



**Cecil County Health Department
Homelessness Funding Announcement
Homelessness Solutions Program
FY2026**

As the local administrative agency for the Cecil County Local Homelessness Coalition (LHC), within the Balance of State Continuum of Care (MD-514), the following Notice of Homelessness Solutions Program (HSP) funding in the amount of **\$327,513** is announced for the fiscal year 2025 with the potential for up to **\$425,767**.

The Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), Division of Neighborhood Revitalization, administers HSP, which brings a number of different funding sources together in order to provide one consolidated stream of funding for local Continuum of Care (CoCs) to address homelessness. The local Continuum of Care strategically allocates funding based on the needs of the community. Cecil County Health Department serves as the pass through agency and oversees the local application process as well as ongoing programmatic and fiscal oversight. Funding decisions and oversight are carried out by a subcommittee of the Local Homelessness Coalition.

HSP Priorities

HSP funding is prioritized for projects that:

- 1) Divert households who are at risk of becoming homeless through creative problem-solving, safe family/friendly, reunification and mediation, and prevent homelessness.
- 2) Rapidly and effectively connect people experiencing homelessness with mainstream benefits, income, and permanent housing opportunities;
- 3) Serve especially vulnerable groups such as unsheltered individuals, unaccompanied youth, domestic violence survivors, and individuals with complex medical and behavioral health needs;
- 4) Implement evidence based practices and demonstrate fidelity to best practice program models; and
- 5) Deliver services in a safe, inclusive, equitable, and accessible manner.

For eligible activities and cost, see the Attachment #1 titled ***FY26 HSP Eligible Activities & Costs***.

For specific DHCD funding initiatives, see the Attachment #2 titled ***FY26 Funding Priorities & Changes***.

Cecil County's collective application to DHCD will dedicate 50% of the funding to Rapid Rehousing in order to maximize the opportunity for the full funding amount.

Applicant Eligibility

Eligible sub-grantees may be government agencies or nonprofit organizations. They must demonstrate collaboration with local homelessness provider groups and local mainstream service providers, and are expected to participate in Cecil County planning of the homelessness services system. They also must comply with program guidelines and any applicable state and federal policies and procedures, including compliance with federal and state non-discrimination laws.

Sub-grantees must demonstrate:

- 1) effectiveness in connecting clients who are most in need of services with shelter and permanent housing;
- 2) acceptable past performance on federal- and state-administered grants;
- 3) organizational structure, operating process, and capacity;
- 4) participation in appropriate provider groups and local Continuum of Care meetings; and
- 5) organizational financial policy, controls, stability, and capacity, including the presence and accuracy of financial management systems, accounts, funds, reports, and other documentation.

Sub-grantees must have the capacity to enter data into the designated Homelessness Management Information System (HMIS) and comply fully with HMIS requirements.

FY25 funding covers an 18 month grant period of **July 1, 2025 – December 31, 2026**.

There is a 25% fiscal match requirement.

If homelessness prevention funds are awarded, one vendor will be selected to administer the funds on behalf of all residents of Cecil County.

Project applicants should ensure they apply for enough funding to cover all required aspects of the service component delivery if they do not have other supplemental funding sources available.

The population served with this funding must meet HUD income guidelines and/ or definitions of “homeless” or “at risk of homelessness” indicated by the grant source.

Applications should be submitted electronically by April 14th, 2025 via email to:

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