

**U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness**  
**Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness**

**External Stakeholder Input Report: Region 10 Community Stakeholder Input**  
**March 3, 2010      Seattle, Washington**

**Attending:**

Steve Albertson, Community Voice Mail  
Kerry Aleshire, Forest Grove Police Department  
Jackie Anderson, Snohomish County  
Flo Beaumon, Catholic Community Services  
Flo Beaumon, CCS  
Howard Belodoff, Idaho Legal Aid Services  
Bill Block, Committee to End Homelessness  
Mary Brell Vujovic, Workforce Development Council  
Snohomish County  
Alan Brown, Catholic Community Services  
Tamara Brown, Solid Ground  
Cindy Burdine, Serenity House of Clallam County  
Donald Chamberlain, Sound Thinking  
Troy Christensen, Pierce County Human Services  
Laura Clark, Snohomish County Human Services  
Nick Codd, Building Changes  
Tara Connor, Plymouth Housing Group  
Jeff Conroy, St Vincent de Paul North Idaho  
Darlene Cook, Kitsap Community Resources  
Eileen Denham, City of Seattle  
Russell Dondero, Interfaith Committee on  
Homelessness, Washington County, Oregon  
Melinda Dyer, Office of Superintendent of Public  
Instruction  
Yvonne Eden, Associated Ministries  
Alison Eisinger, SKC Coalition on Homelessness  
Sally Erickson, City of Portland  
Annette Evans, Washington County Dept of Housing  
Services  
Nancy Fairbanks, Cocoon House  
David Figgat, Salvation Army  
Diane Gallegos, Habitat for Humanity Seattle South  
King County  
Beth Geagan, Balance Business  
Katherine Gerard, VAPSHCS  
Marla Gese, Pioneer Human Services  
Ronni Gilboa, Urban Rest Stop/Low Income Housing  
Institute  
Melinda Giovengo, YouthCare

Jenine Grey, Chief Seattle Club  
Janine Griggs, VAPSHCS  
Janice Haugen, King Co.  
Marilee Hill-Anderson, Sumner SD  
William Hobson, DESC  
Janice Hougen, King County  
Renee Houston, University of Puget Sound  
Elise Hui, Housing Authority of Yamhill County  
Joe Ingram, Vets Edge  
Robert Jackson, Taxpayer  
Kirsten Jewell, Kitsap Regional Coordinating Council  
Marc Jolin, JOIN  
Lindsey Legaspi, Snohomish County Human Services  
Jeff Lilley, Seattle's Union Gospel Mission  
Craig Lyons, Council for the Homeless  
Jackie MacLean, King County Dept. of Community &  
Human Services  
Nicole Macri, DESC (Downtown Emergency Service  
Center)  
Roberta Marsh, South Sound Outreach Services  
Karen Matson, Housing Hope  
Karen Matsuda, HHS  
Maggie Milcarek, Housing Consortium of Everett and  
Snohomish County  
Jim Miller, Millionair Club Charity  
Tina Minor, HHS  
Pete Munroe, Clark County  
Phoebe Nelson, Women's Resource Center of NCW  
Mike Nielson, Community Psych Clinic  
Grant O'Donnell, HHS OPHS  
Ellie Ottey, Pierce County Housing Authority  
Alan Painter, King County Executive Dow Constantine  
Suzi Pearson, AWAIC  
Dana Peterson, CCS/Phoenix Housing Network  
Neil Powers, United Way of King County  
Nola Renz, Helping Hand House  
Amy Reynolds, Share, Vancouver  
Mark Romick, AHFC  
Lydia Sanders, Battle Ground School District

Terry Schroeder, Kitsap Continuum of Care Coalition  
Theresa Slusher, Housing Authority of Thurston County  
Julia Sopalski, Opportunity Council Island Co.  
Vera Stoullil, Boys & Girls Aid  
Tim Sullivan, Yakima County Dept. of Human Services  
Debbie Thiele, City of Seattle  
Casey Trupin, Columbia Legal Services

Janice Tufte, WarmforWinter  
Adolph Valfre Jr., Housing Authority of Washington Co  
Dean Weitenhagen, Snohomish County  
Mia Wells, WA St. Coalition for the Homeless  
David Wilde, Open House Ministry  
Joann Zimmer, Graduate Student - Masters Candidate

*We thank you for your participation and apologize to anyone inadvertently left off this list.  
We tried our best to read the handwriting of each person who signed in for the meeting.*

### **USICH Staff**

Sharon Price and Paul Carlson

### **Facilitators**

Timothy Corey and Steve Donaldson

### **Meeting Summary**

Sharon Price welcomed the group and facilitated introductions. She then gave an overview of the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness and the framework for the Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness. The Plan will serve as a roadmap for joint action by the 19 Council agencies to guide the development of programs and budget proposals towards a set of measurable targets to pursue over a five-year period. USICH is centering its Plan on the belief – the moral foundation – “no one should experience homelessness—no one should be without a safe, stable place to call home.” There are five areas of concentration: Preventing and ending homelessness among 1) families with children, 2) youth, 3) Veterans, and 4) adults experiencing chronic homelessness; as well as 5) in the context of state and local communities, mobilize community participation, forge partnerships, and align resources.

The Council affirmed six core values to be reflected in the Plan:

- Homelessness is unacceptable.
- There are no “homeless people,” but rather people who have lost their homes who deserve to be treated with dignity and respect.
- Homelessness is expensive; it is better to invest in solutions.
- Homelessness is solvable; we have learned a lot about what works.
- Homelessness can be prevented.
- There is strength in collaboration and USICH can make a difference.

The Plan’s strategies will:

- identify and target to reach and match people with appropriate interventions;
- ensure access by people to needed programs, housing and services;
- retool crisis response to avert and shorten entry into homelessness;
- provide housing and supports;
- build opportunity such as jobs and education;
- enhance capacity in the service system to deliver quality; and
- document results.

The meeting facilitators introduced the World Café process, a conversational process that builds on previous conversations as people move between groups, cross-pollinate ideas, and discover new insights into the questions being discussed. Thank you to volunteers from Art of Hosting for their help to facilitate these conversations.

Small groups of three to five participants each discussed question one and recorded their key answers. After a short report-back session, the small groups were randomly re-mixed and the new groups discussed question two. The process was repeated for a discussion and recording of insights and answers to question three.

The questions for discussion:

1. What do we need to understand about the scope and causes of homelessness?
2. What should be the key goals and strategies of the plan that will take us toward that vision?
3. How can federal resources and practices be wisely aligned and cost-effectively applied to amplify our state/local work?

Before concluding the meeting, Sharon outlined the next steps in the development of the Plan and attendees were thanked for their participation.

Following the meeting, the responses were categorized into themes. The percentage of comments for each theme is listed for each question followed by the text of every comment, listed alphabetically by theme. USICH has used our best efforts to ensure accuracy in capturing and categorizing comments.

**Question 1: What do we need to understand about the scope and causes of homelessness?**

16%	Causes – Economic	Comments stating that homelessness is caused by faltering local economies, a disconnect between income and housing costs, or lack of employment opportunities.
13%	Impressions of Homelessness	Comments about the experience of homelessness itself.
9%	Causes – Myriad of Factors	Comments indicating there are numerous causes of homelessness, as opposed to one specific cause.
7%	Causes – Systemic Factors	Comments suggesting that factors such as entrenched poverty or inadequate education to prepare for future self-sufficiency cause homelessness.
6%	Communication (external)	Comments highlighting the need for enhanced communication between Federal agencies and communities, concerted strategies to raise public awareness, the need to make information on programs widely available, and for coordinated messaging from agencies.
6%	Miscellaneous	A comment that does not fit it any of the thematic codes.
5%	Causes – Mental Health/Substance Abuse	Comments suggesting that mental health and substance abuse issues and lack of access to or availability of treatment of these issues contribute to homelessness.
5%	Investment Target – Services	Comments indicating a need for increased funding for treatment services, early intervention, child-focused services, and life skills training for homeless people.
5%	Mainstream System Accountability	Comments on the responsibility of mainstream systems to address homelessness, and those that pertain to assessment and removal of barriers that drive people to homelessness or complicate access to solutions.
4%	Causes – Family/Violence	Comments related to family instability, violence, and lack of support networks as a cause of homelessness.
4%	Investment Target – Housing	Comments suggesting increased funding for housing solutions, including

		more affordable housing, housing vouchers, PSH, and other specialized housing models.
3%	Coordinated Interagency Strategy	Comments that suggest a need for holistic and coordinated planning across Federal agencies and mainstream systems to better address homelessness.
3%	Investment Target – Prevention & Rapid Re-Housing	Comments advocating for increased funding for prevention and rapid re-housing models.
2%	Coordinated Federal Grants	Comments suggesting the need to pool funding, better coordinate funding applications and grant program regulations, or align grant restrictions across agencies.
2%	Flexibility	Comments suggesting a need to maintain or enhance the flexibility and versatility of funding and programming for homeless services.
2%	Investment Target – Education/ Employment	Comments suggesting a need for increased funding and resources for education and employment strategies for homeless people.
2%	Investment Target – Regional Coordination/Planning	Comments pertaining to support or increased funding for regional coordination efforts and planning at the regional/local level.
2%	Investment Targets – General	General comments advocating more funding/resources for programs, communities, or subpopulations.
2%	Performance-based Funding	Comments promoting greater accountability for local programs and grantees, investment in performance, and the shifting of resources away from poorly performing strategies and programs.
2%	System Design	Comments relating to the promotion of effective system practices or recommended ways of designing homeless systems or delivering homeless assistance.
1%	Costs of Homelessness	Comments about the long-term impacts of homelessness and the subsequent costs of homelessness to mainstream systems.
1%	Definitions	Comments requesting consistent definitions and common requirements to document homelessness and other related terms.

**Question 1: What do we need to understand about the scope and causes of homelessness?**

A cause is generational impoverishment	Causes – economic
Credit ratings are not an accurate reflection of a person’s worth or success. It can be a barrier to success.	Causes – economic
Economy—not able to make a living wage	Causes – economic
Financial literacy, fiscal capacity	Causes – economic
Generational poverty	Causes – economic
Increasing trend in number of homeless, especially families with children—economic downturn	Causes – economic
Lack of affordable housing	Causes – economic
Lack of affordable housing	Causes – economic
Lack of affordable housing	Causes – economic

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Lack of affordable housing: strengthening people, teaching life skills does little when available affordable housing isn't there	Causes – economic
Living-wage jobs	Causes – economic
Out helping systems will break without jobs, health care (national economic stability)	Causes – economic
Poverty	Causes – economic
Poverty	Causes – economic
Rich/poor economic disparity	Causes – economic
So little knowledge/understanding about financial literacy	Causes – economic
Stability of housing	Causes – economic
Wages can't support	Causes – economic
Causes include domestic violence and family trauma. Same is true for youth	Causes - family/violence
Family breakdown is a big indicators	Causes - family/violence
Inadequate support systems	Causes - family/violence
Intrafamily conflict	Causes - family/violence
Limited social connections; lack of connections	Causes - family/violence
Chemical dependency	Causes – mental health/SA
Lack of resources for substance abuse and mental illness, now gambling addiction. Treatment and prevention	Causes – mental health/SA
Medical costs—lack of appropriate care	Causes – mental health/SA
Mental health issues	Causes – mental health/SA
Military service: PTSD/sexual trauma	Causes – mental health/SA
Riding the rails—depression—young people disconnected and marginalized.	Causes – mental health/SA
Causes are diverse and are becoming more diverse	Causes - myriad
Causes are many and involve mental health, chemical dependency, economic conditions, overall cost of living/affordability of housing, breakdown of families (1950s/60s: 2x annual income to purchase home, now 4x)	Causes - myriad
Individual circumstances that cause homelessness	Causes - myriad
Job losses/felonies	Causes - myriad
Needs of persons without housing can not be a “one size fits all” solution	Causes - myriad
Scope is broad; solutions haven't all been tapped. Homelessness is a 'boutique' issue. Those people who are homeless need x(sic) but in fact the needs are diverse and span many departments/institutions.	Causes - myriad
So many components as to why a person is homeless. Need to take into consideration race, age, sexual orientation, culture	Causes - myriad
Systems are inter-related (jobs, healthcare, education, etc.) It is not just housing!	Causes - myriad
Uniqueness of every situation.	Causes - myriad
Varieties of homeless situations	Causes - myriad
A systemic issue: sometimes the system causes people to be homeless due to rules and regulations that do not account for individual needs. Lack of integrated federal funding approach causes homelessness.	Causes – systemic factors
Failures of social structures—education system government	Causes – systemic factors

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Foster care	Causes – systemic factors
Fundamental underlying causes: Loss of compassion for other (as a society)/selfishness	Causes – systemic factors
Homelessness is a symptom of the breakdown of our society	Causes – systemic factors
Lack of equal access to opportunity: education/employment based on group and individual differences	Causes – systemic factors
Structural issue: requires structural solutions.	Causes – systemic factors
Youth: abuse, cracks in system, lack of age, appropriate developmental options for housing and services	Causes – systemic factors
A bellweather: have to address idea that it is a choice	Communication
Knowing of services—integration of services—211	Communication
Lack of understanding about issues	Communication
People don't choose to be homeless, but some people think that	Communication
People don't understand how ordinary homelessness is. People don't realize how close they are.	Communication
That educating our society will reduce stereotypes that lay blame with the person without housing	Communication
Why do we have to convince people to act?	Communication
Funding streams are complex and don't work together well to help stakeholders	Coordinated Federal Grants
Needs are dramatically different based on regions of the country, the state, or counties. There has to be the opportunity to adjust funding according to geographic needs.	Coordinated Federal Grants
Failure of political leadership to address long-term poverty (invisible poor). Need political will by key elected officials at local/state/federal levels and this must be part of the FSP package	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Many sides but no one is in charge overall.	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Need for complete system response: police, DA, mental health, housing	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Impacts on other service providers like police, both financial and staff morale	Costs of homelessness
Definition of homeless, different per agency, etc.	Definitions
Not everyone needs the same services; need to be flexible and have an array of housing and services available	Flexibility
We need more flexibility and clarity around funding	Flexibility
Diverse group of people: children, youth aging out of foster care, seniors, vets, across socio-economic norms	Impressions of homelessness
Everyone is impacted. Homeless are of all age, race, ethnicity, and background	Impressions of homelessness
Homelessness is preventable	Impressions of homelessness
Individuals who are chronically homeless are not going away while the ranks of individuals experiencing homelessness are increasing, particularly families and youth	Impressions of homelessness
Invisible nature/disrespect	Impressions of homelessness
Scope is growing and composition is changing, particularly with the current economic conditions	Impressions of homelessness

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Scope of homelessness is growing	Impressions of homelessness
Solvable	Impressions of homelessness
That it is both chronics and families	Impressions of homelessness
The cause of homelessness is different than what keeps a person homeless	Impressions of homelessness
The label of chronic is damaging and unproductive. Homelessness is not a disease.	Impressions of homelessness
The solution of homelessness is to allow people varying opportunities to make changes	Impressions of homelessness
Those experiencing homelessness are not encouraged to improve/grow/graduate.	Impressions of homelessness
Understand that “housing” may be more frightening to some, due to expectation and fear of failure, than to remain homeless	Impressions of homelessness
We think we may have a good grasp on the scope and causes of homelessness	Impressions of homelessness
What is lacking is ladder to climb out to living wage jobs	Investment target – ed/emp
Working poor need livable wages	Investment target – ed/emp
How to produce more affordable units with rental assistance	Investment target – housing
Lack of emergency shelter to catch first time youth become homeless	Investment target – housing
Maybe increase incentives to landlords—tax credits for individual landlords who will rent to low income people with or without rental assistance	Investment target – housing
Shelter care system: families with children, men with children, single men	Investment target – housing
We lack affordable housing, including rural/suburban areas where multi-family dwellings, mobile parks are banned or eliminated	Investment target – housing
Energy and resource are focused at the end, rather than prevention	Investment target – prevention & RR
Prevention and education: help people develop resiliency and coping mechanisms to deal with life. The challenge is the loss of sound networks/support	Investment target – prevention & RR
We don’t address the scope and the causes. We do not focus on prevention; we’re not productive about the causes. We’re trying to fix instead of prevent.	Investment target – prevention & RR
Coordinated effort to decrease duplication of services	Investment target - regional coord/plng
Fixing small things like not releasing prisoners to the street (especially at 9:00pm or midnight) is imperative. Not just focus on chronic homelessness but catch people at various stages along the way before they fall into this category	Investment target - regional coord/plng
Availability of substance abuse treatment, mental health treatment and education is vital to ending homelessness	Investment target – services
Lack of resources for substance abuse and mental illness, now gambling addiction. Treatment and prevention	Investment target – services
Reliable transportation	Investment target – services
There is a lack of outreach. Trouble identifying who needs help.	Investment target – services
Transportation	Investment target – services
We have made progress in embracing/understanding “Housing Ready” concept is not apt and that Housing First works. But we don’t have the resources to provide basic services and shelter for people.	Investment target – services

It is the canary in the mine but focusing on children the cross-generational	Investment targets – general
Taxes: appropriate human-centered redistribution of wealth	Investment targets – general
Current programs still leave some people out (felons, etc)	Mainstream system
	accountability
Inappropriate discharge	Mainstream system
	accountability
Reduce barriers to accessing housing	Mainstream system
	accountability
So many barriers—extensive paperwork. There is a problem with accessing certain programs.	Mainstream system
	accountability
Systems are too complex for individuals and families to navigate	Mainstream system
	accountability
Urban/rural access to resources	Mainstream system
	accountability
Biggest predictor of youth homelessness itself	Misc
Homelessness should be a consequence of crisis	Misc
Immigrant/refugee population-resettlement	Misc
Problem has been around for a very long time and we’ve tried to let the market address it and it hasn’t worked because of the scope of the issue	Misc
There is a fundamental disagreement in our country about whether the government is responsible for making sure everyone has a home and healthcare and a job.	Misc
Therefore we get into a narrow list of solutions.	Misc
Throw away rapid rehousing	Misc
Homelessness is a LOCAL issue and funding should be available and measured outcomes without restrictive access to certain populations	Performance-based funding
We cream for outcomes	Performance-based funding
Housing AND services should be tied together.	System Design
There needs to be entrances to housing along a continuum based on individual sufficiency levels...from emergency shelter to permanent affordable continuum.	System Design

**Question 2: What should be the key goals and strategies of the plan that will take us toward this vision?**

19%	Investment Target – Housing	Comments suggesting increased funding for housing solutions, including more affordable housing, housing vouchers, PSH, and other specialized housing models.
10%	Coordinated Interagency Strategy	Comments that suggest a need for holistic and coordinated planning across Federal agencies and mainstream systems to better address homelessness.
10%	Mainstream System Accountability	Comments on the responsibility of mainstream systems to address homelessness, and those that pertain to assessment and removal of barriers that drive people to homelessness or complicate access to solutions.



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9%	Investment Targets – General	General comments advocating more funding/resources for programs, communities, or subpopulations.
8%	Investment Target – Education/ Employment	Comments suggesting a need for increased funding and resources for education and employment strategies for homeless people.
8%	Investment Target – Prevention & Rapid Re-Housing	Comments advocating for increased funding for prevention and rapid re-housing models.
8%	Investment Target – Services	Comments indicating a need for increased funding for treatment services, early intervention, child-focused services, and life skills training for homeless people.
7%	Flexibility	Comments suggesting a need to maintain or enhance the flexibility and versatility of funding and programming for homeless services.
7%	System Design	Comments relating to the promotion of effective system practices or recommended ways of designing homeless systems or delivering homeless assistance.
5%	Coordinated Federal Grants	Comments suggesting the need to pool funding, better coordinate funding applications and grant program regulations, or align grant restrictions across agencies.
3%	Communication (external)	Comments highlighting the need for enhanced communication between Federal agencies and communities, concerted strategies to raise public awareness, the need to make information on programs widely available, and for coordinated messaging from agencies.
2%	Potential Revenue	Comments presenting ideas on new revenue sources that could be used to fund proposed interventions.
2%	Vision of Success/Indicators of Success	Comments regarding statements or goals pertaining to what a successful homeless system would look like.
1%	Causes – Mental Health/Substance Abuse	Comments suggesting that mental health and substance abuse issues and lack of access to or availability of treatment of these issues contribute to homelessness.
1%	Data Collection and Reporting	Comments advocating for consistent and streamlined data collection and reporting requirements across agencies, including issues with HMIS.
1%	Definitions	Comments requesting consistent definitions and common requirements to document homelessness and other related terms.
1%	Innovation	

**Question 2: What should be the key goals and strategies of the plan that will take us toward this vision?**

Safety nets-mental health, shelters-accessible to any one at any time De-politicize harm-reduction Education strategy. Capitalize on data that we have (federal partners or	Causes – mental health/SA Communication Communication
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Eliminate homelessness as a stigma	Communication
Shift in community values and responsibilities through education. "Reduction in gaps between income groups."	Communication
At federal level, interagency blending of funding which is then given in a "blovk grant" to states to funnel down to communities without prescribed regulations except to have outcome being ending homelessness	Coordinated Federal Grants
De-silo public funding and programs	Coordinated Federal Grants
Develop integrated funding streams. Address opportunity gap through a wider array of enriched services	Coordinated Federal Grants
Implement a system of federal funding that allows local communities to respond to their specific needs/plans, while holding them accountable for ultimate outcomes. For example, McKinney does not provide incentives to innovate on the local level.	Coordinated Federal Grants
Incorporate blended funding between federal agencies that is on-going and adjusted for inflation ( ex. HUD-VASH perhaps HUD TANF?)	Coordinated Federal Grants
No unfunded initiatives	Coordinated Federal Grants
Coordinated infrastructure (data-eval)	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Develop an integrated and streamlined application process for federally funded programs, including housing, benefits, health, etc; Ideally a system that can also be used by local providers to improve access to local services	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Develop long-term commitment public policy to end homelessness married with fund resource	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Eliminate silos: USICH models coordination, collaboration, integration	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
More integration, coordination, from mainstream res-shift in political/government values	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Needs to be a collaborative effort among the agencies in this room and elsewhere as applicable. Could include legislative.	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Private-public partnerships	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Public and political will	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Re-examine funding priorities and distribution	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Require collaboration partnership for funding	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Shift in priorities from individual to community	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Strengthen collaborative partnerships	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Consistent clear outcomes and reporting that serves each of the levels of government	Data Collection and Reporting
One inclusive definition of homelessness	Definitions
Allow local entities to be flexible with funds, rules, and regulations	Flexibility

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Continue HPRP-style interventions with greater flexibility	Flexibility
Ditch cookie cutter approach. Allow individual plans and discretion of providers and decreased regulation so can serve more people but still be held accountable	Flexibility
Establish Continuum of care that matches individual/community needs: Fluid enough to allow for flexibility	Flexibility
Flexible program funding for unique community needs (housing, addiction, counseling, education)	Flexibility
Funding should be flexible to accommodate local communities, demographics rural/urban, population, etc. Start/stop of funding is difficult for agencies and the homeless.	Flexibility
Greater flexibility in policy and funding	Flexibility
Providers learn to be flexible	Flexibility
Evidence-based practices. Speed up the documenting and approval of EBP to be able to use HHS and VA funds for innovative services that are outside of the mainstream. For example, Housing First is NOT considered an Evidence-Based Practice. Housing First and Harm Reduction go hand in hand.	Innovation
Allowing and supporting education systems to serve children and adults "Where they are"	Investment target – ed/emp
Education	Investment target – ed/emp
Education	Investment target – ed/emp
Education to create resiliency	Investment target – ed/emp
Employment opportunities	Investment target – ed/emp
Employment: livable wage with benefits, meaningful work (keep people engaged), shift in wealth distribution	Investment target – ed/emp
Job creation	Investment target – ed/emp
Jobs program with living wage	Investment target – ed/emp
Structure McKinney-Vento education so funding follows the child	Investment target – ed/emp
Affordable housing	Investment target – housing
Ample diverse. Supportive, affordable housing and/or living wage	Investment target – housing
Appropriate proportional level of affordable housing	Investment target – housing
Better access (more) to housing appropriate to populations experiencing homelessness, i.e., shelter, permanent housing, rental assistance	Investment target – housing
Develop shelter system infrastructure as first responder for youth	Investment target – housing
Fund affordable housing and healthcare	Investment target – housing
Greater sensitivity to culturally specific need with accessible housing	Investment target – housing
HUD's budget will include a massive re-investment in new and rehabilitated and repurposed housing. We can use some vouchers, but we saw HUD and the federal government dis-invest in public and affordable housing over 30 years and we need to reverse that.	Investment target – housing
Increase capacity of affordable housing	Investment target – housing
Increase funding for Section 8 and other housing subsidies	Investment target – housing
Increase Housing First options/availability	Investment target – housing
Increase stock of truly affordable housing	Investment target – housing

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Increase the stock of agency-owned affordable and subsidized housing.	Investment target – housing
Obtain funding; partner with housing authorities and local agencies, Faith-based organization supporting the homeless	
More affordable, accessible housing	Investment target – housing
More cooperative housing ventures.	Investment target – housing
More housing subsidies	Investment target – housing
More low income housing available and support services for chronic homeless	Investment target – housing
More permanent, supportive housing	Investment target – housing
Rapid rehousing on a "continuum" of definition. Possibly transitional units with intent of moving to RRH in permanent units	Investment target – housing
Shelter on demand-enough beds for all who come	Investment target – housing
Significant increase in federal housing funding for very and extremely low income households	Investment target – housing
Subsidized housing for all who need it. Housing First with "a la carte" services	Investment target – housing
Variety of housing supported trailers/apartments	Investment target – housing
Catch people on the front end by focusing more on prevention, freeing up resources and resulting in cost savings.	Investment target – prevention & RR
Fund prevention: families and individuals, keep in home, family preservation	Investment target – prevention & RR
More prevention resources move further upstream. Intervention before crisis occurs	Investment target – prevention & RR
Prevention focus to eliminate any further households entering homelessness	Investment target – prevention & RR
Prevention plans at all levels for integrative results.	Investment target – prevention & RR
Prevention programs that include services, flexibility	Investment target – prevention & RR
Prevention, prevention, prevention	Investment target – prevention & RR
Prevention: coordinated support (subsidy, education, employment, etc.	Investment target – prevention & RR
Prevention: services and resources	Investment target – prevention & RR
Enhanced 211 I/R systems nationwide	Investment target – services
Enriched services in place	Investment target – services
For youth, engage in family intervention	Investment target – services
Healthcare	Investment target – services
Increase in available human services	Investment target – services
Making it easier for people to get diverse services with coordinated access.	Investment target – services
Support agency to give life skills	Investment target – services
Tailored services/resolve benefit cliffs	Investment target – services
Universal healthcare, mental health, addiction treatment for everyone	Investment target – services
Adequate funding	Investment targets – general
Culturally relevant/responsive programs	Investment targets – general

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Emergency outreach and shelter for youth (safety)	Investment targets – general
Fund systems not programs-be strategic	Investment targets – general
Get HUD funded at level it was in 1970s	Investment targets – general
Infrastructure: housing, transportation, education	Investment targets – general
Invest in people from beginning of life-home nursing visits, early intervention, early learning. Do things because they work not because they are cheap.	Investment targets – general
Long-term commitments for O&M funds for programs. MASSIVE commitment of resources by federal government	Investment targets – general
Programs that meet the needs of the whole family	Investment targets – general
Reinvestment by federal government in strengthening the middle class on the same level as post WWII	Investment targets – general
Tax credit program that serves the interests of the investors. HUD exists because there are people who fall out of the market. Seems counter-intuitive to come up with a solely market-based solution. There may be ways to improve the Tax Credit program, but it's based on competitiveness in the market locally and nationally.	Investment targets – general
Access to health care for all low income people and revisit policies on involuntary hospitalization	Mainstream system accountability
Any agency or institution receiving funds (local, state, federal) comply and have a discharge plan as well	Mainstream system accountability
Develop better coordination of access through better outreach services and elimination of barriers to access	Mainstream system accountability
Develop resources to allow for discharge planning from institutions, i.e., hospitals, prisons, military, etc. Plans should include housing and other services appropriate for each individual	Mainstream system accountability
Develop strategy to resolve benefit cliffs for people. Example, if someone is on TANF and begins to excel, don't drop their child care benefits too early.	Mainstream system accountability
Encourage system change through collaboration to reduce barriers for persons seeking to prevent/end homelessness.	Mainstream system accountability
Enforce discharge plan development and implementation by jails, foster care, hospitals, and mental health	Mainstream system accountability
Fewer regulative barriers to housing	Mainstream system accountability
Quicker response by government	Mainstream system accountability
Reduce section 8 barriers	Mainstream system accountability
Re-entry program with housing and services for all leaving state/federal systems of care	Mainstream system accountability
Streamlining SSI process	Mainstream system accountability
Close the jails-redirect the funds	Potential revenue
Raise taxes and fund National Housing Trust. Fund to \$10B a year. The crisis of homelessness is not a strategy problem, it is a resource problem and a leadership and political will problem.	Potential revenue
Assessment of all family members	System Design

Centralized intake with on-site staff responding to particular need	System Design
Community courts	System Design
Establish common entry point	System Design
Programs that create motivation for progress	System Design
Unified point of referral for at risk tenancies	System Design
Universal Assessment System for homeless so placed in programs that solve all needs	System Design
Used shared housing model with room for seniors	System Design
A more equitable society	Vision of Success/Indicators of Success
No one homeless due to medical expenses	Vision of Success/Indicators of Success

**Question 3: How can federal resources and practices be wisely-aligned and cost-effectively applied to amplify our state/local work?**

17%	Flexibility	Comments suggesting a need to maintain or enhance the flexibility and versatility of funding and programming for homeless services.
14%	Coordinated Federal Grants	Comments suggesting the need to pool funding, better coordinate funding applications and grant program regulations, or align grant restrictions across agencies.
14%	Coordinated Interagency Strategy	Comments that suggest a need for holistic and coordinated planning across Federal agencies and mainstream systems to better address homelessness.
12%	Mainstream System Accountability	Comments on the responsibility of mainstream systems to address homelessness, and those that pertain to assessment and removal of barriers that drive people to homelessness or complicate access to solutions.
8%	System Design	Comments relating to the promotion of effective system practices or recommended ways of designing homeless systems or delivering homeless assistance.
7%	Data Collection and Reporting	Comments advocating for consistent and streamlined data collection and reporting requirements across agencies, including issues with HMIS.
7%	Investment Targets – General	General comments advocating more funding/resources for programs, communities, or subpopulations.
5%	Performance-based Funding	Comments promoting greater accountability for local programs and grantees, investment in performance, and the shifting of resources away from poorly performing strategies and programs.
3%	Consumer/stakeholder participation	Comments encouraging input from consumers and other front-line and local stakeholders in the planning and decision-making processes.

3%	Investment Target – Prevention & Rapid Re-Housing	Comments advocating for increased funding for prevention and rapid re-housing models.
2%	Costs of Homelessness	Comments about the long-term impacts of homelessness and the subsequent costs of homelessness to mainstream systems.
2%	Definitions	Comments requesting consistent definitions and common requirements to document homelessness and other related terms.
2%	Investment Target – Services	Comments indicating a need for increased funding for treatment services, early intervention, child-focused services, and life skills training for homeless people.
2%	Potential Revenue	Comments presenting ideas on new revenue sources that could be used to fund proposed interventions.
2%	Technical Assistance (TA)	Comments related to the need for training and provision of technical assistance to improve use of federal resources and to disseminate effective strategies and best practices.
2%	Vision of Success/Indicators of Success	Comments regarding statements or goals pertaining to what a successful homeless system would look like.

**Question 3: How can federal resources and practices be wisely-aligned and cost-effectively applied to amplify our state/local work?**

A lot of policy seems to come from east coast. We say “Go west”. Allow for more input from west coast or provide more decision-making power at local level	Consumer/stakeholder participation
Programs designed for end user based on listening to need. Community meetings allow end users to define type of unit needed	Consumer/stakeholder participation
Duplicate HUD/VASH with TANF, Medicaid, Admin of Children and Families, DOL, and SAMHSA—coordinated application process	Coordinated Federal Grants
Federal provisions that allow grant funds to be extended or rolled-over for following years if not expensed. Many reasons why this may happen.	Coordinated Federal Grants
Following WA Commerce lead, merge silos of some federal funding. Use USICH as the vehicle, since so many departments are represented	Coordinated Federal Grants
Single blended comprehensive funding model with one reporting mechanism	Coordinated Federal Grants
Single source funding stream from federal level	Coordinated Federal Grants
Streamline application process, data collection and reporting across federal systems	Coordinated Federal Grants
Streamline applications and reporting for federal funding stream across agencies (HUD/HHS/DOL)	Coordinated Federal Grants
Streamline process to open universal application, reporting, outcomes	Coordinated Federal Grants
Better integrate education and housing aspects of McKinney to address funding shortcomings of educational side	Coordinated Interagency Strategy

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**External Stakeholder Input Report: Region 10 Community – Seattle, Washington**

Collaboration, coordination and cooperation must be mandated from leadership	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Consistency of rules through different branches of government	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Develop community model first and then make decisions/collaborate with feds “one pot”	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Focus on permanent, collaborative approaches with ongoing commitments to programs. Fund multiple years	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Intra- and inter-agency coordination is critical (too many intra-agency conflicts). To solve homelessness, it doesn’t happen at any one agency level	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
More strength, authority to USICH to increase success. Go team	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
We should know by now how to wisely align and cost-effectively apply federal resources to amplify state/local/tribal work	Coordinated Interagency Strategy
Housing saves money for systems, mental health, corrections...cost avoidance	Costs of homelessness
Streamline application process, data collection and reporting across federal systems	Data Collection and Reporting
Streamline applications and reporting for federal funding stream across agencies (HUD/HHS/DOL)	Data Collection and Reporting
Streamline process to open universal application, reporting, outcomes	Data Collection and Reporting
Streamlined consistent reporting and outcomes—housing stability period	Data Collection and Reporting
One definition of homelessness	Definitions
Be more flexible.	Flexibility
Consider more flexibility and alignment at the local level for decisions surrounding funding	Flexibility
Continued HPRP-type service funding with greater flexibility	Flexibility
Don’t insist on national standardization; allow local communities and their plans to drive funding allocations; don’t prescribe approaches as these many or may not be appropriate to local plans; hold communities accountable for outcomes.	Flexibility
Flexibility (stop the threats to McKinney service only projects)	Flexibility
Flexibility in service allowable costs	Flexibility
Fund systems rather than programs allowing more local flexibility.	Flexibility
Make federal funding programs respect local priorities	Flexibility
More flexibility in how to use funding on local level as causes of homelessness are complex—food, transportation—just so long as outcome show we have kept/took people out of homelessness. Let us design funding to meet community “pockets” of need.	Flexibility
Non-competitive/formula based according to needs of community including cost of living and per capita	Flexibility
Continued HPRP-type service funding with greater flexibility	Investment target – prevention & RR
Expand prevention priority and dollars in federal programs	Investment target – prevention & RR



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Stop federal requirements to decrease funding for services	Investment target – services
Consistent federal funding to leverage and maximize local efforts. When locals see a commitment from federal, added funds and supports provided.	Investment targets – general
Federal homeless connect for funding	Investment targets – general
Pay for administration	Investment targets – general
Training opportunities, expertise, way to pay for	Investment targets – general
Change federal rules and regulations to allow and encourage local matching funding. Don't present barriers.	Mainstream system accountability
Decentralize the process by which type of units and persons with access to them is determined	Mainstream system accountability
Equal access to food, health, education, housing, to combat poverty	Mainstream system accountability
Removing disincentives that make it so difficult to go back to work and develop careers	Mainstream system accountability
Simplify tax-credit financing; decrease paperwork	Mainstream system accountability
Streamline regulation and dispose of those not needed.	Mainstream system accountability
VA: remove per diem requirement for transitional housing. Increase outreach, Housing First	Mainstream system accountability
Be data driven but not institutionally so	Performance-based funding
More emphasis on outcomes	Performance-based funding
Recognize that “success” is different for different sets of people	Performance-based funding
A fair taxation system that will support adequate funding	Potential revenue
Create programs with aligned entry criteria across service needs	System Design
Eligibility is determined in one centralized data base.	System Design
Incentives to move people off of section 8 assistance or other types of assistance	System Design
Model federal C-J re-entry plans	System Design
Re-design employment program to serve individuals with limited skills—shift to reasonable outcomes	System Design
Bestpractices.gov	Technical Assistance (TA)
Eligible services are barrier-free, judgment free, and based on homelessness or imminent risk of homelessness	Vision of Success/Indicators of Success

Seattle Community Stakeholder Meeting Harvest

