



ANCHORAGE COALITION TO  
**END HOMELESSNESS**

Anchorage Assembly Committee on  
Housing and Homelessness Updates  
11/17/21

# Anchorage Housing Surge/Shelter Stabilization Initiative

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- Focus on individuals over the age of 25 with no children in physical custody (“single adults”)
- Intent is to reduce shelter demand (mass care and Brother Francis Shelter) and to increase housing

## Governance Group

1. Quickly map existing and newly funded resources available to house and support individuals experiencing homelessness
2. Leverage Homeless Response System Tools to connect individuals in need to resources
3. Advocate for additional resources as needed: both mainstream connectivity and filling in any gaps as discovered
  - Care Coordination connection
  - Healthcare and homelessness initiative
4. Report progress and challenges to the Mayor Bronson, Assembly, Anchorage Health Department
5. Leverage successes and learning for long-term planning

## Client Services Group

- Coordinate core COVID-19 related projects:
  - Landlord Liaison Program (United Way)
  - Intensive Case Management (Catholic Social Services)
  - Emergency Housing Vouchers (ACEH, AHFC)
  - Rental Assistance and outreach (Choices, RurAL CAP)
- Utilize Anchorage's Coordinated Entry system to match clients to the services available in the community (numerous partners across the community)
- Utilize Alaska's HMIS system to collect outcome and client information
- Problem solve bottlenecks in referrals, admissions, capacity and individual client needs
- Communicate risks, issues, red flags to the governance team



# Projected Outflow from Mass Care and Brother Francis Shelter

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Project	# of Individuals
Intensive Case Management with Catholic Social Services	25 month (300 year)
Medical/ Care Coordination	100
Voucher & Rental Assistance able to live independently/working	225
Chronically Homeless with need for additional services	250
Youth (18-24) who can be supported by Young Adult services	90

## Considerations:

- Some of the above interventions have different time horizons. For example, movement into an Assisted Living Facility can take several months
- Information provided by mass care in August 2021



# Monthly Reporting: October 2021\*

Project/Subpopulation	October 2021	Sept 2021	August 2021	July 2021
Total Number of Adults over the age of 25 Experiencing Homelessness in Need of Housing and Supports (not all of these individuals need shelter)	2065	2224	2351	2478
Total Number of Adults over the age of 25 Served through Housing Surge in Previous Month	308	209	172	73
Total Number of Adults over the age of 25 Who Secured Housing through Housing Surge and Moved in during Previous Month	22	17	19	0
Average Length of Time from Start of Housing Surge Services to Beginning Services	32 days	63 days	23 days	N/A



\*Visit <https://aceh.org/data/>

# Weekly Coordination

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## Participants

- Infrastructure:
  - ACEH
  - Anchorage Assembly
  - Anchorage Health Department
  - Homelessness Leadership Council
  - Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
  - Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC)
  - Alaska Mental Health Trust
  - Mass Care
- Core Services:
  - Landlord Liaison: United Way
  - Intensive Case Management: Catholic Social Services
  - Rental Assistance and Outreach: Choices and RurAL CAP
  - Mass Care congregate and non-congregate: 99 Plus 1



## October 2021 Month 4 Accomplishments:

- Housing continues steadily despite challenges
- Emergency Housing Voucher(EHV) referral process has resulted in housing
- Continued partnership for COVID-19 mitigation via vaccines, testing, healthcare etc.
- Continuing to identify those that need a higher level of care
- Engaged AHD in solutions for PCA/PCS care for individuals with higher need for physical support



# Bottlenecks/Challenges: October 2021

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Bottlenecks in the local and state systems that result in service barriers or failure to secure housing including risks and issues that will slow down or reduce housing stabilization

- **NEW:** Need to reestablish coordination of efforts with Mass Care and AHD on the housing surge out of mass care
- Coordination/communication across needed entities at local and state level for specialized behavioral health and medical services: progress underway with AHD and SOA
  - Resource/ capacity constraints with behavioral health, care coordination etc.
  - Dissemination of tools/programs at a State and local level that will assist with housing
  - Hospital discharges to shelter without additional services to meet client



# Bottlenecks/Challenges: October 2021

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Lack of clarity about the role of mass care/AHD in the housing surge.

- Congregate mass care – need a point of contact for the housing surge.
- Non-congregate mass care – need a point of contact for the housing surge.
- Availability and accessibility of affordable rental units, Assisted Living Home beds and Supportive Housing beds
  - Vacancy rate for apartments accessible to individuals experiencing homelessness (units available in income range at limited vacancy rate)
  - Ramp up of Landlord Liaison efforts now that contracts are completed
  - Units that allow pets
  - Access to funds that permit leasing up quickly
  - Rapidly updated list of landlords who are willing to rent to those in mass care
- Continued statewide “referrals” to Anchorage shelter system
- CSS Intensive Case Management data entry waiting on AHD reporting requirements for ICA to create the framework for data entry



## Unit Search Support Services

- ❖ Strategic unit recruitment
- ❖ Email & phone support
- ❖ Processing of incentives & mitigation requests
- ❖ Database training and implementation

## Centralized Information Hub

- ❖ Database for units available: location, amenities, cost, photos
- ❖ Three user types: PMs, Service Providers, and Clients
- ❖ Serves landlords who agree to the program

## Property Manager Incentives

- ❖ \$250 at move-in
- ❖ \$250 at 6-month retention
- ❖ Direct contact with supportive services team
- ❖ Help desk available

## Risk Mitigation Resources

- ❖ Up to \$1,500 per unit for documented damages
- ❖ Assurance in exchange for reduced screening criteria and access barriers
- ❖ Must accept vouchers to qualify

# United Way Landlord Housing Partnership



# Outreach Update

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## October 2021

96 Unduplicated Client contacts

15 Coordinated Entry Assessments

Unclear communication around camp abatement in the winter

Unclear communication on timing around standing up warming tents and access to additional shelter

