

U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness

2022 NAEH National Conference on Ending Homelessness Emerging Principles for Encampment Resolution and Their Effectiveness

Tuesday, July 26, 2022





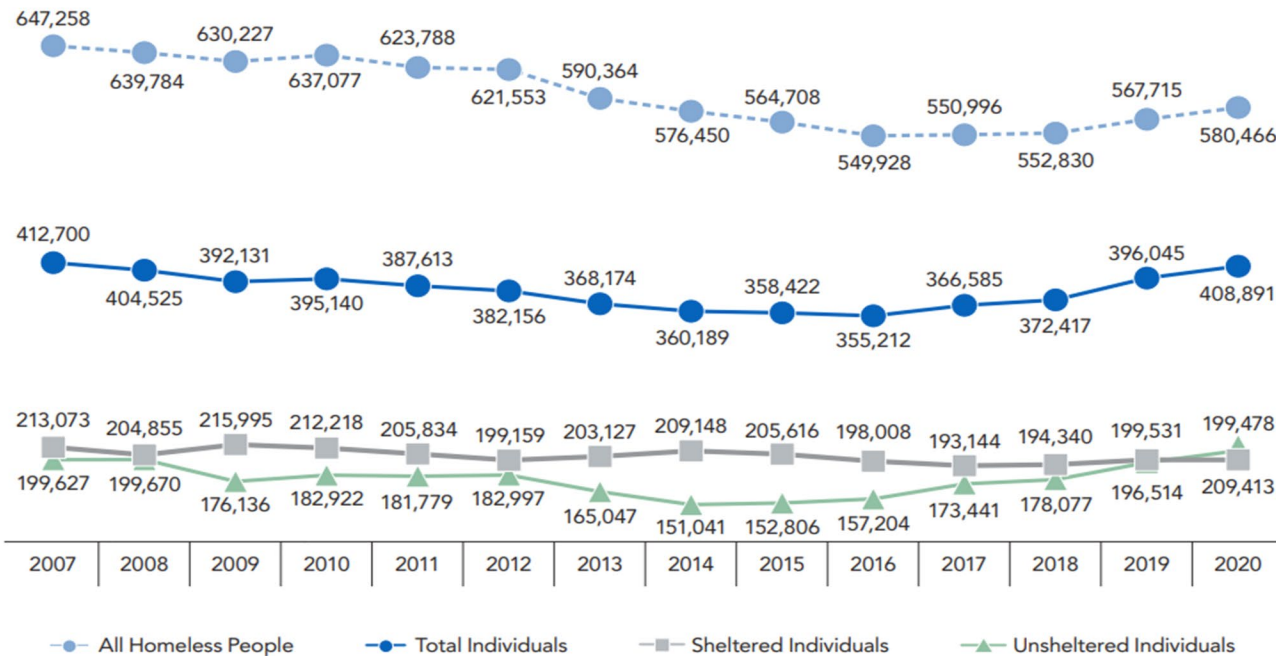
Overview

- Share federal updates on efforts to address unsheltered homelessness and encampments
- Highlight the new “7 Key Principles for Addressing Encampments”



State of Unsheltered Homelessness

EXHIBIT 2.1: PIT Estimates of Individuals Experiencing Homelessness
By Sheltered Status, 2007–2020



For the first time, in 2020, unsheltered homelessness exceeded sheltered homelessness among individuals.

HUD Definition of Homelessness
Individuals or families who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, including someone who is unsheltered.

Definition of Unsheltered
Having a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not meant for human habitation.



USICH and Federal Response

USICH and its member agencies recognize the urgent need for supporting communities in addressing encampments and formed a workgroup to identify short-term and longer-term actions.

The USICH Federal and National Partner **Workgroup on Encampment** workgroup consist of federal and national partners that inform USICH's efforts and provide a place for members to share information and coordinate activities to address encampments.



USICH and Federal Response

Publications

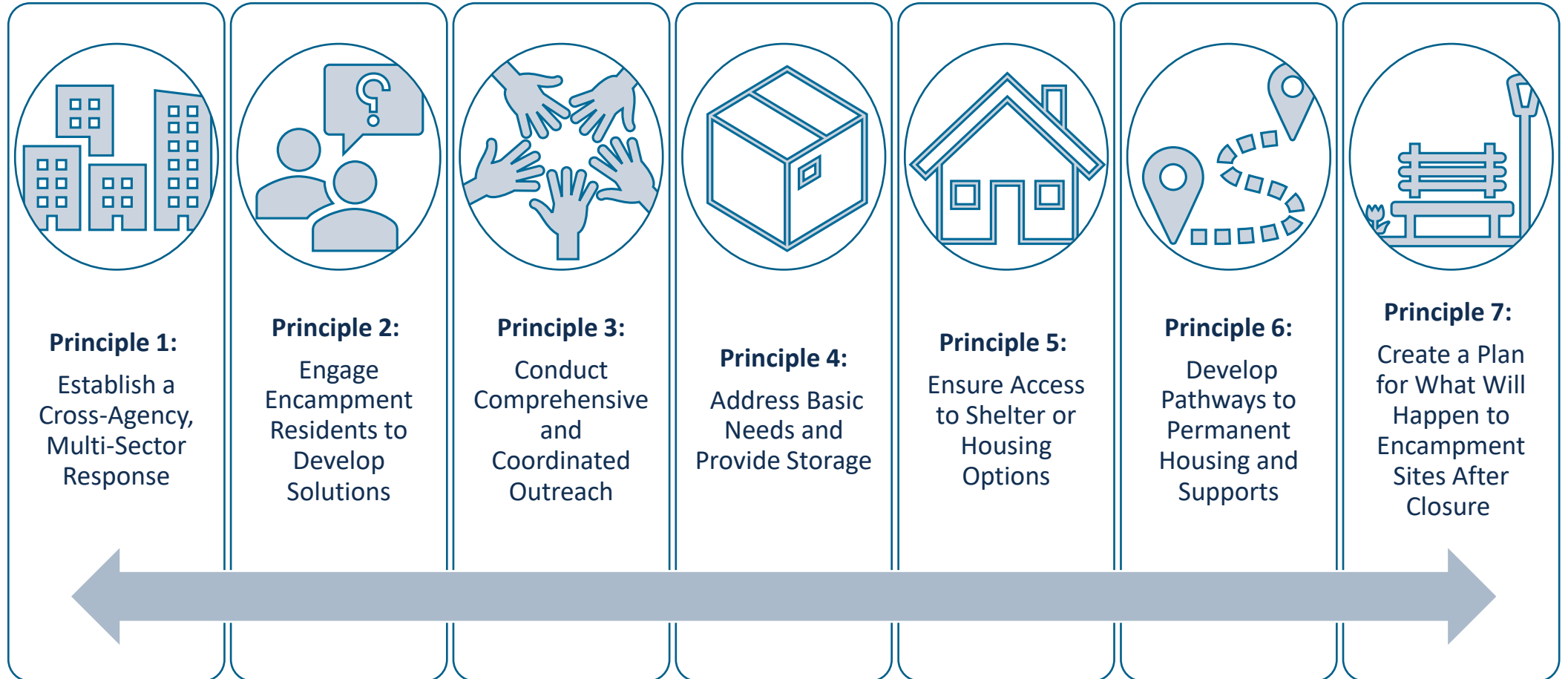
- [Responding to the Growing Crisis of Unsheltered Homelessness and Encampments](#)
- [What Other Cities Can Learn From Boston's Public Health Approach to Encampments](#)
- [7 Principles for Addressing Encampments](#)
- *Coming Soon: Community Spotlights*
- *Coming Soon: Resource Round-Up*

Guidance and Resources

- USICH Federal and National Partner Workgroup on Encampments
- USICH Senior Regional Advisors
- Upcoming USICH Federal Strategic Plan
- HUD [Unsheltered and Rural Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)



Principles for Addressing Encampments





Principle 1: Establish a Cross-Agency, Multi-Sector Response

- Command centers approach using daily coordination for all involved with encampment planning and response.
- Law enforcement may need to play a role in but should not drive the process.



Principle 2: Engage Encampment Residents to Develop Solutions

- Elevate the lived expertise of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness.
- Adequate time for outreach teams to engage residents in finding alternative shelter, housing, and service options.



Principle 3: Conduct Comprehensive and Coordinated Outreach

- Connect people directly to shelter and housing, mental health and treatment services, and health care.
- Sharing data and information and using a coordinated map to identify coverage and or gaps in outreach.



Principle 4: Address Basic Needs and Provide Storage

- Continue to provide public restrooms, parks, and other community spaces.
- Offer public services such as garbage collection, sharps containers, maintenance, and regular cleaning.
- Access to storage and special care to avoid destroying personal belongings .



Principle 5: Ensure Access to Shelter or Housing Options

- Encampments should not be closed unless there is access to low-barrier shelter or housing.
- Provide interim solutions until more permanent affordable housing options are available.
- Ensure voluntary, sanitary, and safe shelter with few programmatic requirements.



Principle 6: Develop Pathways to Permanent Housing and Supports

- Link people with permanent housing opportunities with the right level of services.
- Coordinate effort to mobilize available resources to move people as quickly as possible from homelessness into housing.



Principle 7: Create a Plan for What Will Happen to Encampment Sites After Closure

- Plans for former encampment sites should emphasize safety, accessibility, and inclusivity.
- Facilitate coordination among public works, service providers, and volunteer organizations to serve people after the encampment is gone.



Resources

- [Ending Homelessness for People Living in Encampments: Advancing the Dialogue | United States Interagency Council on Homelessness \(USICH\)](#)
- [Responses to Homelessness | Bureau of Justice Assistance \(ojp.gov\)](#)
- [COVID-19 Homeless System Response: Engaging Individuals with Lived Expertise - HUD Exchange](#)
- [Core-Components-of-Outreach-2019.pdf \(usich.gov\)](#)
- [Interim Guidance on People Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness | COVID-19 | CDC](#)
- [Protecting Health and Well-being of People in Encampments During an Infectious Disease Outbreak \(hudexchange.info\)](#)
- [Infectious Disease Toolkit for CoCs: Preventing and Managing the Spread of Infectious Disease within Encampments \(hudexchange.info\)](#)
- [Caution Sanctioned Encampments Safe Zones 052318.pdf \(usich.gov\)](#)
- [Model Transitions Document FINAL \(hud.gov\)](#)
- [Homelessness Among People Living in Encampments | HUD USER](#)
- [Case Studies: Ending Homelessness for People Living in Encampments | United States Interagency Council on Homelessness \(USICH\)](#)
- [COVID-19 Homeless System Response: Planning a Housing Surge to Accelerate Rehousing Efforts in Response to COVID-19 \(hudexchange.info\)](#)
- [COVID-19 Homeless System Response: Housing Surges: Special Considerations for Targeting People Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness \(hudexchange.info\)](#)
- [Microsoft PowerPoint - Crime Prevention through Environmental Design Final Presentation \(hud.gov\)](#)
- [The Curb-Cut Effect \(ssir.org\)](#)
- [spur gehl coexistence in public space.pdf](#)
- HUD [Unsheltered and Rural Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)



Other Recent USICH Guidance

- Federal **Health and Social Service Programs** That Support People Experiencing Homelessness
- **Expiring** Federal Provisions That May Impact Homelessness
- **COVID-19:** What Homeless Service Providers Need to Know
- 10 Strategies to Reduce Homelessness With the **American Rescue Plan**
- **Election** Guide for Homeless Service Providers



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