5 Things you should know about Homelessness in Florida

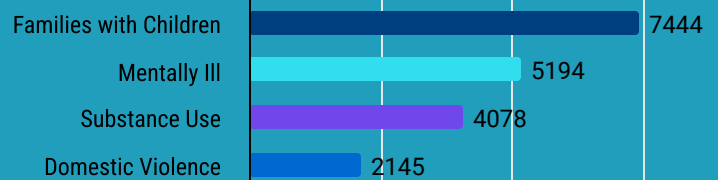## 01 — Florida Leads the Nation in Reducing Homelessness

The Florida Legislature's investment in the Homeless CoCs has resulted in a significant decrease in homelessness. Florida led the nation and had the largest absolute decrease in homelessness of any state from 2007-2023, a decrease of 17,313 or 36%. When adjusted for population, Florida saw a 47% decrease in homelessness from 2007-2023.

↓ 47%

02 — Flexibility is Key to Addressing Needs of Subpopulations

The State Funded Homeless Challenge Grant flexibility is key to addressing the various needs of individuals experiencing homelessness. The flexibility allows the CoC to provide client focused individualized supports.

Subpopulation	Count
Families with Children	7444
Mentally Ill	5194
Substance Use	4078
Domestic Violence	2145

03 — Homelessness Among the Elderly is Growing

The increased cost of housing has greatly impacted those on fixed income, including the elderly. Elderly individuals are being faced with increasing costs and increased rents. The average 1 bedroom rental is $1,311. According to the Social security administration, an average SSI check is $1,777. The largest age group of homelessness is 55-64; a total of 8,372 individuals are 55 and over.

27% of persons experiencing homelessness are 55+

04 — Permanent Supportive Housing is Cost Effective

Permanent Supportive Housing is a cost-effective strategy for moving chronically homeless persons into homes. 96% of persons enrolled in PSH remain stably housed. PSH is housing with the appropriate client-centered supportive services they need - not something they need to achieve before housing. This approach saves lives and money.

PSH is 30% less expensive than doing nothing to address chronic homelessness

05 — Affordable Housing (with supports) is the Solution

According to the Government Accountability Office (GAO) 2019 report, with every $100 increase in rent, you will see a 9% increase in homelessness. With the nearly $200 increase in rent from 2020-2023, Florida saw a 11.9% increase in homelessness. Affordable Housing is the solution to this ongoing issue. We've shown that client-centered supportive services (services to remain in housing) is key to solving their unique reason for becoming homeless.

FloridaCoalition TO END HOMELESSNESS

5 Things You Can Do To Help Us End Homelessness in Florida

01

Join Florida Coalition to End Homelessness

Florida Coalition to End Homelessness needs your talent to end homelessness in the State of Florida. If you are not already a member, join our organization. If you are a member, join a committee to help us make a bigger impact.

02

Join Your Local Continuum of Care

A continuum of care is the local planning body that coordinates housing and services for persons experiencing homelessness. CoCs provide data to the State and the Federal Government and applies for State and Federal funding. CoCs help reduce duplication so resources are available for those who need it. If you are not already a member, join today.

03

Raise Awareness and Community Support

Share these statistics with members of your community and ask for them to support a local homeless provider. Ask them to speak out against harmful policies. Solving homelessness is less expensive than ignoring it and its less expensive than criminalizing it.

04

Speak Up against Harmful Policies

Criminalizing homelessness is costly for the community and it doesn't solve homelessness. Once an individual is released - they are back to homelessness. Providing housing and client-centered supports is an effective long-term strategy to end homelessness. It's also much less expensive.

05

Support Local Affordable Housing Development

The cost of affordable housing is significantly less than the cost of institutional care. Chronically homeless persons often cycle through jails, hospitals, and other crisis services. Permanent supportive housing for this high-need population considerably reduces the cost to taxpayers.

Florida Coalition to End Homelessness is a member agency committed to working collaboratively to prevent and end homelessness through advocacy and education.

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