OFFICE OF HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION

ANNUAL UPDATE

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Social Services & Public Safety Committee
October 20, 2026

LEXINGTON

Overview

- The Office of Homelessness Prevention & Intervention (OHPI) provides funding and coordination for the local homelessness response system.
  - **Does not provide direct services**
  - Designated as the Continuum of Care (CoC) Lead Agency and Collaborative Applicant
  - Designated as the local Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) Lead

- 4 staff positions
  - Continuum of Care Coordinator
  - HMIS Data Analyst (Added in FY24)
  - Encampment Coordinator (Added in FY26)

- Administers local funding to address homelessness
  - Innovative and Sustainable Solutions Fund
  - Extended Social Resource (ESR) funding for Emergency Shelter
  - Coordinates with Grants & Special Programs on homeless-dedicated federal grant programs (CDBG, ESG, HOME)

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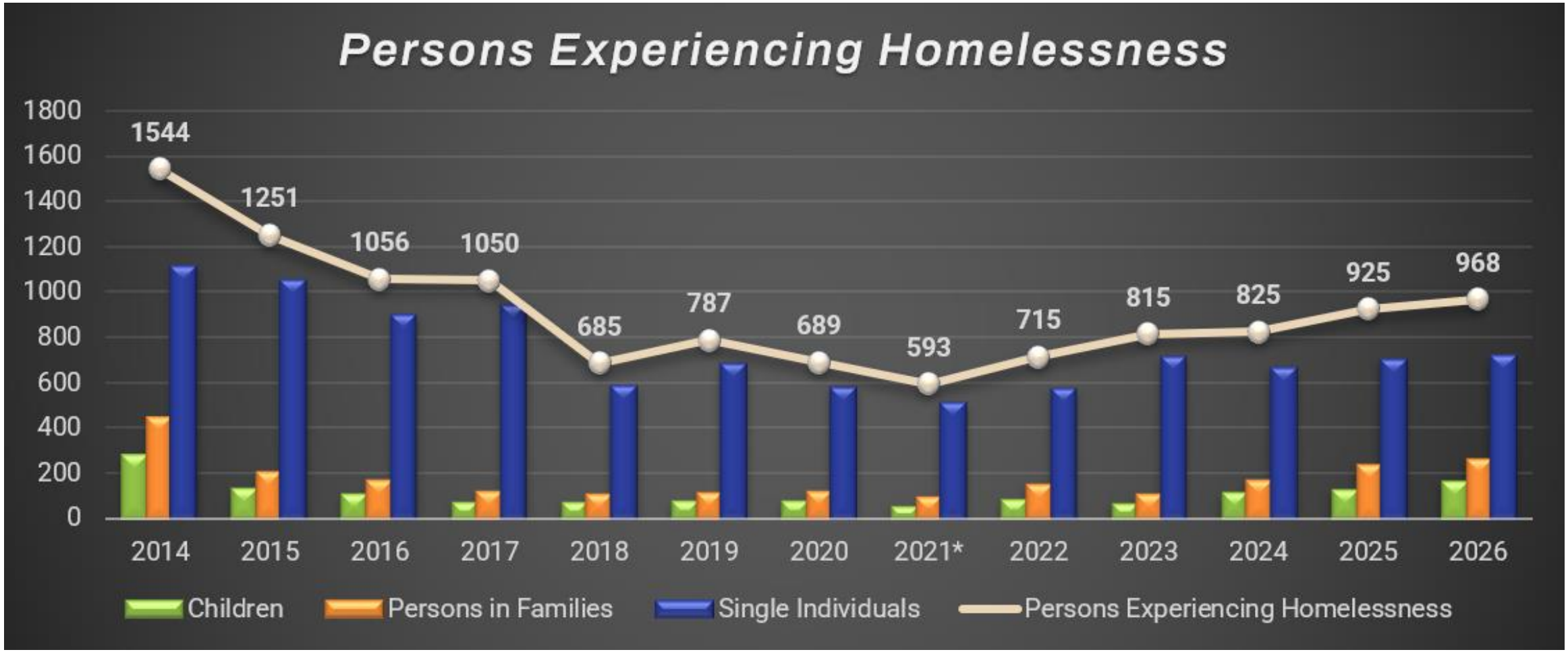
OHPI Responsibilities

COORDINATE	FACILITATE	EDUCATE	ADVOCATE
Staff/develop the CoC	Develop funding applications, allocate funding	Training and technical support for partners	Identify system gaps and issues
Develop/operate Coordinated Entry system	Annual Point-in Time Count	CoC website, social media, mailing list	Inform public policy and engage leaders
Develop system plans (ex: COVID, extreme weather)	Daily operations of Coordinated Entry	Speaking events and media	Develop strategic plans
Develop service standards, set and monitor performance targets	Daily operations of HMIS	Analyze and publicize data	Seek community support
Designate/operate a client records system	Community data submissions	Research best practices and models	Engage individuals with lived expertise
Coordinate removal of homeless encampments in compliance with SOPs	Evaluation and compliance	Communicate across systems	Ensure fairness in policies and practices
		Resource navigation	

LexCount Results, 2014-2026



Funding Allocation

LFUCG invests over $8 million annually to address homelessness

Innovative & Sustainable Solutions Fund ($1,659,631/year)
Annual set aside from the General Fund used to pilot evidence-based best practice programming

Extended Social Resource (ESR) Emergency Shelter Funding ($2,011,675/year)
Annual funding commitment to local emergency shelters for operating costs

Winter Weather Response ($2 million+/year)
Annual commitment to expand shelter seasonally

HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) Program ($2,737,691/year)
Annual federal grant funding brought into community for housing and supportive services

Note: Funding reflects current amounts; annual funding could fluctuate.

FY26 Homeless Encampment SOP Review

- 41 cleanups were conducted in FY26
  - 37 unique locations
  - 8 cleanups (19.5%) were tied to 4 Emphasis Areas

- Total cost of $82,684.03 / Average cost of $2,234.70
  - Costs range from $300 to $24,020 / Median cost of $1,350.00
  - FY25: 22 cleanups / total cost of $65,542.60 / average cost of $2,979.21

- Impact of Encampment Coordinator position
  - Improved accuracy in tracking encampment costs
  - Average cost per cleanup decreased by approximately 25%
  - Ability to address complex issues involving multiple divisions and/or property owners
  - Improved coordination toward positive outcomes for residents

2026 Highlights

Expanded Hope Center Street Outreach Team

- Contacts with over 580 unique individuals in the last year
- 59% exits to positive housing destinations /Average of 10 permanent housing exits per month
- Lowest rate of returns to homelessness for any program component type in the system

Housing Flex Fund

- Flexible financial assistance to facilitate rapid exit and diversion strategies under a Housing Problem Solving framework
- Assisted 48 households in more rapidly exiting homelessness
- Diverted 119 households from entering literal homelessness

FY26 Continuum of Care Program Competition

- Successfully navigated evolving application process amid ongoing legal battle
- Authored entire application in less than 12 calendar days
- Recruited 4 new project applicant organizations

Strategic Update

- The Mayor's Task Force on Homelessness presented final recommendations to Council on October 13th. Task Force recommendations will serve as the OHPI's updated strategic plan.

- 20 recommendations total, including 5 priority recommendations and 15 recommendations for long-term implementation

- Priority Recommendations
  - Continue operation of temporary seasonal shelter at Versailles Road campus to expand capacity
  - Transition Versailles Road campus to permanent shelter to address year-round bed gap address needs of underserved populations (seniors aged 55+, families, persons with disabilities)
  - Develop a 24/7 centralized intake center to improve system navigation
  - Promote expanded diversion and rapid exit strategies
  - Engage Implementation Review and Advisory Group to ensure timely implementation

Strategic Update

- Recommendations for Long-Term Implementation
  - Develop community-based case management to improve service outcomes
  - Support expanded capacity and improved quality of service at existing shelters
  - Pilot a transitional housing program with rigorous evaluation of data
  - Develop strategies to reduce barriers for individuals with pets
  - Expand medical respite capacity
  - Improve data collection regarding location of homeless origin
  - Coordinate with other CoCs to ensure access to resources in their a
  - Prioritize development of Permanent Supportive Housing via Affordable Housing Fund
  - Leverage opioid settlement funds to develop housing for persons in opioid use recovery
  - Support provider partners in utilizing Medicaid 1915(i) funding for housing navigation
  - Develop incentives for high-performing programs
  - Establish homeless preferences for PHA resources
  - Support individuals in returning to communities of origin
  - Continued community education and engagement

Questions?

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