



# WASHINGTON HOMELESS SYSTEMS MAPPING

## PATHWAYS IN AND PATHWAYS OUT

The State of Washington Department of Commerce leads the efforts in the state to meet the needs of people experiencing or at-risk of homelessness. State and local governments work in coordination with local non-profits to stabilize housing for those at-risk, coordinate access to services for individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness, and help people exit the homeless service system to appropriate and safe permanent housing. This tool serves as a guide to programs, funding streams, and resources for each intersection in Washington’s homeless system. Funding sources and programs are always changing and evolving. This is not meant to be an exhaustive list, but rather a representative snapshot in time of statewide programs.

### RESOURCES:

*An Overview of Homelessness and Housing in Washington State*

*Homelessness in Washington State: 2018 Annual Report*

*Washington State Homeless System Performance*

*Washington Continuums of Care (CoCs)*

### PREVENTION/DIVERSION (0)

Landlord Development/Engagement  
Mixed Income Housing Development  
Public/Private Partnerships  
Family Engagement  
Zoning Code Review  
Eviction Processes  
Rental Assistance

### PATHWAYS IN (1)

Institutions- State Hospital Discharge  
Criminal Justice & Juvenile Justice  
Eviction  
Relocation  
Domestic Violence  
Runaway and Homeless Youth  
Foster Care

### WRAPAROUND SERVICES

Outreach Teams  
Specialty Services  
Benefits Acquisition  
Family Engagement  
Employment/Income Supports  
Treatment  
Health Care  
Mental Health Care  
Substance Use Services

### PATHWAYS OUT (3)

Rapid Re-Housing  
Permanent Supportive Housing  
Long-Term Care  
Other Permanent Housing

### CONDITIONS OF HOMELESSNESS (2)

Unsheltered  
Emergency/Short-term Shelter  
Unstable Housing (Doubled-Up)  
Transitional Housing  
Vehicles/RVs



# 0: DIVERSION/PREVENTION

Programs are available to identify and support individuals and families prior to entering the homeless service system to divert them from mainstream homeless services and prevent them from losing their housing.

## LANDLORD DEVELOPMENT/ENGAGEMENT

**Landlord Mitigation Program:** Washington State's Landlord Mitigation Law provides funds for landlord reimbursement for required move-in upgrades, rent loss, and qualifying damages.

## MIXED INCOME HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

**The Washington Low Income Housing Alliance:** Coalition of organizations that advocates for safe affordable housing.

## PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

**Washington Youth and Families Fund:** Operated by Building Changes, the fund is a combination of government and philanthropic funds granted to local agencies to reduce homelessness and improve outcomes for youth and families.

## FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

**The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation:** Grants are distributed to support efforts to reduce family homelessness in Washington.

## ZONING CODE REVIEW

**The Municipal Research and Services Center (MRSC):** Provides information to local governments in Washington State including information on homeless housing.

## EVICTION PROCESSES/PREVENTION

**Legal Foundation of Washington:** Local legal aid organizations and other attorneys help to prevent evictions and maintain stable housing for renters.

## RENTAL ASSISTANCE

**Washington State Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), Economic Services Administration, Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) Referral Program:** HEN program funds can be used for rent and utility assistance, move-in costs, health and hygiene items, cleaning supplies, and transportation assistance. HEN program funds are accessed through a network of homeless prevention service providers.

**HUD HOME Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA):** The TBRA program uses federal funds to provide deposits, utility payments, and ongoing rental assistance.

**Consolidated Homeless Grant (CHG):** Washington State uses funds collected from document recording fees to provide resources for homeless crisis response systems through local governments and nonprofits.



# 1: PATHWAYS IN

Individuals and families enter the homeless service system due to a wide range of circumstances including, but not limited to the loss of a job, unexpected medical bills, a mental health crisis, family separation, and exiting the foster-care system.

## COORDINATED ENTRY (CE)

**Coordinated Entry (CE):** CE provides access points for individuals needing assistance and helps communities prioritize services based on individual needs and available resources. CE access points are available in every county.

## PATHWAYS IN

**Housing Assistance Unit Managing Director, Tedd Kelleher:** Commerce's Housing Unit Assistance Managing Director Tedd Kelleher explains what's driving the increase of homelessness in Washington State.

**Point in Time Count:** Annual count and calculation of people experiencing homelessness in Washington State.

## STATE HOSPITAL DISCHARGE

**Eastern and Western State Hospitals:** The Washington State Department of Social And Health Services operates two hospitals (Eastern and Western) that provide inpatient evaluations, competency restoration, and treatment for individuals with serious mental illness.

**Community Inpatient Mental Health Facilities:** Psychiatric inpatient treatment is also available in community hospitals or certified evaluation and treatment facilities.

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE/JUVENILE JUSTICE

**Greater Lakes Mental Healthcare Community Reentry Program in Pierce County's Jail Transition Program (Local example):** Staff from the mental health center help individuals incarcerated at the county jail connect to resources upon release.

**Trueblood et al v. Washington State DSHS Settlement:** A class action lawsuit settlement that endorses a person's constitutional right to timely competence evaluation and restoration services. Funding is available for diversion services.

INSTITUTIONS

## EVICITION

**Foreclosure Fairness Program:** Washington State program offers foreclosure counseling and mediation between homeowners and lenders to identify alternatives to foreclosure.

**Eviction Rent Assistance Program (ERAP):** Washington State funding to prevent evictions in response to COVID-19 by covering past-due, current, and future rent payments.

**Tenancy Preservation:** In court-approved cases, the Washington Department of Commerce will issue a temporary loan to landlords to preserve tenancy for low-income tenants facing eviction for non-payment of rent.

## RELOCATION

**Manufactured/Mobile Home Relocation Assistance Program:** Financial assistance for relocation of manufactured or mobile homes in communities that are closing.

## RUNAWAY/HOMELESS YOUTH

**U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Basic Center Program (BCP):** The BCP helps reunite runaway and homeless youth with their families or other appropriate placements.

## FOSTER CARE

**Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) Contracted Independent Living Skills (ILS):** A program to assist youth emancipating from foster care in obtaining housing.

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

**Domestic Violence Legal Advocacy:** State grants for community-based victim service agencies.

**Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence:** Coalition of over 70 programs that provide financial, housing and legal assistance to survivors of domestic violence.

**Department of Justice (DOJ) Transitional Housing Assistance Program:** The Transitional Housing Assistance Grants for Victims of Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking (Transitional Housing Program) provides funding for 6-24 months of transitional housing with support services for survivors.

**Family Violence Prevention Grant:** The Washington State Office of Crime Victims Advocacy utilizes the federal Family Violence Prevention formula grant to offer financial assistance to survivors of domestic violence.



# 2: CONDITIONS OF HOMELESSNESS

## DEFINITIONS OF HOMELESSNESS

The definitions of homelessness vary among federal agencies, funding sources, and age groups.

<i>U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)</i>	<i>U.S. Department of Education (for homeless children and youth)</i>	<i>The Runaway and Homeless Youth Act</i>
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### UNSHELTERED

<i>Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH):</i> PATH is a federal formula grant intended to provide outreach, case management, and housing services to individuals with serious mental illness and/or co-occurring substance use disorders.	<i>The Municipal Research and Services Center (MRSC):</i> Provides information to local governments in Washington State including a general municipal code for temporary homeless camp sites.
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### EMERGENCY/SHORT-TERM SHELTER

<i>HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) Program:</i> 2019 funding levels by each state, including new and renewal projects and those that applied for a domestic violence bonus.	<i>HUD Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG):</i> Federal funds for outreach, emergency shelter, rental assistance, and supportive services. Program focus is on homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing.
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### UNSTABLE HOUSING (DOUBLED-UP)

<i>Homeless Student Stability Program (HSSP):</i> State grants to support students experiencing homelessness through in-school supports and housing stability.	<i>HUD CoC Transitional Housing Programs:</i> Interim stability and support with the goal of moving to and maintaining permanent housing. Housing and supportive services can be provided for up to 24 months.
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### TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

### VEHICLES/RVS

<i>Vehicle Residency Programs Local Example:</i> A program in Seattle/King County to increase outreach to individuals living in their vehicles and establish safe parking sites with services. The Salvation Army established a Street Level Ministry to do this outreach using HUD funding from King County.	 <p><i>New HUD Funding Comes Through To Help People Living in Their Cars</i></p>
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# 3: PATHWAYS OUT

▶ The Pathways Out of homelessness are as diverse as the Pathways In. The Department of Commerce specifically tracks system performance based on length of time homeless, exits to permanent housing, and returns to homelessness.

<p><b>Washington’s Housing Inventory Count:</b> Provides a snapshot of Washington’s inventory of housing conducted annually and by program type.</p>	<p><b>Homeless Housing and Assistance Act:</b> Grants document recording fees to local county governments or local non-profits.</p>
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## RAPID RE-HOUSING

<p><b>HUD CoC Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) Programs:</b> RRH programs offer short- and medium-term rental assistance, housing search, and relocation assistance.</p>	
<p><b>WA CoC Grants</b></p>	<p><b>Program Eligibility</b></p>
<p><b>HUD Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG):</b> Federal funds for outreach, emergency shelter, rental assistance, and supportive services. Program focus is on homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing.</p>	

## LONG-TERM CARE

<p><b>Aging and Long-Term Support Administration:</b> Long-term care residential options include nursing homes, adult family homes, and assistance living facilities.</p>
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## OTHER PERMANENT HOUSING

<p><b>Quixote Communities:</b> A permanent tiny house village in Olympia, Washington. They are expanding to Orting and Shelton.</p>
<p><b>Washington State Association of Oxford Houses:</b> Self-run and self-supported recovery houses offering shared sober living spaces.</p>
<p><b>Washington Alliance for Quality Recovery Residences:</b> Directory of recovery residences that are certified for quality and ethical standards.</p>

## PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

<p><b>Department of Commerce, Office of Supportive Housing:</b> Coordinates with state agencies, including HCA and DSHS to help increase the availability of supportive housing for individuals with mental health conditions or substance use disorders.</p>	<p><b>HUD Section 811 Project Rental Assistance:</b> Federal grants to provide project-based rental assistance to low-income individuals with disabilities.</p>
<p><b>HUD CoC Permanent Supportive Housing Programs:</b> Community based housing for persons with disabilities, without a designated length of stay. Supportive services are provided so individuals can live as independently as possible.</p>	<p><b>Consolidated Homeless Grant:</b> Washington State uses funds collected from document recording fees to provide resources to fund homeless crisis response systems through local governments and nonprofits.</p>
<p><b>Community Behavioral Health Rental Assistance (CBRA) and Housing and Recovery Through Peer Services Long-Term Subsidies (HARPS LTS):</b> Permanent rental subsidies for individuals with behavioral health conditions that are highly-vulnerable.</p>	<p><b>SAMHSA Grants for the Benefit of Homeless Individuals (GBHI):</b> Federal grant funding for supportive services for individuals with serious mental illness, substance use disorders, or co-occurring disorders. Services may include outreach, case management, connection to treatment, and housing supports.</p>
<p><b>Association of Washington Housing Authorities:</b> Housing authorities provide affordable housing opportunities through programs such as Section 8 Tenant-Based Rental Assistance and Section 8 Family Self-Sufficiency. Programs may include housing for seniors, people with disabilities, low-income families, and agricultural workers.</p>	



# WRAPAROUND SERVICES

For many individuals and families, services are key to ongoing housing stability. These wraparound services help at all points in the system from Prevention to the Pathways Out.

## OUTREACH TEAMS

**Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH):** PATH is a federal formula grant intended to provide outreach, case management, and housing services to individuals with serious mental illness and/or co-occurring substance use disorders.

**Washington 2-1-1:** Callers can get connected to health and human services from a comprehensive database of community resources across the State of Washington.

**Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF):** Grants from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to provide eligible Veteran families with outreach, case management, services, and rental assistance to promote housing stability.

## SPECIALTY SERVICES

## BENEFITS ACQUISITION

**Community-based training for Washington Healthplanfinder and Apple Health (Medicaid) coverage:** Training available for stakeholders to learn more about eligibility for Apple Health coverage and how to navigate the Healthplanfinder application web portal.

**Washington State Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), Economic Services Administration:** The Answer Phone provides information, benefit status, and payment information regarding DSHS benefits.

**SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR):** SOAR is a SAMHSA-funded program designed to increase access to the disability income benefit programs administered by the Social Security Administration (SSA) for eligible adults and children who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness and have a serious mental illness, medical impairment, and/or a co-occurring substance use disorder.

**Washington Connection:** Service linkage and applications for services including income, food, childcare, long-term care, and medical assistance.

**U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Veterans Benefits Administration:** Benefits available to Veterans including disability income, education and training, employment, home loans, life insurance, and more.

**Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs):** Accredited representatives are available to assist with benefits claims.

## MENTAL HEALTH & SUBSTANCE USE SERVICES

**Washington State Directory of Certified Mental Health, Substance Use Disorder Services:** Service finder.

## FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

**National Directory of Family-Run and Youth-Guided Organizations for Children's Behavioral Health:** Family-run organizations encourage active partnerships between families and service providers.

## EMPLOYMENT/INCOME SUPPORTS

**Washington State Health Care Authority, Foundational Community Supports:** Supportive housing and supported employment services are available to vulnerable Medicaid recipients.

**Washington State Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS), Economic Services Administration, Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) Referral Program:** HEN program funds can be used for rent and utility assistance, move-in costs, health and hygiene items, cleaning supplies, and transportation assistance. HEN program funds are accessed through a network of homeless prevention service providers.

## HEALTH CARE

**Washington State Health Care Authority, Apple Health (Medicaid) Coverage:** Free or low-cost health insurance.

**Health Resources and Services Administration, Health Center Program:** Primary and preventative care available to individuals regardless of ability to pay.

**Health Care for the Homeless Grantees:** Federally-funded programs that provide health care services to people experiencing homelessness.