

GLOSSARY

Absolute homelessness

'Absolute homelessness' refers to an individual or family who are either living on the streets (including those who are living in tents, vacant buildings or in a car), staying in an emergency shelter or hostel, or staying temporarily with friends or family.

De-institutionalization

'De-institutionalization' occurs when an individual is discharged from an institution, such as a psychiatric hospital or detention facility, into the community. In recent years, there has been a systemic move toward re-integrating individuals into the community who were formerly housed permanently in institutions.

Housing

When 'housing' is referred to in this Plan as a goal it should be understood that it refers to safe, secure, affordable, adequate, accessible, permanent housing.

Relative homelessness

An individual or family is experiencing 'Relative homelessness' when they do not have safe, secure, adequate, accessible, permanent housing, or when they are spending greater than 50% of their income on housing.

Rent-geared-to-income housing

This is housing where rent is calculated as a percentage of the tenant's income.

Social, public, or not-for-profit housing

All of these terms refer to not-for-profit housing. Some of this housing is offered as 'rent-geared-to-income' housing.



Supportive Housing

This phrase refers to housing, usually permanent, in which tenants who require supportive services in order to maintain their housing and live in the community are afforded those supports.

Supportive Services

'Supportive services' are those services that assist individuals in moving from a state of homelessness toward being housed, or help to prevent homelessness. They range from legal assistance to prevent an eviction, to food-banks providing individuals and families with needed food, to in-house programs that allow people to maintain their housing.

Transitional Housing

A form of shelter where clients are allowed to stay for a longer period of time (usually up to one year) so that supportive services and programming can be made available in order to help that person obtain and keep permanent housing.

Unstable Housing

Absence of safe, secure, affordable, adequate, accessible, permanent housing.