



**Northwest Michigan Coalition to End
Homelessness
Strategic Plan to End Chronic Homelessness
2023-2028**

NORTHWEST MICHIGAN COALITION TO END HOMELESSNESS

STRATEGIC PLAN TO END CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

Northwest Michigan Coalition to End Homelessness

MISSION

The mission of the Northwest Michigan Coalition to End Homelessness is to make homelessness rare, brief and one-time in Antrim, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska and Leelanau Counties.

VISION

We envision thriving communities where all people experiencing homelessness have access to a variety of housing solutions, and supports when needed, to effectively end their homelessness.

VALUES

COLLABORATION

We are a collaborative group of community organizations and individuals committed to making homelessness rare, brief and one-time across Northwest Michigan. Our members understand the magnitude of the challenge and support each other's work in pursuit of our common goals.

ACCOUNTABILITY

We share a serious commitment to transparency and responsibility. We account for our work and take ownership of our part in the work to end homelessness.

DATA-DRIVEN

We believe that data-driven decision making is essential to creating a more equitable, efficient, and effective homeless response system. We are committed to upholding these values in all aspects of our work, and to using data as a tool to help us achieve our goals.

EQUITY

Assess and strengthen homelessness response systems by leading with racial justice and equity practices and in pursuit of housing justice. Engage and support the leadership of people with lived expertise, and strengthen partnerships so that efforts reach, serve, and empower historically marginalized communities and populations.

HIGH FUNCTIONING HOMELESS RESPONSE SYSTEM

At the same time we are working to drill down closer to functional zero for chronic homelessness, we must also maintain the highest level of system functioning within the entire homeless response system. We do this by ensuring the continuation and constant improvement of our work to make homelessness rare, brief and one-time. These efforts are listed below:

Make Homelessness Rare
Vision Homelessness doesn't happen very often, and is prevented whenever possible.
Strategic Goals <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Homelessness prevention efforts targeted to extremely vulnerable people who are about to lose their housing.● Homelessness Diversion/Rapid Exit programming targeted to people who have lost housing and are about to enter shelter or sleep outside.● Rapid Exit/Shelter Diversion programming targeted to people who are first time homeless and who have the ability to rapidly exit homelessness with short term, intensive supports.● Strong and effective partnerships with services providers who serve low income people who have received an eviction notice, or who require legal assistance to avoid eviction.
Make Homelessness Brief
Vision If homelessness does occur, the experience is brief in duration.
Strategic Goals <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Rapid Exit/Shelter Diversion programming targeted to people who are first time homeless and who have the ability to rapidly exit homelessness with short term, intensive supports.● Streamlined funding like MSHDA Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) to help people rapidly move into housing when available.● Strong and effective partnerships with service providers who serve low income people to move into housing (Father Fred, Salvation Army, MD-HHS etc.) and can help support them once they exit homelessness (Community Connections).● Providing low-barrier, housing focused temporary emergency shelter.● Providing comprehensive street outreach services that are focused on assisting people to exit homelessness.● Robust Rapid Rehousing programming.● High performing homeless response system inclusive of robust continuous quality improvement measures in place.● Increasing the amount of set-aside units dedicated to people experiencing homelessness.
Make Homelessness One-Time
Vision Homelessness will never happen for an individual again.
Strategic Goals <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Providing equitable housing based case management services no matter where people live once they exit homelessness.● Providing enough housing based case management services to be able to decrease recidivism and connect all people exiting homelessness with high levels of need to the housing based case management supports that are often required to maintain long-term housing stability.

- Strong and effective partnerships with entities providing supportive services to people once they exit homelessness and move into housing

COALITION PLAN TO END CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

Reaching a [functional end to chronic homelessness](#) means that there will be fewer than 3 people experiencing chronic homelessness at any given time. Reaching functional zero also means that the community has fewer people experiencing chronic homelessness each month than exiting homelessness. We need to be able to maintain our work overtime, and have measures and performance standards in place to ensure a functional end to chronic homelessness is being maintained.

The NW Michigan Coalition to End Homelessness (NWCEH) is committed to ending chronic homelessness in the next 5 years. By January 2028, there will be three or fewer people experiencing chronic homelessness in the Greater Grand Traverse Area, and on average there will be more people exiting chronic homelessness than are entering.

Increase Outflow
Vision More people will exit chronic homelessness each month than are entering.
Strategic Goals <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Increase units for Permanent Supportive Housing● Increase funding for Permanent Supportive Housing (rental assistance and support services)● Increase the amount of landlords who will work with MSHDA HCVs and NWCEH Housing Programs● Increase PSH capacity
Decrease Inflow
Vision Less people will enter chronic homelessness each month.
Strategic Goals <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Diversion programming across the entire system which will lead to more capacity to be able to address chronic homelessness.● Increase housing based case management for scattered site● Increase PSH capacity● Be able to project the number of people aging into chronic homelessness, and prioritize them prior to entering chronicity.
Maintain Effective Backbone Support
Vision Maintain effective backbone support/staffing of the NWCEH to guide the vision and strategy for this work, support aligned activities, establish review and evaluate shared measurement practices, build public will, advance policy and mobilize funding.
Strategic Goals <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Increase funding to backbone support from all HUD funded agencies● Increase philanthropic funding for backbone support● Maintain commitment to being inclusive of people with lived experience at the decision making level

Increase Public Will to End Chronic Homelessness
Vision Community leaders will become champions around the work to end chronic homelessness.
Strategic Goals <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establish the business case for ending chronic homelessness in a community• Establish a task force made up of community leaders who are committed to the goal to end chronic homelessness