



**THE COLLABORATIVE**

The Delaware Interagency Collaborative to End Homelessness

# INITIAL SURVEY REVIEW

MEETING 7-8-2025

# SURVEY PURPOSE

In accordance with Executive Order #8, an initial survey document was created for only the Collaborative members to begin the process of compiling a comprehensive Homelessness Crosswalk document to assemble the following information in Delaware:

- Homelessness Funding Sources and Amounts
- Existing Homelessness Services/Resources
- Intersections and Gaps in the Delaware Homelessness Continuum

THANK YOU TO ALL  
MEMBERS FOR YOUR  
PARTICIPATION AND  
YOUR WORK ON THIS  
CRITICAL FIRST STEP!

# WHAT IS HOMELESSNESS?

Depending on the agency or organization, homelessness is defined differently!

For the sake of our work with the Collaborative, can we agree to use the HUD definitions as we proceed with our discussions?

# HUD QUALIFYING DEFINITIONS

**Literally Homeless** – An individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, meaning:

- 1.Has a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not meant for human habitation; **or**
- 2.Is living in a publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state and local government programs); **or**
- 3.Is exiting an institution where (s)he has resided for 90 days or less and who resided in an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering that institution.

**At-Risk for Homelessness** - An individual or family who will imminently lose their primary nighttime residence, provided that:

- 1.Residence will be lost within 14 days of the date of application for homeless assistance;
- 2.No subsequent residence has been identified; *and*
- 3.The individual or family lacks the resources or support networks needed to obtain other permanent housing.

**Fleeing Domestic Violence/Assault** - Any individual or family who:

- 1.Is fleeing, or is attempting to flee, domestic violence;
- 2.Has no other residence; and
- 3.Lacks the resources or support networks to obtain other permanent housing

# HOW DO WE ARRIVE AT A MEANINGFUL FOCUS?

With such a broad range of components in the homelessness continuum, for example:

- Prevention
- Diversion
- Rapid Re-Housing
- Permanent Supportive Housing

It is very overwhelming and difficult to decide where to begin!

We can agree that ALL components in the continuum are important!

However, let us narrow our focus for this first phase, down to the definition of “Literally Homeless” and specifically

**SHELTERS, HOTEL/MOTEL ASSISTANCE, ETC.**

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HOW DID WE ARRIVE AT THIS SUGGESTION?

# QUALIFYING POPULATIONS SERVED

	Literally Homeless	At Risk for Homelessness	Fleeing Domestic Violence/Assault
DSHA	X	X	X
DHSS	X	X	X
DOE	X		
DOL			
DOC	X	X	X
DSCYF	X	X	X
HAD/COC	X	X	X
NC County	X		X
Kent County	X		
Sussex County	X	X	X
City of Wilmington			
City of Dover			

\*Based on Collaborative Members survey responses

# STEP 1 - SHOW ME THE MONEY

## Literally Homeless Funding Sources and Amounts

If we are going to focus on the services/programs that assist populations who meet the HUD definition of “literally homeless”, we need to begin with isolating the funding amounts and the funding restrictions that service only that category.

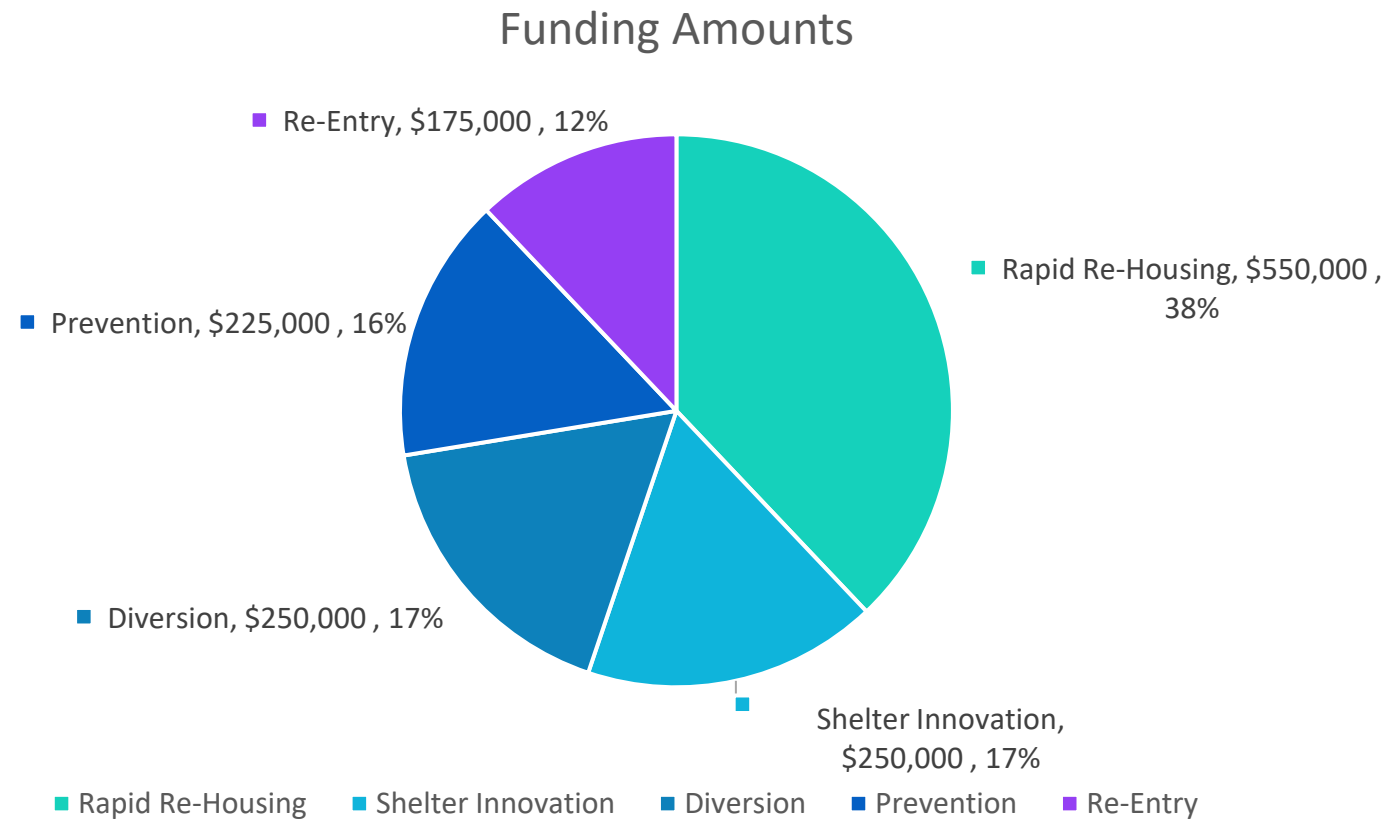
## The Homework

Collaborative members- please resubmit your surveys with responses only for program/services that serve clients who are living on the streets, in shelter, in vehicles or in hotels/motels.



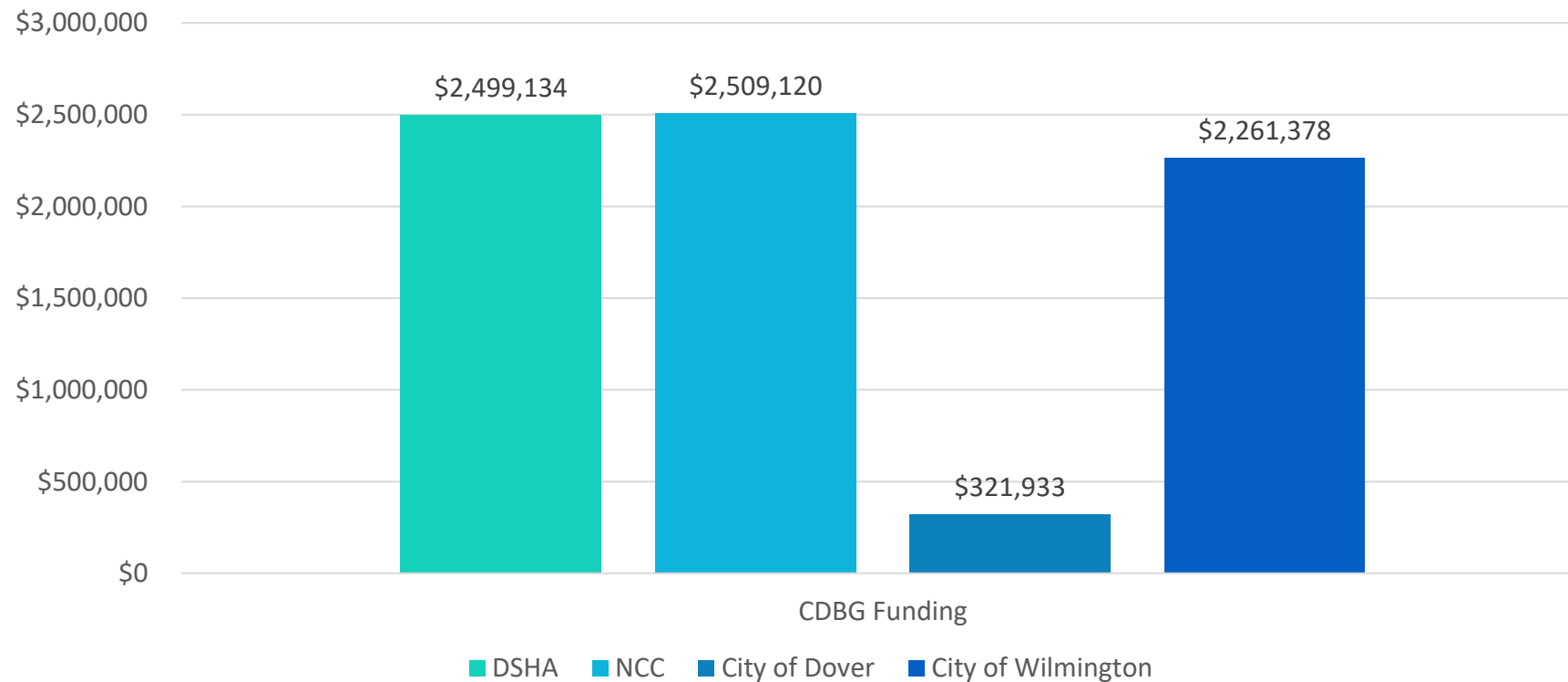
# DSHA EXAMPLES – HOME 4 GOOD

Home 4 Good is a single funding source of \$1,450,000 but with multiple uses. Total funding toward “literally homeless” is \$800,000.



# DSHA EXAMPLE – COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG)

CDBG does not provide funding specifically for shelter operations. However, it can fund “Public Service Improvements” which includes emergency shelter. For example: Kent County applied to DSHA CDBG for funding to improve Shepherds Place in Dover.



# DHSS EXAMPLE - LIHEAP

DHSS reported on their LIHEAP funding totaling \$12,397,052 in their response to the Collaborative Homelessness Survey. While that is a critical component of assistance to prevent homelessness, it would not be counted in the narrowed down scope of “literally homeless” funding.

However, DHSS would report on their funding for Emergency Housing Services such as hotel/motel voucher funding.

# BACK TO THE HOMEWORK!

Collaborative members- please look again at your survey responses but through a narrowed lens.

Resubmit your surveys with responses only for program/services that serve clients who are living on the streets, in shelter, in vehicles or in hotels/motels.

## COLLABORATIVE PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

- Gather and review the revised survey responses based on the new Phase 1 scope of “Literally Homeless”.
- Report back to the Collaborative at the next meeting regarding those responses.
- DSHA will prepare a survey to be distributed to all Delaware shelters to examine current barriers to shelter access.

# OPEN DISCUSSION

**Thoughts?**  
**Concerns?**  
**Comments?**



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## CONTACT US:

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