

Utah's Ten-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness – Draft #10 (3/9/05)

First Five Years Goals

1. Homeless Prevention: Reduce entrance into homelessness by effective discharge planning and prevention efforts for those at imminent risk by at least 40% by 2009 from the baseline year of 2005.

- a. Prevention Strategic Initiative – by ensuring people leaving institutions such as jails, prisons foster care, the Juvenile Justice System or treatment facilities are not discharge to the street or shelter system.

(1) Increasing access to permanent supportive housing and services with the following targets:

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Prisons	Base	50%	60%	70%	80%
Mental Health Facilities	Base	15%	25%	30%	35%
Foster Care	Base	10%	20%	25%	30%
Hospitals	Base	10%	15%	20%	30%

(2) By policy, each person discharge from prisons and mental health facilities is to have a housing and self-reliance plan.

(3) Effectiveness of the housing and self-reliance plans will be determined by those remaining in stable housing for 12 months with the following percentages as targets.

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Prisons (incarceration)	Base	75%	80%	85%	90%
Mental Health Facilities	Base	50%	60%	70%	80%
Foster Care	Base	20%	30%	40%	50%

Note: Those leaving the foster care system are not required to have a housing and self-reliance plan.

- b. Increasing timely access to prevention resources by:
 - (1) Training and providing resource information to the statewide 211 operators by 21/31/06 for 80% of Utah's population and the balance of the population by 07/01/07
 - (2) Increasing staff assessment resources by at least 10% annually from 2005 for identifying appropriate shelter alternatives, and facilitate their access for person at imminent risk of homelessness or who are homeless.

2. Rapidly Re-housing: Expanding and enhancing outreach and increasing affordable permanent supportive housing opportunities for direct placement; putting in place policies and guidelines that, as housing inventory is upgraded, there is no net loss from the 2005 affordable housing inventory. With 2005 as the base inventory, the permanent

- affordable housing designated for the chronically homeless will be increased by at least 25% by the year 2009.
- a. Expanding availability of affordable supportive housing by:
 - (1) For those who are already homeless, Homeless Coordinating Council (HCC) will employ a “housing first” strategy, by placing them in appropriate models of permanent supportive housing.
 - (2) To ensure present affordable housing inventory is not reduced with future developments, recommendations for changes to legislation and policies by 12/01/05 and more comprehensive recommendation by 09/01/06.
 - (3) Increase the availability of affordable permanent supportive housing units designated from chronically homeless over the 2005 inventory by at least 5% in 2006, 10% in 2007, 20% in 2008, and 25% in 2009.
 - (4) Expanding supportive housing subsidies for the episodic and chronically homeless to live independently with appropriate supportive services by at least 25% by the year 2009 over 2005.
 - (5) Developing 100 additional housing units such as safe havens and harm reduction programs for those who need supportive housing, but would be better with non-traditional service models by 2008
 - (6) Implementing the tenant-based rental assistance statewide by 12/31/07.
 - (7) Expanding the 2005 tenant-based rental assistance by at least 20% by 2009.
 - (8) Increase the availability of appropriate supportive “Housing First” models for homeless youth and youth transitioning out of foster care by at least 25% in 2009 compared with the 2005 inventory.
 - b. Increasing accessibility of affordable permanent supportive housing by:
 - (1) Develop a coalition of landlords willing to provide appropriate affordable permanent supportive housing for the homeless and especially the chronically homeless.
 - (2) Expand and increase coordination of outreach effort for the chronically homeless for assessing and linking with mainstream and permanent supportive housing.
 - c. Transitioning the existing emergency shelter system to a “Housing First” system by:
 - (1) Develop statewide standard by 01/01/06 for moving the chronically homeless into permanent supportive housing that promote housing placement in the most suitable settings possible.
 - (2) Provide guidelines for public funding resources by 01/01/06, encouraging existing shelter programs to adopt a “Housing First” approach to the extent possible.
3. Supportive Services – Appropriate case management level will be provide to insure needed education, skill-training for employment and life skills to improve self-sufficiency to those placed in permanent supportive housing.

- a. Establishing the beginning of a “triage” system for the Wasatch Front by 07/01/07 for preventing homelessness with person/households about to be evicted and for those accessing homeless services.
 - b. Ensure linkage to available community resources by developing systems to integrate strategies between “Housing First” and mainstream services, such as public entitlements, employment training and placement, public health, community mental health and substance abuse treatment. This will be developed and tested by a local homeless coordinating committee by January 1, 2006. The system will be expanded to two additional AOGs in 2007 with statewide implementation by December 21, 2008.
 - c. Increasing the availability and awareness of community supports by:
 - (1) Identifying alternative resources by July 1, 2006 to fund targeted supportive services for person with severe and persistent disabilities who are placed in permanent supportive housing.
 - (2) Implement follow-up strategies to work with households being assisted with basic prevention services to increase their stability and reduce their future risk of homelessness. Supportive Service Committee will implement these strategies.
 - (3) Develop a broad disseminated community education program on homelessness and methods to mitigate their impact. Supportive Service Committee will define the program and select a location for testing by 01/01/06.
4. Accurate and Timely Data – HMIS will be in place by December 31, 2005 to collect and provide accurate data that will also measure results from all agencies receiving public funding. In 2006 and 2007, HMIS will be appropriately linked with data base information from tracker systems and Continuum Care agencies, State Human Services, Health, and Correction Department.
- a. HMIS will be implemented statewide by 12/31/05 to all 68 service providers and will include assessed needs, case management, and the results of improved service delivery.
 - b. Link HMIS to other data services by 12/31/07.
 - c. Consolidated Housing Data will be developed and evaluated by a selected local homeless coordination committee by 7/01/06 with statewide implementation by July 1, 2008.
5. Statewide Implementation – The implementation of the plan will be developed by nine Association of Governments or Council of Government, presently in existence, across the State to more effectively meet the local needs as there is a significant difference between the urban and rural needs. To this end, the Homeless Coordinating Committee has established five committees chaired by a member of the Homeless

Coordinating Committee with membership of stakeholders to review present systems and recommend improvements so the local implementation plan will be consistent and supported. The five committees are:

- a. Discharge Planning – Membership includes representative from service agencies, working with prisoners, mentally ill, foster children, and medical hospitals.
- b. Affordable Housing – Membership includes representatives from financial institutions, housing authorities, developers, providers and planners.
- c. Supportive Services – Membership includes representatives from homeless providers, case managers, Work Force Services, educators, researchers, legal, Veterans Administration, Social Security Administration, and substance abuse counselors.
- d. Information Systems – Membership includes agency providers, researchers, businesses, and investors.
- e. Implementation Infrastructure – Representatives from the nine state AOGs/COGs, the League of Cities and Towns, planning commissions, mayors, county commissioners, and public officials will assist in creating a local homeless coordinating committee with the appropriate membership.

Based on recommendations from these committees, priority action plans will be implemented.

Second Five Year Goals

The second five-year implementation of the action plan will be developed in detail in 2009 by the Homeless Coordinating Committee, base on the results of implementation of the first five-year strategic plan. The second five-year strategic plan will continue to focus on:

1. Expansion of successful strategies.
2. Addressing areas where outcomes are not meeting expectations.
3. Adjusting for changing community dynamics and unforeseen conditions which impeded success.