Executive Summary

After steady declines from 2010 to 2016, **homelessness in America has been rising**, and more individuals are experiencing it in unsheltered settings, such as encampments. This increase stems from decades of growing economic inequality exacerbated by a global pandemic, soaring housing costs, and housing supply shortfalls. It is further exacerbated by inequitable access to health care, including mental health and/or substance use disorder treatment; discrimination and exclusion of people of color, LGBTQI+ people, people with disabilities and older adults; as well as the consequences of mass incarceration. As our nation faces the growing threats of climate change, more Americans are being displaced from their homes and people experiencing unsheltered homelessness face even greater risk to their health and safety as a result of climate-related crises like wildfires, floods, and hurricanes. Even as homelessness response systems are helping more people than ever exit homelessness, more people are entering or reentering homelessness.

Homelessness has no place in America. *All In: The Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness* (herein referred to as *All In)* is a multi-year, interagency blueprint for **a future where no one experiences homelessness, and everyone has a safe, stable, accessible, and affordable home.** It serves as a roadmap for federal action to ensure state and local communities have sufficient resources and guidance to build the effective, lasting systems required to end homelessness. While it is a federal plan, local communities can use it to collaboratively develop local and systems-level plans for preventing and ending homelessness. To reach the Biden-Harris Administration's vision, the plan sets an **ambitious interim goal to reduce homelessness by 25% by January 2025** and sets us on a path to end homelessness for all Americans.

To develop this plan, USICH undertook a **comprehensive and inclusive process** to gather input from a broad range of perspectives. Through more than 80 listening sessions and 1,500 public comments, USICH received feedback

Within this plan, USICH is using the term "people of color" to be inclusive[4] of all racial groups other than non-Hispanic white, including Black/African American; American Indian/Alaska Native; Asian/Asian American; Latino/a; and; Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander. USICH acknowledges that the experiences of each of these groups is not the same and that the needs of each group must be uniquely considered and addressed upon implementation. For more information on terms used in this plan, see the Appendix C on Pages 88-95.

from organizations and people—including **more than 500 who have experienced homelessness**—who represent **nearly 650 communities** across nearly every state as well as tribes and territories. All of this input directly influenced *All In,* which was **created by USICH with collective thinking** of the 19 federal agencies that make up the council.

Although *All In* builds off former federal strategic plans to prevent and end homelessness, it is reflective of the Biden-Harris Administration's priorities. It goes further than any prior USICH federal strategic plan to **comprehensively advance equity and to address systemic racism** and the ways in which federal policies and practices have resulted in severe racial and other disparities in homelessness. While other plans have mentioned homelessness prevention, this plan includes specific strategies focused on **upstream prevention**. And *All In* aligns with the administration's existing work to transform social service systems—including the National Mental Health[5] and National Drug Control[6] strategies. This plan also builds upon the national Housing Supply Action Plan[7] that seeks to close the housing supply gap in the next five years.

How *All In: The Federal Strategic Plan* (FSP) Aligns With Other Biden-Harris Administration Work

Housing Supply Action Plan	National Mental Health Strategy	National Drug Control Strategy
Legislative and administrative actions to close the housing supply shortfall	A vision to transform how mental health is understood and treated	A whole-of-government call to action to combat overdose epidemic
FSP identifies ways to reform zoning and land-use policies and to reduce regulatory barriers. **See Housing & Supports Strategy 2:** Expand engagement, resources, and incentives for the creation of new supportive and affordable housing.	FSP pilots new approaches, expands pipeline of providers, and invests in peer support models. **See Housing & Supports Strategy 6:** Strengthen system capacity to address and meet the needs of people with chronic health conditions, including mental health conditions and/or substance use disorders.	FSP focuses on high-impact harm-reduction interventions. **See Housing & Supports Strategies 6 and 7:** Maximize current resources that can provide voluntary and trauma-informed supportive services and income supports to people experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

Ending homelessness requires an **all-hands-on-deck response** grounded in authentic collaboration. Upon release of this plan, USICH will immediately begin working with federal partners as well as local and state entities in the public and private sectors to **develop implementation plans** that will identify key activities, milestones, and metrics for making, tracking, and publicizing progress. USICH will regularly measure progress and update the implementation plans. The plan itself, *All In,* will be annually updated to reflect evolving evidence, input, and lessons.

This plan is built around three foundational pillars—**equity, data, and collaboration**—and three solution pillars—**housing and supports, homelessness response, and prevention**. Each pillar includes strategies the federal government will pursue to facilitate increased availability of and access to housing, economic security, health care, and stability for all Americans.

Summary of *All In: The Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness*

FOUNDATION PILLARS

Lead With Equity

Strategies to address racial and other disparities among people experiencing homelessness:

1. Ensure federal efforts to prevent and end homelessness promote equity and equitable outcomes.
2. Promote inclusive decision-making and authentic collaboration.
3. Increase access to federal housing and homelessness funding for American Indian and Alaska Native communities living on and off tribal lands.
4. Examine and modify federal policies and practices that may have created and perpetuated racial and other disparities among people at risk of or experiencing homelessness.

Use Data and Evidence to Make Decisions

Strategies to ground action in research, quantitative and qualitative data, and the perspectives of people who have experienced homelessness:

1. Strengthen the federal government's capacity to use data and evidence to inform federal policy and funding.
2. Strengthen the capacity of state and local governments, territories, tribes, Native-serving organizations operating off tribal lands, and nonprofits to collect, report, and use data.
3. Create opportunities for innovation and research to build and disseminate evidence for what works.

Collaborate at All Levels

Strategies to break down silos between federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial governments and organizations; public, private, and philanthropic sectors; and people who have experienced homelessness:

1. Promote collaborative leadership at all levels of government and across sectors.
2. Improve information-sharing with public and private organizations at the federal, state, and local level.

SOLUTION PILLARS

Scale Housing and Supports That Meet Demand

Strategies to increase supply of and access to safe, affordable, and accessible housing and tailored supports for people at risk of or experiencing homelessness:

1. Maximize the use of existing federal housing assistance.
2. Expand engagement, resources, and incentives for the creation of new safe, affordable, and accessible housing.
3. Increase the supply and impact of permanent supportive housing for individuals and families with complex service needs—including unaccompanied, pregnant, and parenting youth and young adults.
4. Improve effectiveness of rapid rehousing for individuals and families—including unaccompanied, pregnant, and parenting youth and young adults.
5. Support enforcement of fair housing and combat other forms of housing discrimination that perpetuate disparities in homelessness.
6. Strengthen system capacity to address the needs of people with disabilities and chronic health conditions, including mental health conditions and/or substance use disorders.
7. Maximize current resources that can provide voluntary and trauma-informed supportive services and income supports to people experiencing or at risk of homelessness.
8. Increase the use of practices grounded in evidence in service delivery across all program types.

Improve Effectiveness of Homelessness Response Systems

Strategies to help response systems meet the urgent crisis of homelessness, especially unsheltered homelessness:

1. Spearhead an all-of-government effort to end unsheltered homelessness.
2. Evaluate coordinated entry and provide tools and guidance on effective assessment processes that center equity, remove barriers, streamline access, and divert people from homelessness.
3. Increase availability of and access to emergency shelter—especially non-congregate shelter—and other temporary accommodations.
4. Solidify the relationship between CoCs, public health agencies, and emergency management agencies to improve coordination when future public health emergencies and natural disasters arise.
5. Expand the use of "housing problem-solving" approaches for diversion and rapid exit.
6. Remove and reduce programmatic, regulatory, and other barriers that systematically delay or deny access to housing for households with the highest needs.

Prevent Homelessness

Strategies to reduce the risk of housing instability for households most likely to experience homelessness:

1. Reduce housing instability for households most at risk of experiencing homelessness by increasing availability of and access to meaningful and sustainable employment, education, and other mainstream supportive services, opportunities, and resources.
2. Reduce housing instability for families, youth, and single adults with former involvement with or who are directly exiting from publicly funded institutional systems.
3. Reduce housing instability among older adults and people with disabilities—including people with mental health conditions and/or with substance use disorders—by increasing access to home and community-based services and housing that is affordable, accessible, and integrated.
4. Reduce housing instability for veterans and service members transitioning from military to civilian life.
5. Reduce housing instability for American Indian and Alaska Native communities living on and off tribal lands.
6. Reduce housing instability among youth and young adults.
7. Reduce housing instability among survivors of human trafficking, sexual assault, stalking, and domestic violence, including family and intimate partner violence