



HEARTLAND HOUSED

2023 QUARTER 3 REPORT

JULY - SEPTEMBER

Heartland HOUSED facilitated the Heartland Continuum of Care's local competition for HUD FY23 Continuum of Care funds and completed our Collaborative Application. The HCoC applied for \$607,530 in HUD funding (maximum amount available), an **increase of \$149,871** from HCoC's FY22 application.

JULY



- Five Heartland HOUSED and HCoC organization staff received training to become Diversion trainers through Cleveland Mediation Center
- Hosted Christine Kahl from Phoenix Community Development to meet with HCoC about housing development, supportive housing, and expanding mental health services.

AUGUST

- Heartland Community Standards Workgroup was developed and began meeting regularly with Homebase to develop community standards for Street Outreach, Permanent Supportive Housing, and Emergency Shelter.
- Heartland HOUSED staff began working with City of Springfield and HUD Technical Assistance providers to begin the process necessary to adjust HOME-ARP plan and maximize impact in line with the strategic plan.
- Monthly Lived Experience Focus Groups began, led by Heartland HOUSED System Coordinator.



SEPTEMBER

- Heartland HOUSED in partnership with Helping Hands was awarded a Phase 2 Medical Respite Care Capacity Building Grant of \$100,000 by the Illinois Public Health Institute with the goal of launching 10 Medical Respite Care beds in Quarter 1 of 2024.
- Heartland HOUSED awarded \$50,000 AETNA grant to develop a Housing Problem Solving Flexible fund to innovate and support households who can be assisted through Shelter Diversion and Homelessness Prevention funding.
- HCoC Housing Navigator worked hand in hand with the Springfield Housing Authority to maximize housing opportunities through the Emergency Housing Vouchers program.
- Heartland Continuum of Care created a Housing Problem Solving policy to connect and guide Homelessness Prevention, Shelter Diversion, and Rapid Exit programs.
- Heartland Continuum of Care adopted updates to the Coordinated Entry policy and modified the HCoC Coordinated Entry assessment with feedback from the Coordinated Entry evaluation work completed with Homebase.
- Heartland HOUSED/HCoC began work with Community Solutions and Built for Zero as part of the Illinois Quality Data Collaborative to support efforts to develop reliable, real-time, by-name data to drive system evaluation and create transparent data dashboards to help the community understand how the homeless response system is functioning.

QUARTER 4 PROJECTS & INITIATIVES

- Heartland HOUSED and Heartland Continuum of Care will partner in the launch of Springfield Police Department's Seed Initiative. The Springfield, Equip, Empower, and Deflect initiative will involve board community partners in connecting people to community resources.
- Heartland HOUSED will hire Heartland Housing Helpline Specialist and relaunch the Heartland Housing Helpline.
- Through the Illinois Quality Data Collaborative effort Heartland HOUSED will develop a plan and timeline for achieving quality data and launching community dashboards.
- Planning is underway to participate in REINSTITUTE's Illinois 100 Day Challenge Cohort focused on Unsheltered Homelessness which is anticipated to launch in Q1 of 2024.
- Heartland HOUSED and the HCoC will provide ongoing support for Helping Hands Emergency Shelter transition and relocation in Q1 of 2024.
- Work will continue to develop Lived Experience Advisory Board with anticipated 2024 Q1 launch.



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