
**“Welcoming Wisconsin Home” Wisconsin Statewide Action Plan for Homelessness
Strategies, Recommendations and Performance Metrics – 9-26-23 Update**

Theme 1: Focusing on Equity

Strategy 1.1 – Continue Operations of the Racial Equity Working Group

Action Step	Lead & Key Partner Agencies/Staff	Start Date	Target Completion Date	Measurable Indicator(s) of Success	Progress Notes
Keep the Racial Equity Working Group, meeting at least quarterly, to monitor homelessness data, report regularly to the Council, and to promote policies as data on disparities changes or doesn't change.	ICH Director	Ongoing	Ongoing	Regular reporting on homelessness data as it shows progress in regards to racial disparities to the Council	Working group is meeting monthly. New members being recruited.

Strategy 1.2 – Initiate Racial Equity Analysis for Council Agency Homelessness Programming

Action Step	Lead & Key Partner Agencies/Staff	Start Date	Target Completion Date	Measurable Indicator(s) of Success	Progress Notes
Create a racial equity analysis framework to review and evaluate all homelessness programming across all ICH member agencies	ICH Director, Racial Equity Working Group	January 1, 2022	December 31, 2022	Creation of racial equity analysis framework	Analysis tool completed and cleared for use.
Initiate racial equity analysis and evaluation of homelessness programs	Racial Equity Working Group, ICH Director, Administration, Health Services, Veterans Affairs, Public Instruction, Workforce Development, Children and Families, Corrections, WHEDA	September 1, 2023	May 31, 2024	Completion of analysis and evaluations	<p>ICH has joined the Government Alliance for Racial Equity.</p> <p>Analysis of programs to start in September 2023.</p>
Provide report for Governor’s office on results of analysis and evaluations	Racial Equity Working Group, ICH Director	May 1, 2024	July 31, 2024	Completion of report	
Continue with ongoing racial equity analysis and evaluations	Racial Equity Working Group, ICH Director, Administration, Health Services, Veterans Affairs, Public Instruction, Workforce Development, Children and Families, Corrections, WHEDA	August 1, 2023	Ongoing		

Strategy 1.3 – Add Eligibility Criteria for Homelessness Programs

Action Step	Lead & Key Partner Agencies/Staff	Start Date	Target Completion Date	Measurable Indicator(s) of Success	Progress Notes
<p>Require data collection from agencies and organizations receiving funding on the populations they are serving, the services they are providing, and their organization itself. Data collected may include, but is not limited, to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Amount of funding directed towards underrepresented communities in relation to community makeup; - Amount of funding directed towards training in racial trauma and homelessness, racial equity, fair housing and tenant rights, civil rights compliance, implicit/explicit bias, and microaggressions; - Average case management time; - If training provided to staff is ongoing (at least annually); - If training happens at all levels (including senior staff and board members); - Use peer support specialists; - Makeup of senior positions and board of directors in relation to the communities they serve. 	<p>ICH Director, State Legislature</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Collection of such data</p>	<p>DEHCR has begun to collect data on grant applications.</p>
<p>Require the Interagency Council on Homelessness to make recommendations, based on data collected and racial equity analysis' performed, on how to modify relevant homelessness programs to address any disparities or racial inequities found.</p>	<p>ICH Director, Interagency Council</p>	<p>June 1, 2024</p>	<p>August 31, 2024</p>	<p>Creation of recommendations</p>	

Strategy 1.4 – Promote Home Ownership Training

Action Step	Lead & Key Partner Agencies/Staff	Start Date	Target Completion Date	Measurable Indicator(s) of Success	Progress Notes
Include in criteria for permanent housing programs requirement to connect PH clients with local home ownership training programs	ICH Director, DOA/DEHCR	January 1, 2024	Ongoing	Requirements included in applications and monitoring	

Strategy 1.5 – Promote Creation of a Wisconsin Restorative Housing Program

Action Step	Lead & Key Partner Agencies/Staff	Start Date	Target Completion Date	Measurable Indicator(s) of Success	Progress Notes
Create a “Wisconsin Restorative Housing Program” to revitalize, preserve, stabilize, and increase homeownership for Wisconsinites of color through direct grants to homeowners for down payment/closing cost assistance, mortgage assistance, and home improvement assistance	ICH Director, Racial Equity Group, State Legislature	Ongoing	Ongoing	Creation of “Wisconsin Restorative Housing Program”	

Theme 2: Investing for Success

Strategy 2.1 – Increase State Shelter Subsidy Grant (SSSG) Program Funding

Action Step	Lead & Key Partner Agencies/Staff	Start Date	Target Completion Date	Measurable Indicator(s) of Success	Progress Notes
Increase State Shelter Subsidy Grant Program Funding by \$700,000 annually, as offered in Governor Evers' proposed 2021-23 executive budget.	Governor, State Legislature	February, 2023	July, 2023	Reduction in PIT counts of unsheltered homeless Reduction of reported clients receiving Street Outreach services	Included in Governor Evers' Executive Budget, February 2023 Removed from Budget by Joint Committee on Finance, May 2023

Strategy 2.2 – Create “Wisconsin Housing for Heroes” Veteran Rental Assistance Program

Action Step	Lead & Key Partner Agencies/Staff	Start Date	Target Completion Date	Measurable Indicator(s) of Success	Progress Notes
Create Permanent Housing Rental Assistance Program for Veterans Experiencing Homelessness with \$1,000,000 annually, as offered in Governor Evers' proposed 2021-23 executive budget.	Governor, State Legislature	February, 2023	July, 2023	Reduction in PIT counts of veterans experiencing homelessness. Reduction of veterans on coordinated entry lists	Director provided a presentation to the Governor's Blue Ribbon Commission on Veteran Opportunities on 7/20/22 Included in Governor Evers' Executive Budget, February 2023 Removed from Budget by Joint Committee on Finance, May 2023

Strategy 2.3 – Create Diversion Program

Action Step	Lead & Key Partner Agencies/Staff	Start Date	Target Completion Date	Measurable Indicator(s) of Success	Progress Notes
Create Homelessness Diversion Program, as proposed in Gov. Evers’ most recent executive budget, with \$1,000,000 annually	Governor, State Legislature	February, 2023	July, 2023	Decrease in the number of persons entering ES, SH, TH, and PH projects with no prior enrollment in HMIS	Included in Governor Evers’ Executive Budget, February 2023 Removed from Budget by Joint Committee on Finance, May 2023

Theme 3: Improving Housing Access

Strategy 3.1 – Create Grant for Housing Navigation

Recommendation	Program Funds Used/Agencies and People Tasked	Start Date	Target Completion Date	Measurable Indicator(s) of Success	Progress Notes
Create Housing Navigation Program with \$600,000 annually, as offered in Governor Evers’ proposed 2021-23 executive budget.	Governor, State Legislature	February, 2023	July, 2023	Reduction in length of time persons remain homeless Increase in exit to or retention of housing	Included in Governor Evers’ Executive Budget, February 2023 Removed from Budget by Joint Committee on Finance, May 2023

Strategy 3.2 – Create Grant for Rental Housing Repairs

Recommendation	Lead & Key Partner Agencies/Staff	Start Date	Target Completion Date	Measurable Indicator(s) of Success	Progress Notes
<p>Create Program to Provide Small Grants to Landlords to Bring Affordable Housing Units Online with \$2,000,000 annually, as offered in Governor Evers’ proposed 2021-23 executive budget.</p>	<p>Governor, State Legislature</p>	<p>February, 2023</p>	<p>July, 2023</p>	<p>Reduction in PIT counts of sheltered and unsheltered persons experiencing homelessness</p> <p>Reduction in annual counts of sheltered persons experiencing homelessness in HMIS</p> <p>Reduction of persons on coordinated entry lists</p>	<p>City of La Crosse is creating a Landlord Mitigation program in October 2022 to provide landlords with incentives to landlords to rent to people who are housing people experiencing homelessness. ICH will monitor program’s progress.</p> <p>Included in Governor Evers’ Executive Budget, February 2023</p> <p>Removed from Budget by Joint Committee on Finance, May 2023</p>

Strategy 3.3 – Support Efforts to Create Affordable Housing for Low-Income and Extremely Low Income Persons

Recommendation	Lead & Key Partner Agencies/Staff	Start Date	Target Completion Date	Measurable Indicator(s) of Success	Progress Notes
Support Increases in the State Housing Tax Credit Program limits from \$42 million annually to \$100 million annually with necessary changes to promote affordable housing development	WHEDA, ICH	Ongoing	Ongoing	Increases in tax credit limits achieved	Included in Governor Evers' Executive Budget, February 2023 Removed from Budget by Joint Committee on Finance, May 2023
Create report on barriers to community low-income housing development	ICH Director, Workgroup	November 1, 2023	February 29, 2024	Creation of report	

Theme 4: Increasing Housing Stability

Strategy 4.1 – Increase Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP) Funding

Recommendation	Program Funds Used/Agencies and People Tasked	Start Date	Target Completion Date	Measurable Indicator(s) of Success	Progress Notes
Increase Homelessness Prevention Program funding with \$1,000,000 annually, as offered in Governor Evers' proposed 2021-23 executive budget.	Governor, State Legislature	February, 2023	July, 2023	Reduction in eviction filings and judgements Decrease in the number of persons entering ES, SH, TH, and Permanent Housing (PH) projects with no prior enrollment in HMIS	Included in Governor Evers' Executive Budget, February 2023 Removed from Budget by Joint Committee on Finance, May 2023

Strategy 4.2 – Increase Funding for Skills Enhancement

Recommendation	Lead & Key Partner Agencies/Staff	Start Date	Target Completion Date	Measurable Indicator(s) of Success	Progress Notes
Increase Skills Enhancement Program funding with \$250,000 annually, as offered in Governor Evers' proposed 2021-23 executive budget.	Governor, State Legislature	February, 2023	July, 2023	Increase in earned income for {adult system stayers during the reporting period, adult system leavers}, for providers that partner with Skills Enhancement Program	Included in Governor Evers' Executive Budget, February 2023 Removed from Budget by Joint Committee on Finance, May 2023

Strategy 4.3 – Increase Funding for Wisconsin Homeless Case Management Services Grant Program

Recommendation	Lead & Key Partner Agencies/Staff	Start Date	Target Completion Date	Measurable Indicator(s) of Success	Progress Notes
Double the Homelessness Case Management Services Program funding (an increase of \$500,000 TANF funds annually for a total of \$1 million), as offered in Governor Evers' proposed 2021-23 executive budget.	Governor, State Legislature	February, 2023	July, 2023	Decrease in extent to which persons who exit homelessness to permanent housing destinations return to homelessness within 6 to 12 months and 24 months Increase in {earned income, nonemployment cash income, total income} for {adult system stayers during the reporting period, adult system leavers}	Included in Governor Evers' Executive Budget, February 2023 Removed from Budget by Joint Committee on Finance, May 2023

Strategy 4.4 – Pursue Medicaid Authorities, Initiatives, and Activities related to Housing Support Services

Recommendation	Lead & Key Partner Agencies/Staff	Start Date	Target Completion Date	Measurable Indicator(s) of Success	Progress Notes
Pursuant to 2019 Wisconsin Act 76, submit Medicaid state plan amendment to allow Wisconsin Medicaid to pay for housing support services for Medicaid and BadgerCare Plus members	DHS and DOA staff, ICH Director	Ongoing	December 31, 2022	State plan amendment submitted	Work is in process and on schedule for implementation in 2023. Amy Pulda has been hired to be the new homelessness services manager. She began in May, 2022.
			December 31, 2023	Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services approval and program implementation	
Utilize Children’s Health Insurance Program to create a health services initiative to focus on housing support services for low-income families	DHS and DOA staff, ICH Director	Ongoing	January 31, 2023	Grants awarded and MoUs signed	State Plan amendment approved by CMS. Applications from agencies are being accepted with application review in January, 2023 CHIP HSI program launched May 2023

Strategy 4.5 – Explore the use of SAMHSA Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant

Recommendation	Lead & Key Partner Agencies/Staff	Start Date	Target Completion Date	Measurable Indicator(s) of Success	Progress Notes
Create report on reasons to explore Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant with strategies	DHS Staff, ICH Director	January 1, 2023	December 31, 2023	Creation of report	Initial conversations with DHS staff have begun

Strategy 4.6 – Support Changes in Landlord-Tenant statutes

Recommendation	Lead & Key Partner Agencies/Staff	Start Date	Target Completion Date	Measurable Indicator(s) of Success	Progress Notes
<p>Review Landlord-Tenant statutes and provide recommendations for new legislation. Consider changes to the following Wisconsin State Statutes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 66.0104(2) (restrictions on local governments); - 799.05(3)(b) (return date for eviction actions); - 799.20(4), 799.206(3), and 799.44 (Hearing date, order, and issuance of the writ in eviction actions); - 799.40(1m) (Acceptance of rent or other payments in an eviction action); - 704.085 (Credit and background checks); - 799.40(1s) (Estoppel as a defense to an action of eviction or claim for damages); - 799.40(4)(a) (Limit on length of stay for emergency assistance) 	<p>ICH Director, Workgroup, State Legislature</p>	<p>January, 2023</p>	<p>May 31, 2023</p>	<p>Legislation introduced to amend landlord-tenant statutes to balance tenant rights in rental housing</p>	<p>Some recommendations included in Governor Evers' Executive Budget, February 2023</p> <p>Removed from Budget by Joint Committee on Finance, May 2023</p>

Strategy 4.7 – Expand Access to Civil Legal Services

Recommendation	Lead & Key Partner Agencies/Staff	Start Date	Target Completion Date	Measurable Indicator(s) of Success	Progress Notes
Explore creating a statewide Civil Right to Counsel program. Create a report on costs for program and potential outcomes	ICH Director, Workgroup	January 1, 2023	March 2023 ICH Meeting	Creation of report for Council	<p>Milwaukee County is running a pilot CRC program. Director is working with Legal Aid of Wisconsin to gather data on program and costs.</p> <p>Governor Evers included \$30 Million/year funding for CRC statewide program in his Executive Budget, February 2023</p> <p>Removed from Budget by Joint Committee on Finance, May 2023</p>
Develop a Wisconsin Legal Help website to help Wisconsinites independently find legal help and connect with counsel to address landlord-tenant issues.	ICH Director	October 1, 2022	December 31, 2022	Creation of website	Wisconsin State Law Library has developed “Wisconsin Law Help” to provide this service.

Strategy 4.8 – Increasing Employment and Income

Recommendation	Lead & Key Partner Agencies/Staff	Start Date	Target Completion Date	Measurable Indicator(s) of Success	Progress Notes
Recommend that the CoCs adopt uniform requirements on questions HMIS providers must ask related to employment and education. These can include employment status, wages earned, hours worked, type of work, employment services already received, employment interests, length of employment, job satisfaction, proximity to housing, HSED/GED, level of education completed, education interests.	ICH Director, ICA, CoC Leads	January 1, 2023	December 31, 2023	Creation of requirements	Work to commence after the CoCs complete their HUD NOFOs
Each Workforce Development Board should require that it contain a representative from the appropriate CoC. If this requires a change in statute or administrative rule, the Council shall endorse legislation to accomplish this goal.	ICH Director, DWD	January 1, 2023	December 31, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of Workforce Development Board composition - Review method of enacting this action step 	Director and DWD staff meeting in July
Create partnerships and alignment between homeless-specific programs and mainstream education, employment support and economic assistance programs, and training services. This includes creating priorities for people experiencing homelessness; coordinating with the CoC partner agencies; tailoring interventions and models around the specific subpopulation; and requiring workforce development programs to authorize people experiencing homelessness as a target population.	ICH Director, DWD, DCF, DPI	April 1, 2023	December 31, 2023	Convene summit of departmental staff and CoC leads to develop goals, opportunities, and plan to implement this action step	
Increase the number of families experiencing homelessness who have access to affordable and flexible childcare and after school care.	ICH Director, DCF, other agencies as needed	August 1, 2023	December 31, 2023	Review current programming and creating plan to implement this action step	

Theme 5: Using Data and Information

Strategy 5.1 – Produce “COVID-19 Pandemic: Lessons Learned for Wisconsin’s Homelessness Systems” Report

Recommendation	Program Funds Used/Agencies and People Tasked	Start Date	Target Completion Date	Measurable Indicator(s) of Success	Progress Notes
Draft report on COVID-19 Pandemic and its effects on persons experiencing homelessness in Wisconsin and homelessness systems with a set of recommendations of action for future disasters/pandemics.	ICH Director, CoC Leads, Workgroup, Institute for Community Alliances	January 1, 2023	February 29, 2024	Completion of report	Work on the report to be taken up by WI Planning and Response to End Homelessness Group

Strategy 5.2 - Expand Data-Sharing between State Agencies and HMIS

Recommendation	Lead & Key Partner Agencies/Staff	Start Date	Target Completion Date	Measurable Indicator(s) of Success	Progress Notes
Review data-sharing between agencies, the University of Wisconsin’s Institute for Research on Poverty, and Institute for Community Alliances. Where needed, create Memoranda of Understanding between ICA and state agencies that serve people experiencing homelessness to better share data between entities.	Administration, Health Services, Veterans Affairs, Workforce Development, Children and Families, Corrections, Public Instruction, WHEDA, Institute for Community Alliances, University of Wisconsin Institute for Research on Poverty	April 1, 2022	March 31, 2023	Completion of MoUs	Director working with ICA and IRP to develop recommendations for agencies. Research agenda to be developed in 2023.

Strategy 5.3 - Expand Requirements for Using HMIS in State Programs

Recommendation	Lead & Key Partner Agencies/Staff	Start Date	Target Completion Date	Measurable Indicator(s) of Success	Progress Notes
Review state programs for requirements to use HMIS and create recommendations, where possible, to expand requirements for HMIS use in programs	ICH Director, Workgroup, State Agencies, Institute for Community Alliances	April 1, 2022	Ongoing	Creation of HMIS requirements	Director working with ICA and IRP to develop recommendations for agencies.

Strategy 5.4 – Develop State Homelessness Dashboard

Recommendation	Lead & Key Partner Agencies/Staff	Start Date	Target Completion Date	Measurable Indicator(s) of Success	Progress Notes
Develop a State Homelessness Dashboard to measure homelessness numbers, clients served through state programs, and progress with the Hand and a Home plan	ICH Director, State Agencies, Organizations contracted for dashboard development	January 1, 2024	May 31, 2024	Creation of dashboard	

Theme 6: Leveraging Our Resources

Strategy 6.1 – Increase Housing Assistance Program (HAP) Funding

Recommendation	Program Funds Used/Agencies and People Tasked	Start Date	Target Completion Date	Measurable Indicator(s) of Success	Progress Notes
Increase Housing Assistance Program funding by \$5,000,000 annually, as offered in Governor Evers' proposed 2021-23 executive budget.	Governor, State Legislature	February, 2023	July, 2023	<p>Decrease in PIT counts of sheltered and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness</p> <p>Decrease in annual counts of sheltered people experiencing homelessness in HMIS</p> <p>Decrease in number of students served by DPI's EHCY program</p> <p>Increase in exit to or retention of permanent housing</p>	<p>Included in Governor Evers' Executive Budget, February 2023</p> <p>Removed from Budget by Joint Committee on Finance, May 2023</p>
Create a listing on potential programming that can be funded through HAP	ICH Director, DOA/DEHCR	January 1, 2023	March 31, 2023	Materials created	DEHCR Updated HAP Manual

Strategy 6.2 – Encourage Homeless Preferences for Housing Choice Vouchers

Recommendation	Lead & Key Partner Agencies/Staff	Start Date	Target Completion Date	Measurable Indicator(s) of Success	Progress Notes
Survey all PHAs for policies on homeless preferences	ICH Director, WHEDA, local PHAs	February 1, 2022	May 31, 2022	Complete list of PHAs, policies, and recommendations for engagement	Survey completed and data reported out to workgroup in July

Recommendation	Lead & Key Partner Agencies/Staff	Start Date	Target Completion Date	Measurable Indicator(s) of Success	Progress Notes
Recommend for WHEDA to give priority to people experiencing homelessness on the authority's federal HCV Program list	WHEDA	Ongoing	Ongoing	Creation of prioritization	

Theme 7: Expanding Community Partnerships

Strategy 7.1 – Pursue Options for Social Impact Bonding Projects for Supportive Housing Development

Recommendation	Program Funds Used/Agencies and People Tasked	Start Date	Target Completion Date	Measurable Indicator(s) of Success	Progress Notes
Produce a report for the Interagency Council on potential Social Impact Bonding opportunities for communities in Wisconsin	ICH Director	January 1, 2024	May 31, 2024	Completion of report	

Strategy 7.2 – Expand Efforts to Educate Wisconsin Citizens on the State of Homelessness in Wisconsin and How to Access Resources

Recommendation	Program Funds Used/Agencies and People Tasked	Start Date	Target Completion Date	Measurable Indicator(s) of Success	Progress Notes
Creation of an outreach and marketing strategy document for citizen outreach	ICH Director, Workgroup	April 1, 2024	June 30, 2024	Completion of document	
Create a “One-Stop Shop” resource page to provide information to people on where to go for homelessness services	ICH Director, State Agencies, CoC Leads, Organizations contracted for dashboard development	April 1, 2024	June 30, 2024	Creation of page	

Strategy 7.3 – Involve Landlords and Landlord Associations in Efforts to Promote Renting to People Experiencing Homelessness

Recommendation	Lead & Key Partner Agencies/Staff	Start Date	Target Completion Date	Measurable Indicator(s) of Success	Progress Notes
Create landlord and property manager workgroup to explore strategies to promote renting to persons and families experiencing homelessness	ICH Director, Workgroup	January 1, 2024	Ongoing	Creation of workgroup	ICH Director working with local landlord outreach efforts

Strategy 7.4 – Include Input from Persons with Lived Experience in Homelessness

Recommendation	Lead & Key Partner Agencies/Staff	Start Date	Target Completion Date	Measurable Indicator(s) of Success	Progress Notes
Create workgroup for persons with lived experience in homelessness to review programs and strategies from client perspectives	ICH Director, Workgroup	April 1, 2024	Ongoing	Creation of workgroup	

Strategy 7.5 – Create a Regional Homelessness Consortium with Minnesota, Iowa, Illinois and Michigan

Recommendation	Lead & Key Partner Agencies/Staff	Start Date	Target Completion Date	Measurable Indicator(s) of Success	Progress Notes
Creation of regional homelessness consortium with neighboring states to review shared issues in border areas and to share ideas	ICH Director	October 1, 2023	Ongoing	Creation of workgroup	Director met with USICH regional director and State of Illinois Chief on regional issues, State of Michigan Interagency Council and State of Minnesota ICH Director Organizational Meeting to be scheduled for October.

