

Alachua County Community Support Services Homeless Prevention & Homelessness – 5/6/2024

Housing Initiative Partnership (HIP)

HIP recognizes the need for stability among our families who are homeless or living with others as they await permanent housing. Alachua County Community Support Services, Alachua County Housing Authority and Family Promise of Gainesville has established a partnership to help our most vulnerable families by offering housing vouchers to families who are awaiting placement on the Housing Choice Voucher program and/or subsidized family which can take several years. Currently, there are nine families receiving assistance. These families consist of fourteen adults and 22 children.

Prevention & Homeless Services

The Division of Social Services works closely and collaboratively with many organizations in the community. The Division serves as a source of information and brainstorming for other community providers, including sharing of resources and concepts to develop strategies for serving individuals across the County.

School Counselors and Homeless Liaisons regularly reach out to identify resources and develop plans for serving their students and families.

Homeless Related Services

Provided over \$21 million in rent and utilities under the Federal **Emergency Rental Assistance Program** (2021 - 2023)

- 4,604 applications were submitted.
- Rent and Utility assistance averaging close to \$10,000 per household.

Homeless Prevention services to assist in keeping families housed in FY 2022-2023

- 821 Individuals impacted through Emergency Financial Assistance (Rent, mortgage, & utilities) - \$346,432
- Supported 112 Households with moving into permanent housing through deposit assistance - \$103,401.

Supportive Services

- 373 Individuals assisted with funding for primary care, prescriptions, and/or vision services.
- 111 Households received assistance for Property Non-Ad Valorem Assessments – reducing their housing instability.
 Over \$29,000 in waivers/reimbursements were provided.
- 165 Cremations & Burials to assist indigent individuals with final disposition.
- An Unclaimed Memorial Service is held annually to recognize those served.
- Provided Information & Referral services to over 30,000 callers.

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) and Rapid Rehousing (RRH) Programs for unhoused individuals

\$1.5 million annually

PSH

- Served 70 Households/75 Individuals
- 79% Housing Stability Rate
- Average 40 days to permanent housing from program entry date
- Average Monthly Rent is \$ 1,141
- Current Capacity: 30 slots (hiring for 2 case manager positions – which will bring provide for 25 additional participants)
- Current Caseload: Over capacity with 35 households

RRH

- Served 36 Households/43 Individuals
- 80% Housing Stability Rate
- Average 26 days to permanent housing from program entry date
- Average Monthly Rent is \$1,215
- Current Capacity: 25 slots
- Current Caseload: At capacity