

# **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development**

## **Homelessness**

**National Association of  
Regional Councils**

**June 27, 2016**



# Overview

- National Statistics
- Point in Time Count
- Continuum of Care
- United States Interagency Council on Homelessness
- Opening Doors
- Federal Regional Interagency Council on Homelessness
- Regional and State Homeless Councils
- Success at the Local Level



# 2015 Homelessness in the U.S.

- 259,297 homeless persons in emergency shelters
- 132,143 living in transitional housing
- 172,268 total unsheltered persons



# Homelessness by Subpopulation

- 96,275 chronically homeless persons
- 104,083 severely mentally ill
- 103,888 chronic substance abuse
- 47,725 veterans
- 36,907 unaccompanied youth



# Point in Time Count

- Annual count of homeless throughout the country
- Count in January each year
- Requirement for each Continuum of Care (CoC)
- Homeless Management Information System
- Analysis to determine vulnerability



# Continuum of Care (CoC)

- CoC is a group of stakeholders who work together to plan and implement a comprehensive strategy to address homelessness.
- CoC compete for HUD funding through annual CoC Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA).



# CoC Geography

- A Continuum's service area or geography is determined by the CoC. The options include urban, rural, regional, balance of state or statewide.
- Programs and projects that are included in a CoC grant application are rated and ranked locally by a CoC's own prioritization committee prior to its submission to HUD.



# USICH and “Opening Doors”

- To be competitive, applicants seeking CoC dollars must align their programs with the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) Federal Plan to End Homelessness – “Opening Doors”.
- The U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness leads the national effort to prevent and end homelessness in America.
- Opening Doors provides guidance to 19 Federal agencies which, in collaboration, support efforts to end homelessness.
- Federal member agencies foster partnerships at every level of government and with the private sector.





# USICH and HUD

- In the last 10 years, HUD has modified its CoC NOFA (Notice of Funding Availability) to incorporate best practices identified by the USICH and detailed in Opening Doors.
- To be competitive for CoC dollars, applicants must incorporate evidence based practices including:
  - Housing First
  - Rapid Re-Housing and Progressive Engagement
  - HMIS
  - Coordinated Assessment



# Opening Doors Impact

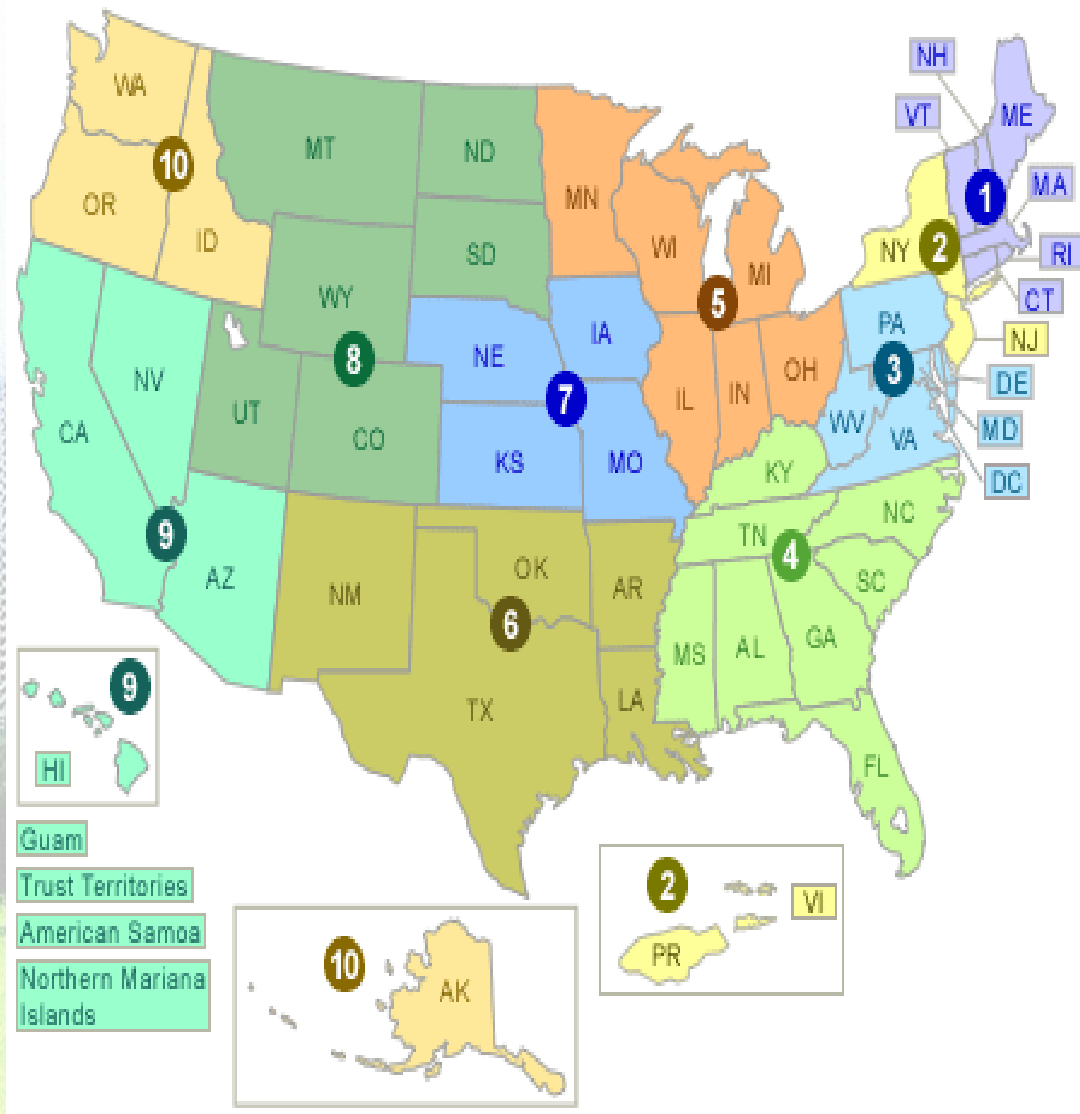
Since the release of Opening Doors in 2010:

- Veteran Homeless reduced 33%
- Chronic Homelessness reduced 21%
- Homelessness among families with children reduced 15%



# FRICH

Currently, the USICH is working with Federal agencies on the regional level to create or strengthen Federal Regional Interagency Councils on Homelessness in each region of the Country.





# Regional and State Homeless Councils

- The USICH conducted outreach to encourage States to adopt 10 Year Plans to End Homelessness and create State Homeless Coordinating Council modeled after the USICH.
- Many states adopted plans and established councils.



# Summary

- HUD, USICH set policy, fund programs, provide guidance
- Communities form a Continuum of Care to address homelessness and apply for HUD funding.
- Regional and state councils help to effectively coordinate efforts
- Success achieved at the local level
- Working together, maximizing partnerships and cross-program collaboration will enable us to achieve our goal – to end homelessness in our country



# Further Information

For further information on HUD's Homeless Programs, view webcasts and find information on local CoCs visit the HUD Exchange at <https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/>

For information on the USICH visit <https://www.usich.gov/>



# Further Information (cont.)

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