

QUARTERLY LEADERSHIP REPORT

- January 2024 -



**KEY TO
HOME**
PARTNERSHIP

The Key to Home Partnership includes more than 40 agencies working alongside the City of OKC and the private sector to prevent and end homelessness in our city.

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BY THE NUMBERS



1,436

People experiencing homelessness on January 26, 2023 during the annual Point In Time Count

47 Agencies in Key to Home Partnership



Housed by service providers in 2023

System Funding
Public / Private Partnership

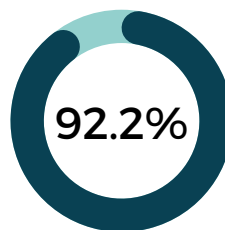


Housed to date by encampment rehousing initiative (excludes pilot)

9.6M
PUBLIC DOLLARS



2.7M
FLEX FUND
DOLLARS TO DATE

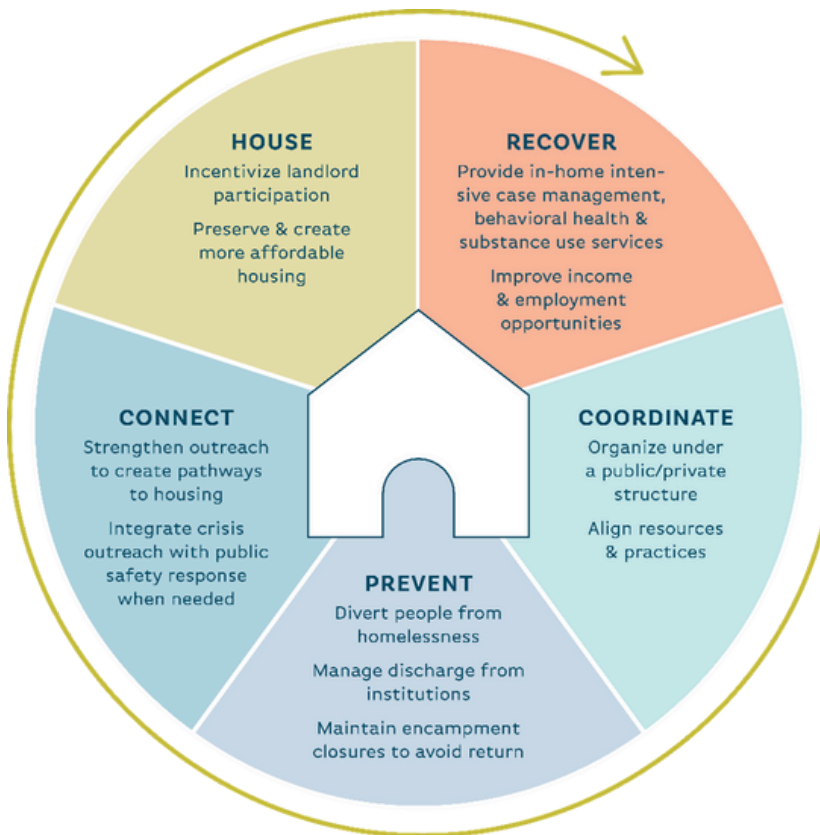


SUCCESS RATE
(Percent housed that did not return to homeless system within one year)

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK AND ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

to reduce unsheltered homelessness through housing

Our goal is that homelessness is a rare, brief and nonrecurring event in our community.



The Key to Home Partnership adopted a set of system blueprints to organize our system and guide processes. To effectively end homelessness, we must first coordinate and align resources and practices and then prevent someone from homelessness if possible. If not possible, we connect them to a rehousing pathway to house and support them in stabilizing and recovering.

EXECUTION

- 1 Create a new governing system
- 2 Address homelessness differently
- 3 Reduce youth homelessness
- 4 Reduce unsheltered homelessness

TIMELINE

- 2019 - Mayor Holt's Taskforce developed *Strategies to Address Homelessness*.
- 2020
- 2021 - Created framework to support system transformation.
- 2022 - Test and refine strategies.
- Prepare for implementation.
- 2023
- 2024 - Implement projects & programs to reduce unsheltered and youth homelessness.
- 2025

GOAL 1

CREATE A NEW GOVERNING SYSTEM

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires a Continuum of Care board (CoC) to oversee and evaluate the system, ensuring it moves rapidly to permanently ends people's homelessness.



LEAD AGENCY STAFF

- JEROD SHADID, Fiscal Management
- MEGHAN MUELLER, Implementation & Coordination
- JAMIE CAVES, Community & Public Relations
- SHARON LEVESTON-SHARPE, Grants Management
- AMANDA REBMAN, Youth Project Manager
- KEITH ANDERSON, HMIS
- MAY CRUZ, Coordinated Entry
- JESSE ANDERSON, Community Collaboration

STAFF UPDATES



LINDSAY CATES, Former Strategy & Implementation Manager

We sincerely thank Lindsay Cates, former Key to Home Strategy and Implementation Manager, for her commitment and leadership. Lindsay's contributions were instrumental in establishing and advancing the Key to Home Partnership. Although she has transitioned to a new role, we remain grateful for the progress achieved under her guidance.



EDSENNA FRANKLIN, Crisis Project Manager

We welcome Edsenna Franklin to the team. With a 19-year background in supporting low-income housing, she brings extensive experience. Edsenna will support the Coordinated Outreach Plan by leading the partnership's collaboration with service providers and key stakeholders, moving people from encampments into housing.



JAMIE CAVES, Communications Manager

We are excited to introduce Jamie Caves, our new Communications Manager. Jamie is a seasoned leader with over a decade of experience in homeless services. Jamie will work to create and execute a communications strategy, focusing on community collaboration and education on the Partnership's progress.

GOAL 2

ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS DIFFERENTLY

To provide our homeless response system partners with what they need to be effective, we needed to improve infrastructure, capacity, and staffing to manage and coordinate differently.

ASSIGN STAFF & RESTRUCTURE



Establish a dedicated management team to

- Coordinate services
- Manage resources
- Establish a Coordinated Outreach Workgroup
- Lead housing initiatives and strategy

REAL-TIME DATA



Provide faster resources through Real-Time Data and Referrals

- Customize and improve the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)
- Ensure all providers use HMIS in real time

PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING



Develop more housing

- Utilize MAPS 4 for 500 units of Permanent Supportive Housing in the next 3 years
- Leverage federal rental subsidies and Medicaid funded health services

COORDINATED ENTRY SYSTEM

The Coordinated Entry System (CES) aims to improve system performance by implementing refinements in how people are assessed and matched to the appropriate housing intervention.

OBJECTIVES

- Improve equity in access and outcomes.
- Increase the efficiency and effectiveness of system flow.
- Build provider capacity.
- Refine and scale CES processes, policy and tools to improve effectiveness

CES STAFF



MAY CRUZ, Director of Coordinated Entry

May oversees the centralized system connecting people at risk of or facing homelessness with tailored housing and support services. She prioritizes the most vulnerable populations, using assessments to ensure personalized assistance. May's role involves collaboration to streamline processes and improve outcomes for those in need.



JESSE ANDERSON, Associate Director of Community Collaboration

Jesse is responsible for the management of housing placements and case management collaboration across the system. He trains providers on coordinated efforts while building partnerships to streamline services.

GOAL 3

REDUCE YOUTH HOMELESSNESS

Create a comprehensive response system to identify, divert and rapidly exit youth and young adults from homelessness.

The City received a Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) grant from HUD for \$3.1 million. The Youth Action Board and community members selected these grant-funded projects. YHDP programs launched one year ago with all five programs now serving clients.

“We envision Oklahoma City as a place where every youth and young adult has access to proactive, preventative services and a choice of prompt, safe and low-barrier housing options.”



25% fewer youth in shelters or sleeping on the streets

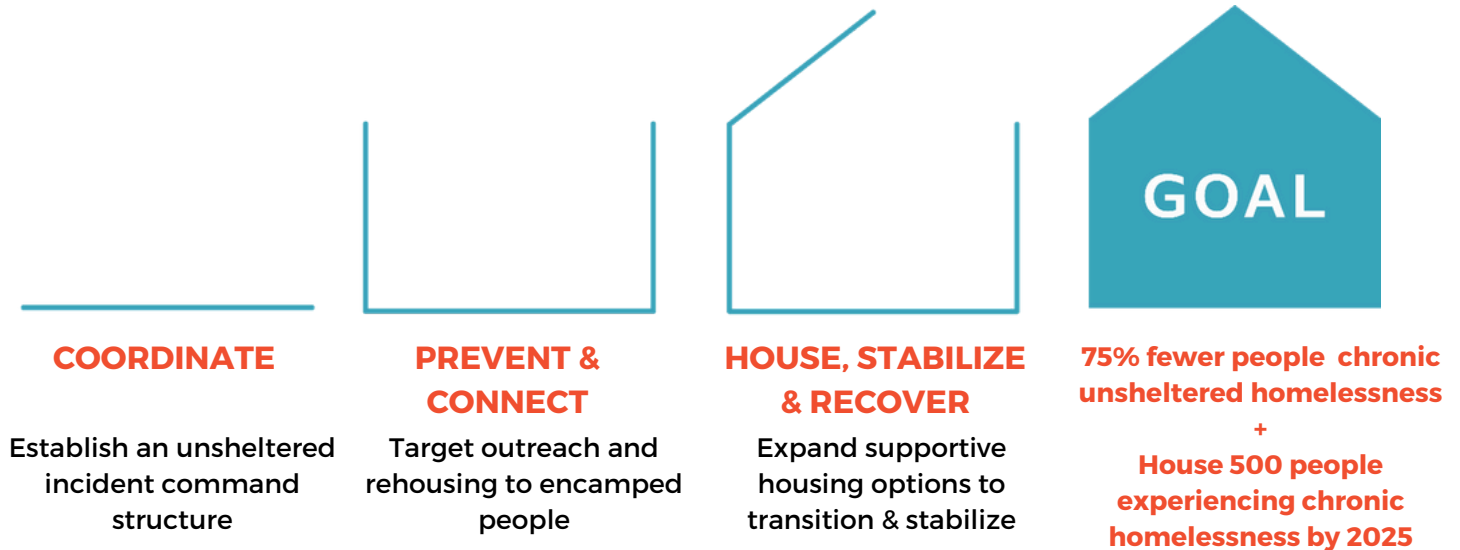
100+ youth/young adults diverted or rehoused

Support	Description	Youth Served
Permanent Supportive Housing	Provides non time limited housing to youth that need comprehensive services due to mental or physical health or substance use disorders.	14
Transitional & Rapid Rehousing	Provides housing based on client need. Paired with wrap-around case management.	28
Drop-In Center	Provides immediate and safe access to support.	383
Host Homes	Provides short term housing through volunteers.	2
Diversion	Provides financial assistance to divert youth from homelessness.	21

GOAL 4

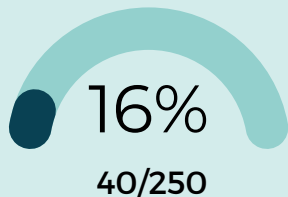
REDUCE UNSHELTERED HOMELESSNESS

The Key to Home Partnership launched the encampment rehousing program citywide in September. This initiative moves people sleeping outside directly into housing.

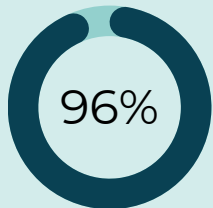


CITYWIDE ENCAMPMENT REHOUSING INITIATIVE

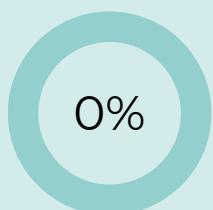
Progress from September 2023 to Now



% reached toward rehousing goal of 250 per year



% of total encampment residents that accepted housing



% of encampment residents that returned to the homeless system

CASE MANAGEMENT SUPPORT

Key to Home Partner agencies provide case management support to clients moving into housing through the Encampment Rehousing Initiative. This is critical to helping clients develop individualized plans to reach their goals and stabilize in housing.

Case management provides the following:

- Document Retrieval
- Mental and Physical Health Resources
- Connection to Employment and Education Opportunities
- Accessing Benefits
- Harm Reduction
- Community Integration
- Client-specific goals or barriers
- Skill Building
- Support of the Coordinated Entry System

PARTNER SUCCESSES

Winter Contingency Plan

In response to dangerously low temperatures, the Key to Home Partnership has created a cold weather contingency plan for people experiencing homelessness. Emergency shelters around the City will increase capacity when temperatures are forecasted below 32 degrees. This coordinated effort saves lives.



Homeless Alliance Winter Shelter



Sisu Emergency Shelter

Images courtesy of Nathan Poppe.

Shelter	Extra Beds	Bus Route
Salvation Army 1001 N Penn Ave. 6 pm - 6 am	50 women/ families	008 007 038
City Care 532 N Villa Ave. 6 pm - 7 am	10 men / non-binary	009
City Rescue Mission 800 W California 6 pm - 6 am	25 men 25 women / families	009 012 016
Homeless Alliance 1601 NW 4th 4:00 pm - 7:00 am	Up to 300	008 007 038 009
Sisu Youth 2129 NW 30th St. 4 pm - 9 am	5 Ages 15-24	008
PIVOT 201 NE 50th St. 4 pm - 9 am	4 Ages 16-24	018

Homeless Alliance Winter Shelter

The Homeless Alliance opened OKC's first permanent winter shelter in November, thanks to the Arnall Family Foundation and community support. The shelter provides a safe and warm place for up to 300 people and their pets 7 nights a week from November 1 through March 31, no matter the weather. The shelter hosts about 280 guests per night for a total of 1,700 unduplicated guests.

Sisu Youth Opens New Campus

In November 2023, Sisu opened its new emergency shelter and 23-hour drop-in center. The new campus expanded its bed capacity from 16 to 20, allowing Sisu to shelter and serve more youth than ever before.

The new location includes a kitchen, computer lab, clothing closet, food pantry, additional washers and dryers, showers, and an office to accommodate embedded service providers. This space serves as an essential entry point to connect youth to services.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- Arnall Family Foundation
- Cardinal House
- Catholic Charities
- City Care
- City Rescue Mission
- Communities Foundation of Oklahoma
- Community Cares Partners
- Community Enhancement Corporation
- Community Health Centers
- Department of Housing & Urban Development (OKC Field Office)
- Department of Human Services
- Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse
- Department of Veteran's Affairs
- Diversion Hub
- Dragonfly Home
- Focus on Home
- Goodwill of OKC
- Grace Rescue Mission
- Heartline 211
- Homeless Alliance
- Hope Community Services
- Hope House OKC
- Inasmuch Foundation
- Jesus House
- Joe's Addiction
- Legal Aid
- Mental Health Association Oklahoma
- Neighborhood Services Organization
- NorthCare
- OKC Metro Alliance
- Oklahoma City Housing Authority
- Oklahoma City Metropolitan Association of Realtors
- Oklahoma County Social Services
- Oklahoma Housing Finance Agency
- Palomar
- Pivot
- Positive Tomorrows
- Red Rock Behavioral Health
- ReMerge
- RestoreOKC
- Salvation Army
- Sisu Youth Services
- Sunbeam Family Services
- United Way of OKC
- Upward Transitions
- Urban League
- Variety Care
- YWCA



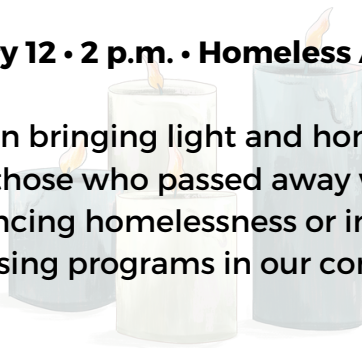
POINT IN TIME

Our annual Point In Time count will take place on January 25th. This annual count provides a one-day snapshot of people experiencing homelessness and provides data to better understand trends in this complex issue. This year, we will use an app to conduct the count, allowing for improved data quality.

HOMELESS MEMORIAL

February 12 • 2 p.m. • Homeless Alliance

Join us in bringing light and honoring the lives of those who passed away while experiencing homelessness or in one of the housing programs in our community.



To learn more about the Key to Home Partnership and track our progress, please visit our website at keytohomeokc.org.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

A fund has been established at the Communities Foundation of Oklahoma to sponsor expenses that public funding cannot cover. The Key to Home Fiscal Sponsorship fund prevents a minor expense from becoming a major barrier to housing.

Donations make a direct impact by:

- Sponsoring furnishings and household goods for a client move-in;
- Aiding in utility setup and administration fees;
- Providing life-changing supportive services through our non-profit partners and
- Giving access to critical documents, transportation, medical attention, job development, and more.

To give, scan the code below or visit cfok.org/KeyToHome.

