



ANCHORAGE COALITION TO  
END HOMELESSNESS



CALENDAR YEAR 2022

# ANNUAL REPORT





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# ANCHORAGE COALITION TO **END HOMELESSNESS**

The Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness (ACEH) is a 501c3 non-profit whose mission is to provide dynamic leadership in making homelessness rare, brief, and one-time. We believe that every Alaskan deserves a roof over their head, a place to put down anchor and feel safe with their loved ones. Our core values are respect, dignity, equity, and compassion. ACEH is also the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) designated lead for the Continuum of Care (CoC) for the greater Anchorage area. This means that we are the local planning body that coordinates housing and services funding for homeless families and individuals. The goal of ACEH is to achieve a milestone known as functional zero – a point when a community's homeless services system is able to prevent homelessness whenever possible and ensure that when homelessness does occur, it is rare, brief and one-time.

## **MISSION**

To provide dynamic leadership to unite Anchorage in making homelessness rare, brief, and one-time.

## **VALUES**

Dignity, Respect, Equity, & Compassion.

## **STAFF**

**Meg Zaletel** - Executive Director

**Celia MacLeod** - Director of Programs & Services

**Tahnee Conte-Seccareccia** - Director of Finance & Administration

**Julie Frizzell** - Senior Grants Manager

**Terria Ware** - Systems Improvement Administrator

**Owen Hutchinson** - Director of External Relations

**Sasha Zimmerman** - Director of Communications

**Dakota Orm** - Healthcare Integration Director

**Helen Renfrew** - Grants Manager

**Mac Lyons** - Coordinated Entry Manager

**Jason Cates** - Outreach Manager

**Meka Harris** - Transition Coordinator

**Yvonne Humphery** - Housing First Planner

**Robert Hockema** - Data Analyst - HMIS

# A LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I am grateful to have spent the last year working with the staff and board of the Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness (ACEH). It's been a dynamic year of change, with significant milestones and achievements.

The Complex Care shelter opened more than 81 beds for medically fragile people experiencing homelessness. These individuals are often not served well in traditional congregate shelters, and the stability the Complex Care shelter offers is what makes it possible for them to transition into permanent housing. This is the first facility of its kind in Alaska.

The GuestHouse Suites hotel conversion turned on 129 housing units for transitional housing, permanent supportive housing and workforce housing in September of this year. Affordable housing expansion at this scale has not occurred in Anchorage before. Anchorage can replicate the success of hotel conversions like the GuestHouse, and assist in moving people from homeless to housed.

There are more housing units that will come online in the coming months. Anchorage can anticipate an expansion of over 300 units for low income, extremely low income, and supportive housing. This investment in housing is unprecedented. The Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness is tracking the inflow into homelessness and outflow into housing to better understand the impact of new housing on the Homeless Prevention and Response System (HPRS).

The HPRS Advisory Council has undertaken significant work in the last year to bring our Continuum of Care into better compliance with the Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations. The Advisory Council continues to guide our work and bring important provider perspectives into the decision-making process.

And finally, to the homeless service providers of Anchorage, thank you. We have seen enormous acts of generosity from the provider community. In difficult times, the service providers show up, and serve people experiencing homelessness with grace and care. Thank you for making Anchorage a safer place for all of us, and for prioritizing housing.

Looking forward to a new Anchored Home with a five-year perspective, broader technical support to providers, improved system design based on data, and a push for more investments in housing.

**Best Regards,**



Meg Zaletel

# LEADERSHIP & GOVERNANCE

The Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness is governed by a Board of Directors who oversee financial stewardship and the long-term vision of the coalition.

Providing dynamic leadership to unite Anchorage in making homelessness rare, brief and one-time.

## BOARD

**Nathan Johnson, Chair**

Providence St. Joseph Health – Alaska Region

**Judith Crotty, Vice-Chair**

Community Member

**Jacob Lyon, Treasurer/Secretary**

Premier Alaska Tours

**Bill Falsey**

Community Member

**Christopher Kolerok**

Cook Inlet Housing Authority

**Emily Edenshaw**

Alaska Native Heritage Center Inc.

**Niki Tshibaka**

Municipality of Anchorage

**Richard Mandsager**

Community Member

**Russ Slaten**

Calista Corporation

# A LETTER FROM THE BOARD CHAIR

As the weather changes and winter temperatures drop below freezing and sometimes below zero, I think of the dire and sometimes life-threatening circumstances people experiencing homelessness face every day. I am grateful to serve the Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness (ACEH) and work with a staff who shares my belief that ending homelessness is not only a public health response, but a moral imperative for a healthy, caring community.

ACEH had a year of transitions, in organizational leadership, with a new Advisory Council and additional board members. These changes allowed everyone the chance to re-commit to the work and redefine how we engage. There were important achievements that many of us did not think were possible in such a short window of time.

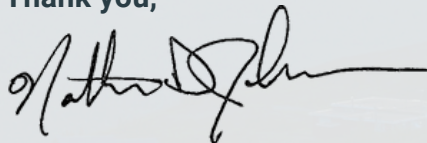
First, the Homeless Prevention and Response System came together to form an Emergency Shelter Task Force. The task force connected homeless service providers to policy makers, forming recommendations based on subject matter expertise and best practices. This level of engagement and dedication was impressive and demonstrates that solutions can be developed through collaboration.

Second, ACEH brought in the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Disaster Technical Assistance team to assess mass care operations at the Sullivan Arena and identify ways to move people quickly into housing. HUD brought a wealth of experience and knowledge with them and the results of their input and assessments have strengthened ACEH's ability to serve and bring solutions to the community.

Third, the board and staff have operationalized many aspects of the work to make the organization more efficient, effective, and sustainable. Because of this, the Board of Directors has confidence that ACEH will continue to be a strong and healthy community convener, collaborator, and partner as long as housing continues to be a need in our community.

Thank you to our donors, partners, and community members who care about people experiencing homelessness. Our work is possible because of organizations and people like you.

Thank you,



Nathan Johnson



# YEAR IN REVIEW

ACEH & partners during the annual PIT Count

## CLOSURE OF MASS CARE SITES

During the closure of Sullivan Arena as a congregate mass care facility the Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness (ACEH) facilitated the following:

- Data clean-up of the Sullivan Arena mass care site to ensure HMIS data compliance. At its closure, Sullivan Arena had over 90% data quality and completeness for the project.
- Deployment of Emergency Housing Vouchers with over 50 people currently shopping for units and a total of 19 housed using this 9-year rental subsidy. 36 more households are in process with their applications.
- Organizing and coordinating providers to execute an unprecedented housing surge as Mass Care shut down facilities, resulting in over 350 housed and over 200 units of new permanent housing (Guest House and Aviator leased units)
- Successfully convening all provider Continuum of Care (CoC) meetings to ensure system continuity throughout the mass care exit and in response to unprecedented unsheltered homelessness.
- Engagement with national experts in HUD Disaster TA to assist with the mass care exit.

## "NO WRONG DOOR" APPROACH

ACEH stood up communities of practice for navigation centers and low-barrier shelters to bring providers together to identify best practices. We achieved a new level of active provider participation in COC-coordinated response and engaged previously reluctant church-based partners to join the collective efforts (Gospel Rescue Mission, Downtown Hope Center, and Revive Alaska).

ACEH actively advocated for funding and planning of emergency sheltering for winter to begin in the prior summer, and facilitated and supported the creation of a family emergency sheltering plan that is likely to end family unsheltered homelessness this winter and possibly year-round. In August, ACEH convened the Emergency Shelter Task Force to quickly identify options for emergency cold weather shelter. This involved bringing together subject matter experts and community input.

Through enhanced street outreach, ACEH and partners have:

- Made contact with 1,133 individuals
- Completed 26 coordinated entry assessments
- Offered medical services such as wound care and basic health checks to 33 people
- Connected 114 unsheltered people to community resources
- 11 individuals previously living on the streets moved into shelter because of contact with street outreach



ACEH & Partners assist unsheltered at outreach pop-up event



## DATA

This year ACEH has continued to improve data quality, timeliness, and completeness in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and used the data to revamp coordinated entry to provide a more equitable prioritization for people experiencing homelessness and make it more likely for providers to accept clients into housing programs.

ACEH has used HMIS to work with providers to help them understand their own successes. For example, HMIS data was able to show a provider that they had completed over 1,000 case management activities in a given period. Another milestone for data improvement successfully implementing a real-time (every other day) system map of the capacity of shelter and housing resources as well as resources for unsheltered individuals.

During these improvements ACEH has engaged people experiencing homelessness in decision-making and recommendations to policy makers.



*Dakota Orm, Healthcare Integration Director*



*Meg Zaletel, Executive Director, Homeless to Housed press conference 4/25/2022*

## HOUSING IS THE SOLUTION

ACEH has supported the standing up and implementation of the Landlord Housing Partnership to incentivize private landlords to rent to people experiencing homelessness. Since its beginning, over x units secured with incentives. ACEH has also assisted new providers in joining the Homeless Prevention & Response System. This has expanded supportive housing, case management and outreach capacity.

ACEH has provided technical assistance to develop operating budgets for the new complex care and supportive housing facilities, and played an integral role in standing up the first complex care homeless shelter in Alaska and one of the first nationwide.

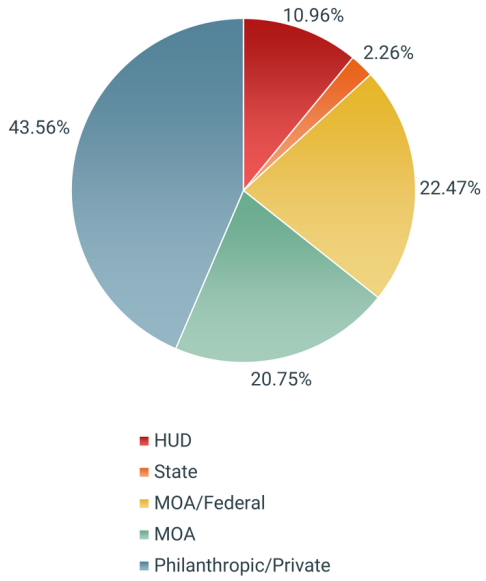
## THE NUMBERS

Last September over 2,224 single adults were actively experiencing homelessness in Anchorage. By September 2022, this number had dropped down to 1,482. Between September 2021 and 2022, over 691 people were housed.

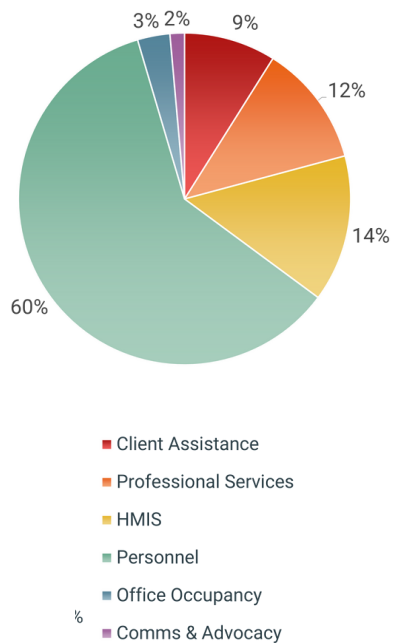


# ACTIVE SUMMARY

## Funding Sources



## Snapshot of Expenses



# THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS & STAKEHOLDERS!

## MAJOR DONORS



## MAJOR PARTNERS



# OUR DONORS

Thank you to the organizations and individuals who believed in our mission and contributed time and resources to helping our neighbors experiencing homelessness.

## ORGANIZATIONAL DONORS

Access Alaska Inc.  
Alaska Behavioral Health  
Alaska Community Integrity  
Alaska Housing Finance Corporation  
Alaska Legal Services Corporation  
Alaska Mental Health Consumer Web  
Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association  
Alaska Native Justice Center  
Anchorage Gospel Rescue Mission  
Anchorage Health Department, Housing and Homeless Programs  
Anchorage Housing Initiatives, Inc.  
Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center  
Anchorage Public Library  
Anchorage Unitarian Fellowship  
Alaska Network on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault  
Anchorage School District Child in Transition Program  
Abused Women's Aid in Crisis (AWAIC)  
Base Camp Anchorage Hostel  
Bean's Café Inc  
Catholic Social Services (CSS)  
Center for Safe Alaskans  
Choices Inc.  
Choosing Our Roots  
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NAMI Anchorage  
Neighborworks Alaska  
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Nine Star Education and Employment Services  
Partners for Progress  
Revive Alaska Community Services  
RuralCap  
Shiloh Community Housing Inc.  
South Central Foundation  
The Arc of Anchorage  
The Aurora House  
The Salvation Army  
TRI Distinction  
UAA College of Health, Division of Population Health Sciences  
United Way of Anchorage  
Ursa Optical  
Volunteers of America (VOA)

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Diane Kaplan	Judith Conte	Nancy Anderson	Vicki Vermillion
Donna Avey			

\*1/1/22 - 12/15/22

# Thank you!

Our work is possible because of your support.

