered	10	19	-	-

### Adults without Children

PIT	2018	2019	2020	2021
Adults no Children	511	534	472	469
% of Total	92%	92%	86%	89%
Sheltered	460	462	-	-
Unsheltered	51	72	-	-



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## What are the demographics of Homeless individuals in Buncombe County?

Individuals in Families					Youth						
	PIT	2018	2019	2020	2021		PIT	2018	2019	2020	2021
Indiv. in Families		43	41	70	53	Youth		23	29	15	37
% of Total		8%	7%	13%	10%	% of Total		4%	5%	3%	7%
Sheltered		37	35	-	-	Sheltered		20	17	-	-
Unsheltered		6	6	-	-	Unsheltered		3	12	-	-



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## What Drives Homelessness?

- National data shows that housing costs are the only known indicator of rates of homelessness
- Lack of support during a crisis



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## What is the City of Asheville's Role?

- Staff the Homelessness Initiative Advisory Council (HIAC)
- Serve as Lead Entity for Continuum of Care (CoC)
- Oversee Federal/State Funds and Contracts with Providers

FY22 Funding for Homelessness (Regularly Recurring)*	Amount
<b>Federal Funding</b>	
Continuum of Care (CoC)	\$1,700,000
Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)	\$128,000
<b>City Funding</b>	
Two (2) FTE's	\$142,516
Code Purple	\$40,000
Homeward Bound: Outreach and Coordinated Entry	\$131,873

**Total \$2,142,389**

\*CDBG/HOME funds may be used to address homelessness and housing needs. ARPA funding, due to its one-time nature, is not included.



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## What is a Continuum of Care (CoC)?

- **Continuum of Care (CoC):** HUD-defined area within which lead entity
  - Measures inflow/outflow and efficacy
  - Quantifies need and identifies specific subpopulations
  - Analyzes for duplications and gaps
  - Develops and implements strategy
- **Continuum of Care (CoC) Lead Entity Must:**
  - Coordinate implementation of a housing and service system that meets needs of people experiencing homelessness
  - Provide annual reporting (PIT, System Performance Measures, Longitudinal Systems Analysis)
  - Collect and evaluate data (Homeless Management Information System (HMIS))
  - Serve as collaborative applicant for annual funding applications



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## What is the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)?

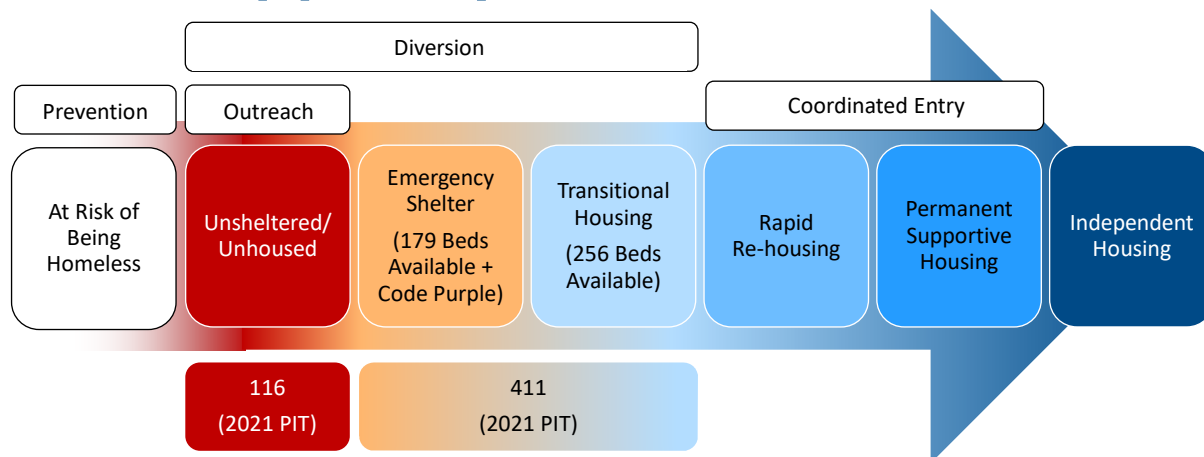
- Database that tracks who is homeless, including:
  - Demographic and household characteristics, and
  - How homeless individuals interact with services
- Depend on service providers to participate (required for HUD-funded programs, encouraged for all)
- City manages training, licensure, reporting, and technical support
- Annual HUD reporting must be generated through HMIS; directly informs amount of federal funding available to CoC for homeless programs

**Goal:** Comprehensive data to maximize opportunities for federal resources and to best inform strategy and decision making



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## What is the Homelessness Support System Framework?



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# Emergency Shelter & Transitional Housing

## Emergency Shelter (Short Term)

Organization	Beds	Population Served
Salvation Army	30	Men, women, and children
Western Carolina Rescue Mission	115	Men, women, and children
Haywood Street Respite	8	Medical respite following discharge
Helpmate	20	Fleeing domestic violence
Trinity Place	6	Children aged 7-17
Total	179	

## Transitional Housing (Longer-Term, service intensive)

Organization	Beds	Population Served
ABCCM's Veterans Restoration Quarters	148	Men who are veterans
ABCCM's Transformation Village	100	Women with/without children, women veterans
Eliada's ESTA Program	8	Youth aged 16-25
Total	256	

**Code Purple:** Weather dependent sheltering; many providers



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# What is Coordinated Entry?

- System to identify who receives assistance
  - Individual in housing crisis should not need to identify the right resource
  - No “wrong door” to system entry
- Concept:
  - Pool all individuals in need of assistance
  - Pool all housing resources
  - Match individual in need of assistance to resource based on appropriateness
  - Prioritize by acuity of need
- Concept in Action:
  - Parallel systems for veterans and civilians
  - Common acuity assessment: Vulnerability Index – Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT)
  - Prioritize by length of time homeless and acuity score



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## Rapid Rehousing

- **Defined:** Time-limited (best practice is up to 2 years) rental assistance and case management
- **Best Practice:** Housing First (no pre-conditions for entry)
- **Benefits:** Upstream, cost-effective intervention that prevents chronic homelessness
- **Providers:**
  - Eliada (Assistance: 3 - 6 months, Population: Youth ages 18-25)
  - Helpmate (Assistance:  $\leq$  6 months, Population: Survivors of domestic violence)
  - Homeward Bound (Assistance: 6 - 9 months, Population: Chronic and veterans)



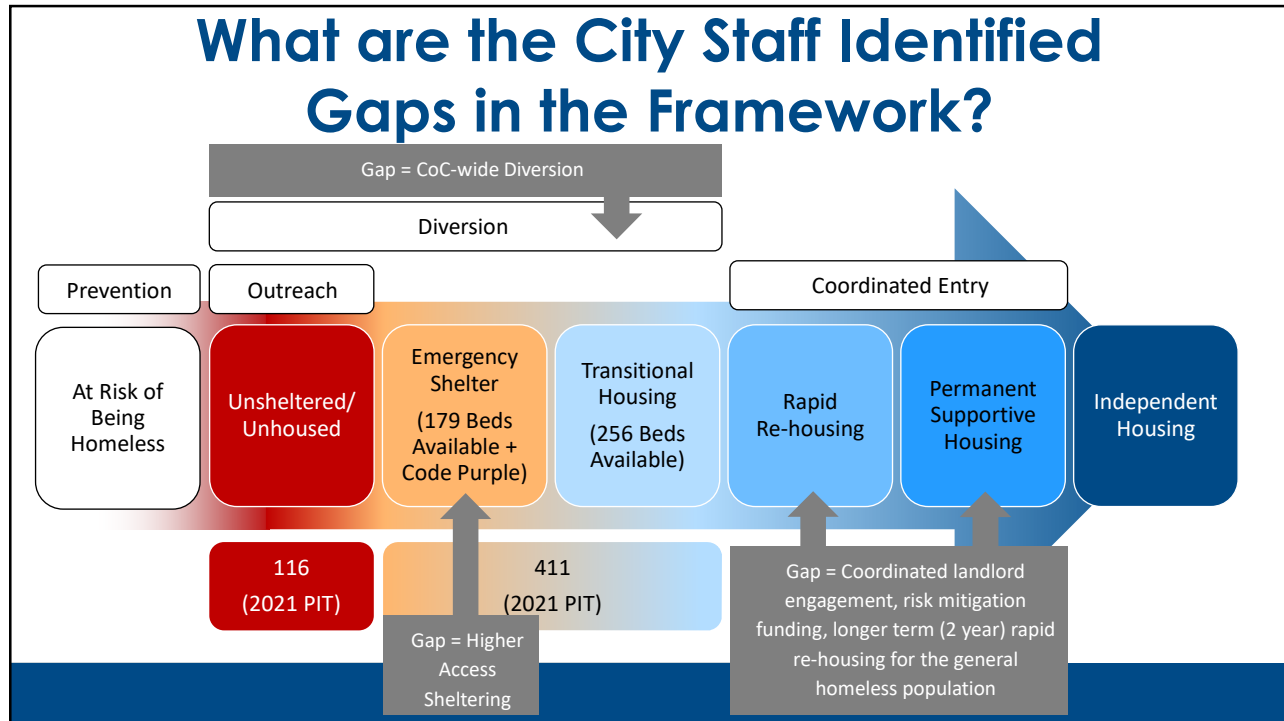
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## Permanent Supportive Housing

- **Defined:** Indefinite rental assistance (any source) and case management targeting chronic homeless individuals which can be site-based or scattered site and where the occupant has legal lease in their name and must comply with lease terms
- **Best Practice:** Housing First (no pre-conditions for entry)
- **Providers:**
  - Homeward Bound (Scattered site, Key Commons, The Woodfin, Days Inn)
  - Step Up (Ramada)
  - HUD-VASH (Federal HUD and VA partnership where Housing Authority provides rental assistance vouchers and VA Medical Center provides case management)



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## What is the Goal of the Continuum of Care System?

- **Permanent Housing:** End goal for all people experiencing homelessness
- **Functional Zero:** Benchmark where individuals are homeless for  $\leq 90$  days

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# Questions/Discussion

# Acronyms

- HUD – Department of Housing and Urban Development
- HIAC – Homeless Initiative Advisory Committee
- CoC – Continuum of Care
- ESG – Emergency Solutions Grant
- PIT – Point in Time Count
- VI-SPDAT – Vulnerability Index – Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool