

Mayor Berkowitz’s Homelessness Action Plan

The Municipality of Anchorage will facilitate development and maintenance of community structures that reduce the number of homeless individuals in our community.

To tackle homelessness, we must address access to housing for the lowest income community members, a symptom of Anchorage’s larger housing gridlock problems. The average rent of a one bedroom apartment in Anchorage was \$1,082 in 2014. This cost represents a significant barrier for a homeless person or a person with a disability to establish and maintain stable housing and regain a life in our community.

By convening stakeholders in who possess resources and using proven strategies, we can drastically reduce the number of individuals living on our streets and create a safer, stronger Anchorage.

After evaluating the service system and consulting with service providers and stakeholders, we have developed an ambitious, results-based agenda for our work.

Homelessness takes many faces; from families, to youth and young adults, or those leaving correctional facilities and many of these populations have strong non-profit and community partners working on their behalf. We will focus on homeless adults who are on our streets and in camps across our city. Our efforts will focus on the following equation:

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{Housing units + affordable access for tenants and landlords + health + employment} \\
 = \\
 \text{Community participation and housing stability}
 \end{array}$$

HOUSING (<i>stability</i>)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 300 units dedicated to housing the homeless (over 3 years) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We will look for projects that will increase the continuum of resources needed from sober housing to <i>housing first units</i> ○ Rental assistance – creation or dedication of housing subsidies for new tenants • Augmented social services funds to assist with the security and extra support needed for success • Landlord liaisons: when there are problems, provide a direct contact for landlords 	
RESOURCES (<i>results focused coordinated services</i>)	EMPLOYMENT (<i>purpose</i>)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community fund for deposits/first months’ rent • Medicaid expansion strategies and reform opportunities leading to access to medical care • Specialized outreach – psychiatric, substance abuse, faith-based organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community employers engaged • Vocational rehabilitation resources available
MEASURED OUTCOMES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How many people housed? • How many people in emergency and overflow shelters? • How many people in camps? • How many people cycling through emergency and higher cost service settings? • Community impacts on neighborhoods, parks and our street 	

