

- w. A Resolution authorizing an amendment to the 2022 HOME-ARP Allocation Plan for Housing and Neighborhood Development to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and authorizing the Mayor to execute any associated documents and certifications.



**CITY OF KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE**

**City Council**

**AGENDA INFORMATION SHEET**

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**AGENDA DATE:** April 29, 2025

**DEPARTMENT:** Housing and Neighborhood Development Department

**DIRECTOR or DESIGNEE:** Kevin DuBose

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**AGENDA SUMMARY** A Resolution authorizing an amendment to the 2022 HOME-ARP Allocation Plan for Housing and Neighborhood Development to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and authorizing the Mayor to execute any associated documents and certifications.

**COUNCIL DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED** All Districts

**BACKGROUND** HOME Investment Partnerships Program - American Rescue Plan ("HOME-ARP") grant funds are supplemental funds made available by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD") with the purpose of creating affordable, permanent housing with the services necessary for those experiencing or at-risk of experiencing homelessness.

The City received notice on September 13, 2021, of HOME-ARP grant allocations of \$4,076,859 until 2030. HUD requires the City to submit an Allocation Plan to receive these funds, and the City did so on September 23, 2022. Following the required public notice and input process, On September 20, 2022, City Council authorized the Mayor to execute any and all associated documents and certifications related to the submission of the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan to HUD.

The HOME-ARP Allocation Plan proposed the use of \$2,900,000 for the development of affordable rental housing, \$1,000,000 for provision of supportive services, and \$176,859 for administration and planning. In accordance with that allocation plan, \$2,900,000 has been used to support the development of 30 units of permanent supportive housing at Callahan Flats, which is anticipated to be complete in 2025. The \$1,000,000 for supportive services was previously considered for use in conjunction with a different permanent supportive housing development that ultimately was not developed.

HUD allows for changes to HOME-ARP Allocation Plans through an amendment process, which also follows a public notice and input process, after which a proposed amendment may be submitted to HUD. The amendment currently being proposed would move the remaining \$1,000,000 from supportive services to the "Development of Affordable Rental Housing" category, in order to be made available to support the development of additional units of supportive housing for persons at risk of or experiencing homelessness.

The plan amendment also takes into consideration the extensive planning and public input process over the past year under the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program to create

the YHDP Coordinated Community Plan (CCP). Among the needs and priorities identified in that plan is permanent supportive housing for youth aging out of the foster care system. The CCP notes that without housing and support, this population is at high risk of homelessness. The proposed HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Amendment would provide for the opportunity to make these funds available for development of supportive housing for this population.

Public Notice of the amendment, as required by HUD, was published on March 14, 2025, and the draft amendment was made available for review on the City's website on April 1, 2025. Comments received through April 15, 2025, will be provided to City Council prior to the April 29th meeting.

**ESTIMATED PROJECT SCHEDULE** The HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Amendment will be submitted to HUD after adoption of Resolution.

**PRIOR ACTION/REVIEW** City Council approved the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan on September 20, 2022, by Resolution R-293-2022.

**FISCAL INFORMATION** The substantial amendments propose to reallocate \$1,000,000 in unspent HOME-ARP funds for use in the development of affordable rental housing.

## RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE ANY AND ALL DOCUMENTS AND CERTIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR THE SUBMISSION OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE 2022 HOME-ARP ALLOCATION PLAN FOR HOUSING AND NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT.

RESOLUTION NO: \_\_\_\_\_

Housing & Neighborhood

REQUESTED BY: Development Department

PREPARED BY: Law Department

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED AS AN EMERGENCY  
MEASURE: \_\_\_\_\_

MINUTE BOOK: \_\_\_\_\_ PAGE \_\_\_\_\_

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (“HUD”) requires the City to submit an Allocation Plan to receive HOME Investment Partnerships Program - American Rescue Plan (“HOME-ARP”) grant funds; and

**WHEREAS**, HOME-ARP grant funds are supplemental funds made available by HUD with the purpose of creating affordable, permanent housing with the services necessary for those experiencing or at-risk of experiencing homelessness; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 13, 2021, the City received notice of HOME-ARP grant allocations of \$4,076,859 until 2030; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 20, 2022, following the required public notice and input process, the City Council authorized, by R-293-2022, the Mayor to execute any and all associated documents and certifications related to the submission of the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan to HUD; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 23, 2022, the City submitted the Allocation Plan, as required by HUD, to receive these funds; and

**WHEREAS**, the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan (“Allocation Plan”) proposed the use of \$2,900,000 for the development of affordable rental housing, \$1,000,000 for provision of supportive services, and \$176,859 for administration and planning; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with that Allocation Plan, \$2,900,000 has been used to support the development of 30 units of permanent supportive housing at Callahan Flats, which is anticipated to be complete in 2025 and the \$1,000,000 for supportive services was previously considered for use in conjunction with a different permanent supportive housing development that ultimately was not developed; and

**WHEREAS**, HUD allows for changes to HOME-ARP Allocation Plans through an amendment process, which also follows a public notice and input process, after which a proposed amendment may be submitted to HUD; and

**WHEREAS**, a HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Amendment (the “Amendment”) currently being proposed would move the remaining \$1,000,000 from supportive services to the “Development of Affordable Rental Housing” category, in order to be made available to support the development of additional units of supportive housing for persons at risk of or experiencing homelessness; and

**WHEREAS,** the Amendment also takes into consideration the extensive planning and public input process over the past year under the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (“YHDP”) to create the YHDP Coordinated Community Plan (“CCP”); and

**WHEREAS,** among the needs and priorities identified in the CCP is permanent supportive housing for youth aging out of the foster care system as the CCP notes that without housing and support, this population is at high risk of homelessness; and

**WHEREAS,** the proposed Amendment would provide for the opportunity to make these funds available for development of supportive housing for this population; and

**WHEREAS,** As required by HUD, a Public Notice of the Amendment was published on March 14, 2025 and the draft amendment was made available for review on the City’s website on April 1, 2025, and comments received through April 15, 2025 will be provided to City Council prior to the April 29th meeting; and

**WHEREAS,** the Council wishes to authorize the Mayor to execute any and all associated documents and certifications related to the submission of the Amendment to HOME-ARP Allocation Plan to HUD.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KNOXVILLE:**

**SECTION 1:** The Mayor of the City of Knoxville be, and hereby is, authorized to execute any and all documents and certifications required for the submission of the Amendment to the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan, as shown on Exhibit A attached hereto, to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

**SECTION 2:** This Resolution shall take effect from and after its passage, the welfare of the City requiring it.

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Presiding Officer of the Council

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Recorder

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Housing and Neighborhood  
Development Department

~~Amy Brooks~~ Kevin DuBose, Director

**HOME-ARP Allocation Plan, As Amended  
(Draft)**

~~September 23, 2022~~ April 1, 2025



## HOME-ARP Allocation Plan

### Introduction

Note regarding this proposed 2025 HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Amendment: In order to respond to needs and priorities identified through a local Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) input and planning process, it is proposed that this Allocation Plan be amended to redirect \$1,000,000 in HOME-ARP funding originally proposed for supportive services in order for it to be used for development of affordable rental housing that will serve youth aging out of the foster care system. In accordance with instructions for creating a draft amendment to a HOME-ARP Allocation Plan, the information added or changed to amend the originally approved Plan is noted through the “track changes” function and appears in red type throughout this document.

The City of Knoxville receives certain entitlement funding through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The HOME Investment Partnerships Grant (HOME) program is one of the grants that the City has received each year since 1992. HOME provides formula grants to states and localities that communities use - often in partnership with local nonprofit groups - to fund a wide range of activities including building, buying, and/or rehabilitating affordable housing for rent or homeownership or providing direct rental assistance to low-income people. HOME is the largest federal block grant to state and local governments designed exclusively to create affordable housing for low-income households. HOME funds are awarded annually as formula grants to participating jurisdictions (PJs). The program's flexibility allows states and local governments to use HOME funds for grants, direct loans, loan guarantees or other forms of credit enhancements, or rental assistance or security deposits. The City, in partnership with non-profit developers designated as Community Housing Development Organizations (CHDOs), has used more than \$41 million in HOME funds over the last 30 years to develop, rehabilitate, and provide down payment assistance for purchasers of affordable housing for hundreds of low- and moderate-income households.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the U.S. Congress passed legislation and President Biden signed into law the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP). ARP, a federal economic stimulus bill, provides over \$1.9 trillion in relief to address the continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the economy, public health, State and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

Congress appropriated \$5 billion in ARP funds to address the need for homelessness assistance and supportive services. These funds are administered through HUD's HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME).

The new funding program, called HOME-ARP, provides assistance to individuals or households who are homeless, at risk of homelessness, and other vulnerable populations, by providing

housing, rental assistance, supportive services, and non-congregate shelter, to reduce homelessness and increase housing stability across the country. The 651 State and local participating jurisdictions that qualified for an annual HOME Program allocation for FY2021, of which Knoxville is one, were eligible to receive HOME-ARP grants. The amount of HOME-ARP funds were allocated using the HOME Program formula.

The City of Knoxville received notice on September 13, 2021, that it would be receiving a HOME-ARP grant allocation of \$4,076,859. The grant funds may be used until September 30, 2030.

The following is the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan, a template required by and submitted for approval to HUD. The Allocation Plan describes how the City of Knoxville intends to use its HOME-ARP funds. The plan also describes the process of consultation with service, shelter, and housing providers, and the input received from the public.

The Housing and Neighborhood Development (HND) Department held in-person and virtual consultation meetings with community partners, including: The Mayor's Roundtable on Homelessness, the City's Affordable Housing Fund Advisory Committee, and the Knoxville-Knox County Homeless Coalition. The Homeless Coalition serves as the City's Continuum of Care (CoC). The consultation meetings hosted over 60 individuals from almost 50 organizations. The public hearing on September 19, 2022 was also held virtually, for public comment on the draft Plan. HND staff presented information about the City's allocation amount, Priority Goals and Objectives from the Consolidated Plan, the range of activities in which the City plans spend funds, a timeline of the funds, and acknowledgment of community partners' contributions. Participants were encouraged to provide comments. The draft Plan was released for a required 15-day public comment period on September 6, 2022. Comments provided through September 20, 2022, will be provided to City Council prior to the City Council meeting on the same date. Comments received through that day will be sent to City Council as a follow-up. All comments will be included in the final plan submitted to HUD.

For the 2025 Amendment, the City of Knoxville is using the extensive collaborative community input process for the development of our Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) Coordinated Community Plan (CCP). The Knoxville-Knox County Continuum of Care applied and was awarded designation as a YHDP community, and in 2024 completed a CCP that identified the needs of homeless and at-risk youth and young adults in the community, and recommended priorities and strategies for addressing those needs. The YHDP CCP aligned well with the existing 2022 HOME-ARP Allocation Plan and provides additional detail that informs the 2025 Amendment.

## **Consultation**

In accordance with Section V.A of the Notice (page 13), before developing its HOME-ARP allocation plan, at a minimum, the City of Knoxville must consult with:

- CoC(s) serving the jurisdiction's geographic area,

- homeless service providers,
- domestic violence service providers,
- veterans' groups,
- public housing agencies (PHAs),
- public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations, and
- public or private organizations that address fair housing, civil rights, and the needs of persons with disabilities.

State PJs are not required to consult with every PHA or CoC within the state's boundaries; however, local the City of Knoxville must consult with all PHAs (including statewide or regional PHAs) and CoCs serving the jurisdiction.

***Describe the consultation process including methods used and dates of consultation:***

City staff presented information on HOME-ARP to community partners during the PY2022 Annual Action Plan (AAP) process in both January and March of 2022. These AAP consultations allowed community service providers to give feedback on the use of HOME-ARP funds. The ideas that came from the consultations, in addition to data and qualitative narratives, confirmed that HOME-ARP funding would best be used on Permanent Supportive Housing.

The City consulted with the Knoxville-Knox County Homeless Coalition (CoC), homeless service providers, domestic violence service providers, veterans' groups, public housing agencies (PHAs), public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations, and public or private organizations that address fair housing, civil rights, and the needs of persons with disabilities for the HOME-ARP Allocation process.

The City of Knoxville organized three consultation meetings in July 2022, with the Mayor's Roundtable on Homelessness, the City's Affordable Housing Fund Advisory Committee, and the Homeless Coalition (CoC). Over 60 individuals representing nearly 30 organizations participated in this process. Each group consulted work with one or more of the HOME-ARP Qualifying Populations on a continual basis and have a working knowledge of their needs, service gaps, and HOME-ARP eligible activities.

The Mayor's Roundtable on Homelessness hosts quarterly meetings with homeless service providers, community leaders, and members from the City of Knoxville's government. The Homeless Coalition meets monthly and includes homelessness service providers and their front-line staff who coordinate community resources and efforts. The Coalition serves as the Continuum of Care (CoC) for the Knoxville geographic area. The Affordable Housing Fund Advisory Committee is appointed by the Mayor and includes affordable housing developers,

representatives from financial institutions, and advocates that meet quarterly to consult on the affordable housing crisis in Knoxville.

City staff gave a presentation at each meeting to inform participants on the City's allocation amount, eligible activities, and qualifying populations. Following the presentation, participants were encouraged to ask questions and provide comments. A follow-up email was sent the week after the presentation to share resources for more information and allow opportunity for additional comment from service providers and any people unable to attend the meetings.

All materials including the meeting presentation, a compiled list of comments and responses from all of the participants consulted, and the follow-up email with responses are found in Appendix A-D.

Under the collaborative leadership of the Knoxville-Knox County Youth Action Board (YAB), the statement of need for the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) Coordinated Community Plan (CCP) was created. To do so, the YHDP team used both quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis methods. Quantitative datasets were analyzed from the Homeless Management Information System, Pellissippi State Community College, The University of Tennessee-Knoxville, Knoxville Community Development Corporation, Covenant Health Systems, the Department of Education, Tennessee Department of Children's Services, and the Knox County Medical Examiner. Qualitative data were collected from 2022 to 2024. These data were collected through three focus groups with the Youth Action Board, seven semi-structured interviews with YAB members, seven listening sessions with Youth and Young Adult (YYA) providers and program participants, and five Community Partner Committee meetings. Qualitative data included transcribed recordings and fieldnotes. Qualitative data was coded for themes to identify unique subpopulation needs.

***List the organizations consulted:***

Agency/Org Consulted	Type of Agency/Org	Method of Consultation	Feedback
CAC Youth Action Board	homeless service provider	<i>In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.</i>	Homeless youth are a growing population, need more housing: Safe haven and McNabb
Care Cuts Ministry	homeless service provider	<i>In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.</i>	There is a barrier in facing off against KCDC back pay (rent).

City of Knoxville, Mayor		In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	Addressing the issues of housing and homelessness is the number one issue for our neighborhoods. Need more CHAMP intake points.
Helen Ross McNabb Center	homeless service provider/public agency that addresses the needs of the qualifying populations	<i>In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.</i>	Elderly needs are growing. Hospitals overburdened – expanding in house medical services for homeless. Working to expand outreach efforts
KnoxHMIS	homeless service provider	<i>In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.</i>	Need stronger incentives for community service providers to participate in CHAMP.
Knoxville Leadership Foundation	homeless service provider/public agency that addresses the needs of the qualifying populations	<i>In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.</i>	Yes, there is a need for permanent supportive housing, affordable housing, and more CHAMP access points. It is the busiest year ever at the compassion coalition. Knox has a problem and it is a whole new level. Concerned about waitlists. Need new agencies to get involved. Need to remove barriers. HUGE need.
Knoxville/Knox County CAC	homeless service provider/public agency that addresses the needs of the qualifying populations	<i>In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.</i>	I agree [with VMC] that there is a need for affordable housing. We have a long wait list, and many of those waitlisted are living in their cars. We're in conversation with Youth Rising to create transitional housing for youth.
The Salvation Army	homeless service provider/public agency that addresses the needs of the qualifying populations/domestic violence service provider	<i>In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.</i>	Working to utilize the underserved spaces. Working to launch a new Drug and Alcohol program for men (capacity of 12-20 individuals, then grow) Can the SA use unused spaces for PSH, AH
Volunteer Ministry Center (VMC)	homeless service provider/public agency that addresses the needs	<i>In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.</i>	Truly unprecedented times. Summer months: 44% increase. 8% increase now over peak times in winter. Great need.

	of the qualifying populations		Lack of affordable housing for Rapid Re-housing clients. The needs is not only for PSH. Other clients need services and housing too.
KnoxHMIS	CoC serving the jurisdiction's geographic area/HMIS/homeless service provider	<i>In-person consultation on 7/26/2022.</i>	Need for post-housing counseling.
The Salvation Army	CoC serving the jurisdiction's geographic area/homeless service provider	<i>In-person consultation on 7/26/2022.</i>	We need landlords to buy into the effort with incentives to prioritize housing.
VMC	CoC serving the jurisdiction's geographic area/homeless service provider	<i>In-person consultation on 7/26/2022.</i>	I agree that there is a need for more PSH, but we also need to find a way to increase the housing stock for RRH. If these funds can be used for supportive services, that would improve capacity for when we increase the housing stock.
Cokesbury Methodist Church	CoC serving the jurisdiction's geographic area/homeless service provider	<i>In-person consultation on 7/26/2022.</i>	I am concerned for severely mental ill that can't utilize PSH
Justice Knox	private organization that addresses fair housing, civil rights, and the needs of persons with disabilities	<i>Zoom consultation on 7/29/2022.</i>	So much is needed and not enough money. We are barking up the right tree. For those who experience/experienced Homelessness and jail, PSH is a best solution for both. Also a need for AH for people who are (extremely) very low income
CODI/ CAC's Volunteer Assisted Transportation	private organization that addresses fair housing, civil rights, and the needs of persons with disabilities	<i>Email response on 8/11/2022.</i>	<i>See Appendix D.</i>

***Summarize feedback received and results of upfront consultation with these entities:***

The feedback and results from the consultation ranged from the need for affordable housing, Rapid Re-housing services, Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA), and other supportive services. However, the highest prioritized comment indicated a strong preference for permanent supportive housing. Comments about the need for permanent supportive housing have been repeated since the development of the 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan in 2019, and throughout each Annual Action Plan process in 2021 and 2022.

Comments on the availability of the affordable housing stock in Knoxville was described as insufficient in its current state. While the housing market was tight before the COVID-19 pandemic, affordable housing has become even less available. Renters who had housing affordable to them experienced rising rents, with many losing units they had lived in for years.

The *Needs and Gap Analysis* report also shows that there are not enough available, affordable housing units. This is especially true when comparing the needs of local renters to the current housing inventory by housing type/size. The consultation recommended that units be built for individuals and families to accommodate difference needs and household sizes.

With limited available housing stock to place those experiencing homelessness, rapid re-housing efforts are stalled. Service providers commented that more permanent supportive housing would help to reduce the number of people experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness. Additionally, with the number of chronically homeless individuals on the rise, more supportive services are necessary to help those struggling with additional concerns (such as mental health and substance misuse). Ultimately, the goal is permanent housing, with supports if needed/desired.

Permanent supportive housing (PSH) is a model that combines low-barrier affordable housing, health care, and supportive services to help individuals and families lead more stable lives. PSH typically targets people who are homeless or otherwise unstably housed, experience multiple barriers to housing, and are unable to maintain housing stability without supportive services. Permanent supportive housing was recommended for funding in the City of Knoxville's 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan. The development of permanent supportive housing was also part of two of the four "high priority objectives" developed in the strategic plan. Supportive services and post-housing case management has also been recommended for those with substance abuse and/or mental health issues.

Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) was the subject of a only one comment received during the consultation. Knox County Government does not operate a TBRA Program in the City of Knoxville's jurisdiction to prevent duplication of benefits.

The data affirmed the comments from service providers about the deficit of available, affordable housing. HMIS shows the lack of available units slows the “time to housing.” Service providers expressed that an increase in permanent supportive housing is the best use of the HOME-ARP funds for the growing chronically homeless population.

Through the 2022-2024 consultation process for the YHDP, a number of specific housing needs for this population were identified and, strategies were recommended in the Coordinated Community Plan to address those needs. These needs and strategies are consistent with the 2022 HOME-ARP Allocation Plan, but add detail and specificity that lead to this Allocation Plan Amendment, which changes one funding line in order to address those identified needs, specifically for Youth and Young Adults (YYA) who are Foster and Justice System involved.

For housing and support:

- Access to affordable housing
- Increased case management to navigate Public Housing Agency processes
- Reduction in wait time for FYI and FUP vouchers
- Access to long-term subsidy
- Longer post-housing case management
- Linkage to homeless service system for aging out YYA declining Extension of Foster Care Services (EFCS)
- Landlords willing to forgo background checks

Strategies to address identified needs:

- Coordinate care between the Department of Children Services, community partners, and youth providers to create housing and supportive service pathways for YYA prior to release from state care to ensure that no youth is discharged into housing instability.
- Develop strategy with the Public Housing Authority to reduce barriers to both Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) and Family Unification Program (FUP) vouchers to increase utilization rates.
- Link YYA to YYA-specific homeless response system prior to discharge to support transitions from institutional to mainstream environments.
- Develop YYA-specific Landlord Engagement Strategy to recruit landlords that waive background checks or income/credit score threshold requirements.
- Develop long-term after-care case management supports for Foster and Justice System-Involved YYA

The 2024 YHDP CCP identified a number of needs for homeless and at-risk youth and young adults aging out of the state foster care system, who are at high risk of becoming homeless. This risk is due to a lack of existing family and community bonds to facilitate a transition from foster care to stable, individual permanent housing. The CCP notes that many in this population



may initially resort to “couch surfing,” e.g., living temporarily with others to avoid literal street homelessness. These temporary circumstances are largely unsustainable, with these youth at high risk for street homelessness. Additionally, many YYA “were often victimized and some were trafficked as a result of couchsurfing situations.”

## **Public Participation**

In accordance with Section V.B of the Notice (page 13), the City of Knoxville must provide for and encourage citizen participation in the development of the HOME-ARP allocation plan. Before submission of the plan, the City must provide residents with reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment on the proposed HOME-ARP allocation plan of **no less than 15 calendar days**. The City must follow its adopted requirements for “reasonable notice and an opportunity to comment” for plan amendments in its current citizen participation plan. In addition, the City must hold **at least one public hearing** during the development of the HOME-ARP allocation plan and prior to submission.

The City of Knoxville is required to make the following information available to the public:

- The amount of HOME-ARP the City will receive, and
- The range of activities the City may undertake.

Throughout the HOME-ARP allocation plan public participation process, the City of Knoxville must follow its applicable fair housing and civil rights requirements and procedures for effective communication, accessibility, and reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities and providing meaningful access to participation by limited English proficient (LEP) residents that are in its current citizen participation plan as required by 24 CFR 91.105 and 91.115.

***Describe the public participation process, including information about and the dates of the public comment period and public hearing(s) held during the development of the plan:***

### **For the original 2022 HOME-ARP Allocation Plan**

- ***Date(s) of public notice:*** 9/3/2022
- ***Public comment period:*** start date - 9/6/2022 end date - 9/20/2022
- ***Date(s) of public hearing:*** 9/19/2022

### **For the 2025 Amendment**

- **Date(s) of public notice:** 4/1/2025

- Public comment period: start date – 4/1/2025 end date – 4/15/2025
- Date(s) of public hearing: 4/9/2025

***Describe the public participation process:***

The City of Knoxville follows its Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) for all public hearings, which is included in Appendix E. In accordance with the CPP, notice for the public comment period and the date of the public hearing was published in the September 3, 2022, Knoxville News Sentinel print and online editions. An additional article was posted in the City's Office for Neighborhood Empowerment's *Neighborly Notice* newsletter on August 30, 2022 and September 13, 2022. The City of Knoxville's Communications department posted similar information on the City's social media pages. City staff participated in two interviews with *WBIR* on September 9, 2022 and *WVLT* on September 12, 2022 to advertise the public comment period and the public hearing for the HOME-ARP draft Allocation Plan. Articles were also written in addition on the HOME-ARP funds helping to spread awareness for the City's public comment period. Appendix F-J contain a copy of the Knoxville News Sentinel proof, the August 30 release of *Neighborly Notice*, the September 13 release of *Neighborly Notice*, a copy of the *Compass* article, and links to the various other articles written to draw awareness to the Allocation Plan in Knoxville, respectively.

Each notice contains: dates of the public comment period; date and time of the public hearing; links to access both the draft Allocation Plan and the Zoom link for the public hearing; information about how to comment; and the Fair Housing logo. The draft allocation plan was available from September 6 through September 20, on the City of Knoxville's Housing and Neighborhood Development website: <https://knoxvilletn.gov/development>. A screenshot of the website during this time can be found in Appendix K.

During the 15-day public comment period, the City of Knoxville received 13 comments from citizens responding to the draft Allocation Plan. A compiled list of all responses, with personal information scrubbed, is found in Appendix L.

The public hearing was held on September 19, 2022 at 6:00 PM EST, where the City's Allocation amount, range of eligible projects, results of consultation, etc. were covered. 27 citizens attended and a copy of the public hearing slide deck and the transcribed notes and chat from the Zoom Meeting can be found in Appendixes M and N.

**For the 2025 Amendment**

The City of Knoxville once again followed its current Citizen Participation Plan. Public Notice was published in the Knoxville News Sentinel and on the on the City of Knoxville's Housing and Neighborhood Development website: <https://knoxvilletn.gov/development> on March 18, 2025, announcing that this draft plan amendment would be made available on the City's Website on April 1, 2025 to begin the public comment period lasting through April 15, 2025. The announcement also provided notice that there would be a public meeting at 6 p.m. on April 9, 2025 at the City Public Works Complex, 3131 Morris Avenue, Knoxville, to present the proposed plan amendment and receive public comment. Notice of the plan amendment and public meeting was also published on March 18, 2025 in *The Neighborly Notice*, the email newsletter of the Neighborhood Advisory Committee (NAC). The NAC also held its regular meeting in the same location immediately prior to the HOME-ARP public meeting, and attendees were invited to stay for the HOME-ARP meeting.

***Describe efforts to broaden public participation:***

Notice was published in the *Knoxville News Sentinel* (the local paper) as per the CPP. In addition, the City's Office of Neighborhood Empowerment's *Neighborly News* also published an invitation to comment and attend the public hearing. The City's Communication department posted information as well, on its social media platforms. The advertisements contain information about the public comment period, the time and Zoom link to the public hearing and the link to City of Knoxville's Housing and Neighborhood Development department where citizens can find the draft HOME-ARP allocation plan. City staff advertised the public comment period and the public hearing on TV interviews on the 4:00 and 5:00 PM news for WBIR and WVLT on September 9 and 12, 2022, respectively.

All participants from the PY2022-2023 AAP process, the HOME-ARP consultation meetings, and others were invited by email to read the draft Allocation Plan and attend the public hearing.

The public hearing is online using the Zoom video conferencing platform to increase citizen access. Virtual meetings reduce barriers, such as transportation and childcare, for citizens. The City's Accessibility Coordinator was included in all discussions, especially pertaining to public input to ensure ADA compliance.

- Public Notice published in the Knoxville News Sentinel on Saturday, September 3, 2022
- Draft Allocation Plan published on the City's Housing and Neighborhood Development's webpage
- Posts from the City's social media platforms (Facebook and Twitter)
- Email distribution to those that previously attended consultation and public meetings hosted by the City's Housing and Neighborhood Development Department.

- City Staff appeared on WBIR and WVLT to advertise the public comment period and public hearing on September 9 and 12, 2022, respectively.
- Local media sources (5) wrote articles from September 3-12, 2022.

### **For the 2025 Amendment**

In addition to the public comment process described above, information on this plan amendment and the public input process was shared with The Knoxville-Knox County Coalition for the Homeless at their regular meeting on March 25, 2025. Notice of this amendment and the public input process was also published in the “Neighborly Notice” email newsletter of the City of Knoxville Neighborhood Advisory Council (NAC) on March 25, 2025. Additionally, the NAC’s regular quarterly meeting took place on April 9, 2025, at the same location immediately prior to the public input meeting for this plan amendment, and NAC members were invited to stay and participate in the HOME-ARP amendment meeting. Information on this plan amendment and the public input process was also presented to the City of Knoxville’s regular Affordable Housing Fund Advisory Committee meeting held on March 26, 2025.

### ***Summarize the comments and recommendations received through the public participation process either in writing, or orally at a public hearing:***

The City of Knoxville received 13 comments through the public comment period and had 27 participants at the public hearing. A full list of the Zoom chat and all notes from the public hearing can be found in Appendix N, and a compiled list of all public comments received from September 6-20, 2022 is in Appendix L.

The comments received at both during the public comment period and the public hearing focused on the need for supportive services and housing in the Knoxville community. Many who commented agreed that additional wrap-around care through housing is a best approach to homelessness.

For the 2025 Amendment, the City of Knoxville received 9 comments during the public comment period and the public meeting had 14 in-person participants and 3 online.

Comments received were supportive of the proposed amendment, noting the significant need for this type of housing for youth aging out of the foster care system. The public meeting provided an overview of the plan amendment, followed by comments, questions and open discussion of the proposed housing plan. A compiled list of public comments, questions and discussion for the plan amendment is in Appendix R.

### ***Summarize any comments or recommendations not accepted and state the reasons why:***

The City of Knoxville received the following comments through the public comment period and public hearing, which are attached in Appendixes L and N, respectively. All comments were accepted, though some do not pertain to eligible uses for the HOME-ARP funds.

## Needs Assessment and Gaps Analysis

In accordance with Section V.C.1 of the Notice (page 14), the City must evaluate the size and demographic composition of **all four** of the qualifying populations within its boundaries and assess the unmet needs of each of those populations. If the City does not evaluate the needs of one of the qualifying populations, then the City has not completed their Needs Assessment and Gaps Analysis. In addition, the City must identify any gaps within its current shelter and housing inventory as well as the service delivery system. The City should use current data, including point in time count, housing inventory count, or other data available through CoCs, and consultations with service providers to quantify the individuals and families in the qualifying populations and their need for additional housing, shelter, or services.

**Homeless Needs Inventory and Gap Analysis Table**

Homeless													
	Current Inventory					Homeless Population				Gap Analysis			
	Family		Adults Only		Vets	Family HH (at least 1 child)	Adult HH (w/o child)	Vets	Victims of DV	Family		Adults Only	
	# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds					# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds	# of Units
Emergency Shelter	240	75	405	-	0								
Transitional Housing	30	12	238	-	45								
Permanent Supportive Housing	50	19	201	-	132								
Other Permanent Housing	10	3	3	-	0								
Sheltered Homeless						249	555	75	71				
Unsheltered Homeless						4	378	23	75				
<b>Current Gap</b>										-9	-149	-86	-

**Housing Needs Inventory and Gap Analysis Table**

Non-Homeless			
	Current Inventory	Level of Need	Gap Analysis

	# of Units	# of Households	# of Households
Total Rental Units	43,200		
Rental Units Affordable to HH at 30% AMI (At-Risk of Homelessness)	3,925		
Rental Units Affordable to HH at 50% AMI (Other Populations)	9,065		
0%-30% AMI Renter HH w/ 1 or more severe housing problems (At-Risk of Homelessness)		11,170	
30%-50% AMI Renter HH w/ 1 or more severe housing problems (Other Populations)		6,205	
<b>Current Gaps</b>			-7,245

***Describe the size and demographic composition of qualifying populations within the PJ's boundaries:***

***Homeless as defined in 24 CFR 91.5***

According to Knoxville-Knox County's Continuum of Care 2022 Point-in-Time (PIT) count, there were 1,178 persons experiencing homelessness on a single night in February 2022. Of those, 805 were sheltered and 373 were unsheltered. Chronically homeless individuals accounted for 23% (n=274) of total homeless persons—up 44% from 2020. Seventy-five (75) homeless family households (consisting of at least one adult and one child) were identified, totaling 253 persons. The CoC's youth PIT count identified 106 youth-only households with 79 sheltered and 27 unsheltered. See Figure 1 for PIT Count Results over the past twenty years.

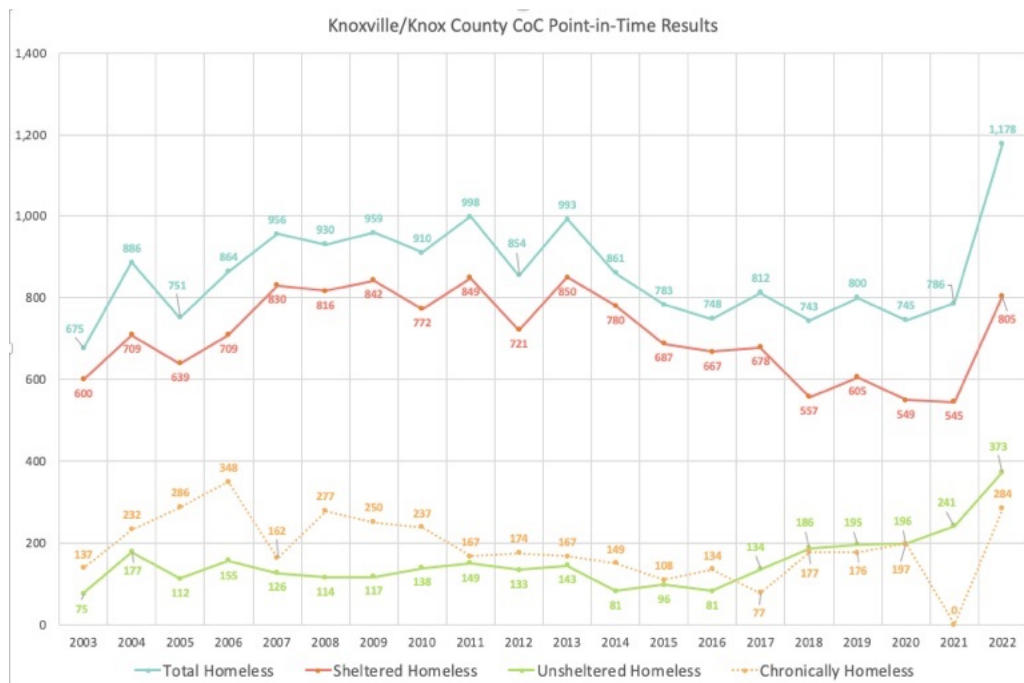


Figure 1--Knoxville/Knox County Continuum of Care Point-in-Time results over a 20-year time span.

The CoC's homeless population predominantly identified as male with 643 (55%) individuals versus 525 (45%) identified as female. Only 7 (>1%) individuals identified as non-binary and 3 (>1%) individuals identified as transgender.

The CoC's homeless population is predominantly White with 849 (72%) individuals. Black individuals accounted for 22% (n=262) of the homeless population while only making up 8% (n=40,360) of the total Knox County population (2020 DEC Redistricting Data). The CoC's homeless population had a low proportion of Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x) individuals with only 44 (4%) compared to 1,134 (96%) non-Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x) individuals. In total, black, indigenous, people of color (BIPOC) individuals accounted for 28% (n=329) of TN-502's homeless population.

The CoC's *Stella Analysis* (the data visualization software used) identified 2,635 households (3,382 individuals) served by the homeless service system in 2021. Demographic comparisons of Head of Household (HoH) and Adults by program type are seen in Figures 2 and 3.



Figure 2 -- Gender comparison of households, heads of households, and adults served in Shelters and Transitional Housing (ES/SH & TH), Rapid Re-Housing (RRH), and Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH).

*Stella Demographic Analysis* for 2021 supports cross-sectional PIT Count data showing a predominately White and Non-Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x) population as seen in Figure 2. However, the BIPOC segment of the population is still disproportionately represented.

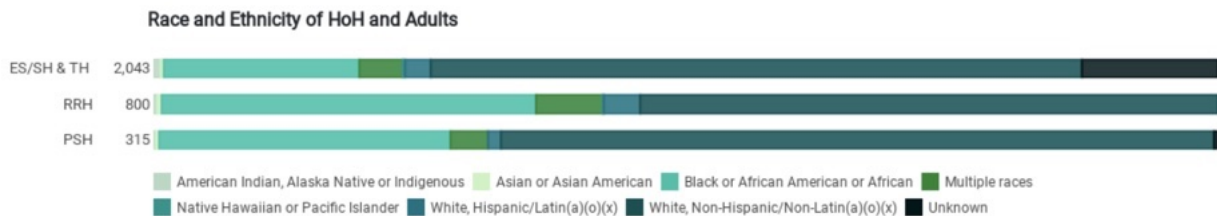


Figure 3--Race and Ethnicity comparison of households, heads of households, and adults served in Shelters and Transitional Housing (ES/SH & TH), Rapid Re-Housing (RRH), and Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH).

### ***At Risk of Homelessness as defined in 24 CFR 91.5***

The PIT Count data shows 145 individuals precariously housed on the night of the 2022 PIT Count. At-risk households were disproportionately black (48%) and female (60%). HMIS data analysis from the second quarter of 2022 identified 1,270 individuals considered “At risk” who received services. Analyzing at the community level, there were 15,800 households with an Area Median Income (AMI) of less than or equal to 30% (2018 CHAS). These households were predominantly renters (n=12,890). Additionally, 27,130 households were cost burdened (>30% of income spent on housing costs) with 49% (n=13,375) of those household extremely cost burdened (>50% of income spent on housing costs).

An estimated 340,394 (22.5%) individuals live in poverty (2020 ACS 5-Year). Of the 120,512 households for whom poverty status is identified, 7.6% family households are less than 50% of federal poverty level (FPL), 18.3% are less than 100% FPL and 25.2% are less than 125% FPL. There are 14,138 children under 18 years old in households making less than 125% FPL. White individuals account for 25% of those making less than 125% FPL while 45% of Black individuals’ incomes are less than 125% FPL. Lastly, feedback from the City of Knoxville’s Youth Action Board (YAB) suggests an undercounted



proportion of youth who are precariously housed and not interacting with the homeless service system. The YAB simply stated, “You can’t record those who don’t get help.”

The 2024 Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) Coordinated Community Plan (CCP) identified in further detail the characteristics of youth aging out of the foster care system; among the 534 YYA ages 18-24 in the 2023 HMIS dataset, fewer than half responded to questions about system involvement. Of those who did, 17 (8%) reported history with the juvenile justice system and 63 (29%) reported being former wards of foster care. Those with histories of system involvement were significantly more likely to be male (50% vs 34%), slightly more likely to be White (58% vs 54%), and heterosexual (78% vs 76%) compared with their non-system-involved peers. They were also more likely to exit to unknown destinations (34% vs 19%). Extrapolation of all collected datasets suggest that 85 YYA had former justice involvement and 333 YYA had former involvement with child welfare in 2023.

YYA exiting the foster care system continues to add pressure on the homeless service system. On average, 53 YYA aged out of foster care every year over the past 5 years. Of those, only 25 YYA on average accepted Extension of Foster Care Services (EFCS)—an average acceptance rate of 47%. This left an average of 29 YYA a year who either declined EFCS or were ineligible for services upon aging out. For YYA who accepted EFCS, the yearly average number of days a YYA retained services did not exceed one year, with the 5-year high being 309 days and the low 186 days.

***Fleeing, or Attempting to Flee, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, or Human Trafficking, as defined by HUD in the Notice***

The PIT Count identified 13 sheltered domestic violence (DV) households totaling 27 individuals. Of those, 8 households were adults with at least one child and 15 of the 27 individuals were children. Individuals were predominantly female (77%). Racial disparities were minimal with 15 White individuals and 12 Black individuals. Of those, 4 individuals identified as ethnically Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x). The Stella Analysis identified 189 DV households with system interaction in 2021. DV characteristics of those served in emergency shelter and transitional housing can be seen in Figure 4.

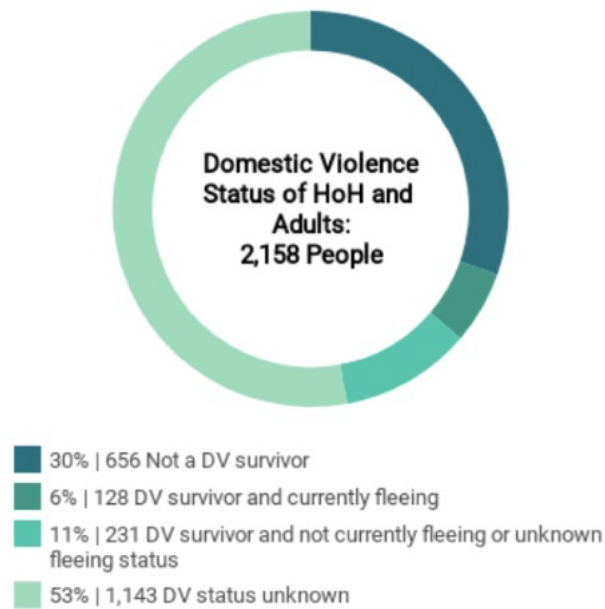


Figure 4--Domestic violence characteristics of TN-502's 2021 emergency shelter and transitional housing population.

DV-victims and survivors in HMIS data for 2021 were predominantly white (73%) and female (77%). DV heads of household were largely over the age of 24 (92%) with a small proportion of the population being unaccompanied homeless youth (7%). The Knoxville Family Justice Center (KFJC) reports that the Knox County Sheriff's Office and the Knoxville Police Department collectively received 17,026 DV-related calls in 2021. KFJC issued 984 Orders of Protection in 2021.

Human trafficking is also a growing issue in the Knoxville/Knox County area. Knoxville's regional human trafficking organization, the Community Coalition Against Human Trafficking, reported 300 referrals in 2021, 143 adults and 157 youth (>18 years old).

***Other populations requiring services or housing assistance to prevent homelessness and other populations at greatest risk of housing instability, as defined by HUD in the Notice***

According to 2021 HMIS data, the Knoxville-Knox County CoC currently has 139 households housed with temporary rental assistance and supportive services that were previously homeless. Of those, 64% of the individuals are white, 35% are Black, and 1% are Asian. These households are predominantly families—76% family households versus 24% individual households. Given the large proportion of family households, a sizeable proportion of the individuals within households are under the age of 18 (39%). Individuals in households are primarily female (71%). Only 6% of individuals in households identified as Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x). It is likely that these households will require additional assistance to remain stably housed due to current economic conditions. This count does not include the

13,889 households currently receiving emergency rental assistance (ERA) from the Knox Housing Assistance, as they were not previously homeless before entering the program. That said, it is possible that a proportion of these households have experienced homelessness before. When the ERA program ends, it is likely that a proportion of these households will be at risk of significant housing instability. Lastly, 9,000 households have an AMI less than or equal to 30% and are severely cost burdened—defined as greater than 50% of income toward housing costs (2018 CHAS).

***Identify and consider the current resources available to assist qualifying populations, including congregate and non-congregate shelter units, supportive services, TBRA, and affordable and permanent supportive rental housing (Optional):***

See Table 3 and 4 below for current service strategy inventory. This inventory does not include non-congregate shelter (NCS) beds due to a lack of a defined number of beds for the programs. NCS has served upwards of 95 households at a time. Knoxville’s non-congregate shelter program began because of the surge of funds provided by the CARES Act ESG-CV program. It is likely that those beds will not be available beginning January 1, 2023.

Knoxville’s Community Development Corporation (KCDC) is the local Public Housing Agency (PHA), and administers the Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) initiative, which makes Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) available to Public Housing Agencies (PHAs) in partnership with Public Child Welfare Agencies (PCWAs). Under FYI, PHAs provide housing assistance on behalf of: Youth at least 18 years and not more than 24 years of age (have not reached their 25th birthday) who left foster care, or will leave foster care within 90 days, in accordance with a transition plan described in Section 475(5)(H) of the Social Security Act, and are homeless or are at risk of becoming homeless at age 16 or older.

Locally, the goal of 100% utilization rate for FYI vouchers has not been met. This is due to numerous factors, including the need for more affordable housing in Knox County to accommodate those that have a voucher and cannot locate an available unit.

***Describe the unmet housing and service needs of qualifying populations:***

***Homeless as defined in 24 CFR 91.5***

The Knoxville-Knox County CoC has significant unmet housing and service strategy needs for the “Homeless” Qualifying Population. System Modeling conducted by the City of Knoxville Office on Homelessness suggests sizable deficiencies for multiple service strategies as seen in Table 1.

<b>Individuals</b>	<b>Current Inventory</b>	<b>Projected Needs</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Emergency Shelter	330	231	99
Homelessness Prevention/Diversion	0	461	-461
Rapid Re-housing	40	154	-114
Transitional Housing	228	154	74
Permanent Supportive Housing	313	767	-454

*Table 3—2021 system modeling for individual households. Current inventory for emergency shelter does not include non-congregate shelter beds, as there is not a defined number of beds.*

<b>Families</b>	<b>Current Inventory</b>	<b>Projected Needs</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Emergency Shelter	15	33	-18
Homelessness Prevention/Diversion	0	119	-119
Rapid Re-housing	232	47	185
Transitional Housing	12	24	-12
Permanent Supportive Housing	14	24	-10

*Table 4—2021 system modeling for family households. Current inventory for emergency shelter does not include non-congregate shelter beds, as there is not a defined number of beds.*

The greatest deficits in inventory occur in Homelessness Prevention/Diversion and permanent supportive housing (PSH). However, Homelessness Prevention/Diversion efforts in the community are not all tied into HMIS. The Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) program, operated by Knox County, has provided direct assistance in the amount of \$40,341,078 to 14,012 households. That said, prevention efforts are occurring in the community and are not effectively captured in HMIS, HIC, and PIT data, which is used to conduct system modeling. Conversely, PSH data is captured with a high level of confidence. System modeling indicates a 454-bed deficit for PSH in the CoC. Local HMIS dashboard data supports this assertion. Permanent supportive housing capacity has not fallen below 92% during the first half of 2022. Analysis of PSH “time to housing” showed an approximate 235-day waiting period.

These bed deficits and extended “time to housing” periods come at a moment when chronic homelessness is increasing in the CoC. Chronically homeless individuals increased from 197 individuals to 284 individuals from 2020 to 2022—a 44% increase over 2 years—as seen in Figure 1. With PSH at capacity, the CoC does not have the ability to comprehensively house and address the needs of its chronically homeless population.

Rapid Re-housing (RRH) for individuals is also a significant unmet need. System modeling indicates a 114-bed deficit for individuals. RRH for individuals has a “time to housing” of 71 days. Conversely, system modeling identifies a 185-bed surplus in RRH for families. Yet, families’ “time to housing” in RRH is longer, averaging 103 days. These results indicate that the CoC is housing families at a greater rate than individuals through RRH. Additionally, it indicates that there is an uptick in homeless families presenting for homeless services and the ability to house them rapidly is slowing.

For emergency shelter, there is a 99-bed surplus for individuals and an 18-bed deficit for families. However, shelter utilization in the first quarter of 2022 had a high of 96% in January as seen in Figure 5. While shelter utilization rates dipped in the second quarter of 2022, they remain at sustained levels not seen in the community in recent history, according to local shelter providers. The sustained shelter surge in summer months could indicate a lack of shelter capacity in the CoC during upcoming winter months.

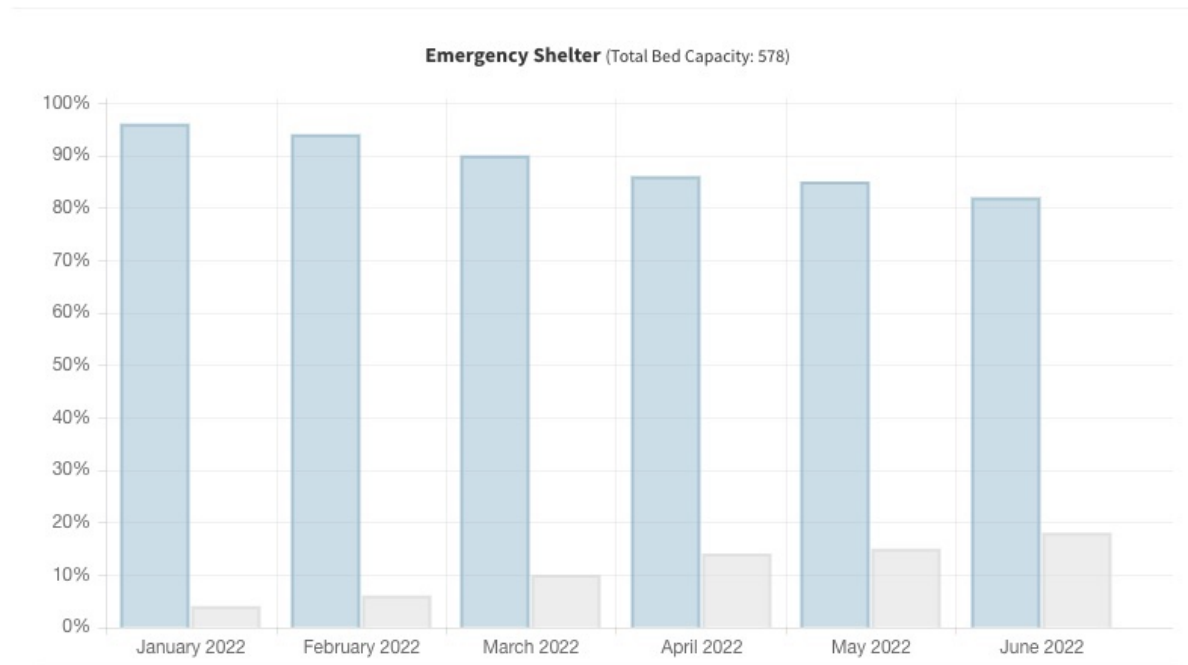


Figure 5--Emergency shelter utilization rates for the first half of 2022. Capacity incorporates fluctuating non-congregate shelter beds with a rolling average (KnoxHMIS Community Dashboard on Homelessness).

System modeling showed similar results for transitional housing with individuals having a surplus of 74 beds while families had a deficit of 12 beds. Transitional housing utilization rates remained relatively flat during the first half of 2022 with a low of 80% in April and a high of 84% in May as seen in Figure 6.

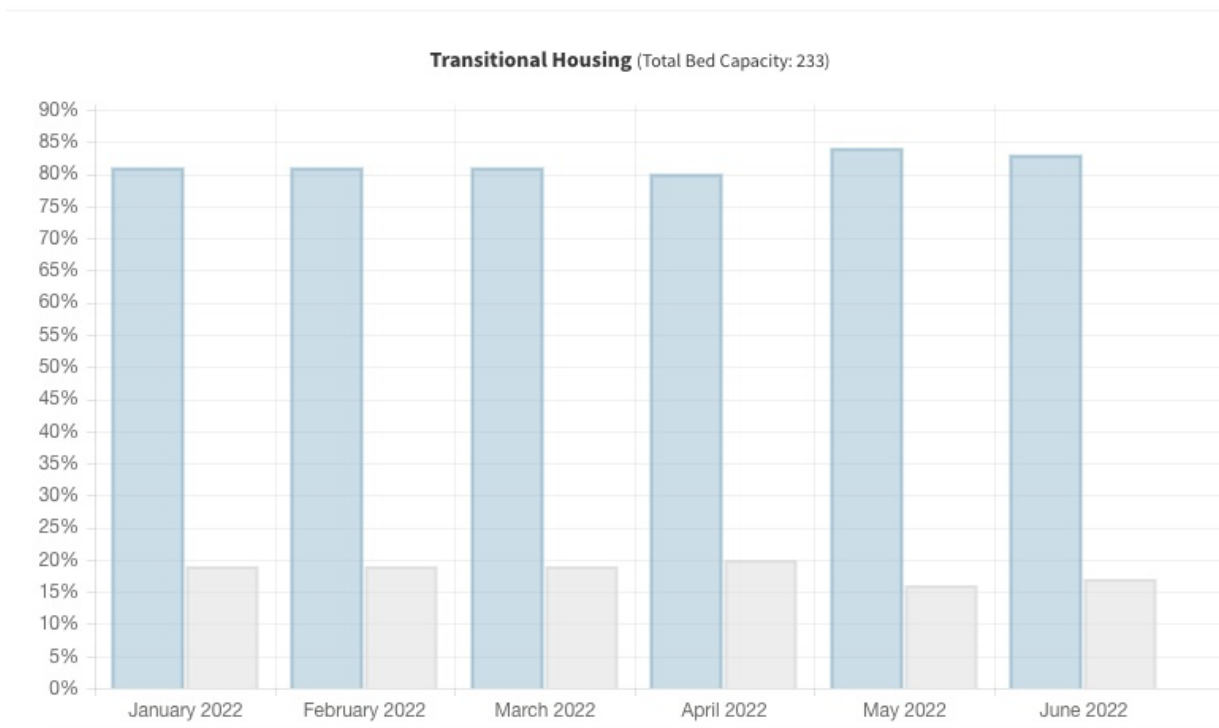


Figure 6--Transitional Housing utilization rates for the first half of 2022 (KnoxHMIS Community Dashboard on Homelessness).

### ***At Risk of Homelessness as defined in 24 CFR 91.5***

Prevention efforts, through the Knox County Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) program, have done an effective job helping “At-risk” households remain housed and preventing homelessness. The program has work directly with eviction courts to direct households and landlords to resources for housing stabilization. Since September 2021, the program received 602 referrals from community mediation and/or Legal Aid. Overall, the program provided direct assistance to 14,012 households expending \$40,341,078. However, this program is time limited and the fiscal resources to retain a prevention program of this scale in the future is not feasible through local funding. It is likely that at-risk households will swell at the closure of the program, and ongoing prevention programs will not have the capacity or fiscal resources to serve all households in need.

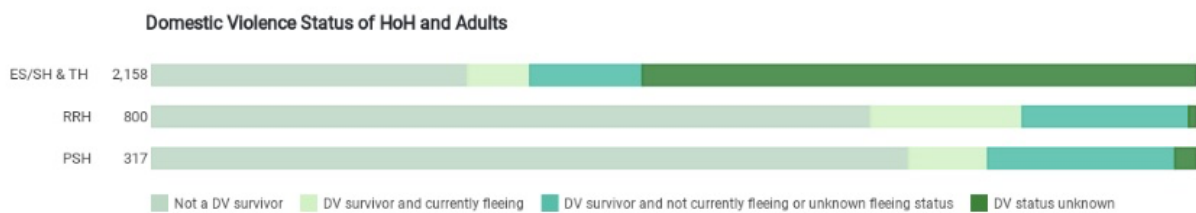
System modeling projections in 2021 estimate a deficit of services for 461 individuals and 119 families who would need Homelessness Prevention/Diversion. It is likely that this deficit will grow significantly with the ending of the ERA program. Additionally, Knoxville has seen a 30% increase in rental rates (KAAR 2022 State of Housing Report) pushing more households into a cost burdened status. Increased rents combined with overall inflation will most likely exacerbate the number of at-risk households at a time when scaled resources will end. The

result of all of these factors will be Homelessness Prevention/Diversion needs going unmet, resulting in homelessness.

As noted above, the YHDP CCP identified that an average of 29 YYA a year who either declined extended custody or were ineligible for services upon aging out of the foster care system, making them immediately vulnerable to becoming homeless. While the local Public Housing Authority administers Foster Youth Initiative (FYI) housing choice vouchers that could house this population, many of those vouchers go unused, as eligible youth and young adults are unable to find appropriate affordable housing that will accept vouchers.

***Fleeing, or Attempting to Flee, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, or Human Trafficking, as defined by HUD in the Notice***

In the CoC's homeless service system, DV-households are primarily served in RRH and emergency shelter/transitional housing. Given the limited number of DV beds in the community, DV-shelters have reached capacity at times and referrals to other shelters in neighboring counties occur. Figure 7 shows the proportion of DV-households served by program type.



*Figure 7--Program comparison of domestic violence households served.*

An unmet need for DV-households is a rapid transition to permanent housing. Households fleeing domestic violence averaged 90 days of homelessness before achieving housing as seen in Figure 8.

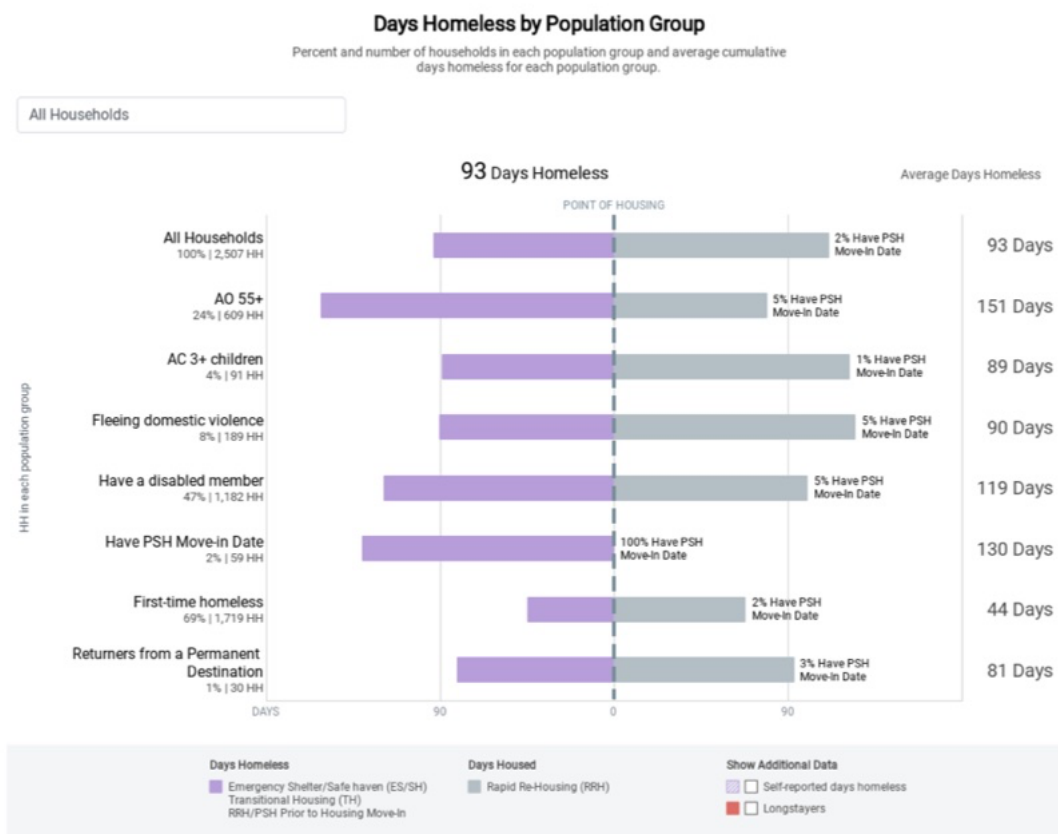


Figure 8--Days homeless before point of housing by population group.

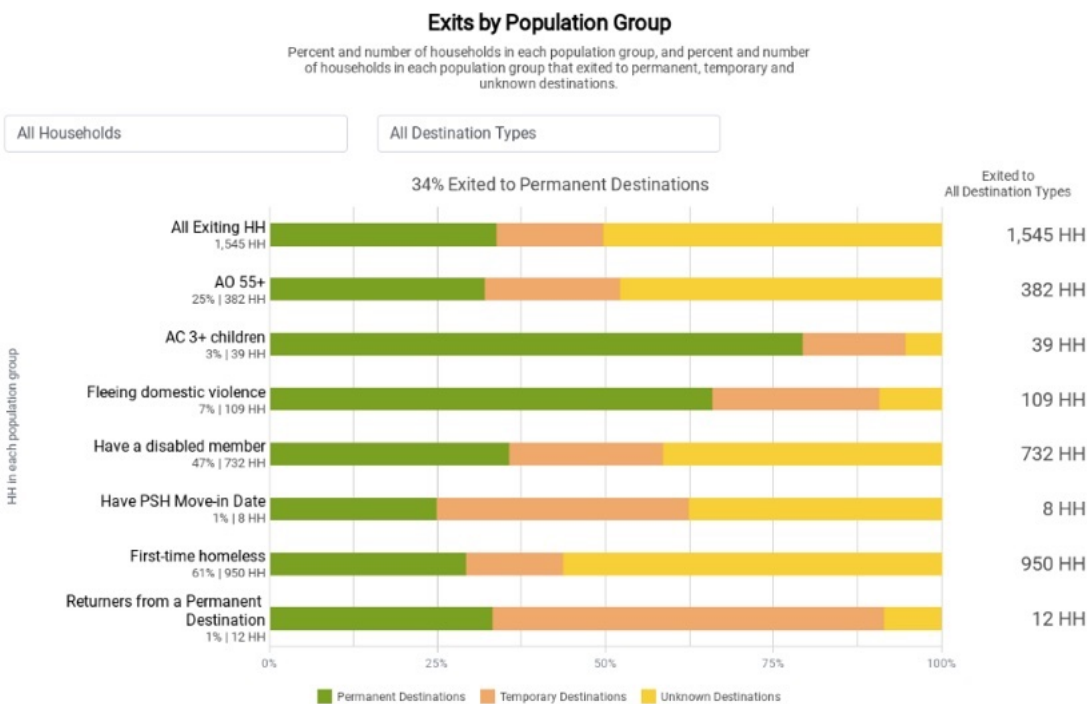


Figure 9--Exit from homelessness destinations by population group.



Moreover, approximately one-third of DV households are exiting to temporary or unknown destinations when exiting the system as seen in Figure 9.

***Other populations requiring services or housing assistance to prevent homelessness and other populations at greatest risk of housing instability as defined by HUD in the Notice***

Similar to the “At-risk” Qualifying Population, the 139 households receiving temporary subsidies and supportive services have to navigate challenging economic conditions currently. Forty-year highs for inflation will most likely exacerbate housing instability for these households. As budgets tighten, the likelihood of stable housing is diminished. To counteract inflationary pressures, vulnerable households will need additional resources to manage increasing utility and food costs to be able to afford rent beyond the subsidy period. Moreover, it is assumed that, many of these households will need homelessness prevention services after the subsidy period ends.

It is also assumed that the 9,000 households with less than or equal to 30% Area Median Income (AMI) and greater than 50% of their income spent on housing costs are experiencing even greater housing instability under current conditions. It is likely that many of these households are currently contributing to the overall increase in the CoC’s homeless population in 2022.

***Identify any gaps within the current shelter and housing inventory as well as the service delivery system:***

The most significant gaps in the current shelter and housing inventory are in permanent supportive housing and Rapid Re-housing. Additionally, PSH providers are indicating a “tougher to service” population with a greater need for intensive services, especially mental health and assisted living services. These services are currently not integrated into the CoC’s PSH. The CoC also has gaps in affordable housing availability for homeless youth and families with children. The CoC utilized funding from the CARES Act and the American Rescue Plan (ARP) to create non-congregate shelter for homeless families, youth, and seniors. That program has supported up to 95 households at a time for nearly two years. However, the program is time limited leaving a significant gap in shelter services for these sub-populations once the program ends. Additionally, there is gap in youth-specific PSH and RRH to serve homeless youth. Currently, homeless youth have to navigate the same pathways out of homelessness in the homeless service system. This approach results in poor outcomes for homeless youth and recidivism. Lastly, Knoxville-Knox County CoC lacks shelter diversion. This service strategy, when done effectively, could reduce shelter in-flow and repeated bouts of homelessness.

***Under Section IV.4.2.ii.G of the HOME-ARP Notice, a PJ may provide additional characteristics associated with instability and increased risk of homelessness in their HOME-ARP allocation plan. These characteristics will further refine the definition of “other populations” that are “At Greatest Risk of Housing Instability,” as established in the HOME-ARP Notice. If including these characteristics, identify them here:***

The City of Knoxville is not including any additional characteristics to “Other-populations” QP.

***Identify priority needs for qualifying populations:***

The priority need for the “Homeless” QP is the development of PSH. The priority need for the “At-risk” QP is shelter diversion. The priority need for the “Domestic Violence” QP is strengthen RRH programming to support quicker transitions to permanent housing. The priority need for the “Other population” QP is homeless prevention direct assistance.

***Explain how the PJ determined the level of need and gaps in the PJ’s shelter and housing inventory and service delivery systems based on the data presented in the plan:***

The City of Knoxville determined the level of need and system gaps through the PIT Count, Housing Inventory County (HIC), and HMIS data analysis. Additionally, the City consulted with community partners to elicit their feedback on community needs and gaps. It became clear through data analysis and community consultation that the sizeable deficit in beds serving chronically homeless individuals was the priority community need. Additionally, the City of Knoxville helped lead the collaborative process for developing the YHDP Coordinated Community Plan, which identified needs and outlines strategies in more detail for addressing the needs of homeless and at-risk youth and young adults, identifying a priority need for supportive housing to serve youth aging out of the foster care system.

## **HOME-ARP Activities**

***Describe the method(s) that will be used for soliciting applications for funding and/or selecting developers, service providers, subrecipients and/or contractors:***

The City of Knoxville will select projects that prioritize permanent supportive housing and affordable housing units that serve the four qualifying populations, and specifically, chronically homeless individuals and families, as well as youth aging out of the foster care system. The City will have open enrollment in which developers, service providers, and/or contractors may apply for the funds.

No solicitation for applications is necessary, as a non-profit organization has proposed new units that will provide permanent supportive housing for at least 50 individuals or families that require assistance to live independently. Additionally, an affordable housing developer has proposed the development of approximately 18 units of permanent supportive housing to serve youth and young adults aging out of foster care.

***Describe whether the City will administer eligible activities directly:***

The City of Knoxville will administer all activities indirectly by approving eligible projects. Agreements will be in place to ensure compliance. The City will also leverage funds from its Affordable Rental Housing Development (ARD) program. The Knoxville-Knox Continuum of Care (CoC) will use its Coordinated Entry system to select potential residents. City staff will monitor implementation of projects and offer the grant on a reimbursement-based system.

***If any portion of the City's HOME-ARP administrative funds are provided to a subrecipient or contractor prior to HUD's acceptance of the HOME-ARP allocation plan because the subrecipient or contractor is responsible for the administration of the City's entire HOME-ARP grant, identify the subrecipient or contractor and describe its role and responsibilities in administering all of the City's HOME-ARP program:***

No HOME-ARP administrative funds will be provided to a subrecipient or contractor. The City of Knoxville is administering its HOME-ARP funds directly.

In accordance with Section V.C.2. of the Notice (page 4), the City of Knoxville must indicate the amount of HOME-ARP funding that is planned for each eligible HOME-ARP activity type and demonstrate that any planned funding for nonprofit organization operating assistance, nonprofit capacity building, and administrative costs is within HOME-ARP limits.

**Use of HOME-ARP Funding**

	Funding Amount	Percent of the Grant	Statutory Limit
Supportive Services	\$ <del>1,000,000.00</del>	<del>25.0</del> %	
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters	\$ 0		
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	\$ 0		
Development of Affordable Rental Housing	\$ <del>32,900,000.00</del>	<del>71.96</del> %	
Non-Profit Operating	\$ 0	0 %	5%
Non-Profit Capacity Building	\$ 0	0 %	5%
Administration and Planning	\$ 176,859	4 %	15%
<b>Total HOME ARP Allocation</b>	\$ 4,076,859		

***Describe how the City of Knoxville will distribute HOME-ARP funds in accordance with its priority needs identified in its needs assessment and gap analysis:***

The City of Knoxville believes that strategies for alleviating homelessness must be rooted in a housing first approach that creates accessible pathways, without prerequisites, to affordable permanent housing with supportive services. The needs assessment and gap analysis of the shelter and housing inventory reflect the City's 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan Priority Goals which are to Reduce and Prevent Homelessness, through Permanent Supportive Housing Development/Rehabilitation and Enhancing the Availability, Accessibility, and Quality of Affordable Housing through increasing permanent supportive housing stock.

Taken together, the CoC experienced a 47% increase in total homeless persons since 2021. Like communities across the nation, Knoxville is dealing with the latent effects of the pandemic that have resulted in high inflation, reduced vacancy in rental housing, and soaring rent increases. These factors are driving households into housing instability, resulting in a surge of individuals falling into homelessness. KnoxHMIS analysis continues to show that the top three causes of homelessness are: 1) the lack of affordable housing, 2) health reasons, and 3) evictions. System Modeling conducted by the City of Knoxville Office on Homelessness estimates that the largest disparity is a deficit of 454 PSH units for individuals. With unsheltered and sheltered homeless rates on the rise through the pandemic, the best use of funds is to increase the stock of affordable, permanent housing with necessary supportive services. To increase the supply of permanent supportive housing, the City will provide HOME-ARP funds ~~for the provision of supportive services for a 100-unit PSH project, and~~ for the development of 7658 units of new PSH construction. Additionally, 30 units of affordable housing for families will be developed.

***Describe how the characteristics of the shelter and housing inventory, service delivery system, and the needs identified in the gap analysis provided a rationale for the plan to fund eligible activities:***

Given the substantial increase in individuals experiencing chronic homelessness combined with an estimated deficit of 454 PSH beds to serve this population, the rationale to utilize HOME-ARP funds to increase permanent supportive housing units is clear. PSH had the largest bed deficit of any service strategy and the City of Knoxville is committed to addressing this pressing community need. Additionally, the YHDP CCP identified the need for PSH for youth aging out of foster care.

## **HOME-ARP Production Housing Goals**

***Estimate the number of affordable rental housing units for qualifying populations that the City will produce or support with its HOME-ARP allocation:***

The allocation of HOME-ARP funds will be used to support the development of 58 units of PSH. The funding will be provided at \$50,000 per unit for 58 units (\$2.9 million). This is part of a larger development with 88 affordable housing rental units. The HOME-ARP funds will leverage other funds including Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) to provide for the development of the additional 30 units targeted to families with incomes at or below 60% AMI.

This project will serve two primary populations. The project has three buildings with one, two and three bedroom units. Building 1 will be 58 units of permanent supportive housing, Buildings 2 & 3 are collectively 30 units with two-and three-bedroom units, focused on families.

The PSH will have case managers to assist individuals with disabling conditions who require assistance to live independently successfully. There will be twenty-four hour a day staffing with planned community activities and other resources. The residents will have monthly incomes at or below 30% AMI and will have had long-term difficulties living independently.

The Affordable Units (AU) target populations will have monthly incomes at or below of 80% AMI. They will typically be working class families.

HOME ARP funds will also be used to support the development of an additional 18 units of PSH, provided at \$55,555.56 per unit for 18 units (\$1 million). The project involves the rehabilitation of an existing senior facility into an 18-unit community dedicated to serving youth through Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) vouchers. The project will create an environment that fosters stability, personal growth, and independence for vulnerable young adults transitioning into adulthood.

It will involve the renovation of existing residential units to improve livability and meet modern housing standards. It will enhance common areas and shared spaces to foster community engagement and support services, and improve accessibility and compliance with ADA and fair housing requirements.

***Describe the specific affordable rental housing production goal that the City hopes to achieve and describe how the production goal will address the City's priority needs:***

The City of Knoxville will produce an estimated 88 units of affordable rental housing with its HOME-ARP allocation: 58 of those units will be one-bedroom units intended for permanent supportive housing and the remaining 30 units will be rental housing for families. This addresses the City of Knoxville's High Priority Need to Enhance the Availability, Accessibility, and Quality of Affordable Housing, and to Prevent and Reduce Homelessness through rental and permanent supportive housing development, from the City of Knoxville's 2020-24 Consolidated Plan.

The City of Knoxville will produce an additional estimated 18 units of affordable rental housing with its HOME-ARP allocation: all 18 units will be studio apartments for youth aging out of

foster care. This addresses high-priority needs identified in the 2025 Consolidated Plan, as well as in the 2024 Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program Coordinated Community Plan.

## Preferences

A preference provides a priority for the selection of applicants who fall into a specific QP or category (e.g., elderly or persons with disabilities) within a QP (i.e., subpopulation) to receive assistance. A *preference* permits an eligible applicant that qualifies for a City-adopted preference to be selected for HOME-ARP assistance before another eligible applicant that does not qualify for a preference. A *method of prioritization* is the process by which the City determines how two or more eligible applicants qualifying for the same or different preferences are selected for HOME-ARP assistance. For example, in a project with a preference for chronically homeless, all eligible QP applicants are selected in chronological order for a HOME-ARP rental project except that eligible QP applicants that qualify for the preference of chronically homeless are selected for occupancy based on length of time they have been homeless before eligible QP applicants who do not qualify for the preference of chronically homeless.

Please note that HUD has also described a method of prioritization in other HUD guidance. Section I.C.4 of Notice CPD-17-01 describes Prioritization in CoC CE as follows:

“Prioritization. In the context of the coordinated entry process, HUD uses the term “Prioritization” to refer to the coordinated entry-specific process by which all persons in need of assistance who use coordinated entry are ranked in order of priority. The coordinated entry prioritization policies are established by the CoC with input from all community stakeholders and must ensure that ESG projects are able to serve clients in accordance with written standards that are established under 24 CFR 576.400(e). In addition, the coordinated entry process must, to the maximum extent feasible, ensure that people with more severe service needs and levels of vulnerability are prioritized for housing and homeless assistance before those with less severe service needs and lower levels of vulnerability. Regardless of how prioritization decisions are implemented, the prioritization process must follow the requirements in Section II.B.3. and Section I.D. of this Notice.”

If the City is using a CE that has a method of prioritization described in CPD-17-01, then the City has preferences and a method of prioritizing those preferences. These must be described in the HOME-ARP allocation plan in order to comply with the requirements of Section IV.C.2 (page 10) of the HOME-ARP Notice.

In accordance with Section V.C.4 of the Notice (page 15), the HOME-ARP allocation plan must identify whether the City intends to give a preference to one or more qualifying populations or a subpopulation within one or more qualifying populations for any eligible activity or project.

- Preferences cannot violate any applicable fair housing, civil rights, and nondiscrimination requirements, including but not limited to those requirements listed in 24 CFR 5.105(a).
- The City must comply with all applicable nondiscrimination and equal opportunity laws and requirements listed in 24 CFR 5.105(a) and any other applicable fair housing and civil rights laws and requirements when establishing preferences or methods of prioritization.

While the City of Knoxville is not required to describe specific projects in its HOME-ARP allocation plan to which the preferences will apply, the City must describe the planned use of any preferences in its HOME-ARP allocation plan. This requirement also applies if the City intends to commit HOME-ARP funds to projects that will utilize preferences or limitations to comply with restrictive eligibility requirements of another project funding source. **If the City fails to describe preferences or limitations in its plan, it cannot commit HOME-ARP funds to a project that will implement a preference or limitation until the City amends its HOME-ARP allocation plan.**

**For HOME-ARP rental housing projects, Section VI.B.20.a.iii of the HOME-ARP Notice (page 36) states that owners may only limit eligibility or give a preference to a particular qualifying population or segment of the qualifying population if the limitation or preference is described in the City's HOME-ARP allocation plan.** Adding a preference or limitation not previously described in the plan requires a substantial amendment and a public comment period in accordance with Section V.C.6 of the Notice (page 16).

***Identify whether the PJ intends to give preference to one or more qualifying populations or a subpopulation within one or more qualifying populations for any eligible activity or project:***

The City of Knoxville intends to use the following preference scheme for all projects:

1. Chronically Homeless (Homeless QP Subpopulation)
2. Homeless QP
3. Fleeing domestic Violence QP
4. The "At risk" and "Other Population" QPs will be selected via the method of prioritization and do not have a preference over the other.

This preference scheme aligns with the current prioritization guidelines within the Knoxville-Knox County Continuum of Care.

***If a preference was identified, explain how the use of a preference or method of prioritization will address the unmet need or gap in benefits and services received by individuals and families in the qualifying population or subpopulation of qualifying population, consistent with the PJ's needs assessment and gap analysis:***

By granting top preference for available PSH units developed through HOME-ARP projects to the chronically homeless subpopulation within the "Homeless" QP, the City of Knoxville will help to meet the unmet needs of this growing population. Given that the City's current PSH operates at capacity and there are no PSH units that serve the "tougher to service" chronically homeless population who have a greater need for intensive services, the development of PSH units will help to meet the current need of accessible, affordable, and attainable permanent housing with supportive services.

For units supported by project-based Foster Youth Initiative (FYI) vouchers, there will be a limitation consistent with the FYI voucher program, providing for permanent housing placements for youth aging out of the foster care system.

## **Referral Methods**

The City of Knoxville is not required to describe referral methods in the plan. However, if the City intends to use a coordinated entry (CE) process for referrals to a HOME-ARP project or activity, the City must ensure compliance with Section IV.C.2 of the Notice (page10).

The City may use only the CE for direct referrals to HOME-ARP projects and activities (as opposed to CE and other referral agencies or a waitlist) if the CE expands to accept all HOME-ARP qualifying populations and implements the preferences and prioritization established by the City in its HOME-ARP allocation plan. A direct referral is where the CE provides the eligible applicant directly to the City, subrecipient, or owner to receive HOME-ARP TBRA, supportive services, admittance to a HOME-ARP rental unit, or occupancy of a NCS unit. In comparison, an indirect referral is where a CE (or other referral source) refers an eligible applicant for placement to a project or activity waitlist. Eligible applicants are then selected for a HOME-ARP project or activity from the waitlist.

The City must require a project or activity to use CE along with other referral methods (as provided in Section IV.C.2.ii) or to use only a project/activity waiting list (as provided in Section IV.C.2.iii) if:

1. the CE does not have a sufficient number of qualifying individuals and families to refer to the City for the project or activity;
2. the CE does not include all HOME-ARP qualifying populations; or,
3. the CE fails to provide access and implement uniform referral processes in situations where a project's geographic area(s) is broader than the geographic area(s) covered by the CE



If the City uses a CE that prioritizes one or more qualifying populations or segments of qualifying populations (e.g., prioritizing assistance or units for chronically homeless individuals first, then prioritizing homeless youth second, followed by any other individuals qualifying as homeless, etc.) then this constitutes the use of preferences and a method of prioritization. To implement a CE with these preferences and priorities, the City **must** include the preferences and method of prioritization that the CE will use in the preferences section of their HOME-ARP allocation plan. Use of a CE with embedded preferences or methods of prioritization that are not contained in the City's HOME-ARP allocation does not comply with Section IV.C.2 of the Notice (page10).

***Identify the referral methods that the PJ intends to use for its HOME-ARP projects and activities. PJ's may use multiple referral methods in its HOME-ARP program. (Optional):***

The PJ intends for all HOME-ARP projects to receive direct referrals from the CoC's Coordinated Entry (CE), with the exception of referrals for units supported by project-based FYI vouchers. Referrals for these units will be limited to those youth that the Tennessee Department of Children's Services (DCS) has referred to KCDC.- This is consistent with the shelter diversion pathway anticipated in the "ideal system" identified in the YHDP CCP. Youth placed in this manner will be youth who are at-risk of homelessness and diverted from shelter or the streets to a direct placement in FYI voucher supported permanent housing.

***If the PJ intends to use the coordinated entry (CE) process established by the CoC, describe whether all qualifying populations eligible for a project or activity will be included in the CE process, or the method by which all qualifying populations eligible for the project or activity will be covered. (Optional):***

All QPs will be assessed and prioritized through CE, with the exception of referrals for units supported by project-based FYI vouchers. Referrals for these units will be limited to those youth that the Tennessee Department of Children's Services (DCS) has referred to KCDC. This is consistent with the shelter diversion pathway anticipated in the "ideal system" identified in the YHDP CCP. Youth placed in this manner will be youth who are at-risk of homelessness and diverted from shelter or the streets to a direct placement in FYI voucher supported permanent housing.-

***If the PJ intends to use the CE process established by the CoC, describe the method of prioritization to be used by the CE. (Optional):***

The Knoxville-Knox County CoC's coordinated entry prioritization guidelines delineate the method of prioritization as seen in Table 3.

### Knox County CES Priority Guidelines

Priority Category	Homeless Category	Length of Stay in Homelessness	Where Experienced Homelessness	Disabling Condition	Severity of Service Needs	Key
1	Chronically Homeless	More than 12 mos continuous OR total of at least 4 episodes totalling 12 or more mos in 3 years	Unsheltered, safe haven, or emergency shelter	Yes	VI-SPDAT Score: 8+	CH, high vulnerability
2	Chronically Homeless	More than 12 mos continuous OR total of at least 4 episodes totalling 12 or more mos in 3 years	Unsheltered, safe haven, or emergency shelter	Yes	VI-SPDAT Score: 1-7	CH, low vulnerability
3	Homeless	Any	Unsheltered, safe haven, or emergency shelter	Yes	VI-SPDAT Score: 8+	Not CH, disabling condition, high vulnerability
4	Homeless	Any	Unsheltered, safe haven, or emergency shelter	Yes	VI-SPDAT Score: 1-7	Not CH, disabling condition, low vulnerability
5	Homeless	Any	Unsheltered, safe haven, or emergency shelter	No	VI-SPDAT Score: 8+	Not CH, NO disabling condition, high vulnerability
6	Homeless	Any	Unsheltered, safe haven, or emergency shelter	No	VI-SPDAT Score: 1-7	Not CH, NO disabling condition, low vulnerability
7	Domestic Violence Victim/Survivor in Transitional Housing	Any	Unsheltered, safe haven, or emergency shelter prior to TH program or fleeing domestic violence	Any	Any	DV Transitional Housing
8	Homeless- in Transitional Housing	Any	Unsheltered, safe haven, or emergency shelter prior to TH program	Any	Any	Transitional Housing
9	Precariously Housed	Any	Any	Any	VI-SPDAT Score: 8+	Precariously Housed, disabling condition, high vulnerability
10	Precariously Housed	Any	Any	Any	VI-SPDAT Score: 1-7	Precariously Housed, disabling condition, low vulnerability
11	Other	Any	Any	No	VI-SPDAT Score: 8+	Precariously Housed, No disabling condition, high vulnerability
12	Other	Any	Any	No	VI-SPDAT Score: 1-7	Precariously Housed, No disabling condition, low vulnerability

\*\*Determine initial priority level and then place on the waiting list in that priority based on VI-SPDAT score.

\*\*If VI-SPDAT score is the same in priority level, place on the waiting list according total length of homelessness.

\*\*If VI-SPDAT score and length of homeless are the same in the priority level, place on waiting list according to date of assessment.

\*\*Precariously Housed: paying very high proportion of resources for rent, doubled up with friends/family, "couch surfing," on the verge of homelessness;

\*\*Other: previously homeless households receiving temporary assistance who need continued assistance to avoid a return to homelessness; low-income households with "at-risk of homelessness" characteristics (24 CFR 91.5)

\*\*Disabling Condition: a physical, mental, or emotional impairment that is expected to be of long-continuing or indefinite duration, substantially impedes the person's ability to live independently, and could be improved by the provision of more suitable housing conditions (note: "Disabling Condition" does not necessarily equate to a disability determination).

Table 13--TN-502 Continuum of Care Coordinated Entry System Prioritization Guidelines

**If the PJ intends to use both a CE process established by the CoC and another referral method for a project or activity, describe any method of prioritization between the two referral methods, if any. (Optional):**

The City of Knoxville only intends to use the Coordinated Entry referral process for all HOME-ARP projects, with the exception of referrals for units supported by project-based FYI vouchers. Referrals for these units will be limited to those youth that the Tennessee Department of Children's Services (DCS) has referred to KCDC. This is consistent with FYI voucher program requirements and with the shelter diversion pathway anticipated in the "ideal system" identified in the YHDP CCP. Youth placed in this manner will be youth who are at-risk of homelessness and diverted from shelter or the streets to a direct placement in FYI voucher supported permanent housing.

## **Limitations in a HOME-ARP rental housing or NCS project**

Limiting eligibility for a HOME-ARP rental housing or NCS project is only permitted under certain circumstances.

- The City must follow all applicable fair housing, civil rights, and nondiscrimination requirements, including but not limited to those requirements listed in 24 CFR 5.105(a). This includes, but is not limited to, the Fair Housing Act, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act, section 504 of Rehabilitation Act, HUD's Equal Access Rule, and the Americans with Disabilities Act, as applicable.
- The City of Knoxville may not exclude otherwise eligible qualifying populations from its overall HOME-ARP program.
- Within the qualifying populations, participation in a project or activity may be limited to persons with a specific disability only, if necessary, to provide effective housing, aid, benefit, or services that would be as effective as those provided to others in accordance with 24 CFR 8.4(b)(1)(iv). The City of Knoxville must describe why such a limitation for a project or activity is necessary in its HOME-ARP allocation plan (based on the needs and gap identified by the City in its plan) to meet some greater need and to provide a specific benefit that cannot be provided through the provision of a preference.
- For HOME-ARP rental housing, section VI.B.20.a.iii of the Notice (page 36) states that owners may only limit eligibility to a particular qualifying population or segment of the qualifying population if the limitation is described in the City of Knoxville's HOME-ARP allocation plan.
- The City of Knoxville may limit admission to HOME-ARP rental housing or NCS to households who need the specialized supportive services that are provided in such housing or NCS. However, no otherwise eligible individuals with disabilities or families including an individual with a disability who may benefit from the services provided may be excluded on the grounds that they do not have a particular disability.

***Describe whether the PJ intends to limit eligibility for a HOME-ARP rental housing or NCS project to a particular qualifying population or specific subpopulation of a qualifying population identified in section IV.A of the Notice:***

The City of Knoxville will have a limitation on referrals for units supported by project-based FYI vouchers. Referrals for these units will be limited to those youth that the Tennessee Department of Children's Services (DCS) has referred to KCDC. This is consistent with the FYI voucher program and with the shelter diversion pathway anticipated in the "ideal system" identified in the YHDP CCP. Youth placed in this manner will be youth who are at-risk of homelessness and diverted from shelter or the streets to a direct placement in FYI voucher supported permanent housing. ~~does not plan to use a limitation for HOME-ARP projects.~~

***If a PJ intends to implement a limitation, explain why the use of a limitation is necessary to address the unmet need or gap in benefits and services received by individuals and families in the qualifying population or subpopulation of qualifying population, consistent with the PJ's needs assessment and gap analysis:***

~~Not applicable~~ The 18 units supported by project-based FYI vouchers will be limited to youth aging out of foster care, consistent with the rules and regulations of the FYI voucher program. Youth placed in these permanent housing units would be at-risk of homelessness and diverted from ending up on the streets or in shelter. The needs of this population are significantly different than those of the chronically homeless population prioritized for placement in other permanent supportive housing.

***If a limitation was identified, describe how the PJ will address the unmet needs or gaps in benefits and services of the other qualifying populations that are not included in the limitation through the use of HOME-ARP funds (i.e., through another of the PJ's HOME-ARP projects or activities):***

~~Not applicable~~ Only 23.7% of the units in this amended HOME-ARP Allocation Plan will be affected by the limitation described above. The remaining 76.3% of the units will not be subject to to limitations described above, and will continue to follow the standard Coordinated Entry priority placement process. Additionally, the City of Knoxville is using local and other dollars to support development of additional affordable and permanent supportive housing units that will be available to address the needs of other qualifying populations in Knoxville.

## **HOME-ARP Refinancing Guidelines**

If the City intends to use HOME-ARP funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily rental housing that is being rehabilitated with HOME-ARP funds, the City must state its HOME-ARP refinancing guidelines in accordance with [24 CFR 92.206\(b\)](#). The guidelines must describe the conditions under which the City will refinance existing debt for a HOME-ARP rental project, including:

***Establish a minimum level of rehabilitation per unit or a required ratio between rehabilitation and refinancing to demonstrate that rehabilitation of HOME-ARP rental housing is the primary eligible activity***

The City has elected not to use its HOME-ARP funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily rental housing. This is not applicable.

***Require a review of management practices to demonstrate that disinvestment in the property has not occurred; that the long-term needs of the project can be met; and that the feasibility of serving qualified populations for the minimum compliance period can be demonstrated.***

This is not applicable.

***State whether the new investment is being made to maintain current affordable units, create additional affordable units, or both.***

This is not applicable.

***Specify the required compliance period, whether it is the minimum 15 years or longer.***

This is not applicable.

***State that HOME-ARP funds cannot be used to refinance multifamily loans made or insured by any federal program, including CDBG.***

This is not applicable.

***Other requirements in the City's guidelines, if applicable:***

This not applicable.

City of Knoxville

## Office of Housing & Neighborhood Development

# HUD HOME-ARP

- **The American Rescue Plan (ARP)** are supplemental funds to the Investment Partnerships (HOME) program with the purpose of creating affordable, permanent housing and services to meet the needs of people experiencing or at-risk of experiencing homelessness.
- City of Knoxville's Allocation: **\$4,076,859**
- **Eligible activities:**
  1. Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)
  2. Provision of supportive services
  3. Acquisition & development of Non-Congregate Shelter (NCS) units
  4. Development & support of affordable housing (Acquisition, rehabilitation, or construction)



# Who can receive HOME-ARP?



## Qualifying Populations

1. Homeless
2. At Risk of Homelessness
3. Fleeing/Attempting to Flee Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, or Human Trafficking
4. "Other populations"

# Identified Need: Permanent Supportive Housing



- Annual Action Plan Consultations and Public Meetings
- PSH capacity has not fallen below 98% over the past 6 quarters
- PSH time to housing: 235 days
- 44.1% increase in chronically homeless individuals from 2020 to 2022
  - Minimum deficit of 373 PSH beds
- 50% increase in total homeless population in 2022

# PSH in Knoxville



- Housing Report PSH from 2017-2021
  - Caswell Manor (48 units) - \$1,440,000
  - Dogan-Gaither Flats (16 units) - \$480,000
- Additional funding requests since AHF established on July 1, 2021
  - First Creek at Austin, *Phase III*, (150 units) - \$1,500,000
  - CCC Management, LLC (24 units) - \$600,000
  - Knox College CDC (11 units) - \$550,000

# Discussion



## Contact Information:

Bennett Meeks  
[bmeeks@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:bmeeks@knoxvilletn.gov)



# Allocation Plan Process



- Consultation Meetings
  - Mayor's Roundtable on Homelessness – July 25, 2022
  - Homeless Coalition – July 26, 2022
  - Affordable Housing Fund Advisory Committee – July 29, 2022
- Allocation Plan – August, 2022
- Public Participation
  - Public Meeting – TBD; September, 2022
  - Public Comment Period (15 Days) – TBD; September, 2022

## Appendix B – Consultation Attendance & Comments

Mayor's RT on Homelessness			
<i>City Staff Present at Consultation Meeting</i>			
Michael Dunthorn	Office on Homelessness, City of Knoxville		
Bennett Meeks	Presenter, City of Knoxville		
Hope Ealey	City of Knoxville		
Bailey Walker	City of Knoxville		
<b>Organization</b>	<b>Type of Organization</b>	<b>Method of Consultation</b>	<b>Comments</b>
CAC Youth Action Board	homeless service provider	In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	
CAC Youth Action Board	homeless service provider	In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	Homeless youth are a growing population, need more housing: Safe haven and McNabb
Care Cuts Ministry	homeless service provider	In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	One barrier we've been facing is KCDC back pay (rent).
Care Cuts Ministry	homeless service provider	In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	
Catholic Charities of East Tennessee	homeless service provider	In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	

Cherokee Health Systems	public agency that addresses the needs of the qualifying populations	In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	
City of Knoxville		In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	
City of Knoxville		In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	
City of Knoxville		In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	
City of Knoxville		In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	
City of Knoxville CSI 311/211		In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	
City of Knoxville, Mayor		In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	Addressing the issues of housing and homelessness is the number one issue for our neighborhoods. Need more CHAMP intake points.
Creating Homes Initiative	public agency that addresses the needs of the qualifying populations	In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	
District Attorney's Office		In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	
Helen Ross McNabb Center	homeless service provider/public agency that addresses the needs of the qualifying populations	In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	Elderly needs are growing.
Helen Ross McNabb Center	homeless service provider/public agency that addresses the needs of the qualifying populations	In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	"Hospitals overburdened – expanding in house medical services for homeless. Working to expand outreach efforts"
KCHD		In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	

Knox County		In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	
KnoxHMIS	homeless service provider	In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	Need stronger incentives for community service providers to participate in CHAMP.
Knoxville Area Rescue Ministries	homeless service provider	In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	
Knoxville Area Rescue Ministries	homeless service provider	In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	
Knoxville Leadership Foundation	homeless service provider/public agency that addresses the needs of the qualifying populations	In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	Yes, there is a need for PSH, affordable housing, and more CHAMP access points. It is the busiest year ever at the compassion coalition. Knox has a problem and it is a completely new level. Concerned about waitlists. Need new agencies to get involved. Need to remove barriers. HUGE need.
Knoxville Police Department		In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	
Knoxville Police Department		In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	
Knoxville/Knox County CAC	homeless service provider/public agency that addresses the needs of the qualifying populations	In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	I agree [with VMC] that there is a need for affordable housing. We have a long wait list, and many of those waitlisted are living in their cars. We're in conversation with Youth Rising to create transitional housing for youth.
Priority House	public agency that addresses the needs of the qualifying populations	In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	

St. John's Lutheran Church	public agency that addresses the needs of the qualifying populations	In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	
St. John's Lutheran Church	public agency that addresses the needs of the qualifying populations	In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	
The Salvation Army	homeless service provider/public agency that addresses the needs of the qualifying populations/domestic violence service provider	In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	Working to utilize the underserved spaces. Working to launch a new Drug and Alcohol program for men (capacity of 12-20 individuals, then grow) Can the SA use unused spaces for PSH, AH
UTK College of Social Work (KnoxHMIS)	homeless service provider	In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	
Volunteer Ministry Center	homeless service provider/public agency that addresses the needs of the qualifying populations	In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	Truly unprecedented times. Summer months: 44% increase. 8% increase now over peak times in winter. Great need
Volunteer Ministry Center	homeless service provider/public agency that addresses the needs of the qualifying populations	In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	Lack of affordable housing for Rapid Re-housing clients. The needs is not only for PSH. Other clients need services and housing too.
Volunteers of America	private organization that addresses fair housing, civil rights, and the needs of persons with disabilities/veterans' group	In-person consultation on 7/25/2022.	Homeless veterans and with mental health issues need a place to go.
<b>Knoxville-Knox County Homeless Coalition</b>			
<i>City Staff Present at Consultation Meeting</i>			
Michael Dunthorn	Office on Homelessness, City of Knoxville		
Linda Rust	City of Knoxville		
Hope Ealey	City of Knoxville		
Bailey Walker	City of Knoxville		
Bennett Meeks	Presenter, City of Knoxville		

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Type of Organization</b>	<b>Method of Consultation</b>	<b>Comments</b>
KnoxHMIS	CoC serving the jurisdiction's geographic area/HMIS/homeless service provider	Zoom consultation on 7/26/2022.	Need for post-housing counseling.
KnoxHMIS	CoC serving the jurisdiction's geographic area/HMIS/homeless service provider	Zoom consultation on 7/26/2022.	
The Salvation Army	CoC serving the jurisdiction's geographic area/homeless service provider	Zoom consultation on 7/26/2022.	
The Salvation Army	CoC serving the jurisdiction's geographic area/homeless service provider	Zoom consultation on 7/26/2022.	We need landlords to buy into the effort with incentives to prioritize housing.
United Way	CoC serving the jurisdiction's geographic area/public agency that addresses the needs of the qualifying populations	Zoom consultation on 7/26/2022.	
Ridgeview Behavioral Health Services	CoC serving the jurisdiction's geographic area/homeless service provider	Zoom consultation on 7/26/2022.	
YWCA	CoC serving the jurisdiction's geographic area	Zoom consultation on 7/26/2022.	
Compassion Coalition	CoC serving the jurisdiction's geographic area	Zoom consultation on 7/26/2022.	
KARM	CoC serving the jurisdiction's geographic area	Zoom consultation on 7/26/2022.	
BlueCare	CoC serving the jurisdiction's geographic area	Zoom consultation on 7/26/2022.	
Volunteer Ministry Center	CoC serving the jurisdiction's	Zoom consultation on 7/26/2022.	I agree that there is a need for more PSH, but

	geographic area/homeless service provider		we also need to find a way to increase the housing stock for RRH. If these funds can be used for supportive services, that would improve capacity for when we increase the housing stock.
The Restoration House	CoC serving the jurisdiction's geographic area	Zoom consultation on 7/26/2022.	
Volunteer Ministry Center	CoC serving the jurisdiction's geographic area	Zoom consultation on 7/26/2022.	
KARM	CoC serving the jurisdiction's geographic area/homeless service provider	Zoom consultation on 7/26/2022.	
McNabb	CoC serving the jurisdiction's geographic area	Zoom consultation on 7/26/2022.	
Cokesbury American Methodist Church	CoC serving the jurisdiction's geographic area/homeless service provider	Zoom consultation on 7/26/2022.	I am concerned for severely mental ill that can't utilize PSH
Knoxville/Knox County Community Action Committee (CAC)	CoC serving the jurisdiction's geographic area	Zoom consultation on 7/26/2022.	
Raising a Voice	CoC serving the jurisdiction's geographic area	Zoom consultation on 7/26/2022.	
McNabb	CoC serving the jurisdiction's geographic area/homeless service provider	Zoom consultation on 7/26/2022.	
Cokesbury Church	CoC serving the jurisdiction's geographic area	Zoom consultation on 7/26/2022.	
Serenity Ministries	CoC serving the jurisdiction's geographic area	Zoom consultation on 7/26/2022.	

Volunteer Ministry Center	CoC serving the jurisdiction's geographic area	Zoom consultation on 7/26/2022.	
US Dept. of Veteran Affairs (VA Hospital)	CoC serving the jurisdiction's geographic area	Zoom consultation on 7/26/2022.	
Homeless Advocacy for Rural Tennessee in the Upper Cumberlands	CoC serving the jurisdiction's geographic area	Zoom consultation on 7/26/2022.	
<b>Knoxville's Affordable Housing Fund Advisory Board</b>			
<i>City Staff Present at Consultation Meeting</i>			
Beth Bacon	Office on Homelessness, City of Knoxville		
Linda Rust	City of Knoxville		
Hope Ealey	City of Knoxville		
Bailey Walker	City of Knoxville		
Bennett Meeks	Presenter, City of Knoxville		
Stephanie Welch	City of Knoxville		
<b>Organization</b>	<b>Type of Organization</b>	<b>Method of Consultation</b>	<b>Comments</b>
DGA Residential, LLC	private organization that addresses the needs of the qualifying populations	Zoom consultation on 7/29/2022.	
First Horizon	private organization that addresses fair housing, civil rights, and the needs of persons with disabilities	Zoom consultation on 7/29/2022.	
Helen Ross McNabb	public agency that addresses the needs of the qualifying populations	Zoom consultation on 7/29/2022.	
Justice Knox	private organization that addresses fair housing, civil rights, and the needs of persons with disabilities	Zoom consultation on 7/29/2022.	So much is needed and not enough money. We are barking up the right tree. For those who experience/experienced Homelessness and jail, PSH is a best solution for both. Also a need for AH for people who are (extremely) very low income
KCDC	public housing agency (PHA)	Zoom consultation on 7/29/2022.	\$4mil is a lot of money but it will be spent quickly. Community has a

			lot of need, especially with housing.
United Way	private organization that addresses fair housing, civil rights, and the needs of persons with disabilities	Zoom consultation on 7/29/2022.	
<b>Follow-Up Email</b>			
<b>Organization</b>	<b>Type of Organization</b>	<b>Method of Consultation</b>	<b>Comments</b>
CODI/ CAC's Volunteer Assisted Transportation	private organization that addresses fair housing, civil rights, and the needs of persons with disabilities	Email response on 8/11/2022.	See Appendix C.

### **Appendix C – Consultation Follow-Up Email**

**From:** BennettMeeks <bmeeks@knoxvilletn.gov>

**Sent:** Thursday, August 4, 2022 1:53 PM

**To:** [REDACTED]

**Cc:** Linda Rust [lrust@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:lrust@knoxvilletn.gov)

**Subject:** Re: CODI Fw: Article About The Newest Affordable Housing Development

Dear Community Partner,

The City has initiated the process for developing an Allocation Plan for HUD HOME Investment Partnerships - American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) program funds. The City was awarded \$4,076,859 in HOME-ARP funds to reduce homelessness and increase housing stability in the City of Knoxville among the four qualifying populations defined by Congress. HUD requires the City to submit an Allocation Plan to receive HOME-ARP funds. The Plan includes: Consultation with community partners to assess needs of Qualifying Populations; Analysis of data about resources (including housing) and gaps; and public participation.

Last week, the City presented information and requested feedback from participants at the Mayor's Roundtable on Homelessness, Homeless Coalition, and the City's Affordable Housing Fund Advisory Committee. The feedback we received regarding on-going and/or emergent needs, barriers, and other trends that influence affordable housing (and homeless populations) has been very helpful. The City would like to extend the opportunity to provide for you. Attached, is a more detailed version of the presentation given at the consultation meetings.

For more information about HOME-ARP:

[https://www.hud.gov/program\\_offices/comm\\_planning/home-arp](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/comm_planning/home-arp)



Please see the questions below to help guide your response. You may also provide general feedback. Bennett Meeks, who can be reached at (865) 215-4035 orbmeeks@knoxvilletn.gov, will collect all responses. **Please send by Thursday, August 11.**

After collecting feedback and data, City staff will begin drafting the Allocation Plan. The draft Plan is expected to be released for your review in September. A 15-day public comment period will be held as well as a public meeting to discuss and get public feedback. After City Council review and approval, the final Plan will be submitted to HUD.

1. What organization do you represent?
2. From the categories below, which category(ies) does your agency represent?
7. CoC(s) serving the jurisdiction's geographic area;
8. Homeless and domestic violence service providers;
9. Veterans' groups;
10. Public housing agencies (PHAs);
11. Public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations; and,
12. Public/private organizations that address fair housing, civil rights, and the needs of persons with disabilities

Based on the eligible activities

Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)

Supportive Services

Acquisition and development of non-congregate shelter units

Development and support of affordable housing and Qualifying Populations

Homeless, as defined in section 103(a) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act ([42 U.S.C.11302\(a\)](#));

At-risk of homelessness, as defined in section 401(1) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act ([42 U.S.C. 11360\(1\)](#));

Fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking, as defined by the Secretary;

"Other populations," not included in the other Qualifying Populations, where providing supportive services or assistance under section 212(a) of the Act ([42 U.S.C. 12742\(a\)](#)) would prevent the family's homelessness or would serve those with the greatest risk of housing instability;

3. What do you believe HOME-ARP should fund?

4. What are the gaps in the shelter, housing, and service delivery systems in Knoxville?

Thank you,

Bennett Meeks

Bennett Meeks

Project Specialist

City of Knoxville Housing and Neighborhood Development



**Appendix D – Consultation Follow-up Email: Response**

**RE: CODI Fw: Article About The Newest Affordable Housing Development**

Thu 8/11/2022 4:07 PM

To: Bennett Meeks <bmeeks@knoxvilletn.gov>

Hello Bennett,

Here is my response to your questions:

1. What organization do you represent? CAC's Volunteer Assisted Transportation (a program of the Knoxville-Knox County Community Action Committee)

2. From the categories below, which category(ies) does your agency represent?

CoC(s) serving the jurisdiction's geographic area;

Homeless and domestic violence service providers;

Veterans' groups;

Public housing agencies (PHAs);

Public agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations; and,

Public/private organizations that address fair housing, civil rights, and the needs of persons with disabilities

Based on the eligible activities

Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)

Supportive Services

Acquisition and development of non-congregate shelter units

Development and support of affordable housing and Qualifying Populations

Homeless, as defined in section 103(a) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C.11302(a));

At-risk of homelessness, as defined in section 401(1) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11360(1));

Fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking, as defined by the Secretary;

"Other populations," not included in the other Qualifying Populations, where providing supportive services or assistance under section 212(a) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 12742(a)) would prevent the family's homelessness or would serve those with the greatest risk of housing instability;

3. What do you believe HOME-ARP should fund? people at risk of homelessness, help with rental assistance to reduce and impact the current population – senior citizens, veterans, young adults that don't know anything about being on their own or homeless (youth); single mothers or fathers with children

4. What are the gaps in the shelter, housing, and service delivery systems in Knoxville? The long wait lists, qualifications, etc.

I was on a housing wait list for 2 years....(I was a single mom with a small child) after 2 years almost 3 years, they offered me housing, based on my income – still was too costly for me.

Because I had a good paying job the housing was just as expensive as the local apartments located next door. Housing is not plentiful... everyone is looking for somewhere to reside and call home, and those that are living where they do... are striving to keep it!

Sincerely,



Knoxville-Knox County Community Action Committee

**Appendix E – The City of Knoxville Citizen Participation Plan (CPP)**

[https://cdn5-hosted.civildive.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server\\_109478/File/CommunityDevelopment/ConsolidatedPlan/RevisedCitizenParticipationPlan04302020.pdf](https://cdn5-hosted.civildive.com/UserFiles/Servers/Server_109478/File/CommunityDevelopment/ConsolidatedPlan/RevisedCitizenParticipationPlan04302020.pdf)

**Appendix F – Knoxville News Sentinel Public Notice**

**Knoxville**  
**NEWS SENTINEL**  
PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

CITY OF KNOXVILLE COMMUNITY DEV.  
P O BOX 1631

KNOXVILLE, TN 37901

State of Wisconsin )

County of Brown )

Before me, the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said county, this day personally came said legal clerk first duly sworn, according to law, says that he/she is a duly authorized representative of *The Knoxville News-Sentinel*, a daily newspaper published at Knoxville, in said county and state, and that the advertisement of

(The Above-Referenced)

of which the annexed is a copy, was published in said paper in the issues dated:

09/03/2022

and that the statement of account herewith is correct to the best of his/her knowledge, information, and belief

*D. Roberts*  
Legal Clerk

Subscribed and sworn to before me this September 3 2022

*Kathleen Allen*  
Notary Public

1-7-25  
My commission expires

Publication Cost: \$287.13  
Ad No: 0005397472  
Customer No: 1315245

# of Affidavits: 1

This is **not** an invoice

KATHLEEN ALLEN  
Notary Public  
State of Wisconsin

Public Notice  
City of Knoxville Housing and  
Neighborhood Development  
Department  
Draft HOME-ARP  
Public Comment Period  
and Hearing

The City of Knoxville Housing and Neighborhood Development Department is in the process of drafting its HOME Investment Partnerships - American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) Allocation Plan and seeks public input.

The City was awarded the one-time allocation amount of \$4,076,859, appropriated under the American Rescue Plan Act from the U.S. Department of Housing Development (HUD) to assist individuals or households who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness, and other vulnerable populations. Eligible activities include provision of rental housing (including Permanent Supportive Housing), Tenant-Based Rental Assistance, supportive services, and non-congregate shelter to reduce homelessness and increase housing stability.

Invitation to Comment

A draft of the proposed plan will be available online at [www.knoxvillemn.gov/development](http://www.knoxvillemn.gov/development) for public review from September 6 - September 20, 2022. To submit comments or questions, please contact Bennett Meeks at [bmeeks@knoxvillemn.gov](mailto:bmeeks@knoxvillemn.gov) or P.O. Box 1631, Knoxville, TN 37901.

Virtual Public Hearing

A virtual public hearing on the draft HOME-ARP Allocation Plan will be held September 19, 2022, at 6:00 P.M., via Zoom. To join the Zoom meeting, find the Zoom link at [www.knoxvillemn.gov/development](http://www.knoxvillemn.gov/development). To ensure the security of the meeting, speaking privileges will be approved for those who request it during the meeting.

At this virtual meeting, City of Knoxville Housing and Neighborhood Development Department staff will:

- Discuss the range of HOME-ARP eligible activities;
- Review priority goals and objectives from the City's 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan;
- Provide data and feedback from consultation meetings with social service agencies and affordable housing providers;
- Describe the process/timeline for developing the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan; and
- Answer questions and receive comments.

The City of Knoxville ensures meaningful access to City programs, services, and activities to comply with Civil Rights Title VI and ADA Title II laws and reasonably provides: translation, interpretation, modifications, accommodations, alternative formats, auxiliary aids, and services. Individuals with a disability who require an accommodation in order to participate may contact the City of Knoxville's ADA Coordinator, Stephanie Brewer Cook at 865-215-2034 or [scab@knoxvillemn.gov](mailto:scab@knoxvillemn.gov) no less than 72 business hours (3 business days) prior to the end of the public comment period. If you have Limited English Proficiency (LEP) and want to request interpretation services, please contact our Title VI Representatives at [titlevi@knoxvillemn.gov](mailto:titlevi@knoxvillemn.gov), at least 48 hours (2 days) prior to the end of the comment period. Please submit your requests for translation and/or accommodations as early as possible after the draft report is available to ensure you have time to receive it, read it, and comment if you wish, before the comment period has concluded on September 20, 2022.



## **Appendix G – The Neighborly Notice Public Participation Advertisement Proof (August 30, 2022)**

8/30/22, 4:11 PM

Mail - Bennett Meeks - Outlook

**Fw: The Neighborly Notice - Tuesday, August 30, 2022**

Linda Rust <lrust@knoxvilletn.gov>

Tue 8/30/2022 4:09 PM

To: Bennett Meeks <bmeeks@knoxvilletn.gov>

FYI - save/print this off and put it in your HOME-ARP Public Notice file, please.

Linda Rust  
Community Development Administrator  
City of Knoxville Housing and Neighborhood Development Department  
400 Main Street, Suite 532B  
Knoxville, TN 37902

865.215.2357 Telephone  
865.215.2962 Fax

L.Rust@knoxvilletn.gov

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**From:** City of Knoxville, Office of Neighborhood Empowerment <dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov>

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 30, 2022 2:34 PM

**To:** Linda Rust <lrust@knoxvilletn.gov>

**Subject:** The Neighborly Notice - Tuesday, August 30, 2022



**Knoxville Neighborhood Advisory - Vol. 15, No. 32-**

**Tuesday, August 30, 2022**

PDF version: <https://bit.ly/NeighborlyNotice-2022-08-30>

To subscribe to this newsletter via email, fill out this form at <http://eepurl.com/b2Rk9T>. You will then receive an automated email. Reply to this automated email to secure your free subscription.

<https://outlook.office.com/mail/inbox/id/AAQkADkxMjUwNmU5LWM4YzQtNDQ0YS04ODImLThiZW00YWM0YmY4MwAQALgsLWwOMfRCOTIRB2TX...> 1/9



1. No Newsletter Next Week
2. City Announces Schedule for Labor Day
3. Mechanicsville Celebrates Annual Homecoming
4. Historic Holston Hills Hosts Mums and Mimosas Event
5. Micro Grants Applications Now Accepted Year Round
6. City Seeks Input on Federal Dollars
7. Save the Date: Arbor Day Celebration – November 4
8. Keep Knoxville Beautiful Hosts East Knoxville Cleanup
9. [Knoxville Neighborhoods Calendar](#)

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*Published by the City of Knoxville's Office of Neighborhood Empowerment, we report news important to Knoxville's residential neighborhoods. Include your neighborhood-related event or meeting in this space. Call 215-3232. News deadline: 12 noon on Fridays.*

Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/KnoxvilleNeighborhoods>

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### **1. No Newsletter Next Week**

A newsletter will not go out next week, but we will be back on Tuesday, Sept. 12, with information, updates, and fun events and activities.

Be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#) for updates in the meantime!

### **2. City Announces Schedule for Labor Day**

It is time once again to celebrate workers all over our country! Labor Day is Monday, Sept. 5, and, in accordance, the City of Knoxville offices will be closed, including the Office of Neighborhood Empowerment.

Waste Connections will still run residential garbage and recycling routes on the holiday.

Downtown trash and recycling will also run on its regular schedule throughout the Labor Day weekend.

The City's five recycling centers will be open, but the Goodwill attendant will not

If you have a potential event or project in mind, feel free to reach out to ONE staff with your questions. For more information, please see the City's [webpage](#) and scroll down to the Micro Grants information.

## **6. City Seeks Input on Federal Dollars**

The City's Housing and Neighborhood Development Department seeks public input on how it should spend approximately \$4 million in federal funds to assist individuals or households who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness, and other vulnerable populations.

Earlier this year, the City was awarded a one-time allocation amount of \$4,076,859 appropriated under the American Rescue Plan Act from the U.S. Department of Housing Development (HUD) to fund local program activities including provision of rental housing (including Permanent Supportive Housing), Tenant-Based Rental Assistance, supportive services, and non-congregate shelter to reduce homelessness and increase housing stability.

A draft of the proposed HOME Investment Partnerships – American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) Allocation Plan will be available online at [KnoxvilleTN.gov/development](https://www.knoxvilletn.gov/development) for public review from **Tuesday, Sept. 6- Tuesday, Sept. 20**. To submit comments or questions, please contact Bennett Meeks at [bmeeks@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:bmeeks@knoxvilletn.gov) or P.O. Box 1631, Knoxville, TN 37901.

A virtual public hearing on the draft plan will be held **Monday, Sept. 19, 2022, at 6 p.m., via Zoom**. To join the Zoom meeting, find the Zoom link at [www.knoxvilletn.gov/development](https://www.knoxvilletn.gov/development). To ensure the security of the meeting, speaking privileges will be approved for those who request it during the meeting.

At this virtual meeting, City staff will:

- Discuss the range of eligible activities
- Review priority goals and objectives from the City's 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan
- Provide data and feedback from consultation meetings with social service agencies and affordable housing providers
- Describe the process/timeline for developing the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan and
- Answer questions and receive comments

<https://outlook.office.com/mail/inbox/id/AAQkADkxMjUwNmU5LWM4YzQtNDQ0YS04ODImLThiZWMyYmY4MwAQALgsLWwOMfRCOTIRB2TX...> 5/9





**The Neighborly Notice** – Vol. 15, No. 33 – Tuesday, September 13, 2022

To subscribe to this newsletter via email, fill out this form at <http://eepurl.com/b2Rk9T>. You will then receive an automated email. Reply to this automated email to secure your free subscription.

Newsletter (PDF version): <https://bit.ly/NeighborlyNotice-2022-09-13>

1. Historic Holston Hills Hosts Mums and Mimosas Event
2. Neighborhood Advisory Council Meets Tomorrow
3. Deadline for Wiffle Ball Tournament Sign-Ups is Friday
4. Neighborhoods Celebrate National Night Out
5. Public Service Department Hosts Job Fair This Thursday
6. Historic Zoning Commission Meets This Thursday
7. Board of Zoning Appeals Meets Next Tuesday
8. City Seeks Feedback on Federal Dollars
9. City Requests Suggestions on Electric Vehicle Charging Stations
10. City Looks for Input on Annual Performance and Evaluation Report
11. KCHD Offers Free Diabetes Management Classes
12. [Knoxville Neighborhoods Calendar](#)

-----  
*Published by the City of Knoxville's Office of Neighborhood Empowerment, we report news important to Knoxville's residential neighborhoods. Include your neighborhood-related event or meeting in this space. Call 215-3232. News deadline: 12 noon on Fridays.*

Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/KnoxvilleNeighborhoods>  
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**1. Historic Holston Hills Hosts Mums and Mimosas Event**

## **8. City Seeks Feedback on Federal Dollars**

It is time to use your voice, Knoxville! The City's Housing and Neighborhood Development Department is seeking public input on how it should allocate approximately \$4 million in federal funds to support eligible activities that assist individuals or households who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness, and other vulnerable populations.

Earlier this year, the City was awarded a one-time amount of \$4,076,859 appropriated under the American Rescue Plan Act from the U.S. Department of Housing Development (HUD) to fund local program activities including provision of rental housing (including Permanent Supportive Housing), Tenant-Based Rental Assistance, supportive services, and non-congregate shelter to reduce homelessness and increase housing stability.

A draft of the proposed HOME Investment Partnerships – American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) Allocation Plan will be available at [KnoxvilleTN.gov/development](https://www.knoxvilletn.gov/development) for public review thru Tuesday, Sept. 20. To submit comments or questions, please contact Bennett Meeks at [bmeeks@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:bmeeks@knoxvilletn.gov) or P.O. Box 1631, Knoxville, TN 37901.

A virtual public hearing on the draft plan will be held Monday, Sept. 19, 2022, at 6 p.m., via Zoom. To join the Zoom meeting, find the Zoom link at [www.knoxvilletn.gov/development](https://www.knoxvilletn.gov/development). To ensure the security of the meeting, speaking privileges will be approved for those who request it during the meeting.

At this virtual meeting, City staff will:

- Discuss the range of eligible activities
- Review priority goals and objectives from the City's 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan
- Provide data and feedback from consultation meetings with social service agencies and affordable housing providers
- Describe the process/timeline for developing the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan and
- Answer questions and receive comments
- Learn more about community priorities established through public meetings for the City's Five-Year Consolidated Plan in [this document](#).

The City of Knoxville ensures meaningful access to City programs, services, and activities to comply with Civil Rights Title VI and ADA Title II laws and reasonably provides: translation, interpretation, modifications, accommodations, alternative formats, auxiliary aids and services. To request any of the above, find contact information under item 12 below.

## **9. City Requests Suggestions on Electric Vehicle Charging Stations**

## Appendix I – Compass Article

9/9/22, 11:12 AM

Mail - Bennett Meeks - Outlook

**FW: Prepping a charter school, city's \$4m in aid, Spangler vs. KNS, county's Glow Party and more!**

Becky Wade <bwade@knoxvilletn.gov>

Fri 9/9/2022 11:00 AM

To: Bennett Meeks <bmeeks@knoxvilletn.gov>

Cc: Linda Rust <lrust@knoxvilletn.gov>

fyi

---

**From:** Compass <info+compassknox.com@ccsend.com>

**Sent:** Friday, September 9, 2022 6:02 AM

**To:** Becky Wade <bwade@knoxvilletn.gov>

**Subject:** Prepping a charter school, city's \$4m in aid, Spangler vs. KNS, county's Glow Party and more!



**September 9, 2022**

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### TODAY IN COMPASS

Happy 70th to Dave Stewart of the [Eurythmics](#).

In today's report: Of 118 **charter schools** in Tennessee, only one is in Knoxville. But the new all-boys **Knoxville Preparatory School** aims to change that, with a middle and high school slated to open in **2024**. [We talk to the](#)

<https://outlook.office.com/mail/inbox/id/AAQkADkxMjUwNmU5LWM4YzQlNDQ0YS04ODlmLThiZWMyYmY4MwAQAO2wE7hgeHRGhTvHnB0%...> 1/6

organizers, who already run a similar school in **Chattanooga**, ahead of a **public information meeting** tomorrow. Parents and students will be able to learn more about the school and signal their interest, although the school still needs **authorization** from the Knox County school board.



The City of Knoxville is seeking public input on how to spend more than **\$4 million** in federal funds to assist vulnerable residents under the **American Rescue Plan Act**.

**Eligible individuals** include those experiencing homelessness, those who are at risk of homelessness, those fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, and other populations deemed most vulnerable.

The one-time allocation of nearly \$4.077 million from the **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development** can be spent on local programs including the provision of rental housing (including permanent supportive housing), tenant-based rental assistance, supportive services, and non-congregate shelter to reduce homelessness and increase housing stability.

The city's **Housing and Neighborhood Development Department** will hold a hearing via Zoom at 6 p.m. Monday, Sept. 19. At the meeting, city staff will:

- Discuss the range of eligible program activities that meet grant specifications
- Review priority goals and objectives from the City's 2020-2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan
- Share data and feedback from consultation meetings with social service agencies and affordable housing providers
- Describe the process/timeline for developing the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan
- Answer questions and receive comments

A draft of the proposed **HOME Investment Partnerships – American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) Allocation Plan** is attached and available for review and a link to the Zoom meeting can be found [here](#). To submit comments or questions before the deadline of Sept. 20, please contact **Bennett Meeks** at [bmeeks@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:bmeeks@knoxvilletn.gov) or P.O. Box 1631, Knoxville, TN 37901.

**Appendix J – Local News Articles**

KnoxvilleDailySun.com: Posted September 8, 2022

<https://www.knoxvilledailysun.com/news/2022/september/city-on-allocating-federal-funds.html>

WATE.com: Posted September 9, 2022 <https://www.wate.com/news/knox-county-news/knoxville-seeking-input-on-4m-plan-to-help-end-homelessness/>

WBIR.com: Posted on September 9, 2022 <https://www.wbir.com/article/news/local/knoxville-federal-grant-homelessness-public-input/51-9a8a5620-75d6-4947-97b0-fc983891c8dd>

WVLT.tv: Published September 12, 2022 <https://www.wvlt.tv/2022/09/12/housing-combat-homelessness-coming-knoxville/>

Hardknoxwire.com: Posted September 12, 2022 <https://www.hardknoxwire.com/new-city-seeks-public-input-for-arpa-spending/>

**Appendix K – City of Knoxville’s Housing and Neighborhood Development Webpage with HOME-ARP Information**



Select Language / Print

Search For Anything

City of Knoxville » Government » City Departments & Offices » **Housing and Neighborhood Development**

### Housing and Neighborhood Development

Community Development  
Grants Administration  
Disability Services Office  
Façade Improvement Program  
Fair Housing  
Homemakers Program  
Housing

Office on Homelessness  
Reports and Plans  
Section 3 Information / Certified Businesses  
Knoxville Lead-Safe and Healthy Homes Program  
Historic Preservation Fund

### Housing and Neighborhood Development Director

Becky Wade  
[bwade@knoxvillemn.gov](mailto:bwade@knoxvillemn.gov)  
(865) 215-2865

400 Main St., Room 532  
Knoxville, TN 37902



### KNOX HOUSING ASSISTANCE

The Knox Housing Assistance Program is a joint City of Knoxville/Knox County initiative aiding renters adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The program is open to income-qualified city and county renters where one or more individuals in the home have experienced one of the following adverse financial impacts due directly, or indirectly, to the COVID-19 pandemic:

- Qualified for unemployment benefits or experienced a reduction in income
- Incurred significant costs
- Experienced other financial hardship

Learn more at [KnoxHousingAssistance.org](https://www.knoxhousingassistance.org)







Housing and Neighborhood Development (*formerly Community Development*) administers a variety of programs geared toward the revitalization of Knoxville's low-to-moderate income neighborhoods. In order for resources to have the greatest impact, the Department targets its programs to strategy areas that are selected periodically.

**Main Line:** 865-215-2120

**Fax:** 865-215-2962

**Disability Services:** 865-215-2034

**TTY:** 711

**Fair Housing Program:** 865-215-2120

**Housing Programs:** 865-215-2120

**Neighborhood Strategy Areas:** 865-215-2120

**Solutions to Problem Properties:** 865-215-2120

The City of Knoxville released its Draft HOME Investment Partnerships – American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) Allocation Plan on September 6, 2022. Please find it here [[draft HOME-ARP Allocation Plan](#)]. You are encouraged to give feedback in writing by emailing Bennett Meeks, Housing and Neighborhood Development Project Specialist, at [BMeeks@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:BMeeks@knoxvilletn.gov). Comments received by September 20, 2022, will be included in the final HOME-ARP Allocation Plan submitted to HUD. You are also welcome to participate in a virtual Public Hearing on September 19, 2022, at 6:00 PM. The Zoom link to that meeting is posted below. In order to maintain security during the meeting, participants wishing to speak will be required to enter their name and contact information.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81052902200?pwd=dIAxaW5qVmplUUIHYndnM1A5V1lwQT09>

Meeting ID: 810 5290 2200

Passcode: 785079

The City of Knoxville ensures meaningful access to City programs, services, and activities to comply with Civil Rights Title VI and ADA Title II laws and reasonably provides: translation, interpretation, modifications, accommodations, alternative formats, auxiliary aids, and services. Individuals with a disability who require an accommodation in order to participate may contact the City of Knoxville's ADA Coordinator, Stephanie Brewer Cook at 865-215-2034 or [scook@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:scook@knoxvilletn.gov) no less than 72 business hours (3 business days) prior to the end of the public comment period. If you have Limited English Proficiency (LEP) and want to request interpretation services, please contact our Title VI Representatives at [titlevi@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:titlevi@knoxvilletn.gov), at least 48 hours (2 days) prior to the end of the

comment period.

Please submit your requests for translation and/or accommodations as early as possible after the draft report is available to ensure you have time to receive it, read it, and comment if you wish, before the comment period has concluded on September 20, 2022.

#### HOUSING & NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT PROVIDES

- \* Programs to improve housing opportunities for lower-income homeowners, tenants and home buyers as well as assistance to organizations serving Knoxville's homeless population.
- \* A Fair Housing Program to promote equal opportunity in housing in Knoxville.
- \* Activities that identify vacant, blighted or problem properties and seek developers to return them to productive use.
- \* Support for programs that assist neighborhoods in identifying and solving their own problems
- \* Support for programs that provide training and employment to lower-income citizens or to assist lower-income citizens in starting small businesses.

#### REVITALIZATION PROJECTS

- \* Five Points Commercial Development
- \* Lonsdale Redevelopment
- \* Vestal Redevelopment

#### ENERGY STAR

Energy Star Partner - The City of Knoxville is a proud partner of ENERGY STAR. The Housing and Neighborhood Development (*former Community Development*) Department's Owner Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program has built 13 Energy Star homes and plan on building more Energy Star-certified homes. ENERGY STAR qualified products and practices help you save money and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by meeting strict energy efficiency guidelines set by the U.S. EPA and U.S. DOE. The ENERGY STAR label also designates superior energy performance in homes and buildings. More information is available on the ENERGY STAR website at [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov).



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September 02, 2022  
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#### Events

September 06, 2022  
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## **Appendix L – Public Comment Period Responses (Emails)**

### *Draft HOME-ARP Allocation Plan 15-day Public Comment Period Responses for (9/6-9/20/2022) (13 total)*

#### *1. Friday, 9/9:*

I am a former Catholic Charities employee (Jacksonville, FL). I served as a case manager working directly with homeless veterans as part of the Supportive Services For Veteran Families program.

I did not see veterans mentioned in your plan- and perhaps this is intentional; however, if you have not yet tapped into SSVF funds, you should consider it. SSVF will help with rent for many months.

Creating partnerships with landlords becomes easier when you can sweeten the pot by perhaps doubling deposits and offering payment of lease for 3-6 months at a time, up front.

Since there is a lack of housing, you may want to look into converting empty buildings and/or creating tiny houses on the cheap with housing containers.

If you have a skilled and able bodied homeless population willing to help build their own community, tap into their skills and/or have a group such as Habitat for Humanity teach them how to build/plumb/landscape, etc. Miami Dade has successfully done this.

Create a sense of community and ongoing support indefinitely after housed. Many of my guys felt so isolated once housed; some turned back to old habits to cope (ie drug abuse).

Partner with Lyft to help with transportation needs that the bus won't meet.

Partner with food pantries where they can "shop" for what they will actually eat.

Partner with second hand stores and other orgs to help with free furnishings, pots/pans (or set up Amazon smile if you haven't already).

Ensure an agency is dedicated to obtaining government identification. For many reasons, people don't have ids and without them, they can't apply for housing. Many don't have birth certificates, etc. They also don't have money for this.

Ensure there is a partnership for burner phones when applying for housing.

Check criminal background first. There is no use of wasting time and energy housing someone when the second their name pops on the credit check, the police are looking for them trying to serve a warrant.

Hire enough case workers. Ensure their mental health is supported with regularly scheduled access to counseling (group helps). Have one central database for all organizations helping homeless to streamline aid.

Address mental health of clients immediately and with continued care. Ensure emergency access to counselors available 24/7 (and hire enough, so they are not overworked). Most folks are self medicating and that often leads to criminal behavior and a slew of other issues.

Ensure safety of employees and clients at all times. Have clear, developed protocols in place for when dangerous situations arise.

Ensure someone helps them apply for all eligible services- food stamps, insurance, etc.

Unfortunately, the added rental assistance and unemployment assistance from the pandemic gave people a false sense of security. Many evictions were delayed. I think the situation is going to get much worse here, very quickly.

If at all possible, allocate funds to keep people housed where there are (if suitable). Sometimes it seems the system is set up to put out fires rather than prevent them. Paying a few back months of rent may be all a family needs, but some funds can't be used until the family is not housed. Perhaps these policies can be reviewed.

## 2. Friday, 9/9:

I wanted to give my opinion on the federal funds for the homeless you guys should contact the Village at Glennclyff in Nashville Tennessee there website is [www.villageatglennclyff.com](http://www.villageatglennclyff.com) and also you guys could get a building somewhere off in the area and have it fence in or whatever and have a Homeless Resort and have programs for mental health and drugs and workforce program there.

## 3. Saturday, 9/10:

I'm going to suggest that the city of Knoxville look at local homelessness and vagrancy from the standpoint of mental health first and try to give those affected the most by that the psychiatric help that they need. It seems that most of the secondary causes such as drug use and joblessness stem from that source.

## 4. Tuesday, 9/13:

I recommend a similar psychiatric facility like lakeshore. Not as large as lakeshore but a nursing home for the chronic mentally ill and who need chronic medical care . It will be there forever home so it needs to be designed with a homelike setting.

As far as homeless who may not medically qualify for Lakeshore facility

I suggest an actual camp sight with an off the grid concept. Offer small tent with cot and sleeping bag in each tent

Have a large covered area with pick nick tables . Also when the weather gets cold provide heat in the large covered area and in close it with pull down walls made of sturdy tent material to keep heat in . They could move their cots in this area during the winter . Have port-a-potties and possibly a small inclosed area for showers. Offer a job to a couple of homeless to take care of the campsite

And allow them to live in a tiny home or camper on site . Picking up trash and keeping common areas clean

As far as domestic violence center for women . They need to know they are safe and are being heard . Maybe a motel style facility with a large kitchen common area . And a court yard in the center of the building for kids to play .

Not sure how to make it incognito

I hope these ideas can help .

#### 5. Wednesday, 9/14:

We need an electric rail train system

#### 6. Friday, 9/16:

While helping those in need is definitely virtuous, there is a way to do that doesn't cause harm at the same time. We do not need more 'smart' infrastructure but rather we need to educate the public on how things actually work and make the world a more sustainable and healthy place to live. 5G does not do this. Sustainable farming and trading is the only way to make fair opportunities for EVERYONE. We will not accept our tax dollars being spent on harmful practices.

#### 7. Friday, 9/16:

My name is David Corden and my background is in modular wall construction. Working near the center of the homeless camps in downtown Knoxville has challenged me to create a low cost shelter design the provides a secure place for the homeless to sleep and store their belongings. Unlike the plywood shacks and tent options (made with combustible materials) employed by Portland, LA and San Francisco, this design uses fire retardant (Class A) components and has HVAC and toilet/shower facilities, 1 per 6 residents. The design assembles with unskilled labor and can be relocated if desired.

To date the City has developed a “plan” for addressing the homeless with affordable housing as the goal. Unfortunately nothing has progressed toward that goal. Now is a perfect opportunity for the City to demonstrate to the community, the state and the country that we will truly committed to doing something meaningful to address this growing crisis. The \$4MM will provide over 600 shelters and there are churches that would contribute to grow that number. I would welcome an opportunity to make a presentation to the City. Attached are plans and renderings for your review and distribution.

8. Saturday, 9/17:

I oppose the use of HOME-ARP funds to build more 5G network dependent "smart city" infrastructure. There are better and more direct ways to help the homeless, including housing, mental health services, and job training. There are a lot of questions about the safety of 5G technology in peer reviewed scientific studies and I think more research is needed before additional installations are done.

9. Saturday, 9/17:

The only way yall gonna end homeless is to have an educational (vocational) center next to a doctor's office and a shelter with surrounding jobs. No transportation, jobs to be next door. Staffing agency and more.

The main goal of the homeless is to get them back on their feet and go back to supporting themselves. Some people don't want this.

If this cannot be done then to end homeless is to stop supporting them. That includes all people to stop giving money to them. But we all know how people just leeching off from public welfare on purpose. Lie that they can't find a job but they can work at staffing agencies or work from home.

I know this is harse because it is true. I even dig myself out of the pit hole and so did others. The future isn't looking so well. We're losing a lot of people in the future. It doesn't help when the US decided to design for corporate and not for us people. Having kids isn't the same anymore. Healthcare isn't any good, they just want profit. Taxes is on everything. Education cost more. More endless restrictions on everything as we keep losing our freedom. Jobs being at odd ends. Getting justice has been slow or never progressed in issues at known.

So if homeless want the benefit of reaping the reward of digging out of their hole, there need to be time limit. Things will have to be done. I'm sure some has succeeded in quick ways. Hopefully this will make it through of people thoughts. Lots of people want things too easy.

*10. Tuesday, 9/20:*

I was not able to join the zoom meeting Monday evening, but here is the comment I would like to submit regarding how the City of Knoxville plans to use the \$4+ million in federal funding to help those facing homelessness.

I fully support the City of Knoxville using the provided funds to help those in need, yet, we need to be sure that none of the HOME-ARP federal funding is allowed to be spent on building any more of the 5G network-dependent "smart city" plans that were made for Knoxville back in 2018 without the informed consent of the people.

The 5G network greatly increases the amount of wireless radiation in our environment, and wireless radiation has been proven to be harmful to humans, animals, plants, insects, and even down to the soil itself. When an ecosystem is harmed, everything living in that ecosystem is at risk of being harmed as well, which has already been happening.

Instead of providing wireless internet access, I strongly recommend that some of the funding be used to provide WIRED internet access within the housing facilities, for the well-being of the residents. The health condition of those facing homelessness is likely not its best already, and wireless radiation has been proven to exacerbate existing health conditions and/or create new ones.

It would be terribly wrong for the city to take advantage of anyone who is not yet well-informed of the many health risks of wireless radiation by increasing one's exposure to it before they know enough about it to reject it.

I have a heart for those who are homeless, but building and activating more of the harmful wireless network should not be done in the name of helping people. In addition, the City of Knoxville needs to be informing everyone here of the many risks and future plans related to wireless internet services, including those that can even be utilized under the terms "healthcare" or "other supportive services" as mentioned in the Allocation Plan.

I also recommend that any already built vacant homes be given a good offer for purchase by the City of Knoxville, to utilize the structures that already exist.

And how about this idea as one option? The City could work with Knox County in finding and purchasing a good piece of land, preferably outside the city, where housing can be built and where those people facing homelessness who also have a desire to learn how to simply live off the land can be given that opportunity and teaching to do so in a community setting.

The more we as a society return to a more simple lifestyle of living off the land, the better we can also avoid the many concerns that go along with the "smart city" agenda which the United Nations is trying to implement globally from the local level, and before the people are fully informed of the risks.

The "smart city" agenda involves creating an environment that would eventually be so filled with electro-pollution that it would only be conducive to the survival of life forms that have been altered by computer technology (i.e. either genetically engineered living creatures and/or cyborg forms of natural life). When people understand this, the vast majority of course do NOT want to continue to move in that direction. Also, the amount of the 5G network and "smart city" plans that have already been built in Knoxville has been done withOUT the informed consent of the people, and tragically to the harm of many since T-Mobile kicked off the 5G rollout when they activated their low-band 5G across the nation in December of 2019, and with Verizon and AT&T continually installing and activating more of their 5G mini cell sites from 2020 to the present.

It's important to note that the biggest health hazard of the 5G network is the huge increase of 4G LTE frequencies at such close proximity to people, which serve as the "back bone" for the 5G network.

Everyone in Knoxville should be fully informed of the risks vs benefits before anymore of the "smart city" agenda/5G network is built here, and even before the already installed amount of the 5G network continues to be utilized here, even when it may be being done in such a way that appears to be helping people. There are many ways to help people that do not involve the use of harmful wireless radiation, and there are at least 200 people in Knoxville with whom I have been in contact who are informed about 5G and have expressed to me that they do not consent to Knoxville being turned into a 5G-enabled, AI-controlled "smart city."

Please also keep in mind that the FCC lost a lawsuit last year for failing to update their wireless radiation exposure guidelines based on the vast amount of independent studies that show harm at levels much, much lower than the guidelines they had set back in 1996.

I hope to see our local representative public servants doing their due diligence to learn about this important and urgent issue, and then their due diligence to honor their oaths by protecting the people from this harm.

#### 11. Tuesday, 9/20:

Wooden sleeping pods by Reed Watts available to homeless in London.

One of the consistent sightings of homeless sleeping on the sidewalks indicate a safe storage access would allow people experiencing homelessness to access job opportunities, housing and medical care, and the comfort of knowing their few remaining belongings are safe.

As a downtown resident, the increase of camps, drug behavior, the need to keep everything of value fenced is certainly becoming wearing. Agree the solution is very complicated, however, unless we as a city decide helping homeless persons comes need to be a hand up not continuing hand outs.

The city ordinances do not allow the feeding of people on city property, yet consistently Krutch Park is the huddle place for feeding with no regard to the huge mess, cost of clean up and the very negative impact to our tourists. Hopefully communication through out the Knox Co are advising that handouts at traffic intersections, feeding from the back of cars, and other gestures are actually working against a long term plan.

Our city needs to be better presented to our visitors and as a taxpayer I feel right now I am being cheated by the look the other way position we seem to have accepted. Happy to be a part of a solution that requires hand up not hand outs.

Thanks for listening

<https://www.dezeen.com/2018/12/18/commonweal-modular-sleeping-pods-homeless-housing-reed-watts/>

*12. Tuesday, 9/20:*

Thank you for the opportunity to offer shareholder feedback on such an important topic in the City's future.

I would encourage a broader definition and outreach to those vulnerable populations who may experience homelessness.

In particular, and with regards to: ***Identify any gaps within the current shelter and housing inventory as well as the service delivery system:***

In the manner that the plan defines "veteran" services, adding the designations to those receiving services as ones who arrive in the city as refugees, humanitarian parolees, asylees, and entrants would define more explicit groups in need of this housing. These *legal and protected* populations often face extreme financial distress on their path to self-sufficiency, and, while Bridge Refugee Services works to ensure secure and long-term housing, each of those designations comes with a myriad of different social services available.

The incoming populations have seen substantial and unexpected increases since the pandemic began. Civil unrest in foreign countries has direct population effect here in Knox County, and Bridge's nationwide reputation for success as East Tennessee's only refugee resettlement agency will only continue to see larger populations arriving under variant programs (for example Operations Allies Welcome, Uniting for Ukraine, and the Cuban-Haitian Entrant Program).

*Explicitly noting* these service groups within your plan will allow for easier homelessness mitigation in the future as our clients would immediately benefit from this affordable housing as it becomes available.

13. Tuesday, 9/20:

Piggybacking onto what *my colleague* already shared, I'd like to point out the added challenge of housing refugees UPON ARRIVAL (which is what is expected of us during the resettlement process). This is tricky because their credit and rental history is non-existent, so housing entities have to be willing to rent to our client based on our program funding and process, which provides some but not full certainty as to the viability of the tenancy for the full term of the lease. So while finding affordable available housing is challenging enough (especially since \$1,500 is the market rate for a single bedroom for refugee housing), once found, we have to navigate the relationship built on trust rather than certainty of having funding to ensure the landlord that payments are guaranteed for the full term of the lease. While the majority of the time, our tenants do not have a problem finding employment and making that transition into self-sufficiency, there are those who do end up needing additional support. I'm not sure what the solution is, but if some of the funding was made available as a sort of "safety net" to ensure landlords that the rent would be paid for the full term of the lease, that could be an excellent way to ensure that we were able to provide housing within the current market with a very low ticket in the end.

I really appreciate all the work and research that you all have put into this, and I'm hoping for the best outcome for all. Please feel free to reach out for any clarification or questions.

**Appendix M – Public Hearing Slide Deck**



City of Knoxville

## Housing & Neighborhood Development

HOME-ARP Public Hearing  
September 19, 2022



### Introductions

**Amy Brooks**, Director



#### **HOME-ARP Team:**

- Bennett Meeks
- Shawn Griffith
- Bailey Walker
- Linda Rust
- Michael Dunthorn
- Cicely Henderson
- Beth Bacon
- Hope Ealey

*Attendees, please introduce yourselves and share your email address in the Zoom "Chat" function.*

## Agenda

- I. 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan
- II. HOME-ARP
  - Allocation Plan
  - Eligible Activities
  - Qualifying Populations (QPs)
- III. Consultation
  - Community Partners
  - Feedback
  - Proposed Activities
- IV. Need / Gap Assessment
- V. Discussion
- VI. Draft Allocation Plan
  - Where to comment



## I. 5-Year Consolidated Plan (PY2020-2024) Community Engagement Process

Summer 2019 (pre-COVID-19 pandemic)

- Surveys – 623 responses
- Focus Groups – 11
- Meetings – 8
- Questionnaires and other feedback

### Results

- *Homelessness Needs* ranked as the highest *Priority Need* category
- *Affordable Permanent Housing* ranked the highest within *Homelessness Needs*
- *Supportive Services* ranked third within *Homelessness Needs* (*Homelessness Prevention* was second)



## 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan Priorities / Goals



- Reduce and Prevent Homelessness
- Stabilize and Revitalize Neighborhoods
- Create Economic Opportunity
- Enhance the Availability, Accessibility, and Quality of Affordable Housing

## 2020-2024 Consolidated Plan: Annual HUD Funding Sources



### Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

- Low- and Moderate-Income (LMI) people / households / areas
- Slum or Blight
- Urgency (urgent threat to community health and welfare)
- *Up to 15% may be spent on public services (including supportive services)*

### HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME)

- Affordable Housing for LMI households (within 80% of Area Median Income)

### Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)

- Homelessness
- Street Outreach
- Emergency Shelter/Services
- Homelessness Prevention
- Rapid Re-Housing
- HMIS
- *Cannot be used to develop Permanent Housing*

## II. HOME-ARP



- **The American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act** included supplemental funds to the HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) program with the purpose of creating affordable, permanent housing and providing services to meet the needs of people experiencing or at-risk of experiencing homelessness.
- City of Knoxville's Allocation: **\$4,076,859**
- **Eligible activities:**
  1. Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)
  2. Provision of supportive services
  3. Acquisition & development of Non-Congregate Shelter (NCS) units
  4. Development & support of affordable housing (acquisition, rehabilitation, or construction)

## HOME-ARP: Qualifying Populations (QP)



1. Homeless, ([42 U.S.C. 11302\(a\)](#)).
2. At-risk of homelessness, ([42 U.S.C. 11360\(1\)](#)).
3. Fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking.
4. Other populations where providing supportive services or assistance would prevent the family's homelessness or would serve those with the greatest risk of housing instability. ([42 U.S.C. 12742\(a\)](#)).

*\*Veterans or Families that include a Veteran Family Member **that meet the criteria for one of the QPs.***

## HOME-ARP: Allocation Plan Process



HUD Requirement to Develop an Allocation Plan, included:

- Consultation Meetings
  - Continuum of Care
  - Service Providers
  - Public Housing Agency
- HMIS Research / Data: Need and Gap Assessment
- Public Participation
  - Public Comment Period (15 Days)
  - **Public Meeting**

## III. Consultation with Community Partners

- Mayor's Roundtable on Homelessness – July 25, 2022
- Continuum of Care / Homeless Coalition – July 26, 2022
- Affordable Housing Fund Advisory Committee – July 29, 2022





## Consultation Feedback



Discussion included:

- Mental health and Substance misuse are barriers to housing
- Rate of Chronically Homeless is on the rise
- Rates of Youth and Elderly populations experiencing homelessness are on the rise
- Lack of affordable rental housing

Recommendation: Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) and supportive services.

Permanent Supportive Housing is housing with wrap-around services included and no time-limit. PSH is designed to assist individual / families to live as independently as possible, successfully.

## IV. Need / Gap Assessment:



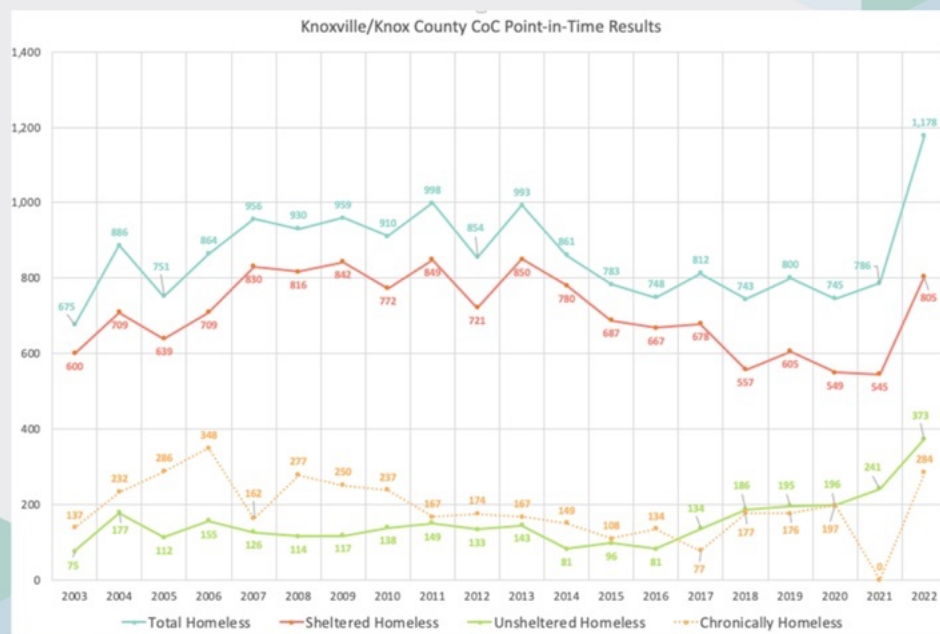
### Permanent Supportive Housing and Supportive Services

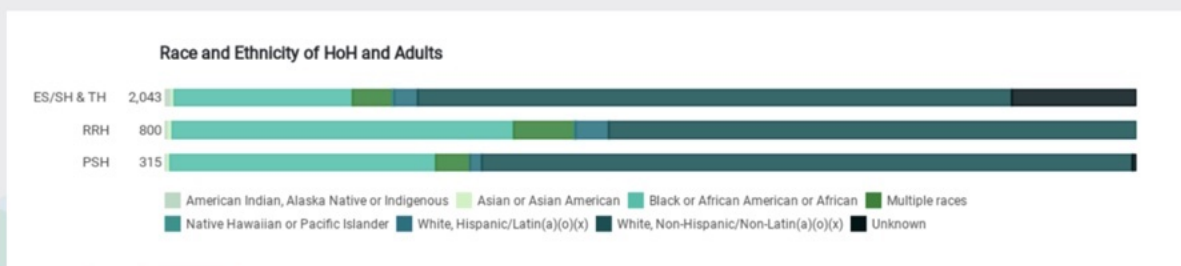
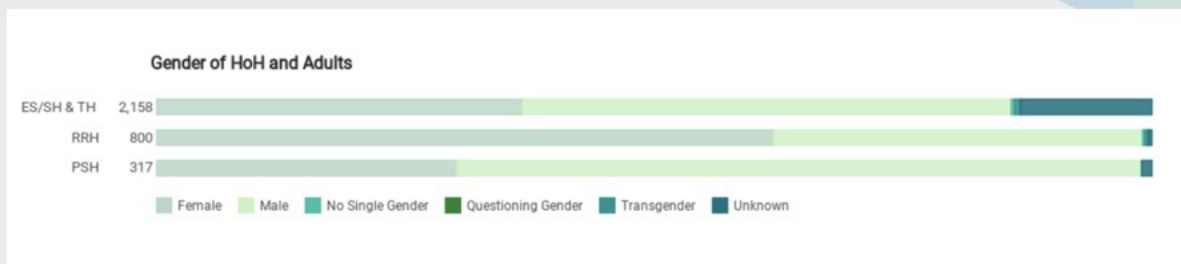
- PSH Capacity has not fallen below 92% over the past 6 quarters (~March 2021)
- Current PSH *Time to Housing*: 193 days
- 454 PSH bed deficit
- Prioritization / Preferences: Chronically Homeless

## QP: Homeless Population Population's Size and Demographics



- 50% increase in total homeless population in 2022
- 44.1% increase in chronically homeless individuals from 2020 to 2022





## QP: At-Risk of Homelessness Population's Size and Demographics



- PIT Results: 145 precariously housed individuals
  - Disproportionately Black (48%) and Female (60%)
- HMIS 2022 Q2: 1,270 "At-risk" individuals served
- Area Median Income  $\leq 30\%$ : 15,800 households (2018 CHAS)
  - Predominantly renters—12,890 households
- Cost Burdened: 27,130 households (2018 CHAS)
  - Extremely Cost Burdened  $> 50\%$  Area Median Income: 13,375 households
- Poverty rate: 22.5% of households (2020 ACS)
  - 45% of Black individuals earning less than 125% FPL



## QP: Domestic Violence Population's Size and Demographics



- 2022 PIT Results: 13 sheltered DV households—27 individuals
  - 56% White versus 44% Black— 4 individuals ethnically Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)
- 2021 Stella Analysis: 189 DV households
  - Predominantly White (73%) and female (77%)
- 17,026 DV calls in 2021—KPD and KCSO
  - 984 Orders of Protection—KFJC
- 300 human trafficking referrals—CCAHT



- 30% | 656 Not a DV survivor
- 6% | 128 DV survivor and currently fleeing
- 11% | 231 DV survivor and not currently fleeing or unknown fleeing status
- 53% | 1,143 DV status unknown



## QP: Other Populations Size and Demographics



- 2021 HMIS: 139 households receiving temporary assistance
  - 64% White; 35% Black; and 1% Asian
  - Predominantly *family* households—76%
  - 39% of individuals under 18 years old
- Knox Housing Assistance: 13,889 households receiving assistance
  - Forecasting risk of housing instability for households
- Area Median Income  $\leq 30\%$  AND severely cost burdened
  - 9,000 households

## Projected System Needs

<i><b>Individuals</b></i>	<b>Current Inventory</b>	<b>Projected Needs</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Emergency Shelter	330	231	99
Homelessness Prevention/Diversion	0	461	-461
Rapid Re-housing	40	154	-114
Transitional Housing	228	154	74
Permanent Supportive Housing	313	767	-454

<i><b>Families</b></i>	<b>Current Inventory</b>	<b>Projected Needs</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Emergency Shelter	15	33	-18
Homelessness Prevention/Diversion	0	119	-119
Rapid Re-housing	232	47	185
Transitional Housing	12	24	-12
Permanent Supportive Housing	14	24	-10

## **Proposed HOME-ARP Allocation Plan Activities**



Based on the HOME-ARP eligible activities and Qualifying Populations, Consultation Feedback and Needs / Gap Assessment, the City is proposing:

- Increasing the development of Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)
- Increasing Supportive Services

The City is proposing to work with the Continuum of Care / Homeless Coalition's Coordinated Entry System (CHAMP) in which Chronically Homeless individuals / families will receive Preference for the PSH units.

## **V. Discussion**



**Let's hear from You!**

*Questions & Comments*

## VI. Draft Allocation Plan



Available at: [www.knoxvilletn.gov/development](http://www.knoxvilletn.gov/development)

For any additional comments, please contact:

Bennett Meeks [bmeeks@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:bmeeks@knoxvilletn.gov)

by **Tuesday, September 20, 2022** to have your comment considered and submitted with the **Final** Allocation Plan.

## Time Line



- *Consultation Meetings*
  - *Mayor's Roundtable on Homelessness – July 25, 2022*
  - *Homeless Coalition – July 26, 2022*
  - *Affordable Housing Fund Advisory Committee – July 29, 2022*
- *Draft Allocation Plan – Released September 6, 2022*
- *Public Participation*
  - Public Comment Period (15 Days) – **September 6-20, 2022**
  - Public Meeting – Monday, September 19, 2022 @ 6:00PM
  - City Council reviews Plan – **Tuesday, September 20, 2022 @ 6:00PM**
  - City staff submits Final Allocation Plan to HUD



# Thank You!

## **Appendix N - 9/19/2022 HOME-ARP Public Hearing Notes**

Staff in Attendance (9) - Amy Brooks, Linda Rust, Beth Bacon, Michael Dunthorn, Shawn Griffith, Bennett Meeks, Hope Ealey, Bailey Walker, Cicely Henderson

Participants (27)

1. Care Cuts – Cindy Arnold
2. CONNECT Ministries (5) - Keira Wyatt, Eleanor Horton, Jeanine Johnson, Shanida Holland, and John Jowers
3. His Hands and Feet Ministry – Michael Wrinkle
4. Inova Systems – David Corden
5. KARM – Deborah Nichols
6. Keenan Grimes Community Outreach Center – Keenan Grimes
7. Knoxville City Council – Amelia Parker
8. Knox County – Zach Waggoner
9. Knoxville Leadership Foundation – Chris Martin
10. New Direction Health Care Solutions (2) - Cynthia Finch and Deb Porter
11. Sierra Club, Harvey Broome Group – Maggie Longmire

12. Voice for the Voiceless – Vivian Shipe
13. Kecia Armstrong
14. John Bohsedt
15. Emily Cala
16. Nancy Hannan
17. Anne Hulse
18. Victor Jernigan
19. L. Kellar
20. Martie Ulmer
21. “I-phone Juneé”
22. “Sue”

**Questions** (from Zoom Chat and shared in Zoom meeting verbally)

Q. Will the presentation be provided?

A. Yes, we can provide it to those who share their email address (Zoom Chat)

Q. What is non-congregate Housing?

A. Shawn answered during presentation

Q. How can existing agencies be involved? / How can the services we offer be included? / What qualifies as supportive services for the grant? / Are you saying those who want to help are not qualified? / So we will be working for these organizations that will be getting the funds or can they contract with us? Can we be paid?

A. Supportive service go along with the housing. There may be opportunities to partner with Permanent Supportive Housing providers

Q. Could we get a list of the agencies present today? Some I don't know about, and I'd like a list of all agencies who are working on homelessness

A. Yes, we can provide that

Q. How can we be involved in the Mayor's Roundtable on Homelessness? Homeless Coalition?

A. The meeting for the Mayor's Roundtable is not a closed meeting. Send an email to Shawn Griffith and he will connect you to Yolanda Grant, the Homeless Coalition President

Q. Has the city already identified where the \$4 million will allocated?

A. The Allocation Plan includes permanent supportive housing and supportive services

Q. Are these funds going to support the development of new housing?

A. Yes, funding is being proposed for Permanent Supportive Housing

Q. Can we get a list of who provides supportive services and housing?

A. Yes

Q. Was a request for proposals issued for non-congregate shelter projects?

A. No, the City tried in late 2020 to get agencies to offer non-congregate shelter, but no agency agreed to step-up. CAC did agree to offer motel vouchers – the program will end soon.

Q. Can we build tiny houses? Pallet houses? Fire-retardant/durable/modular wall construction units?

A. Not with HOME-ARP, because its Habitability Standards require all units and common areas to meet State and City codes

Q. Could you discuss the 100 PSH units currently under development and the other projects proposed for funding under this grant? Give an example of any organization that has ever existed in Knoxville. Or give us a reference in other cities close.

A. Beth listed projects underway. Linda mentioned Minvilla (VMC) and Flenniken SE Housing)

Q. How can we find about the plans to build more permanent supportive housing?

A. Beth listed applications received but not approved

Q. Will there be a grant/RFP request?

A. No, a grant/RFP is not in our current plans

Q. Who do we need to contact that gives the city the funds?

A. HUD

Q. What is the City doing now to help people?

A. The City supports many different activities that assist those experiencing homelessness and affordable housing that provides a solution to homelessness

Q. Why wasn't the meeting recorded?

A. We hadn't considered it/were not asked.

Q. What is the purpose of this meeting tonight? Why do you need from us?

A. Feedback on HOME-ARP Allocation Plan

**Comments** (from Zoom Chat and comments shared in Zoom meeting verbally)

- Passionate about permanent housing
- Prevention and Diversion has been our priority over the last 8 months-1 year

- People need information on being a good tenant/people need support to stay housed
- We could partner by with affordable housing by providing case management
- There's a shortage pf supportive housing
- We need diversity, inclusion and access – supportive services can be provided by different partners
- We want to be in the room – where agencies are being included/considered
- We need to be wise and intentional about how we move forward
- Silos must be destroyed  
this is what REAL work looks like. boots on the ground!
- why rebuild the same wheel?  
help the people doing the work and don't put up so many barriers
- I want information about how to attend future meetings on the Homeless
- relationship matters .....put them in housing and teach them to fish!
- Case management can't stop after housing has been obtained even it's not PSH
- True need and building relationships, following up with chronic homeless – they need rehabilitation, education and direction as to where to go
- Case management and connecting with apartment complexes
- People need help with food security
- It's important to sit down with people so they know their rights and responsibilities – building and maintaining right relationships
- Help people to support themselves
- you could even build out IRAs building  
It looks like right now it's just a meeting with a plan already in place. cant be business as usual!  
lot of people are going to die
- Consider getting people off the street. \$4M would get half of the homeless off the street. People need to get off the street, feel secure, have a place to lock up their belongings, bathe, wash clothes
- Please add everybody to the roundtables, focus group. We have to have do some out of the box, non-traditional awarding. In order for the City Development to be successful they need to do non-traditional type of awarding.
- We just lost a member of the homeless community who was walking on Alcoa after being released by the hospital at midnight and hit by an ambulance.
- Outreach is needed for mental health care
- Magnolia Avenue Church could be converted for between 35-40 adults
- Vacant Lots for low barrier shelter – pennies on the dollar
- Build out a church, let supportive services be provided there
- Money is being given to the same usual agencies
- Pallet houses, tiny homes for 1178 people – think outside the box
- Is this meeting just a ruse and the City already has a plan for these funds
- Are we just names on a sign-in sheet
- Permanent Supportive Housing is missing the boat. The units I am proposing are fire retardant and durable
- Give an example of any organization that has ever existed in Knoxville. Or give us a reference in other cities close.
- those who are WILLING to help can't get support!



- see you got to start where you are! get people off the street!  
sounds murky to me
- Good Night! Thank you. Add me to the communication database.
- in other words you go not get any of the money only a connection  
This money is for PSH and those that would like to connect to the PSH agencies. Whatever services you offer you will have to work for those that are PSH...
- historically the grants have SO much red tape the people can't qualify
- this together.  
how the funds are allocated.
- We can remove barriers by creating opportunities. Smaller agencies can and oftentimes
- CONNECT Ministries is willing and ready to provide eligible activities such as supportive services that has been documented in the HMIS system. Also we are interested in non-congregate shelter. I would love to learn more. I appreciate you all taking the time to explain how the funds are allocated.
- but the 1178 are the numbers we KNOW of....you didn't count every one  
got to start where you are  
what is the language that gets the YES???
- we are NOT a sanctuary city for our most vulnerable citizens
- The dialogue is going well. There is room for growth. Thank you.
- The City can create a grant writer position to work with smaller organizations to get money and help them fill out grant proposals
- People are being institutionalized on the streets – building a relationship with that person. There is not enough follow-up in housing.
- Services have to be put in place before the housing even exists. We must change mind sets
- Supportive services should be stand alone

Appendix O - 3/18/2025 Knoxville News Sentinel Notice



**Order Confirmation**

Not an Invoice

Account Number:	1331753
Customer Name:	City Of Knoxville Community Dev.
Customer Address:	City Of Knoxville Community Dev. P O Box 1631 Diana Gittens Knoxville TN 37901
Contact Name:	City Of Knoxville Community Dev.
Contact Phone:	
Contact Email:	
PO Number:	

Date:	03/14/2025
Order Number:	11134552
Prepayment Amount:	\$ 0.00

Column Count:	1.0000
Line Count:	135.0000
Height in Inches:	0.0000

Print

Product	#Insertions	Start - End	Category
KNS Knoxville News Sentinel	1	03/18/2025 - 03/18/2025	Public Notices
KNS knoxnews.com	1	03/18/2025 - 03/18/2025	Public Notices

As an incentive for customers, we provide a discount off the total order cost equal to the 3.99% service fee if you pay with Cash/Check/ACH. Pay by Cash/Check/ACH and save!

Total Cash Order Confirmation Amount Due	\$195.75
Tax Amount	\$0.00
Service Fee 3.99%	\$7.81
Cash/Check/ACH Discount	-\$7.81
Payment Amount by Cash/Check/ACH	\$195.75
Payment Amount by Credit Card	\$203.56

Order Confirmation Amount	\$195.75
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## Ad Preview

### City of Knoxville Housing and Neighborhood Development

#### Public Notice Availability of a Proposed Amendment to the City of Knoxville's HOME-ARP Allocation Plan, 15-day Public Comment Period, and Invitation to a Public Meeting

The City of Knoxville Housing and Neighborhood Development Department plans to submit a Substantial Amendment to its HOME Investment Partnerships - American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) Allocation Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The amendment proposes to reallocate \$1,000,000 in HOME-ARP funds from supportive services to the development of rental housing for youth aging out of foster care.

The proposed amendment and rationale for the change will be highlighted in the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan available for public review and comment for a period of 15 days beginning April 1, 2025. The document will be available for review at [www.knoxvilletn.gov/development](http://www.knoxvilletn.gov/development) under the tab labeled "Draft Plans for Public Review" and in the City's Housing and Neighborhood Development Office, Suite 522H (5th Floor City-County Building), 400 Main Street. The document may also be mailed to interested parties upon request by calling Michael Dunthorn at 865-215-3103.

#### Public Meeting

A public meeting on the proposed changes to the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan will be held on April 9, 2025, at 6:00 P.M. at the City's Public Works Service Center at 3131 Morris Avenue, 37909. The meeting will also be held virtually via Zoom. The Zoom link will be available at [www.knoxvilletn.gov/development](http://www.knoxvilletn.gov/development) by noon on April 8, 2025. People attending the meeting will have the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback.

#### Invitation to Comment

Comments/questions may also be submitted in writing to Michael Dunthorn by emailing [mdunthorn@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:mdunthorn@knoxvilletn.gov) or mailing to City of Knoxville, Housing and Neighborhood Development Department, P.O. Box 1631, Knoxville TN 37901. All comments must be received no later than April 15, 2025.

The City of Knoxville ensures meaningful access to City programs, services, and activities to comply with Civil Rights Title VI and ADA Title II laws and reasonably provides: translation, interpretation, modifications, accommodations, alternative formats, auxiliary aids and services. Individuals with a disability who require an accommodation in order to participate may contact the City of Knoxville's ADA Coordinator, Stephanie Brewer Cook at 865-215-2034 or [scook@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:scook@knoxvilletn.gov) no less than 72 business hours (3 business days) prior to the public meeting and/or the end of the public comment period. If you have Limited English Proficiency (LEP) and want to request language translation services, contact the Human Resources Department at [hr@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:hr@knoxvilletn.gov), or 865-215-3100 at least 48 hours (2 days) prior to the public meeting and/or the end of the public comment period. Please submit your requests for translation and/or accommodations as early as possible after the proposed change to the plan is available to ensure you have time to receive it, read it, and comment if you wish, before the comment period has concluded on April 15, 2025.



Appendix P – 3/18/2025 Neighborly Notice email newsletter

Wednesday, March 26, 2025 at 14:08:32 Eastern Daylight Time

**Subject:** The Neighborly Notice - Tuesday, March 18, 2025  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 18, 2025 at 2:05:22 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
**From:** City of Knoxville, Office of Neighborhood Empowerment <dsharp@knoxvilletn.gov>  
**To:** Mike Dunthorn <mdunthorn@knoxvilletn.gov>



## The Neighborly Notice Vol. 18, No. 11 – Tuesday, March 18, 2025

PDF version: <https://bit.ly/NeighborlyNotice-2025-03-18>

To subscribe to this newsletter via email, fill out this form <http://eepurl.com/b2Rk9T>.  
You will then receive an automated email. Reply to this automated email to secure your free subscription.



1. ONE Announces Neighborhood Small Grants Program Workshops
2. Registration Now Open for Annual Neighborhood Kickball Tournament
3. Historic Zoning Commission Meets This Week
4. City of Knoxville Hosts Job Fair Next Week
5. Housing and Neighborhood Development Seeks Public Input
6. Waste and Resources Management Provides Updates on Recycling Centers
7. Community Action Committee Hosts Annual Pancake Fest
8. Trees Knoxville Hosts Tree Fest Next Month



#### **5. Housing and Neighborhood Development Seeks Public Input**

The City's [Housing and Neighborhood Development](#) Department plans to submit a Substantial Amendment to its HOME Investment Partnerships – American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) Allocation Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The amendment proposes reallocating \$1 million in HOME-ARP funds from supportive services to rental housing development for youth aging out of foster care.

The proposed amendment and rationale for the change will be highlighted in the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan available for public review and comment for a period of 15 days beginning Tuesday, April 1. The document will be available for review on the City's [website](#) and in the City's Housing and Neighborhood Development Office, 400 Main St. Suite 532H. The document may also be mailed to interested parties upon request by calling Michael Dunthorn at 865-215-3103.

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Tuesday, April 8. People attending the meeting will have the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback.

Comments/questions may also be submitted in writing to Michael Dunthorn by emailing [mdunthorn@knoxvilletn.gov](mailto:mdunthorn@knoxvilletn.gov) or mailing to City of Knoxville, Housing and Neighborhood Development Department, P.O. Box 1631. All comments must be received no later than Tuesday, April 15.

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
23	24	25	26	27	28	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	6pm - Holston 6:30pm - 7pm - Oakwood	6pm - City Council	3pm - Cumberland 5pm - Knox	6pm -		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Daylight Saving	5pm - CAC East 5pm - Cold 6pm - Fountain 6pm - Lyons View 6pm - Vestal 7pm - Lake Forest 7pm - Town Hall 7:30pm - Lake	9am - 6pm - Lindbergh	11:30am - 12pm - Savings in 2pm - 4:30pm -	1:30pm - 7pm - Colonial	7:30am - North	9am - South
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	St. Patrick's Day 5pm - CAC West 6pm - CAC South 6:30pm - Historic 7pm - Alice	4pm - City Board 6pm - City Council 6:30pm -	8:30am - Food 4pm - Design 5:30pm - Knox	7:30am - East 8:30am - Historic 6:30pm - Pond		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	5pm - Knox 6:30pm - Old 7pm - South	6:30pm - Inskip	9am -	3:30pm - Better	9:30am - Public	
30	31	1	2	3	4	5

### About This Newsletter

**\*\* This Advisory is produced on most Tuesdays of the year.**

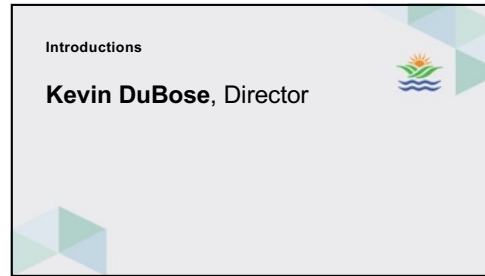
**\*\* Ideas and contributions are welcome. We reserve the right to edit submissions.**

**\*\* Deadline for news & calendar items: 5 p.m. Mondays**

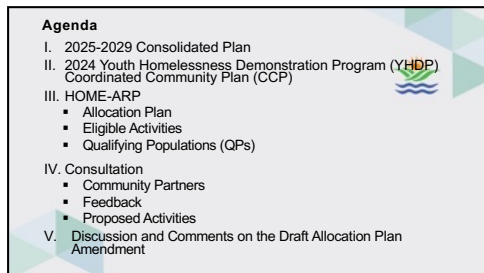
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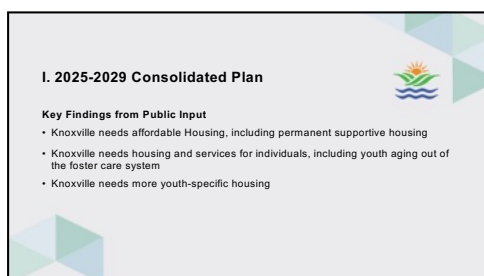
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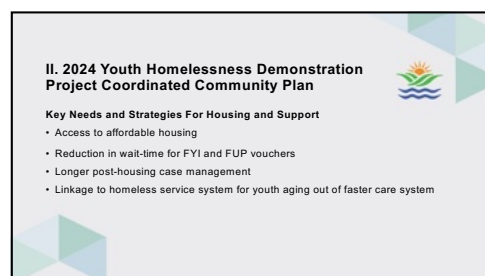
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## II. 2024 Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project Coordinated Community Plan

### Key Strategies to address identified needs

- Coordinate care between DCS and community providers to create housing and supportive service pathways prior to discharge from state care
- Develop strategy with PHA to reduce barriers to Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) vouchers to increase utilization rates
- Longer post-housing case management
- Linkage to homeless service system for youth aging out of foster care system

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## III. HOME-ARP: Allocation Plan Amendment Process

- Original HOME-ARP Allocation Plan approved in 2022
- Consultation Meetings
  - Homeless Coalition – March 25, 2025
  - Affordable Housing Fund Advisory Committee – March 26, 2025
- Draft Allocation Plan Amendment – Released April 1, 2025
- Public Participation
  - Public Comment Period (15 Days) – April 1-15, 2025
  - **Public Meeting – Wednesday, April 9, 2025 @ 6:00PM**
  - City Council approves submitting Plan Amendment to HUD – Tuesday, April 29, 2025 @ 6:00PM
  - City staff submits Final Allocation Plan Amendment to HUD

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## HOME-ARP: Eligible Activities

- **The American Rescue Plan (ARP)** provided supplemental funds to the Investment Partnerships (HOME) program with the purpose of creating affordable, permanent housing and services to meet the needs of people experiencing or at-risk of experiencing homelessness.
- City of Knoxville's Allocation: **\$4,076,859**
- **Eligible activities:**
  1. Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)
  2. Provision of supportive services
  3. Acquisition & development of Non-Congregate Shelter (NCS) units
  4. Development & support of affordable housing (Acquisition, rehabilitation, or construction)

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## HOME-ARP: Qualifying Populations

1. Homeless
2. At-risk of homelessness
3. Fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking.
4. Other populations where providing supportive services or assistance would prevent the family's homelessness or would serve those with the greatest risk of housing instability.

*\*Veterans or Families that include a Veteran Family Member **that meet the criteria for one of the QPs.***

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## IV. Consultation with Community Partners



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## Feedback

Community members and service providers recommend Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) and supportive services are needed. Discussion included:

- Mental health and Substance misuse are barriers to housing
- Rate of Chronically Homeless on the rise
- Growing youth and elderly populations experiencing homelessness
- Affordable Housing crisis in Knoxville

### For this amendment

- Consolidated Plan input mentioned above
- YHDP Coordinated Community Planning Process


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**Proposed Activities**

- **Reduce and Prevent Homelessness** through Permanent Supportive Housing development/rehabilitation and through supportive services enabling those in PSH to live as independently as possible, successfully.
- **Enhance the Availability, Accessibility and Quality of Affordable Housing** by increasing Permanent Supportive Housing and supportive services.

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**Proposed Activities modified in this amendment**

- Provide support for the redevelopment of 18 units of affordable rental housing with project-based FYI vouchers for youth aging out of foster care
- Adjust the referral process described in the original plan to allow for DCS to refer youth aging out of foster care into these units

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**Proposed Funding Allocation, Original Plan**

- Total HOME-ARP award: \$4,076,859, available through 2030
- \$2,900,000 for the development of affordable rental housing
- \$1,000,000 for provision of supportive services
- \$176,859 for administrative costs

**Proposed Funding Allocation Amendment**

- Move \$1,000,000 from provision of supportive services to development of affordable rental housing


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**V. Let's hear from You!**

*Questions & Comments*

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**VI. Draft Allocation Plan**

Available at: [www.knoxville.gov/development](http://www.knoxville.gov/development)

For any additional comments on Draft HOME-ARP Allocation Plan, please contact: Michael Dunthorn ([mdunthorn@knoxville.gov](mailto:mdunthorn@knoxville.gov)) by **Tuesday, April 15, 2025** to have your comment considered and submitted with the Final Allocation Plan.

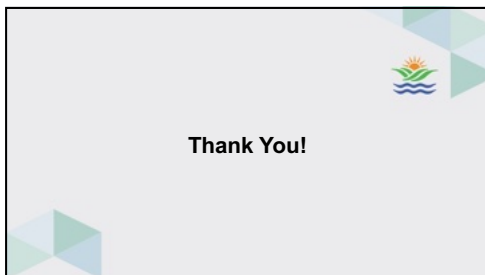
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**Looking Forward**

- Consultation Meetings
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## Appendix R – Public Comments on Home Arp Allocation Plan Amendment 2025

- Youth are having significant problems finding housing to use FYI vouchers. This project is desperately needed in the City of Knoxville. Commenter is very supportive of this proposal using project-based FYI vouchers as not one youth has been able to use their FYI vouchers otherwise.
- Commenter is with a foundation that assists youth with housing supplies and necessities. Q: Where is this project located? A: Coleman Road and Lonas Drive. Commenter expressed support for the proposal.
- Commenter is a retired Tenn. Department of Childrens Services psychologist. The need is great. Commenter is concerned about the services to be offered and wants to volunteer her services in support.
- Q: Describe the services offered in proposed housing. A: Developer plans to partner with Knoxville Leadership Foundation to provide case management, to offer youth a level of independence but with available supportive services. Other services to include mental health counseling and adult mentoring. Goal is to open by end of 2025.
- Q: Is income needed? A: Vouchers will subsidize rent.
- Financial planning and budgeting mentoring should be prioritized w/young adults.
- Q: Will a housing manager be located on-site? A: Plan is to have an “awake adult” onsite around the clock, security at night and case manager during the day.
- Q: How much are the FYI vouchers? A: Vouchers are on a 20-year contract, currently at approximately \$1,200, which covers operating costs.
- Q: What is the overall project budget? A: This \$1M in gap financing will contribute to an overall \$3.2M project budget.