



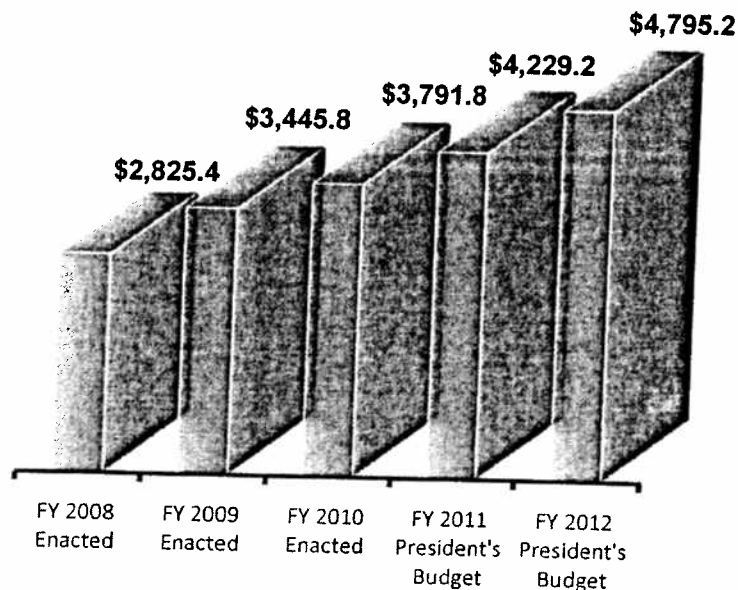
United States Interagency Council on Homelessness

Preventing and Ending Homelessness in the United States

Fiscal Year 2012 Federal Government Homelessness Budget Fact Sheet

Building on the watershed year in efforts to prevent and end homelessness, President Obama today released his Fiscal Year 2012 (FY 12) Budget Proposal that includes a significant funding commitment for *Opening Doors*. Today's budget includes **\$4.8 billion** for targeted homeless assistance funding (link to the homelessness fact sheet), a **23.4% increase** over the previously enacted Fiscal Year 2010 Budget and a 13.3% increase over the President's Fiscal Year 2011 Budget Proposal. As President Obama said last year, "Now more than ever, we have a responsibility to tackle national challenges like homelessness in the most cost-effective ways possible."

**Targeted Homeless Assistance Programs
(Budget Authority in Millions of Dollars)**



In June 2010, 19 federal agencies that form the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) submitted to the President and Congress the nation's first comprehensive strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness. The full report is titled *Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness*. The plan puts the country on a path to end Veterans and chronic homelessness by 2015; and to ending homelessness among children, families, and youth by 2020.

Opening Doors represents a dramatic shift in federal policy for preventing and ending homelessness. *Opening Doors* broadens the federal government's goals beyond chronic homelessness, by adding goals for Veterans, families, youth and children. *Opening Doors* is based on the idea that solving homelessness

requires that people access mainstream resources effectively and sufficiently to meet their needs and avoid homelessness. The new plan places prevention at the center and brings mainstream resources to bear. In *Opening Doors'* shift to mainstream resources, we are moving to where the dollars are. Mainstream resources refer to Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Social Security Administration, Department of Labor, and the Department of Agriculture resources that include public housing, Medicaid, Social Security, and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance.

This fact sheet serves as an overview of the targeted homeless assistance programs across the Federal government. While USICH and its 19 member agencies continue their implementation of *Opening Doors* and leveraging mainstream resources, funding targeted homeless assistance programs is also critical in the nation's efforts to prevent and end homelessness.

COLLABORATIVE INITIATIVES

Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) Program

The HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program combines Housing Choice Voucher rental assistance for homeless Veterans with case management and clinical services provided by the Department of Veteran's Affairs (VA). VA provides these services for participating Veterans at VA Medical Centers and community-based outreach clinics. HUD has awarded funding for approximately 10,000 HUD-VASH vouchers each year in 2008, 2009 and 2010. HUD is requesting an additional \$75 million for HUD-VASH in 2012.

Housing and Services for Homeless Persons Demonstration (HUD-HHS Voucher Program)

HUD is requesting 7,500 new vouchers in FY 2012 to serve homeless families and chronically homeless persons through the Housing and Services for Homeless Persons Demonstration. These vouchers would be coupled with mainstream supportive services from HHS to demonstrate how mainstream programs across Federal agencies can be aligned to significantly decrease homelessness. Two separate initiatives would be funded under this demonstration.

Opening Doors Chronic Homelessness Signature Initiative

This initiative will target housing vouchers to low-income, single, childless adults who are eligible for Medicaid under current law or through coverage expansion under 1115 Waivers or state-only initiatives. In addition, grants administered by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration will provide the wraparound support that promotes housing stability and improvements in behavioral health outcomes for this population. This initiative presents a tremendous opportunity to incent states to work in partnership with local public housing authorities and supportive housing providers to structure their Medicaid programs and build the Medicaid billing capacity of behavioral health providers to support this population predominantly through Medicaid-eligible services.

It will test and evaluate replicable models for using Medicaid to finance health care and related services for those in permanent supportive housing, aligning federal service funding with federal housing vouchers. This will help inform future policy development at federal, state, and local levels.

Opening Doors Families and Children Signature Initiative

This initiative strategically targets Federal resources from HUD, HHS, and the Department of Education (ED) to identify and stabilize homeless families and to reduce the costs associated with poor school performance and poverty. It presents a different, but equally needed opportunity to learn how to structure collaborations at a local level to bring together mainstream housing assistance with mainstream service programs at HHS and ED for families and children.

Local communities would combine new housing vouchers with mainstream programs to better serve homeless or at-risk families with children. The Department of Education will help identify families through its network of homeless liaisons. This initiative will also test and evaluate replicable models for creating collaborations for aligning federally-funded programs and funding at the local level to improve their effectiveness in helping families experiencing or at high risk of homelessness. An improved evidence base will help guide future policy development.

United States Interagency Council on Homelessness

Building off of the momentum generated across the country by the release of *Opening Doors*, USICH and its 19 member agencies have immediately turned from the development of *Opening Doors* to action. The President's FY 2012 Budget Proposal is the first budget developed by USICH member agencies since the release of *Opening Doors*, and is a statement of the Administration's commitment to preventing and ending homelessness as a national priority.

USICH's FY 2012 Budget increase includes funding for an expansion of its regional coordinators to 10 and they will be directly funded by USICH instead of HUD. The current regional coordinators have served and the additional coordinators will serve instrumental roles in implementing *Opening Doors*, encouraging state and local coordination through such vehicles as state and local plans and state interagency councils, ensuring effective coverage, and support, and technical assistance to communities across the United States by providing leadership in developing intercommunity collaborations. The regional coordinators will work to organize and support strategies to end homelessness in the federal regions, in states and local communities across the nation, and will be instrumental in convening regional and state interagency council representatives to mirror the work of the federal partners in Washington, DC to make resources more available and accessible to people who are homeless. By having a regional coordinator actively engaged in every region, USICH will be more effectively structured to fully carry out its statutorily mandated mission, provide support, and build strategic relationships in every region that will set the stage to prevent and end homelessness nationally.

Funding levels:

FY 2010 - \$2.5 million

FY 2011 (proposed) - \$2.7 million

FY 2012 (proposed) - \$3.9 million

TARGETED HOMELESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS BY DEPARTMENT

Department of Education

Education for Homeless Children and Youth

To ensure that all homeless children and youth have equal access to the same free, appropriate public education available to other children, the Education for Homeless Children and Youth program provides assistance to States, Outlying Areas, and the Bureau of Indian Education to: (1) establish or designate an Office of Coordinator of Education of Homeless Children and Youths; (2) develop and carry out a State plan for the education of homeless children; and (3) make sub-grants to local educational agencies to support the education of those children.

Funding levels:

FY 2010 - \$65.4 million

FY 2011 (proposed) - \$65.4 million

FY 2012 (proposed) - \$65.4 million

Department of Health and Human Services

Health Care for the Homeless

The purpose of the Health Care for the Homeless program is to provide primary health care, substance abuse, emergency care with referrals to hospitals for in-patient care services and/or other needed services, and outreach services to assist difficult-to-reach homeless persons in accessing care, and to provide assistance in establishing eligibility for entitlement programs and housing.

FY 2010 - \$171 million

FY 2011 (proposed) - \$252 million

FY 2012 (proposed) - \$258 million

Grants for the Benefit of Homeless Individuals

The Grants for the Benefit of Homeless Individuals program enables communities to expand and strengthen their treatment services for homeless individuals with substance abuse disorders, mental illness, or co-occurring substance abuse disorders and mental illness. HHS can award grants of up to five years duration to community-based public or nonprofit entities to provide addiction and mental health services to homeless people.

FY 2010 - \$43 million

FY 2011 (proposed) - \$47 million

FY 2012 (proposed) - \$47 million

Services in Supportive Housing Grants

The Services in Supportive Housing (SSH) program in SAMHSA's Center for Mental Health Services was created to help prevent or reduce chronic homelessness by funding services for individuals and families experiencing homelessness while living with severe mental illness or co-occurring mental and substance disorders. The SSH program addresses the need for treatment and support service provision to individuals and families.

FY 2010 - \$32 million

FY 2011 (proposed) - \$40 million

FY 2012 (proposed) - \$40 million

Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness

PATH is a formula grant program that provides financial assistance to States to support services for homeless individuals who have serious mental illness or co-occurring mental illness and substance abuse disorders.

FY 2010 - \$65 million

FY 2011 (proposed) - \$70 million

FY 2012 (proposed) - \$65 million

Runaway and Homeless Youth Act

The program funds over 740 public, community and faith-based organizations through three grant programs that serve the runaway and homeless youth population:

Basic Center Program

The Basic Center Program establishes or strengthens locally controlled, community and faith-based programs that address the immediate needs of runaway and homeless youth and their families. Basic Centers provide youth with temporary emergency shelter, food, clothing and referrals for health care. Other types of assistance provided to youth and their families may include individual, group and family counseling, recreation programs, and aftercare services for youth once they leave the shelter. Grants can also be used for outreach activities targeting youth who may need assistance.

Transitional Living Program

The Transitional Living Program provides shelter, skills training and support services to homeless youth between the ages of 16 and 22 for a continuous period generally not exceeding 540 days, or in exceptional circumstances 635 days. Youth are provided with stable, safe living accommodations and services that help them develop the skills necessary to move to independence. Living accommodations may be host family homes, group homes or "supervised apartments."

Street Outreach Program

The Street Outreach Program provides educational and prevention services to runaway, homeless and street youth who have been subject to, or are at risk of, sexual exploitation or abuse. The program works to establish and build relationships between street youth and program outreach staff in order to help youth leave the streets.

FY 2010 - \$115.6 million

FY 2011 (proposed) - \$115.3 million

FY 2012 (proposed) - \$120.7million

Department of Homeland Security

Emergency Food and Shelter Program

The program helps meet the needs of hungry and homeless people throughout the United States and its territories by allocating funds for the provision of food and shelter. The program is governed by a National Board, chaired by FEMA, and comprised of representatives from American Red Cross; Catholic Charities USA; National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA; The Jewish Federations of North America; The Salvation Army; and United Way Worldwide.

FY 2010 - \$200 million

FY 2011 (proposed) - \$100 million

FY 2012 (proposed) - \$100 million

Department of Housing and Urban Development

On May 20, 2009, President Obama signed the Homeless Emergency and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act of 2009. The HEARTH Act amends and reauthorizes the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act with substantial changes, including:

- A consolidation of HUD's competitive homeless assistance grant programs (Supportive Housing Program, Shelter Plus Care, and Section 8/ Single Room Occupancy Dwelling) into one program – the Continuum of Care Program;
- An increase in funding and flexibility for the Emergency Shelter Grants Program (renamed the Emergency Solutions Grants Program) to allow communities to continue work initiated under the Recovery Act-funded Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP);
- The creation of a Rural Housing Stability Program;
- A change in HUD's definition of homelessness and chronic homelessness;
- An increased emphasis on performance; and
- A codification of the Continuum of Care (CoC) structure and process, including funding for local administrative costs to implement the CoC process.

In fiscal year 2012, HUD and its grantees will be in the early stages of transition from the current programs to the new ESG, CoC, and Rural Housing Stability programs.

FY 2010 - \$1.865 billion

FY 2011 (proposed)- \$2.055 billion

FY 2012 (proposed) - \$2.372 billion

Renewal of Existing Grants

In 2012, HUD will renew eligible existing competitive grants. These grants will also transition into the one consolidated CoC Program. The HEARTH Act mandates several changes to specific line items at the CoC and project levels, which will significantly increase the cost of the renewal burden in 2012. Through the CoC system as established under HEARTH, renewal grants will be used to coordinate housing and services to meet the needs of the individuals and families in their communities.

New Competitive Projects

HUD has also requested funding in the FY 2012 budget for new competitive projects under the CoC and Rural Housing Stability programs, as well as for authorized administrative costs. Specific amounts of CoC funding may vary as a result of the actual cost of renewing existing contracts in fiscal year 2012. Moreover, for the first time, CoCs are eligible to receive their own planning and administrative funds – important resources that will help communities build capacity for strategic planning and sound fiscal management.

Emergency Solutions Grants

The new Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) program will provide formula grants to help States and localities provide prevention, shelter, and/or rapid re-housing assistance to individuals and families at risk of or experiencing homelessness.

Incentive and Service Coordination Initiative

The incentive and service coordination initiative is a new strategy to successfully spur partnerships between local Continuum of Care grantees and local Public Housing Agencies (PHAs). This initiative creates a competitive service coordination fund that would be administered by a proposed Office of Service Coordination (associated with the proposed consolidation of PIH service coordination functions), but designed jointly by HUD's Offices of Community Planning and Development, Public and Indian Housing, and Federal Housing Administration Multi-Family. Additionally, the initiative would create an incentive fund that would be flexibly administered to allow for two options: payment of incentive fees, or for the purpose of indemnifying PHAs (in the case of public housing) and owners (in the case of project-based and tenant-based rental assistance) for the loss of security deposits, damages in excess of

security deposits, rent-skipping, and other potential financial risks that pose barriers to targeting homeless households.

Department of Labor

Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program

The Homeless Veterans' Reintegration Program provides services to help homeless Veterans obtain meaningful employment and to stimulate the development of effective service delivery systems to address the complex problems facing homeless Veterans. It is the only nationwide program exclusively focused on assisting homeless Veterans reintegrate into the workforce. Funds are awarded through competitive grants. Within the program are funds to support grantees providing specialized services to homeless female Veterans and homeless Veterans with families. This program was initiated in FY 2010 in recognition of the special needs of these subgroups.

FY 2010 - \$36.3 million

FY 2011 (proposed) - \$41 million

FY 2012 (proposed) - \$39.3 million

Department of Veterans Affairs

Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem (GPD) Program

VA's Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program funds community agencies providing services to homeless Veterans. The purpose is to promote the development and provision of supportive housing and/or supportive services with the goal of helping homeless Veterans achieve residential stability, increase their skill levels and/or income, and obtain greater self-determination.

FY 2010 - \$175.3 million

FY 2011 (proposed) - \$218 million

FY 2012 (proposed) - \$224.2 million

The Domiciliary Care for Homeless Veterans (DCHV) Program

DCHVs provide a 24-hours-per-day, 7 days-per-week structured and supportive residential rehabilitation and treatment services for homeless Veterans. The program provides rehabilitation and treatment to approximately 6,000 homeless Veterans with health problems each year.

FY 2010 - \$119 million

FY 2011 (proposed) - \$136 million

FY 2012 (proposed) - \$158.3 million

The Healthcare for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) Program

The HCHV program conducts outreach to homeless Veterans via clinical teams located at 132 VA Medical Centers. The main goal of outreach is to connect homeless Veterans with needed services that will end their homelessness. The HCHV program also provides residential treatment through contracts with community providers and longer term case management through the HCHV- Supported Housing program.

FY 2010 - \$83 million

FY 2011 (proposed) - \$116 million

FY 2012 (proposed) - \$141.1 million

Supportive Services for Low Income Veteran Families Living in Permanent Housing (SSVF)

SSVF is a new program to provide supportive services to very low-income Veteran families in or transitioning to permanent housing. Funds are provided through grants to private non-profit organizations and consumer cooperatives that will assist very low-income Veterans' families by providing a range of supportive services designed to promote housing stability. Through the SSVF Program, VA aims to improve housing stability for very low-income Veterans' families.

FY 2010 – \$20 million

FY 2011 (proposed) - \$51 million

FY 2012 (proposed) - \$100 million

The Justice Outreach, Homelessness Prevention: Healthcare for Reentry Veterans (HCRV, prison outreach) and Veteran's Justice Outreach (VJO, law enforcement, jail and court outreach)

Justice Outreach (VJO and HCRV) addresses the justice involvement continuum from first contact with law enforcement through release from prison or jail. VJO is designed to help justice-involved Veterans avoid the unnecessary criminalization of mental illness and extended incarceration by ensuring that eligible justice-involved Veterans have timely access to VHA mental health and substance abuse services when clinically indicated, and other VA services and benefits as appropriate. HCRV assists reentry Veterans released from prison readjust to community life through access to community reintegration, health, and social services provided through VA and community services.

FY 2010 - \$6 million

FY 2011 (proposed)- \$19 million

FY 2012 (proposed) - \$21.6 million