



# Federal Strategic Plan to End Homelessness

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Housing as a Human Right: Exploring Partnerships, Innovation, and Equity

October 6, 2022

# **USICH Listening Session: Lessons From the Field to Inform Implementation of the New Federal Strategic Plan**

October 6, 2022

2:30-3:45pm EDT

Housing as a Human Right Conference

Princeton, New Jersey





# Presenter

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# Objectives

1. To provide a high-level overview of what to expect in the next Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness
2. To gain insights from YOU that will help inform roll-out and implementation of the Plan



# What Is USICH?

## **The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness:**

- Coordinates the federal response to homelessness
- Develops and implements the Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness
- Creates partnerships between national, state, local, and private stakeholders; and helps them use resources efficiently
- The *only* federal agency with the sole mission of preventing and ending homelessness



# USICH Council

## Council leaders:

- Chair – HUD Secretary Marcia Fudge
- Vice Chair – VA Secretary Denis McDonough

## Council members represent 19 federal agencies:





# A New Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness



# What is a Federal Strategic Plan?

- Roadmap for **Federal action to prevent and end homelessness**
- Blueprint for **state and local action**
- Meant to be a **living document** with annual updates to reflect current conditions





# How Did We Get Here?

- Listening to and learning **from you**
- Building upon **what's working**
- Addressing **areas in need of greater attention**





# Input Process: What did we ask?

- What should the federal government's top priorities be?
- What are the biggest barriers in your community?
- How can the federal government more effectively center racial equity and support equitable access and outcomes at the local level?
- What lessons have you learned during the COVID pandemic about how housing, health, and supportive services systems can best respond?
- Is there anything else you wish to add?



# Input Process: What did we hear?

- Lack of affordable housing
- Insufficient and mismatch of supports and services
- Need to focus on reducing inflow
- More guidance and flexibility
- Concern around false narratives and public perception, criminalization
- Impact of systemic racism, discrimination and caseworker bias
- More authentic and meaningful engagement



# The Plan: What to Expect

- The Plan will be comprised of key pillars and strategies that will lay groundwork for implementation
  - *Represents current and best thinking*
  - *Meant to be a living document*

**Interagency Review**

April to June 2022

**Plan Finalized**

July 2022

**Council Adoption**

August 2022

**Plan Released**

September 2022



# The Plan: What to Expect

- Equity, Evidence, and Collaboration as foundational elements
- Stronger focus on prevention
- Commitment to Housing First – including scaling up housing AND services
- Strategies to bolster homelessness response systems



# The Plan: What to Expect

- Following release of plan:
  - USICH will work with key stakeholders—including persons with lived expertise—to develop tools and guidance
  - USICH Senior Regional Advisors will work with state and local leaders and organizations to support local and state adoption of the Plan
  - USICH will work with Federal partners to turn strategies into actions and will report on progress



# On-Going Stakeholder Engagement

What strategies are working in your community to reduce homelessness?



# On-Going Stakeholder Engagement

What strategies are working in your community to prevent homelessness?





# On-Going Stakeholder Engagement

How has your community been able to center racial equity in your work to reduce homelessness? How is your community working to reduce disparities?



# On-Going Stakeholder Engagement

What additional barriers and challenges is your community encountering that the Federal Government can help to resolve?  
How can we be a better partner?



# On-Going Stakeholder Engagement

Any other comments or feedback?



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# **Federal Strategic Plan to End Homelessness Questions?**

Thank you for attending the panel!

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