

**HOUSING FIRST AND RAPID RE-HOUSING AS KEY STRATEGIES IN ENDING HOMELESSNESS AND CREATING RESULTS IN 10 YEAR PLANS**

**WHEREAS**, people experiencing chronic homelessness are our most disabled and vulnerable citizens and most likely to die on the streets of our communities; and

**WHEREAS**, research has indicated people experiencing chronic homelessness comprise between 10 and 20% of all homeless persons, but consume 50% of the resources targeted to homelessness; and

**WHEREAS**, research has also shown that people experiencing chronic homelessness are very expensive in mainstream health, treatment, and law enforcement systems and, according to current research, may cost the community between \$35,000 and \$150,000 per person per year in their random ricocheting through such systems; and

**WHEREAS**, permanent housing is the central antidote to homelessness; and

**WHEREAS**, research has shown that providing permanent housing with wrap-around support services in the context of permanent housing, known as Housing First and Rapid Re-Housing, results in costs ranging from \$13,500 to \$25,000, resulting in the potential for significant cost savings to communities; and

**WHEREAS**, research studies across the country indicate that 85% of people experiencing chronic homelessness who move into Housing First and Rapid Re-housing options stabilize and maintain that housing; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness has disseminated Housing First and Rapid Re-Housing as a national innovation that is leading to results, and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has designated Housing First as an evidence-based practice; and

**WHEREAS**, the mayors and county executives of over 335 cities and counties have committed to develop and implement jurisdictionally led, community based 10 Year Plans to End Homelessness, in partnership with the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness; and

**WHEREAS**, most jurisdictionally led 10 Year Plans to End Homelessness now recognize Housing First as a core strategy in their 10 Year Plans to reduce and end chronic homelessness; and

**WHEREAS**, a number of communities implementing 10 Year Plans to End Homelessness with Housing First and Rapid Re-housing strategies are seeing reductions in the number of people experiencing chronic homelessness living on their streets and languishing in emergency shelters,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors recognizes Housing First and Rapid Re-housing as key strategies in ending the homelessness of the most vulnerable and disabled people in our communities; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the U.S. Conference of Mayors recognizes the effectiveness of the partnership between Mayors and the U. S. Interagency Council on Homelessness, manifested in the development of 10 Year Plans to End Homelessness that are leading to reductions in chronic homelessness.