

STATEWIDE HOUSING AND HOMELESS PROGRAMS POSITIVELY IMPACT THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF THOUSANDS OF ALASKANS IN COMMUNITIES AROUND THE STATE



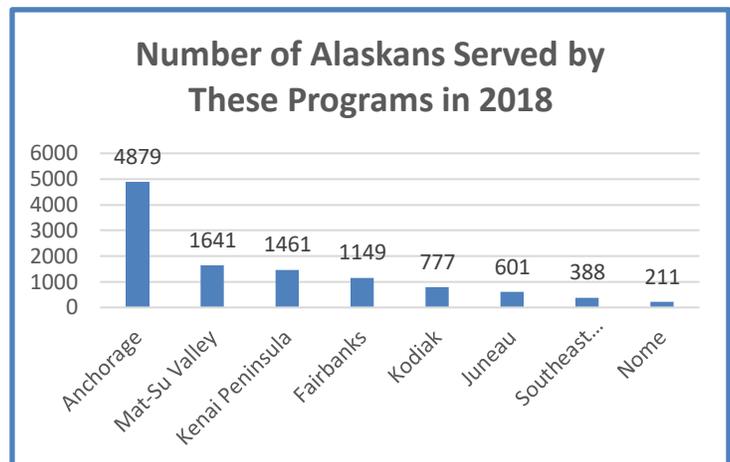
The Alaska Coalition on Housing and Homelessness, the Anchorage Coalition to End Homelessness, and more than 50 statewide partners manage programs that make sure that Alaskans' experience with homelessness is rare, brief, and non-reoccurring. In 2018, our state funded programs served and housed over 10,000 Alaskans. Participants in our programs include youth, veterans, families, persons experiencing job loss or a domestic violence incident, and the most vulnerable chronically homeless Alaskans.

Governor Dunleavy's proposed budget will disrupt or close many of these statewide programs. This budgetary action will lead to an **immediate and significant increase in homelessness**. It will also decrease the availability of housing and assistance for those that may experience homelessness throughout the state.

Devastating Cuts to Core Housing and Homeless Programs

Talking Point #1: Any cuts to the AHFC Homeless Assistance Program (HAP), AHFC Special Needs Housing Grant (SNHG), DHSS Human Services Community Matching Grant (HSCMG), or DHSS Community Initiative Matching Grants (CIMGP) will immediately increase homelessness in Alaska. The proposed 90% in cuts reduces funding from nearly \$12 million in FY19 to \$1.1 million across these four essential programs in FY20.

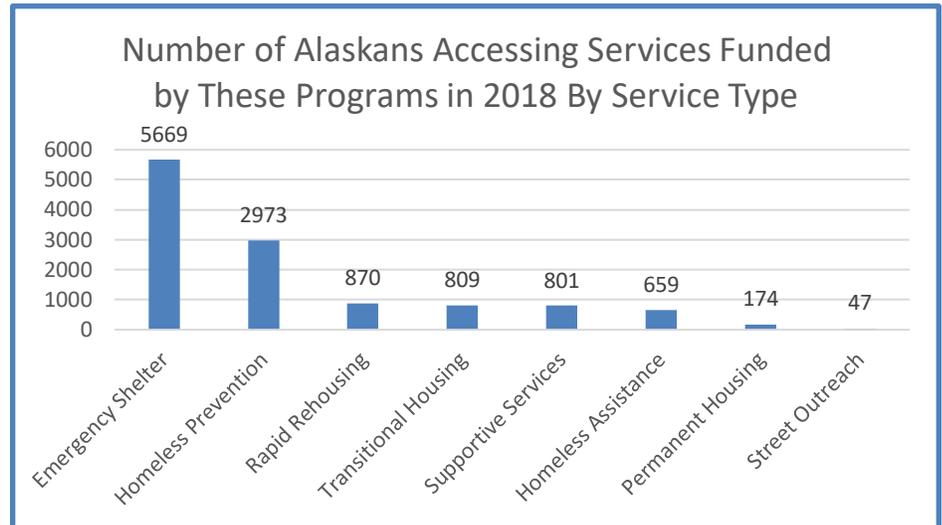
- In 2018, **10,934 Alaskans** accessed emergency shelter, prevention services, supportive services and housing vouchers funded by these grant programs.
- Access to housing and homeless services improves public safety as well as individual outcomes.
- Housing and homeless services are less costly than emergency or other public services (Institutions, prisons, hospitals, fire and police)
- Housing and Homeless programs are great stewards of State funds, leveraging these dollars with private philanthropy, connections with faith-based organizations, and the use of additional local and federal funds. These funding partners cannot make up the proposed \$10.6 million State budget reduction.



For More Information Contact:
Brian Wilson - director@alaskahousing-homeless.org
Alaska Coalition on Housing and Homelessness
907-523-0660

Talking Point #2: These core housing and homeless programs are efficient and effective.

- Recent improvements in data collection, targeted outreach, and permanent supportive housing strategies have sharply improved outcomes of housing and homeless programs in the State – keeping people housed and off the street.
- Since 2017, **89% of Alaskans who accessed services funded by HAP, SNHG, HSCMG, and CIMGP did not return to homelessness.**



Funding Long-Term Strategies to End Homelessness

Talking Point #3: In 2016, these same core housing and homelessness programs were targeted and zeroed out of the state budget.

- The State needs to develop a fiscal plan that incorporates investment into housing and homeless services programs for those most in need in Alaska.
- Improvement and development of best practice housing and homeless programs is stunted by fiscal uncertainty.

Cuts to Healthcare and Supportive Services

Talking Point #4: Housing and Homeless programs connect individuals experiencing homelessness with key and timely healthcare services and supports.

- Additional cuts to mainstream supports will **increase homelessness**, and/or limit the effectiveness of housing and homeless programs.
- Programs such as: Medicaid Expansion, Public Assistance, Domestic Violence programs, Behavioral Health Supports, Legal Services, Employment Programs, Public Housing, Rental Assistance, Housing Vouchers, Youth Programming, and Recidivism Efforts.

For More Information Contact:
Brian Wilson - director@alaskahousing-homeless.org
Alaska Coalition on Housing and Homelessness
907-523-0660

