

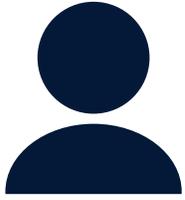
HOMELESSNESS IN ALASKA

GET THE FACTS



13,888

Alaskans accessed housing and homeless services in 2019



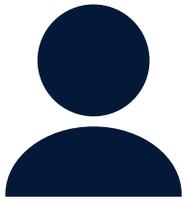
23%

of Alaskans accessing homeless services in 2019 were actively fleeing or survivors of domestic violence



NEARLY 1 OUT OF 3

Alaskans accessing homeless services in 2019 self-reported a disabling condition



100%

of the 12 ANCSA regions experience significantly higher rates of severe overcrowding than the national average



In 2018 & 2019 at least 3,102 Alaskans accessed homeless services supported by state funds...

...95% DID NOT RETURN TO HOMELESSNESS

WHO ORGANIZES THE WORK AROUND HOMELESSNESS?

In Alaska, there are two coalitions focused on solving homelessness, the Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness (ACEH) and the statewide Alaska Coalition on Housing and Homelessness (AKCH2). The two coalitions serve as the lead conveners for the Anchorage and statewide Homeless Prevention & Response System (HPRS). ACEH and AKCH2 work closely together as membership coalitions representing those with lived experience, community members, nonprofit service providers, health care and criminal justice organizations, philanthropic, government and business partners who join together to achieve the shared vision of making homelessness rare, brief and one-time.

WHAT WE DO

- Manage and set policy on allocating \$5,689,722 of federal funds in FY2019 for homeless prevention and housing programs
- Serve as a central convening partner to develop, monitor and operate the Homeless Prevention and Response System by creating evidence-based policies and implementing the services needed to address gaps in the system
- Manage statewide data on individuals experiencing homelessness
- Serve as an advocacy and education partner through our trainings, data analysis and engagement efforts for government, philanthropy and private partners

EVERY ALASKAN SHOULD HAVE A SAFE, STABLE HOME!

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HOMELESSNESS IN ALASKA AND TO FIND OUT HOW TO BE PART OF THE SOLUTION, CONTACT THE TWO ALASKA HOMELESS COALITIONS



Alaska Coalition on Housing and Homelessness
Brian Wilson, Executive Director
director@alaskahousing-homeless.org



Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness
Jasmine Boyle, Executive Director
director@aceh.org

HOW DO WE SOLVE HOMELESSNESS?

A HOUSING FIRST APPROACH

WHAT IS THE SOLUTION TO HOMELESSNESS? HOUSING!

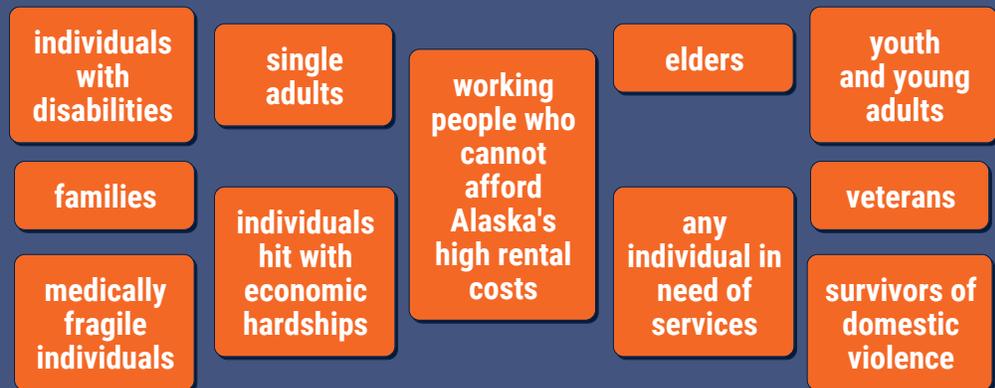
Our goal is to make homelessness in Alaska rare, brief and one-time. In order to accomplish this, we need to ensure all Alaskans have safe and affordable housing options. While the system itself seeks to connect individuals to housing and related services, each individual needs a space to call home before being able to tackle other needs in order to achieve optimal health, family financial stability and general well-being.

Both coalitions in Alaska strongly emphasize reducing barriers to housing solutions to ensure vulnerable individuals and families have the capacity to address income, mental, and behavioral health challenges.

MANY THINGS COULD CAUSE AN INDIVIDUAL TO FALL INTO HOMELESSNESS OR TO REMAIN IN HOMELESSNESS



WHO DOES THE SYSTEM SERVE?



HOMELESS PREVENTION AND RESPONSE SYSTEM

The Homeless Prevention and Response System is a continuum of intervention options, based on individual need, to address the complex issue of homelessness. Interventions span from preventing homelessness to offering temporary shelter/housing, to intense and long-term service-enriched housing. Our coalitions work to connect these critical services into one system that is able to assess individuals in need rapidly and direct them to the most effective solution.

HOMELESS PREVENTION

HOMELESS RESPONSE

PREVENTION

DIVERSION

RESOURCE & REFERRAL

OUTREACH

SHELTER

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

RAPID REHOUSING

SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

INFRASTRUCTURE + BACKBONE

COVID-19 IMPACTS

INCREASING NEW HOMELESSNESS IN ALASKA

THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING SHORTAGE

Alaska has long-standing affordable housing challenges. There is not enough affordable housing statewide. Based on annual data from the National Low Income Housing Coalition, in 2020, Alaska has only 29 affordable housing units for every 100 extremely low income households who require these units. This represents almost 20,000 households.

Prior to COVID-19, Alaskans making minimum wage needed to work 76 hours a week to afford a one-bedroom apartment. As the economic impacts of COVID-19 continue to unfold, we expect the households who historically lived paycheck to paycheck will be at severe risk of homelessness.

PROJECTED IMPACTS OF COVID-19

National and local experts continue sharing projections on how COVID-19 is currently and will continue to impact homelessness:

- If homelessness follows unemployment the way that it has done so in the earlier part of this century, national experts project an increase in homelessness of 40-45% in 2020 compared to January 2019
- Due to job losses and/or hour reductions, many Alaskans have lost wages. Anchorage alone will lose a predicted 11,000 jobs by the end of 2020, according to the Anchorage Economic Development Corporation
- United Way of Anchorage reported by August of 2020 over 37,000 Alaskans had lost their employment. Nearly 4 in 10 of these households had annual income of less than \$40,000, putting them at great risk of homelessness. United Way of Anchorage operates 2-1-1 and helps deploy Anchorage rent and mortgage assistance programs. By October 2020, 2-1-1 had provided financial assistance for 6,000 payments: 82% of these for mortgage assistance
- Alaska is the most rapidly aging state in the nation. The National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH) projected older adult homelessness to experience steep increases even before the current health and economic crises
- Alaska shelters are reporting drastic rise in unsheltered homelessness already. Many communities have been forced to create additional shelter options to address the need

THANK YOU

THANK YOU TO OUR STATE PARTNERS, OUR FEDERAL DELEGATION AND OUR LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES FOR CONTINUED ADVOCACY AND THE SUPPORT. WE NEED TO KEEP UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS, RENT AND MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS AND OTHER VITAL SAFETY NET SERVICES AVAILABLE TO THOSE WHO ARE PRECARIOUSLY HOUSED AND WHO ARE AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS IN THESE UNCERTAIN TIMES. WE INVITE CONTINUED PARTNERSHIP IN THE CRITICAL WORK TO PREVENT NEW HOMELESSNESS.



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