



- Rapid Re-housing
- Permanent Supportive Housing
- Other Permanent Housing
- Housing Choice Voucher (HCV)
- Public Housing
- Non-subsidized Affordable Rental Housing
- Subsidized Access Affordable Homeownership

# DEFINITIONS

## CHARLOTTE-MECKLENBURG HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS ECOSYSTEM

### PREVENTION

**Prevention** is a category targeting households facing housing instability who have not yet lost their housing. Prevention includes community-wide interventions aimed at changing systems and structures that perpetuate housing instability; cross-sector collaboration and coordination to reduce the prevalence of homelessness; and targeted interventions including financial and legal assistance to help households maintain their housing.

### DIVERSION

**Diversion** is a category targeting households who are homeless and seeking emergency shelter. Diversion helps households resolve their immediate housing crisis by accessing alternatives to entering emergency shelter or the experience of unsheltered homelessness. Diversion assistance includes problem-solving to identify an immediate, alternate housing arrangement or financial assistance such as a bus pass to stay with a family member.

### TEMPORARY HOUSING

**Emergency Shelter.** A facility with the primary purpose of providing temporary shelter for people experiencing homelessness. It includes shelters that are open seasonally and year-round. This housing type is including the Continuum of Care (CoC)'s Housing Inventory Count and reported as part of the annual Point-in-Time (PIT) Count to HUD.

**Transitional Housing.** Temporary housing usually coupled with supportive services to facilitate the movement of homeless individuals and families to permanent housing within a reasonable amount of time (usually 24 months). This housing type is including the Continuum of Care (CoC)'s Housing Inventory Count and reported as part of the annual Point-in-Time (PIT) Count to HUD.

#### **Other Transitional Housing**

Other non-emergency, temporary housing types including institutional and residential settings such as jails, hospitals or mental health and/or substance use treatment programs for people experiencing homelessness.

### PERMANENT HOUSING

**Rapid Re-housing (RRH).** Short-term rental subsidy (up to 24 months) designed to help households quickly exit homelessness, return to housing in the community, and not become homeless again. RRH typically combines financial assistance and supportive services to help households access and stabilize in housing.

**Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH).** Long-term rental subsidy (3+ years) designed to provide housing and supportive services to assist homeless households with a disability or families with an adult or child member with a disability to achieve housing stability.

**Other Permanent Housing (OPH).** Medium-term rental subsidy (1 - 3 years) designed to help households quickly exit homelessness, return to housing in the community, and not become homeless again. While OPH is longer than Rapid Re-housing, it also typically combines financial assistance and supportive services to help households access and stabilize in housing. In Charlotte-Mecklenburg, OPH exists through an arrangement between the Charlotte Housing Authority (CHA) and several local housing programs.

**Housing Choice Voucher (HCV).** The HCV program is the federal government's major program for assisting very low-income families, the elderly, and the disabled to afford decent, safe, and sanitary housing in the private market. The Charlotte Housing Authority (CHA) is part of the Moving to Work (MTW) Demonstration Program, which allows CHA the flexibility to combine federal funds and HCV program into a "block grant." The HCV program operates in multiple ways including: Tenant-based HCV, HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program, Family Unification Program (FUP), Family Self-Sufficiency, Supportive Housing Partnerships and Project-Based Vouchers (PBV).

**Public Housing.** Public Housing was established to provide quality and safe rental housing opportunities for eligible extremely low-income families, older adults, and persons with disabilities. Households generally pay about 30% of their income for rent and utilities. Public housing is managed and operated by the Charlotte Housing Authority.

**Non-subsidized Affordable Rental Housing.** A rental housing unit that does not require a subsidy or other financial assistance to make it affordable. This means that the household does not pay more than 30% of their income on housing related expenses. This definition also includes Naturally Occurring Affordable Housing (NOAH).

**Subsidized Access Affordable Housing.** An affordable housing unit combined with down-payment assistance or program participation that enables a household to obtain homeownership. A household may or may not receive ongoing financial assistance to afford their housing.