

# Clinton County Coalition on Homelessness 2022 Community Update

The **Clinton County Coalition on Homelessness (CCCH)** was established in January 2021 to develop, promote, and support a county collaborative of stakeholders who, together, work to reduce and prevent homelessness in Clinton County. The Coalition includes representatives from City of Wilmington, Clinton County, social service and healthcare providers, local law enforcement, people with lived experience of homelessness, and many others. CCCH is open to any community member interested in addressing housing insecurity and homelessness in Clinton County.

**Homeward** is our community's coordinated, community plan for making sure everyone has a safe and stable home in Clinton County – particularly people facing housing instability and homelessness. Adopted by CCCH in January 2022, the plan embodies our **vision** and **values** for addressing housing insecurity and homelessness and includes specific *near-term actions* identified by developed by CCCH to provide a foundation to organize and take collective action to prevent and reduce housing instability and homelessness in Clinton County. These actions, already underway, are reflected in the **2021-2022 Strategic Action Plan** section of *Homeward*.

Please also consider joining CCCH membership meetings, which are open to anyone, and contributing to our updated **2023-2024 Strategic Action Plan** – our guide for preventing and ending homelessness together as a community. For mor information about CCCH, including meeting information and to review *Homeward*, please visit our [website](#).

**Below are just some of the successes achieved by CCCH members this year:**

## › Preventing Homelessness

- We explored education for transitional aged youth and Shared Housing resources.
- Clinton Massie Local Schools and Talbert House provided a Resource Navigator to serve families and high schools students who are homeless or who are at risk of becoming homeless.
- Examined rental housing market and opportunities to grow and support landlord partnerships.
- Clinton County Services for the Homeless (CCSH) assisted 6 households to remain housed with 10,140 in state Homeless Crisis Response Program (HCRP) funding.

## › Providing Temporary Housing

- Clinton County Services for the Homeless (CCSH), Sugartree Ministries, and Hope House initiated new information collection, tracking, and coordination approaches to ensure people in Clinton County can readily access shelter and rehousing assistance (“no wrong door”).
- CCSH obtained \$33,280 (\$18,000 round 2 CARES, \$15,200 Local Mental Health) in new funding to hire a new full-time Access Point Coordinator.
- From January to September 2022:
  - CCSH provided emergency shelter for 114 persons: 83 households, including 13 families with children.
  - Hope House provided emergency shelter to 65 women.
  - Sugartree provided emergency shelter to 50 men and provided 10 men with ongoing affordable housing.

### › **Providing Rehousing Assistance to End Homelessness**

- CCSH obtained \$33,280 in additional state funding to hire an additional full-time rehousing specialist who will also serve clients at Hope House and Sugartree.
- CCSH assisted 26 unhoused Clinton County families and individuals secure housing through their rapid rehousing program.

### › **Providing Other Services & Resources**

- Community Action Agency (CAA) hosted a resource fair to share information about key services and resources.
- Exploring opportunities to increase crisis intervention and coordinated triage to critical housing, behavioral health, and other services, in concert with law enforcement.

### › **2022 Point-in-Time Count**

- On February 22, 2022, CCSH conducted the annual “point-in-time” count on behalf of the Coalition and as part of a nationwide effort to conduct a one-night census of homelessness. Final 2022 PIT count data has not yet been published by the state.

### **Current priorities include:**

- ✓ Obtain additional funding to prevent homelessness and provide rehousing assistance when prevention fails.
- ✓ Increase transitional housing options for people needing longer-term temporary housing with supports.
- ✓ Increase coordinated crisis intervention and supports to reduce unsheltered homelessness and address critical needs using evidence-based interventions.
- ✓ Advocate for increased affordable housing, less rigid rental housing screening criteria, and for more partnerships to support families and individuals to remain stably housed.

To learn more about CCCH and our plan, please contact Sydney Murtland, Clinton County Services for the Homeless, at [sydney@clintoncountyhomelessshelter.org](mailto:sydney@clintoncountyhomelessshelter.org).