

Springfield & Sangamon County Strategic Plan to Address Homelessness

Vol. 2

What systems can combat homelessness?

Coordinated Entry System (CES)



This system ensures that all people experiencing a housing crisis have fair and equal access to housing programs, and that are quickly identified, assessed for, referred, and connected to housing and assistance based on their strengths and needs.

Permanent Supportive Housing



Permanent Supportive Housing is long-term subsidized housing with supportive services and low barriers to help individuals who are disabled and have a long history of homelessness to recover from homelessness. Research has found this model to be very effective and cost-effective compared to leaving people unsheltered.

Rapid Rehousing



Rapid Rehousing is a short-term housing subsidy paired with supportive services that results in a household moving into housing they can maintain when the program ends. This model stabilizes households leaving homelessness and research has shown it to be more cost-effective than shelter and transitional housing.

HMIS (Homeless Management Information System)



HMIS is a web-based software program for gathering and sharing client-specific demographic and service data in order to coordinate services and examine homelessness. Most homeless services in the community use HMIS in some way. HMIS helps the homeless system of care match people to housing and needed services, assess what services are needed in the community, and determine trends around homelessness so that the community can develop solutions.

FUNCTIONAL ZERO IS THE GOAL



Functional zero is a milestone that indicates a **community has measurably ended homelessness for a population** –and that they are sustaining that end.

Other Successful Communities in Illinois

Rockford, Winnebago & Boone Counties, IL are ending homelessness

- ✓ Reduced veterans' homelessness by 75% over since 2012, achieved functional zero in 2015.
- ✓ Reduced chronic homelessness by 73% over since 2012, achieved functional zero in 2017.
- ✓ Achieved functional zero for both veterans and chronic homeless populations.

“ It was really about focusing and crystallizing our efforts on the population – pulling everybody to the table and holding everybody accountable. Jennifer Jaeger, Rockford Community Services Director ”

HOW THEY DID IT?

- 1 Shared goal of getting to zero on veteran and then chronic homelessness
- 2 Worked off the real-time, by-name list of everyone experiencing homelessness
- 3 Adopted a Housing First approach
- 4 Tracked inflow, outflow, who was housed, and who returned to homelessness
- 5 Used a combination of a homeless hotline, a single point of physical entry, and street outreach entry to provide assessment and enrollment into coordinated intake

See Lake County, IL's success with veteran's homelessness:
<https://community.solutions/communities/lake-county-il/>