

# A FRAMEWORK for COVID-19 HOMELESSNESS RESPONSE

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Nan Roman  
President & CEO  
National Alliance to End Homelessness

# Overview

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- States and localities will receive significant ESG, CDBG and other funds.
- Funds should be used strategically to maximize impact.
- Homelessness could grow or shrink depending on your approach.

# Overview – con't.



Homelessness and pandemic disproportionately affect persons of color and marginalized communities -- identify and remediate disparities



Address highest needs first



Get people into housing – prevention after immediate concerns are addressed



Create partnerships

# Action Areas

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Strategies and activities in these areas:

- Unsheltered people
- Shelter
- Housing
- Prevention and diversion
- Strengthening systems for the future

# Unsheltered

- Engage people with lived experience in planning, implementation, outreach and services
- Testing and screening
- Transfer into appropriate shelter/housing
- Provide hygiene and health services for those outside; peers
- Move all to appropriate rooms, medical services, housing
- Create acceptable alternatives for those who reject shelter



# Shelter



- Testing, screening and social distancing
- Move people to quarantine and isolation as appropriate
- Use peers and people with lived experiences
- Go to scale on congregate and non-congregate shelter as needed
- Examine data for inequities
- Provide housing services for exit
- Plan to replace all congregate with non-congregate shelter
- Eliminate congregate shelter



# Housing

- Assess need for various models
- Intensive landlord engagement and speed lease-up
- Plan to-scale exits from shelter to homes
- Partners and resources for re-housing to scale
- Connection to services, employment





# Diversion & Prevention



- Rapid re-housing and PSH checks
- Scale-up
- Examine for equity
- When other needs met, begin scaling prevention for <30%AMI, targeting marginalized communities
- Get partners to support previously homeless to prevent recidivism
- If all <30%AMI are housed, move to higher incomes for prevention



# Improving Systems for the Future

- Establish partnerships (public health, CoC, etc.)
- Enter and analyze data; document disparities, analyze, remediate
- Engage people with lived experience
- Establish equity-based decision making
- Establish links to employment
- Plan response to income/rent cuts
- Evaluate response to COVID and document equity best practices



# Framework Next Steps



- Distributing to field and policymakers
- Revised regularly
- Tools, protocols, guidance, documents, etc. will be added
- More assistance to implement

# Funding Sources

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- FEMA
- ESG
- CDBG
- Coronavirus Relief Fund
- Federal funding to States/localities (TANF, Medicaid, etc.)
- Family Violence Prevention and Services Act
- RHYA/HYDP
- HOME – TBRA
- HOPWA
- Section 8, 202, 811
- Philanthropic funds
- State/local discretionary funds

**THANK YOU!**

**[endhomelessness.org](http://endhomelessness.org)**

